

## 2022 WSBC: “We Can do Together What We Could Never do Alone”

At 10:00 MDT (12:00 EDT) on April 26, Chair Judy H. called the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual World Service Business Conference to order on Zoom. According to the report of the Member Services Director, there were 218 eligible voters from 21 countries that included Australia, Brazil, Canada, Columbia, France, Germany Greece, Iceland, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, UK (Scotland and Wales), US.

**Business Meeting I (April 26):** After OA readings and the Serenity Prayer being offered in Ukrainian and English, the credential report indicating 218 eligible voters was accepted. Proposed amendments to the Standing Rules were presented and debated until they were adopted at 2:05 pm. The consent agenda which was modified to include Bylaw Amendments 9 and 15 was adopted, clarifying that “intergroups and national service boards” would be called “service bodies,” and changing the date to submit Amendments from Dec 10 to Dec 1. The Conference agenda was adopted with no change followed by Board Member and Managing Director reports. The Chair highlighted our commitment to protecting the OA copyright and the new Lifeline blog which should be accessible within the month. The Treasurer pointed out OA’s two revenue streams, literature and donations, indicating donations for the year at \$1,144,243,09 and literature sales of \$616,690. The Managing Director informed us of the loss of the \$132,000 deposit to Embassy Suites for our cancelled in-person conference. We have one more year on our contract with the hotel. She highlighted the work that Kevin Maguire, the new Digital Communications Editor, has done to update the website. She pointed out that we averaged 6566 groups in 2021 and that our literature is moving more and more toward digital and audio availability.

**Business Meeting II (April 27):** After the readings and the serenity prayer in Icelandic and English, New Business Motion A-a approved *The Twelve Traditions Workbook*. Committee Reports were presented, followed by the adoption a substitute Proposal A-1 which includes the Responsibility Pledge on all new and revised literature whenever space allows, and suggests it’s inclusion on locally produced literature. Proposal B which takes limits off WSBC committee membership was also adopted.

**Business Meeting III (April 28):** After the readings and the serenity prayer in ASL and English, New Business Proposal D to return the forgiven \$134,000 World Service received from the Paycheck Protection Program was defeated as was Proposal E to make July “Service Month.” Proposal F to charge an annual fee for screen sharing of OA documents was withdrawn by the maker. An amended Proposal G was adopted to make the pamphlet *Where Do I Start?* available as a free pdf download. Proposal H to review regions roles was ruled out of order and Proposal I to establish a member’s literature fund was withdrawn by the maker. Bylaw Amendment 12 which redefines the composition of Region 8 was adopted.

**Business Meeting IV (April 29): Trustees** were elected as follows: Region Five-Barb K; Region 9- Emilia I.; and General Service Trustees—Bob L. and Sandra M. Amendment 13, an editorial change, was passed. Amendment 2 which called for the WSBC to be forever virtual was withdrawn by the maker as was 3 which suggested virtual meetings every other year. Amendment 4 was passed as amended to allow interpreters for non-English speaking delegates or those with other need for accommodation would be allowed to speak to the Conference on their behalf. Amendment 5 passed as amended to retain 17 trustees and Amendment 6 which defines all “Trustees,” although some will serve as liaisons to the Regions.

**Business Meeting V (April 30) :** An attempt to reorder to debate of upcoming proposals was defeated. Amendment 7 was passed to define the process for nominating Trustees by the Regions. Substitute Amendment 1-11 combined both proposed Amendments and calls for a rotation of in-person, hybrid and virtual WSBC meetings passed. Amendments 8 and 9 both passed defining intergroups and service boards as “service bodies.” Amendment 10 passed making it clear that English is the official language of all WSBC documents. Amendment 14 passed to articulate options available for unaffiliated groups. After several amendments were made, withdrawn, and debated in the Reference Committee over the course of 5 days, and an extension of the fifth business meeting by 30 minutes, Proposal C to make OA literature available to screen share during virtual meetings was narrowly defeated by majority vote.

There were four Emergency Business Motions brought to the Reference Committee for consideration but non were deemed to fit the criteria as emergencies.

The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual World Service Business Conference was adjourned on April 30 4:24 p.m. EDT.

For the year following the Conference, Pam continues to serve on the Conference Approved Literature Committee and Debby was assigned to the 12-Step Within Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam T. and Debby H.