

**Oregon Area Business Meeting Minutes**  
Oregon Area General Service Assembly  
September 15-17, 2006  
Reed College  
Hosted by Dist 24 &27 – Portland, Oregon

**(Note from Area Secretary:**

The information below is a written record of the business meeting. I've done my best to capture what actually happened and get it down on paper for you! The discussion notes for the motions do not contain all of the discussion that actually happened, but should convey a good sense of opinions both for and against the various motions. Paraphrasing is sometimes necessary. Thank you! )

Area Chair Anne M. opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, the reading of the Preamble (Dale O., Dist 33), the Twelve Traditions (Paul K., Dist. 27) and the Twelve Concepts (Maryann B., Dist. 2). She had the New GSRs stand and be acknowledged. She then introduced our past delegates. Present were Helen M., Darlene G. and Bruce L. We also had with us Ruth N., Past Delegate from Area 53 (Virginia) and Eddie H., Delegate from Area 72 (Western Washington) Also attending was Gail H., Alternate Delegate from Area 72.

**Past Minutes**

Minutes from the May 2006 Assembly were approved as written.

**Explanation of Timing Lights**

At this time the Area Chair took the opportunity to explain the use and reasons of timing lights during the business meeting. Since there are so many motions to be discussed and the elections need to be held, timing lights are used to moderate time at the microphones.

**Roll Call**

Area Secretary Suzanne B. called Roll.

**Area Officer Reports**

The following Area Officers gave reports: (see attached written reports)

Eric K.	Delegate
Dave A.	Alt. Delegate
Anne M.	Chair
Chase B.	Alt. Chair
Suzanne B.	Secretary
Gus P.	Treasurer

The third quarter financial report was given and Wendy W. motioned to approve as read. Guy M. seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Dale S. mentioned that she had not finished the receipts for group contributions and that she would mail them to the groups that contributed.

**Announcements** (The following announcements were made at various times during the business meeting by Area Chair, Anne M.)

■ The Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee needs an interim North Chair. Jerry C. had to step down and the Chair asks that anyone interested please email a service resume to her.

■ The Public Information Committee South Chair, Jay S., stepped down and Neil C. has graciously stepped in as an interim chair.

- The Area Chair, Anne M. is accepting service resumes for the following Service Committee positions:
  - Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) North
  - Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) South
  - Hospitals Asst. Chair
  - Correctional Facilities (CF) Alternate Chair - *generally selected from one of the CF Regional Coordinators*
  - Public Information (PI) North
  - Public Information (PI) South
  - Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF) South
  - Accessibility Chair
  - Assistant Webmaster
  - Finance Committee Assistant Chair

***Deadline for the receipt of service resumes is October 15<sup>th</sup>. The Area Chair asks that you give three options of desired positions if possible, please.***

- We need an interim Grapevine chair for the next 2 assemblies as our Grapevine Chair Bruce L. will be living in Mexico during that time.
- We were awarded the bid to host the Pacific Northwest Conference in 2008. The Area Chair will be looking for someone to chair the host committee, however, the date and time for PNC 2008 have not yet been determined. More information will be forthcoming.
- The Pacific Northwest Conference (PNC 2007) will be held in Wenatchee, Washington, June 29-July1, 2007

### **Elections**

At this time we started the elections. Since the elections are held in conjunction with the business meeting and to review the process as it occurred would be, in the secretary's opinion - lengthy, unnecessary and would impede the clarity and flow of the minutes just the results are listed below.

**Treasurer – Dale S.**

**Alternate Treasurer – Ron W.**

**Secretary – Eric V.**

**Alternate Secretary – Julie W.**

### **Forum and PNC Report-backs**

The following Area Officers gave reports on their attendance at the Pacific Northwest Conference and The Regional Forum (see attached)

Pacific Regional Forum: Erik K. (Del.) and Anne M. (Area Chair). Dave A. (Alt. Del.) was unable to attend so he gave no report.

Pacific Northwest Conference (PNC): Eric K. (Delegate) and Anne M. (Area Chair).

### **Committee Reports**

(See Attached)

Finance	Ron W.
Archives	none given
Grapevine/La Vina	Bruce L.
Corrections	none given
Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	Alan U.
Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF)	none given
Public Information (PI)	Anne C.

Hospitals  
Access  
Newsletter  
Webmaster  
PNC 2006  
PRAASA 2007

Marc C.  
none given  
Kelly G.  
none given  
Chase B.  
Ron W.

### **Ad Hoc and Other Reports**

AD Hoc Committee on Translation – Murray M.  
PRAASA – Ron W.  
PNC – Chase B.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Motion #1:**

Submitted by the Finance Committee  
Seconded by Jon.

**Motion:** To fund travel to assemblies for the Webmaster and Assistant Webmaster at rates prevailing for other committee chairs and co-chairs. Adjust the Website Budget (reduce) and Area Committee travel line item (increase) budgets to reflect change.

**Current Practice:** Only the Webmaster is funded to assemblies.

**Intent and Purpose:** Previous and current Assistant webmasters have attended many assemblies out of pocket, a situation we try to avoid for well known reasons. Attendance by the Assistant Webmaster furthers his/her education in Area practices, facilitates communication with GSR's, DCM's and Area Officers who have website business, allows face to face meeting of the Webmaster, Assistant and website committee members and assures that at least one of them is at any given assembly, in case of illness, personal business, etc.

**Financial Impact:** At current rates, would add \$150 per assembly to the budget for Assistant Webmaster travel.

#### **Discussion:**

Peggy Sue said she had watched the development of the website committee and that she approves this motion.

The question was called.

We voted to vote on this motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

#### **Minority Opinion:**

Wendy W. said we were putting the cart before the horse and that we needed to make the website a standing committee before we could fund this.

After hearing the minority opinion it was decided not to revote.

**MOTION STANDS AS PASSED.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Motion #1:**

Submitted by Suzanne B., the Area Secretary

**Motion:** To transfer funds in the amount of \$100.00 from the Printing Budget to the Postage Budget.

**Current Practice:** The Secretary uses these two line items to fund the printing of the minutes and rosters and to fund the postage for distribution of the minutes.

**Intent/Purpose:** Due to an unforeseen increase in the cost of postage to send out the minutes, the postage budget has run short of the necessary funds for the mail-outs of the September 2006 minutes. The good news is this transfer of funds will leave enough money in the budget to print the minutes and the rosters.

**Budgetary Impact:** None.

Motion was seconded.

There was no discussion and the question was called.

The body voted that this was of an urgent or administrative nature.

**THE MOTION PASSED.**

**Minority opinion:**

A member asked if the costs of printing had gone up so much as well shouldn't we be increasing that budget as well?

The Chair pointed out that there was no such motion on the floor and that we were dealing with just this motion at this time.

**MOTION STANDS AS PASSED.**

**Motion #2:**

2007 Budget (see Attached)

Submitted by Finance Committee.

A member seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

A member asked, "what about travel increase of \$7,0000?"

Finance committee responded that that was to reflect the passed motions to increase funding for the Area Committee to travel to assemblies.

Another member asked, "Why then does the Access committee reflect a decrease in cost?" The finance committee responded that they requested it.

Another member asked "Why the Proxy Member travel increase?" The finance committee responded that it was a request by the Corrections Committee so that Proxy Members could attend.

Ray R. Called for the question.

We voted to end discussion.

**THE MOTION PASSED.**

There was no minority opinion.

**Motion #3:**

Submitted by District 4

**Motion:** To increase the two expense stipends that Oregon Area offers the District Committee Members to \$35 per assembly.

**Intent/Purpose:** To reduce expenses for District Committee Members to attend all assemblies in hopes of assisting full participation. The Ad Hoc Committee Per Diem/Funding Report of September 17, 2005 was accompanied by a motion to increase monies by 50% from \$100 to \$150, the first increase since 1991. The motion was passed. The Ad Hoc Committee chose not to put a motion on the floor to increase the voluntary stipend for the DCMs which has not had an increase since 1983. Some districts struggle to send their representative to all assemblies and sometimes do so at the cost of other programs and services in the district.

**Current Practice:** The DCM is offered the choice of one or two \$25 stipends.

**Budgetary Impact:** The increase to Area 58 is unknown as the stipend is voluntary in that, unlike the Area Officers who have a check written and delivered to the automatically at each assembly, the DCMs are queried each assembly whether they will need the two available stipends. The average number of DCMs requesting funding for 2005 was 18. The total monies requested by DCMs over the past three years are \$7,150. With the added 40% that total is \$10,010. Divided by three the average yearly cost is \$3,336.67. The 2005 budget line item for DCM travel was \$3,300. The actual expenditure was \$2,650. The Difference is \$686.67. The budget ceiling would need to be raised \$36.67.

Motion was seconded by Guy.

**Discussion:**

Dale said he was for this motion. His old home group couldn't afford to send a GSR and he knows that the districts often can't either.

Dennis said he supports this motion, he lives in a far away district and the extra funds would be appreciated.

Chris interjected that DCMs should carpool to cut down on expenses.

Ray thought that the little bit of extra funds would be most helpful.

Wendy asked to hear from the finance committee.

Another member thought the Alternate DCMs should get funding as well. The more the merrer.

Dale S. said she was in favor but needs clarification on all the numbers in the impact statement.

Murray said he had worked with Gus to figure out just how much money was being given to the DCMs and that was where those figures had come from.

The Finance Committee said the line item for DCM travel had increased by 20% in 2006 and that the 2007 budget would need to reflect a 40% increase to pass this motion. They thought that yes, we have the money.

Debra pointed out that the DCMs that need funding are only getting \$50 and that's been the same since 1983. She said she was very much in favor of this motion.

Kathryn wondered where the money was supposed to come from since the final figure on our financial statement is less than we need.

Gus pointed out that in the 2005 fiscal year our budget was more than we spent. He said the finance committee and the treasurer feel that God will provide what is truly needed.

Teffany wondered if clarification of the budgetary impact will change the motion. The answer was no.

Sandra called for the question.

Discussion ended and the body voted that this was of an urgent or administrative nature.

**THE MOTION PASSED.**

**Minority Opinion:**

Wendy said that she wanted to take this back to the group to help them understand that there are such expenses.

Dale S. said she was still confused by the budgetary impact statement.

The body voted not to revote and **THE MOTION REMAINED PASSED.**

**Motion #4:**

Submitted by Dist. 4

**Motion:** Change the current practice so that the Area Delegate will not automatically transfer into the Grapevine/La Vina chair position when rotating from the Delegate position, effective at the next Delegate position rotation. . *(This motion was amended from the original version)*

**Intent/Purpose:** Prior to the motion passed at the September 2004 assembly, funding was not offered to Past Delegates wishing to attend and participate at all Area Service Assemblies Since that time, it is no longer necessary to rotate the Delegate into a chair position to provide funding. After what normally is an eight-year service commitment to Area in a position which require significant travel and responsibilities, the Delegate would be free to choose their next position of service. We would highly encourage Past Delegates to attend our assemblies so as to participate in events such as the "Ask It Basket," and such, but, more importantly, to be available for questions and guidance during the business meeting. By opening the position of Grapevine/La Vina Chair to the selection process already in place whereby the Area Chairperson reviews service resumes and then chooses the person best for the position, the position would be filled by a person who is more likely to be enthusiastic and uniquely suited for the job. The Grapevine/La Vina position deserves a Chair who can and is able to give it 100%.

**Financial Impact:** Hopefully, with full participation by the Past Delegate at assemblies, an increased cost of \$600 annually.

Wayne seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Cindy said she was against this motion because of all the enthusiasm the past delegates have shown for the position.

Bruce said he was in favor of this motion. He said that after 8 years of constant travel and endeavor, the position would be better served by a "less tired horse." Originally the idea was that this would be a good "let down" position for the past delegates to have but it has proved to be more than that.

Eric pointed out that past delegates were very involved in the GSR schools and their travel expenses have increased. He said that anyone who assumed the role of Grapevine chair instead of a past delegate would lessen the financial impact on Past Delegate travel.

Another member posed the question, "have all the other areas adopted the practice of rotating their past delegates into this position?"

Helen responded that "no, they do not all do this' However, she pointed out that past delegates are discouraged from going back on the service ladder and some just drift away from service. She worried that some "tired horses" might never come back to service at all!

Karla said she was confused by the budgetary impact.

Fred pointed out that the Grapevine committee has a budget and now Past Delegates do too.

Mark said he was in favor of the motion.

Kaye asked where the grapevine display was at this assembly?

Bruce said it was in the trunk of his car as the host committee did not reserve a place for him to set it up. Someone called for the question.

The body voted that this was neither urgent nor administrative and the **MOTION WAS TABLED.**

**Motion #5:**

Submitted by District 14 host committee

**Motion:** To give Assembly Host Committees the option, in the guidelines, to cover the Service Manual in lieu of the Concepts at Assemblies.

**Purpose:** To expand the Area's trusted servants knowledge of the service manual and to give host districts more autonomy.

**Current Practice:** At least one concept is required to be addressed at each Assembly.

**Budgetary Impact:** none

Motion was seconded by Susan.

**Discussion:**

Scott said he was in favor since service manuals need reviewing too.

Another member said they liked the idea of a choice being given.

BJ said she was behind this idea 1000%. She sometimes found that quotes from the service manual were sometimes met with disbelief due to ignorance on the part of the audience.

Another member said they were intrigued by an idea that promotes an expansion of knowledge.

Tiffany said she was against the motion. She was more interested in the Concepts being covered than the service manual's traditions.

Kaye said the last time she had checked the concepts were *in* the Service Manual!

Guy said he felt we needed more variety than covering the same ground over and over again.

Chris said he was clueless...were the practices in the guidelines suggested or required?

Someone pointed out that the paragraph on page 15 of the guidelines says they are required to dedicate time to a concept per assembly.

Discussion ended

The body voted that this was urgent or administrative.

**THE MOTION PASSED.**

**Minority opinion:**

Robin pointed out the service manual says this practice should be a requirement.

Someone said we should keep it simple. The service manual is available to everybody.

Another member said they have a concept reviewed once a month and they still don't understand them. The concepts are meaty enough.

Rick said that it was decided at their district to have discussions of concepts and traditions. The assembly's agenda is overstuffed as it is. This practice should be kept at the district level or below.

Anne was queried whether this would change the wording in the guidelines and her response was yes, changes to the guidelines were automatically produced in the upcoming edition by the chair.

Don thought that this was neither urgent or administrative and the groups should have a say so.

Ray asked for a point of order. Many of the minority opinions reflected in favor of this motion.

Gwen reiterated that she too thought this was neither urgent or administrative and she wanted the opportunity to take it back to the group.

Fran moved to end discussion and Victoria seconded it. The body did not elect to revote and **THE MOTION STANDS AS PASSED.**

**Motion #6:**

Submitted by Dists. 11 & 25

(Gresham, Sandy and Welches: DCMs- Robin W. & Chris D.)

**Motion:** That the Oregon Area Guidelines for awarding future assemblies be changed to allow for a longer 'lead-time' in awarding bids. Bids should be awarded up to two-years-in-advance.

*(This motion was amended from the original version)*

**Intent & Purpose:**

As Quarterly Assembly numbers continue to rise, larger facilities are needed. Awarding bids further in advance could insure that host-districts can reserve such facilities before other organizations do so.

**Current Practice:**

The Oregon Area awards bids on Quarterly Assemblies one-year-in-advance for November, February and May and 16-months-in-advance for September.

**Financial Impact:**

Unknown – Could result in Oregon Area ‘seed money’ expenditures to host-Districts being out of the treasury for longer periods of time.

Motion was seconded by Amy.

**Discussion:**

Scott said he was opposed to this motion because some people can't foresee staying sober for 2 years. This is too long to try to keep up enthusiasm. This smacks of too much organization.

Karla asked if we were really growing that much?

Steve asked if the finance committee whether or not we can afford to put this much seed money out there? Will we have the finances necessary to fund this?

Ray said he was for this motion because it allows for up to 2 years for places that require us to make a 2 year advance on booking.

Robin said she was in favor of this motion as we are finding it harder and harder to find places that aren't already booked out 2 years.

Someone asked why districts were making bids before they even had secured a facility?

Guy said he was both for and against this motion, that while he likes good order he procrastinates as well.

Kaye said she didn't see where it was written that we couldn't award bids well in advance.

Someone said they were for the motion. That it allows enough time to secure a place big enough to house an assembly. They mentioned that the stickers will stick with the process anyway.

Theresa asked if this wouldn't put undue pressure on bidding districts to step up their timetables or lose the opportunity to host an assembly?

Someone asserted that sometimes too much time ahead can be a bad thing...what if we don't get the bid and we've already secured the place?

Dale asked what was the maximum timeline? It appears its not in the guidelines.

Wendy said it is not up to the body to decide who gets the bid.

She felt that the Chair should take the initiative and award the bid as they see fit.

Steve said he found the 'competing for location' verbage in the intent/purpose section disturbing. Should we be competing with outside entities?

Someone called for the question.

The Finance committee spoke up and said the current practice is to fund \$300 to a bidding district to secure a facility for an assembly. Having a two-year out commitment could carry a bigger financial impact than they are prepared for.

The body voted that this was neither urgent or administrative and **THE MOTION WAS TABLED.**

**Motion #7:**

Submitted by District 18

**Motion:** To require Moving Parties (i.e. Districts, Committees or Area Officers) of an Oregon Area Assembly to make available 250 copies of their filed motion in a central location by 8:30 am on the business meeting day of the assembly said motion is filed.

*(This motion was amended from its original version)*

**Intent/Purpose:** To use assembly time more efficiently and minimize confusion regarding a motion's content. To give voting members a chance to read the motions prior to discussion and voting.

**Current Practice:** It is a courtesy for the Moving Party to supply copies of their motion, but not a requirement. If a copy is not supplied, confusion ensues and people become irritable, restless and discontent over miscommunication and repeated requests to verbalize the motions. However if you are spiritually fit you probably don't care and may be even slightly amused by the chaos.

**Budgetary Impact:** It will impact the moving party's budget individually. The area officers and committees will seek Assembly approval for increases to their budgets respectfully if copies are not already a part of their current budgets. Districts will supply copies out of their budgets.

**Discussion:**

Robin said she was in favor of this motion as it is only fair that every member has a copy of a motion being presented.

Cindy said she was almost in favor except she found the language too strong.

Wendy said she was in favor and thought this would be a good practice.

Anne said that making this motion a requirement will stop urgent business that arises from the floor.

Doris said she wanted to make the point that you can't know how many copies to make since the body fluctuates.

Kathryn thought it would be a good idea to have a table dedicated to copies of motions where GSRs and DCMs could come by and get as many as they need.

Fran said the only requirement should be 10 per district.

Guy thought it would be a good idea since poor communication is such a problem.

Chris said he was against this motion since it would preclude motions from the floor. Wasn't sure if urgent matters could be addressed with this motion in place.

Paula said she wasn't sure if she was for or against but that she did know they had made over 1,000 copies of a motion that never saw the light of day.

Wayne asked how many trees are we going to kill just so we can read a motion we may not get to vote on.

Eric encouraged people to feel empowered to take politics out and put spirituality in. Let your God thoughts have air time! That's how we came up with the projector idea!

Ray called for the question.

Discussion ended.

The body voted that this was of an urgent or administrative nature.

A vote was taken and **THE MOTION FAILED.**

**Minority Opinion:**

A member said they have to come in early and grab the motions right away or else there are none available. Hard copies should be made available.

Samantha brought up that a motion never made it to translation because they were too busy to get to it. She said every motion should be submitted for translation but many are not. Sometimes repeating for the transcription takes too long and they miss the Spanish members lose the opportunity to make an informed vote.

Miguel said he had voted in favor of this motion because too often they were left in the dark on a motion because a translation takes too long.

Fran said she wanted this tabled because it should go back to the groups and get feedback.

Steve said this was about confusion over ill-conceived and ill-prepared motions not emergencies that arose from the floor.

Karla said her job as a GSR was to give the group a voice. The GSR needs to be able to take back facts not vague memories.

Helen said we should come to the Area Inventory and voice our opinion.

Dale asked at what point do these motions make it to the internet?

It was asked if anyone wanted to change their vote, though a few did, the body decided not to revote.

**THE MOTION STANDS AS FAILED.**

**Motion #8:**

Submitted by District 18

**Motion:** To require all motions with the exception of money motions from the assembly or motions deemed urgent by the Chair to be heard in the order which they are received.

*(This motion was amended from its original version)*

**Intent/Purpose:** To insure that motion submitted early are acted upon prior to last minute motions.

**Current Practice:** There currently is no requirement that motions submitted will be addressed in any specific order. It is at the discretion of the Oregon Area Chair. Motions submitted as much as a week ahead may not be heard, when motions submitted the morning of the Area business meeting are heard.

**Budgetary Impact:** None

Motion was seconded by a member.

**Discussion:**

Wayne asserted that there must be some flex for discretion by the Chair.

A member wanted to hear from the Chair what were the criteria for a motion to be heard.

Anne said she tries to keep motions in the order in which she receives them. Only emergency money motions take precedence.

Patsy said she was against this motion because it ties the hands of the Chair who we elected as a trusted servant.

Ray said we made this mess ourselves by not being willing to table motions last time

Dale said he was not in favor. He reiterated what Ray said and added that we are not willing to do what it takes like staying longer to get our business finished.

Eric said that sometimes tabling without discussion cuts off the group's informed group conscience by not hearing points brought up in these forums.

Discussion ended.

The body voted that this was of an urgent or administrative nature. A vote was taken and **THE MOTION FAILED.**

There was no minority opinion.

**MOTION #9:**

Submitted by Dist. 18

**Motion:** To amend the Oregon Area Guidelines to require tabling of motions of over \$500, except for money to be paid back within a year. *(This motion was amended from its original version)*

**Intent/Purpose:** The intent of this motion is to require all motions over \$500 to be automatically tabled for review by the groups. A specific waiver for this would be monies that are to be reimbursed within a one year period, i.e., for seed money to assemblies. This motion would force the Assembly to allow the groups to decide on large amounts of money to be spent, as the groups are the ultimate authority.

**Current Practice:** A motion is made, it is left to the consensus of the meeting to determine if the item is urgent or administrative. There is no limit to the amount of money to be spent.

**Budgetary Impact:** This would allow for greater ability for the Oregon Area to budget for high expenses.

The motion was seconded by a member.

**Discussion:**

Wendy said she was in favor of this motion because anytime we take it back to the group it's a good thing.

A member thought there may be an issue with budgets and asked the Chair for clarification.

The Finance committee said that budgets were presented in May of each year.

Another member said they were against us not having a group conscience, that we were too quick to spend.

Another member said this ducks the right of decision given by the concepts.

Mark said he was against anything in the way of a motion that uses the word "force." We should trust our trusted servants and trust the process.

Theresa said that it sounds like we don't trust ourselves! Every motion gets decided one at a time by the body as a whole whether the groups have input or not.

Steve said we should table this motion and take it back to the groups since it effects other motions.

Jack said it seems like we are doing this twice, why?

Ray called for the question.

Discussion ended.

The body voted that this was neither urgent nor administrative. **THE MOTION WAS TABLED.**

**Motion #10:**

Submitted by EASYPAA for WACYPAAXI

**Motion:** To submit a letter of support to EASYPAA (Eugene & Springfield young people in AA) for WACYPAAXI. In this letter the committee requests support from the area, as well as confirmation that no large-scale functions (International Conventions, Area Conventions or such) will be taking place within 30 days of the proposed event in the Oregon Area. *(This motion was amended from its original version)*

Proposed Dates:

December 27<sup>th</sup> – December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007

January 3<sup>rd</sup> – January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008

(Dates are subject to minor changes)

WACYPAAXI (Western Area Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous) is being held in Seattle, Washington this year. A group of young people from our committee as well as some from Oregon at large will be taking a bid up to them over the new year. Here are some of the benefits of bringing this conference to Eugene, Oregon:

1. We will be able to reach a number of young people, and introduce young people to Alcoholics Anonymous, where they can find that they don't have to continue drinking.
2. Excess money will be divided among the districts in which the event will be held, our intergroup office as well as Oregon Area.
3. Fantastic opportunity to serve young people and the young at heart for AA.
4. Unify Eugene area young people and the area as a whole.

5. Introduce young people to service and our service structure to widen our circle of future leaders in the Oregon Area.

Thank you for your consideration!  
EASYPAA COMMITTEE BIDDING FOR WACYPAА XI

The motion was seconded by Brenda.

**Discussion:**

Teffany said she supports this motion.

Chris said he was against giving a stamp of approval on a specialty group such as WACYPAА. When he read the service manual this sounded like a specialty group.

Another member said they thought this sounded more like a requirement than a request.

Robin said she was in favor because anything that gets newcomers involved is a good thing.

Lizz said she was in support because this is an inclusive thing....not exclusionary. It welcomes young people that otherwise might not feel welcomed to AA.

Theresa said she thought we should keep it simple and pass the motion.

Discussion was ended. The body voted that this was of an urgent or administrative nature. **THE MOTION PASSED.**

There was no minority opinion.

**Motion #11:**

Submitted by District 7, Area 58 (Grants Pass)

**Motion:** Oregon Area 58 shall pay the current average cost for our delegate to go to the General Service Conference to the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous.

*(This motion was amended from its original version)*

**Intent/Purpose:** Although GSO does not require us to do so, Oregon Area 58 has the resources to be fully self-supporting in accord with our 7<sup>th</sup> tradition. We have the funds, so let us utilize them. The fact that the GSO is currently operating with around a million dollar annual deficit brought this question to mind, though we think paying our own way should be standard practice. If in the future self-support is inadvisable, motions can be made to address the situation.

**Financial Impact:** We suggest that an initial contribution of \$4500 be sent to GSO with the balance settled afterward. Average cost of attendance is \$4500 taken from records over the past 5 years.

**Current Practice:** Oregon Area 58 contributes \$2000 annually with the rest of the cost paid by GSO.

The motion was seconded by Wendy.

**Discussion:**

A member said that we want to be self-supporting, however we are spending money we haven't made yet.

Wendy asked to hear from the Finance Committee

Martha said she would like to see a revision of the specific dollar amount.

Skip said he hadn't heard whether or not we had the money yet so he would rather wait.

Eric K. said he would like to see a fixed figure because they won't know the actual cost is for another year when all the expenses are tallied. Expenses of each delegate fluctuate with airfare prices. The time to calculate our specific expenses would be a cumbersome request of the General Service Office.

Ray said hed rather see a cap of \$4500 for this motion.

The Finance committee said that they could not in good conscience authorize the cost. Said they thought that it should be reviewed every February and shouldn't be a fixed cost. Eric pointed out that we could pass this motion now since the funds are there but change our minds later. The Finance committee said that right now we have the money, but the future they cannot see. The question was called and debate was ended.

The body voted that this was neither urgent nor administrative and **THE MOTION WAS TABLED.**

**Motion #12:**

Submitted by: Dist 34 & Dist 35

**Motion:** To have the Oregon Area 58 treasurer authorize the purchase of 10 additional receivers and wireless headsets for interpreters to be of better service and reach the Hispanic community of GSRs and DCMs at Area Assemblies and other AA related activities that require translation.

**Financial Impact:** 10 additional receivers and headsets is \$910. Plus 1 wireless microphone equipment is \$150. Total Amount requested is \$1,060.

Motion was seconded by Fran.

**Discussion:**

Samantha said there were a lot more Hispanic interpretation needed since District 35 was formed.

Scott asked if they had researched options.

Samantha said yes, they had.

Fran asked if the unused funds from the Access committee couldn't cover this.

Chris said he was in favor because this strikes at the heart of what lengths are we willing to go to to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Anne said she had a problem with "other AA related activities" and asked if they could define that please.

Samantha said they were referring to PRAASA, the Hispanic Convention, etc....

Another member asked if they shouldn't be self-supporting and pay their own way.

Raphael said they need the equipment for the alcoholic who doesn't know there's a solution to the alcohol problem. More and more Hispanics are joining the ranks of service workers in AA. They are even looking at forming a new Intergroup in Salem.

Scott said he thought we should carry the message ...its our responsibility not theirs.

Dale pointed out that we had watched the birth of another district and now they send us money. So the money is theirs as well as ours to spend. We should support this motion.

Larry said that this was not an "us or them" thing but a "we" thing.

Robin Robin brought up that at PNC there was a workshop on the topic "do we need to be wealthy to do service in AA?" and learned that the answer should be "no"

Another member asked would we be as hesitant about translating a book? Why no!....it's the same principle.

Raphael said many Spanish groups send money to Oregon Area....not just for the Spanish people but AA as a whole. The individual districts cannot afford to pay this.

Doris said she wanted to take this back to her group.

Sam said we should do this now and pay them back the money they've already spent now.

Murray said the Ad Hoc committee for Spanish Translation supports this motion.

Discussion ended.

The body voted that this was of an urgent or administrative nature. A vote was taken and **THE MOTION PASSED.**

**Minority Opinion:**

Amy said that we just spent another \$1,000 without taking it to the groups first when we should have discussed it further.

Finance Committee stipulated that we cannot use Access Committee funds, as they are allocated to the Access Committee. However, we do have the funds available to support this motion. A member asked if it does not come from the Access Committees funds then where? Gus said it comes out as an as an expense not a line item.

Discussion ended. **THE MOTION REMAINS AS PASSED.**

**Motion #13:**

Submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee for Spanish Translation.

**Motion:** To allow the funds currently allocated for Spanish Translator in the Area Budget to be reimbursed to translators as needed, not to exceed the annual budget line item amount.

**Purpose and Intent:** To permit the Spanish Translators more flexibility in the use of their budget allocation so they can be fully reimbursed for services and expenses as incurred.

**Current Practice:** The annual budget for translation and interpretation services is \$1600. Assembly draws are limited to \$400 per assembly. If expenses exceed \$400, a motion is required to request an adjustment. Expenses for the Spanish Translator can and have exceeded \$400 for one assembly. When this occurs a motion must be presented to permit full reimbursement for the Spanish Translator expenses or translators must wait until the next assembly to recover full expense reimbursement.

**Budgetary Impact:** Nada.

Motion was seconded by Chris.

**Discussion:**

Murray pointed out that some assemblies are close while others are farther away so costs fluctuate wildly for the translators. It would be nice if they knew when they could be reimbursed.

Discussion ended.

The body voted that this was of an urgent or administrative nature. **THE MOTION PASSED.**

There was no minority opinion.

**Motion #14:**

Submitted by Dave A., Alternate Delegate

**Motion:** That the Oregon Area hold a one day Area Committee Orientation on a Saturday in January of each year at a centrally located meeting place. Funding for the Area Orientation will be provided by the Area's annual budget for the appropriate year. The maximum expenditure for any given annual orientation will not exceed \$1,000.

**Intent and Purpose:** To provide an orientation for new Area Officers, Service Committee members and DCMs similar to a GSR school. Past Area Trusted servants who have served in these positions will be selected by the Area Chair to develop a program and lead the orientation. The final program will be approved by the Area Chair and reviewed from time to time by the full Area Committee (Officers, Service Committee members and DCMs). There will be no business conducted and no voting of any kind at the annual orientation.

**Current Practice:** The Area currently holds a GSR School at all area assemblies and at other times as requested by groups and districts. The GSR School is prepared by and coordinated by the Alternate Delegate. There is no formal training for orientation provided for any Area Officer, Service Committee member or DCM. The Area Committee sharing session at Area assemblies is used for discussing Area

issues and concerns and not the time when experienced members can train and orient newer members. Knowledge and experience of a member who is rotating out is, therefore, not consistently passed on to the next trusted servant. A three to four hour training for Area Officers/Service Committee members and the same for DCMs would provide incoming members with detailed information about their budgets, how to reach out to Districts and groups to assist them in carrying the message, knowledge about the commitment in terms of time and travel required, where and when to be during Assemblies to be of maximum service, and an overall review of the Area service structure, just to name a few topics already suggested. Whereas a GSR school is held at each assembly to accommodate the continuous turnover of GSRs, the Area Committees and Officers rotate in November only. A once yearly orientation would be more appropriate for these trusted servants. January was selected as a time that would not normally conflict with other Area events and when new members would be getting started in their positions. An inexpensive meeting place in a central location such as Salem or Eugene would be pursued.

**Budgetary Impact:** A maximum of \$1,000 per year.

The motion was seconded by Teffany.

**Discussion:**

Matthew asked why can't we just do this during the assembly?

Dave said they were reluctant to schedule it during assemblies because the agenda is already full.

Guy thought we should lose the last line about the central location being in Salem or Eugene because that is not central for the state of Oregon, only people on the I-5 Corridor.

Eric said he loves this idea.

Wendy said this has been a long time coming. But location is subject to scrutiny because traveling in January could be hard for anybody.

A member loved the idea but also thought we should squeeze it into the Area Assembly.

Anne said she was a big fan of this idea. She has struggled in her job as PI chair trying to reinvent the wheel.

BJ said she was fully in agreement. Several areas do this already and she's tired of the old phrase "just when you know what you are doing its time to rotate out."

A member was concerned that unforeseen expenses might be incurred such as travel for attendees.

Dennis said the preamble dictates a need to do this.

The finance committee said that God will help them and that the money is there.

The question was called and discussion ended.

The body voted that this was neither urgent or administrative and **the motion was tabled.**

**Motion #15:**

Submitted by District 16

**Motion:** That Alcoholics Anonymous create a pamphlet concerning Bipolar Disorder and Alcoholism.

**Intent and Purpose:** To inform AA members of a potential link between Alcoholism and Bipolar Disorder.

"There is the manic depressive type who is, perhaps, the least understood by his friends, and about whom a whole chapter could be written." – *The Doctor's Opinion*, Alcoholics Anonymous, p. xxx

**Current Practice:** No general information, non-diagnostic in nature, is currently available citing the possible relationship between Bipolar Disorder and Alcoholism.

**Financial Impact:** Estimates of costs will be taken into consideration pending AA General Service Conference approval.

The motion was seconded.

**Discussion:**

Ray asked who in here will diagnose?

Steve asked where do we draw the line?

A member pointed out that this was not a matter for the Oregon Area to decide.

Robin said it was really important to have this information available. Bipolar people need to know its ok to take their meds.

Another member thought we needed to lump this with all the other psychological disorders.

Another member thought that such a pamphlet would help with the attitude held by many concerning this disorder, since many hold it in contempt.

Chris said he was against the motion. We already have pamphlets towards mental disorders and medications and AA. We do not need to produce special publications that single this one out from the rest.

Eric thought this was a good idea but it needed to be reworded so it doesn't sound like we are telling GSO what to do. Rather we should be asking our Delegate to pose the question.

Wayne said he didn't want to see AA get into the practice of dictating what should be done regarding medications.

A member pointed out that we are in danger of crossing into outside issues. When we start publishing psychiatric pamphlets we've gone too far.

Jeff said he thought people who are forced to take medications should have support from the AA community. We already have 'specialty group' pamphlets such as Women in AA, Gays and Lesbians in AA, Too young to be in AA? Etc... He supports the idea.

Tammi said she thought only a doctor can diagnose. If we address this one issue we must address them all.

Chris said that depending on his mood he's either for or against this motion. There is a part in the Big Book about seeking outside help. This idea should be broadened to encourage newcomers to seek such help.

Carrie said this goes against our tradition of singleness of purpose.

Another member said a pamphlet of some sort certainly wouldn't hurt.

Bonnie said she was in favor. The pamphlet would be to inform not diagnose. Her group's reaction to this motion were mixed. However we need to let people know where to go to get help.

Wayne said he had nothing but respect and admiration for people that come in with this disorder, however, it's not AA's place to comment.

Martha said she wanted to see rewording of this motion. However she sees the merit of such a pamphlet to be used as a sponsor's tool for someone who struggles with this disorder.

Dale said having a place to go to get information in AA about this disorder would be a good thing.

A member said they got lots of feedback on this in varying opinions but thought we should at least take it to GSO and let them come up with the proper wording.

Teffany said she was in favor but felt the pamphlet's language should be strong enough to grab your attention.

Eric said he was glad to see this motion. He pointed out that this would be an outside issue if it said "non AA people and Bipolar." But since it addresses alcoholics it is no longer an outside issue. The nice thing about this idea is the deadline is far enough away to wait.

Someone called the question and debate ended.

The body voted that this was neither urgent nor administrative and **THE MOTION WAS TABLED.**

**Financial Report:**

\$35,712.55 Balance going into assembly

-10,703.11 Checks written

**\$25,009.44 Balance at end of assembly**

Motion to close by John

Seconded by Anne

Meeting adjourned.