

MINUTES OF THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE CONVOCATION
OF UNDEREARNERS ANONYMOUS

November 17, 2019

2:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM PT

The Conference was held by phone and recorded

“Living Our Vision: Unity, Service & Prosperity”

Presiding Chair: Shawn P, Trustee, and Chair of the General Service Board

I. Opening of the Convocation

- Serenity Prayer
- Reading of the UA Traditions - Debora G
- Reading of the 10th Concept for UA World Service - Clara T

Roll call - List of Attendees Is Attached as Addendum

- Shawn, Chair, announced that a quorum been established
- Reading of the UA Voting and Procedural Guidelines for Convocation Sessions as passed by the WSC 2018
- Spiritual Serenity Moment Time Out protocol was announced.

Motion to Proceed without a Parliamentarian.

Rationale: Scheduled parliamentarian was not able to attend due to a family emergency.

Proposed by Clara; seconded by Graciela

Motion Passed. In favor: 32; Opposed: 0

- Recording Secretary Volunteers Elected by Vote of Acclamation: Jessica W, Debora G, and Clara T
- Spiritual Timekeeper Volunteers: Robin R, Zeus W and Wendy B

Welcome by Shawn P, GSB Chair, Presiding Chair for the World Service Conference 2019:

My name is Shawn and I'm a recovering underlearner. I'm chair of the General Service Board. Thanks to everyone for taking their time today. There's been a lot of planning -- a lot of work done. I'd like to commend the people on the World Service Conference Planning Committee, also Trustees, members from abroad, members from across the United States, everyone who is taking time out from their day to sit here in this marathon.

This will be my third World Service Conference, and each time I am amazed by the level of service and the teamwork that comes out of it. We will get the work done in God's time. It definitely won't be in my time. It's not an individual act we are doing. Folks who were at the World Service Conference 2018 -- they saw the miracle of collaboration, and I'd like to continue with that spirit. I trust in us. I'll cut my talk short. With that I pass and Jessica will speak for up to three minutes. Thank you all.

Welcome by Jessica W, WSC Planning Committee Chair

Thank you Shawn. This is Jessica here. I just want to welcome you all from a very chilly Upstate New York. I am the World Service Conference Planning Committee Chair and there's a part of me that's still kind of surprised to be saying that to all of you gathered on this phone line from around the global UA Fellowship. I joined the World Service Conference Planning Committee in April innocently enough because I know and have experienced the real ways in which service is vital to MY recovery. Then, surprisingly, a short while later I was elected to be an Interim Co-Chair of the Committee. Skip forward a half a year, and here we are at the World Service Conference 2019!

In the same way that this is a WE program, which I hear with much gratitude all of the time, this Conference is happening because of that same magic... working together with my former co-chairs, other amazing members of the Committee, the support of the Phone Tech Committee in keeping the meeting safe and quiet, and also all the work that others have done before to make the previous WSCs happen.

As the name clearly says, our committee's main task, is to create a time and place (whether virtual as it is this year or physical as it will be next year) where all of us who are UA can get together to do the nitty gritty work of maintaining, and building this incredible fellowship that serves us so well.

It is a big job and dare I say overwhelming, unless approached with small bite-sized actions. Jobs that our committee took the lead on include all of the practical stuff from scheduling the event and phone security, to the online forms (Topics of Concern, Registration, group voting, etc.) There were small details like the formatting of documents and more important ones like drafting the Agenda. And lots of emails. We have subcommittees that helped with many of these tasks. We also had wonderful support from the Board -- help in finalizing the Agenda, clarity on timing, and probably most valuable, the questions that came during working together that brought clarity to the task of aligning the content and final shape of the Conference with our Traditions and our recovery from underlearning.

As we work towards WSC 2020, my vision is to strengthen the subcommittees and further develop the tools that enable us to work more effectively as a team and in service to the Fellowship as a whole, focusing on keeping conscious of how we spend our time and how that serves us as individuals in recovery and also how it serves the Committee and the Fellowship as a whole. As I hear

every night, we learn by doing. I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn and do service. Thank you all for being here, and I'm trusting that this will be a great World Service Conference.

II. Unfinished Business

A. Motion to Create a New Branch of Committees in UA Called the "World Service Conference-Approved Committees" and Guidelines for These Committees.

Proposed by Jessica W, GSR, WSC Planning Committee Chair; Seconded by Arden V, GSR, Interim Chair for the GSR Committee

Friendly amendment made by Jon C, GSR, and accepted with changes by Jessica. Friendly amendment made by Quin B, GSR, and accepted by Jessica W

Motion Passed. In favor: 22; Opposed: 9

A new branch of committees is hereby created in UA's Service Structure called "World Service Conference-Approved Committees." Each such committee is approved by vote of the World Service Conference Convocation. These committees are separate from the other branch of committees in UA's Service Structure called the "General Service Board Committees," which are created and authorized by the General Service Board (GSB).

Following are guidelines for all WSC-Approved Committees:

- (1) Each committee elects its own chair, vice-chair or co-chairs, treasurer and recording secretary. Each officer is elected for a one-year term and can be re-elected for three additional consecutive years. After a total of four years, an officer is required to rotate out from their leadership position for at least two years.**
- (2) The chairs, vice-chairs and co-chairs of these committees are GSRs of UA groups or intergroups. Chairs and co-chairs are recommended to have completed UA's 12 Steps with a UA Sponsor and are currently actively working the UA Steps.**
- (3) Each committee sets its own agendas throughout the year and votes on its agenda at the WSC.**
- (4) All significant and important decisions are made by group conscience vote of the committee. Committee meetings are conducted using Robert's Rules of Order.**
- (5) Each committee is interdependent with and autonomous from each other, the GSB and the GSB Committees.**
- (6) The committees operate year around, having regularly scheduled meetings (e.g. once a month) in between World Service Conferences.**
- (7) Each committee votes on the topics it suggests for the World Service Conference Agenda and submits those topics to the WSC Planning Committee by the specified deadline.**
- (8) At the World Service Conference, each committee presents its motions within the allocated time limits at the Convocation. It also prepares a report which includes its motions for the WSC, a list of its committee members, and action items it plans to address in the upcoming year.**

(9) Each committee may create subcommittees.

(10) Each committee maintains an electronic archive in a shared drive of the current and past (if available) final committee reports for the WSC, other significant documents and additional files.

(11) Each committee may establish additional committee guidelines which are consistent with the guidelines in this motion. These additional committee guidelines do not need to be approved by the World Service Conference.

(12) The committees are guided by the UA 12 Traditions, and informed by the UA 12 Concepts for World Service, as approved by the UA World Service Conference.

The provisions of this motion take effect as soon as it is passed by the UA WSC Convocation.

Background: This motion formalizes the existence of a separate branch of committees similar to those called “World Service Conference Committees” in DA and “Conference Committees” in AA. It also provides a framework for the creation of new committees that will occupy this place in the UA Fellowship’s Service Structure.

Minority Opinion (Presented by Rich S, GSR):

Rich said: “The motion is sound, except that the guideline which states that ‘Committee meetings are conducted using Robert’s Rules of Order’ was not thoroughly vetted and considered. I have seen people who have sort of professional knowledge of and experience with Robert’s Rules of Order dominate meetings in a number of instances in my 17 years of experience in 12 Step recovery. I personally would probably not feel comfortable participating in or chairing any committee that used Robert’s Rules of Order.”

Response to Minority Opinion (Presented by Lela P, GSR):

Lela said: “I trust Robert’s Rules and think they are very helpful. We voted on and passed a previous motion that says we are to be guided by Robert’s Rules.”

Chair asked if any members from the majority would like to change their vote. Two people from the majority changed their vote.

The vote tally before the minority opinion vote: In favor 24; Opposed 7

The final vote tally: In favor 22; Opposed 9

B. Motion to Establish the WSC Planning Committee as a World Service Conference-Approved Committee and Its Duties and Guidelines.

Proposed by: Jessica W, GSR, WSC Planning Committee Chair; Seconded by Arden V, GSR, Interim Chair for the GSR Committee

Motion Status: Presented; some discussion; friendly amendment offered by two UA Groups was accepted; amendment by Randy W not passed; the whole motion did not get voted on

The UA World Service Conference hereby approves the creation of the WSC Planning Committee.

The WSC Planning Committee's primary concern is to plan and coordinate the World Service Conference and Special Convocation Meetings. Its duties are as follows. ("World Service Conference" or "WSC" includes regularly-scheduled conferences and special convocation meetings.)

Duties Which Require General Service Board ("GSB") Approval (since the GSB has the legal and fiscal responsibility for the World Service Conference):

- Negotiate the contract with the venue.
- Decide on registration guidelines.
- Prepare spending plans.
- Select a parliamentarian.
- Select a professional recording secretary.
- Prepare a planning timeline for the World Service Conference, including deadlines, and facilitate adherence to these deadlines.

Duties Which Require Collaboration with the GSB and the GSR Committee:

- Locate and select sites and dates for the World Service Conference.
- Decide on scholarship guidelines.
- Prepare the WSC Agenda based on The Topics of Concern Survey results from group conscience votes by UA Groups; and the group conscience vote submissions from the GSB, GSR Committee and all other WSC-Approved Committees, and GSB committees.

Duties Done Autonomously:

- Present motions at the World Service Conference regarding the general nature of and specific details of the WSC; and present motions at the WSC regarding the WSC Planning Committee.
- Select Conference themes.
- Prepare registration materials.
- Prepare reports.
- Prepare scholarship packets.
- Decide on scholarship awards.
- Provide logistical planning and coordination for the World Service Conference.
- ~~Conduct Topics of Concern Surveys for the UA Groups.~~ **Collect topics of concern from each meeting through their respective GSRs.** [Friendly amendment that was proposed by two UA Groups and accepted by the WSC Planning Committee]

Following are the guidelines of the WSC Planning Committee:

(1) The WSC Planning Committee is interdependent with and autonomous from the General Service Board (GSB), other WSC-Approved Committees (e.g. the GSR Committee) and the GSB Committees.

(2) The WSC Planning Committee makes decisions by group conscience vote of its Committee Members and follows Robert's Rules of Order. Its meetings are recorded.

(3) The WSC Planning Committee has Co-Chairs, or one Chair and a Vice-Chair. Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Co-Chairs are GSRs and are not also Trustees of the General Service Board and are not also the Chair of the GSR Committee or any GSB committee. The WSC Planning Committee is to elect its Co-Chairs, or Chair and Vice-Chair, by group conscience vote of its Committee members.

(4) GSRs, GSB members and UA members-at-large may be members of this Committee.

(5) The Co-Chairs and/or Chair & Vice-Chair will share the responsibility of being liaisons to the GSR Committee and GSB. This Committee also has liaison(s) from the GSB and the GSR Committee.

(6) All GSRs may vote at Committee meetings beginning with their first Committee meeting. All members-at-large who have completed Step 5 and have attended one Committee meeting may vote at their second meeting. GSB members may attend Committee meetings and offer their experience, strength and hope; however, they are not voting members to ensure that the WSC Planning Committee is autonomous from the GSB.

(7) Important decisions and/or recommendations made by the WSC Planning Committee (for example, regarding the date, venue, scholarships and agenda of the WSC) will be made in collaboration with the GSR Committee and the GSB.

(8) This Committee will also abide by the general guidelines for all World Service Conference Approved-Committees.

The provisions of this motion take effect as soon as it is passed.

Background: This motion establishes the World Service Conference Planning Committee's place in the UA Service Structure. This motion also supersedes any motions that call this Committee the World Service Conference Committee or the WSC Preparation Committee.

C. Amendment to Motion B regarding Guideline 6

Amendment to delete: "GSB members may attend Committee meetings and offer their experience, strength and hope; however, they are not voting members to ensure that the WSC Planning Committee is autonomous from the GSB."

Proposed by Randy W, GSB Trustee; Seconded by Clara T, GSB Trustee

Amendment did not pass. In favor: 6; Opposed: 22

D. Motion to appeal Chair's decision to move onto the next agenda item

Debora G, GSR, proposed; Arden V, GSR seconded

Motion passed. In favor: 22; Opposed: 10

E. Motion to extend discussion on Motion # 2 for 10 minutes

Proposed by Graciela S, GSR; seconded by Shari Lynn, GSR

Motion Passed by vote of acclamation.

III. Motion to Adjourn

Proposed by Zeus W, GSR; seconded by Clara T, GSB Vice-Chair

Motion passed. In favor: 19; Opposed: 15

The Conference closed at 7 pm ET / 4 pm PT with the “We” version of the Serenity Prayer

Addendum

List of Attendees at WSC 2019

GSRs (Voting Members)

1. Arden V (CA), Beyond 6 Figures Meeting (Phone), Wednesday, 8 pm ET, GSRC Chair
2. Anita (NJ), Out of the Cave, Jersey City, NJ (F2F) Tuesday, 6:30 pm ET
3. Celia (MA), Being in Somerville (F2F), Wed, 9 am.
4. Chiara (Spain), Last Gasps (Phone), Mon – Fri, 7:15 AM ET
5. Carol (MA), Steps to Prosperity, Amherst, MA (F2F), Monday, 5:30 pm ET
6. Chuck M (CA), First Presbyterian Church, (F2F) Santa Monica, Fri 6 pm & Sat 9 am PT
7. Debora G (CA), Evening Step & Speaker (Phone), Tu & F 8:30 pm; Wed 9:30 pm ET
8. Daphneleah (S. CA), Selling with Serenity (Phone), M-F, 11 am ET
9. Doug (NY), NYC – Path to Abundance (F2F), Sat, 10 AM ET
10. Eric (NC), Prosperity in Action, Asheville, NC, (F2F) Tues, 6 pm ET
11. George (TN), From Hiding & Biting to Shining & Receiving (Phone) M–F, 1:30 pm ET
12. Graciela S (CA), Selling with Serenity (Phone) 6 am ET
13. Jahara (CA), Beginners Meeting (Phone), Sun, 11 am. ET
14. Janine (CA), 9:45 am ET Step and Tools Meeting, Daily (Phone)
15. Jessica W. (NY), WSC Planning Committee Chair, Business UA Visions (Phone), Fri, 12:15 pm ET
16. Jewell, Back To Basics, Saturday 2:30 PM
17. Jon C (UK), UK Intergroup
18. Lela P (TX), Austin UA (F2F), Sun, 5 pm CT
19. Michael B (ME), Underearning & Solvency Meeting (Phone) Daily, 7:15 AM ET
20. Quin B (CA), GSRC Vice-Chair, Fresno Friday Freedom and Prosperity (F2F), Fri, 7 pm PT
21. Rich S (CA), Artists in Prosperity meeting (F2F), Los Angeles, Tues., 6:15-7:15 pm
22. Richard H (CA), Basic Recovery (Phone) Tues – Friday, 7:15am ET
23. Rita (CA), Early Bird Turning Point, Silverlake (F2F/Zoom), Sunday, 4:30 pm PT
24. Robin R (NY), Healing the Inner Child (Phone), Wed, 7:15 pm ET
25. Sandy Kay (CA), Heartfelt Prosperity Step & Tools (Phone), 8:30 am ET, M – Sun
26. Seth (NY), New York Intergroup
27. Shari Lynn (CT), Prosperous Possession Consciousness (Phone), Sat 1:30 pm/Sun 2 pm ET
28. Terri (FL), Beyond 6 Figures (Phone) Mon and Fri, 7 AM ET
29. Toni (S. CA), Speaking of Prosperity, Farmers Market (F2F), Los Angeles, Sat, 11 am PT
30. Toni (N. CA), Daily Prosperity & Vitality (Phone), 12:15 am ET
31. Wendy (OR), From Hiding & Biting to Shining & Receiving (Phone), Daily, 11 pm ET
32. Zeus W (NY), Time for Prosperity meeting (F2F), Brooklyn, Fri, 6:30 pm ET

GSB Trustees (Voting Members)

Clara T (East Coast)
Shawn P (NY)
Jack P (CA)
Mark B (NY)
Randy W (CA)

GSB Committee Chairs (Non-Voting Members)

Joshua (MA), Chair of the GSB Literature Committee
Peter M (UK), Chair of the GSB Finance Committee