

The S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.
2007 Annual Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 10 – Friday, July 13, 2007
The Hilton San Antonio Airport Hotel, San Antonio, TX, USA

Minutes

Conference Theme: The 5th Tradition of S.L.A.A.:

“Each group has but one primary purpose--to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.”

Present were 37 voting members that included 5 members of the Board of Trustees (BOT), the Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) General Manager, the F.W.S. Office Coordinator, and delegates from the U.S.A., Canada (French and English-speaking), and Germany. Also in attendance were volunteers from the San Francisco/East Bay Intergroup, Omaha, NE, Houston, TX, Boston Ma., Tampa Bay Intergroup and Austin, TX.

The Fellowship-Wide Services Office, Board Committees, and Conference Committees submitted their 2006 – 2007 annual reports to the ABM.

The following reports appeared in the Welcome Packet or were distributed during the General Assembly as noted:

- Fellowship-Wide Services Office 2006 – 2007 Report
- 2006 – 2007 Board of Trustees Annual Report
- 2006 – 2007 Board Finance & Operating Committee (BF&OC) Report
- 2006 – 2007 Board Public Relations Committee (BPRC) Report
- 2006 – 2007 Board Governance & Nominating Committee (BG&NC) Report
- Conference Charter Committee (CCC) Report
- CCC Business Meeting Item Summary (BMIS) Annual Report (Motions and Issues for Discussion) Dated 5/25/07
- CCC BMIS Annual Report (Motions and Issues for Discussion) [*Revised 7/10/07 and distributed at General Assembly 7/11/07*]
- CCC BMIS Items Submitted to BMIS: Rejected by the '06-'07 BMIS Review Subcommittee [*Distributed at the General Assembly 7/11/07*]
- CCC BMIS Review Subcommittee Process [*Distributed at the General Assembly 7/11/07*]
- Member Relations to the BOT / F.W.S. Committee (MRBOTC) Report
- Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC) Report
- Conference Diversity Committee (CDC) Report
- Conference Healthy Relationships Committee (CHRC) Report
- Conference Journal Committee (CJC) Report
- Conference Literature Committee (CLC) Report
- Conference Membership Retention Committee (CMRC) Report
- Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC) Report
- Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CS&TC) Report

- Memo regarding Endowment Fund Proposed Changes Information Packet [Memo submitted by Roger R., former member of BOT and current non-Board member of BF&OC]

The following committees did not provide a report in the packet or at any time during the course of the ABM.

- Conference By-Laws Committee (CBC)
- Conference Interfellowship Committee (CIFC)
- Conference Internet Committee (CIC)
- Conference Service Committee (CSC)
- Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSP)
- Prison Outreach Committee (POC)

Frequently Used Abbreviations:

HP: Higher Power

Board of Trustees (BOT)

Board Finance Operating
Committee (BF&OC)

Business Meeting Items Summary
(BMIS)

Conference Service Manual (CSM)

Fellowship-Wide Services Office
(F.W.S.)

Item For Discussion (IFD)

Conference Committees:

Anorexia (CAC)

By-Laws (CBC)

Conference Charter (CCC)

Diversity (CDC)

Finance (CFC)

Healthy Relationships (CHRC)

Inter- Fellowship (CIFC)

Intergroup Communications (CICC)

Internet (CIC)

Literature (CLC)

Members' Relationship to BOT/
FWS (MRBOTC)

Members Retention (CMRC)

Prison Outreach (POC)

Public Information (CPIC)

Service (CSC)

Sponsorship (CSP)

Steps & Traditions (CS&TC)

Journal (CJC)

General Assembly – Tuesday, July 10, 2007, 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

The General Assembly began with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer, reading of the Twelve Steps in English, and the Twelve Traditions in English. Jack S. (CCC Chair), Danielle P. (BOT Chair), as Macro, Chris D. (BPRC Chair), as Backup, facilitated this session. This session's time-keeper was Sam A, the record-keeper was Josephine S. Recognition was given to the F.W.S. staff.

The roles of micro, macro, and backup were explained, along with other service roles: record keeper, spiritual reminder, vote counters, and timekeeper. The facilitators explained that anyone can act as spiritual reminder and call for 30 or 60 seconds of silence. Time was taken to recognize the efforts of the local volunteers/delegates and members of the CCC. Five BOT members were present and recognized. A brief get-acquainted activity allowed participants to meet and share with someone that they had not previously met. The theme of this ABM, the Fifth Tradition: *"Each group has but one primary purpose--to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers,"* was introduced.

The schedule for the ABM and the locations for breakout sessions were reviewed. Contents of the ABM Welcome Packet were briefly reviewed. Participants were encouraged to at least browse through committee reports to familiarize themselves with current business. Participants were encouraged to attend the BOT members' presentation on Tradition Five at 8:15 p.m. Tuesday. The green-colored Conference Member Information sheet was to be held in strict confidence. The availability of an opt-out form was also explained. Ribbon colors attached to participant name tags were explained. Adopt a Committee form was explained. Other items in the Welcome Packet were reviewed. Participants were encouraged to make their literature and

F.W.S. merchandise purchases at the ABM and thereby avoid shipping and handling fees. The ABM surveys were noted as being important with results/comments to be given serious attention. The information sheet on next year's ABM in Florida was highlighted.

The times on the schedule would be adhered to as designated. A brief review of the week's schedule followed. It was noted that the BOT elections at the General Assembly Friday morning would necessitate that the doors be locked to additional entry at 8:30 a.m..

Other items reviewed included room assignments, an invitation to 7 a.m. meditation, general layout of meeting rooms, hospitality room in the Seguin Suite, and a reemphasis on leaving personalities at the door.

Time was taken to explain the General Assembly process, as well as the importance of the voting quorum. The quorum is a specific number of people (2/3 of the voting members) needed in the General Assembly room for doing business. Without this number of persons, the Conference cannot vote, nor can any business functions be performed. The importance of voting for the BOT and organizing each Conference committee for work between ABMs (budget requests, projects, and committee rosters) was highlighted. It was also explained that all participants must use the microphone in order to facilitate clear communication between all participants and for recording of the ABM. Bob F. will keep a check-in, check-out roster to ensure that a quorum is present during voting. Delegates were reminded to bring their Conference Service Manual (CSM), the Business Meeting Items Summary (BMIS), and their Higher Power (HP) to each General Assembly. The seating configuration for the General Assemblies was explained as roughly a circle, assuring everyone is of equal significance. Participants were to refer to their welcome packet for all the business meeting terms (i.e. use of micro, macro, backup, vote counters, timekeeper, etc.). Emphasis was placed on the importance of voters keeping a straight extended arm with hand held high during vote counting. Jack S. spoke particularly about each of us having the potential to be leaders, adherence to the Twelve Traditions, a plan to look at functionality of Conference committees, the need for participants to refer to the BMIS Review Subcommittee Process information, and how not meeting the deadline for BMIS submissions would affect the handling of submissions (see Conference Service Manual). IFDs from last year's agenda not followed-up by a motion before the specified deadline "fall off" the BMIS.

Questions from the floor.

How do participants find out about items that were incorrectly submitted or rejected?

Answer: After the deadline, items revised to an acceptable level still cannot be resubmitted for another 4 years.??? The owner of any rejected item is notified by the BMIS regarding cause. Also, minutes from previous ABC/M's can be accessed on the website to find out what IFDs and motions were addressed.

Would CCC consider moving present deadline forward for this meeting?

First Chair response: CCC to address moving deadline for submitting motions during the general session break.

Second Response: The process to address IFDs has been in place for 3 years. While BMIS Review Subcommittee did not submit a report, that does not change status of IFD process. There will be no change in the deadline at this time. It was noted that the deadline for submitting motions for consideration at this year's ABM remained at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 10, 2007.

Two minutes each were allotted for Board and Conference Committee Reports. They were as follows:

- 2006 – 2007 Board of Trustees Annual Report: available in the welcome packet.
- 2006 – 2007 Board Finance & Operating Committee (BF&OC) Annual Report: available in the welcome packet
- 2006 – 2007 Board Governance & Nominating (BG&NC) Committee Annual Report: Nominees were introduced, nominee information packets included in welcome packet. Chris D. and Danielle P. were recognized for their service to the BOT. Nominations are still being accepted, the deadline will come during the 1:15 p.m. session on Tuesday and the written questionnaires must be submitted by the end of the day. On Thursday, a question/answer session at 7 p.m. for candidates will take place. Regarding the elections on Friday, it was again emphasized that voters must be in the room by 8:30 a.m. and may not leave until vote counting is completed. The candidates are standing for 3 positions and need 50 % of the vote. A letter explaining the process is included in the welcome packet.
- 2005 – 2006 Board Public Relations Committee (BPRC) Annual Report: available in the welcome packet
- Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC): A new project focuses on stories of sexual and emotional anorexia. Submissions welcomed.
- Conference Charter Committee (CCC): Goal to revamp Conference Service Manual. Encouraged members to join committee.
- CCC BMIS Review Subcommittee Activity Report: There was no additional information.
- Conference Finance Committee (CFC): See finance report. Note that not all of the report had been audited. Fall plans were for financial reports to be sent out on a monthly basis.
- Conference Intergroup Communication Committee (CICC): The committee is available to aid the BOT with communications, newsletter, and called for submissions to the newsletter.
- Conference Member Retention Committee: Report in welcome packet. Newly designed Chips were made available for recognition of working the Steps. New sponsorship workbook being drafted by a subcommittee. New project on the horizon includes an online project (including the International Fellowship)—it was to be posted to a website for review.
- Conference Journal Committee (CJC): Final report available in welcome packet and it includes a subscription card and a past issue. The committee has also addressed the format of the *the Journal*, plans to use additional software to make publishing of *the Journal* easier.
- Conference Literature Committee (CLC): Report in welcome packet. Extraneous information was included by mistake –please ignore. Special Note: The indexing project does not require use of a computer. Please volunteer.
- Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC): Goal is to have an S.L.A.A. Basic Text in every library--one library at a time. Need volunteers.
- Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CS&TC): The mission of this committee was highlighted, continuing to develop literature and assist the F.W.S. office and the

BOT with questions regarding Steps and Traditions. Seeking real-time action in meeting goal. The committee has submitted three IFDs and has developed an information packet.

[Announcements:

- 2008 ABC/M to be held July 15-18 in Ellenton, FL. Hosted by the Tampa Bay Intergroup.
- 16th Annual International Recovery Convention, July 18-20, 2008 in Tampa Bay, FL.
- CLC needs proofreaders.]

After a break, the General Assembly continued.

Brief description was given about why “an Issue For Discussion” does not include a vote as opposed to “a motion.” An overview of Phase I and Phase II of the business method, voting, quorum, service roles, group conscience, and the BMIS was given.

The Conference Committee Member Packet was given to participants. Contents were reviewed by the CCC Chair. A CCC goal would be to have more interaction between Conference committee chairs to avoid duplication of efforts. It was emphasized that all committee members “have a responsibility to study and understand to best of their abilities these documents and the responsibilities involved in these leadership/servant roles” [Sec. II, p. 2].

Brainstorming –Problem Solving Session:

Topic: Conference Committee Functionality:

Leadership

- Lead by example.
- Leaders must be proactive: break goals into action tasks.
- Foster communication without a personal agenda.
- Delegate effectively.
- Be organized.
- Follow through.
- Allow committee to chose chair later, chair need not be at ABM. Don’t limit choice of chair to ABM participants.
- Set boundaries.
- Leaders have responsibility to move committee from vagueness into concrete action.
- Identify people’s talents and then invite them to participate.
- Be respectful of volunteers.
- Act as facilitator.
- Be willing to identify those members that work and let them run with the task—“let the doers do.”

Responsibilities for Conference Committee Members

- Be present, give back what you have received.
- Nurture –listen to people’s emotions.
- Follow through.
- Let go of your own attachment to your own agenda. Listen to group conscience.
- Remember that our function is a business function--not to be a recovery group.
- Be open to revision of goals.

- Be passionate--not just gung-ho.
- Make it fun, include laughter/relaxation.
- Be flexible.
- If you sign up, then show up.

Communication/Methods

- Use as part of meeting: e-mail round robin and Google group, with response within 2 days.
- Eliminate adjectives and adverbs in all communications.
- Use e-mail etiquette. Be kind and considerate; remember that e-mails have a message between the lines.
- Go to the source of concerns—use the phone.
- Look up and learn the format used in ABM meetings.
- Allow time to process.
- Communicate “with” not “to” or “at” someone.
- Use your sponsor.
- Stay on our own side: speak in the “I:” do not assume.
- Communicate with members who may have a concern ahead of time.
- Don’t click “send.”

Process

- Use group conscience.
- Don’t reinvent the wheel.
- Communicate about world-wide service in an open, honest manner.
- Don’t hesitate to borrow from the process.
- Balance experience with new ideas.
- Set a goal, process is how we get there.
- Process is bi-direction.
- Be willing to take risk with a new process.
- Use round robins.
- The process is very simple by practicing in all areas and with forgiveness.
- Be inclusive.
- Foster the widest group conscience.
- Use process, but let it slide when helpful.

Goals/Projects

- Be clear on your expectations of what the goal is.
- Keep your goals small and manageable.
- Goals are Higher Power oriented.
- Set achievable goals.
- Have a defined timeline.
- Goals must be easily and simply described.
- The project should have deadlines.
- Ask for help and don’t be afraid to cry.
- Easy does it but do it.

Continuity/Membership

- Being passionate in the work you do will attract members to stay.

- Place principles before personalities.
- Don't expect those that do to do everything, it will burn them out.
- Mentor—make a friend.
- Don't ridicule or be sarcastic.
- Don't over commit--be gentle with yourself and learn to say "no."
- Face your fear and do it.
- Don't shoot me, I'm just a volunteer.
- Pay it forward, train your replacement—pass on your strength and hope.
- Encourage creativity, appreciate people's contributions.
- Be open, honest, willing.
- Keep coming back.

Announcements:

[*Point of Clarification:* Regarding previous question concerning IFDs that were rejected—would the deadline for submitting motions be moved?

Answer: No changes will be made.]

[*Announcements resumed:*

- If you can get registration form turned in by Thursday, registration fee will remain at pre-registration fee level.
- CPIC: Looking for stories on successfully placing S.L.A.A. literature in libraries.
- Submit your personal experience of the meeting to *the Journal*
- Bring auction items to Linda H.
- Auction on Thursday evening raises funds for F.W.S. Emcee needed.]

The General Assembly adjourned for the "Getting to Know the BOT & F.W.S." meeting and dinner.

General Assembly Reconvened, July 10, 2007 7:15 – 8:00 p.m.

This General Session was led by Danielle P. (BOT Chair) as Micro, Chris D. as Macro, and Kim B. as Back-up. The Session opened with the Serenity Prayer. The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions were read. There were 26 voting members in the room at the beginning of this session, so business was started. There was an explanation of the Phase I process. The assignment of roles was as follows: Gabriel G. and Derek O. as Vote Counters; Sam A. as Timekeeper; Spiritual Reminder not present at 7:15 p.m.; and Josephine S. as Record Keeper.

Phase I:

Phase I began with reference to the 2007 BMIS. It is noted that the macro served as the micro and the backup served as the macro when motions authored by this session's micro were discussed.

07n10/07-01 Motion:

- ❖ Tabled to Phase II

07n11/07-02: Issue for Discussion:

- ❖ Tabled to Phase II

07n12/07-03 Issue for Discussion:

- ❖ Tabled to Phase II

End of Phase I

Phase II:

07n10/07-01 Motion:

Any previous motions notwithstanding, the CCC shall not be bound to create a Conference (Delegate) Newsletter. (Conference Charter Committee)

Intent:

The motion will give the CCC the discretion to produce the Conference (Delegate) Newsletter when there is a willingness, interest, and resources from the Conference.

Requirements:

None offered by owner/submitter.

Discussion:

[Question of process. Issues for Phase I will be revisited Wednesday.]

Discussion resumed:

Pro: I believe motion should be approved because as in the past the resources were not available. Believe it would cause a monetary drain. It is only a newsletter for delegates at ABM.

Con: Still need information on background, so would vote con.

Pro: Support the motion because it is purely a Conference committee newsletter. The resources lacking are people to do the work. It doesn't mean a newsletter cannot be created.

Clarification: If we vote against it, can we still create a newsletter if there is a willingness?

Answer: Yes.

Pro: It gives flexibility to CCC to produce it when possible.

Con: What was in the newsletter?

Answer: The Conference newsletter never contained all the minutes, it was more focused on the annual business meeting. The effectiveness was marginal.

Con: The motion seems to discourage producing the newsletter.

Vote: [vote in favor means the CCC will not be bound] [vote opposed means CCC is bound to create newsletter]

In favor: 28 Opposed: 3 Abstain: 2

Minority: The minority did not think vote was needed as there are no consequences to CCC when it does not honor being bound to produce newsletter.

2nd Vote: In favor: 28 Opposed: 3 Abstain: 2

The vote in favor carries; the motion passes.

[Announcements:

- o CJC: plug for *the Journal*.
- o FWS: office closed, see Tenise for any needs.
- o CSTC: support and information packet available.
- o CLC: plug for participation.
- o CMRC: First Step Chip available.
- o Note the 8:15 p.m. Tradition-Five Speakers]

The General Assembly adjourned at 8 p.m..

General Assembly Reconvened, July 11, 2001, 1:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Danielle, the Micro for Phase I for this session, opened the meeting. The Serenity prayer was recited. The macro for this session was Liz D. and the back-up was Sam A. The assignment of roles was as follows: Timekeeper: Sam A.; Spiritual Reminder: Leon C.; Record Keeper: Josephine S. There was a voting quorum, so business was conducted.

Five minutes time was allotted for delegates to read the revised CCC BMIS Annual Report (Motions and Issues for Discussion) [Revised 7/10/07] handed to delegates at the start of this General Assembly session.

Phase I was initiated.

Point for Clarification:

One of the delegates, Andrew H., voiced a concern regarding the manner in which the BMIS reviewed the issues and motions. He felt that previously the spirit of inclusion was followed by including issues/motions that were not in perfect order. He felt that the BMIS has appointed itself as the group conscience. He stated that “The board shall act only in an advisory capacity” means in his interpretation that it is not the responsibility of the BMIS to decide which issues/motions is to be put on the agenda. He would have the Conference decide which issues to consider. He thought that the BMIS has overextended its power to decide which issues/motions to put on the agenda.

Response from the Micro Ph I, Danielle P.: There is a procedure in place for this review process. Micro called for a CCC member to speak to this process.

CCC Chair, Jack S.: The CCC uses a process to facilitate the ABM. The BMIS process has been streamlined. The BMIS Review Subcommittee uses the BMIS process as criteria to assess submissions to the ABM. He believes the process was fair and honest. Requests discussion be terminated until after the ABM and taken to the BMIS Review Subcommittee.

Andrew H.: Stated that he did go to the CCC via e-mail previously, but had received no response, and could not attend CCC meetings because his committee met at the same time as the CCC.

Micro-Danielle P.: Stated that the discussion had been terminated.

Andrew H: Objected strongly because issue has not been addressed.

Micro- Danielle P.: Called for the CCC Chair to call a meeting before the end of the ABM to address this issue.

CCC Chair, Jack S.: Agreed

Phase I continued:

Micro asked everyone to refer to revised **BMIS Annual Report (Motions and Issues for Discussion) dated 7-10-07.**

07n13/07-04 Issue for Discussion

❖ **Tabled to Phase II**

07n14/07-05 Issue for Discussion

❖ **Tabled to Phase II**

07n15/07-06 Issue for Discussion

❖ **Tabled to Phase II**

07n16/07-07 Issue for Discussion

❖ **Tabled to Phase II**

Begin Phase II

Chris D micro for Phase II It is noted that the macro served as the micro and the backup served as the macro when motions authored by this session's micro was discussed.

07n11/07-02 Issue for Discussion:

What are the advantages or disadvantages (especially when dealing with the Traditions) for the S.L.A.A. home page to be "clean" allowing for no mention of other Twelve Step groups? (BOT Public Relations Committee)

Intent: *Correction of error in printed text:* "At the home page" should be substituted for "At the Intergroup level". It should read: [At the Home Page level, the task of reviewing and approving the activities of these linked other twelve Step groups would be time-consuming and divert us from our primary purpose.]

Point of Clarification:

Andrew H.: Has this been discussed in the past 4 years?

Micro: Assumes BMIS has already checked history.

Discussion on IFD continued:

Comments were as follows:

- ◆ Tradition Five behooves members to have access to other meetings through the home page. The disclaimer on the Home Page already states that no endorsement is given.
- ◆ Important to consider that we carry a message unique from other organizations. We are not just a "Step" organization. We must be careful at the top level to maintain the Traditions, but at the same time at the Intergroup level there must be room for interaction. The Sixth Tradition says that cooperation should not go as far as affiliation.
- ◆ Traditions can be first seen as a set of boundaries to help us, as in business boundaries, but more personally they can be seen as boundaries in a couple's relationship. Boundaries that do not flex can become walls.

Point of Order for Clarification:

Sam A.: This is within the fourth year that this issue has been discussed, but it was withdrawn, does it still count as previously discussed?

Sam A. asked Jack S. to give feedback.

Jack S.: It was withdrawn and did not reach the ABM, so it can be discussed now. BOT has discretion to put this issue on the agenda.

Discussion on IFD 07n11/07-02 continued:

- ◆ Agreement that participation in one Step group can lead to participation in another Step group.

Question for Clarification: Why are there requirements if the IFD is only a discussion?

Answer: The issue can become a motion. Also it lets us look ahead to possible actions required to implement a motion.

Discussion on IFD 07n11/07-02 continued:

- ◆ In conference calls in which a delegate has participated, Tradition 6 applies, but Tradition 5 applies, too.
- ◆ Having a link in place makes no monetary impact. The only affect is the prestige of carrying a link. ??? There is a conflict between Traditions 5 and 6. Let's choose the lesser of two evils.
- ◆ Steps were written because they work. Traditions keep us from repeating the same mistakes. Note that AA does not show Al-Anon or Alateen on its home page.
- ◆ The intent observes that a motion was passed in 1999. ??? The Conference decided to adopt a URL link to other sites then.
- ◆ There is no "real time" advantage to having links. Using a search such as Google takes five minutes.
- ◆ Doesn't seem as necessary now to have links.

07n12/07-03 Issue For Discussion:

The Connecticut Intergroup wishes a discussion of FWS Board of Trustees transparency relating to crises at the Fellowship Wide level and future actions which might be taken to promote better open and honest communication while preserving the privacy rights of individuals. (CT Intergroup)

Committee Reports:

BMIS Subcommittee: The '06-'07 BMIS Review Subcommittee requested revision of this item by a vote of 5-0-0, the owner made the requested revisions, and the revised version appears at left. (*referring to printed report*)

Comments were as follows:

- ◆ CCC encourages everyone to communicate honestly.
- ◆ What does the upside down triangle concept mean to us in terms of service?
- ◆ AA is structured so that service groups are accountable to larger group.
- ◆ BOT needs to figure out how to do the same to be accountable.
- ◆ Unity Tradition deals with issue of trust given to members on service structure.
- ◆ Transparency is the issue. Trust is put in BOT, but some BOT members have lost sight of the idea that all issues should be made by the Conference--such as accepting the endowment.
- ◆ Unity is something we arrive at after listening to opinions.
- ◆ This is a highly charged IFD in the New England Intergroup—they feel openness is missing. More information needs to trickle down.
- ◆ A delegate said that he thinks that the boundaries were violated. He heard amends have been made. As a member of the Fellowship at large, he accepts the amends. As member of a Texas Intergroup he accepts amends.
- ◆ The last 48 hours the BOT has exhibited great openness. The scary part is that we don't know where the next pitfall may occur and may not have planned to address it.
- ◆ Appreciated the amends made by BOT.

- ◆ It is important to keep in mind that while the BOT supports transparency, it is not responsible for who actually listens; members must be responsible to participate.

07n13/07-04 Issue For Discussion:

The Board of Trustees (BOT) would like to ask the Conference for feedback on utilizing the various methods of teleconferencing that were suggested by the Board Finance and Operating Committee (BF&OC) over this past year (Freeconferencecall.com and skype.com). (Board of Trustees)

Committee Reports:

BMIS Subcommittee: The '06-'07 BMIS Review Subcommittee accepted this item onto the BMIS by a vote of 5-0-0.

Comments were as follows:

- ◆ CCC feedback: The main concern is exclusivity, as having to pay up front before reimbursement can become a burden to some members and thereby end up excluding them from active participation.
- ◆ CAC used Free Conference Call service very positively with good results.
- ◆ CLC is developing a new process.
- ◆ CLC also notes that the Free Conference Call service allows us to close the conference meeting after its start to avoid non-members from possibly entering and more options are possible from Free Conference Call service than from Global Premiere.
- ◆ CPIC: Asked whether a tech support person could be made available?
- ◆ F.W.S: It was not intent to have members front the money even with reimbursement, there are different passcodes for participants as opposed to listeners.
- ◆ BOT: One of the systems would not accept the particular cell phone being used. Then, later it did, systems seem to have opened up. The expenses impact on foreign callers remains the same as under Global Premiere. Callers still need to arrange for calling card.
- ◆ Delegate from Germany: The dialing into Free Conference Call service is more expensive than a direct call.
- ◆ Delegate: Technologically, the PBX at the F.W.S. office can function as a distribution call center and could be used to host conference calling. A server cost would figure in.
- ◆ MRC: Free Conference Call service usage by MRC allows recorded calls to be used for minutes. You can download the conference call recording to pc or I-pod, etc.
- ◆ Delegate: A concern he pleads for is not to remove Global Premiere service, the struggle is to get enough people involved. The cost of a member not showing up due to lack of personal funds outweighs Free Conference Call service. Do not change status quo.
- ◆ Delegate: There is no contract with Premiere; it can remain as a backup.
- ◆ BOT Treasurer: Board Finance and Operating Committee has no intention to stop availability of Global Premiere. Service cost per month is decreased.
- ◆ Delegate: As a Conference committee chair, I value group input, don't need to lose members of Conference committees due to people being asked to pay their own way. Committee can budget money for conference calls.

End of discussion. The Chair noted that the information gathered from all discussions will appear in ABM minutes.

[Announcements:

- BG&NC: If someone is leaving before Friday's elections, if you cannot attend justifiably, contact the Board Governance and Nominating Committee (BG&NC) for absentee ballot information.
- CJC: *The Journal* issues available. Need your contribution—need your personal experience of ABM to be submitted.
- Dancing tonight: See Ava M. or Andrew H. afterwards.
- Stay this weekend for the *S.L.A.A.* Workshop (will also be available in CD form)
- CFC: each of you received a copy of the Committee Budget Request form in the black binder notebook; we need your completed committee budget request turned in.
- F.W.S: A 5:45 p.m. trip to F.W.S. office is planned--meet up front.
- Delegate: A roommate to share expenses is needed for double room.
- Delegate: Need charging unit for Nokia cell phone.
- 6 p.m. S.L.A.A. meeting in Crockett room.
- In person chairs meeting 9:15 p.m. in Crockett room
- CCC: The Committee Roster Form in your notebook needs to be turned in.
- 2008 ABC/M to be held July 15-18 in Ellenton, Fl. Hosted by the Tampa Bay Intergroup.
- 16th Annual International Recovery Convention, July 18-20, 2008 in Tampa Bay, Florida.
- CMRC: Meeting in Bowie room at 4:30 p.m.; set aside time for brainstorming on member retention.
- CSTC Information packets still available from Liz D.
- Keep your S.L.A.A. material private; don't leave it lying around.]

Break—back at 3:30 p.m. General Assembly adjourned until July 12, 8:30 am.

BOT Fireside Chat led by Liz D.:

Suggested Guidelines for communication:

- Have a generosity of spirit/assume attitude of curiosity to focus on what is it you need to know.
- Use "I" statements only.
- While we may find much disagreement, we all want what is best for *S.L.A.A.*
- Keep connected to Higher Power.
- Everyone here is my friend, not my enemy.
- We are the solution, not the problem.
- As delegates our job is to give careful, thoughtful feedback.

Subject: Discussion Regarding **Endowment Fund Proposed Changes Information Packet**

[Delegates referred to additional memo submitted by Roger R., former member of BOT and BF&OC]

Main points from the "chat" are summarized as follows:

1. Change the name from the Endowment Fund to the Preservation Fund

- ◆ What does it matter?
- ◆ Does preservation mean or say something different? Does it reflect the idea of a reserve?

- ◆ Call it a reserve fund, if that's what it is. The structure of this discussion prevents me from hearing if others feel as I do. Suggest straw vote that lets us share how we think with out being binding.
 - ◆ Concur with calling this what it is--a prudent reserve fund
 - ◆ BOT: We already use "prudent reserve" term elsewhere, we have a liquid reserve. The intent of this change would be that this preservation fund would not be used until other resources have been tapped.
 - ◆ I like being self-supporting; don't want to see us (S.L.A.A.) owning anything. [This fund would be one year's prudent reserve.]
 - ◆ New England Intergroup members felt no strong feeling about name, but what is it for? Is it a slush fund? [BOT answer: Endowment fund was set up not to be touched, but the interest has been available.]
 - ◆ The name may not make a difference, I think we need to not reinvent the wheel; let's keep one fund, but let BOT make decisions about use.
 - ◆ On what was the \$75,000 dollars spent? [BOT answer: Spent on increasing F.W.S.. staffing.]
 - ◆ Money invested in companies that some members do not support (war weapons) [issue of investments is another question: currently money held at Vanguard—widely diversified mutual fund]
- 2. Cap the Preservation fund at 12 months of FWS's total operating budget, inclusive of total costs of goods sold.**
- ◆ Rather than worrying about how large the fund can grow, what about limiting the amount that can be drawn off?
 - ◆ Sacramento Intergroup concerned to get an accounting of what these funds would be used for—view a budget [BOT: A fiscal budget is created each year and printed in the newsletter.]
 - ◆ The \$75,000 that was removed, is it to be replaced?
 - ◆ Does it mean that the fund can be capped; does it affect the budget, is the preservation fund in line with Tradition I? [The cap is based on the budget. Excess fund use has not been discussed, haven't encountered situation before.]
 - ◆ New England Intergroup asked about purpose of cap—does having a cap insure that Fellowship services falls back on members?
 - ◆ The AA Fellowship sells literature below cost to keep its fund low. It [endowment fund] diminishes the value of small contributions. It changes our message to one of finance instead of focus on member services. Leaves us vulnerable to outside influence after large contribution.
 - ◆ We haven't gotten the message out as mandated in the Fifth Tradition, so we need to find the money to provide service. This takes funding.
 - ◆ Think it's a good idea to have only one year operating expense. [BOT: We have discussed having the smallest reserve possible.]
 - ◆ Use volunteers in F.W.S. instead of hiring staff/more staff.
- 3. Establish as policy that F.W.S. and BOT will not solicit contributions for the Preservation Fund from specified individuals unless those individuals have approached F.W.S. or BOT independently.**

- ◆ Delegate offended to be contacted for funds—was his perceived income a factor?
- ◆ From DFW Intergroup, agree that legal boundaries needed, no donor-directed gifts, everything beyond fund cap goes to outreach.
- ◆ There was no cold-calling solicitation for endowment fund, it was not cold calling.
- ◆ Put boundaries on Preservation Fund those are not on regular solicitation. ??? One-on-one solicitation ok.
- ◆ This third change would apply to all forms of solicitation applying to BOT and F.W.S. Would not affect Intergroups.
- ◆ Intergroup supports anything that aligns *S.L.A.A.* with AA practices.
- ◆ This is a revenue problem not a cost problem. Within group meeting format, find that asking that members make \$2 contribution usually ends up with their giving more.
- ◆ In 1995, there was a limit of \$2,000 to FWS, but our limit was exceeded in *S.L.A.A.* by a larger donation. ??? We should not be in the investment business, because we can lose in stock market. Limit investment to CD's and saving accounts that are federally guaranteed. BOT function to support Twelve Traditions, but not to set budget. Largest contribution to endowment fund exceeded cap on operating fund.
- ◆ We have a challenge that AA does not have, our Fellowship is split into 4 fellowships, and the purpose of the Traditions is to limit individuals. *S.L.A.A.* never endorses outside contributions lest it divert us.
- ◆ Connecticut asks whether this shouldn't be part of the business plan. [BOT: A piece of the endowment fund (5% from interest) is pulled to operating expenses budget.]
- ◆ AA policies have a set limit that is dictated by needs of organization. They have now raised cap to \$3,000 by one person that can be donated to their GSO (equivalent to our FWS).
- ◆ When solicited by phone, member felt singled out on perception of his income.
- ◆ Reserve fund and preservation fund will not be treated the same.
- ◆ All larger contributions have been anonymous.
- ◆ Straw Poll: Where to invest? in mutual funds (10 in favor) or guaranteed CD's (16 in favor)
- ◆ Tampa Bay asks for current organization chart.
- ◆ Intergroups may do what they will, but Fellowship at ABM must follow highest ideals of Traditions.
- ◆ Support idea of keeping the fund in guaranteed funds. Whenever the money is invested could become divisive, keep it simple and safe.
- ◆ We are spiritually in danger and the BOT is in danger, the only business the office is in is to support local groups, danger of becoming too full of self-importance. Responsibility and the need to do well can become a trap for those vulnerable to addictions.
- ◆ Do we trust the BOT to handle the money?
- ◆ Our failure as Conference, as Fellowship, as individuals is that in the Seventh Tradition we have failed to be self-supporting. Rather than asking for money, challenge each group to be self-supporting.

BOT thanked everyone for their participation. The BOT truly appreciated the time and effort expended by the delegates and will give the input serious consideration.

When this discussion ended, the floor was opened to BOT Floor Nominations

Nominations from the floor:

Hearing no positive response, the nominations are now closed.

[Announcements:

- Chairs meeting at 9:15 p.m. in Crockett room and note it is open to any future chairs.
- CPIC: need more committee members.
- S.L.A.A. meeting this evening.
- The Easier Softer Way group is conducting a Step workshop this weekend that covers Steps 1-3. Information also available on CD set with workbook. Today is the deadline for break on registration.
- *The Journal* needs your personal experience—needs your sharing.
- Budget Requests to be put in box in office.
- Aug 11, 2007: Connecticut one-day retreat.
- CLC: Meeting reminder--see schedule.
- Field Trip to F.W.S. office--go out main entrance. At 5:45 p.m. today
- Prison Outreach: needs pen pals to meet prisoner requests.]

The General Assembly adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

General Assembly Reconvenes, July 12 2007, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The meeting started with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer in English. The Twelve Steps were read in German and the Twelve Traditions were read in English. Rob K. was Micro for this session, Liz D. was Macro, and Andreas D. was Backup. Assignment of roles was as follows: Timekeeper: Steven S.; Spiritual Reminder: Irv B., Record Keeper: Josephine S.; Vote Counters: Ava M. and Michael J. There were 24 voting members at the start of the session.

Phase II continued.

Everyone was referred to the Conference Service Manual for the process.

07n14/07-05 Issue for Discussion

The Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CS&TC) seeks to share information with the Conference and receive feedback regarding an ongoing process for gathering members' experience, strength and hope to create a new piece of S.L.A.A. literature with the working title, The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.

The CS&TC expects this book to provide tools and support for S.L.A.A. members to get sober, stay sober, and live in recovery. This book will also give S.L.A.A. meetings a basis for studying the Steps and Traditions as they apply in S.L.A.A. In order that the book reflect the breadth and depth of member experience, the CS&TC has started a process of gathering writings from within the Fellowship by circulating "sharing sheets" for members to respond to, and by organizing regional writing events. The gathered writings will be used as a basis for the book

The CS&TC seeks discussion regarding how best to expand this gathering process throughout the S.L.A.A. Fellowship. (Conference Steps & Traditions)

Committee Reports:

BMIS Review Subcommittee: The '06-'07 BMIS Review Subcommittee accepted this item onto the BMIS by a vote of 5-0-0.

CLC: will take comments and thoughts to the committee.

Comments were as follows:

- ◆ Delegate: What purpose does it serve?
- ◆ North Texas Intergroup: Thinks it will improve library resources.
- ◆ A problem with these collected writing is that it should not be called the Twelve & Twelve.
- ◆ We need a way to reach out to Intergroups and ask them to host writing workshops.
- ◆ The 12 & 12 Subcommittee plans to gather sharing sheets from variety of addicts to get full spectrum of perspective on S.L.A.A..
- ◆ Like idea of sharing sheets, but format of sharing sheets will determine outcome, how do the Steps apply in your life thrust could focus persons to look at the Steps as applications.
- ◆ The 12 & 12 Subcommittee will not replace Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, instead it will be a comprehensive look at the Steps and how they are implemented.
- ◆ Regarding the concept of literature—what is Conference-approved literature? The *the Journal* is not Conference-approved, the pamphlets are. Notion of collecting writing will be addressed in other IFDs.
- ◆ Trying to give, in the introduction, a purpose for the book, parameters of sharing, and further delineate some guidelines on sharing. The model of Al-Anon sharing sheet has been changed to meet the needs of S.L.A.A.
- ◆ The guidelines on sharing sheet also come from *the Journal's* guidelines.
- ◆ An Intergroup member suggests that no one has heard about writing group workshops, need writing group advocates to be placed in Intergroups.
- ◆ Intergroup Communication Committee has offered to facilitate Intergroup contacts.
- ◆ Pittsburg intergroup held writing workshop, it invigorated the group individually and as a group.
- ◆ Piloting writing workshop supports intent to build contacts in intergroups.

07n15/07-06 Issue for Discussion

The Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CS&TC) seeks to share information with the Conference and receive feedback regarding tentative plans to hire a professional writer/editor from within S.L.A.A. to assist in the creation of a new piece of S.L.A.A. literature with the working title, The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.

The CS&TC expects this book to provide tools and support for S.L.A.A. members to get sober, stay sober, and live in recovery. This book will also give S.L.A.A. meetings a basis for studying the Steps and Traditions as they apply in S.L.A.A. In order that the book have a uniformity of style and purpose, as well as consistently readable and accessible text, the CS&TC is researching a process for hiring a member of the Fellowship, with professional writing and editing skills, who would build upon sharings gathered from throughout the Fellowship to create the book. The CS&TC would oversee the work of the writer/editor and

present a complete manuscript to the Conference Literature Committee for Conference approval in the usual manner.

Building on the successful model of AI-Anon experience, our intention is to solicit resumes of interested writer/editors by distributing flyers about the project throughout the Fellowship. A Request for Proposals (RFP) would be sent to potential writer/editors who submit a resume, asking them to submit a writing/editing sample based on a selection of sharing sheets for the book. The CS&TC would then select a writer/editor from among those who submit samples.

The CS&TC seeks discussion regarding the idea of hiring of a professional writer/editor from within the Fellowship for a 12x12 book. In particular, we are interested in whether this idea has support within the Fellowship, and what thoughts Conference members may have about how to improve upon this idea. (Conference Steps & Traditions)

Committee Reports:

BMIS Review Subcommittee: The '06-'07 BMIS Review Subcommittee accepted this item onto the BMIS by a vote of 5-0-0.

CS&TC: We began with two subcommittees for Steps and Traditions and then realized that the committee minutes did not reflect professional writing experience, felt overwhelmed.

CLC: Has not had opportunity to review, but will provide support.

Comments were as follows:

- ◆ For consideration: Are we talking hiring, or seeking a volunteer?
- ◆ What are we talking in costs?
- ◆ CLC is not necessarily where literature originates, but they would like to see final draft.
- ◆ What were the pitfalls in preparation of literature for other groups?
- ◆ Re: sharing sheet—if sharing is not used for Twelve&Twelve, it can be forwarded to *the Journal*.
- ◆ Concerns that paying a member \$25,000 may warrant a red flag. Is this an instance of "May employ special helpers?"—need to disclose conflict of interest.
- ◆ As service volunteers, hiring an editor may breed resentment among volunteer writers.
- ◆ In terms of IFD structure, if money is an issue what does the Conference think about raising funds?
- ◆ In terms of pitfalls, CS&TC wants to meet with others to gather information.
- ◆ Use AI-Anon support book, see it as a different vector ?? in looking at relationship issues. Look forward to results of Twelve&Twelve.
- ◆ Hiring an editor is like someone going on a retreat that needs to be taken care of while he focuses on collecting material.
- ◆ Historical precedence—AA used paid editors; our S.L.A.A. Basic Text used a paid writer.
- ◆ Person being hired "not to do Twelve Step work" but to edit.
- ◆ First look inside the group but need to be careful about how content is reflected--is it S.L.A.A.'s Steps or is it personal experience.
- ◆ Long version of Eighth Tradition supports service helpers being hired.

- ◆ Need to consider amount of time it will take to complete project—what is the time frame?
- ◆ Hiring an editor—use editor with distance and perspective to streamline process.
- ◆ If we hire an editor, how do we factor in final decider of final draft, who approves the draft?

General Assembly agreed that Announcements be moved to beginning of 1 p.m. General Assembly.

07n16/07-07 Item for Discussion

The Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CS&TC) seeks to share information with the Conference and receive feedback regarding funding options for the development of a new piece of S.L.A.A. literature with the working title, The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.

The CS&TC expects this book to provide tools and support for S.L.A.A. members to get sober, stay sober, and live in recovery. This book will also give S.L.A.A. meetings a basis for studying the Steps and Traditions as they apply in S.L.A.A. The book is intended to have a chapter for each Step and Tradition of S.L.A.A. The CS&TC would like to be able to pay fair market value for the services of a professional writer/editor from within the Fellowship to assist in the development of the book. In order to achieve this goal we are considering the possibility of CS&TC, as a Conference Committee, raising funds within the Fellowship.

The CS&TC seeks discussion regarding the idea of raising funds for the development of a 12 Steps and 12 Traditions book. In particular, we are interested in whether the idea of CS&TC, as a Conference Committee, raising funds has support within the Fellowship, and what thoughts Conference members might have about how to improve upon this idea. (Conference Steps & Traditions)

Committee Reports:

BMIS Review Subcommittee: The '06-'07 BMIS Review Subcommittee accepted this item onto the BMIS by a vote of 5-0-0.

CS&TC: Al-Anon used “fair market value criteria” to look for payment, contractual formalities.

Comments were as follows:

- Suggest we offer editor a percentage up front and then residual on book.
- Do pre-sales for raising funds.
- How many copies of *the Journal* book are left? Haven't sold like hotcakes.
- An individual contribution should be limited to avoid influence.
- Could breed resentment from non-paid volunteers.
- Contributions should be completely blind, anonymous, no recognition. Separate account. Clear guideline on using left over monies.
- A lot of interest in S.L.A.A. Twelve & Twelve in North Texas.
- Solicitations should be consistent with preservation fund.
- Board Finance & Operating Committee: \$25,000 as a salary is old data. Recommend that 80-90% of funds be collected before beginning project. BF&OC will not deficit fund. Will resent emergency fund application. Prefers lump-sum as opposed to residual to editor in payment. As long as contribution is anonymous—there is no need for cap.

- As S.L.A.A. holds writing workshops, before we announce being open to donations, ask Intergroups to hold their own fundraisers to both increase funds and strengthen Fellowship.
- Concerns of money coming from other than F.W.S. or S.L.A.A. One of the main functions of service structure is that it should keep it internal; it should not be paid for by outside sources, it could lead to requests for a particular topic by a donor.
- The committee in putting project together, it would be better to focus on sharing sheets, thinks book will pay for itself. The F.W.S. office budget could include editor cost.
- Al-Anon has its own separately incorporated publishing group.
- F.W.S. office cannot accept allocated funds.
- Do market research on putting book together.

Phase II completed

After a break, the General Assembly resumed at 10:20 a.m..

Jack S. as Micro, Kim B. as Macro, and Leon C. as Back-up.

[Announcement:

- Andrew H: Sheet with rejected motions has not been addressed. Please read it and contact Journal Committee. with comments.
- BG&NC: Candidates will be open to questions this evening. At the General Assembly on Friday morning doors will closed at 8:30 a.m. for elections.
- CLC: Invitation to join CLC in Bowie room for meeting.
- CCC: Chairs meeting informally at lunch table.
- CJC: Plug to subscribe to *the Journal*—receive the *the Journal* 6 times a year.
- Reminder: To Conference members--you are the key and main venue for information to go back to Intergroups.
- The Easier Softer Way group is conducting a Step workshop this weekend that covers Steps 1-3. Information also available on CD set with workbook. Today is the deadline for break on registration.
- Auction reminder: Come to the auction and have a great time at 8:45 p.m.]

Traditions Training by Rob K and Liz D

- Liz D. read the Twelve Traditions. This presentation offered a personal perspective of the Twelve Traditions as they relate to the S.L.A.A. entrusting its business to delegates.

The General Assembly was adjourned for lunch at 11:30 a.m..

General Assembly Reconvenes, July 12, 2007, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Traditions Training by Rob K. and Liz D. continued

Questions from the floor (submitted to anonymous box) were answered by Rob and Liz.

- In sharing at an S.L.A.A. meeting we do not share about other Step recovery groups because it only serves to separate one member from another member.

- Why not marketing? Spirit of Tradition 11 does not support marketing; direct solicitation different from providing information that money is needed. Educational outreach of needs will give individuals the opportunity to respond.
- Should S.L.A.A. adopt the long form of Traditions, when will we be ready for concepts? Don't know.
- A delegate shared that when I was young, I thought Tradition 2 meant life was about finding joy; then later I thought life was about service, and then I realized service is joy.
- There's a difference between an individual invitation (one on one) and a web announcement of meeting.

Discussion ended but unanswered questions may be addressed privately to Rob K. and Liz D.

Announcements:

- There will be Question and Answer Period for BOT candidates at 7:15 p.m.. Fifteen minutes after the official end of this question/answer period tonight will be the deadline to turn in request for an absentee ballot.
- Further announcements will be heard after the evening's General Assembly.]

The General Assembly was adjourned.

General Assembly Reconvened, July 12, 2007 7:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The facilitators were Dan A. and Liz D. BOT nominees were interviewed by the Conference in preparation for BOT elections on 7-13-07. Dan A. read the written response of absent nominees Rico J. and Steven S. to the question, "what committees have you served on that enable you to serve better on the BOT." A period of open-mic question and answer ensued. General Assembly adjourned.

The live auction was held afterward as an F.W.S. fundraiser.

General Assembly, July 13, 2005 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer in Spanish. There were readings of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions in English. The facilitators of the meeting were: Jack S. (Micro), Rob K. (Macro) [not present during voting period], and Jenn B. (Back-up) [not present at opening], and Josephine S. (Record Keeper).

Point of Clarification:

From Dan A.: I was asked "Does the BOT screen candidates?" Answer is no. Anyone who is put forward or puts himself forward is a candidate.

The BG&NC stepped in for the purpose of conducting the vote for the BOT. The ballots were distributed. After the delegates cast their ballots, the BG&NC collected the ballots. Ava M. volunteered to be the impartial vote observer. The BG&NC departed the room with the observer to count the votes.

After their departure, the facilitators continued with the agenda.

The CCC Chair took a moment to make amends as follows:

- Mentorship program process, due to lack of communication, did not meet its designated responsibilities. Apology extended.
- Conference Finance Committee, due to lack of communication, did not function as designated. Apology extended.

The CCC Chair stated that each committee needs to create a roster and turn in copies of those rosters to the F.W.S. office. It was strongly suggested that each Conference committee set its first meeting, and determine which conference call method to use. A committee may use e-mail-only route to conduct its business, but it is not recommended. Use of some phone calls leads to better communication. A list of all committees and their pass-codes will come from F.W.S. Let F.W.S. know when Global Premier is used, and how many members participate. The Chair discussed the importance of collecting the committee budgets from each committee. Use budget sheets and progress sheets included in the welcome packet and turn in to F.W.S. Committee Chairs will be asked to give a verbal report at the last General Assembly today including committee roster, budget, projects planned, and next meeting date. The CCC Chair discussed the vote that will take place to confirm all Conference committees. Committees will be affirmed by the Conference delegates at the last General Assembly which will require a quorum. All chairs need to attend a CCC meeting today to get information. If a chair will be absent, please send a representative.

The BG&NC announced the election results: Rico J. and Bob F. were the BOT members voted in at this conference.

The Chair spoke about how the role of the BOT liaison has evolved. Currently liaisons to each committee may sit in at each call/meeting as an observer only, or a liaison may choose to be an active part of the committee. The BOT now encourages that if a choice is made to be active, then that liaison-member should take off the BOT hat and strive to not interpret business as a BOT member, while remaining as a liaison to the BOT in terms of communication. Exercise only equal influence as other committee members.

Suggestion from Floor: Allocate rest of General Assembly session time to committees to work on their agendas.

[Announcements:

- CJC: Take home subscription cards, pass out to Intergroups. The *the Journal* will hold delegates to submitting personal experience, please drop off today or send in.
- CDC: Diversity Committee is being formed, sign up now. See information on mission.
- POC: Information has been distributed on Prison Outreach Committee; requests have been received from inmates for mentors/sponsors.
- CLC: Plug for members to join
- CJC: Demand for *the Journal* entries, request for *the Journal* entries, we will not beg. A mechanism has been put into place by the CJC to have one leader for each issue. Irv B. will be leader for Sept issue. Linda H., F.W.S., has handout sheet to facilitate making entries.
- CS&CT: Information for delegates available-see Liz D., she has a copy of “Paths to Recovery” book for perusal, needs reminders of any requests that have not been filled.
- Suggestion that each delegate request their intergroup to put delegate on agenda so that they can report on ABM to local level.

- 2008 ABC/M to be held July 15-18 in Ellenton, Fl. Hosted by the Tampa Bay Intergroup.
- CLC: Request the intergroups put on their agenda to make donation to local library of S.L.A.A. literature.
- F.W.S. requests updates on contact information so database may be updated.
- CCC request feedback from delegates—complete feedback sheet to help improve on next year’s conference.
- CMRC: Have established a holding fund for Step chip fund (need \$3,500), please consider contributing.]

The General Assembly adjourned at 9:17 a.m..

General Assembly, July 13, 2007, 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

A quorum of 29 was present. This session opened with the Serenity Prayer in German. The session was facilitated by Jack S. (CCC Chair) as Micro, Dan A. (BOT Chair) as Macro, and the Back-up was not present at the opening. Roles were assigned: Andreas D.- Timekeeper; Alice D.- Spiritual Reminder; Josephine S.- Record Keeper. Vote counters were Mike J. and Bruce H. Executive Officers for S.L.A.A. are as follows:

President: Dan A. Treasure: Richard C. Secretary: Danielle P.

The Conference Committee BOT Liaisons were announced as follows

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| • CAC: Richard C. | • CSTC: Dan A. |
| • CBC: Derek O. | • CDC: Richard C./Rico J. |
| • CCC: Dan A. | • CJC: Dan A. |
| • CFC: Richard C. | • CHRC: Chris D. |
| • CIC: Steven S. | • CICC: Bob F. |
| • CLC: Steven S. | • CIFC: Rico J. |
| • CPIC: Chris D. | • MRBOTC: Derek O. |
| • CSC: <u>(blank)</u> | • CMRC: Bob F. |
| • CSP: <u>(blank)</u> | • POC: Stephen S. |

Committees were asked to identify the following: Chair / Co-chair(s); Budget requests; First scheduled meeting; Projects; and Goals. They are summarized in the following table:

Committee	Chair/Co-chairs	Budget Request	1 st Scheduled Mtg.	Projects/Goals
CAC				
CCC	Jack S.	\$3890	1 st Sunday in Aug.	BMIS; ABM scheduling; process
CFC	Anthony P.	\$200	8/14/07 at 9 p.m. EDT Generally, meeting on 1 st Tues of	Update information to BOT and respective Committee Chairs on committee spending vs. budget for fiscal 2006-2007 and do same for 2007-2008. Reimbursement procedure will use one

			each quarter.	form sent to F.S.W. Set up Google Group to facilitate communications.
CIC	Eric G.	\$1,250	2 nd Sunday in Aug. at 6 p.m. EDT	Online Meeting Group Outreach project. Technology Advisory Protocol project to aid F.W.S. Coordinate with BOT to aid in updating the S.L.A.A. F. W. S. website. Draft Proposed “Safe Surfing” Guidelines to assist members in ways to stay sober in regards to internet behaviors.
CLC	Leon C.	\$1000	2 nd or 3 rd week Aug.	Look at CLC process, produce People of Color pamphlet, Tools of S.L.A.A. pamphlet, Basic Text, Plain Language Text.
CPIC	Steven D.	\$200	Aug. 18 at 1 p.m. EDT	Goal: Place S.L.A.A. literature in one library at a time
CSTC	Ava M./ Liz D.	\$2350	Last week in July	Respond in real time to Step and Tradition inquiries with research, training, & study of Traditions. Production of Twelve & Twelve book. Develop, approve, and evaluate the structure of communications.
CDC	Andreas D.	\$800	8-12-07 at 3 p.m. EDT	Survey regarding special needs, help with People of Color pamphlet with CLC to have it ready as an IFD for the 2008 BMIS, do maintenance on Diversity Meeting Format Catalog, work on International Service Structure (ISS)
CJC	Kim B.	\$5,050	7/15/ 07 at 6 p.m. EDT	Develop a <i>the Journal</i> editor selection process in order to rotate the responsibility for the <i>the Journal</i> preparation and distribution.
CHRC	Rich F./ Alice D.	\$400	8-18-07	Work on webpage for F.W.S., edit the existing writings.
CICC	Michael J.	\$500	8-4-07 at 4 p.m. CDT	Quarterly Newsletter
CIFC	Karin L. / Roger R.	\$100	8-06-06 at 8 p.m. EDT	Host an IFF meeting
MRBOTC				
CMRC	Brian R.	\$2700	8-19-07	Work on Sponsorship workbook, Step Chips, internet project, and an outreach project to gather personal stories.
POC	Steven S.	\$2000	8-5-07 at 2 p.m. PDT	Send literature to inmates, find pen pals, and work on a transition project for prisoners being released.

All Conference Committees were confirmed unanimously.

[With the quorum met by the presence of 28 voting delegates, the Chair asked the following question in order to confirm the list of Conference Committees: Do we confirm the following committees?

- CAC: 28 y
- CBC: 28 y
- CCC: 28 y
- CFC: 27 y
- CIC: 28 y
- CLC: 28 y
- CPIC: 28 y
- CSC: 28 y
- CSP: 28 y
- CSTC: 28 y
- CDC: 28 y
- CJC: 28 y
- CHRC: 28 y
- CICC: 27 y
- CIFC: 27 y
- MRBOTC: 27 y
- CMRC: 27 y
- POC: :27 y

Announcements:

- CJC: Read it, share it, subscribe.
- CLC: Need more members, please send e-mail to Leon with prospect information or give prospects his e-mail address.
- POC: Need pen pals, take one or two letters to your intergroup and challenge them to participate as a pen pal.
- Three questions: In a budget our size why can't we find the money for Step chips? We have a 12-month reserve; doesn't it call for an announcement to members that there is no financial crunch? Why can't intergroup members who qualify as delegates but can't attend the ABM be allowed to vote absentee?
- CLC: Become a champion of "S.L.A.A. literature in every library"
- F.W.S.: Mail conference survey to F.W.S.
- CS&CT: Liz D. has information packets on Twelve & Twelve packet development.
- CDC: Appeal for future support for diversity survey, need input, will need help distributing survey.
- CFC: The procedure has been amended for getting reimbursed—it now calls for receipts to go directly to FWS office.
- 2008 ABC/M to be held July 15-18 in Ellenton, FL. Hosted by the Tampa Bay Intergroup.]

Special Announcement was made that \$4,245 was raised by the fundraiser held during the ABM. F.W.S. pledged to remain true to its commitments in the coming year.

BOT Chair said that he heard projects announced that sound good, so it is important that

Chairs and F.W.S. communicate to collaborate—let's work together.

Intergroups encouraged to send in contact data to F.W.S.

The Chair and the Assembly thanked volunteers for their help.

Chairs meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. in the Crockett room.

The Chair and the Assembly thanked the record keeper for her work.

The Conference closed with the Serenity Prayer.

The General Assembly was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine S.