

WSBC Report Carrying the Message Back

188 People attended the Conference from 17 different countries.

The countries represented: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, England, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, USA, and Venezuela.

Officer Reports: Significant Information

Chair and Treasurer's Report- Giving is up by 18% but income from our literature is down 29% from the past three years. Most of our income comes from literature sales. WSO is looking for ways to reduce spending. Several things have already been implemented. Many more changes will be coming in the future as cuts have to be made, services to us will be cut. Committees will have to be combined or eliminated. Two ideas being considered and implemented soon are

1. a semi-annual appeal letter to groups
2. generating a document about Bequests

Don't forget about ARC (Automatic Recurring Contributions) available on our website

Managing Director's Report-Affiliated groups are down. There are a variety of digital groups now some are considered Non-Real-Time meetings-These groups include email, bulletin loops, social media pages, bulletin boards or forums, and mobile applications.

Region 1 – Focusing on Intergroup Renewal.

Region 2- Hawaii has a group of 4 meetings on an island desiring to form an intergroup.

Region 3- We have been updating Bylaws and has gone completely paperless. The 12 Step Within committee is ready to print their Dos and Don'ts Pamphlet on how to talk to new people and returning members from relapse, they plan to make it available to download on their website. Region 3 also had a surplus and are donating \$10,000 to WSO.

Region 4- Their Journals continue to sale well on-line.

Region 5- Twenty-seven members from Wisconsin rented a bus so their group could attend their convention in Cincinnati which was 8 hours away. They made use of the time by using the Step Study Guide and had meetings working the steps during the trip. They also used the guide in working the steps at the convention too.

Region 6- continues to host Intergroup renewal trainings. They also have a Region 6 newsletter that is posted on their website only. They are putting on an assembly titled "Welcome Back: A New Beginning".

Region 7 Hosted a how to allow virtual participation at intergroup meetings.

Region 8- This year was their first year to have virtual attendance and voting at their regional assemblies. (I attended their October Assembly Virtually, Lee)

Region 9- has a presence in 49 countries in this region and 34 different languages. They have 859 groups, 51 intergroups, and 13 Service Boards. Service boards include both language service boards and virtual service boards. Translation is one of their biggest priorities. They have a Region 9 week which is held the first week in September every year. The policy is "We consider our members in the region and the still-suffering compulsive overeater and bear in mind our geography, countries, states, and language barriers and think about those in 205 online and 334 on the phone meetings. Seventh tradition has increased by 16% from 2016-2017.

Committee Reports: Significant Information (see committee reports from Lee and Maureen that will be included separately.) I will see if I can highlight what is going on in the other various committees on our website. poor or troubled areas. Together we make a difference."

Region 10 is a vast region also it includes as far as Australia, New Zealand and the Far East, and South East Asia. It is difficult for them to meet often. They skype in part of their Assembly afterwards to update others that couldn't

attend any other way. They have 178 groups 12 intergroups and 1 service board. They had an intergroup forum at their last assembly. The concerns brought up were attracting and retaining members, achieving and maintaining abstinence, supporting men in the fellowship, and lack of sponsors.

Virtual Services Report- 157 affiliated groups and 73 intergroups. In non-real-time Meetings there are

Forum Topic- Tell what was presented, and what part you played, was it fun, did you learn something new?

The Forum was called "Recovery Road Map" each table had 4 presenters come to the table and talk about their topic. There were 30 topics presented in all. Some topics were positive, and some weren't. My topic was "Desire to Stop Rest Stop." I shared some of the things beside including compulsive eating that became road blocks in my recovery journey and how I overcame them by using the steps and tools. We had a good discussion at each of the tables about other people's roadblocks too (Lee).

Committee Meeting you attended: What was discussed? What service role did you take? What is your commitment for this next year as a member of the committee?

Lee: I attended the Bylaws and Reference Committee. My job on the bylaws was as acting Co-Chair for the committee. I will be submitting a summary report that came from my committee. The reference committee meets pretty much all the time while other workshops are going on. We go over contentious motions and make recommendations to the WSBC. We also review anything that gets referred to our committee. Sometimes we worked until 10:00 or 11:00 o'clock at night and then also started at 7:00 am if needed. This is the last time for me to serve on that committee. It has been a pleasure but is also very demanding of your time.

Workshops: Which ones did you attend? What one new idea did you leave with from each workshop?

I missed the workshops I could have attended earlier due to our flight arriving too late. Then I was in meetings for reference the rest of the time. (Lee) The forum was the only workshop I was able to attend.

Literature Considered: What received the Conference approval? Tell your service body this new literature will be available soon.

A piece of literature needs 2/3 vote to adopt.

1. "To the Family of the Compulsive Eater" adopted (not sure when it will be available but soon)
2. "To the Young Person" failed (is an update of To the Teen, we felt we needed new stories to be added to make it more relevant)
3. "Welcome Back" was tabled by the maker
4. "An Introduction to the 12 Concepts" (a new pocket pamphlet) failed we were not sure it was needed at this time

New Business: Which motions were adopted? Which motions failed? Share the process and how we got to the results.

Several Motions were adopted by consensus which means they were grouped together since it involved cleaning up our Bylaws or it was not something of a contentious nature. If a person wants something to be split from the group for some reason they can just ask to have it removed. The following motions were approved by consensus. Motion C, D, H, I, and O. Motions E, F, G, M, and N were removed.

Motion D was a change in wording form the bylaws. Adopted

Proposal F was withdrawn by the maker and referred to committee after much discussion.

Proposal I was a housekeeping motion. Adopted

Proposal M referred to creating Service Centers and print material usage. Adopted

Proposal G was regarding current practice. To resend WSBC Policy 2004a from the bylaws since it was not necessary anymore. Adopted

Proposal A was regarding upgrading technology and budgetary concerns. An amendment was added to change the ad hoc committee to the current job of the Web Tech committee. Adopted as amended

Proposal H was about the interchange of the words compulsive eater and compulsive overeater to add the wording (to the topic and context) by the Literature Committee. Adopted

Proposal N Was a change of wording of WSBC Policy 1988a to update the policy manual and make it more clear. Adopted

Proposal E the intent was to remove the web/tech committee to save money for WSBC after much discussion this failed.

Proposal C was regarding the appeals committee. Adopted

Proposal O regarded open and closed groups. It added the words newcomers to be included in closed groups. Adopted

Proposal S was about copyright laws and current practices of members it was first referred to Reference committee move the restrictions to share parts of the book "For Today" the person sharing it was even against it. It failed.

Proposal J Was referred to reference. In Reference we spent a great deal of time discussing all the holiday amendments together. Then we separated some of them. It took a lot of discussion time trying to decide what was best for OA as a whole. It was sent back to WSBC as amended in reference. The policy was regarding the celebration date of OA's Unity Day. It now will be celebrated the last weekend in January. Adopted as Amended

Proposal L regarding the celebration of Sponsorship Day. Was referred to reference committee and amended to change it to the following – Sponsorship Day will be celebrated on the third weekend in August. Adopted as amended

Proposal K regarding celebration of IDEA Day (International Day of Experiencing Abstinence). Sent to Reference. Was amended in reference and sent back to WSBC. As amended IDEA Day will be celebrated on the third weekend in November. Adopted as Amended.

Proposal B- Policy statement on bariatric surgery it was amended to – In Keeping with tradition 10, OA has no opinion on bariatric surgery or (wt. loss) surgery. In the spirit of tradition 3 OA welcomes anyone with a desire to stop eating compulsively including those who have had bariatric surgery or those who are contemplating it. Adopted as amended

Proposals 1, 2, 3, and 5 will be referred to an ad hoc committee appointed by the chair of B OT and to include trustees, regions chairs, and members of the virtual groups and report back with recommendations to WSBC 2019. Failed

Proposal 3 to create a virtual region which will not be land based. Adopted

Proposal 5 to Change the definitions of Service Boards to take out the wording of Virtual Service Boards. Adopted

Proposal 6 about Service Boards (composition) Failed

Proposal 4 was about choice in affiliating with regions or not as virtual service boards. They changed deleted the part regarding them not being included as a region. Adopted as Amended

Proposal 1 had a substitute amendment. Adopted Substitute Amendment.

Proposal 7 Purpose to restructure and save money by reducing the number of committees to save money.
It would eliminate the finance committee. Adopted

Proposal 10 Withdrawn

Proposal 8 Withdrawn

Proposal 9 Withdrawn

Elections: Who are the new trustees?

Region 1: Pat O'Conner, unopposed, approved

Region 3: Neva Schuelke, unopposed, approved

Region 6: Dianna Gold, unopposed, received a no vote and was not approved board will appoint someone to fill the spot for a year

Region 9: nobody ran for the position, so a person will be appointed by the board

Virtual Trustee- Maria A. Prolungatticesar was elected

General Trustee: Both Judy Harper and Bonnie Lawson were both approved

Share about what you personally experienced. Did you make a new acquaintance? Did you enjoy the fellowship? Did you attend the OA meetings? Are you willing to do this service again?

Lee- I learned so many things during this convention. I learned to not be so perfectionistic. I learned that you have to have enough rest. I learned that you can do too much service work and I need to do less next year. Although I enjoyed it, God taught me some lessons as I ended up having a bad reaction to some medication I was on and due to lack of sleep too. I just had a tough time Friday-Sunday and ended up resting Friday night on. Fortunately, most work was done by then. But I learned things from God on those days. I will serve on a different committee next time and not serve on the reference committee again. I needed to be able to go to some meetings and workshops too. Thanks so Much for Letting me learn these lessons as I serve DMI I didn't find out what was wrong until I came home. I still managed to meet more people during the little down time I had. I bonded with both committee members especially those on Reference Committee since we worked a great deal together.