

RD Report- May 2023 WSC Update, CP Web Meeting

2023 WSC Report

Alison and I attended the World Service conference from April 29- May 7, 2023 in Woodland Hills, California.

Saturday, April 29th

On Saturday, we attended a lunch and World Service Office tour at the WSO in Chatsworth, CA. In the afternoon, I attended two workshops: The first was a Latin American Zonal Forum workshops, which I couldn't understand. The second was a workshop put on by the European Delegates Meeting where we discussed how personal recovery depends on NA unity, and we considered how we think our local service experience compares to service in other NA communities.

Sunday, April 30th

Morning

Sunday morning we had an opening meeting in the risers where we received some demographic information about who is at the conference. Here are some key numbers:

- 120 regions, 6 zones, 13 world board members
- 126 voting participants on old business
- 139 voting participants on new business
- We introduced Zonal Delegates: EDM, LAZF, BZF, APF, AZF, RSZF
- We introduced newly seated regions: Netherlands, Ukraine, Northwest Russia, Mexico Occidente, Minas.

Afternoon

In the afternoon we did Conference Agenda Report (CAR) related discussions and decisions. I've included a motion list with initial straw poll results as an attachment to this report as well as a [Summary of Decisions](#). Sunday afternoon decisions included passing procedural motions identified in the CAT as well as working through the Future of the WSC motions. All procedural motions passed except to eliminate abstentions. We approved a shift to a 3-year conference cycle, a shift to opt-in rather than opt-out funding, an agreement to hold an interim virtual WSC and to change the released date of the CAR and the CAT based on the timing of the 3-year conference cycle.

Monday, May 1st

All of Monday was a continuation on CAR related discussions and decisions. I've included a motion list with initial straw poll results as an attachment to this report as well as a Summary of Decisions. Monday decisions included:

- The following motions passed:
 - Recognize online meetings as meeting the criteria in the Group Booklet
 - Update a Vision of NA Service to "their own language"
 - Create a project plan to investigate changes to NA literature to gender neutral
 - Motion to revise What is the NA Program to include Gender was committed to the above-reference project plan
 - Add up to six local stories to translated sixth editions of the basic text

- Extend the World Board member terms expiring in 2024 through the end of the next WSC cycle (2026)
- The following motions failed:
 - If a motion has appeared and failed in 2 consecutive conferences, it cannot be reintroduced for a conference cycle.
 - Motions to stream WSCs and CP web meetings and to make CP votes transparent.
 - Motion to make audio recordings of other NA web meetings available.

Tuesday, May 2nd

All of Tuesday was a continuation on CAR related discussions and decisions. I've included a motion list with initial straw poll results as an attachment to this report as well as a Summary of Decisions. Tuesday decisions included:

- Passing all 3 FIPT motions, including:
 - Adding Zonal Delegates as part of the Trustor so they can vote on FIPT motions.
 - Requiring a majority of conference participants to approve an FIPT inspection request.
 - Updating the use policy to clarify that permission to re-print book length pieces must be authorized by NAWS.
- Suspending the World Convention rotation policy.
- We agreed to produce a Gratitude IP and update the H&I Handbook
- The following motions failed:
 - Create an Institutional Review Board to review member studies from outside organizations,
 - Create a Step Study Guide where answers to questions are lines from the Basic Text
 - Place an 8-year Moratorium on Literature projects
 - Explore local literature printing options

Wednesday, May 3rd

Wednesday morning was reserved for a planning exercise where a NAWS consultant walked the conference through a strategic planning process. Breakout groups then discussed the primarily internal and external threats facing our fellowship, then results were compiled and the conference voted to prioritize the top 3 internal and external threats facing NA. The top three External Factors according to CPs were as follows:

- Evolution of Technology
- Generational/Cultural Differences
- Harm Reduction Model/Approach

The top three Internal Factors according to CPs were as follows:

- Development & Organization of Service Committees
- Sense of safety, welcomeness and inclusion
- Redundancy & Lack of Cohesion in the Service System

In the afternoon, there was a budget presentation that allowed for Q&A. Anthony announced that he has signed a one-year contract extension that ends on 12/31/2025 after which point he will retire and Becky will take over as Executive Director. We then had an HRP report where they described their process, announced the candidates for this conference, and took Q&A.

Thursday, May 4th

On Thursday, we had NAWS Reports in the morning which outlined the activities of NAWS over the past conference cycle and allowed time for Q&A. In the afternoon we began CAT related discussions and decisions and approved the following project plans:

- New Recovery Information Pamphlets: A step study guide of some sort
- Revisions to Existing Recovery Literature: Revising the Loner
- Issue Discussion Topics:
 - Welcoming members on DRT/MAT
 - Gender Inclusive Language
 - Disruptive & Predatory Behavior
 - Revitalizing / Reimagining Service Committees post-pandemic
- New and Revised Service Tools
 - H&I Basics
- Future of the WSC
- Invest in our Vision
- The 2023-2025 NAWS Budget

Friday, May 5th

On Friday, we handled seating motions and decided to seat the following 5 regions at the WSC:

- Iran Region 1
- Nordeste Region Brazil
- Rio Grande do Sul
- Thailand
- Brazil Central

We then had breakout sessions for the rest of the day. The first breakout session was to frame priorities for the WSC of the Future workgroup on how to make the WSC more sustainable and effective. We had small group discussions and each room prioritized the best ideas for the Future of the WSC Workgroup to work on in the coming conference cycle. **Best ideas for Future of the WSC Workgroup to work on in the coming cycle.**

In the afternoon, we took the top 4 New Ideas for Discussion and had small group breakouts on each New Idea. The 4 New Ideas that were prioritized are as follows:

- How can we respond to predatory behavior in NA?
- Reimagining / revitalizing services and service committees, especially post-pandemic.
- Developing a single, well-understood process for prioritizing future literature project plans
- How can we best welcome members on DRT/MAT and cooperate with the current treatment approach without compromising our principles or expressing an opinion on outside issues?

The best ideas coming out of these discussions will be used as input into the NAWS strategic plan in the coming conference cycle. **Best ideas from small group breakouts on New Ideas for Discussion**

WSC Election Results were published Friday afternoon. The following people were elected for the following positions:

World Board

- Carla W.- Upper Rocky Mountain Region
- Jack H.- Washington Northwest Idaho Region (re-elected)
- Joe-Lois- Puerto Rico Region (re-elected)
- Tim S.- Australian Region (re-elected)
- Veronica B.- Sweden Region

HRP

- Ron M.- Florida Region
- Sam L- Northern New England Region

Co-Facilitator

- Louis H.- Chicagoland Region

Saturday, May 6th

Saturday morning, board members from each New Idea breakout group from Friday afternoon shared the highlights of their breakouts. We then moved into the Moving Forward session where we attempted to make decisions related to the trial processes we used during the week. We were only able to make a few decisions as the conference got bogged down in process. Many of the decisions we attempted to make were punted to the interim WSC. The final session of the day was for certificates and goodbyes.