



Hand in Hand



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WSO Reviews Highlights and Accomplishments of 2005

On Friday, January 27, 2006 the WSO Trustees met together in St. Louis to review our goals and objectives from last year, note what was done, and create a vision for future action. Here is a synopsis for each objective:

Create written boundaries. Passed motions clarifying committee duties and structure; reviewed Bylaw and past policy for officers' duties; revised Office Manager Contract. Vision: compile motions pertaining to each committee to put into single document for distribution at RCACC.

Safe working environment. Passed email guidelines, safety guidelines for RCA business, Traditions Agreements which outlined grievance plan. Vision: written safety and courtesy agreements in Committee Application form, and negotiation process for unsolvable issues. Plan: research how other programs handle the issue. WSB voted to recruit an Ethics & 12-Traditions Advisory Committee to develop a clear protocol on the communication of information

More Fellowship Interaction. Hand in Hand has been published regularly. Committee service was opened to RCA members not on the Board; leadership options on committees were expanded to include them in the leadership pool. Vision: increased flow of input through Fellowship Letter from the Chair, fellowship calls, and from Hand in Hand.

Conference approved literature plan. Distributed draft for Fellowship review with plan for incorporating their feedback, and plan to offer it on RCACC agenda.

Implement "inverted triangle" organization plan. Bylaw amendment is being drafted to provide for Fellowship Member Group voting on RCA business. Structure Committee tasked to clarify bylaws, and plan to provide opportunities for group voting options on issues at RCACC 2006.

Financial solvency. Treasurer, Office Manager and Exec Committee working together to find ways to reduce costs and increase income. The 7th Tradition Committee is staffed.

Better recordkeeping. We have minutes for each meeting and summary of actions in the Hand in Hand, but material posted to the Forum was lost; we are trying to retrieve or re-constitute it. Vision: all policy assembled in a policy manual for distribution to new committee members and Trustees.

Good news! From the WSB Chair and Office Manager

January income was markedly up, with 100 sales of the Blue Book draft this year and some generous anonymous donor contributions. Blue Book drafts have been sold to 35 groups. Options to scale down costs were discussed: looking for alternative office space with the help of Bay area members, streamlining tasks and/or getting a volunteer coordinator so we can delegate some tasks to volunteers, for instance, groups taking service role commitments.

Financial Solvency and RCA Growth

Five Year Plan Growth Goal: at end of 5 years have an office open full time, with a balanced budget in place and prudent reserve of 9 to 12 months operating costs, the Blue Book fund maintained, and Fellowship clarity on where money comes from and where it goes. We plan a campaign to ask members to start new meetings at RCACC 06; meeting starter kits will be available. Some ideas to support growth: we'll renew the idea of (RLC) couples providing support to meetings in their areas. Adopt a Meeting - Support meetings by finding meeting sponsor couples, expand Overseas Outreach, Electronic and online meetings, follow up on loner enquiries and Foreign Language meetings. Our immediate Growth Goal is 30 more groups by 2007.

The 7th Tradition Committee has been revived!

Please email the Office or any Trustee if you want to serve on the committee! Shira's letter requesting donations was presented; Trustees liked the levity and personal approach, and would like to see a continuing campaign, with shorter letters.

We also plan to maximize available resources. A Tape Duplication and Packaging Task Force has been formed under the Literature Committee to get started on this.

Bylaw Proposal Establishes Upside-Down Triangle

Structure Committee Task Force 1 (Bob, Jane, Diane, Dan) recommendations were distributed and read before the meeting. The recommendations were to establish the inverted, or "upside down" triangle by establishing a conference at RCAC in which RCA each member groups will express its group's conscience by having 1 vote on Fellowship issues. If the Bylaw changes pass, the rest of the business at the RCACC 2006 will be decided by the member group's votes.

Register NOW for the RCACC 2006 at www.recovering-couples.org.

Fellowship Input on the 4th Edition Draft

Input has been received from the survey monkey, emails to the office and the Trustees, and from the calls being made by the Outreach Committee. Trustees join the committee in asking that as much data as possible be submitted by the Feb. 28 deadline, and the Literature Committee agreed that every attempt will be made to include any material received after that date; what cannot be included in this edit will be preserved for future publications. Meanwhile, editing on the BB Companion Step Workbook continues as input comes in on the Blue Book as related to the Steps.

Blue Book Revision Editing Plan

All feedback that comes in is to be forwarded to Carl, Literature Committee Chair. This is the timeline that has been established so we can meet our printing deadlines:

1. Deadline for submissions is **2/28/2006**; during the period from 3/1/2—6 to May 31 committee will discuss and incorporate ideas.
2. Deadline for 4th Edition Revised draft is **May 31**.
3. Pages to which there were substantive changes (e.g., beyond grammar, spelling, subject, verb and tense agreements) will be posted on website and sent to groups with Member Group packets. Final draft will be posted on website as a "read only" document (cannot be printed out, downloaded, or copied and pasted); Jason, Steve, and Josie implement plan.

Want copies of WSO Board meeting minutes? Email Secretary@recovering-couples.org.