

A.R.T.S. Anonymous Inc.  
Conference Reports  
1999

A.R.T.S. Anonymous, Inc  
**1999 World Service Business Conference**  
Ocean Grove, NJ  
May 20 & 21, 1999

**Participants:**

**DRAFT**

Marilyn H.  
Arthur M.  
Stan  
Kathy V.O.  
Mary F.  
Bob F.  
Michael W.  
Mary O.  
Jacqueline H.  
Doris B.  
Arlene A.  
Ed S.  
Wendella W. [Alternative WSMR]  
Ed K.  
Abigail B.  
Thanasi A.  
Linda C.  
Don T.  
Diane C.  
Jay M.  
Cheryl P.  
Lou Ann R.  
Katherine F.  
Roc C.  
Patti  
Paul  
Andy K.  
Sue [Alternative WSMR]  
Millie H.  
Fred K.

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DRAFT [Page 1 - 1999 World Service Business Conference list of participants]

Session 1 - Thursday [2:45 pm - 3:45 pm]

Meeting called to order.

Marilyn passed out conference packets.

Serenity Prayer: led by Katherine

Objection: (Di C.) Question as to role call integrity. Interim Board designated without conference approval.

Point of Order: (Jay) Conference agenda approved without consideration of alternative agenda.

Point of Information: Two letters written by a lawyer introduced on the conference floor by Marilyn H. in place of approving the 1998 World Service Conference Minutes.

Motion #1: (Di C., 2nd) Authors of the alternative agenda proposal meet with the Board (authors of the conference agenda) before the Friday session to agree on a compromise agenda. The meeting will proceed with the conference agenda for the rest of today. Vote: 9 Yes, 8 No, 5 Abst. - Passed - (Chair broke an 8 to 8 tie by voting yes.)

Minority Opinion: Choose the agenda now.

Marilyn: Will address the following concerns: (1) Jay's Resignation/Reinstatement; (2) Bev's first quarter and annual reports; (3) Ed's concerns; (4) Alicia's concerns; (5) Abby Jo's concerns.

Point of Order: (Jay) Review 1998 Conference Minutes - withdrawn.

Marilyn: Read the two letters from a lawyer (dated 5/7/99 and 5/13/99) as pertaining to the Board quorum issue and impropriety with the A.R.T.S. Treasury.

Point of Order: (Lou-Ann) Follow Robert's Rules of Order and agenda. (T.1A)

(T.1B) Motion #2: (Arthur, 2nd) Accept two lawyer's letters Marilyn introduced to the conference floor, dated 5/7/99 and 5/13/99, as part of the record and put aside for review after the presentation of Jay's grievance, then review third lawyer's letter from Marilyn, dated 5/19/99. Amendment: (Di C., 2nd) (1) Jay present grievance; (2) Marilyn re-introduce the three letters; (3) Hold discussion. Vote: 18 Yes, 1 No, 3 Abst. - Passed (T.1B)

Break

Marilyn yielded the Chair to Roc

(2)  
(T.1B)  
(T.2A)

(2)  
(T.1B)  
(T.2A)

Session 2 - Thursday [4:00 pm - 6:30 pm]

Evening Meal Break: (Jay) The evening meal to be held at the Oceanview Pavilion. Payment to be with an A.R.T.S. check. This will be written when a final tally has been determined from the cost of all the orders given, before food is served.

Point of Order: (Roc) Chair is to pick speaker with hand raised - one person speaks at a time.

Discussion: Jay's Grievance Presentation

Jay: (Discussed his grievance pertaining to his resignation from and reinstatement to the Board and gave summary of what happened.) Was voted a trustee last year then resigned for three weeks and then when asked to be reinstated and was denied. Reasons were: (1) wear too many hats; (2) did paid office work. Sought advice (free) from two parliamentarians and two lawyers. The consensus was that resignation and reinstatement was common in the business world and that a vacant office may be filled by anyone including the resigned person. Feels treated unfairly by the Board. Feels Board was better with him on it.

Thanasi: (Referred to A.R.T.S. BY-LAWS, Article 4, Section 12.) The last sentence, pertaining to one year waiting period, qualifies a nine year term but makes no sense toward resignation.

Di: Should follow the spirit rather than strict wording of the BY-LAWS.

Marilyn: (Referred to A.R.T.S. BY-LAWS, Article 4, Section 9.) 2/2/99 response to Jay's grievance letter stated that the letter didn't address issue of too many hats or office work for pay.

Abby Jo: Jay's five years of service trashed. (Read Jay's grievance letter to the conference participants.)

Point of Order: (Lou-Ann) Jay's value understated. Should be reinstated.

Motion #3: (Bob F., 2nd) Jay be immediately reinstated on the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees. Vote: 15 Yes, 2 No, 8 Abst. - Passed

Call the Question: Vote on Motion #3 without discussion. (2/3 vote needed to pass.) Vote: 13 Yes, 8 No, 2 Abst. - Defeated

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Discussion on Motion #3

Roc: (Read his letter to Jay to the conference) The following reasons sum up why the Board didn't reinstate Jay:

- (1) Failed to back-up A.R.T.S. data off hard drive.
- (2) Relationship with Abby Jo and resignation.
- (3) Paid work not trustee approved - section in BY-LAWS against paying trustees.
- (4) A.R.T.S. and Jay have co-dependent relationship. If Jay left how would A.R.T.S. function. Jay over committed - transfer some responsibilities to Kathy - too many hats.
- (5) Jay will be reinstated later - when Board concerns are resolved.
- (6) Board/BY-LAWS decision against Jay's reinstatement in the best interest of A.R.T.S.
- (7) Too much of Board's time devoted on Jay's reinstatement - prevented from doing other business.
- (8) Still concerned about paying trustees.
- (9) Responded to Jay to a point then Marilyn took over.
- (10) Should change BY-LAW (one year waiting period) then vote to reinstate Jay.

Thanasi: Roc's points well taken although Board authorized to determine what duties a Board member has, and shouldn't be hindered by how many hats Jay wears. Was Board Chair for two years.

(T.2A)  
(.2B) Lou-Ann: Jay's technical prowess shouldn't be an issue. (T.2A)  
(T.2B)

Marilyn: [Read her response to Jay] [\*\*\* get more detail \*\*\*]

Roc: It's 5:30 pm. The session will run over.

Jay: Why should Board kill a guy for doing too much? Would be glad to do less. Stepped up to fill needs not being met by anyone else. Being blamed unfairly i.e. hard drive crash. Board should appoint others to help out. If standing committees were in place, the situation of one person wearing too many hats wouldn't exist.

Roc: A meeting of the authors of the conference agenda and the alternative agenda will take place after this session to work out the compromise agenda for the Friday conference sessions. [It took place at the Park View Hotel that same evening after supper. It lasted for several hours.]

Group Conscience: Table discussion on Motion #3 until session 3, Friday Morning. (Simple majority vote needed to pass.) Vote: 13 yes, 10 No, 0 Abst. - Passed

Jay: Conference should choose which vote, 2/3 or simple majority, should be used and where.

(4)

(4)

(T.2B) Thursday Sessions adjourned

(T.2B)

(3A)

Session 3 - Friday [9:00 am - 10:30 am]

(T.3A)

Roc - announced that a compromise agenda was worked out at the Parkview Hotel last night and directed Ed S. read it to the conference.

Compromise Agenda:

- (90 Minutes)
- (1) Continue discussion of motion (Motion #3) that Jay be reinstated on the Board immediately.
- (2) Continue discussion of Jay's grievance.
- (3) Introduce Marilyn's third letter (packet) dated 5/19/99.
- (4) Allow rebuttals from Marilyn and Abby Jo.
- (30 Minutes)
- (4) Resolve issue of conference voting: simple majority verses two thirds majority (symbolizing unanimity).
- (30 Minutes)
- (5) Review 1998 World Service Business Conference Minutes.
- (45 Minutes)
- (6) Prepare proposed slate of trustees for 1999-2000. Read pertinent BY-LAWS and fill service application forms.
- (2 1/2 Hours)
- (7) Old Business: 1998 Conference Mandates
- \*\*\*\*\* (LUNCH) \*\*\*\*\*
- (2 Hours)
- (8) New Business:
  - (a) BY-LAW Issues
  - (b) Concept II Discussion
  - (c) Abby Jo's Concerns
  - (d) Board Concerns
  - (e) Issues and Concerns -- Conference 2000
  - (f) 1999 Conference Wrap-up
  - (e) Gratitude and Serenity Prayer

Group Conscience: Close Doors

Discussion on Motion #3 continued (from Thursday, session #2)

Thanasi: In favor of the motion.

Marilyn: Clarify BY-LAW provision pertaining to the waiting period.

Abby Jo: Friendly Amendment to Bob F.'s motion - remove line about one year waiting period from the BY-LAWS.

Point of Order: (Marilyn) Changes in the BY-LAWS can only be made by the Board of Trustees - not as a motion at the conference. Should review BY-LAW concerning this.

Point of Order: (Bob) Abby Jo made an amendment to his motion.

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Point of Procedure: (Ed K.) Motion already on the floor. There are multiple interpretations to the BY-LAWS. Conference should return to the discussion of the motion on the floor.

Bob: Accept Abby Jo's amendment to the motion.

Roc: Let's return to the motion on the floor with the amendment.

Abby Jo & Jay: Now is not the time to change a BY-LAW.

Arthur: (1) Are issues regarding Abby Jo separate from Jay's?  
(2) Jay's indispensable technical knowledge an issue - reduce hats - delegate tasks. (3) Welcome Jay on a future slate.

Cheryl: Not clear on why Jay resigned and why he wants to be reinstated.

Thanasi: Board is splitting hairs with regard to the waiting period in the BY-LAWS.

Ed K.: Jay is wearing too many hats by reason of fulfilling the needs of the organization and should be reinstated.

Andy: The reason why Jay has too many hats is there isn't enough heads. Hats will always be there although needs may not. The Conference can interpret the BY-LAWS all it wants - bottom line is what's good for A.R.T.S.

Bob: Should reassess the whole organization to safeguard against dependence upon a few people. Conference comes first, then the Board. Bill W.'s opinions are highly respected.

Point of Order: (Marilyn) Board is the only entity that can alter the BY-LAWS. At the moment the Conference does not have the ability to change the BY-LAWS. The Board can take advise from the Conference. Concede that BY-LAW in question needs to be clarified.

Paul: No way a BY-LAWS of twenty seven pages can address every single issue. BY-LAWS are a framework or guidelines. Should be careful not to violate the essence so they can be taken seriously. Should adhere to procedures in changing BY-LAWS, however, concerned that input from the Conference is set aside.

Point of Order: (Di) BY-LAW issue is part of the discussion pertaining to the motion. Concerned that the Conference reach a consensus with issues aired in a healthy forum. Roberts Rules of Order work against this sometimes. Vote should be in the spirit of consensus.

Mike: In favor of the motion. Should enter statement of apology to Jay. Why stop a man who wants to serve.

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Doris: Need more heads.

Stan: Problem of principle.

(7.3A) End of Discussion on Motion #3

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(7.3A)  
(7.3B)

(7.3B) Point of Order: (Ed K.) What time is it?

Roc: Next item of business is the issue of impropriety which will take 90 minutes; 30 minutes for Marilyn; 30 minutes for Abby Jo; 30 minutes for discussion.

Abby Jo: Need whatever time it takes to get reputation back (pertaining to Marilyn's letters).

Ed K.: Propose reading the 1998 Conference Minutes first, before lunch, then dedicate next session toward the impropriety issue.

Meal Announcement: (Kathy) The following locations were picked for the following meals:

- (1) Ocean Pavillion: Friday lunch
- (2) Parkview: Friday dinner; Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner
- (3) Manchester: Sunday breakfast and lunch

Break: (Interested conferees filled out service application forms for board and standing committee positions.)

#### Session #4

##### Marilyn's Presentation:

The issue is the dividing line between professional and volunteer work especially pertaining to Jay's service. She stated a need for more people to become involved in the work of A.R.T.S. and establish procedures for sound financial business practices. \$4,100.00 was spent in 1995 for rent and storage. All rent and storage now costs \$2400.00 per year. Looking at these figures we need to revise what we think of ourselves. Do we spend all of the resources that are allotted or try to save some reserve.

##### Abby Jo's Presentation:

Was not forewarned of charges brought against her although clues surfaced in e-mails citing her ineptitude as a founder. Spent the next six months preparing for this day when the charges would be formally made. Presented a visual display of transaction reports - A.R.T.S. to Abby Jo - dated from 1994 to 1998. All transaction reports were posted on computer since 1994. A.R.T.S. had three bank accounts before Jay entered data in the computer.



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Abby Jo's Presentation: (continued)

Explained the financial situation of her living arrangements as it pertained to her running the A.R.T.S. organization out of her home i.e. storage and operational overhead which she was paying out of pocket. She retained a bookkeeper who urged her to charge the Corporation for these expenses. Des (Board Chairperson and co-signatory) was usually not available to co-sign checks. He was a very busy man and located cross-town which impeded daily operations and decision making, which made it difficult to write checks with more than one signature. Abby Jo (who treasurer at this time) often experienced a lack of money in the treasury. Rent and storage came to \$3,500.00 not \$4,100.00 (1994 to 1995).

(T.3B)

(T.4A) Discussion - Question & Answer Session:

(T.3B)

(T.4A)

Bob: Financial practice not unusual in Twelve Step programs pertaining to situations such as this.

Millie: Where does the money come from?

Abby Jo: Resources are from literature sales, the Conference and donations. \$4,100.00 paid to me was Conference and Board (Mary Ann and Des) approved.

Fred: What is the office rent now?

Abby Jo: \$200.00 a month. I found the space.

Lou-Ann: All transactions should be recorded to gauge cost of running A.R.T.S. accurately. Important that as A.R.T.S. grows that financial procedures be put in place as there will be larger when we get more money.

Roc: The Board should have been more aware of expenditures and had delegated too much perhaps because of Board turnover. Board had only incomplete minutes to go by - lack of information.

Abby Jo: Explanation is fine but you could have seen me first about this matter instead of presenting a lawyer's letter on the conference floor that advocated suing the person or persons responsible - me.

Fred: Are you being sued?

Abby Jo: No.

Roc: Board should be aware of expenditures and wasn't because of turnover. No written verification except minutes and communication from Des. Lacking information in minutes.

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Abby Jo: Nice to say now (i.e. Marilyn's letters on the conference floor). All this could have been avoided if you came to me first.

Fred: Mentioned appeals were made for money at past conferences for out-of-pocket money when A.R.T.S. had none to fund the conventions. All were entitled to reimbursement. Transactions should be done in writing.

Abby Jo: If I hadn't had the street smarts to prepare for the allegations made at this conference, a year would have gone by with everyone her thinking I was a scoundrel.

Andy: Abby Jo paying Abby Jo for Abby Jo for A.R.T.S. rent expense. Should have reimbursement procedure.

Fred: Can we have a statement from Des for closure?

Formal Discussion - Impropriety Issue: (per 1994 to 1998 transaction reports)

Roc: Keep questions brief, succinct with absence of opinions - information only. Be clear to whom the question is directed to.

Di to Marilyn: What was the point of this presentation?

Roc: No retribution intended. Board needed to clear the air with regard to money concerns with Abby Jo. Is a lesson to the Board to be more vigilant.

Millie to Marilyn: Where are Des's responses to Abby Jo in the packet presented to the Conference? Seems to be a one sided presentation.

Marilyn: They're not on file.

Abby Jo: Des doesn't call back - he's a busy man. There is a need to leave a paper trail.

Millie to Abby Jo: What help was Des?

Thanasi to Marilyn: Why was all this brought up at the Conference and not to Abby Jo directly?

Marilyn: If I saw the alternative agenda first, I probably would not have made the earlier presentation. The talk on the porch of the Parkview was very helpful.

Thanasi to Marilyn: Why couldn't these accusations been presented to Abby Jo before the conference floor so she could have prepared? This embarrassment could have been avoided and she would have had an opportunity to respond to the inquiry.

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Marilyn: Doing it all over again that's what I would do. Got information only recently. Reviewing the BY-LAWS, the Trustees need to take more responsibility. Began locating to find what our financial history was so we could go forward. We have a system in place with checks and balances concerning the Treasury so that things are stated more clearly as to what's happening and that we have prior approval so that we can post budgets. Need written contracts, i.e. the landlord.

Thanasi to Marilyn: You didn't answer my question as to why you choose to present the query like you did.

Marilyn: (Relating to talk with Jane last night.) Abby Jo generally hasn't listened to us and has not responded to our concerns.

Jay: Historically, there have been difference between Abby Jo and the Board. This issue should not be on this floor. We'll have a new board soon and hope we'll learn from this. Some issues should be taken care of before the beginning of the Conference so that they aren't issues before the fellowship. The Board query of the BY-LAWS pertaining to the running of A.R.T.S., in hindsight, should have been done years ago. Abby Jo's letters sent to the Board over the years, left unanswered, addressed many of the issues presented and had suggestions for the Board on how they should conduct their business. If they had problems with that, they shouldn't have acted in secret to make a case before the Conference. Hope the new Board will be more responsible.

Arthur to Marilyn: Have two questions: (1) Is the Board disputing that at a previous conference voted giving Abby Jo rent money when the office was in her apartment?

Marilyn: Concerning Jay's expenses, they related to Jay's service resume which was a part of his grievance which indicated that all items on the resume were volunteer work when in fact some items had been paid for. Part of the 1995 chronological file shows how the Treasury got in such a dangerous position.

Arthur to Marilyn: Is the Board disputing the Conference vote to give Abby Jo money for A.R.T.S. rent?

Marilyn: Have no memory of formal vote - nothing to indicate a formal vote in the minutes. Concerned about a lack of memory and documentation.

Fred to Marilyn: Why are you not chairing, where is Jane and has this driven Jane and Jill from our fellowship. Didn't know about any of this until I received a bad letter from Bev about five months ago.

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Fred to Abby Jo: In the packet of Marilyn's (pertaining to a charge of 1/4 hour) are some expenses to you as a paid employee of A.R.T.S. or was this dipping in the Treasury for doing service work.

Marilyn: Roc assumed the Chair yesterday because I was too personally involved with issues being presented. Jane broke her ankle. Jill resigned for two reasons: (1) death of her husband; (2) constant intervention by the Founder on Board matters.

Abby Jo: Was occasionally paid for non-trustee work that would have gone to a clerk or secretary if we had hired someone to do that work. Work a 40-60 hour week for A.R.T.S. that am not paid for.

Bob to Marilyn: Did a lot of service once and was terminated from the Board due to scapegoating. the current Board was not willing to talk to me. Abby Jo is being scapegoated just like me. Where the letters [presented on the Conference floor] conference approved? Where did money come from to pay for this presentation. Time and money were wasted. New members and WSMRs are not welcomed or orientated. Issues were brought out in a brutal fashion. A.R.T.S. would not be here if not for Abby Jo. Board has completely wasted the Fellowship's time on this matter. Why has the Board proceeded with this?

Marilyn: The Board feels there should be oversight of the Treasury and contracts need to be made and approved.

Arlene to Marilyn: The issue of overseeing the finances should have been stated initially instead of this round about way to get to it without hours of assaulting Abby Jo's character.

Marilyn: Needed to present a financial history and concluded that we need oversight, proposed budgets and contracts.

Arlene to Marilyn: Why was the assault on Abby Jo used as a weapon in a way to get to this?

Millie to Marilyn: (1) How did you choose these lawyers? (2) Who paid for them? (3) Is it legal for one trustee to consult a lawyer about another trustee?

Marilyn: The lawyer was not hired. Met him at a seminar. He handles legal and business for artists. Occasionally does 'pro bono' work for artist groups. Had question about the BY-LAWS and found NY people were consulting parliamentarians on the BY-LAWS. Abby Jo had gotten letters from a lawyer that were unclear. Two questions: (1) Was the BY-LAW section in dispute concerning Jay's grievance?

(11) (11)

(2) What about the financial historical pattern that developed - projects were taken on and completed then billed to A.R.T.S. for them, i.e. 1998 Conference Minutes were produced at \$240.00 and revisions cost \$110.00? The Board would like to approve projects in advance.

Roc: Need to move on. It's 45 minutes before lunch. Next on the agenda is to clarify the voting rules, two thirds verses simple majority, for the proposed slate of trustees. Hand out the service application forms.

Thanasi: Fill out forms for trustee and standing committee positions.

Fred: Allow one more question before lunch.

Roc: Show of hands for one last question? Two more people.

Lou-Ann to Marilyn: Policy regarding money and lawyer's letters caused misunderstandings and unanimity was lost. An apology needed directed to Abby Jo and to A.R.T.S.

Marilyn: Lawyer does 'Pro Bono' work. As for an apology, I pray to a Higher Power. What works in my life is that there are walls that pop-up when I'm no supposed to go forward. I consulted Higher Power last night - no wall popped-up. I did what I had to do as a trustee according to the BY-LAWS, and honor my responsibility as a trustee to bring problems to the attention of the fellowship. We have had a fiscal financial history. We don't want to repeat any errors that have happened in the past. We want sound procedures for a healthy future.

Abby Jo: There has been no resolution and that my integrity is not off the Conference floor and the issue is still being brought up. Did decent minutes although it was the Board's job. There wouldn't have been minutes if I didn't do them. About the issue of Jill's resignation pertaining to my letters - I wrote forty seven letters, none of them answered. I stopped talking to the Board in September 1998 and briefly in November 1998. There was learning curve over the last fifteen years were errors were made. It's a learning curve not impropriety. Would like my integrity taken of the Conference floor and be restored.

(T.4A) (T.4B) (T.4A) (T.4B)

Service Application Forms: Roc directed the Conference to find their application forms for service on the Board and Standing Committees and asked those interested in serving in those positions to fill them out. Write out "Trustee" or "Committee" on the top of the form. The forms will be used as a resource. they will go to the Board then the Nominations Committee and then kept on file in the office.

Break: (Conferees filled out service forms)

Session 4

International Meeting Lists: Jay announced there were free international meeting lists available. Also some free NY meeting lists were available.

Trustee Responsibilities as read from the BY-LAWS: Roc asked Marilyn to read the following sections from the BY-LAWS to educate the conference on (Marilyn added that someone with a strong financial accounting background was needed.):

Page 7	Art. IV, Sec. 2	Power
Page 8	Art. IV, Sec. 5	Regional & International Trustees
Page 9	Art. IV, Sec. 6 (New)	Sustaining Trustees
Page 9	Art. IV, Sec. 9	Length of Service
Page 9	Art. IV, Sec. 10	Compensation
Page 10	Art. IV, Sec. 11	Reimbursement
Page 10	Art. IV, Sec. 12 (New)	Terms of Office
Page 10	Art. IV, Sec. 13	Qualifying
Page 11	Art. IV, Sec. 14 (New)	Trustee Authority

Roc asked the conference if there were other sections of the BY-LAWS to be read concerning responsibilities of the Board of Trustees.

Abby Jo: Pertaining to sustaining trustees, the BY-LAWS doesn't address location requirement to live near Headquarters which is currently located in New York City.

Marilyn: Who will look over the service forms. Understanding was that the group that met Thursday evening at the porch of the Parkview - Thursday Agenda Committee - will review the forms. Recognize a lot of energy is in New York City. However, a point was brought up that a couple of the standing committees could be located in other geographic areas and involve more of the fellowship. Example, have a Trustee Standing Committee - Small Meetings.

Di: The service form is inadequate.

Abby Jo: The cart is before the horse. Need to find locations of applicants so that it conforms to the structure of A.R.T.S. and where it is centered. Standing Committees need to be chaired by Sustaining Trustees. Some Standing Committees can out-of-town members.

Abby Jo gave a presentation with visual aides to the Conference outlining the Trustee and Standing Committee structure that is in keeping with the BY-LAWS:

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**Regional Trustees (4):**

Eastern [Each Trustee should live in the region.]  
Central  
Western  
International

**Sustaining Trustees & Standing Committees (6):**

Finance & Budget [Each Trustee chairs  
Policy & Procedures their respective  
Conference & Convention Standing Committee.]  
Nominations [Standing Committees are the  
Public Information working arm between the  
Literature Board of Trustees and WSO]

**Class A Trustees-at-Large (2):** [Trustee(s) are non-A.R.T.S. members]

**Possible candidates:**

Tom Former Owner of Sampler Hotel  
Former President, Ocean Grove, NJ  
Chamber of Commerce  
  
Randy Present President, Ocean Grove, NJ  
Chamber of Commerce

Service Forms Collection: Roc delegated Arthur to collect the forms.

Lunch

(T.4B)  
(T.5A)

Session 5

(T.4B)  
(T.5A)

[Jacqueline lead the Serenity Prayer]

Roc: Next item will be to clarify the voting rules.

Thanasi: For the sake of unanimity two thirds majority should carry instead of a simple majority.

Motion #4: (Thanasi A., 2nd) All votes for the 1999 World Service Business Conference will be decided by a two thirds majority. - Withdrawn.

Discussion on Motion #4:

Paul: Does this mean that for a motion to carry two thirds have to vote yes?

Jay: Two thirds majority is substantial unanimity. Use simple majority to vote whether to use a two thirds majority vote.

(14) (14)  
Point of Order: (Ed K.) Would this be determined on a case by case basis?

Jay: friendly amendment to motion on the floor. Two thirds vote be used on a case by case basis - when someone wants to bring it up to be determined by a simple majority vote on the floor. Standard voting procedure is a simple majority. If an important issue comes up like Jay's reinstatement, someone would move to have a two thirds vote taken. The you vote on that motion which would be carried by a simple majority. once carried a two thirds majority vote would be taken.

Roc: for the sake of saving time (2 3/4 hours left) the Conference should determine one (simple majority) or the other (two thirds majority) for all votes taken. Jays point can be taken up at a future conference where there will be more time.

Ed K.: Two thirds vote open to abuse by obstruction of a few.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

Roc announced that the Sampler Hotel was just closed down by the NJ Department of Health. The Conference was suspended until those staying there move out and checked into other hotels. The move is to be immediate.

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Jay: Pertaining to the deal with the Sampler owner regarding the NJ Department of Health, Jay was assured that there would be 99% certainty of the A.R.T.S. group not moving - that the Sampler wouldn't be closed down. It was - we lost. I'll take responsibility. Sandy says move is to be immediate. Sampler guests will go into the Albatross Hotel.

Discussion on Motion #4 (Thanasi) with Amendment (Jay):

[All votes in the 1999 World Service Business Conference will be decided by two thirds majority. Two thirds majority vote will be decided on a case by case basis. Simple majority vote will decide whether to implement a two thirds majority vote.]

Mike: Follow Robert's Rules of Order

Paul: Two thirds carries.

Lou-Ann: Is issue dropped if two thirds isn't reached?

Jay: It's struck if not 2/3 unanimity. Conference business is decided by a simple majority. Major issues decided by two thirds majority vote.



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One Hour Recess

Session #6

Thanasi: In the interest of saving time I withdraw the motion (motion #4) and would like it to be reviewed by the future Policy and Procedures Committee.

Roc: Next item on the agenda s the review of the 1998 World Service Conference Minutes. It's now 4:00 pm. The Conference will convene until 6:30 pm. Keep comments brief and concise. Roc gave floor to Ed S., Recording Secretary.

Review of 1998 Conference Minutes:

Ed S.: Please take note of three items for your review

(1) "Comparison" - two legal size sheets of paper with three columns containing three different accounts of what happened during a portion of Session 6. From left to right they are Corporate Secretary's version, Thanasi's verbatim transcript, and Board of Trustees' version.

(2) "Conference Minutes" - 1998 Conference Minutes submitted by the Corporate Secretary to the Board of Trustees with Board changes. Was included in the Annual Report and part of the Conference packet.

(3) "Corporate Secretary's Minutes" - 1998 Conference Minutes originally submitted by the Corporate Secretary to the Board of Trustees without any changes.

The focus is on the "Comparison" so we can get clarity as to what happened during Session 6 concerning the discussion about the Big Book Project and whether Abby Jo was delegated to head it with Conference approval by acclamation.

The "Corporate Secretary's Minutes" essentially has a summary of the conversation that occurred during Doris's share in where Abby Jo was asked to do the Big Book and she accepted. Then the members of the conference gave her a round of applause that acclaimed her or gave her sanction to do the Big Book.

The "Conference Minutes" essentially doesn't refer to Abby Jo as heading the Big Book Committee and indicates that no formal motion was presented.

The verbatim tape transcript in the center of the "Comparison" prepared by Thanasi is the actual word by word account and source of what actually happened.

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What this conference needs to find out is what actually happened during the event in question. was Abby Jo sanctioned to do the Big Book? Where do we go from here?

Thanasi: When received minutes in the conference packet from the Board of Trustees there was no reference made about a discussion as to whether Abby Jo was head of the Big Book Project or not. there was focus on the Big Book. When transcribing the tape, I used very fine ear phones and put through a mixer to reduce the noise base and could hear things not normally heard from the regular play of the tape. I went through it many times and included all the "uh's," etc. In my estimation Abby Jo was given the chair of the Big Book Committee by acclamation as defined by Robert's Rules of Order. Abby Jo therefore left the Conference believing she was the editor and chairperson of the Big Book Committee.

Roc: After hearing the tape and reading the transcript - was impressed by how accurate it was.

Thanasi: Ed S.'s comment, "The Editor in Chief," then applause confirmed the vote.

Marilyn: Would like to have the transcript read to the Conference

[Ed S., Recording Secretary, read aloud to the Conference floor Thanasi's transcript of the event in question, Session 6 of the 1998 Conference Minutes .]

Roc: Insert Thanasi transcript (replace the Corporate Secretary and Board of Trustee versions) from the beginning and end points of the area of dispute and approve the rest of the 1999 World Service Business Conference Minutes as it is. Would someone like make to make a motion to do this.

Ed S.: Replace underlined portion in Corporate Secretary's minutes with Thanasi transcript?

Marilyn: One correction: Fay Jean instead of Doris [where?].

Thanasi: Move to approve the Corporate Secretary's version of the 1998 WSBC Minutes with transcript inserted replacing Corporate Secretary's underlined portion and include correction replacing Doris with Fay Jean before the underlined portion.

Lou-Ann: Looking for quote made that was quite elegant and should be noted accurately.

(17) 117  
Patti: Object to the way my quote was recorded - intensity left out. Would not accept minutes without exact quote. Propose a friendly amendment.

Thanasi: We're only discussing this one portion of the minutes at this time.

Patti: Apologize.

Point of Information: (Arthur) After this vote happens we still have to have another vote to accept the minutes.

Call the Question: (2/3 Vote) - Passed

Roc asked Thanasi to read the motion. (T.SA)  
(T.SB)

Motion #5: (Thanasi A., 2nd) Amend 1998 WSBC Conference (within A.R.T.S. Annual Report) to replace section, beginning after Paul's suggestion to the Board regarding the formation of Big Book Committee and ending before Lou-Ann's comments regarding Conference packets being received before conference assemblies, with Thanasi's tape transcript with the proviso of (\*)finding who made that one remark [(\*)Lou-Ann, Doris and Kathy volunteered to do the research]. Vote: 21 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abst. - Passed

Roc: Any other objections to passing the minutes as now stated.

Motion #6: (Patti G., 2nd) Have Patti's verbatim quote replace the record of Patti's quote in Session 5 of the 1998 WSBC Minutes because the latter did not reflect what was said. Vote: 20 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abst. - Passed

Discussion: Thanasi agreed to transcribe Patti's verbatim quote for the 1998 Conference tapes.

Roc: Any further objections to passing the minutes as now stated?

Andy: I would like my name reflected in attendance. Was quoted three times and misquoted three times. Particularly need clarification about references to literature sales - actually suggested that one or more pieces of literature be sent out for free to groups or the groups themselves produce literature, at their own expense, without having to buy them from WSO, then resell them. This literature would be an outreach tool and be distributed in limited quantities so that cost wouldn't be a factor. Also, a misspelling of collateral (Session 5, Andy's quote).

Ed S.: Verbatim Transcript?

Roc: Thanasi?

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Andy: I know it's going to be additional work for Thanasi. It's not that important to me to do right now if it's a hassle. Just wanted to make sure these points were made.

Roc: For the sake of everyone's time right now can this be tabled for this conference then taken as a concern at the next conference?

Millie referred to Session 4 pertaining to the Conference Committee Reports in the 1998 WSBC Minutes and made the following motion.

Motion #7: (Millie, 2nd) Move that committee reports in the 1998 WSBC Minutes include a listing of who served on the committees and state who gave the report. It should also be explained and stated as to how these committees were chosen. Vote: 19 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abst. - Passed

Discussion on Motion #7:

Roc: Lists are available at the office

Millie: The minutes should also state how the committees were chosen.

Motion #8: (Arthur, 2nd) Accept the 1998 World Service Business Conference Minutes as amended. Vote: 22 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abst. - Passed

Discussion on Motion #8:

Andy: That's fine. I'll withdraw my request for a verbatim transcript. The amendment would be to have my name in attendance.

Roc: That doesn't need to be voted on - was a clerical error. Any more objections?

Fred: Want to make a motion we have more extensive set of minutes.

Roc: So noted.

Marilyn: On Session 6 noted motion to accept and confirm Slate of Trustees made by me when it was made by Paul [per handwritten note (?)].

Roc: Time to present the Annual Reports. We have one hour and forty minutes left. Last year not sure whether we read or summarized them.

Ed K.: Move that we summarize them.

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Roc: We could just have an understanding to keep them brief.

Annual Reports Presentation:

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\*\*\* Recording Secretary's Note \*\*\*: Pertaining to the Board of Trustee and Corporate Officer Annual Reports, the following is a list of presenters of who made summations of said reports. Those summations were not recorded in these minutes as the reports themselves can be found in the A.R.T.S. 1999 Annual Report and I refer any interested parties to that source.

- (A) Registrars Report (Jane L. via Marilyn H.)  
(B) Western Region Report (Roc C.)  
(C) Chairperson / International Region Report (Marilyn H.)  
(D) Finance & Budget / Treasurer's Report (Jay M.)  
(E) General Manager's Report (Kathy V.O.)

(T.SB)  
(T.6A)

Of note, the following incidents occurred during the above presentations:

- (A) Problems arose concerning malfunctioning tape recorders.  
(B) Conferees acknowledged Kathy for her work during the Conference.  
(c) Jay acknowledged the Board and the Fellowship for raising the money for the computer hard drive expense.

Committee Reports:

Roc: Do we have Conference Committee reports or ad hoc Committee reports?

Abby Jo: Nothing written. In the interest of time the Slate has the full compliment of sustaining trustees that would head each committee. There is consensus building that there will be a New York based number of members that will have out-of-town people on these committees. In the interest of time put on the Slate for next year.

Kathy: At an ad hoc General Policy Committee Meeting, Abby Jo and I got together and studied the AA example as to forming a working structure for A.R.T.S. starting with Standing Committees. We invited New York area WSMRs to attend the ad hoc General Conference Committee Meetings, modelled from Concept Eleven in the AA Service Manual written by Bill W., we had in October, January and April to encourage more service for the Fellowship. We named an ad hoc Nominating Committee. That committee developed the Service Resume Form. At the January meeting we focused on policy, procedures and the BY-LAWS and how to raise consciousness concerning these elements using the AA structure as a model. The ad hoc Policy and Procedures Committee was formed. The April meeting focused on reviewing reports from the ad hoc committees, Nominations and Policy & Procedures and how they

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would inform Marilyn and the Board of Trustees of their concerns and how they could be integrated in the 1999 Conference Agenda prepared by the Board. We identified ourselves as generally a think tank. Sent was a letter informing the Board of the activities of the ad hoc committees and offering our service to the Fellowship as a think tank.

Abby Jo: The General Policy Committee reviews quarterly reports from the trustees and committees then collects ideas, thoughts, decisions and processes to become part of the agenda of the Executive Committee. Standing Committees can make recommendations and study policy - do a lot of work. They can not executively decree that work - only the trustees can do that. The office go through the pool of work that needs to get done, plots it out in terms of putting it into protocol with Trustee approval. To review: recommendations go through the General Policy Committee to form an agenda given to the Executive Committee, which has trustees on it. The Executive Committee decides if it becomes policy.

Marilyn: What impressed me about the General Policy Committee was that it was an umbrella committee supporting the other two committees in an open gathering.

Roc: We have old and new business left with one hour remaining.

Abby Jo: Quarterly reports and talk of Executive Committees covers old business and Slate of Trustees as outlined in the alternative agenda. Suggest a motion to remove some items from the agenda.

Lawyer and parliamentarian say the difference between "Fellowship" and "Group" is jargon - see no instinctive difference - unique to A.R.T.S. The AA Service Manual refers to "Group" as the cornerstone on which all programs are built. In the A.R.T.S. service structure groups empower delegates and delegates come to the conference and they empower the trustees who empower the office. It all starts with the group. If the purpose of the Corporation shifts to Fellowship, we take in the whole world on an individual basis. The business of the Corporation is to make sure the groups stay alive.

Roc: Table this discussion for Conference 2000 as an agenda item.

Abby Jo: The Policy and Procedures Committee can write a statement on this.

Motion #9: (Stan, 2nd) Pertaining to the Agenda, move to table discussion of Old Business items two, three and four until the Conference in 2000. Vote: 23 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abst. - Passed

Motion #10: (Group Conscious) Conference moves to revise New Business, BY-LAW issues by tabling item one and removing items two and three. Vote: By Acclamation - Passed

Abby Jo: Slate of Trustees should be voted by acclamation.

Roc: Still need to discuss Issues and Concerns for the Next Conference.

Motion #11: (Group Conscious) Conference moves to vote on Slate of Trustees now. Vote: By Acclamation - Passed

Abby Jo introduced the Slate by calling all those who were nominated to stand and state their name and title. Outlined below are the nominees:

A. Regional Trustees:

- 1. Eastern Region: Fred
- 2. Central Region: Bev (?)
- 2. Western Liaison: Roc
- 2. International Region: Marilyn

B. Sustaining Trustees:

- 1. Finance & Budget: Jay
- 2. Policy & Procedures: Ed
- 3. Conference & Convention: Thanasi
- 4. Nominations: Arthur
- 5. Public Information: Lou-Ann
- 6. Literature: Abby Jo (acting Chair)
- 7. Registrar: Jane (until 9/30/99)

C. Trustees at Large:

- 1. Class A: Tom
- 2. Class A: Randy

Discussion on Motion #11:

Paul: Want to be clear that the vote by acclamation does not set a precedent for future conferences.

Point of Information: (Ed K.) What about a written vote? How does that work?

Motion #12: (Paul, 2nd) Vote to vote on the Slate. Vote: 19 Yes, 3 No, 3 Abst. - Passed

(22) (22)  
Motion #13: (Stan, 2nd) Move to accept Slate as offered and if voted down by a simple majority, then vote on each candidate on an individual basis. Vote: 15 Yes, 6 No, 4 Abst. - Passed

Discussion on Motion #13:

Millie: What about other possible candidates?

Roc: The Board picks the candidates.

Di: Must have Board of no less than seven members.

Bob: Avoid "poison pill." The Slate is valid for being voted on. They were selected by the founder, the present Board, and Conference Agenda Committee.

Ed K.: We need to vote on the Slate now. Ideally would have liked to have a more thorough selection process and voted on each individually.

Lou-Ann: Selection process sloppy. Would like to amend BY-LAWS to have Trustees serve one year terms, starting with this Slate. Also have associate trustees.

Point of Order: (Marilyn) BY-LAWS state that the full slate is voted for every year by the Conference then formally voted for by the Board of Trustees. The BY-LAWS can be amended if proposed by the Conference first, and then voted by the Board of Trustees.

Lou-Ann: Would like to make such a proposal.

Roc: Motion is on the floor.

Lou-Ann: Everyone should know who their leadership is before voting them in.

(T.G.A)  
(T.G.B) Jay: Can change BY-LAWS but not now. Am impressed that Abby Jo, the Board of Trustees, and Agenda Committee could agree on this slate. Trustee BY-LAW issue is for another conference to act on. Recommend voting the Slate in and if some would like to propose an exception to the three year rule for voting in a trustee, they should refer it to the Policy and Procedures Committee later on. (T.G.A)  
(T.G.B)

Abby Jo: Policy and Procedures can investigate whether the Trustees have an uncontested vote of confidence. Referring to the AA Service Manual, every body has to be reconfirmed even if you are serving a three year term. The Conference has the right of disapproval. Could be wrong. Issue needs to be investigated by Policy and Procedures and Nominations.

Fred: Have no problem with vote on an individual basis.

Ed K.: Call the Question.



(23) (23)  
[Motion for a 2/3 Majority, Motion #4, withdrawn by Thanasi.]

End of Discussion on Motion #13:

Bob: Minority Position: object that some members are voted in that shouldn't be. Will watch this Board very closely and will speak out as needed.

Marilyn: Have only two years left. Will be fifty seven years old at that time and do my own thing.

Abby Jo: You're on the seventh year of nine years maximum.

Patti: Appalled by how little got done last year and this year. Little has been done for the suffering artist. Will watch to see that this Board gets thing done.

Roc: Have fifteen minutes left. Next items: (a) resolve who heads the Big Book Project; (b) address issues and concerns for Conference 2000; (c) then Conference summary and wrap-up.

Progress on Big Book Project: (Abby Jo)

I will briefly run through this. During the Sunday morning spot (Steps 1,2,3, and 4) I will make the presentation to the whole fellowship, if you want me to. This is a letter to a literary agent that Julia Cameron put me in touch with who was able to call the terms of distribution as we get the book out... A.R.T.S. will publish and distribute it amongst ourselves. For the wider fellowship - for the still suffering artist - we could contract that end of our publishing to another person. We have a high powered literary agent who is very interested in what we are about to achieve. There is a question and answer document that I created to go after grants before we meet him... There are a few things I urge you that we'll need:

- (1) the right to go after grants.
- (2) an income for my work.

This is not a project that can be funded by small contributions and donations. That would bankrupt A.R.T.S. However, I can't continue to give this amount of service to A.R.T.S. without an income for my work. This January, I started a Wednesday open meeting, "Planning with A.R.T.S.," which meets every other week with people working on assorted projects. This made a perfect platform for me to talk on the Big Book. I got wonderful support from people who are self-publishing books. [Abby Jo read a statement for the Twelve Concepts written by Bill W., Co-Founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, concerning the royalty on his books]. I must fully earn my full separate livelihood so I can be more fully independent.

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Progress on Big Book Project: (Abby Jo) (Continued)

These funds would enable me to do the rest of my service on a full-time volunteer basis. The royalties would also enable me to think and act independently of any outside money influences. I hope this will be looked upon as a fair and wise arrangement.

Ed K.: What is the monetary split?

Abby Jo: The split is 20% for the Author and 80% for A.R.T.S. If the Big Book becomes extraordinarily successful, we can re-negotiate the contract to cut down my (Author's) percentage. This is a revised contract AA gave me of Bill W.'s royalty contract which my contract is modelled from... I have a lawyer who consults the Board... Bill W.'s will is in here... I would like to go head on this. This is a release form as pertaining to each essay... This worksheet on Step One is my property until there is a formal agreement with A.R.T.S. Step Two is a work in progress. the goal is to create twelve books - twelve little jewels - following Step workshops where essays are gathered from everybody. Step Three has a sheet with box format and a process which came out of a skit from the New York Thursday night meeting that got rave reviews... Arlene and I are working on a meeting for Step Four. I don't have enough to pass out to everyone. Not funded yet and have \$600.00 worth of expenses. Would like to get permission from the Board to do this.

Abby Jo presented packets which contained:

- (a) prototype of essays from Steps One and Two.
- (b) prototype of newsletter - all essays published here first then best essays culled and published in the Big Book.
- (c) draft letter of an invitation to the conference to participate.
- (d) by-laws of the "Grapevine" - AA's second corporation (need corporation to receive grants because A.R.T.S. isn't chartered to accept grants).
- (e) information on self-publishing your own books via computer (Internet).
- (f) expense reports of \$658.04 to date.

Abby Jo: This is a starting point. I can't do this anymore with funds so I'm asking you, the Conference, to help work out a royalty agreement with A.R.T.S. A.R.T.S. would contract with the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts in Manhattan. Julia Cameron's literary agent would represent me and we would work out a royalty deal and I would be granted permission to start a second corporation so grants can be received for work on the Big Book Project as follows:

- (1) permission to go ahead with setting up another corporation with the Conference first then with the Board and then work along side the Board.

- (2) permission to negotiate a royalty agreement.  
(3) go for grants.

Motion #14: (Bob, 2nd) We elect Abigail, the Founder of A.R.T.S., as ongoing sole head for coordinating the A.R.T.S. Big Book Project and for her to work with the Board to develop a second corporation that could receive grants and work out a royalty agreement with Abigail that closely follows Bill W.'s royalty contract with Alcoholics Anonymous. Vote: 21 Yes, 1 No, 3 Abst. - Passed

Discussion on Motion #14:

Group Dialogue: Why do we need another corporation?

Abby Jo: To receive grants. A.R.T.S. can't accept grants.

Bob: Based on AA set-up to form a separate corporation for that purpose.

Andy: Aren't we violating a Tradition prohibiting the acceptance of outside contributions - by receiving money and accepting funds from an outside corporation.

Abby Jo: Yes. That's why we need to set-up a third corporation and I was going to save that one for the Board. Money can't be directly received by A.R.T.S. Need to set-up a holding company. Example: AA has three corporations. The holding company takes funds out one corporation, holds it until the other corporation needs it. Pray that we get these two Chamber of Commerce people on the Board. Whatever we do we have to go through the A.R.T.S. Board to figure out what's best for A.R.T.S.

Stan: Have a problem with the motion. It's in variance with the Traditions. The idea of not accepting outside funds was to avoid undue outside influence. Problem of getting grants is that it tries to out do the process of waiting for the delivery from the power that gave us life and recovery. Living by spiritual principles. Going for grants from outside is going outside the scope of my Higher Power. Time is not an enemy - sometimes better to do it the hard way.

Ed K.: I support the motion on the floor.

Thanasi: the motion is following the AA model and AA has survived these many years

Mike: Support motion as long as language in the motion refers to AA as a guide.

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**Call the Question: (Bob) Vote: Unanimous**

**Serenity Prayer:**

**Conference Adjourned:**

Respectfully submitted:



Ed S.  
Corporate Secretary

Date: 10/10/99

A.R.T.S. Anonymous, Inc.  
**World Service Board Meeting**  
Ocean Grove, NJ  
May 23, 1999

**Present:**

**Sustaining Trustees**

Thanasi A.	(Conference & Convention, Chair)
Jay M .	(Finance & Budget, A.R.T.S. Treasurer, Vice Chair)
Ed S.	(Policy & Procedures, A.R.T.S. Corporate Secretary)
Arthur M.	(Nominations)
Lou Ann R.	(Public Information)

**Regional Trustees**

Marilyn H.	(International)
Fred K.	(Eastern)

**Trustee Emeritus**

Abby Jo B.	(Literature, A.R.T.S. Founder)
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**Corporate Officer(s)**

Kathy V.O.	(A.R.T.S. General Manager)
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**Guests:**

Tom	(Former President, Ocean Grove, NJ Chamber of Commerce)
Randy	(Current President, Ocean Grove, NJ Chamber of Commerce)

**Absent:**

Jane L. (Sustaining Trustee - Registrar)  
Roc C. (Regional Trustee - Western)  
Bev B. (Regional Trustee - Central)

\* **Meeting began** Randy's house - 2:15 pm

*[An information gathering session period began with Members of the newly elected A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees and the two A.R.T.S. Class A Trustee Candidates, Tom and Randy.]*

**Abby Jo** read the definition of a "Class A" Trustee-At-Large from the A.R.T.S. BY-LAWS. In summary the duties would be that of a business executive with special attention to matters of budget and finance including fundraising. Another function would be strategizing the growth of the A.R.T.S. organization They would attend Board and quarterly executive meetings

**Randy** was undecided. He needed more information on the Vision, where to go with it, and definition of tasks and board member engagement. He needed an assessment i.e. needs of the organization to reach the Vision and a list of priorities.

Lou Ann asked Randy what are the functions and duties of the Chamber of Commerce.

Randy answered that the Chamber of Commerce unifies the vast range of businesses in the Ocean Grove area to attain goals common to them all. The Chamber of Commerce is run much like a business.

Abby Jo stated that a stronger organizational structure would enhance the A.R.T.S.'s ability to outreach to a growing membership.

Tom noted that A.R.T.S. doesn't have enough volunteers helping with the service needs of the program.

Jay outlined that the purpose of A.R.T.S. was to help the struggling artist through a Twelve Step program that A.R.T.S. is unbiased and has no other vested interests.

Marilyn stated that the program was about principals before personalities and recommended that the Board prepare a report for Tom and Randy.

Randy stated that the Board should know what each member is doing and this should always be expressed in the Trustee report.

Thanasi asked what the time commitments would be for Tom and Randy.

Abby Jo recommended that the Board meet again sometime around June or July.

Randy asked for a growth history report of the Board and why change happened. He also made a comparison between a complacent board versus an active board.

Fred described the current board as the small meeting model with a founder and small core of friends who deal with an ebb and flow of work, that met when schedules permitted.

Thanasi pointed to conflicts of priorities, deadlines and personalities.

Jay compared 12 Step principles to standard business principals, with the exception that A.R.T.S. can not advertise itself; no ads can be placed. A.R.T.S. has difficulty in becoming widely known. Internet may offer some solutions.

Marilyn added that artists on whole have to scrounge for a living.

Tom asked what methods of funding were being used to support A.R.T.S.

Abby Jo answered that appeals were made to meetings asking for donations; that we solicit larger donations in exchange for tax write-offs, that no money can be accepted from outside non-A.R.T.S. member sources. The idea of setting up a company expressly for the purposes of receiving non-A.R.T.S. member funds and grants to develop our Big Book Project is being seriously considered.

Thanasi added that over the years the convention has been on of A.R.T.S. biggest source of income.

Randy summarized that our fundraising was self-contained.

Thanasi explained that our fundraising restrictions are modeled after A.A. (A.A.'s membership base in the millions). Our outreach is by word-of-mouth, through the spread of our literature and with links to other programming and the Internet.

Abby added that the outreach idea is to decimate information about our program, but not to "sell" it. Letter packets were being planned to send out to parishes, newspapers, and those towns where A.R.T.S. meetings do exist already.

Thanasi alluded to some media exposure.

Randy asked what worked.

Marilyn expressed concern over the subject of budget balancing and getting consultation on this matter.

Jay said pamphlets were a source of income and expense.

Tom gave a brief history of the Ocean Grove Chamber of Commerce before and after he came on board. The organization was in financial disarray when he took charge. He implemented a budget process by gathering a history of the data and organizing fundraisers. He intimated that he has a passion for putting budgets together.

Randy asked the Board to contemplate what our desired state for A.R.T.S. would be verses the reality of where the Organization and the Board are right now.

Abby Jo expressed need for money to send Trustees to retreats around the country.

Marilyn proposed Board plan for expenses and ascertain what those expenses are.

Randy suggested making a list of priorities toward accomplishing the desired state verses reality and work toward a middle ground.

Tom suggested committees plan activities and calculate expenses verses revenue.

Randy asked where do profits go?

Marilyn suggested a Board budget that projected expenses - tangible verses intangible, expenses verses revenue.

Lou-Ann proposed the setting up of a think tank to focus on our vision and actualization of goals.

Thanasi suggested the formation of a spending plan.

Kathy suggested we observe the pattern of revenue.

Tom suggested the formation of a twelve month spread sheet.

Randy pointed out that the Board needs to clarify what its needs and issues are. You have a great product. Still undecided.

Tom added that the Board needs legal assistance.

Abby Jo has in the past consulted Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts for pro bono legal assistance.

Randy stated the Board needs legal assistance per charter and by-law concerns per clarification of needs and protection of Board and Organization - insurance policy protection from law suits.

Ed suggested using AA model as per legal protection for the Organization/Board/Individual.

**\* Questions from Tom and Randy to A.R.T.S. Board**

Randy: What is the vision of A.R.T.S.?

Randy: What's lacking - gaps to the vision?

Tom: Are all moneys directed to the Finance and Budget Standing Committee?

Randy: What is the group understanding of itself?

Randy: What is the relationship between A.R.T.S. Big Book Project and AA's Big Book Project - similarities and differences?



**\* Responses**

Abby Jo: Our Big Book and other A.R.T.S. literature would be a major source of revenue. Propose setting up a holding corporation over A.R.T.S. Anonymous, Inc. and the Big Book corporation so that moneys as needed would flow between the corporations -- just as AA does.

Randy and Tom suggested retreats for the purpose of Board bonding.

**\* Group Conscience**: Executive Committee Meeting tentatively scheduled for September 1999, after Labor Day, at Ocean Grove, NJ.

*[Board adjourned meeting at Randy's home and reconvened meeting at the Parkview Hotel. Discussed future agenda items.]*

Lou-Ann proposed that Conference Minutes be distributed in a timely fashion.

Arthur proposed getting advice on meeting boundaries. Inquire about legal assistance - AA GSO - Lois Fisher and Adrienne Brown.

Fred proposed creating a DOL start-up kit. Possible DOL's Bon T. and Jay M.

Abby Jo proposed a meeting to set-up DOL structure. Use the following examples: (1) job description from conference charter; (2) expenses to Finance and Budget Committee; (3) expense sheets to WSO.

Jay observed committees should spend with caution.

Marilyn suggested that prudent expenses be reimbursed through expense reports.

Fred proposed sending acknowledgment of service and get well wishes to Des. Des should get official recognition for his service on the Board.

Kathy asked how will WSO work with the Board? WSO should be a neutral space. Need office policy and procedures. Need heads-up on how office can support Board decisions with Board consensus. Need mailing list policy.

Marilyn observed the following: (1) Twenty WSMRs at the Conference were from the NYC area; (2) 75% of groups are not represented at Ocean Grove conference - need to find how to get 50% of groups to participate in the Conference; (3) Need to canvas groups per the Big Book process; (4) Organization should have a bank card requiring a second signature; (5) nominate Thanasi to be board chairperson.

World Service Board Meeting  
May 23, 1999

Page 6

\* **Motion #1:** (Marilyn [?], 2nd) Election for new Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson: (1) Thanasi A. - Chairperson; (2) Jay M. - Vice Chairperson. **Vote:** 4 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abst. - **Passed**

**Marilyn** reminded everyone that previous Board had adopted informal small board business procedures.

**Kathy** noted that copies of AA Service Manual, BY-LAWS and Twelve Concepts would be sent to all Board members.

\* **Group Conscience:** (1) Tentative full Board meeting - September 1999 (after labor Day); (2) Tentative executive committee meeting - August 1999; (3) Each Board member prepare individual vision/needs statement to be compiled as the collective Board interpretation.

\* **Motion #2:** ([?], 2nd) Have existing ad hoc trustee standing committees become Board approved trustee standing committees. **Vote:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abst. - **Passed**

\* **Serenity Prayer**

\* **Meeting Adjourned**

Respectfully submitted:



Ed S.  
Corporate Secretary

Date:

10/10/99

A.R.T.S. Anonymous, Inc.  
**World Service Board Meeting**  
Ocean Grove, NJ  
May 20, 1999

**Present:**

Marilyn H. (Regional Trustee - International, Chair)  
Katherine F. (Interim Trustee)  
Doris B. (Interim Trustee)  
Arthur M. (Interim Trustee)  
Roc C. (Regional Trustee - Western, Vice Chair)  
Cheryl P. (Interim Trustee)  
Jay M. (A.R.T.S. Treasurer)  
Ed S. (A.R.T.S. Corporate Secretary)

**Absent:**

Jane L. (Sustaining Trustee, Registrar)

\* Marilyn opened the meeting

\* **Proposed Agenda:** (1) Determine amended Conference schedule; (2) assign Trustees to open and close each session with Serenity Prayer.

\* **Motion:** Amended Conference Schedule: (1) Thursday (sessions 1 & 2) - 2:45 pm to 5:30 pm; (2) Friday (sessions 3 & 4) - 9:00 am to 12:30 pm; (3) Friday (sessions 5 & 6) - 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm. [ Roc C. motioned, seconded] [Vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions]

[Passed]

\* **Serenity Prayer Assignments:** [open and close of each session]

Session 1	Katherine F.
Session 2	Doris B.
Session 3	Arthur M.
Session 4	Cheryl P.
Session 5	Jacqueline H.
Session 6	Roc C.

\* **Motion to Adjourn:** [Arthur M. motioned, seconded] [Vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions]

[Passed]

Respectfully submitted:



Ed S.  
Corporate Secretary

Date: 10/10/99