

## **Minutes for GSR Committee Meeting May 09, 2021 (Approved)**

**1:30 – 3:00 pm ET, 10:30 am – Noon PT, 6:30 PM GMT**

This meeting was recorded to aid in the preparation of accurate Minutes.

Acting Chair: Arden, Chair: George G

GSRC Info site: <https://bit.ly/UAGSRC>

Robert's Rules Reference: <http://www.rulesonline.com/index.html>

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, June 13, 2021, at 1:30 pm ET/10:30 am PT

**Acting Chair Arden opened the meeting on time with the 'We' version of the Serenity Prayer**

**12 Traditions** read by Karen

**Spiritual timekeeper** Seth

**Secretary and Co-Secretary:** Janine and Michele C.

### **I. Roll Call**

GSR's Present - 18

1. Ana R. Sherman Oaks, Wednesday
2. Arden V. Beyond 6 Figures Meeting (Phone), Wednesday, 8 pm EST
3. Audrey O. Power Tools, Tuesday, 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
4. Debora G. Evening Step & Speaker (Phone), Tu & F 8:30 pm ET; Wed 9:30 pm
5. Denise P Thriving Therapists & Healers Thurs 8:30 am EST
6. Essence C. Black in UA, Wednesday at 9:00 pm EST
7. George G. Waves of Prosperity Friday, 7:00 PM
8. Janine I Daily Step and Tools, Mon. - Sun. 9:45 am EST
9. Jessica godFree Prosperity Hour
10. Jon C. UK Intergroup
11. Karen R. Recovery in UA Thursday 7pm EST
12. Mahdiye Iran Intergroup
13. Michele C. Last Gasper's, M-F, 7am - 8:15am EST
14. Quin B. Fresno Friday Freedom and Prosperity 7:00 PM
15. Rita M. Early Bird Turning Point, Sunday, 4:30 pm
16. Robin R. Wed. 7:15 pm EST Recovery and Inner Child
17. Seth C. NY Intergroup

18. Zeus W. I can see clearly now visions mtg Monday 7am | phone mtg.

#### **Non-GSR UA Members Present -5**

1. Beatriz R - Member at large, SUBA Madrid
2. Dakota - Member at large, Attending as guest,
3. Monica P- Member at large, Heartfelt Prosperity
4. Peter M- Member at large
5. Toni T -GSB Treasurer

#### **I. Reading and Approval of April 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes.**

Janine read the abbreviated Minutes for April 11, 2021.

**Motion to accept the April 11, 2021 Minutes as emailed to the GSRC, read, and corrected.**

Proposed by Zeus Seconded by Jessica Motion result: passed by vote of acclamation

#### **II. Welcoming Notes by GSRC Committee Chair Quin, Read by Acting Chair Arden**

Fellow GSRs,

A service survey was sent out on April 20th to all GSR members to indicate interest in doing any of the individual tasks of the Secretary's or Chair's duties to make the work more in alignment with recovery from Underearning. If you haven't already done so, please complete the service survey.

Today, we need to vote in member(s) to serve as Secretary as Janine's term as a GSR ends in June and Michele is not staying on as Co-Secretary.

Quin stepped down as Chair on May 1st. George, our Vice-Chair has agreed to step up as Acting Chair through October 2021, but the previous Chair and Co-Chair are advising we must hold an election for the Chair position.

Please review the duties and responsibilities of the Secretary, Vice-Chair, and Chair to consider doing service.

If no one steps up to do the work, the committee as a whole is choosing to take time out of the meeting each month to ask someone to serve as Secretary and/or Chair.

The motions on the agenda today include:

- Motion to approve funding of the GSRC Website.
- Motion to amend the duties and qualifications of the GSRC Secretary.

### **III. Announcement regarding GSB Meetings & Committees (Members to read) (Arden asked Members to read on our own)**

The UA Board will send an email on resuming public board meetings in June once they have trained the new Trustees.

In order to receive the GSB Meeting Agendas and Minutes, please email the GSB Chair, Clara T, at: [clarat@uagsb.org](mailto:clarat@uagsb.org).

Chuck M is now a Trustee and chair of the UA Finance Committee. Please email [chuckm@uagsb.org](mailto:chuckm@uagsb.org) if you or a member of your meeting is interested in doing service.

A list of the GSB committees, contact info, and meeting times are in the back of the [GSRC Committee Guidelines Handbook](#). You or members of your meeting are welcome to attend and participate in these committee sessions.

### **IV. Reports/Presentations See Addenda**

#### **V. Elections**

##### **A. Election of Secretary:**

Janine and Michele will take and prepare the minutes for the June, 2021 GSRC meeting.

**Jon from UK nominated Debora G for 1 month in July, if no secretary elected at our next meeting. Debora accepted. Passed by vote of acclamation**

Re: Election of Secretary for 1 year position: Jon Nominated Debora, Debora declined Seth nominated Karen R, Jon seconded it, Karen declined

**B. Election of Chair /Co-Chairs** George elected as the new chair.

Debora nominated George, Quin Seconded it Seth nominated Jon C, Quin Seconded it George was elected as Chair

#### **VI. Unfinished Business**

##### **A. Motion to Approve Funding of the the GSRC Website**

**Proposed by Arden on behalf of the GSRC Website Subcommittee; Seconded by Zeus**

**Results: Passed by Vote of Acclamation**

The GSRC approves as part of its Annual Spending Plan, the following allocations:

1. Four years of Porkbun domain and WHOIS privacy protection at \$39.79, to be paid to Porkbun.
2. One year of SiteGround 'GrowBig' hosting and Site Scan security at \$139.68, at a reduced, first-time customer rate, to be paid to SiteGround. (Hosting is \$119.88 and Site Scan security is \$19.80.)
3. Three years held in the GSRC Treasury as a prudent reserve for SiteGround hosting, at a reduced rate, and Site Scan Security for a total of \$689.04, to be allocated immediately. (Hosting is \$629.64 and Site Scan Security is \$59.40.)

TOTAL FOUR-YEAR COST = \$868.51 (\$18.09 per month for 48 months)

Background: Payments and allocations are to be made after passing of this motion by the GSRC. This motion is based on extensive research. Twelve hosting companies were considered. SiteGround had high ratings on three different rating sites, including TrustPilot, TechRadar Review, and Hostings.info, as well as the Better Business Bureau. In addition, we consulted with an IT specialist in UA who also highly recommended SiteGround for use with WordPress. Porkbun, for the domain registration, received great reviews from TrustPilot, and from our Webmaster, John N; his experience with Porkbun has been excellent.

## **VII. New Business**

**Motion to extend meeting by 10 minutes was made by Debora. Denise P. seconded it.** Meeting extended by vote of acclamation. Secretary, Janine, left meeting 12:00 pm, Debora G took over as Secretary at 12:00pm.

**Motion to send the following letter from GSRC to GSB trustees in support of preparation of the Virtual WSC 2021.**

Proposed by Debora. Seconded by Jessica. Passed by Vote of Acclamation.

Dear UA GSB Trustees,

We, the GSR Committee, accept the invitation to support the WSC Planning Committee in its service to the UA Fellowship of preparing the virtual 2021 World Service Conference.

Bill Wilson made it clear in Concept of World Service Two that the groups "delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference... the actual voice and effective conscience for our whole Society."

Thus, a yearly World Service Conference is essential to the health of a 12 Step Fellowship, and, therefore, all of the major 12 Step Fellowships have this yearly business meeting.

For example, this is a quote from the Al-Anon website that expresses the pivotal role of its yearly World Service Conferences in ensuring that fellowship's survival:

"The Conference protects Al-Anon and Alateen against a service breakdown; it makes for unity and enables our fellowship to act as a whole upon important matters. This makes it the principal guarantor of Al-Anon and Alateen's harmony and survival."

The WSC Planning Committee (formerly known as the WSC Preparation Committee) has done a good job as volunteers in preparation of the 2018, 2019, and 2020 World Service Conferences and has saved the UA fellowship thousands of dollars of expense for each Conference, since the Fellowship does not need to pay for a professional to do this preparation. This is why prior GSB Chairs, Matt B and Shawn P have highly commended and thanked the WSC Planning Committee for its tireless efforts.

We encourage the current GSB Trustees to join the GSRC in supporting the WSC Planning Committee in its preparation for a virtual 2021 World Service Conference.

We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely in UA Service,

The GSR Committee (GSRC)

CC: WSC Planning Committee

**VIII. Motion to Adjourn Meeting Proposed by Seth, Seconded by Jessica Results:**  
Passed by vote of acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 3:08pm Eastern time

Arden led the group in the 'We' Version of the Serenity Prayer.

## ADDENDA

### 1. Report of GSRC Website Subcommittee

Debora gave Joint Website Subcommittee Report / Webmasters Report Email questions to: phonemeetings@gmail.com; arden.uajoy@gmail.com

The GSRC Website Subcommittee met on Saturday, 4/17/21, at 6:00 pm ET/3:00 pm PT

Arden was chair; John N was secretary

- 1) John N, was elected to be secretary of the subcommittee for a one year term.
- 2) It was confirmed by all members present that the subcommittee will meet on the third Saturday of the month at 3 pm PT, and the platform for now will be FreeConferenceCall by phone.
- 3) Next, we discussed our research on 5 free-of-charge plugins to add to our website. Plugins are software that offer custom functions and features, in addition to what is normally provided by WordPress so that each user can tailor their site to their specific needs.

5 motions were made to add each one, and they all 5 passed. The WordPress Organization (WP.org) gave each a 4.5 star rating or above.

a). First was **WordFence** for ensuring the security of our website, based on discussion with SiteGround staff on their customers' usage and other research. It provides firewall, security scanning, blocking features, monitoring and login security. It speeds up data and blocks attacks; it has 4+ million active installations.

b) 2nd was **Updraft Backup Plug in** Rationale: Back-ups should be done before any update or addition of new plugins, as well as after any major work is done on our website. Also, we cannot rely solely upon the automatic daily back-ups of our hosting company in case something happens to their data center. We need our own back-up; active installations: 3+ million..

c) Next, was **TheEventsCalendar.com plugin**. Active installations: 800,000+.

d) Then, **Ninja Forms plugin**. This will integrate forms with PayPal and Credit

Cards; active installations: 1+ million.

e) Finally, **SiteGround Optimizer plugin**, active installations: 1+ million.

The next GSRC Website Subcommittee meeting will be on 5/15/21, 6 pm ET/3 pm PT. We will focus on selecting WordPress Themes. If you are interested in attending, contact John at: [phonemeetings@gmail.com](mailto:phonemeetings@gmail.com) or Arden at [arden.uajoy@gmail.com](mailto:arden.uajoy@gmail.com).

**2. Report of GSRC Treasurer** from Arden. Email questions or make donations to: [uagsrctreasury@gmail.com](mailto:uagsrctreasury@gmail.com)

From Arden. Jeff and Arden spent time in transitioning. They moved to the next step of clarity. Money is being held safely. Not able to accept donations at this time. They closed one account. The Zoom payment is not being paid out of the account. They are working on opening another account.

**3. Report of WSC Planning Committee (WSCPC)** Email questions to: [uawscservice@gmail.com](mailto:uawscservice@gmail.com) . Jessica, Chair; Seth, Vice-Chair

Jessica read a letter she sent to GSB.

Dear GSB,

We received your message in which you stated that the fellowship cannot have a WSC 2021. We are all deeply hurt by your punitive tone and action. We are saddened by your disregard for the work we and many others have been doing in service to the fellowship, building towards the next WSC. We are also distressed that you feel it serves recovery or the fellowship to block the way by which the service structure functions. Your proposal is that we essentially silence the sole authority that governs us, a higher power as expressed in our group conscience. That group conscience takes place within the gathering of the fellowship at a World Service Conference.

While there may be things we have done less perfectly than you desire, we have been in constant action since the close of the last World Service Conference in service to the fellowship as a whole. If there were issues laden with such urgency, it is disturbing that the GSB did not personally directly contact either the Chair or Vice Chair of the WSCPC to tell them about the urgent nature of their request. Nor has a member of the Board attended a WSCPC meeting. Structurally, open GSB meetings are the venue for the regular and free-flow of all this information. Unfortunately, there haven't been any since the World Service Conference. We are a fellowship of equals. This is not a place where edicts from on high are supposed to be the mode of communication.

**Our primary purpose is recovery from underearning. We as a committee not only show up for the work we do but prioritize support and encouragement of each other's individual recovery from underearning.**

### **Our vision and actions**

**Following is how and when we already addressed the items outlined in your May 2, 2021 email:**

- Paid the Recording Secretary, Jackie Windes, \$1,530 on January 13th
- Submitted the Venmo record of payment for reimbursement to GSB Treasurer, Toni, on March 12th (email copies attached with personal info redacted)
- We composed an email and a voting form on Thursday, November 19, 2020, for people to review the first draft of the WSC 2020 Minutes during the comment period.
- We did the same for the vote on the revised minutes on Tuesday, February 9, 2021. We then publicly reported that the minutes were approved. Everyone who had the right to vote on adoption of the WSC 2020 minutes received a copy of the final adopted version.
- We posted the approved minutes on the WSC 2020 Website as we have no direct control of our page on the UA Website. We apologize for not sending out an email with the number of votes in approval. 16 members voted - 14 pro, 2 abstain, 0 against.
- Less than one month after the conference, we submitted the final numbers for WSC 2020 as we were able to put them together with the financial data from the accounts the Board shared with us. Both Clara and Toni accessed the budget file on November 21, 2020 and November 22, 2020 (as well as more recently). The data has not changed since and their access has not been revoked.

#### **Other work done by the committee since WSC 2020:**

- We solicited, received and added multiple languages to the Topics of Concern Survey so that the voice of the global fellowship can rightfully be heard and participate in that group conscience.
- We began and are continuing work on Build from the Base Workshops. These are a new tool that supports broader global access to participation in the WSC by way of the Topics of Concern Survey. The workshops also invite and encourage greater direct participation in the WSC.
- Specific Build from the Base activities include:
  - We collaborated with and supported the Spanish fellowship's leadership in hosting a 3 hour workshop in Spain on April 17. The Spanish fellowship



leadership has informed us that they are in the process of creating an intergroup as a result of their work to prepare a workshop, and have already had their first meeting.

- We are currently working with the Iranian fellowship and supporting their work on a series of workshops in Iran the week of May 21st.
- We have reached out to the Russian Fellowship and the Fellowship in the UK.
- We had a couple of meetings to explore the possibility of a Francophone Build from the Base (BftB) for which there was insufficient momentum to do this year.
- We have a WSCPC liaison who is working on scheduling and planning a BftB Workshop in the UK if time allows.
- We have put word of mouth invitations out to US, Asia and the South Pacific to support additional Workshops if they have the inclination and leadership to make them happen.
- We have researched and discussed WSC 2021 dates
- We have a draft of a timeline plan that we will be discussing and voting on at our meeting on June 6.
- We have drafted a spending plan, but have not yet had time to complete our discussion and vote on it. We will likely finalize it by our meeting on July 4.
- We have increased the size of our committee with active members from 5 countries participating more actively representing the “World” in World Service Conference

Our committee is not hiding from life. Our actions and results are abundant and are supporting the prosperity of the Fellowship. All of our work since the last WSC has been action in support of empowering the entire fellowship to “explore...options and take actions that [will] enable [the fellowship] to change, grow and express ourselves fully” in the context of the group conscience which is the World Service Conference.

We understand the challenges of being afraid, powerless, and asking for help. We are learning to do this as we recover from underearning. We can hold this space for you and ask that you do the same for us.

We invite the Board and the GSRC to support the work of the WSCPC in our actions towards the World Service Conference 2021. We invite you to spread the word that the prosperous actions of the WSCPC need (and welcome) more supportive people doing service.

Yours in Service,

The World Service Conference Planning Committee

### Addenda to WSCPC report:

Towards that end, we do our best to work from recovery and not the 12 Symptoms of Underearning. We:

1. Respect our collective time and the time of each individual on the committee.
  2. Respect, welcome and discuss all ideas brought forth
  3. Respect the gifts that each committee member and fellow brings and not demand that anyone reprove their worth or value
  4. Release practices and approaches that don't serve our committee's primary task which is the putting on of a World Service Conference.
  5. Discourage overwork and exhaustion by prioritizing actions and taking those actions with bite sized efforts
  6. Respect that our time is donated and that doing service benefits us if and only if it also serves our recovery and our earning. Service is part of our recovery it is not our full-time or part-time job
  7. Value the work of each committee member and person who serves in the cycle of work that makes the WSC happen. Each person doing service sets the boundaries around the time and work we are able to contribute and we respect each other's boundaries
  8. Work together and take action together, asking for help and receiving it in whatever way others are able and willing to contribute it
  9. Respect people's limitations, energy and well being
10. Respect those who serve. Each of us is enough and we do not guilt each other into more work nor shame each other for imperfect work
11. Create a World Service Conference and support each person by creating a safe space to work towards that accomplishment so that we may all experience the success of completed action replacing the practice of fear and avoidance
12. Focus on collaboration rather than competition, allowing us to all practice healthy difference of opinion minimizing the temptation or need for conflict

Note: The topics of concern survey is now live. Please begin asking your meetings to participate in discussing topics and submitting the survey responses by June 15, 2021

### **4. Report of the GISC Group Inventory Subcommittee**

Email questions to [12stepfred@gmail.com](mailto:12stepfred@gmail.com) or [deboraingratitude@gmail.com](mailto:deboraingratitude@gmail.com).

Debora gave the report: The Group Inventory Subcommittee met Saturday May 1, 2021 on Zoom. 5 were in attendance.

They worked collaboratively on the main focus which was establishing the overarching goals for the subcommittee. Next meeting May 22, 2021. New members are welcome Email Debora, Karen or Fred if interested.

**5. There were no Open Shares from GSRs**