

**Minutes for the GSR Committee Meeting**  
**Sunday, February 12, 2023 (Approved)**

**1:00 - 2:30 pm EST**

*Note that the meeting was held on Zoom and recorded to aid in the preparation of accurate minutes*

The meeting opened with reading together the “*Prayer for A Trusted Servant*”

*Higher Power, we ask for your guidance today,  
as we carry out this work in service to the Fellowship.  
Relieve us of the burdens of our egos & perfectionism.  
Remind us to place principles before personalities.  
Grant us the grace of humor and humility.  
Give us faith to trust in You and the group conscience.  
and...  
Grant us the serenity  
to accept the things we cannot change,  
courage to change the things we can,  
and wisdom to know the difference!*

Thank you all for re-muting.

**The 12 Traditions were read.**

**The Zoom HouseKeeping Guidelines were read.**

**Rick volunteered to be timekeeper to time members' shares during the meeting.**

**I. Reading and Approval of January 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes.**

- Abbreviated reading of the Meeting Minutes for **January 8, 2023.**
  
- **Motion to approve the January 8, 2023 Minutes as emailed to the GSRC and read, with no corrections.**

*Proposed by Rick; seconded by a GSR*

***Passed by vote of acclamation.***

**II. Welcoming Notes by GSR Committee Chair, Fred A.**

Hello everyone, my name is Fred A, GSR for the 11 am Sunday Beginners Meeting and your Chair for this meeting. Thank you all for taking time out of your calendar and choosing to show up in service to the Fellowship. May you all get back double in prosperity and good will what you give.

**Welcome.** To start off I would like to invite any and all GSRs and GSR alternates who are new to our Committee to prosperously **introduce yourselves** by **first name, meeting and location**, so we can give you a special welcome. Consider yourself new if this is your first or second GSRC meeting.

**One new GSR Alternate introduced herself.**

Thank you all for speaking up and for being here today. Please note that everyone is invited to attend a 20-minute **new GSR and member-at-large greeting session** at the end of our meeting, where you can ask any questions you have about our committee or world service, or get feedback on issues your

group needs help with.

**Chair's Message.** Today we have 3 important pieces of work for our focus:

- The first is a brief review of a summary of responses we received on our survey last November and December, asking for your feedback on what our priorities might be moving forward. You all should have received the summary in pdf format along with the agenda by email, but just in case, I'll put it in the chat so you can download it now. In alignment with your feedback, we will be looking for volunteers to serve as speaker-seekers to help share experience, wisdom and hope with our growing international communities, and form working groups to further the other priorities you have identified.
- Secondly, I am extremely happy that we are shifting our focus back to what our Committee can do to support your groups and by extension, all UA members, and away from the conflict which has consumed so much of our attention over the past 2 years. We had 15 people attend the 1st meeting of our Working Group with the goal of offering trainings for UA members in service leadership positions. We'll hear a report from them today and encourage anyone here interested to attend their next meeting.

And as much as I would like to announce that the rift of the past 2 years at the World Service level has been healed, we're not there yet. This was highlighted to me last week in conversations with some of you about the sad reality that, as things stand, holding a World Service Conference without increasing the split in our leadership is simply not possible. And as much as I would love to keep our focus entirely on how we can expand our efforts to support our groups and growing membership, I also believe that the World Service Conference Planning Committee and our General Service Board Trustees, old and new, need our support and leadership to help move us beyond our current impasse and into a new, re-unified UA. To that end, the 2nd order of business is to consider a motion to draft a membership-wide petition for the disagreeing parties to come together and resolve our differences, ill will, and misunderstandings through mediation.

- The third item up for consideration is "Do we re-establish our GSRC website?" The overwhelming response from the survey was that re-establishing our website is a high priority for discussion and voting.

Last of all, after the close of the meeting, we will spend a few minutes revisiting the topic of how groups can for the moment keep their group from being delisted by the current Board, related to 7th Tradition language in particular.

**Feedback** If you have input or feedback that you would like to convey to us about the GSR Committee, please feel free to reach out to me individually, or send an email to [gsrcommittee4ua@gmail.com](mailto:gsrcommittee4ua@gmail.com)

**III. Roll Call** - 41 UA members were present, including:

30 GSRs and 2 GSR alternates from 7 different countries.

Countries represented: Ireland, Iran, Brazil, Canada, Spain, Ukraine, United States

2 WSC-Elected Trustees and 7 Members-at-large

**IV. Reports**

**See Addenda at the end of these Minutes for Reports.**

## **V. New Business**

### **A. Review of survey.**

### **B. Election of International Speaker Co-Coordinators**

Olga nominated by Shari Lynn; seconded by Debora.

Missy self-nominated; seconded by Debora.

**Missy (GSR Wed 7:30 PM Sherman Oaks) elected as International Speaker Co-Coordinator for 1 year**

**Olga elected as International Speaker Co-Coordinator for 1 year - contingent on her being elected as GSR Alternate for a UA group**

**Elected by a vote of Acclamation**

### **C. Create working groups in accordance with the survey results.**

Two members volunteered in the chat to be part of the working group to provide general support to the groups (e.g. create templates on how to create a Google Drive and how to communicate.)

**D.** The following motion seeks to address our current stalemate and recent history of the current Board refusing previous requests to mediate, by invoking the power of the Group Conscience of our larger fellowship.

**Motion to Create a Petition for UA members to Sign in Support of Spiritually-Based Mediation Without Preconditions, between the General Service Board (GSB) ratified in 2020, the GSR Committee and the UA Trustees elected by WSC 2021 and 2022. The exact details and wording of the proposed petition will be worked out by a Mediation Petition Working Group (to be established at our meeting today).**

*Proposed by Nancy (CA); Seconded by a GSR*

***Passed with substantial unanimity***

*In Favor: 21 (included is one person who voted in the chat). Opposed: 1. Abstain: 5.*

**Background:** Once again we are faced with the question of if, and how, we are going to hold a World Service Conference this year, which many believe is *vital* to the healthy functioning of any 12-Step fellowship. To be effective, the Conference needs to welcome and include the many voices of our membership, and to offer a safe space for us to work together in making decisions that can guide UA forward. Our experience since 2021, however, has shown us that there is presently no effective way to achieve these goals without facing the over-reaching control, or the threat of legal action, by a small group of leaders who claim to hold legal and moral authority over the rest of the Fellowship (including our own GSR Committee, the conference-approved World Service Conference Planning Committee and others who have challenged their leadership).

Remaining in our current state of disunity, animosity and dysfunction at the highest service levels does not serve the well-being of our individual members, nor UA as a whole. Engaging in an expensive and consuming legal fight over the right to self-govern in accordance with the upside triangle of service, is an equally unattractive option, out of alignment with our 1st Tradition of Unity and our stated ideals of encouraging love, understanding and companionship for each other.

Mediation without preconditions, on the other hand, supported by the voice of the larger fellowship,

that allows all sides to be heard in a respectful manner *is* in alignment with the upsidedown triangle, 1st Tradition of Unity; Concept for World Service 9, which includes the principle of compromise; and the words “*talk to each other, reason things out with someone else*” that we hear repeated at the end of almost every UA meeting.

**E. Mediation Petition Working Group.** The suggested meeting date and time for our first working group meeting is Saturday, February 18, 2023, at 2:30 pm EST. Six members volunteered to serve on this working group either in the chat or after the meeting.

**F. Motion to reactivate the GSRC Website.**

Rationale: We need a place to post important notices such as the Mediation Petition, and we need a place to post our GSR Committee Minutes so the UA Fellowship can view them.

*Proposed and seconded by GSRs.*

***Passed by vote of Acclamation***

**2:30 pm EST - Motion to extend meeting by 10 minutes.**

*Proposed and seconded by GSRs.*

**Passed by vote of acclamation.**

**2:40 pm EST - Motion to extend meeting by 5 minutes.**

*Proposed and seconded by GSRs.*

**Passed by vote of acclamation.**

**VI. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

*Proposed and seconded by GSRs*

**The meeting closed at 2:47 PM with the Serenity Prayer.**

**After our meeting today, we had:**

- Q&A for new GSRs and GSR Alternates and Members-at-large.
- Open shares on questions and concerns from others.

*These minutes were prepared by Debora G, Secretary, and David O, Co-Secretary.*

**Addenda**  
**Reports**

**I. Treasurer Report**

*Opening Balance from January 8, 2023* \$ 597.36

*Balance as of February 12, 2023* \$ 597.36

Email questions to David O at [uagsrct@gmail.com](mailto:uagsrct@gmail.com).

**II. Report from GSRC Website Subcommittee and Webmaster.** No report for this month since the subcommittee did not meet and is waiting for direction from the GSRC before resuming activities.

**III. Group Inventory Subcommittee Report** - No report since the subcommittee did not meet.

**IV. Bylaws, Concepts and Charter Subcommittee Report:** No report for this month since the subcommittee did not meet.

**V. Leadership Training Working Group Report.**

I'm Debora, GSR for the Step and Speaker meeting. I'm pleased to report on the Leadership Training Working Group.

We met on January 29, 2023, at 1 pm EST, and the meeting opened with the Prayer for a Trusted Servant.

15 UA members attended, including 11 GSRs, 2 WSC-Elected Trustees and 2 Members-at-large. Thank you to all of you who attended!

We had a great discussion on the goals of the Working Group. 11 people shared their ideas of what they hoped the Working Group would accomplish. There were several ideas expressed, which all fit into two overarching goals:

1. Training servant leaders so they could serve well in UA in accordance with the Steps, Traditions and Concepts for World Service.
2. Providing leadership training tools to help members recover from underearning so that they could provide improved service in their work environments and in their relationships with friends and family.

We are currently reading the AA Concept for World Service 9 written by Bill W, which includes a well-known article that Bill wrote for the Grapevine on leadership in AA. We will discuss this article at our next meeting. We will also soon be reading the Concept 9 full versions of two other large 12 Step programs.

Our next meeting is on Zoom, one week from today, on February 19, at 2:30 pm EST.

All UA members are welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending and were not at our last meeting, please put your name in the chat and include your contact information if we don't already have it. Thank you.

**VI. GSRC International Speaker Coordinator Announcement:** No announcement for this month

**VII. WSC Planning Committee (WSCPC) Report By the Chair.**

The WSC PC Meeting took place via Zoom, on Sunday, February 5th, from 1:30-2:30 PM EST.

7 members in attendance

Topic I. UAWSC.ORG Website

Set up a website working group to meet within the week to:

1. Confirm all WSC 2022 information removed;
2. Confirm that Mission Statement and previous WSC Minutes to go up on the website;
3. Members to review the website prior to group meeting and bring any concerns or changes to the working group;
4. Intention to relaunch the website at this meeting

Topic II. WSC 2023

Discussed the possibility of a 2023 WSC.

Decision made to postpone the topic for the time being.

Next WSC Planning Committee Meeting – Sunday, March 5th at 1:30 EST, 10:30

PST.

Please email any questions to: [uawscservice@gmail.com](mailto:uawscservice@gmail.com).

**VIII. WSC-Approved Literature Committee Report**

The next WSC Literature Committee meeting is Sunday, February 19, 2023, at 12:30 pm EST. All are welcome to attend.

We have 5 pieces of literature we want to bring to the next WSC, including the Big Book of UA recovery stories. The email address to send stories is [uabigbook@gmail.com](mailto:uabigbook@gmail.com). We have almost 20 stories.

We continue to work on translation projects.

If you are interested in attending the next meeting or becoming a member of the WSC Literature Committee, contact Shari Lynn K at [nannybythehour@gmail.com](mailto:nannybythehour@gmail.com). Send an email to [uabigbook@gmail.com](mailto:uabigbook@gmail.com) if you would like to share your story in the UA Big Book of recovery stories.

**IX. WSC-Approved Phone & Tech Committee report by Jessica.**

The Committee has not met yet. It needs more members. The WSC-Elected Trustees are looking to support the actions of the PTC. It will include service concerning the [weareallua.org](http://weareallua.org) website.

**X. Report from WSC-Elected Trustees.** Report from Jessica, Chair.

Our focus has been on facilitating recovery - that's our primary purpose. We have a Finance Committee that has met twice. Their goal is to get budgets from the committees that will be voted on at the World Service Conference, so that the Board will take direction from the UA groups on how donations are spent. We are working on getting the PTC and Unity Committee going again. We have been studying the Traditions and Concepts of World Service every other week, so we can serve based on our own recovery. The [weareallua.org](http://weareallua.org) website is up and running. The group meeting list is posted there. Literature is being added to the website and is organized in categories - Literature being developed by the WSC Literature Committee, WSC-Approved literature and other literature that has been in common use, but is not yet WSC-Approved.