

Minutes for the GSR Committee Meeting (Approved)
Sunday, August 13, 2023

1:00 - 2:30 pm EDT

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

The meeting opened with 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!*

The 12 Traditions were read by a GSR.

The Zoom HouseKeeping Guidelines were read by a Trustee.

Volunteer for Timekeeper: GSR.

I. Reading and Approval of July 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Abbreviated reading of the Meeting Minutes for **July 9, 2023** by **Secretary (Debora)**

Motion to approve the **July 9, 2023** Minutes as emailed to the GSRC and read.

Proposed by Fred; Seconded by Susy

Passed by vote of acclamation.

II. Roll Call

Bluesky timer was not working, so Debora, GSRC Secretary, wrote down the names and positions of all members and read them outloud so members could confirm that they were included in the roll call.

There were 37 Members in attendance at the meeting, including:

28 GSRs

4 GSR Alternates

2 WSC Trustees

2 interpreters

1 member-at-large

III. Welcoming Notes by GSR Committee Co-Chair, Dwight

Hello everyone, my name is **Dwight, GSR for the Spiritual Marketing for Coaches and Consultants Group** and your Co-Chair for this meeting, sharing that position with Fred from Santa Cruz.

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, your location and group**, so we can give you a special welcome. Consider yourself new if this is your first or second GSRC meeting. ***One new GSR 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.

We're just a few months out from the World Conference, and we have plenty of things to be proud of. But we have lingering challenges also in our quest to unite our fellowship. It won't be done quickly. It *will* be done as long as we don't give in to the negative forces at play in our program.

Let's be clear. We are fighting spiritual battles personally and as a fellowship. So, keep in mind the meaning of fellowship as we conduct this afternoon's meeting. A fellowship is a "friendly relationship; a companionship." Ask yourself, are you acting like a member of a fellowship?

With that in mind...

Today, we have an amendment to vote on and several topics of concern to discuss. If we have time, we'll look at a sample Rotation of Leadership Chart that may facilitate service work fulfillment in the future. Let's get to it!

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, Fred or Debora, or send an email to gsrccommittee4ua@gmail.com

IV. Reports and Announcements.

Please see the Addenda for the reports and announcements:

V. Unfinished Business.

Motion to Amend Motion to Approve Suggested Duties and Qualifications of the UA GSRs, which was passed at the WSC 2021.

(Since this motion was approved by the GSRC, it will be recommended for placement on the Agenda for the WSC 2023)

Proposed by Shari Lynn; seconded by Mark B

Friendly amendments were proposed by Arden, Mark, Rich and Debora, and they were accepted by Shari Lynn

The Motion was passed by vote of acclamation.

The amendment is indicated in blue font.

Following Are the Suggested Duties and Qualifications of the UA GSRs:

These duties and qualifications are *suggested only* and per the 4th Tradition, each group is autonomous and may establish the duties and qualifications for its GSR per its group conscience.

- **A GSR represents a UA Group or Intergroup. A Group is defined as a meeting or a group of meetings that shares one business meeting. A UA Group is represented by one GSR. An Intergroup provides service and coordinates events for multiple Groups in a particular geographic area. Each Intergroup is represented by one GSR.**
- **Each Group or Intergroup may also have a GSR Alternate who attends meetings and World Service Conferences when their GSR is not available. A GSR has one vote for each voting item at the World Service Conference and at the GSR Committee meetings, even if the GSR represents more than one Group.**
- **While we don't recommend representation of more than one group, a GSR may represent up to two groups (including one intergroup). However, if the GSR represents two groups, they need to disclose to both groups that they are representing two groups. In the event that both groups give the GSR different guidance on how to vote on a motion or an election, since the GSR gets only one vote, they are entrusted to decide to vote their personal conscience per Concept 3, which can include abstention from voting on that matter at the World Service Conference and at the GSR Committee meetings.**
- **Represents a UA Group or Intergroup whose meetings he/she/they regularly attends.**
- **Is actively working the Steps and practicing the Tools in UA. Has completed at least UA's Steps One through Five with a UA Sponsor.**
- **Practices kindness and consideration in words and actions.**
- **Has a working knowledge of the UA 12 Traditions, and the GSR will have a working knowledge of the UA 12 Concepts of World Service, as approved by the UA World Service Conference.**
- **Has demonstrated a consistent commitment of service in UA.**
- **Has 90 days solvency (solvency being self-defined.)**
- **Attends GSR Committee monthly meetings.**
- **Attends General Service Board (GSB) monthly meetings and/or reads the current GSB meeting Minutes.**
- **Attends or sends a GSR Alternate to a World Service Conference during their service term.**
- **Makes reports to their Group(s), including significant items from the World Service Conferences, GSR Committee Meetings and GSB Meetings.**
- **Collects information, concerns and feedback from their Group(s) to bring to the GSR Committee and the World Service Conferences.**

- Serves for a 1 to 2 year term.
- Observes the principle of rotation of leadership by serving for no more than six years as GSR for their Group and then rotating out of the position for at least two years before returning to serve as GSR for that same Group.
- Is not already acting as a GSR for another UA meeting Group or Intergroup.
- Is not a Trustee of the UA General Service Board.
- To ensure effective leadership, each GSR has the Right of Decision as guided by their Higher Power in their voting at the GSR Committee Meetings and at the World Service Conference, per Concept for World Service Number 3. (i.e. the GSRs need not go back to their groups in order to vote on new motions at the WSC and GSR Committee Meetings or to vote differently than their groups' directions if presented with significant amendments or information.)

VI. New Business.

A. Topics of Concern Discussion.

Dwight read the [Topics of Concern 2023 related to the UA groups and the GSRC's proposed responses](#), which have been grouped in categories. Then we discussed and voted on responses to the first four topics.

B. Motion to extend the meeting by five minutes.

Proposed by Shari Lynn; seconded by Suzette.

Motion passed by vote of acclamation.

VII. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Proposed by Kirk; Seconded by GSR

Passed by vote of acclamation.

The meeting closed with the "We" version of the Serenity Prayer at 2:50 pm ET.

After the meeting, there was a **new GSR and member-at-large greeting session.**

The Minutes were prepared by Debora G, GSR Committee Secretary.

Addenda to the Minutes
Reports for GSR Committee Meeting, August 13, 2023

I. Treasurer Report.

Opening balance on July 11 was \$561.36

There was one expense of \$30.00 for printing cost reimbursement to the secretary, which had been approved in our spending plan.

Currently as of August 13, 2023, the amount in our account is \$531.36.

The GSR Committee is not accepting donations at this time.

II. Report from GSRC Website Subcommittee.

The GSRC Website subcommittee met on the 9th of August, with 4 members present,

The Subcommittee agreed on the following:

- to check weblinks that need fixing and contact Jessica to update them on the weareallua.org site.
- new tab to be added on uagsrc.org website with a link to the UA intergroups.
- Co-webmaster to get secondary authorization, if possible, to more quickly log in and make upcoming meeting date updates to support webmaster in this role.
- to amend the section on our website re: petition for mediation. Thank members who signed and a click here for results, updates and what's next.

Next meeting proposed for 6th September 7.30pm ET

III. Group Support Subcommittee Report.

Hi Everyone,

Thank you for the opportunity to present the report for the Group Support Subcommittee as a member of that Subcommittee.

The purpose of our Subcommittee is to provide resources to strengthen existing groups and facilitate groups just starting up.

Three members are in our GSRC Group Support Subcommittee - two GSRs and one member-at-large.

We worked on a Rotation of Leadership Chart at the request of two UA groups. It is on the Agenda for our meeting today. It is a simple but powerful tool for business chairs and other officers. It lists all of the officers' names, positions, position requirements and their actual terms.

Our subcommittee has been meeting by email. We have not yet had a meeting and are hoping to do so soon.

We'd love to have more members. Please put your name in the chat and email address or tel number if you are interested in serving on our subcommittee or email gsrccommittee4ua@gmail.com.

IV. **Group Inventory Subcommittee Report.** No report - subcommittee didn't meet.

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

VI. **Leadership Training Working Group Report.**

I'm a member of the Leadership Training Working Group, and am pleased to provide the report.

The purpose of the Leadership Training Working Group is to plan a workshop or workshop series for trusted servants and members in our fellowship based on UA Traditions, Concepts for World Service, Voting and Procedural Guidelines (passed at the 2018 & 2020 UA World Service Conferences), Sponsorship and Step 12. Working Group Members are also building their leadership skills as they prepare the workshop.

The Leadership Training working group did not meet since our last GSR Committee meeting. Our next meeting will be held in August. We will focus on how we can help groups to have serene business meetings and recovery meetings. We will be putting this all in writing.

All are welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending our meetings and are not already on our contact list, please put your name and email address in the chat and let us know that you would like to attend the Leadership Training Working Group meetings, or email us at gsrccommittee4ua@gmail.com.

VII. **Mediation Petition Working Group Report.**

Hi. I'm Fred A, co-chair of our GSRC and a member of our Mediation Petition Working Group.

Since our Group's last formal meeting at the end of June, our members worked together to draft a letter updating the 572 UA members who signed the petition in support of our World Service bodies mediating their differences. I'd like to quickly read an excerpt from the letter as an update to you all:

"We emailed the GSB Inc. two letters regarding the Petition, and have not heard back yet as to whether they would engage in mediation. Our GSR Committee Co-Chair, Dwight, was hoping to speak at the GSB Inc.'s May 2023 public meeting, but was left in a waiting room for the whole time. In addition, the Q & A was canceled by the GSB for their May and June 2023 public meetings for "scheduling purposes." So we are sad to report that it appears that the GSB is not interested in mediating or entering into discussion with those outside their circle of influence at this time.

*One of the stated goals of the petition was to bring our leadership together so we could hold a single, unified World Service Conference. This remains our vision for the UA Fellowship. In the meantime we are moving forward with an affordable and inclusive **World Service Conference 2023**, to be held in accordance with our Traditions, Steps and By-Laws, open to the participation of all UA members from around the world.*

*Consider this letter your invitation to attend the World Service Conference 2023 being planned by the UA WSC-Approved Planning Committee, in collaboration with the UA GSR Committee. The conference will be held via Zoom the **first two weekends in November on November 4 & 5 and November 11 & 12.**”*

The letter has not gone out yet, pending confirmation from the World Service Conference Planning Committee of the fee structure for the World Service Conference taking place in November. The letter will hopefully go out this week.

In an effort to leverage the work of our Working Group and the GSRC to restore unity to UA, members of our Working Group have reached out to a couple of trusted and respected UA members who have served as Trustees in the past, and who have expressed a willingness to encourage the current GSB to mediate with our Committee and the WSC-Elected Trustees. We will keep you posted on the fruits of those efforts, and welcome your input in the meantime.

Thank you to everyone for your prayers, participation and on-going support!

VIII. WSC Planning Committee (WSCPC) Report presented by the Chair of the WSCPC.

The WSC Planning Committee met on Sunday August 6, 2023, 1:30 pm ET

The meeting was held on Zoom

Total members present 7, including 1 WSC Elected Trustee.

The treasury report was given.

1. Motion was presented and passed to link the WSC Planning Committee Treasury account to the WSC Elected Trustee's 501(c)(3).
2. The Spending Plan for WSC 2023 was presented, discussed and approved.
3. WSC 2023 Theme was passed– Prosperity Through Global Unity and Serenity. (Utilized from last year)
4. The Graphic for WSC 2023 is being updated by a workgroup which will present the images for consideration at the next WSC PC meeting.
5. The need for a Treasurer was present for WSC 2023. GSR Fred would consider the position with a co-treasurer. We are actively looking for a co-treasurer.
6. Topics of Concern – were forwarded for distribution to the WSC-Approved Committees.
7. WSC 2023 Workshop Planning working group confirmed with a Chair heading up the

effort.

Members are encouraged to join us in planning and executing this year's WSC 2023. Our next meeting will be Sunday, August 20th at 1:30 EDT.

IX. WSC-Approved Literature Committee Report presented by the Committee Vice Chair Shari Lynn K.

Our next literature meeting will be on August 20, 2023, at 10 am Pacific, 1 pm Eastern, 1 am China, 8 pm Russia, and 8:30 pm Iran on [Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/781716404](https://zoom.us/j/781716404)

Passcode: **491822**

Please [contact Danny at lucidanny@gmail.com](mailto:lucidanny@gmail.com) if you have any trouble connecting. All are welcome. Together we create UA Literature. The more the members present the more we will get done.

Emails to be of service to the Literature Committee:

wscliterature@gmail.com General information (note this is only checked once a week so if you need to reach us sooner email nannybythehour@gmail.com put in subject UA literature.)

uabigbook@gmail.com To submit a story or help with editing.

dailyreaderproject@gmail.com

Current finished Literature:

This is literature that is finalized and ready for sharing, (keep in mind once this literature passes we will send them off to have them professionally done, but we have 10 stories ready now and the rest will be released when published on Amazon.) The Literature committee needs to earn money to produce and edit our literature (Tradition 7 we are fully self-supporting).

- The Artist 8.0
- UA Marketing and Self-Promoting
- The UA Big book stories (10 ready by WSC, 33 stories when published).
- Vision of Earning Wellness and Wholeness (needs conference approval)

22 stories from the Big Book are awaiting final editing. Debora is working with Andrew's sponsees to complete his story. We would like to ask to pass the basket around for Literature, for finalizing current and past literature.

Literature that is in final draft editing:

- Newcomers and Beginners Booklet.
- Surrendering to the UA process

Ongoing Literature projects:

- Hiding and Biting Booklet because the project needs a new project chair).

We continue to work on ensuring all current and past Conference approved or Committee approved UA Literature not yet available on the main website (such as Sponsorship Pamphlet, Prosperiteam Materials and minutes from Literature Committee Meetings) are available to all members of UA either through Weareallua.org, or www.9thtradition.org, the GSRC website or the WSC Literature google drive. For example from 01 - Introduction to the ProsperiTeam Accountability Group:

“Recovery and/or abstinence from underearning is taking focused, effective actions to earn, and to refrain from behaviors that undermine those actions while working towards and maintaining a sustainable income that supports a solvent, **balanced** and dignified life.”

Contact Shari Lynn K or Nannybythehour@gmail.com to help with this and/or at wsliterature@gmail.com if you would like to coordinate our overall translations subcommittee, or if you are a member/GSR of a non-english speaking intergroup and wish to join our Translations Subcommittee. We are also beginning audio recordings of all UA Literature for visually impaired members, as well as exploring audio as well as print versions of translations into Portuguese, Spanish, Farsi, Ukrainian and Russian. If there is a language you desire assistance with please contact wsliterature@gmail.com. We are also seeking to gather all UA created literature from languages other than English to be translated into English for the entire fellowship to benefit from, such as the Iranian Literature we recently discovered exists. If you know of any literature that has been created by any groups, Intergroups or countries please pass it on to us.

X. Report from WSC-Elected Trustees.

Since our last report, we have had our 6 private meetings and our public meeting.

The main item passed at our last Public trustee meeting was the motion that defined the ways in which the Trustees can share resources with WSC approved committees in UA. We are happy to share that, according to the guidelines set forth in that motion, we have established a savings account to link to the WSC Paypal account so that the WSC Planning Committee will be handling the payments for WSC 2023 under the UA WSC Elected Trustee's EIN Account.

In addition to continuing focus on the APP, our primary focus has been on taking the actions we are now able to take now that we have our 501c3 status. Our “qualification” by TechSoup came through. This means we are now in the process of transitioning accounts for Zoom and Google to discounted and free (respectively).

We will be changing our email addresses to @weareallua.org so that we will no longer be using the WSC account that was loaned to us temporarily. We will keep everyone posted on the progress.

Very much related to this, we are looking at a realistic budget so that we can perform the

tasks needed to be in service to recovery in this fellowship. At our next meeting we will be voting on an interim budget to take us to WSC 2023. That will be available for preview as part of the agenda for the next meeting starting tomorrow evening.

Because of our 501c3 status, there will be a reduction in costs for some of our regular expenses. The additional expenses we are including are for a special worker, accounting software (discounted through techsoup) and a professional to help transition to our new Google account.

As always, we are practicing and working the 12 concepts to keep our service to the fellowship grounded in recovery from underearning, which is our primary purpose.