

2009 SLAA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING REPORT Submitted by NY Intergroup Delegate Ayana P.

Delegate Attendance: France, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Vancouver, Montreal, U.K., Ireland, NY, Seattle, Austin, Dallas, L.A., Orange County (CA), Boston, Philadelphia, San Diego, Sacramento, Santa Cruz, Tampa, Kentucky, Nebraska, Tucson

Literature Discussed/ Approved

Romantic Obsession Pamphlet Motion: Pamphlet Passed

Comments: Some people still wanted revisions but majority of voters wanted to see it distributed to the fellowship

People of Color Pamphlet Motion: Pamphlet did not Pass

Comments: Some people felt language needed to be changed i.e. Racism exists between people of color. Others felt it their ethnicity was excluded.
1st vote 18 for; 21 against; 1 abstention
2nd vote took place after minority opinion was heard.
19 for; 20 against; 1 abstention.
Very close vote, however does not pass.

Tools Booklet Item For Discussion

Writing team is collecting more group conscience prior to next year's ABM
Mostly very positive feedback from delegates.

Triggering Language and Behaviors in Meetings Pamphlet Item For Discussion

Mostly positive feedback given from delegates. This pamphlet will likely appear as a literature to be approved next year at the ABM.

Anorexia Flyer for Institutions

Comments: It was suggested that it be part of the pamphlet "To the professional".
It is nice to have a new anorexia flyer. It is valuable in other settings, not just rehab/ prison.
Some people liked the anorexia pamphlet and felt there was a need for more literature for professionals. Intergroups can make their own choices as to what may be effective.
We have to make a decision about the anorexia part of Sex and Love Addiction or is it separate?

Motions

Merger Motion

Motion: To approach SCA and SAA with the intention to merge all 3 fellowships.

Comments: SAA has twice the amount of annual contributions compared to SLAA.
The number of SAA meetings have increased by 25% in recent years.
Both SCA and SAA are open to having discussion but not to a merger

Motion failed by large majority. As a result of this failed motion, the **Conference Intergroup Committee** was re-activated this year. It has plans to send a delegate to the Intergroup Convention that includes delegates from SCA and SAA.

Translation Committee Motion

Motion: To create a Conference Committee responsible for handling translation requests for SLAA literature.

French, Spanish, Russian, and Danish requests just this year
Non English speaking SLAA members are underserved by the current translating process. A committee could attract more energized service people, it would be more dedicated to the task.

Motion passed with large majority approval.

Proposed Preamble Change Motion

Spirituality would be listed as resource No. 4 and Service would be switched to resource No. 5.
Motion did not pass. Overwhelming number of delegates voted against this change.

Comment made by 1 delegate: "If, using the proposed logic, we were to rank the resources in order of their importance then spirituality would actually come first."

Proposed Conference Diversity Committee Preamble Change Motion

Change the second-to-last sentence of the S.L.A.A. Preamble from: "*We find a common denominator in our obsessive/compulsive patterns which renders any personal differences of sexual or gender orientation irrelevant*" to the following: "*We find a common denominator in our obsessive/compulsive patterns, honoring any personal differences of sexual orientation or gender identity.*" (Conference Diversity Committee)

Comments: Strong feelings pro and against.
When LGBT people come to SLAA they already carry a great deal of shame, hearing that their personal differences are irrelevant only adds to that shame.
The proposed change alters the whole meaning of the preamble which emphasizes are commonality.
Some Intergroups were firmly against it.
The Conference Diversity Committee was unanimous in its support of it.

1st Vote: 15-17-5
2nd Vote: 22-14-4

Friendly Amendment Offered And Accepted by Originator

Amended Motion
"*We find a common denominator in our obsessive/compulsive patterns, accepting any personal differences of sexual orientation or gender identity.*"

Motion Tabled by Originator

This Motion will most likely reappear at next year's ABM.

Items That Were Discussed

The South Florida Intergroup, by unanimous vote, asks that S.L.A.A. increase the number of publication channels (PSA's, web, radio, print) used to make approved S.L.A.A. content suitable for outreach

Comments: Boston area Intergroup sends postcards to therapists/ counselors.

Amazon bookselling of the SLAA Big Book would sharply reduce literature profits - SLAA would make only \$3-4 per book much less than current average. Craigslist is used for outreach by some Intergroups. 211 directory is used by others.

Board of Trustees Report

- 4 remaining Board members did double duty after 2 board members (including the Board chair Dan A.) stepped down.
- All tax filings were submitted for '06, '07, '08. Attorney was hired to address copyright issues that are surfacing. Denmark, Taiwan wanting to translate various SLAA texts.
- S/H on literature has to increase due to rising costs.
- Danish Documentary filmmaker working on film on love addiction with the cooperation of the Board.

FWS Office Report

- Office staff currently is the equivalent of 2 full-time workers.
- FWS has a new less expensive local pamphlet printing vendor.
- Step 4, 5, 6, 7 chips now available.

FWS Financial Status Report

- FWS is still catching up with state tax returns.
- Received \$74,300 in total contributions over last 8 months. \$63,800 was the amount expected.
- Large donors have disappeared.
- General Manager, Linda Hamilton, works an average of 80 hours weekly. This must change, as she can not continue at this rate.

FWS is encouraging automatic monthly contributions by SLAA members as a means of 7th Tradition support. Requesting an increase in 7th Tradition basket donations. FWS budget for next year will be smaller.

The following Committees are particularly active this year:

Anorexia Committee

- Anorexia 1-2-3 draft is nearly 90% complete. Next year it will probably be discussed at the ABM with a goal of conference approval in 2010.
- Anorexia Recovery Tools pamphlet is evolving. Draft currently includes written sections on 7 tools.
- Anorexia Recovery Plan pamphlet has just recently begun to write a first draft. New members to the writing team are welcomed at this time.
- Generated 47 sharing sheets for the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions book.
- Contact them at anorexia@slaafws.org.

Healthy Relationships Committee

- Working on a booklet that focuses on themes such as; maintaining healthy relationships; dating within the program; good and bad reasons to end a relationship.
- Currently collecting written shares from members in healthy relationships that will be included in a booklet.
- 7 telemeetings will be held beginning September 12th at 12pm EST focusing on "The Characteristics of Healthy Partners" See PDF on this website.
- Contact them at healthyrelationships@slaafws.org.

Literature Committee

Following projects are in progress:

- Daily Meditation Book
- Measuring and Celebrating Progress
- Contact them at literature@slaafws.org.

Prison Outreach Committee

- Attempting to give Intergroups resources to do 12th Step work in prisons
- Contact them at prison_outreach@slaafws.org

Public Information Committee

- Encouraging members wanting to write public information literature
- Contact them at public_information@slaafws.org.

Steps and Traditions Committee

- Have received a total of 338 sharing sheets for the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions book.
- They would like an additional 175 shares from the fellowship.
- Contact them at steps&traditions@slaafws.org.

FELLOWSHIP WIDE SERVICES EXPENSES LAST 8 MONTHS: WHERE YOUR 7TH TRADITION MONEY GOES

