

WSBC 2023 Report: Lee Ann S.

25-29 April 2023 / Albuquerque NM

Tuesday April 25

This was a travel day. I arrived in ABQ after two delayed flights, but still in good time to join CJI and R7 fellows for a meal and take in the All About Conference presentation. This helpful orientation session included a walkthrough from Central Mike Monitor Mike, questions from delegates and responses from trustees. It explained how the business meetings would be conducted.

Wednesday April 26

Started the day early with a session on the two Literature motions being presented at conference:

1. Revision of the current OA Pamphlet **A Common Solution** - expanding to over 50 diverse stories
2. Revision of **Sponsorship in OA: Guiding Others into Recovery**.

Then the rest of the day was Committee day. Each delegate is assigned to one of 7 committees to determine what work would be done by the committee during the following 12 months leading to next WSBC. My assignment is to the Young People's Committee. This is a new Committee formed to expand our meetings to attract young people to our fellowship. Our goals include expanding resources and retention of Young People in the OA Fellowship. We spent the full day getting to know one another, exploring our priorities, and deciding what work we want to do as a team. This YP Committee supports the virtual Young People's region. We will not duplicate efforts if the PI/PO or 12th Step Within is doing related work, but will collaborate with the goal of increasing retention of YP ages 18-30.

Another highlight of the day was the Meet the Maker session after dinner. At this session delegates have the opportunity to ask questions of the people who put forward the motions we'd be considering. There were breakout sessions across the room and people discussed a number of motions.

Thursday April 27

We started the day with a Region 7 breakfast table and nice fellowship across the regional delegation.

This morning was **Business Meeting I** when Committee and trustee reports were reviewed and we heard presentations from the 6 trustee candidates. Elections: Friday in Business Meeting III.

Business Meeting II - Literature motion for the revised Diverse Voices pamphlet was adopted.

Literature motion for the revised Sponsorship in OA: Guiding Others Into Recovery pamphlet, planned to replace the prior 2 pamphlets (A Guide for Sponsors and Sponsoring Through the 12

Steps) was defeated. This means the motion will be sent back for rework. Delegates were asked to complete a survey on why the motion was not approved, and I felt the survey was very thorough and hopefully provide guidance to the literature committee as they revise the pamphlet. It was helpful to have it clarified that the pamphlet is intended to represent the many diverse voices (other than straight white middle-aged or older women) outside of the typical membership. .

Friday April 28

Business Meeting III - Trustee elections - All 6 elected.

Motions adopted: A, B (unanimous), C, K (which was pulled from Consent Agenda then adopted).

E, F, I were amended 3x and returned to Reference Subcommittee.

Four of the Bylaws motions were withdrawn due to time (5, 6, 7, 9)

Business Meeting IV

Motions adopted clarified that we would talk about 'specific' needs rather than 'special' needs as more inclusive and less negative. There was a lot of positive discussion about being inclusive and about the importance of language to do so. I personally found this extremely interesting and instructive.

Saturday April 29

Business Meeting V -

Reworked Motion I came back from Reference and was adopted. Motion U was also adopted.

Bylaws amendments 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 were withdrawn due to time limitations.

Much discussion on Motion T, which was the motion to remove all AA literature, with the exception of the AA Big Book, as OA Conference-approved literature. (Currently there are a dozen pieces of AA literature that are designated as OA Conference-approved.) The motion was amended to include only the AA 12/12 along with the AA Big Book as OA Conference-approved literature. The Reference Committee worked diligently to find a way forward with this motion, but in the end it was brought to a vote and defeated (68 for, 90 against).