

- When Alcoholics Anonymous was young, they considered managing a chain of hospitals because it seemed like an ideal way to carry their message to newcomers (a). After consideration, they decided against going into business, because it would have been divisive and a distraction. Tradition 6 was created so members could learn from that experience. Is the viability of Nar-Anon as a publishing company distracting us from our focus on helping people with their recovery?
- 1

Nar-Anon WSO is registered state and federal as the clearinghouse for the published and printed matter - which distributes CAL (WSC approval). WSO is the sole publishing agent for the fellowship - literature which supports our primary purpose. The financial support of WSO comes primarily from the sale of CAL and donations from our members, groups, areas, regions, and NSOs. This is in accordance with our seventh tradition.

- There is a trend throughout most of the world to convert from paper to screens (b). Newspapers are closing. Books sales are declining. School books are converting to digital. Might the division within Nar-Anon regarding electronic literature, including screen sharing be another example of this shift? Does Tradition 4 allow groups to adapt to this change at their own pace?
- 2

Tradition Four allows groups to be autonomous as long as that autonomy does not affect other groups. Anyone can attend a web-based group from anywhere in the world.

- One of the primary concerns expressed in Bulletin 4 is the need to protect the Nar-Anon copyrights. An example sometimes mentioned in conversation is the impact on Alcoholics Anonymous when they failed to renew their copyright on their Big Book (c). Is all Nar-Anon CAL registered with the appropriate copyright office?
- 3

We are currently working to ensure all Nar-Anon literature, trademark and logos are copyrighted - it is a work in progress.

- Five of the six paragraphs in Board Bulletin 4 discuss the financial impact of change. One paragraph mentions the newcomer. Is this consistent with Tradition 5?
- 4

Maintaining the financial stability of NFGH, Inc. is critical to ensuring Nar-Anon will be available for the newcomer and all members in the future.

5 Copyrighted material- as a fellowship do we not all own the copyrighted materials? If it is NFG Inc that owns the copyright what exactly is stopping them from granting member's permission to screen share readings from the Blue book as we would share a book in a face to face meeting? From the research we have conducted NFG Inc has the power to grant members to share copyrighted materials under 'fair usage'. This would be an accordance with our Tradition Five - by welcoming and comfort to families of addicts. So why can't NFG Inc allow screen sharing of copyrighted materials for the use in meetings only?

The fellowship voted to allow no more than 25% of conference-approved recovery literature to appear on websites in order to protect our intellectual property. Only a small percentage of newcomers continue to attend meetings year after year. It will become very difficult to maintain copyright protection if many individuals are given free access to the Blue Booklet, which is one of our main publications. Under US Copyright law the more of a document used, the less likely it can be considered fair use. Also under US Copyright law, uses that reduce the earning capacity of a document are also less likely to be considered fair use.

6 During the past 18 - 24 months NFG Inc saw a drop in sales and donations. The worldwide pandemic affected everyone's income in some way. Whilst difficult to prove (based on UK sales of literature) we do not believe that sales were impacted by virtual meetings or the Bulletin 3, in fact if anything our sales increased. Whilst we understand the need for world wide sales and donations to be stable there could be ways to manage this. Having a digital group pack including the readings from the blue book could be an option, this would encourage groups to purchase these, for usage even if NFG Inc feels it can not grant fair use of the Blue book as in question one. Are there any plans to produce a digital pack for groups to purchase?

Developing a digital group pack including the readings from the blue book could not be screen shared based on the Copyright and Trademark policy in the GWS.

7 Who should we (the UK region) contact in regard to our Printing Contract? We have had no response when contacting WSO, we don't know if our contract needs renewing.

The current member of the responsible committee who will be renewing the print contract - please email: cathy@nar-anon.org directly. As there have been changes in the contract - they will need to review and submit information needed and once received - a contract can be done

8 Does anyone know if the PDF of the latest version of the Blue Book is available to those with printing contracts?

Yes - most with contracts - have been sent the latest pdf version of the Blue Booklet. WSO will be reviewing the process for the latest conference approved material to be sent in a timely manner - which is based on when we (WSO) receive the final version.

9 With provision that legal counsel confirms that copyright protection extends to Onscreen Displays, does the BoT accept that a WSC 2023 motion allowing for a purchased e-reader version of the Little Blue Book (LBB) may be screen shared in service to the virtual group participants and to assist the chairperson in accordance with all Suggested Meeting Formats and LBB page numbers as listed in the GLS

The BOT does not have any input on any motions submitted by regions. The motions are mailed to the conference committee, which might send the emails to the region regarding their submitted motions.

10 Does the BoT accept that such a motion will not be ruled Out of Order and the final decision to vote the motion up or down rests with the fellowship via the WSC 2023 group conscience vote?

The only motions called out of order at WSC are motions which break the 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts of Service, Nar-Anon policy, by-laws, and federal or state laws.

11 Please clarify the intention behind the language "without written permission" in the GWS, pages 26-27, Copyright and Trademark Information?

The intent is that permission should be requested and if granted, permission will be in writing.

12 Newcomers, being our most welcomed member(s) in the room, are given literature to keep and take home. They are also handed literature to read in our meetings. Would you please explain the difference between showing them our vital readings on a hand-out in a physical room and showing them our vital readings on a screen?

The difference between screen sharing and passing around a physical handout is that when you pass the physical handout, you no longer possess it. Screen sharing is possessed by everyone who you are sharing your screen with.

13 Is screen-sharing an image of a reading card, originally purchased from Nar-Anon.org, and then removing image at end of meeting a "retransmission"? And if so, then isn't handing out a reading card, originally purchased from Nar-Anon.org, during a live meeting and then putting reading card away at end of meeting also a "retransmission"?

Retransmission is "the action or process of broadcasting data electronically from one individual to another"

14 Does the BoT understand that when we share our printed written literature, whether virtually or in person, with newcomers many of them when they see it they decide/desire to buy their own literature?

subjective question...

15 Our Delegate, who attended the last WSC, reports not get an email with the Bulletin #4. Please clarify why?

Marie sent and will reply

16 Can the floor motions from 2021 that were moved to the 2023 WSC be made known to the membership as soon as possible so that we avoid duplication with other motions ?

email WSC committee

17 An online search of US Copyright Office public database files for 1978 and forward reveals only 2 entries (results attached) under Nar-Anon and none under variations of NFGH, Incorporated. Is there any reason to believe more evidence would be found given a more in-depth search of Copyright Office records for the claim(s) of copyright on any other items of CAL?

Combined with other responses

18 How could members screen share the entirety of the Nar-Anon Blue Booklet, like we do the Blue Reading cards, in order to serve our primary purpose to welcome newcomers and carry the message in accordance with Tradition 5 ?

Combined with other responses

19 Why were Board Bulletins 3 and 4 issued without fellowship review ?

Bulletins are neither CAL nor CAT. They are informational only. They are not policy, so fellowship review was not required/does not apply

20 Can regions with a printing and distribution contract receive approval for an amendment to publish and sell eBooks for the growth of the fellowship?

Copyright owner, who is NFGH, Inc., only can submit e-books to a platform

21 Would the Board approve of an ad hoc committee, including delegates, to explore and project future revenues based on the sales of paper and / or electronic literature ?

Budget and finance committee currently analyzes such revenue year over year. We cannot project literature revenues as it is dependent on CAL approval at WSC, the cost of materials, etc.

22 Members are interested in starting some form of podcast or online blog. Are there plans for guidance and support through the existing World Service committee structure for this, or similar projects ?

Tradition 11 does not allow for blogs or podcast; this was explored during WSC 2018

23 How can the delegates access the entire 2021 WSC audio recording ?

Address question to WSC Committee, previous attempts at upload resulted in performance issues.

24 Will the fellowship be able to see the entire correspondence exchanged between the Attorney and BoT regarding Copyright Rules?

No, the bulletin contained the attorney's response

25 Will Alternate Delegates have a voice at the 2023 WSC as described and allowed in the GWS? See GWS, page 16, Conference Rules of Order, #1 .

They do have a voice per the Standing Rules contained in the GWS

26 Historically, how did the Trustees become voters in the WSC?

The limited number of delegates at the conferences. Example 2008-2012 16 delegates, would have made decions for the worldwide fellowship.

- 27 Would the Board support formation of an international ad hoc committee to prepare a report on the international application of copyright law protections?

Yes.

- 28 What does the fellowship need to do for meetings to be able to undisputedly screen share CAL during meetings ?

Combined with other responses

- 29 How is our worldwide fellowship to most effectively share our readings with newcomers for full participation in on-line recovery meetings? Suggested alternatives to handing out blue booklets with newcomer packets or reading cards in live meetings [e.g. mail packets] are not immediately helpful and don't create the sense of welcome and unity which screen sharing provides to hear, read, and see simultaneously .

The groups and/or regions can direct newcomers to the World Service website for purchasing literature prior to the meeting. The meeting can also add a link to the website sharing the Steps, Traditions, Concepts, Mission and Vision Statement(s) and a link to the Newcomer's Page

- 30 I subscribe to Netflix and I get to watch the films Netflix has online without a copyright violation. Libraries check out electronic literature. How can we establish a process like the library or Netflix to check out literature at an appropriate price which permits members to read or listen to literature and speaker tapes?

Combined with other responses - additional notes from Linda

- 31 Will the BOT support a near term, economically feasible plan, made in consultation with the regions, to self-produce and self-distribute at an appreciable profit its electronic publications ?

The BOT is researching ebook platforms to make available to our worldwide fellowship. For example, counties with Amazon Kindle have all of the books available in US available for sale on their platform only in English. The next step is to make the translations availabe.

- 32 When will the number of eBook publications available for sale by Nar-Anon in Spanish, Farsi, Russian and other languages equal the number of eBook publications in English ?

Solving the eBook translation distribution and royalty system issues is the first step. The Board has made it a priority to resolve this by 2023 WSCnf so translated eBook sales can begin to equal the availability and volume of English eBook publications

- 33 Does the Board represent the fellowship or the corporation? How does the Board resolve a conflict between the interests of the fellowship and the corporation?

The Board represents both the fellowship and the corporation. In the case of a conflict between interests of the fellowship and the corporation, it is the Board's responsibility to find solutions that guard both interests. The Board considers the legal impact, Nar-Anon's principles and the By-Laws in resolving any conflict.

- 34** How can groups, through their regions, request an additional, extraordinary World Service Conference, as necessary for urgent matters ?

The feasibility of an extraordinary WSC was discussed at WSC 2021....Mh to add more re: more support needed to plan, etc.

- 35** Can the Nar-Anon bylaws be revised to better align with the Nar-Anon Principles ?

The bylaws is a legal document written to comply with the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law of the State of California. A review and revision of by-laws is currently underway by an ad hoc Board committee.