

MINUTES FOR ABC STUDY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

April 15, 2025, 5:00 PM Eastern US Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99370360615?pwd=cTNYZVNEd0ZFaWFEeCtPZEZCS2F5UT09>

Zoom 1 Meeting ID: 993 7036 0615

Passcode: 182011

- I. OPEN MEETING (5:00 to 5:05)
 - a. Chair of the Month (Charlie) opens meeting
 - b. Serenity Prayer
 - c. Roll Call of Subcommittee Members X=Present; □=Absent)

x	Bill D		Josh W	x	Marcus H	x	William G-B
x	Carole C	x	Kaz S	x	Marion M		
x	Charlie H	x	Kelle J	x	Mary Jo L		
	Dove H		Ken R	x	Pam M		
x	Jim M		Laura L		Sue V		

- d. Introduction of Guests

- II. REVIEW AGENDA (5:05 to 5:10)
 - a. Motions to Amend Agenda
 - b. Motion to Approve Agenda William/Pam Acclaim
 - c. Section Timer: Mary Jo
 - d. Share Timer 2:00: William G-B
 - e. Note Taker? Charlie

- III. READINGS: Excerpts from the [ACA 12 Traditions and Meditations](#) (Traditions 1, 2, & 12)

- IV. MINUTES:
 - a. ASSESS STATUS OF RECENT MEETING MINUTES; APPROVE AS READY. (5:11 to 5:15) Chair note: I request tabling consideration of minutes until April 22. I have been jammed, and we need to do a more extensive catch-up on this.
 - b. UPDATED HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM APRIL 1, 8 AND 15 (Resource for reading & reference; no action on this is needed)
 - i. 4/15: Approved sending of resource document regarding fellowship charter
 - ii. 4/15: Examined questions relating to conflict of interest and Conference composition4/1 Meeting: Unanimously voted to suspend rule (for one meeting) that dedicates 75 percent of time to Charter composition
 - iii. 4/8 Meeting: There was extended discussion on whether to submit a fellowship comparison document as a supplementary supporting document for the ABC delegate handbook. Bill agreed to finalize a scaled-back comparison document, and Charlie stated his intention to include time on the 4/15 agenda.

- iv. 4/8 Meeting: Continued work on assessment of Section 3 issues (Conference Composition). Explored questions about whether a maximum percentage of Conference votes should be assigned to trustees, paid staff, etc., if these categories are granted voting rights.
- v. 4/1 Meeting: Reviewed and revised ABC report line by line and voted unanimously to approve.
- vi. Slack after 4/1: After an additional period to review minor cleanup edits, the report was sent to the ABC/QDM Committee on April 5, the deadline for submitting ABC reports.

V. OLD OR TIME-ESSENTIAL BUSINESS

- a. Committee chair request to reflect on Traditions 1, 2, and 12 (5:15 to 5:20)
- b. Motion to Submit Comparison Document as an ABC Resource Document (5:20-5:35)

Background: The ABC Study report for the May 2025 ABC referenced a comparison document prepared by the committee in 2023. Bill requested a supplemental resource document to be filed as background with a list of other fellowships' positions regarding Conference composition.

Motion by Bill, seconded by Marion: To submit the previously reviewed findings on the composition sections of eight Fellowship conference charters to the upcoming Annual Business Conference as a supplemental resource. The information will be presented in a matrix summary format and included as a supplement to the ABC Study Group report. Vote 2-6-3.

MINORITY OPINION: BILL BELIEVES FAILURE TO DO THIS SHOWS A LACK OF TRANSPARENCY.

Motion (Kaz/William): Create a resource document listing which fellowships we've reviewed, plus links to the relevant websites: Passes 8-3, with minority opinion heard.

- c. Resume Drafting Conference Charter
 - i. Discussed questions related to conflict of interest. Supported the position that WSO conflict of interest standards should be adapted to Conference voting. This was the final discussion of a grid of questions to assess specific positions related to Conference composition.
- d. Sustainability Study report (6:20-6:25)

- e. Closing and closing prayer (6:25-6:30)

VI. NO ACTION TAKEN

- f. Discuss Charlie's [Report from 2017](#) [is linked] Note: The chair suggests tabling as the time urgency of this is not clear.
- g. Consideration of the ABC Study and/or Sustainability Study group as separate committee(s), possibly to involve direct discussion w/ Sustainability Study, and with ABC/QDM Committee. Note: The chair suggests tabling until after the May 2025 ABC. Reviewing the committee structure in relation to the various ABC studies is now part of our goals for 2025-26.

- h. What does the ABC (Charter) Study group mean by use of the terms "Conference decision" or "Conference final vote"? Do either or both of those terms mean the Fellowship **as a whole** has no role whatsoever in the intended process?
- i. POSSIBLE motion: to include a description in the Adult Children of Alcoholics charter to spell out the meaning of the inverted pyramid, a (possibly revised) graphic of the ACA inverted pyramid, and how, going forward, the internal service structure works in ACA in accordance with Tradition 9. PAM: motion made and seconded on Slack that you folks insist is an acceptable place to conduct committee business. NOT a "possible" motion; an actual motion made and seconded.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

VII. ADJOURNMENT (6 : 30) Motion: **Seconded:**

ACA Serenity Prayer