

MINUTES FOR ABC STUDY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

April 29, 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 | | Kelle J | x | Mary Jo L | | |
| | Dove H | | Ken R | x | Pam M | | |
| x | Jim M | x | Laura L | | Sue V | | |

- d. Introduction of Guests

- II. REVIEW AGENDA AND DO READINGS (5:05 to 5:13)

- a. Motions to Amend Agenda
 - b. Motion to Approve Agenda Bill/William
 - c. Section Timer: William G-B
 - d. Share Timer 2:00: Bill D.
 - e. Note Taker? Charlie

- III. READINGS: Excerpts from the [ACA 12 Traditions and Meditations](#) (Traditions 1, 2, & 12), followed by one minute of quiet group reflection

- IV. MINUTES:

- a. (5:13 to 5:25) Review and approval of multiple minutes. Or decide to table and do a mass review/approval at our next meeting. :

**Draft April 22 minutes: Approval moved and seconded by Kaz/Mary Jo.
Approved without objection**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RHEQb0-hi_SoqRclafkICv4UENmGwFok/edit

**Draft April 15 minutes: Approval moved and seconded by Bill/Mary Jo.
Approved without objection**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1X-LFawTnPSvih9sjvqB3n0g-hmp3_cTd/edit

**Draft April 8 minutes: Approval moved and seconded by Kaz/William.
Approved without objection**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VXFRKwz6_TcHJDrkqlr82-ogAdEuJNySKRubrHLI54s/edit?tab=t.0

**Draft April 1 minutes: Approval moved and seconded by William / Bill.
Approved without objection**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NnzWBN-uqeXbGFI-asToHwTrsihgZghE/edit>

b. UPDATED HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY OF RECENT ACTIONS: APRIL 1, 8, 15, and 22 (Resource for reading & reference; no action on this is needed)

- i. 4/22: Lengthy discussion of possible resource document, culminating in a motion to table.
- ii. 4/22: Discussion of naming a chair for May, with no conclusion, and a clarification by several members they are not available for that service role.
- iii. 4/15: Approved sending of resource document regarding fellowship charter
- iv. 4/15: Examined questions relating to conflict of interest and Conference composition
- v. 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.
- vi. 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.
4/1 Meeting: Unanimously voted to suspend rule (for one meeting) that dedicates 75 percent of time to Charter composition
- vii. 4/1 Meeting: Reviewed and revised ABC report line by line and voted unanimously to approve.
- viii. Slack: 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 BUSINESS OR TIME-ESSENTIAL BUSINESS

a. Choice of chair for May, and first dibs on June and July (5:25-5:40) **Charlie offered to serve as chair in May. Mary Jo volunteered for June and Kaz volunteered for July. Approved with no objections..**

b. Summary of positions taken regarding Section 3 (Composition) (5:40-6:05)

- i. Discussion of reactions, initial conclusions
- ii. Are there any topics the group wants to reopen for a second look?
- iii. Request for approval of list, including summary of Substantial Unanimity for, Substantial Unanimity Against, and No Substantial Unanimity

(Resource for discussion: Updated document from the recent discussions on Conference Composition

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1s7HATRX8CDFR0M8MqMt6aKAOkDLr0eln/e>

dit) Charlie led a review of the findings. after questions, affirmed that the charter study has committed in its 2025 ABC report to bringing a discussion about composition before the Conference at the first possible date. Charlie promised to add a review of the 2025 ABC report to the next agenda, so that we could all be aligned on our commitments to the Conference.

- c. Begin discussion of 2025 ABC presentation (6:05-6:20) Tabled due to faulty premise—there is no charter study presentation at the ABC.
 - i. Thoughts on nature of 2025 ABC report, and who might like to help present it? Perhaps two presenters?
 - ii. First discussion of how we present Composition section process at ABC, including how to describe our planned request of the Conference at the following business meeting?
 - iii. Summarize unresolved matters for next meeting
- d. **Sustainability Study report (6:20-6:25)** Marion provided a briefing. Sustainability is preparing to present at ABC—two motions: duration and frequency, and to formalize what the Conference is permitted to do at non ABC sessions.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS (NO ACTION TAKEN ON 4/29/25. Recommend tabling until time is available in May)**

- a. First thoughts on next steps/new business? (Almost certainly tabled until next meeting)
- b. Review our commitments for the year between 2025 and 2026 ABC's, as stated in the 2025 ABC report.
- c. Survey where we stand on overall drafting process and determine next steps for research/writing
 - i. Do we have a Charter outline, and do we need to review it?
 - ii. Do we want to enact a practice of reviewing completed work each time we achieve a major milestone, just to see how things hold together?
 - iii. Specifically, based on our very in-depth parsing of Composition, do our findings affect our perceptions of "Purpose of the Conference"?
 - iv. Preferred next 1-2 sections?
 - v. Review items listed "Tabled until after ABC"
 - vi. Other?
 - vii. Draft a general new business calendar for the next 2-4 months
- d. Closing and closing prayer (6:25-6:30)

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

ACA Serenity Prayer

Tabled until after ABC

- a. Discuss Charlie's [Report from 2017](#) [is linked] **Note: The chair suggests tabling as the time urgency of this is not clear.**
- b. 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.**

- c. 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?

- d. 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.