

Central Ohio OA members: Please consider whether you think the following items should be brought to the WSBC. Email your response to [chair@centralohiooa.org](mailto:chair@centralohiooa.org) by **February 18 2023**. Each member should send ONE response.

## Agenda Questionnaire Summary

World Service Business Conference 2023



Proposal	Submitted By	Motion	Intent/Rationale	Bring to WSBC? Yes/No
A	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to create the following policy.</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous in all official documents and communications avoid, where possible, the use of acronyms and abbreviations. The acronym for Overeaters Anonymous, "OA," will be exempt from this policy.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To ensure that United States-centric language acronyms and abbreviations are reduced in written documents.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Translations and interpretation are made more difficult when these abbreviation techniques are used. This policy is needed to reduce this difficulty in as many ways as possible.</p>	
B	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to create the following public communications policy and rescind WSBC Policies 2008b, 2008c, 2008d, and 2008e.</p> <p>It is proposed that Overeaters Anonymous adopt a Public Communications Policy. The purpose of the public communications policy is to assist Overeaters Anonymous to continue to grow the Fellowship and to carry its message to the compulsive eater who still suffers.</p> <p>We fulfill our primary purpose most effectively by attraction and cooperation—not promotion or affiliation.</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous is attracting when it tells people why we are, what we are, what we do, and how; we let them know that we are available if and when help is needed. We state the facts, which are communicated via all available forms of public media, always stressing personal anonymity at the public level. Overeaters Anonymous is cooperating when it works with others, rather than alone.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To replace the four existing policies (2008b, 2008c, 2008d, 2008e) with new, concise language as well as the reference to the existing guidelines that were written after the original policy was adopted.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This reflects the more recent application of the original policy from 2008.</p>	

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		<p>Working with others broadens our scope and contacts, and we reach more of those in need.</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous and registered service bodies may purchase ads or send press releases and public service announcements, including those in relation to special events and promotions, in all forms of public media, provided personal anonymity is maintained for members of Overeaters Anonymous (contact names on media communication can include any special worker associated with public communications, as well as the first names of individual members).</p> <p>For more information on the implementation of this policy, see Overeaters Anonymous board-approved guidelines.</p>		
C	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend WSBC Policy 1978 by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>It was adopted that:  <del>Showing just cause, literature groups of OA from countries other than the United States</del> <u>Service bodies may obtain permission to translate and/or reprint print translated OA literature from OA Board of Trustees through the established licensing process. Reprinted Translated printed literature should shall conform to existing Conference-OA-approved literature. In no case should OA-approved material be amended or modified.</u></p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To update the language to reflect the current policy for reprinting and translating literature.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> While guidelines, licenses, and directives are in place for how to obtain permission to translate or print literature, the policy needs to be updated to reflect current practice.</p>	
D	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend WSBC Policy 1979e by striking as follows:</p> <p>It was adopted:  To ensure personal anonymity be maintained, the online version of the Final World Service Business Conference Report will only include first names and last initials in minutes and reports. The contact section of the report, which includes names, <del>addresses</del>, phone numbers, and email addresses of delegates will be emailed to all service</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To remove the requirement that addresses be included as they are no longer part of the listing.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Because all correspondence from the WSO/WSBC is done electronically, street/ mailing addresses are no longer needed. This further protects member anonymity.</p>	

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		bodies and delegates following Conference. "For Use Within OA Only" will appear at the top of this list.		
E	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend WSBC Policy 1982c by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p><del>A definition of open and closed groups was adopted: Open group is a group which is open to anyone. Closed group is a group that is open to anyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively, or anyone who thinks they may have a problem with compulsive overeating. This includes newcomers.</del></p> <p><u>Group definitions of Overeaters Anonymous will be as follows:</u></p> <p><u>Open Meeting: Open to OA members and non-OA visitors. All meetings are considered open unless otherwise indicated.</u></p> <p><u>Members Meeting: Open only to those who desire to stop eating compulsively. This includes newcomers. (OA members and others who think they have a problem with food.)</u></p> <p><u>Focus Meeting: Designed for individuals who may feel they can more readily identify with fellow members of Overeaters Anonymous with similar attributes. For a full list, see the oa.org Find a Meeting page. All OA members are welcome at these meetings.</u></p> <p><u>Topic Meeting: Designed for a specific subject matter or format. For a full list, see the oa.org Find a Meeting page. All OA members are welcome at these meetings.</u></p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To change the definition of open and closed meetings to make them easier to understand; to add the definition of focus meeting and topic meeting so they exist in the policy manual.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> By changing the definition of the meetings, it may reduce the confusion the term "closed" has caused over the years. Adding the reference to focus and topic meetings places all terms used for meetings in a single location and clarifies their purpose.</p>	
F	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p>	<p>Move to amend WSBC Policy 1992a by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>The following policy statement was adopted:</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To ensure the Unity with Diversity policy uses gender neutral language so all are included.</p>	

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	<p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p><b>“Unity with Diversity” Policy</b>  THE FELLOWSHIP of Overeaters Anonymous encourages and promotes acceptance and inclusivity. All are welcome to join OA and are not excluded because of race, creed, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other attribute. We welcome all who share our compulsion. Everyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively is welcome in Overeaters Anonymous.</p> <p>THE FELLOWSHIP recognizes the existence of individual approaches and different structured concepts to working our Twelve Step program of recovery; that the Fellowship is united by our disease and our common purpose; and that individual differences in approaches to recovery within our Fellowship need not divide us.</p> <p>THE FELLOWSHIP respects the rights of members, groups, and service bodies to follow a particular concept of recovery within Overeaters Anonymous and encourages each member, group, and service body to respect those rights as they extend the hand of fellowship to those who still suffer.</p> <p>THE FELLOWSHIP encourages each duly registered group and service body to affirm and maintain the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous by allowing any member to share <del>his or her</del> <b>their</b> experience, strength, and hope in meetings regardless of the individual approach or specific concept that member may follow. Duly registered is defined as being in full compliance with Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V.</p>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> To keep the policy inclusive for all.</p>	
<p><b>G</b></p>	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee  Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to rescind WSBC Policy 1992e.</p> <p><del>It was adopted that:  The World Service Board of Trustees incorporates the job description of the general service trustee on the trustee application form.</del></p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To remove the policy because there is no longer a general service trustee position.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> With the changes made in 2022, there is no longer a general service trustee position.</p>	

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H	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 1993c by striking and inserting as follows:  It was adopted that: <del>World Service Business Conference 2012 adopt a policy that</del> The World Service Office shall <del>mail an annual letter to</del> <u>contact</u> all service bodies <u>annually</u> requesting contributions <u>for the Delegate Support Fund</u> to help <del>fund</del> delegates to attend World Service Business Conferences. Delegates selected to receive <del>this</del> <u>funding</u> will be those from intergroups and service boards demonstrating need. Priority will be given to those intergroups and service boards that have not previously sent delegates to Conference.	<b>Intent:</b> To replace the word “mail” with “contact,” which allows the World Service Office to determine the best way to send the annual appeal. Add the name of the fund to the policy and update the reference to our current use of service bodies rather than spell out each level of service eligible for funding. <b>Rationale:</b> All correspondence from the WSO is electronic. The contributions may still be sent through the mail, by bank transfer, or through the online payment method.	
I	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 1994b by striking and inserting as follows:  It was adopted that: The Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous recognizes the existence of <del>special-focus meetings, (i.e., gay and lesbian meetings, women's meetings, men's meetings, 100-pounders, maintainers, old timers, and people of various cultural backgrounds, etc. (for a full list, see the oa.org Find a Meeting page)</del> which have been formed of persons who can more readily identify with fellow <del>OAers</del> <u>members of Overeaters Anonymous</u> with similar attributes. According to the Traditions, bylaws, and policies of OA, the only requirement for membership is the desire to stop eating compulsively.; <del>therefore, We</del> <u>we</u> ask each person attending a meeting to respect and consider the group conscience. <del>All registered meetings shall</del> <u>of the whole Fellowship and</u> welcome and give a voice to any person who has the desire to stop eating compulsively.	<b>Intent:</b> To remove the list of special-focus topics from the policies and cite the location where they are available. To remind all members that it is the group conscience of the Fellowship that we be respectful of members under all circumstances at all OA meetings and events. <b>Rationale:</b> The Board of Trustees determines the topics. This motion directs the user to where the list is maintained, rather than having to continually update this policy.	
J	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2001 by striking and inserting as follows:  It was adopted that:	<b>Intent:</b> To remove unnecessary reference to an old registration fee. <b>Rationale:</b> Listing the price from more than ten years ago is unnecessary. The	

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		There will continue to be a delegate registration fee ( <del>\$65 for WSBC 2000</del> ) adjusted as deemed necessary by the <u>BOT Board of Trustees</u> . A portion of this fee is nonrefundable based on cost.	registration fee is set by the Board of Trustees.	
K	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2009a.  <del>It was adopted that: The World Service Office provides website templates for optional use by OA service bodies and groups in creating or revising their websites.</del>	<b>Intent:</b> To remove the requirement for the WSO to manage website templates since it is has never done this. <b>Rationale:</b> The WSO has never maintained templates. The previous Web/Tech Committee created and shared templates and offered support for service bodies starting in 2009, and the committee was disbanded in 2017. Service bodies have developed websites on their own for many years.	
L	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2009b and add to WSBC Policy 2019c.  <del>WSBC Policy 2009b It was adopted that: December 12 (12/12) each year be designated as OA's International Twelfth Step Within Day, the purpose of which will be to encourage OA service bodies, meetings, and individual members to reach out to those within the Fellowship who are still suffering from compulsive eating behaviors.</del>  WSBC Policy 2019c The following policy statement was adopted: The World Service Business Conference established the following annual events.  <b>OA Birthday:</b> The third full weekend (Friday included) of January as the annual celebration of the January 19, 1960 founding of Overeaters Anonymous.  <b>Unity Day:</b> The last Saturday in February in even years and the last Sunday in February in odd years at 11:30 a.m. local time.	<b>Intent:</b> To keep the location of OA events in a single policy making it easier to index and find. <b>Rationale:</b> Moving the information to WSBC Policy 2019c reduces time when looking for this information.	

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		<p><b>Sponsorship Day:</b> The third full weekend (Friday included) in August.</p> <p><b>International Day Experiencing Abstinence (IDEA):</b> The third full weekend (Friday included) in November.</p> <p><b>Twelfth Step Within Day:</b> December 12 (12/12) each year be designated as OA's International Twelfth Step Within Day, the purpose of which will be to encourage OA service bodies, meetings, and individual members to reach out to those within the Fellowship who are still suffering from compulsive eating behaviors.</p>		
M	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend WSBC Policy 2013 by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>The following policy statement was adopted: <b>Statement on Individual Member Donations to the OA World Service Office</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A member may contribute up to <del>US\$5,000</del> <u>US\$7,500</u> per year to the general fund, up to <del>US\$5,000</del> <u>US\$7,500</u> per year to any special fund, and up to <del>US\$5,000</del> <u>US\$7,500</u> per year to honor the memory of a deceased member.</li> <li>2) OA, Inc. may accept a bequest from the will of a deceased member in cash or cash equivalent. There is no limit on the amount of such a bequest.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To increase the maximum contribution from a member in each year.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The US\$5,000 cap was set ten years ago. Increasing the amount is prudent and reasonable when calculated at the standard cost of living.</p>	
N	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend WSBC Policy 2014b by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>It was adopted that: <b>Meetings of Delegates</b> Annual Business Conference Oral committee and workshop reports shall be made on the final day of the Business Conference when time allows. Written reports are due in the World Service Office <del>two</del> <u>four</u> weeks following the close of the Business Conference.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To bring the policy into current practice.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> For the past three years, the WSBC committees have met outside of the actual Conference schedule. This change allows the committee extra time to make plans and submit their report.</p>	

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O	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2017a.  The following policy statement was adopted: <del>Overeaters Anonymous will establish an ad hoc committee to consider the implementation/ registration of a Spanish language service board (SLSB). The Spanish speaking Fellowship will work with the BOT in order to establish how the SLSB will fit into the OA service structure.</del>	<b>Intent:</b> To remove the policy which has been fulfilled. <b>Rationale:</b> The Spanish language service board has been established, is recognized, and is giving service. The directive to establish the service board has been fulfilled.	
P	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2018a.  It was adopted that: <del>The World Service Business Conference 2018 direct the Board of Trustees of Overeaters Anonymous to establish an ad hoc committee to research and delineate the best means and costs of improving, upgrading, and expanding the electronic "front door" of OA for the purpose of defining a budgetary amount for a "Welcome to OA" capital campaign. OA's "front door" includes the oa.org website data systems and could include the development of a geolocator and real-time Find a Meeting app for smartphones, or other means revealed to be useful in the research.</del>	<b>Intent:</b> To remove the policy which has been fulfilled. <b>Rationale:</b> The OA website was updated, and the BOT budget allowances have been made to ensure the website is reviewed and updated on a more routine basis.	
Q	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2019b by striking as follows:  It was adopted to: Apply for and, if approved, accept non-profit status from Google so that we may gain access to Google's Custom Search feature at no cost.	<b>Intent:</b> To remove the Google Custom search portion which has been fulfilled. <b>Rationale:</b> The Google Custom Search directive was completed so this portion of the policy is no longer needed.	
R	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2021 by striking as follows:  The following policy statement was adopted: <b>Diverse Voices Policy</b> When developing new and updating existing literature published by Overeaters Anonymous World Service, the Literature committees will make a concerted effort to include stories and/or quotes from members of diverse populations that are underrepresented in OA (i.e., reflect a	<b>Intent:</b> To remove the list of specifics from the policy. While each of the items listed meet the requirements of diversity, they also exclude many other possible categories that are equally important. <b>Rationale:</b> With any need to be inclusive, there is the risk of the policy becoming exclusive of other equally important groups. Delegation to our staff, trustees, and	

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		variety of compulsive food behaviors, belief systems, nationalities, genders, sexual orientations, indigenous peoples, and peoples of color, etc.).	committee members to determine the range of underrepresented members, and to do their best to fill the policy needs, is to practice trust.	
S	SoAZ IG, Region 3 Randi F.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2008f by striking and inserting as follows:  It was adopted that: The Overeaters Anonymous World Service Office (WSO) sell recovery chips marked with years from 1 to <del>20, 25, 30, 35, 40</del> <u>50</u> .	<b>Intent:</b> To celebrate long-term abstinence and length of time in program for all OA members and to show newcomers that the program works. To demonstrate that the Fellowship recognizes and values all members' abstinence. <b>Rationale:</b> In 2022 my sponsee celebrated forty-six years of abstinence and I could find no chip for her in or outside of OA. Although we do this program twenty-four-hours at a time, a tangible anniversary token from the Fellowship demonstrates a respect for all members equally. It is something that can be looked at, felt, and reflected upon by the OA member and that member's group(s) and sponsees. OA is sixty-three years old; mature enough to have an anniversary coin for each year.	
T	Board of Trustees Karen B.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2010a by striking and inserting as follows:  The following policy statement was adopted: <b>Statement on Approved Literature</b> In accordance with our Traditions, we suggest that OA groups maintain unity and honor our Traditions by using, selling, and displaying only approved books and pamphlets at their meetings. This includes OA Conference- and board-approved literature; <u>the current edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous AA Conference approved books, booklets, and all future editions thereof, with original edition copyright 2010 or earlier;</u> and locally produced OA literature. Locally produced literature must be developed according to the <i>OA Guidelines for Locally Produced Literature</i> , and should be	<b>Intent:</b> To focus OA members on literature developed for and adopted by OA by removing all AA books from the Approved Literature List with the sole exception of the Big Book. <b>Rationale:</b> This motion was submitted in order to discuss the issue of what is and what should be considered OA literature. What individual members choose to read to support their personal recovery is not in question here. Many members read all kinds of books on a variety of topics that enhance their recovery. As compulsive eaters in recovery through the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, the message we share at	

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		used with the greatest discretion. Local literature should be considered temporary and discontinued when OA literature approved for general use is available to cover the topic.	meetings is that OA works. It's time to discuss what that means to OA as a whole—through discussion and debate at the World Service Business Conference.	
U	Board of Trustees Beth B.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2010a by inserting as follows:  The following policy statement was adopted: <b>Statement on Approved Literature</b> In accordance with our Traditions, we suggest that OA groups maintain unity and honor our Traditions by using, selling, and displaying only approved books and pamphlets at their meetings. This includes OA Conference- and board-approved literature; AA Conference-approved books, booklets, and all future editions thereof, with original edition copyright 2010 or earlier; and locally produced OA literature. <u>Although groups may choose to focus on only one piece of OA-approved literature, individuals and groups are encouraged to use any and all OA-approved literature.</u> Locally produced literature must be developed according to the <i>OA Guidelines for Locally Produced Literature</i> , and should be used with the greatest discretion. Local literature should be considered temporary and discontinued when OA literature approved for general use is available to cover the topic.	<b>Intent:</b> To encourage the use of all OA Conference- and board-approved literature in OA meetings. <b>Rationale:</b> The OA Fellowship is concerned about meetings that discourage the use of OA literature and belittle it to their members. This policy honors Tradition Three and encourages the use of all OA literature in our meetings to welcome and accept all people, no matter how they work their program.	
V	Virtual Region Claire M.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move that the Board of Trustees investigates and, if appropriate, establishes a digital lending library to serve new and returning members. Access to the lending library will be limited to no more than ninety days per member. Licensed translated literature will be provided through the lending library if the license holder chooses to participate. The Board of Trustees will determine which OA literature will be available through the lending library.	<b>Intent:</b> To provide equal access to the most essential OA literature. Due to the restrictions of copyright infringement and the concerns about screen sharing, this method would allow new members the ability to participate fully in meetings immediately. <b>Rationale:</b> Face-to-face meetings have historically purchased literature to share during the meetings, especially for newcomer meetings. Sharing our literature temporarily with newcomers, returnees, or	

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			for the purpose of public outreach may support recovery and lead to retention of newcomers and returning members. Everyone is given equal access to study OA literature for the time it takes to procure printed or digital literature. Further, limiting the time or literature, if needed, should ensure that we uphold our Seventh Tradition and see minimal impact of funds OA generates from literature sales. Our books are already in public libraries, so clearly a library we control is more protective of our literature and encourages purchasing of literature.	
1	Miami-Dade and the Keys of OA IG, Region 8 Terri M.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Meetings of Delegates, Section 1 – World Service Business Conference, Part b by striking and inserting as follows:  b) Time and Location The Conference shall be held during the month of May or on such dates as the Board of Trustees may determine. The Conference shall be held <del>in the Albuquerque, New Mexico area or at such place as the Board of Trustees may designate</del> <u>as an online hybrid with the board live in Albuquerque and the rest participating through a web-based video teleconferencing service.</u>	<b>Intent:</b> To move the WSBC from a geographical to a virtual location. <b>Rationale:</b> The 2021 and 2022 WSBC demonstrated that such a virtual Conference is possible. The amount of money saved by service bodies and the World Service Office is substantial and frees up funds for better carrying the message. This also makes it possible for more delegates to attend and more service bodies to participate.	
2	WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. & Bob L.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Conference Committees, Section 5 – Disbanding Conference Committees, Part b by striking and inserting as follows:  b) A Conference committee established by an act of the World Service Business Conference; may <u>only</u> be suspended by <del>the Board of Trustees</del> <u>an act of the World Service Business Conference.</u>	<b>Intent:</b> To clarify the procedure for disbanding a committee established by the World Service Business Conference. <b>Rationale:</b> If a committee is inactive, this can be reported by the trustee cochair, but there is no urgency to disband the committee prior to the next Conference.	

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		<p>c) <del>if # such a committee</del> is found not to have been working or meeting outside of WSBC for more than one year. <del>Aa</del> motion to disband the committee shall be placed on the agenda of the next World Service Business Conference <u>by the Board of Trustees</u> for consideration <u>at that World Service Business Conference.</u></p>		
3	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 2 – Composition, Parts b and c by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>a) A group may be formed, as set forth in Article V, Section 1, by two or more persons meeting together, either</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) in the same physical location (land-based);</li> <li>2) through some form of electronic device (virtual);</li> <li>or</li> <li>3) both (hybrid).</li> </ol> <p>b) Groups compose the <del>intergroups and</del> service boards <u>bodies</u> set forth in Article VI hereof.</p> <p>c) Affiliation/Participation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A group may affiliate with only one intergroup or national service board through the registration process.</li> <li>2) Unaffiliated groups that are not ready to form a service body or new groups without any intergroup or national service board in their language may affiliate with an intergroup or national service board that supports groups in their language including translation of OA literature.</li> <li>3) <u>Any Ggroups or service body</u> may <del>also</del> participate in the activities (including voting) of another service body (<del>intergroup, national service board, language service board, special focus service board, and/or region</del>) with their permission.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To make the language consistent with the new structure definitions.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Housekeeping needed to amend the current practice.</p>	
4	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Service Bodies by striking as follows:</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To remove the word “special.”</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The word “special” is defined as better, greater, or otherwise different from</p>	

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	<i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	<p>Service bodies are formed to support the groups in matters the group cannot accomplish on their own. There shall be five types of service bodies to provide services beyond the group level. Service bodies provide support and representation of the groups and intergroups from which they are formed and act as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of OA Service.</p> <p>Service Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Intergroups</li> <li>b) National Service Boards</li> <li>c) Language Service Boards</li> <li>d) <del>Special</del> Focus Service Boards</li> <li>e) Regions</li> </ul>	<p>what is usual. All service boards are equal in worth or value and the use of the word “special” can be seen as unique, either less than or more than other service boards. Removing the word “special” takes away the distinction.</p>	
5	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Service Bodies, Section 2 – Registration, Part a by inserting as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Each service body shall be duly registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous by submitting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3) complete registration information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) intergroups—each affiliated group;</li> <li>ii) national service boards—each affiliated intergroup and group;</li> <li>iii) language service boards—each participating group, intergroup, and/or national service board; and</li> <li>iv) special-focus <u>service</u> boards—each participating group and intergroup.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To correctly identify who may participate with a focus board. <b>Rationale:</b> Intergroups are allowed to participate at other service boards so this change will keep them all equal.</p>	
6	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII – Board of Trustees, Section 2 – Duties and Responsibilities, Part b by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Subject to the limitations of these bylaws, and to the action of the delegates at the Conference, all powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the</li> </ul>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To allow the board to decide where and how the World Service Business Conference will be held. <b>Rationale:</b> The Board of Trustees will oversee making the decision of how the World Service Business Conference will be managed. With the choices of how the</p>	

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		<p>business affairs of the eCorporation shall be controlled by the Board of Trustees. Without prejudice to such general powers but subject to the same limitations, it is hereby expressly declared that the trustees shall have the following powers:</p> <p>4) To designate a <del>place within the United States</del> <u>manner or method</u> for holding <del>of any meeting or</del> meetings of the delegates.</p>	<p>meeting will be conducted, either in person, virtually, or hybrid, the selection of location and digital methods will be left with the board.</p>	
7	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII – Board of Trustees, Section 4 – Qualifications, Part c by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>c) Upon election, each trustee shall make a commitment of:</p> <p>2) Continual recovery including abstinence and maintenance of a healthy body weight throughout the entire term(s) of office. Each person shall be the <u>sole</u> judge of their recovery including abstinence and maintenance of a healthy body weight.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> Abstinence and recovery are a very personal matter. What recovery means for one person may not be remotely close to another person's recovery. Each person should be able to define those terms for themselves.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To be inclusive.</p>	
8	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates, Part b by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>a) Non-delegates who may address the World Service Business Conference shall consist of officers of the Corporation or any parent or subsidiary of the Corporation who are not also trustees, the Conference parliamentarian, trustee nominees, the managing director, the managerial staff of the World Service Office, and interpreters for individual non-English speaking delegates and those with <del>other special</del> <u>additional</u> needs.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To make language more neutral.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> While the term “special needs” may be used, it is considered demeaning by some. “Additional needs” leaves the interpretation of who requires such assistance more open.</p>	
9	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Meetings of Delegates, Section 4 – Notice by striking and inserting as follows:</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To update language to current practice and to be less specific as the meetings can be held in a variety of ways.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To reflect current practice.</p>	

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		<p>Notice of the regular annual Conference and all special meetings of delegates shall be given to each registered service body, unless otherwise instructed by each individual service body, by <del>prepaid mail and/or</del> electronic transmission. <del>Notices shall be deemed to have been given if sent by mail and/or electronic transmission to the delegates representing each service body.</del> Such notice shall be sent no less than sixty days before each meeting, and shall specify the <del>place, day, and hour</del> <u>method and manner</u> of the meeting, and shall state the general nature of the business to be considered at such meeting. <del>The notice of the annual Conference shall designate it as such.</del></p>		
10	<p>WSBC Bylaws Committee Cyndy L. &amp; Bob L.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article XII – Bylaw Amendments, Section 1 – Procedure, Part a by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>Subpart B of these bylaws may be amended as follows:</p> <p>a) Amendments to Subpart B of these bylaws may be proposed by any registered service body, <del>trustee, the Region Chairs Committee, or the</del> <u>any standing or ad hoc Conference Bylaws Committee, or the Board of Trustees</u> and shall be submitted to the chair of the Board of Trustees, postmarked or be date and time stamped through electronic transmission by December 1 before the annual meeting of the Conference. <del>The Board of Trustees may also submit amendments to the bylaws.</del></p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To remove the option for a single individual to submit a motion.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> No individual makes decisions in OA. All motions require the support of a service body to be considered, with this one exception. Removing this position from the list ensures equality of all members.</p>	
11	<p>Oregon OA IG, Region 1 Pat O.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Meetings of Delegates, Section 1 – World Service Business Conference, Part a by inserting as follows:</p> <p>a) Annual Meeting The <del>e</del>Corporation shall sponsor an annual meeting of the delegates of the members, which shall be known as the World Service Business Conference (hereafter may be referred to as the “Conference”). The Conference shall serve as the collective conscience of the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To increase worldwide participation in WSBC for the group conscience of OA as a whole.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Refer to motion for specifics.</p>	

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		<p>b) Time and Location The Conference shall be held during the month of May or on such dates as the Board of Trustees may determine. The Conference shall be held in <u>rotation as follows:</u></p> <p>1) <u>In person</u> in the Albuquerque, New Mexico area or at such place as the Board of Trustees may designate,</p> <p>2) <u>Virtually,</u></p> <p>3) <u>Hybrid with a mix of in person and virtual.</u></p> <p>c) Emergency In the event of an emergency, as determined by the Board of Trustees, the board may call the Conference, or any part of it, by virtual method(s) <u>in years that would normally be in person or hybrid.</u></p>		
12	<p>Board of Trustees Beth B.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates, Part b by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>b) Non-delegates who may address the World Service Business Conference shall consist of officers of the Corporation or any parent or subsidiary of the Corporation who are not also trustees, the Conference parliamentarian, trustee nominees, the managing director, the managerial staff of the World Service Office, and interpreters for individual non-English speaking delegates <del>and those with other special needs.</del> <u>Any delegate eligible to address the WSBC may choose another person to speak for them if they are unable to speak due to communication issues. Service bodies shall provide such a speaker from their delegation.</u></p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To remove language that is seen as pejorative and to provide more inclusive language.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> There are many reasons a person might want someone to speak for them (such as interpretation, illness, injury, disability, or personal emergency), and they should not have to report their personal issues to WSBC for permission to have someone speak for them. A simple form can be devised and be sufficient to allow personal privacy as well as meeting security. If the chosen person is not another delegate, then the speaker/interpreter will not be counted in the quorum or be eligible to vote (no one get two votes). This will give people with communication issues an effective voice per Concept Four – Right of Participation.</p>	
13	<p>Board of Trustees Dora P.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Service Bodies, Section 3 – Affiliation and Participation, Part a by adding as follows:</p> <p>For the purpose of registration and WSBC representation:</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To provide clarification and flexibility for intergroups who wish to affiliate with the NSB's region.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This exception in our service structure creates challenges in represent-</p>	

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		<p>a) An intergroup may affiliate with one national service board if it exists, shall be affiliated with one region, and may participate in one or more language service boards. <u>If the intergroup affiliates with a national service board, that intergroup may choose to affiliate with the national service board's region or choose to remain in the currently assigned region.</u></p>	<p>tation for members who may benefit from belonging to a national service board.</p>	
<p><b>14</b></p>	<p>Region 9 Loudovika P.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Service Bodies, Section 3 – Affiliation and Participation, Part a by adding as follows:</p> <p>For the purpose of registration and WSBC representation:</p> <p>a) An intergroup may affiliate with one national service board if it exists, shall be affiliated with one region, and may participate in one or more language service boards. <u>If an intergroup chooses to affiliate with a national service board, the intergroup shall be affiliated with the national service board's region.</u></p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To maintain unity and linguistic inclusivity in the non-English speaking countries served by both intergroups and national service boards in the evolving new reality. To allow better clarity of the two options of affiliation and participation: Affiliation (geographic) to cover the primary needs within and beyond OA, such as conformity with the country's legal system's requirements, banking, translations, sales, counting for representation; participation for other common needs (virtual).</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Refer to motion for specifics.</p>	
<p><b>15</b></p>	<p>Region 9 Loudovika P.</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates, Part b by striking and inserting as follows:</p> <p>b) Non-delegates who may address the World Service Business Conference shall consist of officers of the Corporation or any parent or subsidiary of the Corporation who are not also trustees, the Conference parliamentarian, trustee nominees, the managing director, the managerial staff of the World Service Office, and interpreters for individual non-English speaking delegates and those with <del>other special</del> <u>additional support</u> needs.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To remove what is considered outdated verbiage, which may be offensive. Disrespectful language can make people feel excluded and is therefore a barrier to participation.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> In many areas of the world, the term “special needs” is now considered an outdated, discriminatory, diminutive, and at times, derogatory term for people with additional support needs due to disability. This was stated several times by a number of different delegates during the debate at WSBC 2022. The motion suggests an alternative wording, which is more inclusive; the term “additional support needs” is not limited to disabled people and</p>	

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			would include anyone who needed support speak at Conference.	
16	Virtual Region Claire M.  <i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i>	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII – Board of Trustees by striking, inserting, and renumbering as follows:  <u>Section 7 – Vacancies Assignment of Trustee Liaison</u> a) <u>After election or appointment of a new trustee, the Board of Trustees will give first consideration for liaison assignment to the region that affirmed the new trustee.</u> b) <u>Should the region affirm multiple candidates, the Board of Trustees will select the liaison from those the region affirmed.</u>  <u>Section 8 – Vacancies</u> a) Vacancies occurring among the trustees may be filled by the Board of Trustees to serve until the conclusion of the next World Service Business Conference. The Board of Trustees shall solicit the names of eligible candidates through the regions. b) Should such vacancy occur within one hundred twenty days prior to Conference, the usual deadlines for the selection of trustee nominees shall be suspended. In this case only, resumes of trustee candidates nominated by the region shall be received by the Board of Trustees at least two weeks prior to the official opening of Conference to be considered for election at that Conference. Regions may affirm the nominations in a manner determined by the region. Copies of these resumes shall be supplied to the delegates by the opening of Conference. c) If the regions are unable to provide applicant(s), then Article VII, Section 7 & 8 applies. d) A vacancy created by action of the Conference delegates shall be filled as stated in Section 7 & 8.	<b>Intent:</b> To ensure the assignment of a trustee to the region who has affirmed them, whenever possible. <b>Rationale:</b> This amendment acknowledges input from the regions and encourages their active recruitment role for new trustees. Region affirmation helps broaden the representation to the Board of Trustees within the new framework.	

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17	<p>Dora P., Trustee Liaison assigned to Region 8</p> <p>Lee R., Trustee Liaison assigned to Region 10</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 2 – Composition by inserting and renumbering as follows:</p> <p>c) Affiliation/Participation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A group may affiliate with only one intergroup or national service board though the registration process.</li> <li>2) Unaffiliated groups that are not ready to form a service body or new groups without any intergroup or national service board in their language may affiliate with an intergroup or national service board that supports groups in their language including translation of OA literature.</li> <li>3) <u>Unaffiliated virtual groups that are not ready to form a service body may affiliate with a geographic region if it is more convenient for them.</u></li> <li>3) 4) Groups may also participate in the activities (including voting) of another service body (intergroup, national service board, language service board, special-focus service board, and/or region) with their permission.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To allow the virtual groups to affiliate with a geographic region.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To allow the virtual groups to have the same rights as other geographic groups to affiliate with whatever region is more convenient for them, whether that is virtual or geographic.</p>	
18	<p>Dora P., Trustee Liaison assigned to Region 8</p> <p>Lee R., Trustee Liaison assigned to Region 10</p> <p><i>Contact WSO for maker's contact information.</i></p>	<p>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Service Bodies, Section 1 – Composition by inserting as follows:</p> <p>Should states/provinces/territories/countries within a region, or service bodies within a state/province/territory/country, or <u>virtual service bodies</u> wish to transfer to a <u>geographic</u> region that is more convenient, the body notifies its current region, the region it would like to join, and the Board of Trustees of its desire to transfer. The BOT then submits a motion to WSBC to amend Subpart B, Article VI, Section 1e of the bylaws.</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To allow virtual intergroups to affiliate with a geographic region.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To allow virtual intergroups to have the autonomy they seek; to have the choice to make this decision for themselves.</p>	