

Dear Esther and Cindy

Hope you are both well.

In my capacity as secretary for the UK/Central Europe Intergroup and as primary UK/Central Europe delegate for GSA World Service Conference, I have been asked, on behalf of our GSA community, to send you a written excerpt from our latest Intergroup Meeting Minutes, documenting the group conscience regarding developments taking place within GSA World Service structure:

"UPDATE FROM CHRIS W, ALTERNATE UK DELEGATE FOR GSA WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE FOLLOWING BOARD MEMBERS, CONFERENCE DELEGATES AND GSRS' MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL @ 12PM EST

Chris W gave an update following the GSA World Service Board Members, Conference Delegates and GSRS' meeting held on 18 April 2010. She reported that the format on 18 April 2010 was different to Greysheet business meeting formats and that she found it strange, unfamiliar and frustrating. Intergroup were advised that a facilitator had been employed (on a "pro-bono" basis) to support this meeting to have discussion; to help the meeting come to conclusions; to help the meeting iron out any dissolution, disagreement and/or misunderstanding amongst the participating members and to come to an agreement of how to move the GSA fellowship service structure forward. The facilitator is not a member of GSA and therefore had only a limited understanding of the nature of any disagreement/misunderstandings that exist within the fellowship. However, he is a long-term member of at least one other 12 step fellowship and is a trained professional facilitator. It was noted that there was a limit to what could be said and how it could be said and that after more than 90 minutes all that was agreed was the date and time for the next meeting and how the minutes would be recorded. To date this intergroup have not received copies of these minutes. The next meeting was agreed to take place at 12pm EST on Sunday, 23 May (4pm GMT).

It was also reported that this format did not give Chris W, alternate GSA World Service Conference delegate for UK/Central Europe, the opportunity to carry the conscience on behalf of the UK/Central Europe GSA fellowship to this meeting "that they did not wish to backtrack; that the UK/Central Europe GSA fellowship want to make progress by moving forward with the world service conference; that it is recognised by the UK/Central Europe GSA fellowship that the purpose of the GSA World Service Conference is to create a platform, within the safe framework of the GSA Twelve Traditions, to facilitate discussion and agree ways to move forward to improve communication; and to further enable our fellowship to carry the message to the still suffering compulsive overeater". Other members of the UK/Central Europe Intergroup who were also present at this meeting of 18 April reported the same frustration as to the purpose of this meeting format to facilitate moving things forward, as what appeared to be happening was the reverse. It was also noted that at no time were the UK/Central Europe Intergroup consulted with on the decision made to bring this outside facilitator in.

Intergroup requested that this group conscience be forwarded by email to the current GSA World Service Board and that a request be made for this item to be included on the agenda for the next meeting of GSA World Service Board Members,

World Service Conference Delegates and GSRs. Sharon T, Intergroup secretary and primary delegate for UK/Central Europe, agreed to copy Esther H and Cindy M before the next delegates meeting scheduled for 12pm EST on Sunday, 23 May (4pm GMT). All UK/Central Europe GSRs and those members of our fellowship serving on World Service standing committees were invited to support primary and alternate delegates at this meeting. The number to call in to the meeting is 001 712 432 3900 and the Pin is 605218#. (UK/Central Europe Intergroup Meeting Minutes, 9 May 2010)"

As these minutes state, we would like this item included on the next meeting agenda and for our conscience in this matter to be heard.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks for your incredible service. Looking forward to seeing you in Chicago in August.

Kind regards
Sharon, A&G
IDGSNMW