Board Ratifications

Part 1
Nominating Committee Process & Q & A
15 minutes
- ACA has a legal status as a Non-profit in the state of California.

- 3 is the minimum number of Trustees for a non-profit.

- Trustees must be ratified yearly.
What does the Board Do?

- Our Trustees oversees & supports our ACA fellowship and handles the business of our organization.

- Ensures that ACA stays in good legal standing.

- Trustees have a legal & **Fiduciary duty** - the highest standard in law.

- Our Trustees are not paid for their service.
Update:

-In January, the Board only had 3 Trustees.

- 3 new Trustees

- May have as many as 20 members. We still need more.

- **The Nominating committee also needs more members.**
Brief Ratification History

Before the establishment of the Nominating Committee:

- Trustees were nominated from the floor of the ABC,
- Voted on and ratified on the spot.
- There were no qualifications.
- Delegates were asked to ratify Trustees with little information about them.
At the 2017 ABC, a motion passed to establish the Nominating Committee.

- **Purpose:**
  
  Identify and vet members w/ the recovery & skills to support their ability as Trustees.

- **Specific desired qualifications** were developed and posted in the OPPM- Operational Policy and Procedure Manual.
Desired Qualifications for Board

1) At least 5 yrs of consistent attendance at ACA meetings.

2) Service: One year or more on a WSO committee

3) Currently out of date. TC’s are now Quarterly: Attendance at least 6 of 12 monthly WSO Teleconferences yearly.
4) Working knowledge of ACA's Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service.

5) May not hold a similar position in another 12-step fellowship.

6) Demonstrated skill at working in a group setting and completing projects.
7) Ability to donate substantial time

8) Sign the Commitment to Service & the Board’s Conflict of Interest Statement.
Exception Clause

Note: The Nominating Committee can ask the Board to consider exceptions to these desired qualifications. Such a request, and the reason for the exception, will be submitted in writing to the Board.

*There is never an exception for the importance of good recovery, emotional sobriety, or integrity.

To qualify to judge these qualifications, the nominating Committee has these same qualifications. (except time commitment is less)
Nominating Process

1. An applicant submits an application.

2. The Nominating Committee reviews the application.
   a. If qualifications are not met, the applicant is given suggestions.
   b. If qualifications appear to be met, they are thoroughly vetted by:
      - Interviews & Observations of their interactions – ABC’s, Slack, etc.
      - Are they able to facilitate productive meetings and cooperate with others?
      - Are they able to disagree without being disagreeable?
      - Are they kind and respectful?
3. When qualifications are met, they are nominated to the Board of Trustees.

- Nominating Packet with detailed specific information on:
  - Each desired qualification,
  - Their positive character traits
  - Training, work, and life experiences.

* If an exception is made, it is explained in detail as to why we are making an exception.

4. The Board reviews the Nomination Packet and meets the Nominee for a mutual Question and Answer meeting.

5. The Board accepts the Nominee, and the Nominee accepts the position.

6. The Delegates vote to ratify each Trustee at the ABC.
Ratification Process, Meet the Board and Q & A

45 minutes
Trustee Service Biography:

- Time in ACA & ACA service,

- Training/work experience & a paragraph from each Trustee.

Located: Delegate Handbook - Ratification starting on page 57.

- Each Trustees is thoroughly vetted & nominated to the Board.
- We need this ratification to be emotionally safe.

- After the Ratification at the 2022 ABC, there were no applications for 21 months. (Typically, we receive 2 – 5 applications yearly.)

At the 2023 ABC, we added safety protocols to the Ratification:

- created a balanced environment where necessary questions can be asked.
- The tone was respectful and emotionally safe for our Trustees, our Delegates, and our Observers.
- The very existence of our ACA fellowship depends upon members stepping up to do service as Trustees.
1. The Nominating Committee chair will facilitate the process.

2. Each Trustee will have 3 minutes to discuss their service.

3. **Q & A:** Questions should be neutral and businesslike & designed to elicit information.

   **Questions that appear to violate the stated ground rules or Traditions will be referred to the parliamentarian.**

***Questions are submitted in writing using the Chat function to:
   *NomCom Chair Denise R.*
4. I will read each question aloud and 1 or 2 Trustees may answer. Please specify who your question is for.

5. Voting will be done at the end of the day.

Day 2: Voting Results and Minority Opinion
Trustees Seeking Ratification

- Dove H., Arizona, USA
- Jim R., New York, USA
- Ken R., Ohio, USA
- Rich R., New Mexico, USA
- Sue V., Ontario, Canada
- Tamara P., North Carolina, USA
Submit questions in Chat to:

*NomCom Chair Denise R.