**WSWS Officer and Committee Report – Reno 2012**

**Office or Committee Name:** Finance Committee

**Officer or Chairperson Name:** Luke Samuel (Chair), Drew Lyon, Brian Mealor

**Date of Preparation (include year):** March 1, 2012

**Committee Activities during the Year:** In 2011, the Finance Committee proposed several changes in fee schedules for the annual meeting that should help balance income/expenses associated with the annual WSWS meeting. The committee also proposed moving moneys managed by RBC Wealth Management into minimal cost CD’s, money market accounts, etc. This adjustment would alleviate the 1% management fee and, although the investment returns may be slightly lower, it will maintain some financial growth while maintaining the required two years worth of operating budget (approximately $180,000) in available, liquid accounts. The committee recommended that Business Manager Phil Banks manage these new investments. The committee has also reviewed the WSWS net worth statement, cash flow report, check book ledger, money market ledger, and RBC Wealth Management statement.

The committee will meet with Phil Banks, Business Manager, at the annual meeting in Reno to conduct an informal audit of the WSWS financial situation.

Stan Cooper of RBC Wealth Management is advising no changes to our investment approach at this time.

Investment value as of 1-1-11 = $198,057

Investment value as of 12-31-2011 = $199,876 (year end value +.92%)

Investment value as of 1-27-2012 = $208,195 (up 5.11% from the 1-1-11 value)

Current Asset Allocation:

72% Bonds

27.6% Growth

 0.4% Cash

Estimated Annual Portfolio Income:

**$9,899, which is a yield of 5.10%**

**Recommendations for Board Action:** The Finance committee again recommends the Board evaluate the use of RBC Wealth Management for our investment portfolio. We pay 1% of managed assets, or about $2,000, per year to RBC Wealth Management for their services. There are much cheaper options including no-load, low cost mutual funds or ETF’s that may be more appropriate for the society, however, this would require Board agreement on fund selection and a slightly more active approach to investment management by the Board and Finance Committee. Alternatively, the Board could go with CD’s managed by the Business Manager as previously described.

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:** Continue to evaluate investment strategy;

**Current Committee Members:** Luke Samuel (Chair), Drew Lyon, Brian Mealor

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Luke Samuel