

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MEETING OF JANUARY 18, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Bob W., Chairman Board of Regents at 7:35 P.M.

Present: Bob W., Chris G., Gary G., John C., Lanny R., Steve K. and Karen H.,
International Executive Secretary.

Present by Telephone: Daryl R. and Liz N.

Absent: Samuel F.

Guests: Tom M., Board of Trustees Chairman

1. A. The minutes of the Board of Regents meeting of December 21, 2007 were read and approved.

Motion seconded and passed
For...7 Against...0 Abstained...0

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- B. The Operating Statement for December 2007 was read and approved.

Motion seconded and passed
For...7 Against...0 Abstained...0

2-OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Lifeliners. There were 4 new Lifeliners as follows: California – 1, New Jersey – 1, New York – 1 and Texas – 1. New guidelines for I.R.S. audits on an annual basis. Any Lifeliner donation totaling \$200.00 or more will receive a letter stating amount for the year. Anyone requesting a letter for Lineliners will be provided one.

There were no new Cans. 9 Starter Kits were sent out in December including 0 going to prisons and we had 3 new Group Information Forms received back as follows: 1 each from Scottsdale, Arizona; Malaga, New Jersey and Calgary, Alberta.

B. National Hotline. Another request from David M. was received and given to the Hotline Committee. The questions presented were read and will be addressed as soon as possible.

It appears David M. wants to have a contract based on call usage and minutes rather than flat rate. Discussion was that this could lead to vast fluctuations in monthly cost. This fluctuation could be very disastrous. Area's on the system currently pay less of the same as they have in the past.

Liz N. wants a number of calls which were routed to I.S.O. and what the costs were.
John C. attempted to clarify that we do not pay on a per call basis.

Spanish speaking volunteers reported at 7 in the December Board of Regents minutes was in error. Based on that report, which was only Southern California, we received new information indicating an added 7 – 10 for a total of 14 – 17.

The Hotline report submitted by Gary S. was read as follows:

BOR REPORT – January 2008
888-GA-HELPS

We have completed on first year of having a National helpline. I would like to bring some points of interest and review in this report. It has been an interesting year and growth. We are at the point of what I had hoped when I first started this journey nine years ago. 888-GA-HELPS has helped close to 50,000 callers. To be honest, I do not know how many calls we collectively have been getting prior to the BOR approval - however now we do and knowing that adds to our primary objective, in our Guidance Code to contact compulsive gamblers no matter where they may be and help them overcome a gambling problem. We must also applaud all the areas that have done the job prior to GA-HELPS that has brought unity to those areas and made it easier for our members to share their strength and experience by volunteering and Step 12...

Lets do some Step 4 inventory for 2007:

- There are 40 Areas in the United States that are part of the ISO, 26 of them are part of 888-GA-HELPS, leaving 14 areas that are not. Two of those 14 are talking to us to join, another area will most likely to join sometime this year, 6 are very small areas with few meetings, 2 have discussed the possibility of joining, 2 have no trustee and one area said that they will not join. I try to talk to all of these areas on a regular basis and Karen H helps by directing their inquiries.
- There are over 650 volunteers with over 1000 meetings.
- Creating the Spanish version (Test Mode).
- Opened up Canada with the same number 888-GA-HELPS.
- Created a GA-HELPS admin newsletter.
- Added two BOR members to the committee – Lanny R. and John C.
- GA-HELPS has 100% first year group retention & Erlang has 100% for 9 years as well.
- Most areas have experienced a cost reduction or no increase over the years.

The Canadian areas are LIVE. I cannot stress the importance of having a trustee like Richard C. from Calgary, he has been extremely helpful in making this possible.

Everyone's effort has now launched 888-GA-HELPS to the beginnings of an international helpline.

Area 11- Massachusetts and its surrounding areas (New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island and Vermont) should be LIVE by the end of this month.

Now to the numbers since my December report. We are completed month number 12 since the BOR approval. Calls thru December are a total of 38,122 calls to all local areas and 6,488 additional calls through GA-HELPS for a total of 44,610 calls. Compared to 33,606 total calls in 2006 for the same time period. This is an increase of 33% over 2006. One member had suggested that we should report the minutes used – I myself feel that number does not truly represent the caller because it really counts when someone makes “THAT CALL” and not the time. The time we spend is not a measure of how we help because we can make a difference by getting someone to a room in 2 minutes and spent as much as 30 minutes. Which is the right amount of time? Please note that the national average per call is 5-6 minutes.

2006	2754	33606
2007	Dec	TOTAL
Groups	2460	38122
National	770	6488
Total 07'	3230	44610

33% OVER 2006

For all groups that are not on the Erlang system please send me your areas helpline call totals for 2007. After 3 months of asking I have not received any reports. I really would like to compile a total number of calls from all of GA's hotlines. Please email or call me so we can get a real total.

I am very grateful and thank you all for being part of my growth and journey.

Gary S / 888-GA-HELPS/BOR/Area 12 Trustee

C. Printing of Spanish Literature. The printing of Beyond 90 Days is very costly in small quantities. 250 = \$7.32 ea; 500 = \$3.76 ea; 1,000 = \$1.96 ea. We will continue to look for less costly printing and will be updated at the next Board of Regents meeting.

D. Board of Regents Website. Read and discussed the proposal for a Board of Regents website from David M. Discussion Point 1 regarding not publishing the I.S.O. Bulletin was that not everyone has access to internet. Many calls were received against the discontinuing of publishing the I.S.O. Bulletin.

It has been suggested that we do a feasibility study of the proposed website. Steve K. has volunteered to do this.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss Questions and Comments on the 2007 Annual Audit. Daryl R.'s comments were addressed and our accountants have responded and will correct the questioned areas.

Daryl's questions (in regular type) and our accountants, Chodorow & Chodorow, responses (**in bold type**) follow:

- In the Notes beginning on Page 6, Note A omits the activity and purpose of our organization.

We can add the specific activity and purpose to Note A.

- Note B, Inventory omits the method used such as FIFO, LIFO, etc.

The inventory evaluation describes the inventory being valued at cost. We can add the verbiage "FIFO".

- Depreciation methods omits over how many actual years the office furniture is depreciated which is really longer than computers.

The methods of depreciation describes that the assets are depreciated over the useful life of the individual asset. If you want we can be more specific and describe the term each asset is depreciated based on class.

- Economic dependency comment ignores the sale of literature which is a substantial revenue center.

We can add the sale of literature as a source of economic dependency.

- Note C, Lease commitments requires a five year schedule, the 5th year is omitted.

The fifth year is omitted because the lease terminates on October 31, 2011, and we are uncertain at this time as to any future lease obligations.

- Note C, does not address any long-term equipment rentals, do we have any over 1 year?

There is a long-term equipment rental for the copier for five years @166.54/month. We can add a line item to Note C to address this obligation.

- Note D, Retirement Plan does not address employee eligibility rules.

Note D describes the plan related to the employee's eligible salaries. We can add additional detail to describe in more detail what the specific eligibility requirements are.

- Note F, does any of the CD savings accounts have a maturity of greater than 3 months, if so, then cannot be considered cash and equivalents per policy described.

We can re-categorize any CDs whose maturities are greater than 3 months to short term investments and long term investments if applicable.

- Compensated Absences is not addressed and is generally a disclosure requirement.

We can add a statement outlining the policy for compensated absences.

- Long-term commitments omission, the \$1,600 Hotline monthly obligation is a required disclosure if for more than 1 year.

We can add the long-term commitment regarding the Hotline obligation.

Any donated equipment or services, if so, a required disclosure.

N/A

The collection in the amount of \$22.00 was taken and the meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer. The next meeting of the Board of Regents will be held February 15, 2008 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Gary G., Recording Secretary