

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by John C., Chairman Board of Regents.

Present: Bernie G., John C., Mike S., Pat S., Woodie H. and Karen H., International Executive Secretary.

Present by Telephone: Bill B., Peter A. and Leanne W.

Absent: Steve F.

A. The minutes of the December 17, 2016 Board of Regents meeting were read and approved.

Motion seconded and passed
For – 8 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

B. The operating statement for December was read and approved.

Motion seconded and passed
For – 8 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

OLD BUSINESS

A. LIFELINERS

There were 4 new Lifeliners as follows:

Illinois – 1 Minnesota – 1 New York – 2

Karen H. reported that “end of the year letters” were going out to all G.A. members who have personally donated over \$100.00 during 2016.

NEW CANS

There were no new Cans.

**GROUP INFORMATION REQUEST FORMS RECEIVED PRIOR TO SENDING
STARTER KITS – 5**

Five Starter Kits were sent out as follows after receiving the Group Information Request Forms for the month of December:

Bridgeport, CT Bridgewater, NJ Port Jefferson, NY
Muskogee, OK London, ON

PRISON STARTER KITS SENT: None

B. FINANCIAL SOFTWARE UPDATE.

Karen H. gave the report stating that she and Luz are going to schedule a conference call with Bill B.

C. E-READERS FOR COMBO BOOKS.

John C. reported that Steve F. is not here today because of illness. Discussions will continue next month. Amazon requires a credit card, which is in process and John will communicate with Steve and Peter A. by email.

D. GRATITUDE WEEK.

Karen H. reported that \$9,823.80 has been received by the I.S.O. for this year's Gratitude Week with contributions from 157 different Groups, Members, and Intergroups.

E. LIMITED USE CREDIT CARD.

Karen H. stated that she had looked into some options for obtaining a limited use credit card. Since Gamblers Anonymous has had their checking account with Bank of America since 1964, Karen and John C. contacted Bank of America's credit card division and submitted an application. If approved, this card would be for a non-profit corporation with no annual fees. Several questions were asked and Bill B. offered to review the disclosure statement in reference to this account. A motion was made to table this until February's Board meeting.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 8 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

F. DISCUSS PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES.

John C. asked to have this item tabled until next month.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 8 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

G. LIFE-LINE BULLETIN PAGE.

Karen H. gave the above report stating that the Life-Line Bulletin page is now available on our website. Twelve Life-Line bulletins are available for viewing and download in descending order with the most current issue, January 2017 first. The most current Literature Order Form will also be available on this page for download hopefully by the middle of February. Bill B. asked about a counter for the Life-Line bulletin page. Bill will send an email to Karen requesting what he would like to see. Karen will get a quote from our website designer for next month's Board meeting. Karen thanked everyone who was involved in making this happen.

H. B.O.R. NOMINATIONS FOR JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2019.

Karen H. stated that as of today ten candidates have submitted their names to be on the Ballot for the upcoming Board of Regents, five from inside the 200 mile area and five from outside the 200 mile area. No names were reported. The final deadline is February 1, 2017.

I. REVIEW SPREADSHEET AND UPDATED INVENTORY.

Peter A. gave an overview of the inventory analysis sheet that he submitted just prior to this meeting. He stated he would be emailing the total financial analysis for the period ending December 2016 after today's Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSS B.O.R. POWERS REGARDING NON COMPLIANT G.A. GROUPS.

John C. gave the report which started with reading an email from David M., who had requested the item to be on today's agenda.

“Situation as follows:

A room violates the Guidance Code, Article VII, Section 1, which defines a group.

The room, among other violations of the Unity Steps and Guidance Code, has been notified that the use of non-GA approved or non-GA appropriate literature, puts the room at risk of being removed as a Gamblers Anonymous room.

The room members vote to continue this practice, after having been told of the consequences of such an action.

The room will surely be removed as a Gamblers Anonymous room, no doubt with a letter stating so by the ISO.

The item I would like discussed is:

What legal power does the Board of Regents have and what is it prepared to do if any room continues to function and call itself a Gamblers Anonymous room after it receives notice of having been removed as a recognized Gamblers Anonymous room.”

After a discussion by the Board, it was the consensus that should a meeting continue to call itself a Gamblers Anonymous meeting after being removed from our International Directory on the Gamblers Anonymous website, a Cease & Desist letter would be sent to such group in violation. It was also suggested that the Executive Board of the B.O.T. should review and make recommendations to the Board of Regents.

B. DISCUSS COMMITTEE FOR SUCCESSION PLAN.

John C. requested to form a committee to review a succession plan. Committee members will be Bill B., Peter A., Steve F., Bernie G. and John C. The committee will have a conference call meeting within the next few weeks. This item will be added to the monthly Board of Regents agendas.

The collection in the amount of \$18.00 was taken and the meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer at 11:03 A.M. The next meeting of the Board of Regents will be held February 18, 2017 at 9:30 A.M.

Today's Board of Regents meeting had 4 people call in and listen.

Respectfully submitted by Woodie H., Recording Secretary