

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2016**

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

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

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

A. The minutes of the January 16, 2016 Board of Regents meeting were read and approved.

Motion seconded and passed
For – 9 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

B. The operating statement for January 2016 was read and approved.

Motion seconded and passed
For – 9 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

OLD BUSINESS

A. LIFELINERS

There were 2 new Lifeliners as follows:

California - 1 New Jersey - 1

NEW CANS

There was one new Can as follows:

Arizona - 1

GROUP INFORMATION REQUEST FORMS RECEIVED: 1

North Tonawanda, NY (REGISTRATION ONLY)

**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 January:

Fort Collins, CO Reno, NV Las Vegas, NV (2) Nasr City, Cairo

Prison Starter Kits Sent: 3

Petersburg, VA Milwaukee, WI Innisfail, Alberta

Karen H. stated that 250 income tax letters were sent out to all Lifeliners who contributed
\$100.00 or more for the calendar year 2015.

B. E-READERS FOR COMBO BOOK.

Motion to table until the June 2016 Board meeting was presented by Steve F., Chairman.

Motion seconded and passed
For – 9 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

C. LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR G.A. GROUPS.

John C. was unable to get a quote for this Board of Regents meeting stating that he will have a quote for the March B.O.R. meeting.

D. LIFE-LINE BULLETINS.

Peter A. gave a report from the Bulletin Committee. After reviewing the costs of printing and mailing, the committee suggested moving the Life-Line Bulletin to electronic distribution with the April Bulletin, last full distribution of Bulletin to be March and to continue offering first class mailing of the Bulletin by subscription, at new rates, effective April 1, 2016.

A discussion took place. Karen H. gave a report on the timeline to prepare the Bulletin to start with the April issue. She asked that this new format be delayed until May instead of April. Peter A. discussed the distribution of information to the membership regarding the new location for the Life-Line Bulletin and how to access it electronically. A letter from I.S.O. will be included in the March and April issue of the Life-Line Bulletins announcing the changes. After April, the recommendation was to send a letter to each group on a monthly basis for six months. Continuation of this practice will be reviewed by the B.O.R. in October of 2016.

There will be two motions as follows:

Motion #1:

The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible to publish a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin and to distribute the Bulletin using an economical and efficient method. Effective with the May 2016 edition, the Bulletin will be available electronically for viewing and printing. Instructions as to accessing the Bulletin will be communicated to members by the I.S.O. The printing and mailing of the monthly Bulletin to all groups will be discontinued effective with the April 2016 edition. Annual cost savings for this change in distribution will be in excess of \$60,000.00.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 9 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

Motion #2:

The Bulletin will be printed and sent to members or groups that are Subscribers to the Bulletin. The cost for a new subscription to the bulletin will increase as of May 1, 2016 to \$48.00 for one copy Domestic (U.S. only) and \$60.00 for one copy International. If one additional Bulletin is added to any shipment, the cost will be \$40.00 for Domestic and \$55.00 for International mailings. Current subscribers to the Bulletin will receive the Bulletin at no extra charge until their subscription renews, at which time the new rates will apply.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 9 Against – 0 Abstained – 0

Additionally, Peter A. agreed to propose a B.O.T. agenda item to provide each room with a "table top" set of instructions that could be displayed at the meeting to make sure the members know how to access the electronic Life-Line Bulletin. This would be a one-time printing and be provided at no cost to the rooms by the I.S.O.

Proposed Guidance Code Change

Four proposed items were submitted and discussed by the Board regarding a change to Guidance Code Article XVI, Section 5 – International Executive Secretary of I.S.O.

The current version reads:

The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible to publish a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin and distribute (via US mail, email or other secured means) copies of same to each group in our Fellowship. Number of copies sent to each group shall be set by the Board of Regents.

A motion was made to submit the following change as an agenda item for the Board of Trustees meeting to be held in May 2016:

Article XVI, Section 5 – International Executive Secretary of I.S.O.

The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible to publish a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin and to distribute the Bulletin using economical and efficient methods approved by the Board of Regents and in compliance with the Guidance Code.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 9

Against – 0

Abstained – 0

E. GUIDANCE & PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING SITUATIONS OF ABUSE AND HARASSMENT IN OUR FELLOWSHIP.

Bill B. presented this item and highlighted the January e-mail that he sent to the B.O.R. members. Discussion followed.

Bill made a motion, as follows: "Engage outside California counsel to review booklet "Guidance and Procedures for Handling Situations of Abuse and Harassment in the Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship" and provide written opinion as to the legality, appropriateness, liability and other issues of law." Appropriate \$2,500.00 for legal counsel.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 9

Against – 0

Abstained – 0

Bill B. will contact a California attorney and John C. will contact a liability insurance agent.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSS PROCEDURES AND EXPIRY DATE OF DOMAIN NAME.

Discussion was held on the four domain names that are owned by Gamblers Anonymous; gamblersanonymous.org, gamblersanonymous.com, gamblersanonymous.us and trusteewebsite.com. Dates of expiration and contact information were reviewed.

B. OFFICE LEASE.

Bill B. discussed this item. Our Office lease ends on January 31, 2017. This item will be on the March agenda.

C. ITEMS FOR THE MAY 2016 BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA.

Steve F. submitted an item for the May 2016 Board of Trustees agenda. After a brief discussion Steve withdrew the item.

D. DISCUSS STANDING RULES #9 AND #10.

A discussion was held regarding changes to Standing Rules #9 and #10.

Motion was made to change Standing Rule #9 and Standing Rule #10 to read as follows:

9. The Operating Statement of the International Service Office will be published monthly with membership access electronically, print or other appropriate means.

10. The Audited Financial Statement of the International Service Office will be published each year with membership access electronically, print or other appropriate means.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 9

Against – 0

Abstained – 0

E. APPROVE EXPENSES FOR B.O.R. CHAIR TO ATTEND B.O.T. MEETING IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

A motion was made to approve \$1,200.00 for the Board of Regents Chairman to attend the Trustees meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

Motion seconded and passed

For – 9

Against – 0

Abstained – 0

F. REVIEW EXPENSES FOR THE B.O.R. CHAIR TO ATTEND B.O.T. MEETINGS.

The Board agreed to keep the procedures as they are.

The collection in the amount of \$25.00 was taken and the meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer at 12:39 P.M. The next meeting of the Board of Regents will be held March 19, 2016 at 9:30 A.M.

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

Respectfully submitted by Pat S., Recording Secretary