

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MEETING OF MAY 20, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 A.M. by John C., 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., and Peter A.

Absent: Leanne W. – This was Leanne’s 4th absence and per the By-Laws, Article III, Section 7, she will no longer be on the Board of Regents. Calvin C., first on the replacement list will be seated at the June meeting, in her place.

Prior to reading the minutes, John C., Chairman congratulated and thanked Karen H. for her 28 years of service, as the International Executive Secretary (I.E.S.), as of April, 2017. John C. also thanked Steve F. for his 4 years of service on the Board of Regents both as a member and as a past Chairman for 2 years.

A. The minutes of the April 15, 2017 Board of Regents meeting were read and approved.

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

A. LIFELINERS

There were 9 new Lifeliners as follows:

California – 1	Florida – 2	Illinois – 2
New York – 2	New Jersey – 1	Canada - 1

NEW CANS - 0

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 April:

San Diego, CA	Pensacola, FL	New Orleans, LA
Missoula, MT	Wickliffe, OH	

PRISON STARTER KITS SENT: None

B. FINANCIAL SOFTWARE UPDATE.

Karen H. reported that July 1st the I.S.O. will be going to QuickBooks. Karen also sat in on the Future Planning Committee to hear what they suggested moving forward. Our accountants came into the I.S.O. to review what we have already inputted and checked the overall data, to make sure we are on pace. They also are helping train the I.S.O. staff in certain areas. All checks that were inputted this month were done online through QuickBooks, also the February and March financials have been put into the system. Bill B. asked Karen if she still has the “peg-board” (old) checks, and she said that we do, but are currently not using them at the moment.

C. E-READERS FOR COMBO BOOKS.

John C., Chairman, made the report and said he is ready to go, with the uploading of the electronic version of the Yellow Combo Books to both Nook and Kindle platforms. The Combo Books will have the most recent change that was voted on from the Cherry Hill conference. The change in both the electronic and paper copies will be the same.

D. LIFE-LINE BULLETIN PAGE & MONTHLY/YEARLY COUNTER.

Both John C. and Karen H. will talk to David M., about how to proceed with implementing the counter.

E. DISCUSS NEED FOR CONTRACT OR MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING WITH OUR WEBSITE DESIGNER.

Bill B. asked Karen H. if the I.S.O. has a current contract with Andrew, who is the G.A. website administrator, and if not, we should have something in place. It was not determined if we have anything on “paper” in place, but John C. will speak with both Karen H. and Andrew to see what needs to be done to get that in place.

F. REPORT FROM THE FUTURE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Bill B. made the report and stated that the committee met twice in May and finished their discussion on the Starter Kits. They continued talking about cross-training of the I.S.O. staff, as well as the possibility of distributing a G.A. Blue book to every library in the U.S. It was also mentioned that it was important to hire a temporary or part-time employee who specializes in QuickBooks, for a 4-5 week period. The committee is looking at the various jobs and descriptions for the future and possibly adding personnel. During their monthly meetings, they discussed the idea of what would need to be done, to purchase a building before the lease expires in January of 2022. The last topic reported on was on the International Executive Secretary’s duties at Board of Trustee meetings, and if it would be possible to use a CD for transcripts.

NEW BUSINESS

A. RESULTS OF BOARD OF REGENTS ELECTION.

The results in alphabetical order are as follows:

Bernie G., Betty S., (New Orleans), Bob W., Calvin C., Herb B. (Montreal), John C., Peter A., (Philadelphia), Tom M., (Burlingame) and Wendy B. First on the replacement list from out of town is Bill B., (Florida) and first on the local replacement list is Kathie S.

(5) Board of Regents are currently seated from inside the 200 mile radius and (4) from outside the 200 mile radius to the I.S.O. The newly elected Regents will be required to attend the June Board of Regents meeting prior to starting their July 1st term. Their (2) year term starts on July 1, 2017 and continues until June 30, 2019. Congratulations to all who were elected!

B. REPORT ON BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING.

John C. passed out a financial report that was discussed at the Cherry Hill Trustee Meeting and reviewed briefly with the B.O.R. All items that affected either the B.O.R. or the I.S.O. were reviewed which included several items of interest. Agenda Items #1, and #2 were approved MP-3 audio files which will need to be added to the G.A. Store, added to the order sheet and discuss how we will be paid for them. More information is needed, so a vote will be at a later date. Agenda Item #7 was passed which requested for the I.S.O. to have an Operational Audit. This had been discussed and voted on previously by the B.O.R., who voted unanimously against it 0-9-0. It was also discussed prior to the Trustee Meeting in Cherry Hill, and due to the cost factors, it was not something that needed to be done. John C. relayed the discussion on this item from the Trustees to the B.O.R. and discussion ensued. Bill B. vehemently expressed his concerns to John C., Chairman for John doing personal “back-work” on an item that the Board of Regents had no desire to pursue. In addition, there was concern voiced by both Steve F. and Peter A. towards John C. who was continuing to gather information about this operational audit, without the consent of the Board of Regents. After these concerns were voiced, we moved on to other Agenda Items. Item #21, which was a By-Laws change, Article XVII, Section 2, was passed by the Trustees, and was voted on at this time. The Agenda Item reads as follows:

By-Laws – Article XVII – Section 2

Current Version: A Reading of the previous minutes.

Proposed Version: An approval of the previous meeting minutes.

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

Other items were discussed including #27, which stated: Add online contributions module to the I.S.O. website, when completed and approved by the B.O.R. Allocate a maximum of \$1,000.00 for integration to the website. This item will need to be voted on by the B.O.R. Also discussed was a Yellow Wrist band, but this was only a first vote and needed a 2nd vote in Ontario. Agenda Item #48 was mentioned to the B.O.R. which stated that there will be no spring conference in 2018. The Trustees voted to have the Trustee Meeting for cost purposes, in Cancun, Mexico. There was a discussion that ensued about what the financial responsibility of the I.S.O. and who will be reviewing the contract with the hotel, especially if it is in Gamblers Anonymous’ name. John C. said he would talk to Andy to find out what our obligations are, if any. The last item we talked about was Agenda Item #60, which had to do with our Pressure Relief Group materials being removed. The Trustees voted against this item, however they suggested that the I.S.O. obtain a legal opinion.

C. VOTE ON TRUSTEE AGENDA ITEM 21, BY-LAWS.

This item was voted on during the Report on the Board of Trustees Meeting. There was Motion Seconded and passed, 8-0-0.

D. DISCUSS SUBMITTING ALL PRESSURE RELIEF PUBLICATIONS AND FORMS TO AN ATTORNEY FOR REVIEW WITH REGARDS TO RISK/LIABILITY TO THE GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE OFFICE.

This Agenda Item was requested by David M. and reported by John C., Chairman. John told the B.O.R. that he sent copies of the Pressure Relief Group forms to Lawrence Levine, who was an attorney that we had previously contacted in the past for legal opinions, however, Mr. Levine, is now retired and unable to assist us. He said that he would forward them to another attorney, but we are waiting for a cost to give an “official opinion”. John C. also told the Board of Regents that Gamblers Anonymous is covered under our Directors and Liability Insurance, for those that are “volunteers”, which would encompass those doing pressure relief groups for G.A. members. There was a Motion to table to the June Board of Regents meeting.

Motion seconded and passed

*For – 7

Against – 0

Abstained – 0

*At the time of this vote, Mike S. stepped outside the room

Upon conclusion of the discussion on Item D. above, the Board of Regents Conference Call ended as the next two items were of a confidential nature.

E. EMPLOYEE UPDATE AND WRITTEN PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS.

Karen H. reported to the Board of Regents that Luz is no longer working with us. Karen thinks that a part-time employee would be beneficial to come in and help with QuickBooks, and then possibly determine a schedule on a more regular basis, as they are needed. Peter A. thanked Karen and her staff for coming together and filling in to handle the void that was left by Luz. Great job by all at the I.S.O! Karen H. also reviewed in detail, the employee’s performance evaluations for both Israel and Jason with the B.O.R.

F. REVIEW PAID EMPLOYEES SALARIES.

Karen H. left the room during this discussion. John C. reviewed Karen H.’s performance evaluation with the B.O.R., after which they reviewed all paid employee’s salaries. After a lengthy discussion, it was determined that all employees will be given a raise beginning July 1, 2017. A one-time bonus was also given to both Israel and Jason for taking on additional responsibilities when our latest employee left in April.

The collection in the amount of \$31.00 was taken and the meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer at 12:30 P.M. The next meeting of the Board of Regents will be held on June 17, 2017 at 9:30 A.M.

Today’s Board of Regents meeting had 8 people call in and listen.

Respectfully submitted by Steve F., Assistant Recording Secretary