# **BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by Benni F., Chairman Board of Regents at 7:31 PM at the International Service Office of Gamblers Anonymous.

Present: Benni F., John C., Bernie G., Richard C., Russ M. and Karen H., International Executive Secretary.

Present by telephone: Allan S.

Absent: \*Amir K., Ara H. and Eddie R.

Guests: None

A. The minutes of the Board of Regents meeting of August 20, 2010 were read and motion to accept the minutes was seconded and approved.

For... 5 Against... 0 Abstained... 0 (Amir K. had not yet arrived)

- B. \*Amir K. arrived and was introduced and welcomed to the Board. An election was held to fill the vacated position of Assistant Recording Secretary. Nominations were accepted and Russ M. was elected **unanimously** to fill the position.
- C. The Operating Statement for August 2010 was read. A motion to approve the Operating Statement was made, seconded and passed.

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

#### **2 - OLD BUSINESS**

A. Discussion of Lifeliners.

Karen H. reported that there were 12 new Lifeliners as follows:

California	1	Nevada	1
Connecticut	1	New York	1
Florida	2	Pennsylvania	1
Massachusetts	2	Texas	2
Missouri	1		

Discussion of G.A. Growth.

Karen H. reported the following concerning the growth of G.A. during August 2010:

New Cans issued to meetings 2 - California

Group Information Request Forms 6 as follows (city,state):

Blackfoot, Idaho Medina, Ohio Midwest City, Oklahoma (2) Milwaukee, Wisconsin Riverton, Wyoming

Starter Kits 21were sent out as follows (city, state):

Prisons 0

Regular 21

Bay Minette, Alabama Danville, California Ukiah, California Miami, Florida Pocatello, Idaho Alton, Illinois Newport, Kentucky Saint Helen, Michigan Brainerd, Minnesota Portsmouth, New Hampshire Del City, Oklahoma (2) Cincinnati, Ohio (2) Salem, Oregon Erie, Pennsylvania Huron, South Dakota Superior, Wisconsin Cagnas, Puerto Rico Kentville, Nova Scotia Chetumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico

- B. Infringement of G.A.'s Intellectual Property. No response was received from the letter written by the International Executive Secretary to the manufacturer of the T-Shirt with the Logo infringement. The deadline of September 20<sup>th</sup> has passed without a response. Karen H. presented a review of other infringement cases still occurring. The Board discussed concerns for the cost factors involved if it is decided to pursue legal action. It was decided that prior to the Board of Regents taking action, each case will be determined on a case by case basis. A determination of cost factors for pursuit will be made and used in determining how far to pursue each uncooperative violator. We will continue sending letters to the company's and individuals who are in violation of infringement of G.A.'s Intellectual Property.
- C. By-Law Changes Applicable to the Board of Regents.

By-Laws, Article XVII- Order of Business, New Section 3

All votes taken at any Board of Regents meeting will be by roll call, unless unanimous. The Recording Secretary will be responsible for detailing the roll call vote results in the monthly minutes except for personnel matters.

The above change was discussed and it was decided that instead of approving as a By-Law change, this will go on the Agenda to be considered for inclusion in the Standing Rules.

The following By-Law changes (tabled from the August Board of Regent meeting) from the International Conference in Kentucky were discussed and voted on by the Board of Regents as follows:

By-Laws, Article III, Section 2, Remove 2nd sentence.

Current Version: This Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Regents of nine (9) members of Gamblers Anonymous who have completely abstained from gambling for at least two (2) years. However, two (2) members of this Board may be non-members of Gamblers Anonymous. This Board shall be elected by the members of Gamblers Anonymous in the manner provided herein.

Proposed Version: This Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Regents of nine (9) members of Gamblers Anonymous who have completely abstained from gambling for at least two (2) years. This Board shall be elected by the members of Gamblers Anonymous in the manner provided herein.

Motion seconded and passedFor... 6Against... 0Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article III, Section 3

Current Version: The term of office of Regents shall be one (1) year.

Proposed Version: The term of office of Regents shall be two (2) years.

Motion seconded and passed

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article III, Section 8

Current Version: Board of Regents members shall be limited to two (2) elected terms served consecutively, but may be re-elected after one (1) year of non-service on the Board of Regents.

Proposed Version: Board of Regents members shall be limited to two (2) elected terms served consecutively, but may be re-elected after one (1) term of non-service on the Board of Regents. Motion seconded and passed

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article IV, Section 2

Current Version: The term of office of all elective officers shall terminate at the end of the fiscal year.

Proposed Version: The term of office of all elective officers shall terminate June 30th of each odd year. Motion seconded and passed

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

## By-Laws, Article IV, Section 3

Current Version: The newly elected Regents will be required to attend the June Board of Regents meeting prior to the start of their July 1st term. At the close of the said meeting the newly elected Regents shall elect the Officers of the Corporation for the next fiscal year and their service shall commence on July 1st.

Proposed Version: The newly elected Regents will be required to attend the June Board of Regents meeting prior to the start of their July 1st term. At the close of the said meeting the newly elected Regents shall elect the Officers of the Corporation for the next term and their service shall commence on July 1st.

Motion seconded and passedFor... 6Against... 0Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article V, Section 1

Add the word "odd" before the word "year" in the first sentence of this section. Proposed Version: On or before February 1st of each odd year any member of Gamblers Anonymous that has abstained completely from gambling for at least two (2) years and has attended Gamblers Anonymous meetings regularly - 39 meetings per year is eligible to submit their name, previous service as a Regent of this Corporation or as a Trustee of Gamblers Anonymous, total abstinence from gambling and home group, along with a biography not to exceed 200 words and phone number (both optional) to the International Service Office to be included on the Board of Regents ballot. These biographies will be an attachment to the ballot. Any member that is presently a member of any International Board of Gamblers Anonymous, but whose term ends on June 30, of the same year, is eligible to be included in the Board of Regents ballot; if their term has one more year to run, they must resign before submitting their name for the Board of Regents ballot. Motion seconded and passed

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article VI, Section 1

Add the word "odd" before the word "year" in the first sentence of this section. Proposed Version: The International Executive Secretary of the Corporation, on or before March 1st of each odd year, shall submit in writing a ballot of all eligible members wishing to run for the Board of Regents. Previous service as Regent of the Corporation or as Trustee of Gamblers Anonymous, total abstinence as of March 1st of that year, and home group of nominee shall be listed alongside the name of each nominee.

Motion seconded and passed

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article VI, Section 2

Current Version: The Board of Regents of this Corporation shall be elected annually by the Board of Trustees at the Spring Conference. The term of office shall be for a period of one (1) year commencing July 1 and ending June 30.

Proposed Version: The Board of Regents of this Corporation shall be elected every two (2) years by the Board of Trustees at the Spring Conference. The term of office shall be for a period of two (2) years commencing July 1 of the odd years and ending June 30 of the next odd year.

Motion seconded and passedFor... 6Against... 0Abstained... 0

### By-Laws, Article III, Section 4

Remove the part of the first sentence that is in parentheses. (non G.A. members excluded) Current Version: Any Regent (non G.A. members excluded) is automatically removed from office for gambling. For the purpose of these By-Laws, gambling is defined as follows: any betting or wagering, for self or others, whether for money or not, no matter how slight or insignificant where the outcome is uncertain or depends upon chance or skill, constitutes gambling.

Proposed Version: Any Regent is automatically removed from office for gambling. For the purpose of these By-Laws, gambling is defined as follows: any betting or wagering, for self or others, whether for money or not, no matter how slight or insignificant where the outcome is uncertain or depends upon chance or skill, constitutes gambling.

Motion seconded and passed

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article VI, Section 3

Current Version: The annual election of the Board of Regents shall be by written ballot. Each recognized Gamblers Anonymous meeting should be contacted by their area Trustee(s) so that the groups, at their option, have involvement in the voting process. Each Trustee, based on guidance from their groups and their personal knowledge, will be able to select no more than nine (9) proposed Regents from the list on the ballot. Proposed Version: The election of the Board of Regents shall be by written ballot. Each recognized Gamblers Anonymous meeting should be contacted by their area Trustee(s) so that the groups, at their option, have involvement in the voting process. Each Trustee, based on guidance from their groups and their personal knowledge, will be able to select no more than nine (9) proposed Regents from the list on the ballot.

Motion seconded and passed

For... 6 Against... 0 Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article VI, Section 11

Current Version:

The one year term of the newly elected Regents shall begin as of July 1st.

Proposed Version:

The two (2) year term of the newly elected Regents shall begin as of July 1st of the odd years.

Motion seconded and passedFor... 6Against... 0Abstained... 0

By-Laws, Article IX, Section 1:

Delete from the first sentence the following: (non-Gamblers Anonymous member excluded).

Current Version: Any member of the Board of Regents or appointive officer must be terminated for gambling (non-Gamblers Anonymous member excluded);

Proposed Version: Any member of the Board of Regents or appointive officer must be terminated for gambling;

Motion seconded and passedFor... 6Against... 0Abstained... 0

D. Procedures for Conference Call During the October Board of Regents Meeting. The October Board of Regents meetings will incorporate the use of a conference calling service to allow all interested G.A. members an opportunity to hear the meetings as they happen. This will be done on a trial basis with future evaluation as to the effectiveness of this method. The method will require interested parties to obtain a pass code and call into a designated number prior to the start of the meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. Anyone who is interested in listening to the Board of Regents meeting can go to the Trustees Website at www.trusteewebsite.com to obtain the Conference I.D. (pass code) and telephone number to call. This will be listed under the Board of Regents "home page". This service will allow callers to **only listen** and **not participate** in the meeting.

## **3- NEW BUSINESS**

A. Compile Replacement List for Board of Regents. A recent vacancy on the Board of Regents necessitates that a list of alternates be compiled in the event there are any further vacancies on the B.O.R. A unanimous decision was reached by the Board of Regents to advise all G.A. groups within a 200 mile radius of the International Service Office to have any eligible members desiring an opportunity to serve on the BOR submit their names with a 200 word or less biography for inclusion with the list which will be submitted to the Board of Trustees Executive Committee to vote and elect an alternate(s) for the Board of Regents, who will then will be placed on the "replacement list" for the

remainder of the current term which ends June 30, 2011. Anyone interested please contact Karen H. at I.S.O. (213) 386-8789 for more information.

- B. Annual Audit. Accountants were in the Office after the August Board of Regents meeting and conducted the audit. Annual audit was satisfactory in all regards and we should have more information at the October meeting.
- C. I. S. O. Website. Benni F., Chairman asked that we review this item, since he was not here for the discussion last month. An update on the new I.S.O Website project was presented by Karen H., International Executive Secretary. No action has been forthcoming from the contracted vendor. The International Executive Secretary will write a letter to the vendor giving them 60 days to complete the project or the contract will be voided for cause and all deposits must be returned.

The next meeting of the Board of Regents was scheduled for 7:30 PM on October 15, 2010 at the International Service Office.

A collection of \$10.00 was taken and the meeting was adjourned with the Serenity Prayer at 8:45 PM.

### **Respectfully submitted, Bernie G., Recording Secretary**