

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2009**

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

Present: Benni F., Dwight C., Eddie R., Gary S., Gerry F., Howie C., Mike M. and Karen H., International Executive Secretary.

Present by Telephone: Allan S.

Absent: Sassoun N.

Guests: Steve Zimmers

1. A. The minutes of the Board of Regents meeting of October 16, 2009 were read and approved.

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

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- B. The Operating Statement for October 2009 was read and approved.

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

2-OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Lifeliners. There were 13 new Lifeliners as follows: 3 from Florida; 2 each from California, New Jersey and British Columbia and 1 each from New Hampshire, New Mexico, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

There were three new Cans; two from Nevada and one from California.

26 Starter Kits were sent out in October, including 3 going to prisons. The prison Kits were sent to Coleman, Florida; Ypsilanti, Michigan and Chester, Pennsylvania. The other 23 were sent as follows: Sierra Vista, Arizona; Sun Valley, California; N. Grosvenorvale, Connecticut; Rehoboth Beach, Delaware; New Port Richey, Florida; Clearwater, Florida; Guyton, Georgia; Ark City, Kansas; Metairie, Louisiana; Indian Orchard, Massachusetts; Riverdale, Michigan; Marshall, Michigan; Anoka, Minnesota; Las Vegas, Nevada; Reno, Nevada; Corvallis, Oregon; Grand Ronde, Oregon; Bellaire, Texas; Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin; Swift Current, Sask; Sinaloa, Mexico; Bucuresti, Romania and Malmo, Sweden.

14 new Group Information Forms were received back in October as follows: Clearwater, Florida; Treasure Island, Florida; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Plymouth, Massachusetts; Fridley, Minnesota; Joplin, Missouri; Reno, Nevada; Mandan, North Dakota; Salem, Oregon; Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin; Canterbury, New Brunswick; Burin, Newfoundland; Iasi, Romania and Pattaya, Thailand.

B. National Hotline. Benni F. introduced Steve Zimmers from Erlang in Cincinnati and Gary S., Board of Regents and Hotline committee member from New Jersey.

Benni F. reviewed the history of the Hotline stating that Gary S. headed the committee to set up the Hotline through Steve Zimmers from Erlang Communications and the responsibility was transferred from the Board of Trustees to the Board of Regents, so that is why the Board of Regents is involved. Benni then asked Steve to speak to the Board.

Steve thanked the Board for the invitation and proceeded to review the history of how the Hotline started in New Jersey 10 years ago. He explained how each area or Intergroup could join the Erlang system for local hotlines and that the areas would pay the same rates based on what they had been paying. Each group pays a different amount (the flat rate of their previous agreements) and activity or minutes do not affect the costs. New Jersey Intergroup is the only area that pays a per minute fee and not a flat rate out of the 32 – 34 Intergroup/Areas that belong to the Hotline. The system has been rebuilt 3 times. No contracts other than the 2 year contract with the International Service Office, has ever been written to any of the Intergroups/Areas, even though it has been offered by Erlang. Additionally no Area has ever dropped out of the system. There has never been an increase to any area in their billing even though there has been increased usage by some of the major areas like Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Florida. The Hotline received 55,000 calls last year nationally.

There is also a fixed cost to operate and maintain the system and that is taken care of by Steve. For the Areas that are not on 888 GA HELPS, like Atlanta, Georgia, there is a message which directs the caller to their local number at no additional cost.

Steve closed his review by offering his time and service to the Board of Regents and the Fellowship. He is willing to do a user conference in the future if needed or wanted. Benni reiterated that any Intergroup can join the Hotline based on what they are currently paying, guaranteeing it will not go up.

Ed K. who is also a member of the Hotline committee was asked to update the Spanish Hotline version. He is getting the Spanish translation done by Eddie C., a fellow G.A. member. Spanish speakers are also being lined up. The recording for instruction will be connected to the L.A. Hotline for testing in early 2010.

Gary reviewed the GA Helps National Directory that had previously been reported in the August Board of Regents minutes, which is compiled from each local area that is on the Hotline. To reach that directory simply call (888) GA HELPS and press the # key 2 times and enter in the area code for the specific area in question. You will be transferred into that areas system, at which point you can use it like you would use your own hotline system. An example: if you are in New York and would like to find a meeting or speak to a volunteer in Los Angeles, you would call (888) GA HELPS and once connected

would press the # key twice, and then “213” (L.A.’s Area Code). That’s it, you are now in the L.A. system.

Some groups have expressed their concerns about the Hotline continuing. At this time it is the consensus that Gamblers Anonymous is committed to continuing 888 GA HELPS.

C. Improvement of Communications at Board of Regents Meetings. Discussion was held regarding communications and long distance during the meetings with the two current Board members, Allan S. and Gary S. Skype for visual contact was discussed. Conference calling was also discussed for Trustees being able to call in with an access code which would allow them to listen to the meetings but not be able to speak. This will be on next months agenda. Benni will talk to other past Chairman of the Board of Regents.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review Annual Audit. The Annual Audit was reviewed. A motion to accept Annual Audit of June 30, 2009 as submitted.

Motion seconded and passed
For...8 Against...0

B. Review Employees Health Insurance. The new proposal for employees Health Insurance was discussed. The increase of 7.68% is well below the amount of 20% that was included in the annual budget. Motion to retain the current plan from Health Net as presented.

Motion seconded and passed
For...8 Against...0

The collection in the amount of \$21.00 was taken and the meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer. The next meeting of the Board of Regents will be held December 18, 2009 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Gerry F., Assistant Recording Secretary