

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9 & 10, 2004
RADISSON HOTEL, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

A) Welcome – Bob W. Chairman, Board of Trustees

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 9, 2004 by Bob W., Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Bob gave his opening remarks explaining procedures for the meeting. All new Trustees were asked to go to the microphones and introduce themselves. Thirteen proxies were received and read to be voted as follows: Area 1 – from Ted K. given to James B.; Area 3 – from Jan A. given to Gail L. and from Rocco D. given to Mike P.; Area 3A – from Larry D. given to Herb B.; Area 3C – from Penny S. given to Sam C.; Area 5A – from Ken D. given to Herb B.; Area 5B – from Andre G. given to Emile T.; Area 10A – from Norm B. given to Jim P., Area 13A – from Jim D. given to Guy A.; Area 15 – from Marty D. given to Chuck R.; Area 18 – from Andy D. given to Dennis M.; Area 18A – from Russell K. given to Alan S. and from Richard H. given to Dave S. One absentee ballot was received from Area 2A – Michael Y. and given to Karen H. to vote as per instructions on the ballot.

B) Remembrance of our departed members – Marshall R.

Marshall R. read a list of our brothers and sisters who have passed away since our last Trustees meeting held in Montreal. Their time of abstinence and where they were from was also mentioned. A moment of silence was observed in their memories. This meeting is being dedicated to Bill M., former Chairman of the Board of Regents

C) Reading from "A Day at a Time Book" – Gail L.

Gail L. read the reflection for the Day for September 9th.

D) Reading of the "12 Steps of Unity" – Chuck R.

Chuck R. read the 12 Steps of Unity.

E) Roll Call – Karen H. International Executive Secretary

Karen H. took roll and there are presently 98 votes to begin the first session.

F) Approval of Minutes from Montreal

The Minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held on April 29 & 30, 2004 in Montreal were unanimously approved as submitted.

G) Committee Reports

1. Montreal Final Report – David M.

Herb B. gave the above report as follows:

The Year 2004 Spring Conference Statement

Revenue:	Number	Price	Total	
Plan A	112	665.00	74,480.00	
Plan B	51	470.00	23,970.00	
Plan C	2	195.00	390.00	
Plan D	42	105.00	4,410.00	
Plan E	23	50.00	1,150.00	Total Attendees – 378
Add. Meals	36	55.00	1,980.00	
Room Upgrades			960.00	
Extra Nights	225	137.00	30,825.00	
Gam-Anon Literature Sales			1,331.40	
Tour Revenue			2,060.00	

Room Rebates	1,485.00		
US Exchange	1,903.37		
Total Revenue		144,944.77	
Expenses			
Hotel Rooms	78,645.11		
Friday Banquet	11,455.51		
Saturday Breakfast	5,817.76		
Saturday Banquet	17,761.10		
Sunday Brunch	8,724.11		
Trustees/Delegates Coffee	748.28		
Audio Visual for Trustees	465.85		
Microphones	430.05		
Hospitality Room	2,670.00		
Entertainment Friday	955.18		
Entertainment Saturday	3,332.42		
Centerpieces	451.00		
Skit Presentation	350.58		
Book Printing	1,750.62		
Registration and Supplies	826.81		
Give-Aways	1,947.28		
Closing Ceremony	300.67		
GA IES	1,322.97		
Gam-Anon IES	1,069.82		
Bank Charges	138.18		
Tours	1,039.93		
G.A. Literature Taxes	45.51		
Gam-Anon Literature Sales	1,331.40	141,580.14	
Profit		3,364.63	
Refunds made – post conference		914.63	
Balance		2,450.00	
	GA portion	1,347.50	981.50 US\$
	Gam-Anon portion	1,102.50	803.04 US\$
	Balance	0.00	

NB: All figures are in Canadian Dollars

2. New Orleans Conference Report – Denis M.

Denis M. reported on the above Conference stating that the committee is doing a great job. All requirements have been met and we are looking to an excellent week-end.

3. Connecticut Conference Report – David M.

Ronnie W. gave the report on the above Conference to be held May 13 – 15, 2005 at the Farmington Marriott. The workshops are pretty well set but they do need more articles for the Conference Booklet. They are looking forward to hosting everyone.

4. San Diego Conference Report – Denis M.

Malcom B. gave the report on the above Conference to be held at the Marriott Mission Valley October 7 – 9, 2005. Information is slow in coming but they expect a lot of people and plan to put on another great weekend.

5. Boston Conference Report – David M.

Jim C. gave the report on the above Conference to be held April 21 – 23, 2005 at the Boston Marriott Quincy. Everything is underway for yet another successful weekend of fellowship.

6. ISO/Lifeline Report – Karen H.

Karen H. gave her semi-annual report on Lifeliners handing out a chart showing the States and number of members who contributed from July 2003 through June 2004. The handout showed a slight decrease from last year's figures of \$47,969.12 to this year's figures of \$47,883.04. An explanation of what a Lifeline is, was given. Marshall R. stressed the importance of becoming a Lifeline. Everyone was thanked for their continued support.

7. New Orleans Walkathon Report – Marc L.

Marc L. reported that the Walk-A-Thon would be Saturday morning at 7:00 A.M.

8. Literature Committee Report – Chuck R.

Chuck R. stated that there is nothing to report because there is no new literature at this time.

9. Prison Committee Report – Jean-Marc L.

Rick B. gave the above report explaining what the Prison Committee is about. He asked that all Areas that have Prison meetings please email him at JIP (Jails, Institutions and Prisons) email address – jipcommittee@aol.com with all pertinent information.

10. Literature on Tape Committee Report – Jimmy D.

Jimmy D. was not present so this item has been tabled to Connecticut.

11. Gamblers Anonymous Website Guidelines Committee Report – Allan S.

Roger S. gave the report on the Website Guidelines committee.

12. Website Revision Committee Report – David M.

This item has been dropped for the time being.

13. Hotline Committee Report – Gary S.

Gary S. gave a complete presentation on a National Hotline for Gamblers Anonymous. This report has been included with these minutes below.

Motion to adopt a National Helpline as presented by the National Helpline Committee

Motion to table to Connecticut

Passed

Motion is pending

INTRODUCTION

- A Phone survey has been completed for the proposed GA-ISO Hotline.
- 37 of the 42 Areas in North America have responded. The results vary.

OUR GUIDANCE CODE

"To contact compulsive gamblers no matter where they may be and help them overcome a gambling problem."

The results – Compulsive Gamblers are leaving a message for us to get back to them.

THE RESULTS

- 7 – A. machine
- 9 – Full service
- 11 – Answering service
- 10 – Have none

7 – ANSWERING MACHINE

- 1 – Has an #800 with a message with the GA volunteers home phone
- 1 – Caller leaves a message and the machine pages the volunteer to call machine back
- 5 – Caller leaves a message. Volunteer gets back – whenever

9 – FULL SERVICE LIVE GA VOLUNTEER

- 1 - Pass along cell phone.
- 1 - Call forwarding to several volunteers
- 3 – Members home phone number
- 4 – Computer service

11 – ANSWERING SERVICES

- 4 – Service with a "Patch in" to a live GA volunteer
- 5 – Service with a GA member calls in for messages
- 2 – Answering service handles everything

10 – HAVE NONE

Why?

We clearly are not doing the best we can do

We make it very difficult for the caller to find us and then for them to get help

We can do better!

Much better!

PROPOSED HOTLINE SYSTEM

- Caller connects to a live GA volunteer
- Callers can connect to a volunteer's phone within 10 sec of the call's commencement
- Manages volunteer availability 24/7
- Automatic call distribution management amongst all available volunteers

PROPOSED HOTLINE SYSTEM

Meeting locator option

- The caller can listen to all meetings in chronological order starting with the next available meeting
- Search for Group meetings by day of week
- Find the closest Group meeting using the caller's zip or phone code

PROPOSED HOTLINE SYSTEM

Other options

- Leave a message for Public Relations information
- Gam-Anon telephone number (no live GA member)
- ALL CAN BE CUSTOMERIZE BY AREA

SO HOW DO WE MAKE THIS HAPPEN6

WHO PAYS FOR IT?

WHO MANAGES IT?

WHAT ARE SOME OTHERS PROBLEMS?

WHO PAYS FOR IT?

HOW MUCH IS IT?

- Based on the data collected, we can collectively now pay an estimate \$4,500.00 + per month
- There is a lot of hidden cost 1.) Some members pay for cost out of their pocket. 2.) Call forwarding cost. 3.) Equipment cost – cell phones, pagers, machines.

Proposed System Cost

- Can be looked at in many ways
- Overall Cost – 1 invoice
- By Area cost – calls plus time
- THE AVERAGE MONTHLY COST WOULD BE \$100 PER AREA

WHO PAYS FOR IT?

HOW DO WE PAY FOR IT?

- ISO budgets it and pay for it?
- Each Area pays for their usage?
- All Areas average the entire amount? Same amount for all?
- GA members pay for it? Via hotline can donation?
- All has its plus's and minus's

WHO MANAGERS IT?

- Each Area managers their own:
- Area controls volunteers schedules
- Area controls meeting location
- Area controls other options
- All Areas can manager – Via internet site or by the phone

OTHER PROBLEMS

- Getting system started
- Training administration
- Training volunteers
- How do we get the word out?
- Paying for Areas that cannot afford it?

All options and problems will be open for discussion in part II

PART II

GA-ISO NORTH AMERICAN US/CANADA HOTLINE REPORT PART II

PROPOSED ISO – GA NORTH AMERICA HOTLINE PHONE DEMO

- New Jersey hotline system
- 1-877-994-2465 or 1-877-99GA4NJ

THE GA- N.A – ISO SYSTEM

- The system would recognize the callers area code then the call would be connected to the closest live GA volunteer
- If none available – the system would ripple out to the first live GA volunteer

OPTION #1

- To speak to a volunteer
- We will get to this in a moment

OPTION #2

- To locate a meeting and time
- Announces total number of meetings
- Browse all group meetings - #1
- Browse meetings by day of week - #2
- To find the closest meeting to you - #3

OPTION #3

- To learn more about Gam-Anon
- A message is played with our local Gam-Anon phone number
- Any message could be played

OPTION #4

- Public Relations area
- A message is played and a recording is made with the callers information to send more information about GA
- An option could be added for the local area and/or ISO
- The Public Relations officer then can call in or an option of forwarding the information via email

OPTION #5

- To speak to a volunteer
- System connects to a live GA volunteer in 10 seconds
- If volunteer is not available – the caller is directed to the next GA volunteer. Up to 5 in 30 seconds
- The system recognizes answering machines and call waiting

WE CAN DO BETTER!

MUCH BETTER!

SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

I NEED HELP – STRONG HELP!

- We need strong business minds
- To help map out the best way to handle the cost and best options for GA – ISO
- To help get the word out
- To gather the Area's information

PLEASE – WITH ALL DUE RESPECT

Only the people that can volunteer their time and have a full commitment

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PATIENCE

14. Pressure Relief Pamphlet Financial Forms Committee – David M.

This item is tabled to Connecticut.

15. Public Relations Committee Report – Norm B.

This item is tabled to Connecticut.

16. Prison Abstinence Date Committee Report

This item has been dropped

17. Map Committee Report – Dan B.

This item is tabled to Connecticut

18. GA/Gam-Anon Conference Responsibility Committee Report – Larry B.

Larry B. gave a report on the above committee. David F. was appointed to this committee.

19. South America Report – George G.

George G. gave a report on the groups in South America. There are currently 62 groups in Argentina, 10 groups in Uruguay, 28 groups in Spain with an R.S.O. and four Intergroups.

20. Nominations for the Second Co-Chair of the B.O.T. – Chair

Due to the resignation of the 2nd Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees, nominations were submitted and an election was held. Congratulations to Michelle J. from Kansas City on her election to 2nd Co-Chair of the Board effective immediately.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Passed 1st vote in Montreal

1. Combo Book, page 13

Current: The first bet to a problem gambler is like the first small drink to an alcoholic.

Change: Remove the word "small"

Proposed: The first bet to a problem gambler is like the first drink to an alcoholic.

Richie S. – Area 6

Passed

(2nd vote)

2. Change Article VIII, Section 13 of the Guidance Code, 2nd to last word

Current: The Board of Trustees unequivocally will have the sole right to add to, delete or change any word of the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY, the Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM and the Twenty Questions. All Gamblers Anonymous literature or books must be first approved by the Board of Trustees before being published. No changes can be made in any Gamblers Anonymous literature published by the International Service Office (I.S.O.) without approval of the Board of Trustees. Changes can only be made by the Board of Trustees at two (2) conference meetings.

Proposed: ... can only be made by the Board of Trustees at two (2) board meetings.

Howie C. – Area 3D

Approved 55 Against 22

Passed

(2nd vote)

3. Change Article VIII, Section 9 of the Guidance Code

Current: To change the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY and the Twelve Steps of UNITY PROGRAM, it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than twenty (20) members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings.

Proposed change: Change "not less than twenty (20) members" to "not less than the physical presence of 2/3 of the eligible voting members."

Proposed New Version: To change the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY and the Twelve Steps of UNITY PROGRAM, it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than the physical presence of 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings.

Herb B. and Larry G. – Area 5

Passed

(2nd vote)

4. Change Article XIII, Section 11 of the Guidance Code

Current: The annual election of Regents shall be by written ballot. The International Executive Secretary shall prepare the ballot, listing thereon the names of the eighteen (18) nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee, and said ballot shall provide adequate space for the writing in of the candidates of the group's choice.

Proposed change: Delete the word "the" and add the words "up to" before eighteen so that the Guidance Code will be the same as our By-Laws.

Proposed New Version: The annual election of Regents shall be by written ballot. The International Executive Secretary shall prepare the ballot, listing thereon the names of up to eighteen (18) nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee, and said ballot shall provide adequate space for the writing in of the candidates of the group's choice.

Lanny R. - Area 1

Passed

(2nd vote)

5. Include in the Gamblers Anonymous "Starter Kit" a 3-page insert which explains what Gam-Anon is and how a gam-Anon meeting can be started. Gam-Anon will be responsible for providing these inserts to G.A.'s I.S.O. for inclusion

Larry B. – Area 15

The Chair ruled this item out of order. The Chair was then challenged. The vote on the challenge passes therefore the Chair is out of order and the motion is in order.

Approved 44 Against 47 Failed

A roll call was requested with the results as follows:

Approved 51 Against 46 Passed

(2nd vote)

Tabled from Montreal

6. Motion that we start the idea of a National Phone Hotline

This item was handled as part of #13 in Committee reports.

7. Allow Areas with more than one Trustee the choice to stagger elections (half elected even years, half elected odd years)

Roger S. – Area 8A

No discussion

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Related Issues

- 1. To approve the online pressure relief group financial forms along with an online instruction file to explain how it is to be used. They will both initially be available on the agenda website and/or any other location deemed appropriate by the Board of Trustees.**

David M. – Area 12

No discussion.

Requests for New Committees

- 2. Make the website for the Trustees' Agenda a function of a committee and set guidelines for updating and reporting.**

Marc L. – Area 1

After a discussion was held a straw vote was called for to form a committee for the above item. The Chair did not choose to form a committee on a straw vote. After completion of the item the Chair was challenged. The challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and no committee will be formed.

- 3. Form a committee to reapportion and possibly realign all Area Trustee allocations.**

Marc L. – Area 1

Motion to form a committee

Passed

The Committee will include Marc L., Roger S., Sam C., Howie C., Rene B., Valerie D. and Fred N.

- 4. Form a committee to update the Sponsorship Manual.**

Sharon W. – Area 2G

Motion to form a committee

Failed

Steps

- 5. Change Step 11 of Unity Program to state instead of "press, radio, films and television" to state "all forms of mass media."**

Ian S. – Area 6D

Motion to accept above adding the words "outlets" after "media"

Failed

Motion to change Step 11 to read: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity in all forms of mass media.

Failed

6. **Change Step 2 of the Unity Program to read as follows:**
For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving Higher Power as He may express Himself in our group conscious. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
Marc L. – Area 1
Motion to accept above with “conscience” instead of “conscious”
Failed

Combo Book

7. **Combo Book page 16 question 18. Change from “Do” to “Did” (first word).**
Bob W. – Area 1
Motion to accept above.
Failed
8. **Combo Book page 2: Middle of 2nd paragraph after the word “institution” add: “but cooperates with Gam-Anon.” The sentence would read “Gamblers Anonymous is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; but cooperates with Gam-Anon. Gamblers Anonymous does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any cause.”**
Howie C. – Area 3D
Motion to accept above
Failed
9. **Combo Book, Page 17, #5, Line 1, Bold Print the word “steps.”**
Tom P. – Area 3D
Motion to accept above
Failed
10. **Combo Book, Page 11, under the question “What is the dream world of the compulsive gambler?” Change all the “they” words to “we” (occurs 9 times) and change the word “themselves” to “ourselves” (occurs 1 time) and change the word “their” to “our” (occurs 1 time).**
Tom P. – Area 3D
Motion to accept above
Failed
11. **Combo Book, Page 12, under the question “Isn’t compulsive gambling basically a financial problem?” Change the word “themselves” to “ourselves” (occurs 2 times) and change the word “them” to “us” (occurs 1 time) and change the word “their” to “our” (occurs 1 time).**
Tom P. – Area 3D
Motion to accept above
Failed
12. **Combo Book – page 17 – guideline #6: Change the word “may” to “will” in the last line. Last line would read: “Adherence to it will aid in your recovery.”**
Larry B. – Area 15
Motion to accept above
Passed (1st vote)

13. **Combo Book – page 12: Add the word “Bankruptcy” before the word “Borrowing.” Sentence would read: “Bankruptcy, borrowing and/or lending of money (bailouts) in Gamblers Anonymous is detrimental to our recovery and should not take place.”**
Larry B. – Area 15
 Motion to accept above
 Amendment to add the word “personal” before bankruptcy
 The Chair was challenged that the amendment is out of order. The vote on the challenge passes therefore the Chair is out of order and so is the amendment.
 On the motion
 Passed (1st vote)
14. **Combo Book, Page 17, number 3, Add the word “Internet” after the words “this includes the”. The sentence would read: This includes the Internet, stock market, commodities, options...**
Howie C. – Area 3D
 Motion to accept above
 Amendment to add the word “gambling” after the word “Internet”.
 On the motion
 Passed (1st vote)
15. **Page 13 of the Combo Book. Take out the words “seem to” and add an “s” to the word “solve”, so the sentence would read: We have found that willpower and self-knowledge will not help in those mental blank spots, but adherence to spiritual principles solves our problems.**
Howie C. – Area 3D
 No discussion
16. **Combo Book Page 16, delete statement after question 20.**
Denis M. – Area 12
 Motion to accept above
 Approved 44 Against 48 Failed
 A roll call was requested with the results as follows:
 Approved 41 Against 55 Failed
17. **Combo Book Page 8, Change the 1st paragraph after the question “What is compulsive gambling?” from the current version:**
“Compulsive gambling is an illness, progressive in its nature, which can never be cured, but can be arrested.”
New Version: “Compulsive gambling is wagering by a person who usually cannot stop wagering for long, whether he or she is winning or losing.”
Paul W. thru Marc L. – Area 1
 Motion to accept above without the words “for long”
 Failed
18. **Combo Book Page 12, Change the 1st sentence after the question “Isn’t compulsive gambling basically a financial problem?” from the**
Current Version: “No, compulsive gambling is an emotional problem.”
New Version: “Compulsive gambling is sometimes basically an emotional problem and sometimes basically a physical problem.”
Paul W. thru Marc L. – Area 1
 Motion to accept above removing the word “basically” twice
 Failed

19. **Reprint the Combo Book for ease of reading and understanding for combined English/Spanish members. It is suggested that alternate paragraphs be in English followed by alternate Spanish paragraphs.**

Tom P. – Area 3D

Motion to accept above

Failed

Guidance Code

20. **If a person attends their first G.A. meeting while in prison, their abstinence date starts with that meeting. Also, if a G.A. member goes to prison after already being a G.A. member, his/her abstinence still continues, if they stay clean in prison.**

Howie C. – Area 3D

Discussion only

21. **Guidance Code addition: Page 8, number 17, add sentence at the end (after the word "Conference"). "Only Current or Former Trustees submit an item for the Trustees agenda."**

Howie C. – Area 3D

Motion to accept above

Failed

22. **Guidance Code change: Page 9, number 25 to read, "An item that is passed or defeated cannot be brought up for a vote for a period of two (2) years."**

Howie C. – Area 3D

Motion to accept above

Approved 57 Against 26 Passed (1st vote)

The Chair stated that abstentions would count toward the total vote. The Chair was then challenged. The vote on the challenge passes therefore the Chair is out of order and abstentions will not count.

A roll call was requested with the results as follows:

Approved 67 Against 26 Passed (1st vote)

23. **Guidance Code change, Article XVI, section 8: Delete last sentence and replace with "His/her expenses to these meetings shall be paid by the I.S.O."**

Denis M. – Area 12

Motion to accept above

Passed unanimously (1st vote)

24. **Guidance Code change, Article VIII, section 1: Add the words "weeks of" following (39).
Current version: Board of Trustees defines regular attendance for National officers as thirty-nine (39) meetings per year.**

Proposed Version: Board of Trustees defines regular attendance for National officers as thirty-nine (39) weeks of meetings per year.

Alan J. – Area 15

Motion to accept above

After someone had questioned that this item failed in Montreal, the Chair stated the item was different. The Chair was then challenged that it was the same item. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and so is the item.

On the motion

Failed

Misc. Literature

25. **Group Handbook, page 2 under secretary, item #3, at the end "...that a new person is given copies." Add "and also an updated phone list for the meeting room and an updated meeting list for the area"**
Allan S. – Area 8
Motion to accept above
Passed (1st vote)
26. **Group Handbook, page #3 under treasurer, item #1, change to read "take up a collection at each meeting, usually during the business portion of the meeting."**
Allan S. – Area 8
Motion to accept above
Failed
27. **Group Handbook, page #2, 5th line from bottom, change the sentence to read, "their most important qualification is that they have abstained from gambling for at least six (6) months, unless it is a brand new group."**
Allan S. – Area 8
No discussion
28. **Group Handbook, page #3 under Rotating Meeting Chairperson, lines #4 and #5, to be changed to read "the chairperson should be a person who has a minimum of ninety (90) days of abstinence."**
Allan S. – Area 8
No discussion
29. **Group Handbook, page #7 under suggested meeting format, after current #6 and prior to current #7, add "chairperson calls on another member to read the daily reading from the "One Day at a Time Book."**
Allan S. – Area 8
Approved 44 Against 49 Failed
30. **Group Handbook, page #7 under suggested meeting format, after current #6 and prior to current #7, add "chairperson calls on another member to explain pressure relief."**
Allan S. – Area 8
Motion to accept above
Amendment to add the words "group meeting" after "Pressure Relief." The Chair was challenged that the amendment is out of order. The vote on the challenge passes therefore the Chair is out of order and so is the amendment.
On the motion
Approved 42 Against 48 Failed
31. **Group Handbook, page #5, the Rotation Principle and how it applies to the B.O.T. In particular, please discuss the line "...indeed, throughout the entire G.A. Fellowship. It means that G.A., as such, will shy away from the idea of any individual, no matter how competent, serving too long in any single capacity." Follow up with a straw vote on whether the Rotation Principle applies to members of the B.O.T.**
Allan S. – Area 8
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that the "Rotation Principle" should apply.

32. In the G.A. first edition blue book from 1984 page 13 before the beginning of the "Howie and Abner" story, state the following: "The following story is fiction and not based on any personal G.A. story."
Howie C. – Area 3D
 Motion to accept above
 Failed
33. Page 2, number 7 in the Group Handbook –After the word "abstinence" put a comma, then add: providing they have attended 39 or more meetings in the prior 12 months. (This would make it coincide with the Guidance Code, page 5, number 4)
Howie C. – Area 3D
 Motion to accept above
 Failed
34. Grey book Towards 90 Days, page 7, last paragraph
 Current version: "Remember the distance to our last bet may get longer and longer, but the distance to our next bet always remains the same – we are one bet away from disaster."
 Proposed version: "Remember the distance to our last bet may get longer and longer, but always remember we are all only one bet from disaster."
Scott D. – Area 8
 Motion to accept above
 Failed

New Literature

35. Approval of the "How I Keep from Gambling" pamphlet.
Lanny R. – Area 1
 Motion to accept above with updates and grammatical corrections
 Failed
36. Approval of the "Twelve Steps of Unity" pamphlet.
Larry G. – Area 5
 Motion to accept above as approved literature
 The Chair was challenged that the motion is out of order. The challenge passes therefore the Chair is out of order and so is the motion.
37. Approval of the "Twelve Steps of Recovery" pamphlet.
Larry G. – Area 5
 The Chair ruled this item out of order.
38. Add the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous as approved literature for Gamblers Anonymous.
Tom S. thru Roger S. – Area 8A
 Discussion only

BOT Procedures

39. Motion: "All conferences approved by the B.O.T. should contain the word "International" somewhere within their title."
Allan S. – Area 8
 This item was ruled out of order as it does not meet the two-year rule.

- 40 **Board of Trustees Committee Chairs should be current Trustees. A G.A. member who has never been a Trustee can be appointed as a Co-Chair of the committee. If a committee chair is no longer serving as a current Trustee, then one of the Chairs of the Board of Trustees will request a new one to volunteer from within the existing members of the committee. If none volunteer, then one will be appointed. It is the option of the existing Chair to then remain as a Co-Chair or member of the committee.**
David M. – Area 12
No discussion
41. **What guidelines are used by the Co-Chairs on materials that are disapproved for conferences?**
Joe B. - Area 6C
Discussion only
42. **Permission to hold the 2007 National Conferences in Chicago (Spring 2007) and Los Angeles (Fall 2007). The Fall 2007 conference will be a combined 50 year G.A. anniversary conference hosted by all of the western areas.**
Tom M. – Area 2
Motion to allow Los Angeles to host the 2007 Fall Conference. The Chair was challenged the motion should not be accepted. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and so is the motion.
On the motion
Passed
43. **For discussion: New procedures for all items brought to the floor to assure both pro and con points of view to be heard.**
Larry B. – Area 15
Motion to institute procedure for all items brought to the floor to assure both pro and con points of view be heard by using right hands raised to exhibit pro point views and left hands raised to exhibit con views. The Chair was challenged that he was not speaking on the motion. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the discussion continued.
On the motion
Failed
44. **To discuss and vote on every National Trustees becoming a member of Lifeliners.**
Marshall R. – Area 12
Motion that every National Trustee should be a member of Lifeliners. The Chair ruled this motion out of order. The Chair was then challenged. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the motion is out of order.
45. **A non-Trustee G.A. member may speak during the discussion period on any item that is specific to their area only.**
Anne D. thru David M. – Area 5B
Discussion only
46. **Starting with the Spring 2005 Trustees Agenda and for subsequent Trustee Agendas – Place a moratorium on Combo Book changes for the odd years and a moratorium on Guidance Code change for the even years with exception of emergency items deemed necessary by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The moratorium will not apply to second votes.**
Marc L. – Area 1
No discussion

Group Procedures

47. **Straw Vote... The meeting room's By-Laws or Standing rules cannot dictate what a person can or cannot say while giving therapy.**
Joe B. – Area 6C
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that the meeting room's By-Laws or Standing rules cannot dictate what a person can or cannot say while giving therapy.
48. **Straw Vote... Can a G.A. room have stricter guidelines pertaining to pinnings and celebrating successive anniversaries than what is contained in the Guidance Code?**
Joe B. – Area 6C
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that a G.A. room cannot have stricter guidelines pertaining to pinnings and celebrating successive anniversaries than what is contained in the Guidance Code
49. **Straw Vote... Should a person while giving therapy be interrupted by the room's chairperson or by someone in the room?**
Joe B. – Area 6C
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that if necessary a person while giving therapy should be interrupted by the room's chairperson or by someone in the room.
50. **It is suggested that prior notice shall not be given to a new member before he or she is called upon to answer the Twenty Questions on pages 15 and 16 of the Combo Book.**
David F. – Area 3A
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that prior notice shall not be given to a new member before he or she is called upon to answer the Twenty Questions

Intergroup Procedures

51. **Discuss and a Straw Vote on whether garage sales which are open to the public are acceptable as a fundraising activity for conference committees, Trustees, Intergroups or local groups.**
Richard C. – Area 2A
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that garage sales, which are open to the public, are acceptable as a fundraising activity for Conference committees, Trustees, Intergroups or local groups.
52. **Discuss ways of attracting and retaining minority members.**
Sherwin B. thru Gary B. – Area 10B
Discussion only
53. **Is the wearing of any sports-related clothing appropriate at a G.A. meeting, Intergroup or a G.A. Conference?**
Bob O. – Area 8
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that wearing sports-related clothing is appropriate at a G.A. meeting, Intergroup or a G.A. Conference.
54. **Is clothing that displays race tracks, casinos, gambling establishments or gambling paraphernalia, appropriate at a G.A. meeting, Intergroup or a G.A. Conference?**
Bob O. – Area 8
A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that clothing displaying race tracks, casinos, gambling establishments or gambling paraphernalia is not appropriate at a G.A. meeting, Intergroup or a G.A. Conference.

55. **Is clothing advertising sports teams, race tracks, casinos, etc. appropriate at a G.A. meeting, Intergroup or a G.A. Conference?**

Bill S. – Area 8

This item has already been discussed in #53 and #54 of New Business.

56. **Is it appropriate to use Code Morin (Canada's version of Robert's rules) for French Intergroup meeting procedures?**

Richard M. thru David M. – Area 5B

No discussion

ISO Procedures

57. **Motion to approve an R.S.O. for Quebec**

Richard M. thru David M. – Area 5B

Motion to table to Connecticut

Passed

58. **Conference bid for the Fall 2006 Conference. This is open to bid by any Southern Area Intergroup.**

Chairman – BOT – Area 1

Fort Lauderdale was the only area presenting a bid for the above Conference.

Motion to accept the above bid for the Conference to be held October 20 – 22, 2006 at the Wyndham Bonaventure resort and Spa in Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Passed

Any additional items that were omitted from the agenda. Chairman – BOT – Area 1

59. **Request financial help for Argentina to translate approved literature.**

A motion to authorize and reimburse R.S.O. Argentina up to \$1,000.00 to translate I.S.O. approved literature without prior Board approval. Any other I.S.O. approved literature translations over \$1,000.00 should be prior approved by Board of Trustees.

Failed

A motion was made to authorize and reimburse R.S.O. Argentina up to \$1,000.00 to translate the Agenda for the Connecticut Conference in Spanish.

Approved 33 Against 39 Failed

Good and Welfare, Chairman – BOT – Area 1

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer on September 10th at 5:55 P.M. The collection for the four (4) sessions was \$572.00.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held May 12, 2005 in Farmington, Connecticut.

Respectfully submitted

Karen H.

International Executive Secretary