

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING
OCTOBER 19 & 20, 2006
HYATT REGENCY BONAVENTURE RESORT, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**

A) Welcome –Denis M. Chairman, Board of Trustees

Denis M., Chairman of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. on October 19, 2006. Everyone was welcomed and all new Trustees were asked to introduce themselves. The people at the head table were introduced and the rules and procedures for the meeting were explained along with an explanation of the difference between Point of Order and Point of Information. Eight proxy's were read to be voted as follows: Area 2B – from Joyce M. given to Steve R.; Area 5 – from Marlene O., given to David M.; Area 6B - from Juan A., given to Dina P.; Area 6C – from Joyce J., given to Dennis A.; Area 13C – from Guy A., given to Kevin O.; Area 19 – from Manuel G., given to Leo R.; Area 21 – from Andres P., given to George G. and Area 21 – from Manuel I., given to Bill B. Two absentee ballots were received as follows: Area 6D – from Ian S., given to Herb B. and Area 18 – from David McA., given to Dave S. to vote as per instructions on their respective ballots.

B) Remembrance of our departed members- Marshall R.

Marshall R. read a list of names of our brothers and sisters who had passed away since our last Trustees meeting held in Boston. Time of abstinence and where they were from was also mentioned. A moment of silence was observed in all of their memories.

C) Reading from “A Day at a Time Book”- Dina P.

Dina P. read the Reflection for the Day for October 19th.

D) Reading of the”12 Steps of Unity”- Valerie D.

Valerie D. read the 12 Steps of Unity.

E) Roll Call-Karen H. International Executive Secretary

Karen H. took roll and there are presently 101 votes to begin the first session.

F) Approval of Minutes from Boston

The minutes of the meeting held in Boston April 20 & 21, 2006 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G) Committee Reports

1 – North American Telephone Hotline Committee -

Committee Chair – Gary S. – Area 12 Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.

Final report submitted with agenda. Committee now disbanded.

NATIONAL HELPLINE COMMITTEE REPORT

As of August 18, 2006 the Board of Trustee helpline committee has been officially moved over to the Board of Regents and I have accepted to be the Chairman. Let me make it clear that there are no promises or agreement as of this report by the BOR. This is just a positive next step.

In my last report at the Boston national BOT meeting, I had given you some of the changes and reported the details about my meeting with the BOR earlier this year. Afterwards, there needed to be some minor changes. I would like to outline those changes as well as to make it clear what the responsibilities of both the BOR and your local areas.

No matter where you are today on the adoption of a national system, the changes planned will make it possible for ALL AREAS to utilize and benefit from the use of one number (888) GA-HELPS.

If you are using the national service provider, ERLANG, nothing will change. If you have a LOCAL area helpline service and number, callers will find you.

If an area has no hotline number, callers will find the ISO web address.

The following explains the details for you and your respective intergroups.

NATIONAL HOTLINE SERVICE OVERVIEW

(888) GA-Helps will provide hotline callers ALL local GA area hotline information whether or not you are using the current system. HOWEVER, what the caller hears will be different depending on how you operate your hotline.

Areas ON and using the ERLANG hotline system today will be automatically connected to your volunteers and your meetings, the same as always depending on your local area codes. The toll-free number you use today still works, but you can use the GA-HELPS number in brochures, directories, etc. as soon as you request area codes for your local area. When a caller dials GA-Helps from your selected area codes, they get your groups information. Callers will have the options to connect with your area's LIVE volunteers and your other local options that you have agreed to use with ERLANG. I will discuss this in more details in the LOCAL HOTLINE SERVICE OVERVIEW section.

ALL Areas NOT ON the ERLANG system will play a message for callers from ALL area codes that you want to get your local hotline number. Callers from your area codes will hear the message - *"Please call your local GA hotline number 555-555-5555 (your areas Hotline number) or log on to www.gambleranonymous.org for more information"*. The caller will have to directly call your local hotline number – but in all cases the caller will get your number so they can get the information he/she needs. Please see LOCAL NUMBER HELPLINE SERVICE OVERVIEW for more details.

These changes had to be done to accommodate those areas that have chosen at this time not to join the ERLANG system. Areas that have joined the ERLANG system are waiting to move forward towards the completion of a national hotline. I am not making any judgment, we are just moving forward with a NATIONAL HOTLINE system that the BOT have voted on and passed. Our hope is that more areas will join the ERLANG system once 888-GA-HELPS is live.

What about VOLUNTEERS: There will be NO "call transfers" or "sharing" of live volunteers from AREA to AREA. Our experience indicates that volunteer availability is best managed directly by each area (small or large) and that sharing volunteers will not be needed. In fact, once an area has switched over to ERLANG system, flexibility for volunteer scheduling significantly contributes to unity within their areas. Your own area will be responsible for your hotline as you do today,

there will be no differences or changes for you to consider. If at a future date “sharing” live volunteers makes sense, we can discuss this at a later date.

What about MEETINGS and Options: The meeting information and extra options will only be available to those areas that are ON ERLANG system. At this time, the areas that are on the ERLANG system control meeting information updates and changes. Some areas on the ERLANG system have chosen not to give out the meeting information as an option, but rather through only the live volunteers. Regardless, all callers will continue to find meetings as they always have. Please note that we are currently considering other options that would allow all local areas that are not on the ERLANG system to still make meeting information available. Please see LOCAL NUMBER HELPLINE SERVICE OVERVIEW for more details.

In summary the ISO/BOR is supporting all areas with one national toll free number to connect that person who is still suffering within all local areas. GA-HELPS is the vanity number that can be the “ONE SOURCE” number that will be available for all media and callers. The ISO/BOR does not pay your local area hotline cost but they will provide GA-Helps for use by all areas.

The financial support from the BOR is critical to maintain the overall cost and balance of the system. It will balance and support those areas that do not have a system as well as those areas with a budget that cannot support the total cost of a hotline.

LOCAL NUMBER HELPLINE SERVICE OVERVIEW

Once again, the national helpline service will inform the caller of that caller’s local GA area helpline information. Whether or not your area is on the ERLANG system today.

If your area is **ON** the ERLANG system, you will not experience any differences at all in your service. 888-GA –HELPS will always connect that local caller to your volunteers as well as any local options that your area has agreed upon with ERLANG. Area codes for your area will be confirmed through your hotline coordinators. This will guarantee that your area will only be billed for just your area.

Also, your area helpline officer will still be responsible for maintaining your volunteers scheduling and your local meeting. Nothing is changing. We are trying to “Keep It Simple”. If the system works for you now – it will continue to work the same and just keep getting better.

The billing for your area will also remain the same. Let me make it clear. Your area billing has no effect on what ISO/BOR charges are and the reverse is true. If any area drops off the system, the ISO/BOR and your own area will not carry that loss or difference. It is truly an independent system as far as billing. Your agreement is with ERLANG and not with ISO/BOR.

There will be new reporting features button available through the current www.volunteerhelpline.org web page. As these features come available, I will let you know. All of your concerns and suggestion have been addressed – it is going to make the national system even better. I thank all of you that have helped make the system good to great.

If your area is **NOT** is not on the ERLANG system, your experience will also remain the same, except for the fact that more people in need may find you. In this case,

888-GA-HELPS helps promote your own area helpline number by passing on the recorded information to your local caller. You do not have to coordinate any recordings, just make sure that if your number changes you keep the ISO informed as always, but also copy me of course. There is no charge for this service and your area will not have to pay for this benefit. This is part of the ISO/BOR agreed package from ERLANG. To be very clear, there cannot be an automatic transfer from ERLANG system. Only a recording is provided giving your local caller your local hotline number so they can still reach you.

Meeting information will not be available for your area. There is no way to verify, maintain and communicate your local information. The areas that are on the ERLANG system maintain and update their own information. Future upgrades may allow a caller to access your meeting information and you can help this development by participating in the hotline. Today ALL areas can receive an Internet login access to install and maintain meeting information, as well as a demonstration number to play with other hotline features. Testing access and test calls are provided at no charge. Feel free to contact me to get started.

Thank you for your inclusion of your local helpline number and helping us create ONE unified toll free national helpline that provides awareness for ALL areas. Please have your helpline officer email me, or call me, to confirm your local hotline telephone number and your local area codes.

I thank you all for your support and patience over the years and we are looking forward to a great national helpline.

Your brother,

**Gary S. – Trustee Area 12
888-GA-HELPS Chairman
Board of Regents**

2 - Past Trustee Decisions Committee:

Committee Chair – Ed E. – Area 2

Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.

Mission Statement - The Past Decisions Committee is committed to providing viable recommendations to the BOT regarding the “Past Trustee Decisions” as to their authority and application within the parameters of G.A.’s Guidance Code, 12 Steps of recovery and 12 Steps of unity. The committee shall initiate a long range planning process in conjunction with the Executive Board and review and analyze Trustee decisions for suggested revisions to the Board.

Ed E. gave the above report handing out an extensive Committee Report, listing the Mission Statement, Purpose and Goal, “Past Trustee Decisions” Current Situation, Strategy and Approach and Summary along with a list of the different Past Trustees Decisions that are presented on this agenda for approval for implementation in the Guidance Code.

3 - Trustee Alignment Committee:

Committee Chair – Ian S. – Area 6D

Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.

Mission Statement - To enhance the effectiveness of the Trustees to service their Areas and the Board of Trustees as well as achieve an appropriate allocation of Trustees within an Area in order to fairly represent the Fellowship as a whole.

No report.

4 – Trustee Website Guidelines Committee:

Committee Chair – David M. – Area 12 Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.

Mission Statement - To set guidelines and oversee the Trustee website

David M. gave the above report. There is a change to the Mission Statement as follows: To administrate the Trustee Website as per the directives of the Board of Trustees.

5 - Gamblers Anonymous Website Guidelines Committee:

Committee Chair - Michele R. – Area 12 Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.

Mission Statement - To present guidelines for local areas to structure a GA website consistent with and within the framework of the Fellowship.

Since Michele R. is no longer the Committee Chair of this committee, David M. handed out and went over a four page “Website Checklist for Compliance with Gamblers Anonymous Board of Trustees Website Guidelines which listed several different items.

Motion to accept the Website Guidelines report as approved G.A. literature.

Approved 39 Against 43

Failed

6 - Website Revision Committee:

Committee Chair – David M. – Area 12 Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.

Mission Statement - To review new designs, features, enhancements and any other changes that would be demonstrated to the Board of Trustees for approval and deployment to any website approved by the Board of Trustees.

David M. gave the above report stating that because of funding requirements with the hotline there was no information provided to the Board of Regents for competitive bid, even though it had been requested.

7 - Boston Conference Spring '06 - Michelle J.

Michelle J. began a very lengthy discussion on the above Conference that took place April 21 – 23, 2006. The consensus was that the Conference committee violated a number of established Guidelines set up by the Board of Trustees to safeguard the financial status of Gamblers Anonymous when hosting a National Conference. It was also the consensus that the Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees, who was responsible for overseeing these procedures were being complied with, did not properly execute the recommended Guidelines. The Committees final report that was submitted was not approved. Michelle will follow up and get back to the Board in Chicago.

8 - Chicago Conference Spring '07 - Michelle J.

Michelle J. gave the report on the above Conference to be held May 18 – 20, 2007 at the Wyndham Hotel in Itasca, Illinois. She stated that she has been in extensive contact with the committee. Copies of signature cards have been received with four signatures along with the latest minutes. A statement of all registrations and expenses has also been received.

9 - Pressure Relief Online Financial Forms Committee:

Committee Chair – David M. – Area 12 Co-Chair Liaison – Michelle J.

Mission Statement - To convert the financial calculation parts of the Pressure Relief Group Meeting Pamphlet and Financial Forms into a digital format using a spreadsheet application. This will allow users to input and adjust items on a computer and then creating the ability for members of each pressure relief committee to better coordinate the changes, which are inherently part of the pressure relief process.

David M. gave the above report explaining the forms that were handed out. They should have a visual online model in for presentation in Chicago.

10 - Public Relations Committee:

Committee Chair – Howie C. – Area 3D Co-Chair Liaison – Michelle J.

Mission Statement - To write a booklet on the "proper way" for Gamblers Anonymous members who are working on Public Relations to handle things. Some dos and don'ts, and explanations on anonymity.

Howie C. reported on the above, stating they will have a full report in Chicago.

11 - Trustee Area Map Committee:

Committee Chair – None

Co-Chair Liaison – Michelle J.

Mission Statement – None Submitted

This Committee was disband.

12 - Walkathon Committee:

Committee Chair – Marc L. – Area 1

Co-Chair Liaison – Michelle J.

Mission Statement - To help coordinate each Conference's Walk-A-Thon. The proceeds go directly to ISO. It is suggested that each Area should have at least one walker at each event.

Richie S. gave the above report. The Walk-A-Thon will take place on Saturday morning at 7:00 A.M., which will encompass walking around the Resort in which we are staying.

13 - Trustee Meeting Rules and Procedures Committee:

Committee Chair - Herb B. – Area 5

Co-Chair Liaison – Michelle J.

Mission Statement – To compile, maintain and amend a manual that will outline the rules and procedures for the Trustee meetings of Gamblers Anonymous.

Herb B. gave the above report. The committee will be working on this over the next several months. Anyone with input can email Herb at herb@sympatico.ca

14 - 90 Day Room Committee

Committee Chair – Andy D. – Area 12 Co-Chair Liaison Michelle J.

Mission Statement - To compile suggestions for a successful 90 day room.

In the absence of Andy D., Michelle J. stated she received a report from Andy and this report will be submitted to the Trustees Website for anyone wishing to view it.

15 - Florida Conference Fall '06 - Chuck R.

Chuck R. reported on the above Conference, with Richie S. stating that this Hotel has been sold 3 times since the contract was first negotiated and it has not been easy dealing with the current owners. The committee has done everything to put on a good Conference. So far 400 reservations have been received with 740 cumulative room nights. The Committee has tried to do everything fiscally correct and some of the members will be negotiating with the Hotel as to try to keep any possible loss to a minimum.

16 - Los Angeles Conference Fall '07- Chuck R.

Chuck R. gave the report on the above Conference to be held October 5 – 7, 2007 at the Marriott Los Angeles Airport Hotel stating that the committee has been exemplary in their report writing. Bob W. gave an update. 400 registrations so far have been received. The first 750 to register will be guaranteed a place in the dining room for Saturday night. So get your reservations in.

17 - Literature Committee:

Committee Chair - Gary B. – Area 10B

Co-Chair Liaison – Chuck R.

Mission Statement - To encourage the creation of new Gamblers Anonymous literature as needed and to revise, edit and or update existing Gamblers Anonymous literature.

Gary B. gave the report on the Literature committee stating they are working on a few items including a 12 Step Study Workbook and a G.A. library of literature to sell in packages. The committee also supported and gave input to Dina P. on the rewriting of Young Gamblers in Recovery.

18 - Prison Committee:

Committee Chair - Sharon W. – Area 2G Co-Chair Liaison – Chuck R.

Mission Statement - To provide telephone, email, "snail mail", and an in person resource (as feasible) to the trustees or their designees for the purpose of assisting when a prisoner or institutional staff member is requesting to start an "inside" meeting, or an Intergroup and its committee are outreaching to prisons, jails, etc. Also, to compile in the ISO office an unpublished JIP meeting directory as a much-needed resource for federal, state, and local judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors, probation and parole officers, and clinicians.

Sharon W. gave the report for the Prison committee in the United States. Input has been received from Areas restarting prison meetings. They will continue to have committee meetings at the Conferences and they are open to all interested in being involved. At this Conference the committee will meet Saturday at 8:00 AM. Robert I. gave the report for the Prison meetings in Canada. He read a letter from Jean Marc L., who is the Chairman for Prison committee in Canada. A list of meetings was handed out showing the 10 Prison meetings and where they are currently taking place.

19 - Literature on Tape Committee:

Committee Chair - Jimmy D.– Area 1

Co-Chair Liaison – Chuck R.

Mission Statement – To create compact disc recordings of pertinent Gamblers Anonymous approved literature so all members have access.

Chuck R. read a letter from Jimmy D. that had been submitted. This committee will now be called the Literature on CD Committee. Joe B. gave the above report stating that Towards 90 Days and Beyond 90 Days are currently being purchased and enjoyed by many members of our fellowship. There are several other items in the works, including the Combo Book, and pieces listed in the Information Packet under “Suggested New Member Packet”.

20 - Big Steve Film Committee:

Committee Chair – Howie C. – Area 3

Co-Chair Liaison – Chuck R.

Mission Statement - To update the new 'Big Steve' film to reflect modern times.

Howie C. stated that he has received a reasonable price from a production company and will be getting together with them to discuss this project.

21 - Conference Evaluation Committee:

Committee Chair – Bob W. – Area 1

Co-Chair Liaison – Chuck R.

Mission Statement - To create an evaluation survey to be completed by participants at national conferences. This survey, addressing all aspects of the conference, is to be used by future host committees to assist in their planning.

This committee was disbanded during the last Conference in Boston.

22 – International Relations Committee:

Committee Chair – George G. – Area 15

Co-Chair Liaison – Chuck R.

Mission Statement – To facilitate communication with I.S.O. co-ordinate Conferences, co-ordinate literature distribution and to maintain unity.

George G. handed out an International Relations Committee Report showing what the committees objectives are, along with a list of countries that requested and received help. Vera T., Trustee from Sao Paulo, Brazil spoke about the history in Brazil. Steve R. also spoke handing out a detailed report showing the number of Gamblers Anonymous meetings that are taking place in each country, along with the status and action taken by the above committee.

23 – ISO / Lifeliner - Karen H.

Karen H. gave a report on Lifeliners handing out a chart showing 36 states and 3 countries along with the number of members who contributed over the past year. The total for this year is \$58,299.31 which is a substantial increase over last years total of \$51,991.50. An explanation regarding what a Lineliner is, was given. Marshall R. spoke stressing the importance of becoming a Lifeliner and Lifeliner contributions.

24 - Blue Book Committee – Gary B.

Gary B. reported on the above committee. A full report will be given in Chicago.

All Committee reports were finished on Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 5:12 P.M.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Keith M. – Area 3B

Change Article IX of the Guidance Code, Section 1, to read: The officers of the Board of Trustees shall consist of a Chairman, #1 Co-Chairman, #2 Co-Chairman and such other officers as may be appointed by the Board of Trustees. They are required to be a member of Gamblers Anonymous.

Vote was 69-12

Approved 97 Against 0
Passed 2nd Vote

2. Bill B. – Area 15

Add to Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 13A

No Trustee can cast more than one proxy vote on any one agenda item.

Vote was 90-5

Approved 97 Against 0
Passed 2nd Vote

3. Bill B. – Area 15

Add to Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 13B

Proxies will only be valid if assigned to a specific Trustee by the Trustee giving the proxy.

Vote was 87-6

Approved 97 Against 0
Passed 2nd Vote

4. Chris C. – Area 2

A new Beginnings (RED BOOK) page 11 delete the last sentence of the first paragraph ‘Groups that hold these types of meeting etc...’

Vote was 46-22

Approved 59 Against 18
Passed 2nd Vote

5. Marshall R. – Area 12

Have good and welfare reinstated at every national conference starting with the Ft. Lauderdale Conference.

Motion to have good and welfare reinstated beginning at Ft. Lauderdale Conference time permitting.

Amendment to add “and all other National meetings”.

Approved 63 Against 12
Passed

On the motion.

Approved 39 Against 44
Failed

6. **Denis M. – Area 12**

Discuss appointing a committee to investigate engaging an outside firm to handle the financial end of International conferences.

No Committee was appointed.

7. **Steve R. – Area 2**

How are attendance slips required by Judges or courts handled in different areas? Is there a need for guidance to be inserted in our literature somewhere regarding a procedure for handling these slips?

Discussion only.

NEW BUSINESS

8. **Spring '08 Conference**

The Spring '08 Conference, originally designated as an Eastern Conference, received no bids during the Spring '06 Trustee meeting. Therefore the Conference is open to bids from any area.

Portland, Oregon was the only area presenting a bid for the above Conference.

Motion to accept the above bid for the Conference to be held April 11-13, 2008 at the Red Lion on the River Jantzen Beach in Portland, Oregon.

Passed

9. **Bids For The Fall '08 Southern Conference**

No bid for the above Conference was presented. Therefore the Conference will be open to all areas wishing to present a bid in Chicago.

10. **Andre G. – Area 5B**

How can we help compulsive gamblers in countries where G.A. has no presence?

Discussion only.

11. **Marc L. – Area 1**

Delete the definition of Gambling on all G.A. Literature.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 3 Against 94

Failed

12. **Marc L. – Area 1**

To dedicate all proceeds from the Trustee Conference's Walk-A-Thons to the Gamblers Anonymous National Help-Line.

No discussion.

13. **Bob W. – Area 1**

Straw Vote- Give permission for the use of the Gamblers Anonymous Logo to be used on a commemorative coin and/or key chain for the 50th Anniversary Conference.

No discussion.

14. Marc L. – Area 1

Discuss a video presentation using Gamblers Anonymous members at the Fall 2007 Conference.

No discussion.

15. David F. – Area 3A

Unity program Step 11

Remove the ‘and’ after ‘films’ and add ‘and the Internet’ after ‘television’.

The Step will read ‘Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television and the Internet’.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 35 Against 63

Failed

16. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 1 – BOT - #10

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article VIII, Sec. 27 (Presented by Joe B., Area 6C)

Motion to accept above under Past Trustees Decisions #10 – “No individual member, group or Intergroup can instruct a National Trustee on how to vote on any issue” be placed in the Guidance Code under Article VIII, new Section #27 or next available Section.

Approved 65 Against 15

Passed

1st Vote

17. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 1 – BOT - #30

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article 7, Section #4 (add a comma) (Presented by Ed E., Area 2)

No discussion.

18. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 1 – BOT - #31

Be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article IV (after Unity Steps) (Presented by Ed E., Area 2)

Motion to accept above under Past Trustee Decisions # 31

“Whereas: Gamblers Anonymous Open Meetings commonly include Gam-Anon members;

Whereas: Gamblers Anonymous Intergroup meetings commonly reserve a portion of time in which Gam-Anon members are invited to discuss matters of interest to both groups;

Whereas: Gamblers Anonymous Step Meetings are often Open Meetings in which Gam-Anon members are welcome to attend and participate;

Whereas: Gamblers Anonymous social functions and Conferences are commonly co-hosted with Gam-Anon members;

Whereas: Gamblers Anonymous Hot Lines commonly serve both Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon, with each group sharing the financial burden;

Whereas: Gamblers Anonymous has a responsibility to make new members aware of the existence of Gam-Anon and does so through our literature;

Therefore: The Board of Trustees of Gamblers Anonymous does not perceive any of the above to violate any Step of the Gamblers Anonymous Unity Program.” be placed in the Guidance Code under Article IV (after Unity Steps).

Approved 10 Against 80
Failed

19. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 1 – BOT - #38

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article X, #13 (Presented by Leanne W., Area 7)

Motion to accept above under Past Trustee Decisions #38 “An Intergroup does not have the right to set stricter guidelines pertaining to the elections of Trustees other than those that are contained in the Guidance Code” be placed in the Guidance Code under Article X, Section 5, new #13 or next available paragraph.

Approved 76 Against 8
Passed

1st Vote

20. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 3 – Gambling - #10

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article VII, Section #4 – add on (Presented by Bill B., Area 15)

Motion to accept above under Past Trustees Decisions #10 “No matter what a member says, it is his/her right only to give up his/her abstinence date” be placed in the Guidance Code under Article VII, Section 4 add on to after the last sentence.

Amendment that it is a members right only to give up his/her abstinence date be incorporated into the Guidance Code in the following place, Article VII, Section 4.

A point of order was then raised that the Chair was out of order because the Past Trustees Decisions Committee was not solely charged with finding a place for these items. The Chair was then challenged. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and so are the motion and amendment.

On the amendment.
 Approved 11 Against 59
 Failed
 On the motion.
 Approved 14 Against 52
 Failed

21. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 4 – Groups & IG - #1

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article VII, new Section #6 (Presented by Joe B., Area 6C)

Motion to accept above under Past Trustees Decisions #1 “Only members of Gamblers Anonymous may be trusted servants of groups or Intergroups” to be placed in the Guidance Code under Article VII new Section #6.

Approved 62 Against 9
 Passed

1st Vote

22. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 4 – Groups & IG - #4

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article VII, new Section #7 (Presented by Ed E., Area 2)

No discussion.

23. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 4 – Groups & IG - #9

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article VII, Section #4 (add on) (Presented by Bill B., Area 15)

Motion to accept above under Past Trustees Decisions #9 “A group does not have the right to take away a member’s abstinence” to be placed in the Guidance Code under Article VII, Section 4 add on to after the first sentence.

Approved 52 Against 27
 Failed

(2/3 Yes Vote Needed -
 Guidance Code Change)

A roll call vote was requested and taken with the results as follows:

Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote
1	Al F.	No	5C	John L.	Yes	10B	Scott M.	No
	Ara H.	No	6	Harvey C.	No		Jeff B.	No
	Marvin F.	Yes		Ralph O.	Yes	11	Tom S.	Yes
	Ted K.	Yes	6A	Denny Z.	Yes		Bob B.	Yes

Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote
1	Valerie D.	No	6A	Leavy T.	Yes	12	Carol L.	Yes
	Ed K.	Yes	6B	Dina P.	Yes		John D.	Yes
2	Ed E.	Yes		Kevin M.	Yes		David M.	No
	Don D.	Yes		Dina P.	Yes	13	Dave S.	No
	Chris C.	Yes	6C	Joe B.	Yes		John B.	No
2A	Richard C.	Yes		Dennis A.	Yes		Ron C.	No
2B	Steve R.	Yes		Dennis A.	Yes	13A	Kevin O.	No
	Steve R.	Yes	6D	Ian S. *	Yes	13B	James D.	Yes
2E	Alan S.	Yes	7	Leanne W.	Yes		Francis E.	No
2G	Kathleen J.	No		Laine P.	Yes	13C	Kevin O.	No
2H	Doris S.	No	7A	Alex B.	No	14	Al O.	Yes
	Popeye	Yes		Tom S.	No		Michael A.	Yes
3	Jan A.	Yes	8	Tom D.	Yes		Brad B.	Yes
	Karen L.	Yes		Kathy H.	Yes		Mitch M.	Yes
	Ron S.	Yes		Jim M.	Yes	15	Chuck R.	No
3A	Dan C.	Yes		Steve S.	Yes		Bill B.	Yes
	Linda S.	Yes	8A	Darlene B.	Yes		Jerry L.	No
	Pearl J.	No		Mark P.	No		Howard C.	No
3B	Lou W.	Yes	8B	Michelle J.	No		Mike R.	No
3D	Phyllis H.	No	8C	Deni M.	No		Alan J.	Yes
	Mike M.	Yes	8D	John F.	Yes		Abe C.	Yes
4	Marguerite P.	No	9	Carol K.	No		George G.	Yes
	Klaus K.	No		Paul K.	No		Joe L.	Yes
5	Louis G.	Yes	10	John H.	No		Stanley C.	Yes
5A	David M.	No	10A	Norman B.	Yes	16	John V.	Yes
5B	Andre G.	Yes		Sammy S.	Yes	17	Walt H.	No
	Robert I.	Yes		Jim P.	Yes		Ron W.	No
						18	Dave McA. *	Yes
						19	Leo R.	Yes
							Leo R.	Yes
						21	George G.	Yes
						23A	Vera T.	Yes

* Absentee Ballot Vote

Approved 64 Against 34
Failed

(2/3 Yes Vote Needed -
Guidance Code Change)

24. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 4 – Groups & IG - #10

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article X, new Section #6 (Presented by Ed E., Area 2)

No discussion.

25. Joe B. For Dan B. – Area 6C

The Board of Trustees Past Decisions Committee recommends that the following item:

Section 4 – Groups & IG - #11

be considered for incorporation into the Guidance Code in the following place:

Article VII, Section #1 (Presented by Don D., Area 2)

Motion to accept above under Past Trustees Decisions #11 “Special Interest” groups such as “Women Only”, “Gay/Lesbian Only”, “Men Only”, etc are appropriate so long as they are open to all Gamblers Anonymous members” to be placed in the Guidance Code under Article VII, Section 1, add on to after the last sentence.

Approved 23 Against 48

Failed

26. Gary S. – Area 12

Create ways for additional funding for 888-GA-HELPS.

Motion to create an “International Walk-A-Thon” and the proceeds will go in the BOR superfund for the International helpline starting September 13th annually.

Amendment to create an International Walk-A-Thon and the proceeds will go in the BOR superfund for the International Helpline starting the 3rd Thursday of September 2007.

Amendment was ruled out of order.

On the motion.

Approved 33 Against 48

Failed

27. Gary S. – area 12

Continued discussion on making area Intergroups ‘GOOD TO GREAT’.

No discussion.

28. Ian S. – Area 6D

Committee reports at Board of Trustee meetings should be limited to 30 minutes in length.

No discussion.

29. Joe B. – Area 6C

If a member demonstrates any inappropriate actions, whether physical or verbal, in or outside of the meeting room, please tell a Trusted Servant and/or a Sponsor. We all have the right to feel SAFE in the program.

Motion to accept above and place in the “Information Packet” on the Suggested Meeting Format page after #8 and all other #'s change.

Approved 70 Against 14

Passed

1st Vote

30. Joe B. For Ron S. – Area 6C

Pg. 17, #3, add as last line...

This also includes all types of contests.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 3 Against 83

Failed

31. Linda S. – Area 3A

Pg. 17, #2, Place in bold print: USE THE TELEPHONE LIST to match other items on Page 17.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 56 Against 39

Passed

1st Vote

32. George G. – Area 15

Motion to change the term ‘National Trustee’ to ‘International Trustee’ wherever it appears in any of our literature.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 80 Against 8

Passed

1st Vote

33. Terry H. – Area 2G

Discuss establishing a format or guidelines that areas may use to structure and/or conduct Trustee Elections.

Discussion only.

34. Chuck R. – Area 15

Combo Book: Page 3, 2nd Paragraph, 2nd sentence. Now reads: ‘We know that no real compulsive gambler ever regains control’.

Eliminate the word ‘real’. New sentence would read: ‘We know that no compulsive gambler ever regains control’.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 38 Against 60

Failed

35. Marvin F. – Area 1

Discuss mandatory reading of the 20 Questions to a new member.

A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board that the reading of the 20 Questions should be required for the new member.

36. David M. – Area 12

Any challenge of a procedure or decision by the presiding Chair must be seconded. The Chair will retain the microphone and speak first in defense of the ruling. A discussion will ensue in which Trustees may speak only about the procedure or decision in question with supporting or dissenting information in

an effort to bring clarity to the challenge. Any speakers have only one opportunity to speak on the challenge, with the exception of the Chair who may speak again as the last person before the vote on the challenge, even if the time limit on the decision has been exceeded.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 45 Against 49

Failed

37. David M. – Area 12

BOT committee chairs must be G.A. members. If a committee Chair is not a current Trustee, then a current Trustee must be selected as a co-Chair for that committee.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 95 Against 2

Passed

38. Lloyd A. – Area 6

Change the Recovery Program

Please see attachment A for more details. The attachment is part of the final agenda.

Motion to accept the following change to the Recovery Program in the Combo Book.

ATTACHMENT A

The Recovery Program

Honesty

- 1. We admitted we were powerless over gambling – that our lives had become unmanageable.**

Hope

- 2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to a normal way of thinking and living.**

Faith

- 3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of this Power of our own understanding.**

Courage

- 4. Made a searching and fearless moral and financial inventory of ourselves.**

Integrity

- 5. Admitted to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.**

Willingness

- 6. Were entirely ready to have these defects of character removed.**

Humility

- 7. Humbly asked God (of our understanding) to remove our shortcomings.**

Brotherly Love

- 8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.**

Self discipline

9. **Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.**

Perseverance

10. **Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.**

Awareness of God

11. **Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.**

Service

12. **Having made an effort to practice these principles in all our affairs, we tried to carry this message to other compulsive gamblers.**

Approved 4 Against 85

Failed

39. Ron W. – Area 17

Combo Book- Page 13 – Bottom 3 lines

Change from: To gamble, risking progressive deterioration or not to gamble, and develop a better way of life.

To: To gamble, destroying everything or not to gamble, and develop a better way of life.

Motion Combo Book, page 13, 3rd line from the bottom change the word “risking” to “assuring”.

Approved 14 Against 75

Failed

40. Ron W. – Area 17

Combo Book – Page 17 – 2nd and 3rd lines Remove: particularly the new Gamblers Anonymous members And change: Table of contents #17 – To All Gamblers Anonymous Members. So they correspond.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 33 Against 53

Failed

41. Joe B. – Area 6C

Guidance Code change Article 9, Section 2

From...Upon election of a new Chairman and 1st and 2nd Co-Chairman of the Board of Trustees, it will be their responsibility to fulfill votes and suggestions approved by the previous Board.

To... Upon election of a new Chairman and 1st and 2nd Co-Chairman of the Board of Trustees, it will be their responsibility to fulfill votes and suggestions approved by the previous Board , and also to continue, or designate to continue to place items from the previous Trustee meeting into the PTD file.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 13 Against 65

Failed

42. David M. – Area 12

Article VII – insert new Section 6 or first available number

Group meetings or events are governed by Unity Step 4, with the exception that no cameras, tape recorders or recording devices of any kind are allowed at any time, regardless of group conscience decisions.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 1 Against 84

Failed

Motion made that at a G.A. group meeting no cameras or tape recording devices should be allowed regardless of group conscience decisions.

A point of order was raised that the second motion is out of order as it does not relate to the original agenda item. The Chair ruled the motion is in order and the Chair was then challenged. The challenge fails (68 – 17) therefore the Chair is in order and so is the motion.

On the motion.

Approved 40 Against 42

Failed

43. Alan J. – Area 15

Guidance code requires members to attend 39 meetings to celebrate an anniversary. Can rooms raise this requirement, under Unity Step #4? Can they require all or a percentage of the meetings to be in the home room?

A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board (73 – 2) that a room cannot require all or a percentage of the meetings to be in the home room.

44. Alan J. – Area 15

Page 8 of Combo Book following: ‘Our experience has shown that the Gamblers Anonymous program will always work for any person who has a desire to stop gambling’.

Add ‘and follows the guidelines on page 17’.

It would read ‘Our experience has shown that the Gamblers Anonymous program will always work for any person who has a desire to stop gambling, and follows the guidelines on page 17’.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 17 Against 68

Failed

45. Alan J. – Area 15

Change to the introduction of ‘Hosting a National Conference’ booklet.

ATTACHMENT B

In the literature ‘Hosting a National Conference’, change the introduction which currently reads:

‘National conferences are held twice a year with the location determined by a vote of the Board of Trustees.

The voting takes place two years prior to that national conference.

Conferences should be scheduled as close as possible to the first of May and the First of November. Conferences are based around the trustee meetings, which start at 1:00PM on Thursday. These meetings quite often go through Friday and on occasion into Saturday.

During the Spring conferences provisions must be made for Gam-anon to hold their meeting. Close attention must be paid to holidays so as not to have the convention during or conflicting with any national or religious holidays. Who can bid and when will be covered under eligibility.'

Proposed change of Introduction

INTRODUCTION

National conferences, held twice a year in the fall and spring, offer a unique opportunity for sharing the experience, strength, and hope of our program. The semiannual GA Board of Trustees meeting precedes each of these two conferences promising a greater attendance of membership from around the world to add to the significance of the conferences. Additionally, the annual meeting of the Gam-Anon Board of Delegates precedes the spring national conference. Insofar as these 2 conferences are attached to these trustee meetings, these conferences are distinguished from the many mini conferences that are held, and their offerings should be greater.

The Board of Trustees determines the conference sites by vote. The voting takes place two years prior to that conference. Conferences should be scheduled as close as possible to the first of May and the first of November. The Trustees meetings usually begin at 1 PM on Thursday continue through Friday and, on occasion, into Saturday. Close attention must be paid to holidays so as not to have the trustees meetings or conference conflict with any national or religious holidays. Who can bid and when will be covered under eligibility.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 10 Against 55

Failed

46.Howie C. – Area 3

Insert 'FOR PEOPLE WHO WORK IN OR AROUND GAMBLING, OR GAMBLING RELATED ESTABLISHMENTS' after the current page 17. Please see attachment C for more details. The attachment is part of the final agenda.

ATTACHMENT C

FOR PEOPLE WHO WORK IN OR AROUND GAMBLING

(Or gambling related establishments)

- 1.Attend as many meetings as possible that are available in your area. If available, try and attend three or four meetings per week during your first year of abstinence.
- 2.If you are a dealer or have a job where you get breaks, use some of your breaks to call G.A. members. If you work unusual hours, find out who is available to call during those hours. And remember that you can always call

- the people on the answering service 24 hours a day. Even if you don't know them, you'll still get the help and support you need from making that call.
- 3.If you are a tipped employee who gets cash every day, you should make arrangements with either a good friend at work, or your significant other to meet you during or after your shift to help you the money home, or in the bank safely. If you work late hours, most banks have a night depository. The gray towards 90 days book says: Only carry money that you really need, and explains why on pages 16 & 17.
 - 4.When at work and seeing people gambling, don't get caught up in the action. Remember THEY can gamble. You are a compulsive gambler and if you do, you'll ruin your life. Don't concentrate on them winning. Just keep in mind that you are a compulsive gambler, and if you gamble, WINNING WON'T HELP YOU.
 - 5.When you are not working, don't go in gambling establishments thinking "Well I work in one, it won't bother me to be there". Follow the instructions on the prior page and you can't go wrong.
 - 6.Don't hang out with co-workers who want to gamble after work. And don't go to a place to socialize with them where gambling is available.
 - 7.Take Gamblers Anonymous literature to work with you to read on your breaks. It will make it much easier to cope with all of the action that's going on around you while you are at work.

Motion to table until Chicago.

Approved 69 Against 3

Passed

47.Howie C. – Area 3

Insert 'Action Gamblers/Escape Gamblers' for pages 12 & 13 of the combo book, and move everything from page back thereby increasing the combo book 2 pages.

Please see attachment D for more details. The attachment is part of the final agenda.

ATTACHMENT D

ACTION GAMBLERS

FOR THE ACTION TYPE OF GAMBLER

1. They began gambling early in life, teen years or thereabout.
2. Types of games played: Games requiring skill; pari-mutual wagering, poker, blackjack or other card games, sports betting and dice games.
3. They have euphoric feelings being "high" like being on cocaine, while thinking about, planning or actually gambling.
4. To describe the "rush" gambling gives them:
 - a. Huge Ego
 - b. Domineering
 - c. Controlling
 - d. Likes taking risks
 - e. Narcissistic (self-love)
 - f. Gregarious (sociable)

- g. Seeks approval of others
- 5. They have low self-esteem.
- 6. They become liars.
- 7. They become compulsive a few years after they first start to gamble. They often have numerous wins prior to becoming compulsive gamblers.
- 8. They gamble in the disease for 5 to 25 years prior to being forced into a recovery program. (Either by a significant other or on their own, due to immense pressure.)
- 9. They go through four-phases-Winning-Losing-Desperation-Hopelessness.
- 10. They frequently switch to gambling for escape (not to be confused with Escape Gambling) in the very late stages of the Desperation Phase.
- 11. Most action gamblers are men.

ESCAPE GAMBLER

FOR THE ESCAPE TYPE OF GAMBLER

- 1. Gambling became a problem later in life, frequently 30 or older.
- 2. **TYPE OF GAMES PLAYED.** Games which require no skill; such as slot machines, video poker, lottery, other machine games. However, they may play card games like blackjack.
- 3. They are numb, almost in a hypnotic like state while gambling. They will gamble to escape other problems. They are free from physical and emotional pain while gambling.
- 4. They're nurturing and manipulative. They have been responsible individuals for the majority of their adult life. They're often a victim of abuse. They do not like confrontation. They're in desperate need of empowerment. And they are rewarded for codependency.
- 5. They have low self-esteem.
- 6. They become liars.
- 7. They often become compulsive immediately once predisposing factors emerge. Sometimes they have winning episodes after becoming compulsive, but at this point winning is just a means of gambling longer.
- 8. They gamble in the disease for six month to two or three years (or until the money runs out) prior to seeking help for their gambling problem.
- 9. They go through four phases-Introductory-Losing-Desperation-Hopelessness.
- 10. Women outnumber men by a 3-1 ratio.

Discussion only.

48. Alan J. – Area 15

Change the workshops part of 'Hosting a National Conference' booklet. Please see attachment E for more details. The attachment is part of the final agenda.

ATTACHMENT E WORKSHOPS

A workshop presenter should provide the workshop chairperson with an outline of the workshop. The presenter should develop a handout for each attendee which will help focus the workshop. The handout might include

questions the audience can address. It is important to remember that only original writings and GA and Gam-Anon approved literature can be referenced in a workshop. Remember, all material or handouts must be pre-approved by a vice-chairperson of the Board of Trustees or his/her delegate. It is the responsibility of the workshop committee to see that all time slots are filled. When the workshop schedule is provided with registration each workshop listed should include a very brief description so members can decide which would be most beneficial to attend in each time period. Hosting a national conference affords the host area the extraordinary opportunity for area members to get involved. Local members, encouraged to create and present workshops, will be tremendously rewarded for their hard work as they engage with all those attending.

Original Wording

Most workshops begin on either Friday evening around 9:30 PM or Saturday morning and run from 45 minutes to 1 hour and 15 minutes. In order to have a smooth flow, all workshops in a given time period should begin and end at the same time. Workshops are a very important part of any conference. When setting up workshops it is usually a good idea to begin about 9 AM with 2 or 3 time slots before lunch break and 2-3 times slots after the break. This allows from 3-3-1/2 hours before lunch and after lunch and before dinner. During each time slot it is suggested there be 2 GA, 1 Gam-anon and 1 combined workshop. All workshops must be open workshops. It is usually the responsibility of the workshop committee to contact the persons doing the workshop and make sure all pertinent information regarding their workshop is received This includes set up, Microphones, or other equipment and a correct title sign outside the workshop. There are some workshops that are what we might call standard workshops and are given at all national conferences. These standard workshops are Higher Power or meditation (usually reserved for Sunday morning), Candlelight workshop (Usually reserved for late Saturday night) and the memorial workshop (usually held in one of the Saturday afternoon timeslots). It is always a good idea to bring in workshops from past national conferences since many of these have already proven successful. Quite often workshops given at local mini-conferences turn out to be suitable for national conferences. It is usually a good idea for those doing a workshop to provide the workshop chairperson with a brief outline of what the workshop is about. When the workshop schedule is provided with registration each workshop can have a brief outline regarding the workshop and the member can decide which are of most interest to them in each time period. Remember, all material or handouts must be pre-approved by a vice-chairperson of the Board of Trustees or his/her delegate. It is the responsibility of the workshop committee to see that all timeslots are filled.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 60 Against 22

Passed

1st Vote

49. Michael A. – Area 14

Combo Book – page 17.

#2 Capitalize and bold face USE THE TELEPHONE LIST!

#6 Capitalize and bold face A PRESSURE RELIEF GROUP MEETING

Motion to accept above.

A hand vote could not be obtained after two requests therefore a roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote		
1	Al F.	No	6	Lloyd A.	Yes	11	Tom S.	Yes		
	Ara H.	No		Ralph O.	Yes		Bob B.	Yes		
	Marvin F.	No		6A	Leavy T.		No	12	Carol L.	No
	Ted K.	Yes			Denny Z.		No		John D.	Yes
	Valerie D.	No		6B	Dina P.		No	13	David M.	Yes
Ed K.	Yes	Kevin M.	No		Dave S.	No				
2	Ed E.	No	6C	Dina P.	No		John B.	No		
	Chris C.	No		Joe B.	No		Ron C.	No		
2A	Bob C.	No		Dennis A.	Yes	13A	Kevin O.	No		
	Richard C.	No		Dennis A.	Yes		13B	James D.	No	
2B	Steve R.	Yes	6D	Kevin D.	No	13C	Francis E.	No		
	Steve R.	Yes		Ian S. *	Yes		Kevin O.	No		
2E	Alan S.	No	7	Leanne W.	No	14	Al O.	Yes		
2G	Kathleen J.	Yes	7A	Laine P.	No		Michael A.	Yes		
2H	Doris S.	Yes		Alex B.	Yes		Brad B.	Yes		
	Popeye	No		Tom S.	Yes		Mitch M.	Yes		
3	Jan A.	No	8	Tom D.	Yes	15	Chuck R.	No		
	Karen L.	No		Kathy H.	Yes		Bill B.	No		
	Ron S.	No		Jim M.	Yes		Jerry L.	No		
3A	Dan C.	No	8A	Steve S.	Yes		Howard C.	No		
	Linda S.	Yes		Darlene B.	Yes		Mike R.	Yes		
3B	Pearl J.	No	8B	Mark P.	No		Alan J.	Yes		
	Lou W.	Yes		Michelle J.	No		Abe C.	No		
3D	Peggy B.	Yes	8C	Deni M.	No		George G.	No		
	Phyllis H.	No		8D	John F.		No	Joe L.	Yes	
4	Mike M.	No	9	Carol K.	Yes	16	Stanley C.	Yes		
	Marguerite P.	Yes		Paul K.	Yes		John V.	Yes		
	Klaus K.	Yes		10	John H.		No	17	Walt H.	Yes
5	Louis G.	Yes	10A	Norman B.	No		Ron W.	Yes		
5A	David M.	Yes	10B	Sammy S.	No	18	Dave McA. *	No		
5B	Andre G.	No		Scott M.	Yes		21	George G.	No	
	Robert I.	No		Jeff B.	No			Manuel I.	No	
5C	John L.	No								

* Absentee Ballot Vote

Approved 43 Against 54
Failed

50. Michael A. – Area 14

Guidance Code – Article VII – Board of Trustees.

Add New Section 5

Effective 7/1/06 Board of Trustees members shall be limited to two (2) elected terms served consecutively, but may be reelected after one (1) term of non-service on the Board of Trustees.

Renumber old sections 4 – 26 as 6 – 27.

Motion to accept above.

Amendment to add to end of sentence “unless no one else accepts the nomination”.

Approved 39 Against 47

Failed

On the motion.

Approved 30 Against 57

Failed

51. Howie C. – Area 3

Discuss who can speak at a regular G.A. meeting, and who can speak at a ‘birthday/anniversary’ meeting.

Discussion only.

52. Alan J. – Area 15

All committee reports must be posted on the Trustee website 2 weeks prior to a national conference, for Trustees to review.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 86 Against 3

Passed

53. Alan J. – Area 15

Committee report presentations are limited to 15 minutes for each committee. Discussions about the committee reports will fall under 15 minute rule similar to agenda item time limits.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 93 Against 7

Passed

54. Linda S. – Area 3A

Combo Book, Page 15, Question 10 Change:

From: Did you ever borrow to finance your gambling?

To: Did you ever borrow or use credit cards to finance your gambling?

Motion to accept above.

Approved 21 Against 76

Failed

55. Ara H. for Lanny R. – Area 1

INFORMATION PACKET, GREEN BOOK. PAGE 3, SUGGESTED MEETING FORMAT.

DELETE (WITHDRAW) NUMBER 8.

No discussion.

56. George G. – Area 15

Guidance Code, Article VII, Section 3

Add the following at the end of the section:

Furthermore, members should only be officers of just one (1) group. This fosters the rotation of service responsibilities that has proven to be an effective means for keeping emphasis where it belongs – on the principles.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 64 Against 17

Passed

1st Vote

57. David M. – Area 12

Guidance Code, Article VIII, add Section 27:

The order of business and parliamentary procedures of all meetings unless otherwise prescribed by the Guidance Code, or by the Board of Trustees, shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 21 Against 61

Failed

58. Leo R. – Area 19

Discuss concrete definition of GROUPS versus MEETINGS.

Discussion only.

59. Robert I. for Richard M. – Area 5B

Is it appropriate to use Code Morin (Canada's version of Robert's rules) for RSO procedures?

Andre G. gave an explanation that in Quebec Code Morin is equivalent to Roberts Rules of Order but not a translation. A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board (82 – 1) that it is appropriate to use Code Morin, which is Canada's version of Roberts Rules of Order for RSO procedures.

60. Dina P. – Area 6B

A New Young Gamblers in Recovery Pamphlet.

Please see attachment F for more details. The attachment is part of the final agenda.

ATTACHMENT F

What is Gamblers Anonymous?

Gamblers Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women of all ages who share their experience, strength, and hope so that they may help each other to recover from a gambling problem. Compulsive gambling is an illness, progressive in its nature, which can be arrested through the Gamblers Anonymous program.

Why am I here?

People attend Gamblers Anonymous for different reasons. You may have come at the urging of family or because of difficulties at school or work. Maybe you are just tired of the lying, secrets, and lost money. In short, people come to GA for many reasons. No matter what your reason, be assured Gamblers Anonymous does not pass judgment on what you have done. Your age should not inhibit you from joining the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous. GA's only purpose is to be helpful to anyone with a genuine desire to stop gambling. If anything, being young could be an advantage. Seeking the GA way of life now may prevent a lifetime of misery. *Am I really a Compulsive Gambler?*

Our literature says: "...only you can make that decision," so let us examine this question. You called the help line. You're at a meeting. You're reading this pamphlet. At the very least you've acknowledged there might be a problem. If you are still unsure about whether you are indeed a compulsive gambler, we encourage you to look at the GA Twenty Questions. These are on pages 15 and 16 of the yellow Gamblers Anonymous Combo Book. Answer the questions truthfully. Our experience suggests that if you answer, "yes" to two or more questions you may have a problem; if you answer, "yes" to seven or more then you almost certainly are one of us - a compulsive gambler.

Is it necessary to hit Rock Bottom in order to stop Gambling?

Rock Bottom is a term you might well encounter when you first attend meetings. You may hear of members who have arrived at GA from psychiatric institutions, rehab centers, or correctional facilities. You may hear of others who have lost families, jobs, and possessions. These members sometimes refer to such events as their *Rock Bottom*. One member's rock bottom might be the loss of someone near and dear; another member's might be the fear of the loss of someone near and dear. GA has many members young and old who arrived at their first meeting well before they had reached such depths. But GA also has many members (young and old) who had arrived at their first meeting well before they had reached such depths. Whatever the *Rock Bottom*, one thing remains true for both members - they are compulsive. Neither is able to stop gambling once they place the first bet. Is it necessary to hit *Rock Bottom* in order to stop gambling? NO! Your story may be less dramatic but is no less powerful. When you listen to the devastation gambling causes others, instead of saying, "I have not done that," add the word "YET" (You're Eligible Too). Comparing your situation to others can be dangerous. Try to identify with the patterns of other problem gamblers, and realize that if we can't arrest this problem now, we too can hit *Rock Bottom* just like those we have heard. In GA, there is no scale on which *Rock Bottom* is measured. Everyone's *Rock Bottom* is different but the solution is the same - the GA Recovery Program and the Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship.

The feeling of loss is something we all share no matter what brought us to GA. We urge you to listen to the similarities not the differences.

Will I ever be able to gamble again?

This is a question commonly asked by new members to GA. The GA program is a one-day-at-a-time program (sometimes on-hour-at-a-time.). One day at a time, we say to ourselves: “Today, I will not gamble.” And as one day rolls into the next and we begin to apply the principles of the GA Recovery Program, something extraordinary happens; we begin to change. We realize that our gambling is a symptom of a deeper problem. We find ourselves more easily able to detach from those life situations which in the past confounded us and sent us off into our self-destructive behaviors. Our behavior, too, begins to change as we learn other ways of approaching life. We notice that others are treating us with greater respect and affection. We are more at peace within ourselves. And as these things happen more regularly, we begin to realize that the desire to gamble slowly goes away. At some point, we look back and realize our lives have undergone a profound transformation, that we have tapped an inner resource, which we never knew existed. We then reflect on how it happened. First, we gave up trying to do it all ourselves and secondly we sought help, just as you have done. All this we receive freely from other compulsive gamblers in recovery in the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous.

And finally ...

For many in the fellowship, our gambling began as amusement when we were young. But, in the end, what started as pleasure only produced a surplus of pain. Many of us were unaware that gambling could become an addiction. Today, more is known about addictions in general and pathological gambling in particular. However, gambling too has changed a lot over the years. Developments in information technology mean there are more varieties of gambling produced in greater quantities. Gambling is a 24/7 activity. If you are a compulsive gambler, you may Y.E.T. find the descent into the insanity of gambling and it may be more rapid and bewildering than you could imagine. But you’re here, and because you’re here, you’re not gambling. If you identify, if you are one of us, the only prerequisites for recovery is an admission that you can’t do it alone and that you be *honest, open-minded, and willing* to apply yourself to the GA program to the best of your ability.

Motion to send the above presented piece as written to the Literature Committee for approval to replace the existing pamphlet of Young Gamblers in Recovery.

Approved 86 Against 1

Passed

61. Howie C. – Area 3

Combo Book, page 4, number 1

Change the word ‘Admitted’ to ‘Admit’ and ‘Were’ to ‘Are’.

So the sentence will read, ‘We admit we are powerless over gambling—that our lives had become unmanageable.’

Upon passage, all other literature to be changed where applicable.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 2 Against 81

Failed

62. Ron W. for Hazel K. – Area 17

Combo Book, Page 17, number 7

Return to: ‘Be patient, the days and weeks will pass soon enough, and as you continue to attend meetings and abstain from gambling your recovery will really accelerate’!

Motion to accept above.

Approved 13 Against 76

Failed

63. Howie C. – Area 3

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.’

Motion to accept above.

Approved 9 Against 80

Failed

64. Howie C. – Area 3

Red Book.

Replace the paragraph entitled ‘Open Meeting’ on page 11 of the Red Book, ‘A New Beginning’ with the same words that are written on page 8 of the Gamblers Anonymous Group Handbook entitled ‘Open Meetings and Closed Meetings’ to make them match.

Please see attachment G for more details. The attachment is part of the final agenda.

ATTACHMENT G

A group meeting where the Gamblers Anonymous members conduct the meeting inviting Gam-Anon members, other Gamblers Anonymous members, relatives and close friends who they wish to have knowledge of the Gamblers Anonymous program. This type of meeting is prescheduled by the Intergroup for the purpose of harmony among groups who have open meetings and to decrease the possibility of two groups scheduling an open meeting on the same date. These speakers can be Gamblers Anonymous or non Gamblers Anonymous members.

Replace with the 3 paragraphs from: Open Meetings and Closed Meetings on page 11 of the Group Handbook.

The term “open meeting” means a G.A. meeting where spouses and friends of G.A. members are welcome to attend. A “closed meeting” would, of course, refer to a meeting where only those with a gambling problem are eligible to attend and participate.

The thinking, relative to the open meeting, is that the spouses and friends of a problem gambler can have a better chance to understand the real nature of the problem when they are permitted to attend G.A. meetings. Although the work of G.A. is primarily concerned with the compulsive gamblers themselves, our experience has shown that a compulsive gambler's chances of recovery are enhanced when his family has an opportunity to all they can about compulsive gambling. In areas where the meetings are primarily open, the spouses and family usually enter wholeheartedly into the various other activities of G.A., such as an occasional social event and, of course, the Gam-Anon family group. At open meetings, the families are not permitted to participate in G.A. meetings. Actually, our experience has been that the presence of the families at G.A. meetings has never created any great problems that would diminish a compulsive gambler's chances of recovery.

There are some areas in the United States where the meetings are predominantly closed. This meeting plan has great merit and has proven to be tremendously successful. Here, the thinking is that a member will be able to speak more freely about his problem where only people with gambling problems are present. Probably the best arrangement is to have meetings of both types available in a given area. One thing seems certain whether the meetings are "open" or "closed" – those who attend G.A. meetings regularly seem to find that good things begin to happen in their lives. It boils down to simply a matter of preference. The important thing seems to be to keep going to G.A. meetings, open or closed.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 9 Against 62
Failed

65. David M. – Area 12

G.A. International Conference gross profits in excess of \$5,000 will be set aside in a separate fund to cover airfare for overseas Trustees in order that they may attend the Trustees meetings. The Board of Trustees will determine an equitable distribution process for the allocations of amounts and the Trustees who will be the recipients of this arrangement.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 7 Against 75
Failed

66. Gary S. – Area 12

Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 13, add the following to the end of the current section:

Combo Book changes will only be accepted as agenda items at the Board of Trustees Spring meeting.

The section would now read:

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 the approval of the Board of Trustees. Changes can only be made by the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive conference meetings. Combo Book changes will only be accepted as agenda items at the Board of Trustees Spring meeting.

Discussion only.

67. Richard C. for Betty J. – Area 2A

Straw vote to re-affirm a past decision of the Board (San Diego, 1991 & Nevele, 2000) which states that it is okay to close a meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.

A straw vote was taken and it is the consensus of this Board (53 –41) that it is not O.K. to close a meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer on October 20, 2006 at 4:40 P.M. The collection for the four (4) sessions was \$631.25. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on May 17, 2007 in Chicago, Illinois.

Respectively submitted,
Karen
 Karen H., International
 Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

AREA	SESSIONS	AREA	SESSIONS
1	Al F. 4	8A	Darlene B. 4
	Ara H. 4		Mark P. 4
	Marvin F. 4	8B	Michelle J. 4
	Ted K. 4	8C	Deni M. 4
	Valerie D. 4	8D	John F. 4
	Ed K. 4	9	Carol K. 4
2	Ed E. 4		Paul K. 4
	Don D. 4	9A	Joe C. Absent
	Chris C. 4	10	John H. 4
2A	Denise W. Absent	10A	Norm B. 4
	Bob C. 3		Jim P. 4
	Richard C. 4		Sammy S. 4
2B	Steve R. 4	10B	Scott M. 4
	Joyce M. Absent *		Jeff B. 4
2C	Debbie W. Absent	11	Tom S. 4
2E	Alan S. 4		Bob B. 4
2G	Kathleen J. 4	12	Carol L. 4
2H	Doris S. 4		Gary S. 4
	Popeye 4		John D. 4
3	Jan A. 4		Andy D. Absent
	Karen L. 4		David M. 4

AREA	SESSIONS	AREA	SESSIONS
3	Ron S. 4	13	Dave S. 4
3A	Dan C. 4		John B. 4
	Linda S. 4		Ron C. 4
	Pearl J. 4	13A	Jim D. Absent
3B	Lou W. 4		Kevin O. 4
	Peggy B. 4	13B	James D. 4
3C	Paula C. Absent		Francis E. 4
3D	Phyllis H. 4	13C	Guy A. Absent *
	Mike M. 4	14	Al O. 3
3E	Matt B. Absent		Michael A. 4
4	Marguerite P. 4		Brad B. 4
	Klaus K. 4		Mitch M. 4
5	Louis G. 4	15	Chuck R. 4
5A	Marlene O. Absent *		Bill B. 4
5B	Andre G. 4		Jerry L. 4
	Robert I. 4		Howard C. 4
5C	John L. 4		Mike R. 4
6	Harvey C. 4		Alan J. 4
	Lloyd A. 4		Abe C. 4
	Ralph O. 4		George G. 4
6A	Denny Z. 4		Joe L. 4
	Leavy T. 4		Stanley C. 4
6B	Dina P. 4	16	John V. 4
	Kevin M. 4		Brian M. Absent
	Juan A. Absent *	17	Walt H. 4
6C	Joe B. 4		Ron W. 4
	Joyce J. Absent *	18	Dave McA. 4
	Dennis A. 4		Mick P. Absent
	Kevin D. 4	18A	Yvonne R. Absent
6D	Ian S. Absent *		Allan G. Absent
7	Leanne W. 4	19	Leo R. 4
	Laine P. 4		Manuel G. Absent *
7A	Alex B. 4	21	Andres P. Absent *
	Tom S. 4		Manuel I. Absent *
8	Tom D. 4	22	Louis M. Absent
	Kathy H. 4	23A	Vera T. 4
	Jim M. 4		
	Steve S. 4		
			Chairman BOT – Denis M. 4
			1 st Co-Chair BOT – Michelle J. 4
			2 nd Co-Chair BOT – Chuck R. 4
			Chairman B.O.R. – Benni F. 4
			I.E.S. - Karen H. 4

* Proxy Received

