

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING  
MAY 28 - 29, 2015  
CROWNE PLAZA, CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY**

**A) Welcome –Denis M. Chair, Board of Trustees**

Denis M., Chairman of the Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. on May 28, 2015. All at the head table were introduced and everyone was welcomed. He stated that we are guided by the Rules and Procedures with the help of Roberts Rules of Order. Points of order and points of information were explained. New members to the Board were asked to stand and introduce themselves.

Twenty-eight absentee ballots were received as follows:

Area 3	Brenda R.	Area 18	Steve A.	Area 28	Rafael Z.
Area 3	Michael C.	Area 18A	Trevor S.	Area 28	Sergio C.
Area 5A	J.R. E.	Area 18 A	Yvonne R.	Area 29	Kostya R.
Area 6	Clarke C.	Area 19	Miriam C.	Area 33	Gabriel V.
Area 6A	Richard F.	Area 20	Gabriel A.	Area 33	Rodrigo A.
Area 8	Eileen Z.	Area 21	Joaquin C.	Area 34	Carlos D.
Area 8	Larry J.	Area 21	Juan B.	Area 34	Jeysa V.
Area 8B	Brian J.	Area 25	Carlo C.	Area 35	Leodegario R.
Area 15	Eddie M.	Area 25	Marco Z.	Area 36	Odie B.
Area 18	Russell K.				

**B) Remembrance of our departed members- Mary R.**

Mary R. read a list of our brothers and sisters who had passed away since the last Trustees meeting held in Tampa, Florida as follows:

Area 1	Rick F., 40 years
Area 3	Gail L., 9/15/96, 18 ½ years
Area 7	Jay L., 15 years
Area 5B	Jeffrey M., 15 months
	Barb A., 20 years
Area 6	Jeffrey G.
	Molly S.
	Leo F.
Area 6B	Robert D., Clearwater, Florida, 3 years
Area 8	Sandy D., 4 ½ years
	Mary O., 11 months
Area 11	Paul B., Worcester, Massachusetts
	Bill S., Warwick, Rhode Island
	Rick M., Brockton Massachusetts
Area 13	Joe O., 9/15/69
Area 13A	Brian B., Silver Springs, Maryland
	Jeff S., Laurel, Maryland
	Chris E., Towson, Maryland
	West T., Silver Springs, Maryland
Area 14	Charlie M.
	Dennis G.
	Marvin H.
	Jimmy X.
	Les M.
	Bernie W.
	Dino P.

Area 16A      Bruno Y., 29 years, 4/18  
                    Rose M., 19 years, 1/7

**C) Reading from “A Day at a Time Book”**

Maury C., from Area 14 read the Reflection for the Day for May 28<sup>th</sup> to begin the 1<sup>st</sup> session of the day and Mike M., also from Area 14 read the May 29<sup>th</sup> Reflection for the Day to begin the 4<sup>th</sup> session.

**D) Reading of the ”12 Steps of Unity”**

Petru C., from Area 4 read the 12 Steps of Unity on May 28<sup>th</sup> and May 29<sup>th</sup> to start the beginning sessions of each day.

**E) Roll Call-Karen H. International Executive Secretary**

Karen H. took roll and there are presently 117 votes to begin the first session.

**F) Approval of Minutes from Tampa**

The minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held in Tampa, Florida were unanimously approved as submitted.

**G) ISO / Lifeliner - Karen H.**

Karen H. gave the above report and handed out a graph that showed the comparison over the past two years of monthly donations that have been received. She was happy to report a large increase of \$7,106.00 over the previous year. She thanked all members who have continued getting the word out about Lifeliners and the need of supporting the I.S.O. Ara H. reiterated the importance of becoming a Lifeliner.

**H) Report from the Board of Regents – Steve F., BOR Chair**

Steve F. Chairman of the Board of Regents gave the report on the International Service Office which included several different items, including, but not limited to Gratitude Week, new Hiring Procedure Guidelines and Qualifications for the International Executive Secretary, Trademark and Copyright infringement violations, G.A. approved literature inventory, I.S.O. website meeting directory and addressing the B.O.T submissions to the Trustee Line regarding the B.O.R.

Steve talked about the financial status of the I.S.O. and also handed out a spread sheet that showed a deficit of \$29,574.66 for the past nine months. Therefore when the Board of Regents reviewed salaries of all employees, because of the financial situation he stated no raises would be given, although, they did talk about giving a performance based bonus, when employees are once again reviewed in November of 2015.

**I) Conference Reports – Conference Assistance Committee**

**Houston – Spring ‘14**

Fred L. reported on the Houston Conference that was held the last weekend in April 2014. The conference had a shortfall which was taken care by the Hosting area. The financial follows:

Spring 2014 Conference (Final)

Revenues

Literature Sales	\$	2,808.95
Registrations	\$	35,908.00
T-Shirt Sales	\$	35.00
GA Seed Money	\$	1,000.00
Houston Intergroup	\$	323.89

Miscellaneous	\$	2.23
Total Revenue	\$	40,078.07
Expenses		
Bank Fees	\$	77.00
Foreign Check Fees	\$	24.00
Entertainment	\$	1,950.00
GA Seed Money	\$	1,000.00
Hospitality Room	\$	1,060.72
Hotel	\$	28,754.65
Literature Costs	\$	2,808.95
Orlando Conference Travel	\$	1,433.43
Miscellaneous	\$	24.75
Bad Check	\$	165.00
Unaccounted for	\$	9.73
Printing	\$	496.00
Postage Box	\$	143.88
Registration	\$	172.96
Refunds	\$	1,957.00
Total Expenses	\$	40,078.07
Profit/Loss	\$	-

#### **Tampa – Fall ‘14**

Denis M. reported on the Tampa Board of Trustee Meeting held in October 2014. There was a surplus of \$1,960.00. One hundred and two people were in attendance. All in all everything went very well. There is an item on this agenda regarding the money.

#### **Cherry Hill – Spring ‘15**

Andre G. reported on the above conference. Timely reports have been received and everything is in order. Andy R. welcomed everyone and stated they are ready for us. 315 registrations have been received so far, and a lot of walk-ins are expected. He stressed how important it is to register early. They have great entertainment for both Friday and Saturday nights and are looking forward to a great weekend.

#### **Cancun – Fall ‘15**

Andre G. gave the report on the above conference to be held October 23 – 25, 2015 at the Westin Resort & Spa Cancun in Cancun, Mexico. Bank Statements have been received and everything is being reported on a timely basis. Jose F., Chair of the conference stated they are working hard to make this a great Conference. Direct flights are available from the U.S. So far 32 registrations have been received. They have a registration table set up in the foyer for the next three days and are hoping for a lot more registrations here in Cherry Hill.

#### **Phoenix – Spring ‘16**

Andre G. reported on the above Conference to be held May 13 – 15, 2016 at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. He is in regular communication with the committee and everything is looking good. Vicki M. spoke and they are very grateful to be hosting this conference and looking forward to welcoming everyone to Phoenix.

## J) Committee Reports

### Anonymity Committee:

**Committee Chair – Paul C. – Area 14**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**Mission Statement: To develop a new piece of approved GA literature specific to the principles and issues related to Anonymity in the Gamblers Anonymous program.**

No report was received.

Paul C. has stepped down from this committee. There were no volunteers to Chair the committee, therefore the Committee has been disbanded.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

### Blue Book Committee:

**Committee Chair – Karen E. – Area 8A | Co-Chair - Arlene R. – Area 8A**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**Mission Statement - To undertake a comprehensive review of SHARING RECOVERY THROUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 'BLUE BOOK'. Acting in concert with the wishes and input of the fellowship, we will recommend the adoption of all revisions, updates, and deletions consistent with the findings of our review.**

**Blue Book Revision Committee Report May 2015**

The Committee meets in person every 8 weeks. The body of the book is nearly completed and is currently being edited by the committee members.

**Committee Members: Arlene R., Chair; Jeannie B., Co-Chair; Jill T., Pam Z., Tom S. All Committee members are from Area 8A.**

The Committee is utilizing a secure file-sharing service to make submissions and revisions to the document between physical meeting times. The committee is at a juncture at which further progress depends upon input from the fellowship in the form of stories of recovery. To date, submissions have been sparse and we really need members of the BOT to ask their members to submit their stories. Submissions can be made to: [bluebookrevision@gmail.com](mailto:bluebookrevision@gmail.com)

If any BOT member would like a flyer to distribute to his/her fellowship, please submit a request to the above email address. Flyers will also be distributed at the May International BOT meeting. The committee welcomes submissions from any GA member. There are groups from whom we would like to specifically seek submissions in order to represent the GA fellowship:

Stories from young gamblers in recovery

Stories from those who have been working the program for 40+ years

Stories from women in recovery

Stories from our international fellowship

When considering your recovery story, the committee asks that the story focus on the “how” of your recovery—how the GA program has impacted your life for the better. Any submissions become the property of the Revision Committee and are subject to editing for grammar, length and content. The committee will contact those who have made submissions with any changes to their stories prior to inclusion in the final document.

**Respectfully submitted, Jeannie B., Area 8A**

Jeannie B. gave the above report which was submitted online. Karen E. has stepped down as Chair.

Arlene R. is the new Chair and Jeannie B. is the Co-Chair.

The end of August 2015 is the deadline for all submissions to the new “Blue Book”.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

### BOR/BOT Revenue Review Committee:

**Committee Chair – Herb B. – Area 5**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.**

**Mission Statement: Joint Committee of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents to review revenues and suggest methods to increase the revenue of the I.S.O.**

The BOR/BOT Revenue Review Committee of the Board of Trustees has posted 3 agenda items as suggestions and discussion for those who are interested. The idea is for these suggestions to be brought to Intergroups and Meetings to be discussed and hopefully used to help increase the revenue of the ISO. Members of the committee will discuss these suggestions and give their thoughts to the BOT when the items are introduced to the floor in Cherry Hill. We plan on proposing more ideas for increasing the ISO revenue at future Board of Trustee meetings.

**Herb B Committee Chairman Trustee Area 5 2nd Co-Chair of the BOT**

Herb B. gave the above report which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**Conference Oversight And Assistance Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Andre G. – Area 5B |**

**Co-Chair - Fred L – Area 8**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.**

**Mission Statement - To oversee all processes dealing with International Conferences and to encourage and provide assistance to Areas seeking to host an International Conference as well as to provide advice and assistance after a Conference has been awarded.**

**CONFERENCE OVERSIGHT & ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

**Purpose:**

**To oversee all processes dealing with International Conferences and to encourage and provide assistance to Areas seeking to host an International Conference as well as to provide advice and assistance after a Conference has been awarded.**

**Use this email address to contact the Chair of this committee**

**committee.conference@trusteewebsite.com**

**The committee is NOT open to additional members.**

**Committee members are listed below, as of 04/04/14**

**Andre G., Area 5B.; Bill A., Area 7A; Dina P., Area 6B; Fred L., Area 8**

**COMMITTEE REPORT CHERRY HILL 2015-05**

**Since our last committee report in Tampa, in October 2014, the committee has been active through e-mail exchanges and live conference calls.**

**There will be no area bidding for the 2016 fall conference or the 2017 spring conference. We received no documentation or request for information from any Area for either conference. According to our rules & procedures, there will be no conference in the fall of 2016, just a trustee meeting to be set up by the Executive Board.**

**The Committee has obtained the final statement of Revenues and Expenses from the 2014 Houston Conference. It will be detailed in item I), Conference reports, on the current Cherry Hill agenda. The committee also had regular contacts with the Cherry Hill, Cancun and Phoenix conference committees. The committee will report on each conference under the same item I) on the Cherry Hill agenda.**

**The Committee has been working on updating our "Hosting an international conference" pamphlet by adding in it the appropriate literature created by the original Conference Review Committee. This appropriate literature is presently available under the committee tab on the trustee website. We are presenting to the Board of Trustees a draft of our work and are requesting a "Vote of confidence" from the Board. This will be item #58 on the Cherry Hill agenda.**

**Finally, the Committee is into the final stage of developing an accounting template for Conference Organizing Committees. We have looked at several accounting worksheets used by previous International conferences and/or mini-conferences. This accounting template will be made available to future International Conferences, which will be able to decide if they want to use it or build their own.**

**André G., Chair, Conference Oversight & Assistance committee**

Andre G. gave the above report which was submitted online.  
The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**Digital Media Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Jimmy D. – Area 1A**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**Mission Statement - The Digital Media Committee will record any/all approved GA printed literature using current technology. Additionally the committee will explore proper process for the recorded files to be placed on the GA website under the ISO store link.**

**DEAR TRUSTEES, First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone who has been a part of the past and current committee. With that said we believe the 40 some new trustees need to have a better understanding of how the committee has conducted business in the past verses the now and future. The original name was the compact disc committee. We recorded G.A. approved printed literature which included the combo book, towards 90 days, and beyond 90 days. Once recordings were completed the committee forward to International Executive Secretary for review and forward to the B.O.R. for pricing and production. We believe the 3 recordings have helped various members of the fellowship over the past 14 years. The committee was reformed in 2010 at the Tampa B.O.T. meeting. The committee also successfully recorded all approved pieces of literature for “Newcomer packet”. The committee also requested and was approved by the body to pay 25 dollars per recording and up to 500 dollars if we needed to use any outside vendor. Then in Tampa of 2014 under rules and procedures motion was passed so going forward each recorded piece of approved literature will have to be submitted as an agenda item for the upcoming B.O.T. meeting. With this change the committee will present items such as new updated version of the combo book and all other recordings in Cancun, Mexico and/or Arizona. The committee also hopes to record the short-term sponsorship and sponsorship manual.**

**The committee will review all potential IE different voices and will select the best option going forward. Additionally, the committee is interested in the outcome of agenda item in Cherry Hill pertaining to e-readers.**

**The committee believes the download process of recordings from the I.S.O. website would take too much time and money. There could also be possible road blocks because of copyright issues. Therefore, the committee will be requesting to change its mission statement in Cherry hill back to just to recording any and all approved G.A. printed literature; once recorded we will forward to the B.O.R. for pricing and production. Thank you, Jimmy D.**

The above report was submitted online.

Jimmy D. has stepped down from Chair to Co-Chair and Paulette T. is the new Chair.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**Hotline Implementation Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Paul S. – Area 17 | Co-Chair – Joe C. – Area 2G**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.**

**Mission Statement: Implement and oversee a Gamblers Anonymous national hotline.**

**May 2015 Hotline Committee Report**

**Committee Members: Paul S. (Area 17), Joe C. (Area 2G), Helen Y. (Area 7), Chuck B. (Area 10B), Brad B. (Area 14), Chuck R. (Area 15), Jason M. (Area 13B), Ron A. (Area 8A), Sharon E (Area 3A)**

**Current Areas on the Ring Central System: (currently 37, added Syracuse to Area 16)**

<b>Area 1</b>	<b>Los Angeles</b>
<b>Area 1A</b>	<b>Orange County, California</b>
<b>Area 1B</b>	<b>Inland Empire, California (Split from Area 1)</b>

Area 2	Northern California
Area 2B	Greater Sacramento
Area 2E	Manitoba
Area 2G	Oregon
Area 2H	Washington
Area 2K	Calgary
Area 3	Southern Nevada
Area 3A	San Diego
Area 3B	Colorado
Area 4	Ontario
Area 6	South Florida
Area 6A	Central and Northern Florida
Area 6B	West Coast Florida
Area 6C	NC and SC
Area 7	Mississippi, New Orleans
Area 8	Chicago, IL
Area 8A	Minnesota
Area 8B	Kansas, Missouri
Area 8C	Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota
Area 8D	Missouri, Illinois
Area 9	Michigan, Northwest Ohio
Area 10	Ohio
Area 10A	Western Pennsylvania
Area 10B	Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Lexington, Louisville
Area 11	New England
Area 12	New Jersey
Area 13	Delaware Valley
Area 13A	Maryland, DC
Area 13B	South New Jersey
Area 14	Long Island, NY
Area 15	New York
Area 16	Rochester & Syracuse, New York
Area 16A	New York
Area 17	Connecticut and Western Massachusetts

### Status

Currently managing the system with 37 Areas on the system and answering questions and reaching out to those Areas that have not converted over to a Ring Central account. Syracuse Intergroup was recently added for Area 16. Oklahoma City and Spokane expressed desire to join the national system. Spokane calls are being sent directly to a local member currently.

**Please Note:** If your area is not on the national hotline and your current system sends all callers to a single number (volunteer or answering machine), the national system could forward calls from your area to your local number. Please contact the committee if you would like more information.

The committee is still finishing the changeover to allow for alternate area code entry. Please inform the committee via the Trustee website if you have any new area codes added in your region. This feature allows someone with a New York cell phone in Florida to select a Florida area code instead of getting routed to the New York hotline.

Our committee documents, meeting minutes and committee guidelines are on the Trustee website; we will be updating these documents in the coming months.

### Lessons Learned

Please make sure the log on information for your system is backed up. Unfortunately, we had an area that their hotline coordinator passed away and they had to open a whole new account and set up the system again because no one else had the information to log on to the system. Ring Central will not discuss the account with anyone who is not an administrator for that account. As new areas sign up for Ring Central, it is recommended that you use an email assigned by the trustee website administrator for your account set up. Otherwise, when a new hotline coordinator takes over for your system, they will have to change all the previous administrators' emails on the system.

Ring Central does periodic updates to their software and interfaces, Hotline Coordinators should review weekly logs and make test calls once in a while to verify there is no impact to the system.

### Recent Changes

ISO has taken over the financial operation of the Hotline. Billing now goes through ISO for the 855-222-5542 number and the account name was changed to "Gamblers Anonymous National Hotline".

### Future committee actions:

Work with Ring Central to maximize savings as all areas are on the new system and we get better information on how many minutes per month are needed.

Work with Area Hotline Coordinators to make their set up efficient and make sure callers are being connected to volunteers quickly.

Work with Public Relations Committee to get the new number out to the public.

Complete a survey by the Fall meeting or after first hotline coordinator newsletter to evaluate system performance, improve caller experience and simplify system setup and maintenance.

NOTE: If your area is having any issues with the system or Ring Central, please let me know before I give my report at the Trustee Meeting. I will need a little time to research your issue, so I can better answer your questions.

Respectfully Submitted, Paul S., Hotline Implementation Committee Chair, Area 17 Trustee

Paul S. gave the above report which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### Intergroup Committee:

Committee Chair – Wendy B. – 1B

Co-Chair Liaison – Herb B.

Mission Statement – To create and assemble a comprehensive guide for Intergroups.

#### **INTERGROUP COMMITTEE REPORT**

It is the goal of this committee to have a new piece of literature submitted for approval at the Fall, 2015 conference. This piece of literature will be suggested guidelines for all Intergroups to follow.

Rules & Procedures/By-laws from different Intergroups have been reviewed. A preliminary list of items to be included is being prepared and will be distributed to committee members.

Wendy B. Committee Chairman, Trustee, Area 1B

Wendy B. gave the above report which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### International Relations Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Martha G. – Area 28 | Co-Chair – Paulette T. – Area 6B

Co-Chair Liaison – Herb B.

Mission Statement: Assist the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous with International matters and help create a worldwide united Gamblers Anonymous.

International Relations Committee Report

"Assist the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous with International matters and help create a

## **World Wide United Gamblers Anonymous"**

Our committee of 23 members presents to the Board of Trustees of Gamblers Anonymous the following report of our work and efforts done from the close of the last Trustee meeting until the 2015 Cherry Hill, NJ Trustee meeting. This covers the period from October 2014 to May 2015.

### **ISO Overseas Emails**

Our committee has answer 261 emails since October 2014 from 32 different countries. Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Luxemburg, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, New Guinea, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Poland, Republic of Georgia, Rumania, Singapore, South Africa, St. Croix, Virgin Island, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

After had received the Group Meeting Information Forms our International Service Office has sent out 4 starter kit for new meetings (3) for México (Cuernavaca, Morelos / Ciudad Constitución, BCS / Mérida, Yucatán and (1) for Vacoas, Mauritius (New GA Country). ISO received from Area 25 Italy (5) Group Registration forms; Conpobasso, Modugno, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Terracina and Brindisi and (1) from Lviv, Ukraine.

### **G.A. World Wide**

Update meetings information at GA International Meeting Directory.

Encourage overseas Areas to buy literature from the ISO online store and RSO.

Encourage them to be Life Liners, Area's and Room's Contribution.

### **Spanish-Translation-Literature**

The Cherry Hill 2015 BOT Agenda is available in a Spanish version and sent to all GA Hispanic recognized areas, so they will have feedback from the groups.

### **Overseas-Trustee-Sponsorship**

Our committee members keep in contact with overseas Trustees; we encourage them to use the Digital version of the Absentee Ballot to reflect their Area's decisions.

Cherry Hill IRC meeting will be held on Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 pm  
Martha G. Chairperson, International Relations Committee

Martha G. gave the above report which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **Literature Committee – Standing Committee:**

Committee Chair – Chuck R. - Area 15

Co-Chair Liaison – Andy 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.

The Literature Committee worked with Karen to update the Group Handbook, a new edition of which is now available from the ISO. The committee is also currently working with the ISO to update the Combo Book.

Chuck R. gave the above report which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

### **Member Retention Committee:**

Committee Chair – Wendy B. – Area 1B | Co-Chair - Jimmy D. – Area 1A

Co-Chair Liaison – Herb B.

Mission Statement: Through an exchange of ideas, the retention committee will create a new piece of literature suggesting ways that members, meetings, Intergroups and ISO can increase retention in Gamblers Anonymous.

### **MEMBER RETENTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Member Retention Committee has submitted an agenda item requesting approval for a new piece of literature called: "Suggestion for New Member Retention."

**Wendy B., Chairman, Trustee, Area 1B**

Wendy B. gave the above report which was submitted online. New piece of literature is on this Agenda. The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**Pressure Relief Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Lloyd A.– Area 6**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Herb B.**

**Mission Statement: To provide leadership and support throughout Gamblers Anonymous by coordinating, educating, training and clarifying the Pressure Relief Group Process that will aid in fostering an atmosphere of continuity, cohesiveness and unity as well as understanding within our Fellowship which will bring about an alleviation of pressures for our Members and thus strengthen and empower Members, Groups and Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.**

No report was received. Lloyd A. answered questions and stated new committee members were needed. New committee members are as follows: Debra B., Area 2E; Alan J., Area 15; Steve T., Area 14 and Bob F., Area 13A.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**Prison Committee – Canada – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Jean-Marc L. – Area 5B | Co-Chair – André G. – Area 5B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Herb B.**

**Mission Statement: To provide telephone, email, 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.**

**PRISON MEETINGS IN CANADA**

**Committee Report**

Attached is the updated list of J.I.P. meetings in Canada.

Since our last report in Tampa, there was only limited activity for our committee, mainly follow-up on existing prison and institutions meetings.

At the Centre Federal de Formation (Federal minimum security institution) in Laval, Quebec, a meeting is held every other week. There used to be an English meeting, alternating between a French meeting on a given Wednesday, followed by an English meeting the following week. The English meeting is suspended temporarily, since no English speaking inmate has asked for a meeting.

The Joliette prison for women meeting is running just fine. A few members have been trained and certified by this institution to accompany inmates to local meetings as well. This program is under supervision by the institution and is very appreciated by the inmates

We are still sending our current regular meetings listing every month to most known Therapy facilities in the Province of Quebec so they can refer their patients to Gamblers Anonymous once the therapy is over. We regularly see newcomers in our regular meetings who were referred by these institutions.

We still need every trustee in Canada to contact the Committee and let us know of any unlisted activities in local prisons and institutions. Any Canadian member or trustee who wants to be of service on our committee is welcome.

**Jean-Marc L., Chair, Area 5B - André G., Co-Chair, Area 5B**

Jean Marc L. gave the above report which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**Prison Committee, US – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Bea A. – Area 3**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Herb B.**

**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.**

**US JIP Committee Report – Spring 2015**

**Herb B., BOT Chair Liaison**

**Bea A. Area 3, Committee Co-Chair**

**Since the fall 2014 BOT meeting, the following actions have taken place:**

**Starter Kit Requests**

**Institution Requests for Prison Starter Kits – 5**

**Inmate Requests for Prison Starter Kits – 32**

**(3 returned or refused by the Institution)**

**Geographical Area requesting information :**

**AK-1**

**AL-1**

**CA-Northern -3**

**CA-Southern – 3**

**FL – 3**

**GA –2**

**KY –3**

**MA - 2**

**NV - Northern – 8**

**NV – Southern – 1**

**OH – 2**

**OR – 1**

**PA – 2**

**TX – 3**

**WA – 2**

**New Meeting Started – 4**

**Florida (Gadsden Correctional Facility for Women – Quincy, Fl)**

**Northern Nevada (High Desert State Prison / Men – Indian Springs, NV)**

**Southern Nevada – Freedom House Transitional Living – Las Vegas**

**Georgia - Federal Correctional Institution, Jessup**

**Pen Pals**

**6 men placed with pen pals/sponsors. Feedback has been excellent. Ongoing communication and relationships are developing. 2 Females placed with Pen pals.**

**Service Opportunities**

**Service Opportunities available to connect with inmates.**

**In some cases, connection to the outside or having meetings inside the institution is not possible, yet these inmates are able to receive mail. The JIP committee needs volunteers to communicate via letter with these inmates. Contact Bea A if interested.**

**Bea A. gave the above report which was submitted online. A JIP meeting is being planned for Saturday afternoon.**

**The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.**

**Public Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Billy C. - Area 11**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**Mission Statement:** We will strive to continue to develop and encourage the use of as many public relations tools as necessary to fulfill our Fellowship's primary purpose, always looking for guidance from the Recovery and Unity Steps, the Guidance Code and our higher power(s).

**PR COMMITTEE REPORT**

**CHAIRPERSON: BILLY C AREA 11**

**TEAM MEMBERS:** Charmaine S., Area 13A; JR E., Area 5A; Kent D., Area 15; Mary R., Area 15; Pam B., Area 2G; Paul N., Area 2A; Paul S., Area 17; Sue F., Area 3D; Terry D., Area 3C; Tom Z., Area 15; Richard C., Area 2K

As Committee chair, I connected our team through group email to get acquainted and share ideas, experiences, and suggestions about Public Relations work. The team responded well and participated in the initial exchange of ideas and suggestions.

In the course of this exchange, one of our team, - Terry D from Area 3C submitted a video PSA that his area has been working on. I believe it has merit, and would like to find a way for the BOT to view it and submit feedback.

I am grateful for the participation of the team and the guidance of our liaison and the BOT 1st chair Andy R. I am eager to continue the work of this committee, as chairperson, expanding our memberships understanding of our Public Relations policy and reaching out to the public to spread awareness of the problem of compulsive gambling and the program of recovery offered by Gamblers Anonymous. Respectfully submitted, Billy C Area 11.

Billy C. gave the above report which was submitted online. Richard C. and Susan W. are also part of this committee.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**RSO Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Andre G. – Area 5B | Co-Chair - Claude C. – Area 5B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**Mission Statement:** To create and assemble a comprehensive guide for Regional Service Offices. The Committee will also review Article XI of the Guidance Code (Regional Service Office-R.S.O.)

**REGIONAL SERVICE OFFICE (RSO) Committee Report**

**Purpose**

To create and assemble a comprehensive guide for Regional Service Offices. The Committee will also review Article XI of the Guidance Code (Regional Service Office-R.S.O.)

**Board of Trustees Chair Liaison: Andy R.**

**Chair of the Committee: André G. - Area 5B**

**Co-Chair: Claude C. - Area 5B**

Use this email address to contact the Chair of this committee  
[committee.rso@trusteewebsite.com](mailto:committee.rso@trusteewebsite.com)

The committee is open to additional members who would like to be involved with this process. Committee members are listed below, as of 05/08/15

Andre G., Area 5B; Claude C., Area 5B; Marie R., Area 1B; Sue F., Area 3D.

The committee was formed at the very end of the trustee meeting in Tampa and this is our first committee report. The committee has been active through e-mail exchanges and live conference calls and we will have a live meeting while in Cherry Hill.

First thing we did was to create our Mission Statement. It is posted at the very beginning of this committee report. Then, with the help of our ISO, we set up a list of all active Regional Service Offices throughout the Fellowship. There are 9 of them. We contacted every one by e-mail and asked them to answer a questionnaire, which would help the committee better understand what a RSO really does. There were 11 questions about structure, trusted servants, financing, etc.

Unfortunately, we received replies from only 4 of them, despite sending a second request.

However, we received invaluable information that will help us tremendously in writing our final report and recommendation.

The committee has also started to look very closely at Article XI, Section 1 through 8, of the Guidance Code. We plan to review this section, clarify or simplify it where needed, and elaborate more on certain Sections.

We should be in a position to produce a document and motion at the Cancun conference next Fall. In the meantime, we welcome any member who wants to get involved on this committee.

**André G. Chair, RSO committee**

Andre G. gave the above report which was submitted online. The RSO committee is planning a committee meeting for Saturday.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**Rules and Procedures Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair - Herb B. – Area 5**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.**

**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 which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**Telephone Conference Call Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Pete K. – Area 13B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Herb B.**

**Mission Statement: 1) To administrate the creation, implementation and oversight of all conference call meetings from the Gamblers Anonymous website. These meetings will be sanctioned by Gamblers Anonymous, but will not carry the distinction of being classified as a group, as per the Guidance Code. 2) To formulate, implement and maintain rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings, with Board of Trustee approval. 3) To be responsible for coordinating the Gamblers Anonymous members who will administrate the individual telephone conference call meetings.**

**TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL COMMITTEE REPORT**

It has now been over 15 months since the first telephone meeting conference call was initiated. Much of what is in this report is for the purpose of showing the value of this platform in utilizing Unity Step 5.

Average connections are the number of people calling each week who may not stay for the entire meeting. We are averaging about 70 to 75 such connections each week.

Steady attendance levels are averaging between 45 and 50 people. We see that about 50% of the attendees are women. 25% of the attendees are under 90 days and a cross section of 25% of the attendees cannot get to meetings without extraordinary driving times.

A key point is that the platform generates an average of 1 to 2 new members each week. When there is more than 1 new member, the admins will assess the situation and determine if moving the new members to a different room is well advised. Doing the 20 questions with each person takes away time from the others who want to give therapy. It was noticed that doing that causes a significant number of people to leave the call. The solution was to set up a separate sub-room, which is manned by one of the admins. The new members are brought to that room, along with others to add some depth. Attendees in the original room can choose which meeting they want to attend and can easily switch back and forth. The experience is much more personal for the new members and keeps the flow of therapies in the main room untouched. We have had a peak of 5 new members.

A minimum of 3 admins out of the 5 have been in attendance each week. The admins are highly motivated and there will be times when all 5 will be in attendance.

Telephone meeting conference calls have unique differences from physical meetings and challenges that clearly create the opportunity to make the experience a smooth one. This is one of the reasons for not classifying these meetings as groups. The committee has worked out the kinks in original structure and feels that the platform has reached an equilibrium for procedures

that now allow the meeting to operate without any glitches. This meeting platform continues to be the ambassador to the brand, which is Gamblers Anonymous. Special notice should be taken to this platform being the most successful deployment of Unity Step 5.

No new meetings are scheduled out of the 167 weekly time slots for how this system was designed. That is due to no groups of people looking to become admins.

The committee is still waiting for the website programmer to add a section to the ISO website for transferring the current home of the telephone conference call platform from the Trustee website.

**Pete K.-Chair, Telephone Conference Call Committee**

Pete K. gave the above report which was submitted online. The committee was thanked.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

#### **Trustee Election Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Richie S. – Area 6 |**

**Co-Chair – Currently Vacant**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.**

**Mission Statement - To create a set of uniform procedures for Areas, Intergroups, and rooms to adopt and follow in their electing of International Trustees.**

No report was received. Wendy B. is the new Co-Chair of this committee.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

#### **Trustee Removal Merit Panel – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Bob F. – Area 13A**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.**

**Mission Statement: This is a standing panel with a 2-year term coinciding with the new term of Trustees. It will become active when an official action is presented to the Chair of the Board of Trustees to request the official removal of a current Trustee due to acts thought to be detrimental to GA as a whole, as provided for by the Guidance Code under Article VIII, Section 4. There is a specific document entitled 'Trustee Removal Procedures' available to all members for reference. The panel will consist of 5 GA members, selected from 5 geographical regions, along with 1 backup Trustee for each area.**

No report was received.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

#### **Trustee Website Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – David M. – Area 12**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Denis M.**

**Mission Statement: 1) - To oversee the Trustee website. 2) - To periodically review all websites that infer or imply membership or representation of the Fellowship or Corporation of Gamblers Anonymous, and evaluate the websites for compliance with approved Local Area Website Guidelines. Trustees and area trusted servants will be made aware of any deficiencies that need to be corrected. Websites from outside entities are not included.**

**Trustee Website Committee Report**

#### **Banner for Telephone Meeting Conference Call platform**

The banner and all the information on this BOT committee and its functions, have been placed on the Trustee website, in anticipation of necessary programming being done for the ISO website. Once capacity is created, all the information on the platform will remain on the Trustee website, consistent with the objectives of Gamblers Anonymous and Unity Step 5

#### **Looking for a new website platform to replace what we currently have**

The focus will be to have greater flexibility for security options. This will allow for users to designate how they wish to be notified about various events and information happening with the Trustee website. This also puts a stop to the work that has been done previously to convert old image based PDF minutes into site searchable minutes, until such time as a new platform is selected.

### Contribution Module

The committee had hoped to have a demo available for a contribution module for the ISO site. The website programmer is prioritizing the mobile app job over this project. This feature requires modifying the ISO website to include a contribution model that would allow for online contributions of all kinds. It would also allow members to set up recurring payments. There is a remote possibility that a demo will be available to show the Trustees.

### Mobile App For Meetings

As of the submission of this report, there is no app to showcase; however, the programmer believes he will have a preview app for the BOT to see. This is a multi-OS app that is focused on getting people to a meeting, utilizing the meeting database that is part of the ISO website. The committee remains hopeful that it can show a demo of this app in Cherry Hill.

### Website Utilization by the Cherry Hill Conference Committee

The committee has done a superb job of posting information on a timely basis for numerous events scheduled to take place around the Cherry Hill conference.

### Rolling Agenda Difficulties

This past period when the rolling agenda was open, was notably more difficult than most others. Many of those who submitted items, did not follow the established procedures that have been in place for many years. It caused numerous delays in getting items posted and some who waited until the last minute, ended up not getting their items included in this agenda.

### New Platform for Absentee Ballots.

The previous absentee ballot program was shutdown. We are now using a newer program that seems to have more flexibility in posting the absentee ballots. The user interface is much simpler and not prone to mistakes that might otherwise prevent receiving the ballots. The cost for this platform is \$150.00 for the year, which is a discounted price of 16.7% since it was paid for in advance. The funds come out of the Chairman's Fund annual allocation.

### Trustee Website Usage

The Trustee website is once again, the very picture of underutilization. This extends to the committee activities, the Trustee Poll, and the Trustee Memorial Honor Roll.

The BOT currently has 20 committees – only the Conference Oversight, Hotline, and Telephone Meeting Conference Call committees are using their pages

### Trustee Line

The committee was active multiple times in stopping inappropriate postings. None of them involved a challenge by the author. Had that happened, the final decisions would have been made by the Executive Board of the BOT. Trustees are setting the tone and temperament of the subjects. Strangely enough, the 'elevated sentiments' of the authors is compensated by the reasonability of the responders. When the Trustee Line universe has had enough irritation from the authors, the responses stop and all is brought back to normal, once again.

### Trustee Poll

Continued poor participation. With all the 10 items, participation is as follows:

1 – 27.82% of the Current Trustees

2 – 25.56%

3 – 24.81%

4 – 24.81%

5 – 21.80%

6 – 24.81%

7 – 24.81%

8 – 24.06%

9 – 18.80%

10 – 12.78%

### Area Flyers

An additional segment that is under utilized. This section allows any recognized area to put its area event flyers on the Trustee website for others to possibly attend

#### **Website Guidelines**

The BOT guidelines are being incorporated into area websites on a willing basis. Special mention regarding Colorado's website efforts. The Trustee website committee did its job in reviewing that and other sites, and outlined the issues that didn't conform to the guidelines. Colorado immediately acknowledged those items and committed to fixing them at their earliest possible opportunity.

#### **Trustee Memorial Honor Roll**

This is yet another feature that is under utilized. We lost 3 former Trustees since the Tampa Trustee meeting and there have been a total of 5 postings from other Trustees, both current and past for those individuals.

Submitted by the Trustee Website Committee

David M. gave the above report which was submitted online.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

The Committee Reports were completed at 2:39 P.M. on Thursday.

#### **Rules and Procedures**

##### **1. Rules and Procedures - New section - Trustee Meeting Only**

When there is only a Trustee Meeting, and no Conference, the net proceeds from the registration fees and any other revenue, after all expenses are paid, shall be turned over to the I.S.O. and an email with all the details sent to all current Trustees.

Herb B. - Area 5

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

##### **2. Rules and Procedures - Conferences**

Only have only one Trustee Meeting per year to be held in the Spring, at the International Conference, if bid for, beginning in 2017.

Alan J. - Area 15

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

##### **3. Rules and Procedures - Motions, Tabling Agenda Items**

**Add:** The person making the motion must give a reason for the motion to table, before it can be seconded. Only the person making the original motion may speak against the motion to table. **Current version:** A Trustee must have the floor to make a motion to table and it is not subject to discussion or an amendment. A motion to table requires a second and a two-thirds majority vote to pass, which automatically places the item on the agenda for the next Trustee meeting and will be the first order of business before any new business items are heard. A motion to table has no priority.

**Proposed version:** A Trustee must have the floor to make a motion to table and it is not subject to discussion or an amendment. The person making the motion must give a reason for the motion to table, before it can be seconded. Only the person making the original motion may speak against the motion to table. A motion to table requires a second and a two-thirds majority vote to pass, which automatically places the item on the agenda for the next Trustee meeting

and will be the first order of business before any new business items are heard. A motion to table has no priority.

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**4. Rules and Procedures - Committee Reports - New section, Website Updated Reports**

**Each Board of Trustees committee that is not a standing committee, must submit monthly committee updates to the Trustee Website no later than the last day of every month. Committee Chairs will have an initial minimum of 30 days from the end of Trustee meetings to accomplish this. The Chair of the Board of Trustees may remove the Committee Chair and/or Co-Chair if the deadlines for submission are not met.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 54 Against 54

A roll call vote was requested. Abstentions will be counted in order to properly record the vote. If a Trustee was absent or out of the room during the vote their name will not be listed.

Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote
1	Ara H.	Yes	6B	Barbara S.	No	14	Ira C.	Yes
	Carlos F.	No		Paulette T.	No		Maury C.	Yes
	Len K.	No		William T.	No		Mike M.	Yes
1A	Hamid K.	No	6C	Joe B.	Yes		Steve T.	Yes
1B	Marie R.	No	6D	John M.	Yes	15	Bill B.	No
	Wendy B.	Yes		Steve S.	Yes		Chuck R.	No
2	David R.	No	7	Donna K.	Yes		Eddie M.*	Yes
	Diane S.	AB		Ray M.	Yes		Joe B.	Yes
	Susan W.	No	7A	Petra O.	Yes		Kent D.	Yes
2A	Paul N.	No	8	Eileen Z.*	AB		Mary R.	Yes
2B	Nancy R.	Yes		Fred L.	Yes		Mike R.	No
	Steve R.	Yes		Larry J.*	No		Stanley C.	Yes
2E	Debra B.	No		Linda S.	Yes		Tom Z.	Yes
2G	Debb W.	No	8A	Arlene R.	No	16	George N.	No
	Pamela B.	Yes		Ernie N.	No		Jim A.	AB
2H	Mary H.	No	8B	Brian J.*	No	16A	Nancy K.	Yes
	Popeye E.	No		Linda J.	No	17	Paul S.	Yes
2K	Richard C.	No	8C	Marcus G.	Yes		Ron W.	No
3	Bea A.	No	9	Cesare G.	No	18	Russell K.*	Yes
	Brenda R.*	No		Paul K.	No		Steve A.*	No
	Joanne F.	No	10	Paulette M.	Yes	18A	Trevor S.*	Yes
	Mike C.*	No	10A	Norm B.	AB		Yvonne R.*	No
3A	Bobby W.	Yes	10 B	Kathy S.	Yes	19	Miriam C.*	Yes
	Patrick P.	No		Steve B.	No	20	Gabriel A.*	Yes
3B	Bill S.	No	11	Billy C.	No	21	Joaquin C.*	Yes
	Ron G.	No		Jodi P.	No		Juan B.*	Yes
3D	Sue F.	Yes		Joe L.	No	25	Carlo C.*	No
	Vicki M.	No	12	Barry H.	Yes		Marco Z.*	No
3F	Dora H.	Yes		Bob W.	No	28	Celia R.	Yes
4	John H.	No		David M.	Yes		Javier G.	Yes
	Petru C.	No		Frank L.	No		Rafael Z.*	Yes
5	Herb B.	Yes		Fred D.	Yes		Sergio C.*	Yes

5A	JR E.*	AB		Gary S.	No	29	Konstantin U.*	Yes
5B	Claude C.	No	13	John B.	No	33	Gabriel V.*	Yes
	Jean-Marc L.	No		Kevin V.	Yes		Rodrigo A.*	Yes
6	Clarke C.*	Yes		Ron C.	Yes	34	Jeysa V.*	AB
	Jim G.	Yes	13A	Bob F.	No	35	Leodegario R.*	Yes
	Lloyd A.	No		Thomas N.	No	36	Odie B.*	Yes
6A	Bill W.	No	13B	Michael R.	Yes			
	Richard F.*	Yes		Pete K.	Yes			

\* Absentee Ballot

Approved 57 Against 55 Abstained 6  
Passed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**5. Rules and Procedures - Add new section.**

**Proposed Version: No committee shall be allowed to use the trustee website home page as advertisement IE promoting any item or items related to there committee.**

**Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Motion was made that no committee shall be allowed to use the Trustee website home page as advertisement promoting any item or items related to their committee.

Motion was ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**6. Rule and Procedures - Add to executive board IE chair first co chair and second co chair responsibilities and duties.**

**Proposed version: At least one of the three members of the executive board IE chair, first co chair, and or second co chair shall be responsible to check trustee website home page for non advertising/promoting of any committee.**

**Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**7. Rules and Procedures**

**Proposed version: The trustee website homepage shall be used only to list count down of last agenda item submitted, the deadlines for agenda, and committee reports. Followed by the dates and times of current conference and the next two upcoming conferences.**

**Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Motion was made that the Trustee website homepage shall be used only to list countdown of last agenda item submitted, the deadlines for agenda and committee reports followed by the dates and times of current conference and the next two upcoming conferences.

Motion was ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**8. Rules and Procedures, Committees, Committee Chair Removal**

**Add the following second paragraph:**

**Any chair of a non-standing committee who does not submit a timely Committee report shall be removed by the Chairman of the BOT prior to the Trustee Meeting at which the report was due.**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion – Any chair of a non-standing committee who does not make a timely report prior to the B.O.T. as required shall be removed by the then sitting Chair.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**Items Requiring A 2nd Vote**

**9. Red Book, A New Beginning**

**Remove Chapter 7 - Pages 97-101, The Fellowship of Gam-Anon our Family and Friends**

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa**

**David M. - Area 12**

Failed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**10. Group Handbook, back inside cover**

**Remove entire section on Gam-Anon**

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa**

**David M. - Area 12**

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**11. Approve 'Gambling Problem' advertisement to be used for flyers and billboards, and whatever other form deemed appropriate by the BOR.**

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa**

**See attachment 11**

**David M. - Area 12**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**12. By-Laws, Article V, Nominations, Section 1**

**Change: the 200 in ...not to exceed 200 words... to 400.**

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

**Proposed version: On or before February 1st of each odd year any member of Gamblers Anonymous that has abstained completely from gambling for at least two (2) years and has attended Gamblers Anonymous meetings regularly - 39 meetings per year is eligible to submit their name, previous service as a Regent of this Corporation or as a Trustee of Gamblers Anonymous, total abstinence from gambling and home group, along with a biography not to exceed 400 words and phone number (both optional) to the International Service Office to be included on the Board of Regents ballot. These biographies will be an attachment to the ballot. Any member that is presently a member of any International Board of Gamblers Anonymous, but whose term ends on June 30, of the same year, is eligible to be included in the Board of Regents ballot; if their term has one more year to run, they must resign before submitting their name for the Board of Regents ballot.**

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa**

**David M. - Area 12**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**13. Hosting an International Conference, Page 1, Introduction.**

**Change "2" to "3".**

**Current version: Any International Conference that does not receive bids at 2 successive physical Trustee meetings will be canceled. The Executive Board will be responsible for selecting a site to host just a Trustee meeting in lieu of the International Conference.**

**Proposed version: Any International Conference that does not receive bids at 3 successive physical Trustee meetings will be canceled. The Executive Board will be responsible for selecting a site to host just a Trustee meeting in lieu of the International Conference.**

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa**

**Pete K. - Area 13B**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**14. Group Handbook, Page 3, Treasurer**

**Add: No member should hold more than one treasury position at one time.**

**Current version: The Group Treasurer, as the name implies, is responsible for the money collected at the group meetings. In general the duties are to:**

**Proposed version: The Group Treasurer, as the name implies, is responsible for the money collected at the group meetings. It is suggested that no member should hold more than one treasury position at one time. In general, the duties are to:**

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa**

**Betty S. - Area 12**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**15. Guidance Code-Article VIII, section 21**

**Add: Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees members whose residence is within the U.S.A. or Canada will not count towards the attendance requirement, regardless of the area they serve.**

**Current version: Any Trustee that misses (2) consecutive Board meetings is automatically removed from the Board of Trustees, and the area in which he or she serves shall be duly notified to hold an election for that vacant Trustee position. A quick response meeting will count for attendance at the Board of Trustees meeting. Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees members from areas outside of the U.S.A. and Canada will count as attendance at the Board of Trustees physical meetings.**

**Proposed version: Any Trustee that misses (2) consecutive Board meetings is automatically removed from the Board of Trustees, and the area in which he or she serves shall be duly notified to hold an election for that vacant Trustee position. A quick response meeting will count for attendance at the Board of Trustees meeting. Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees members from areas outside of the U.S.A. and Canada will count as attendance at the Board of Trustees physical meetings. Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees members whose residence is within the U.S.A. or Failed Majority Canada will not count towards the attendance requirement, regardless of the area they serve.**

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa 62-14**

**Approval Margin 81.6%**

**Pete K. - Area 13B**

Approved 44 Against 59

Failed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**16. Guidance Code article VIII, section 3**

Delete last sentence and change 'including' to 'concluding'.

**Current:** The term of office of Trustees shall be for two (2) years starting on July 1st, of even years and including June 30 of the following even year. However, the term of office shall be extended until the newly elected Trustee has been submitted to the International Service Office (I.S.O.)

**Proposed:** The term of office of Trustees shall be for two (2) years starting on July 1st, of even years and concluding June 30 of the following even year.

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa 104-6**

**Approval Margin 94.6%**

**Denis M. - Area 12**

Approved 98 Against 6

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**17. Group Handbook, Page 4**

**New Section - Greeting New Members**

Everyone in Gamblers Anonymous is important, but extra attention should be made for the new member walking into the room for the first time. As the saying goes, you only get one chance to make a first impression. To do this, a room should have a New Member Greeter. This person should be the first contact with the new member. Ideally, this person comes to the meeting early and has the specific purpose of greeting the new member and trying to make that member more comfortable about being at the meeting, explaining what happens in the meeting. The New Member Greeter should be responsible for providing the new member with all the literature to be read, along with a telephone list of the regular attending members of that room and a meeting list for the area. Other functions should be maintaining contact with the new member the next day and up until the next meeting. This can also help the new member in choosing a temporary sponsor. The purpose of the New Member Greeter is to initially help the new member, which in the process can greatly improve member retention. Of course, the benefits of this type of involvement speaks direct to the Guidelines of the Combo Book about getting involved and being of service. The room must realize that such a position does not relieve the other members of the room from calling the new members, but the New Member Greeter is a very strong way for that member to develop a strong sense of involvement with that specific room. Coming into Gamblers Anonymous for the first time is a very important event. Another important event is making the second meeting.

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa**

**Joanne F. - Area 3**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**18. Guidance Code Article XVIII - Election of Trustees New Section 5**

**Move existing section 5 to Section 6**

**Proposed Section 5:** The International Executive Secretary shall list the results of the Board of Trustee elections in the Lifeline bulletin within 90 days of the deadline for areas to notify the ISO of the Trustee Election results. The listing will include area number, location, Trustee(s) elected and vacancies.

**Passed 1st vote in Tampa 96-9**

**Approval Margin 91.4%**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Approved 95 Against 2

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**Items Tabled From Tampa**

**19. By-Laws, Article XII, Standing Rules. New sections, #'s 1A & 1B**

**Proposed version: By Laws, Article XII, New section 1A**

**Any alteration, addition or deletion to these standing rules will be reflected accurately in the Minutes of the Board of Regents meeting concerned.**

**Proposed version: By Laws, Article XII, New section 1B**

**Any use of or reference to these standing rules by the B.O.R. during the meeting, in making a decision on an agenda item or influencing a discussion or vote, will be reflected in the minutes of the Board of Regents meeting concerned.**

**Tabled in Tampa**

**Odie B. - Area 36**

Motion to table to Cancun.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**20. Guidance Code, Article XIV, Officers of Board of Regents.**

**New section 5, renumber sections 5 and 6 to 6 and 7.**

**New section 5**

**The minutes of the Board of Regents meeting will reflect accurately all items submitted for inclusion on the Agenda of the board of Regents meeting, with clear indication of any items rejected or deferred, including the reason for rejection or deferment.**

**Tabled in Tampa**

**Odie B. - Area 36**

Motion to table to Cancun.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**21. Request evaluation and possible approval for use of electronic vote tabulators available from several suppliers to expedite the BOT meeting process. Rent or purchase depending on economics.**

**Tabled in Tampa**

**Bill S. - Area 3B**

Motion to purchase keypad wireless vote tabulators to expedite the B.O.T. meeting process.

Motion to commit.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**22. Guidance Code, Article X, Section 5, Functions of the Intergroup, Number 3.**

**Current Version: The Intergroup shall, if it so desires, publish a bulletin or newsletter at regular intervals.**

**Proposed Version: The Intergroup shall, if it so desires, publish a bulletin or newsletter at regular intervals, and it must adhere to the Guidance Code of Gamblers Anonymous, the 12 Steps of Recovery and Unity, and all Board of Trustees decisions. Bulletins or newsletters, whether local, national or international, are appropriate literature providing that the published items are original writings from, or on behalf of the G.A. members submitting them, or items previously approved by the Board of Trustees. Material cannot be used from outside sources or**

**authors, and cannot promote events, services or sale of items related to outside interests.**

**Tabled in Tampa**

**Ed E. - Area 2**

No discussion.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Conference Bids**

**23. The Fall 2016 Conference is open for bids**

No bid was presented therefore this item will again be on the next agenda in Cancun and will be open to any Area wanting to present a bid.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**24. The Spring 2017 Conference is open for bids**

No bid was presented therefore this item will be on the Cancun agenda and will be open to any Area wanting to present a bid.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Elections**

**25. Election of the Board of Regents**

Seventy-three Ballots were turned in during the first session and Denis M. asked 3 past members of the Board of Trustees to count them. The results in alphabetical order are as follows: Bernie G., Bill B., (Florida), John C., Leanne W. (Louisiana), Mike S., Pat S., Peter A. (Philadelphia), Steve F., and Woodie H. First on the replacement list is Calvin C.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**26. Election of the Chair of the Board of Trustees**

Nominations for Chair were submitted during the 2nd session of the meeting and three members accepted; Herb B., David M. and Andy R. The election was held during the 3<sup>rd</sup> session. After one vote by secret ballot (to obtain a count of 50% plus 1) Andy R. from New Jersey was elected to serve as Chair for a two-year term.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**27. Election of the 1st Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees**

After the election of the Chair, nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> Co-Chair were submitted. Six members accepted; Pete K., Herb B., Martha G., Andre G., Lloyd A. and Richie S. After three votes by secret ballot (to obtain a count of 50% plus 1) Pete K., from New Jersey was elected 1<sup>st</sup> Co-Chair of the Board for a two-year term.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**28. Election of the 2nd Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees**

After the election of the 1<sup>st</sup> Co-Chair, nominations were submitted for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Co-Chair position. Five members accepted; Martha G., Mary R., Fred D., Andre G. and Lloyd A. After the three votes by secret ballot (to obtain a count of 50% plus 1) Andre G., from Montreal was elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Co-Chair of the Board for a two-year term.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

## **Steps**

### **29. Unity Step 11**

#### **Change internet to social media**

**Current:** 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 Internet.

**Proposed:** 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 social media.

**Richard C. - Area 2A**

Motion to accept above.

Approved        5        Against        78

Failed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

## **Guidance Code**

### **30. Discussion - Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 17**

#### **TO ASK THAT THE CHAIRMAN WILL ADHERE TO THE GC ON:**

It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to prepare the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting. Items may only be submitted to the Chairman through a current member or past member of the Board of Trustees and must be done so no later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening date of the meeting. The Chairman will confirm receipt of the item no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the opening date of the meeting

**Gary S. - Area 12**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **31. Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 21**

**Change:** delete ,from areas outside of the U.S.A. and Canada and change to ,any trustee,

**CURRENT:** Any Trustee that misses (2) consecutive Board meetings is automatically removed from the Board of Trustees, and the area in which he or she serves shall be duly notified to hold an election for that vacant Trustee position. A quick response meeting will count for attendance at the Board of Trustees meeting. Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees members from areas outside of the U.S.A. and Canada will count as attendance at the Board of Trustees physical meetings.

**Revised as of Vancouver**

**PROPOSED CHANGED:** Any Trustee that misses (2) consecutive Board meetings is automatically removed from the Board of Trustees, and the area in which he or she serves shall be duly notified to hold an election for that vacant Trustee position. A quick response meeting will count for attendance at the Board of Trustees meeting. Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees members from any area trustee will count as attendance at the Board of Trustees physical meetings.

**Gary S. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved        22        Against        90

Failed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**Other Literature**

**32. Group Handbook, To be added to Page 7**

There is no current item.

**Proposed Version: #8 Chairperson reads, "Please do not read from or distribute anything other than GA approved literature. Please ask a Trusted Servant if you are uncertain as to whether or not an item meets this standard".**

**Steve T. - Area 14**

Motion to add new Item #10 to page 10 of the Group Handbook:

Please do not read from, display or distribute anything other than G.A. approved or G.A. appropriate literature. Please ask a trusted servant if you are uncertain as to whether or not an item meets this standard.

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**33. Slogans of GA**

**Add an 8th slogan to the existing 7 Card Set.**

**"Get Involved and Be of Service -- Be A Lifeliner"**

**Current Set of 7:**

**One Day At A Time**

**Keep Coming Back**

**Let It Begin With Me**

**I Can Only Change Myself**

**It Works If You Work It**

**Help Is As Near As My Phone**

**Work The Steps**

**Proposed set of 8:**

**One Day At A Time**

**Keep Coming Back**

**Let It Begin With Me**

**I Can Only Change Myself**

**It Works If You Work It**

**Help Is As Near As My Phone**

**Work The Steps**

**Get Involved and Be of Service -- Be A Lifeliner**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Amendment to change "Get Involved and Be of Service -- Be A Lifeliner" to two separate cards.

Chair ruled the amendment out of order.

Vote on the challenge passes therefore the Chair is out of order and the amendment is in order.

The motion will now read:

Add two additional cards, "Get Involved and Be of Service" and "Be A Lifeliner" to the existing 7 Card Set of the Slogans of G.A.

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

### **Intergroup Procedures**

#### **34. Discussion Item: New Member Attraction and Retention**

- 1. Is your membership increasing, decreasing or remaining the same?**
- 2. How many new meetings in your area in the last year and how many are still open?**
- 3. What are the things you do to retain new members that are successful?**
- 4. What efforts does your area do to let the public know there are GA meetings in your area?**
- 5. Are you sensitive to regions that are in need of a new meeting?**

**Paul S. - Area 17**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **Group Procedures**

#### **35. Discuss how a member can be given credited time in the GA Program if they do not attend any meetings.**

**Ron W. for Michele C. - Area 17**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **B.O.T. Procedures**

#### **36. Discussion: Self-exclusion and Gamblers Anonymous**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **I.S.O. Procedures**

#### **37. Discuss creating a new program called "GA-ISO Lifeliner Months"**

**See attachment 37**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **Guidance Code**

#### **38. Guidance Code, New Section, Article IX, Section 1A**

**The Chairman of the Board of Trustees, #1 Co-Chairman and #2 Co-Chairman serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position. Gary S. for George L. - Area 12**

Motion to table to Cancun.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

#### **39. Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 19**

**Rewrite sentence 3**

**Current Version: Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees Members from areas outside of the U.S.A. and Canada will count as attendance at the Board of Trustees physical meetings.**

**Proposed Version: Absentee ballots from Board of Trustees members at Board of Trustees**

**physical meetings held outside of their own country will count as attendance at Board of Trustees physical meetings.**

**Bob W. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 37 Against 61

Failed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **Steps**

#### **40. Recovery Step 1**

**Add the phrase: "and accepted" after "We admitted..."**

**Current Version: We admitted we were powerless over gambling - that our lives had become unmanageable.**

**Proposed Version: We admitted and accepted we were powerless over gambling - that our lives had become unmanageable.**

**John M. for Steve S. - Area 6D**

When this item first came up, we did not have enough votes for a quorum, therefore it was heard later in the meeting when there were enough votes for a quorum.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 15 Against 70

Failed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

#### **41. Unity Step 6**

**Add the phrase: "never affiliate with, except Gam-Anon"**

**Current Version: Gamblers Anonymous ought never endorse, finance or lend the Gamblers Anonymous name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose**

**Proposed Version: Gamblers Anonymous ought never affiliate with, except Gam- Anon, endorse, finance or lend the Gamblers Anonymous name to any related facility or outside enterprise lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.**

**Gary S. for Barry H. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 52 Against 50

Failed

(2/3 Vote Needed)

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **New Literature Up For Merit Vote**

#### **42. Approve GA ISO Homeroom Award**

**See attachment 42**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **B.O.T. Procedures**

**43. Regarding the 2014 Tampa BOT meeting and the funds collected but not used by the executive board for the operation of the meeting; discuss turning over those funds to the ISO in the form of a one time donation from the BOT.**

**Denis M. - Area 12**

Motion to donate the funds as written above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **Committee Related**

**44. Committee change mission statement for digital media committee.**

**Current Version: The Digital Media Committee will record any/all approved GA printed literature using current technology. Additionally the committee will explore proper process for the recorded files to be placed on the GA website under the ISO store link.**

**Proposed Version: The Digital Media Committee will record any/all approved GA printed literature using current technology. Once the committee has finished recording they will submit it as an agenda item for approval BOT.**

**Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **Group Procedures**

**45. Allow the attached Gam-Anon approved tri-fold to be included along with other items that are given to all newcomers. The tri-fold will be enclosed in an envelope that would be labeled: For Spouse, family member, or friend. The flyer and the labeled envelope will be provided at no charge to Gamblers Anonymous Intergroups and meetings.**

**See attachment 45**

**Bill B. for John C. - Area 1A**

Motion to accept above. Item was ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**46. Discussion item**

**How do other areas and trustees handle members who share by reading personal notes, essays, thoughts, poetry at GA meetings from their phones, tablets, electronic devices or simply from a piece of paper.**

**Reasoning is how do we define "limiting the use of only GA approved or appropriate literature".**

**Ara H. - Area 1**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Intergroup Procedures**

**47. Discuss if a local Inter-group has the right or authorization to close down a G.A. meeting within its area.**

**Joe L. - Area 11**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

### **By-Laws**

**48. Article XVIII - Amendments to become Article XIX and new Article XVIII to read:  
Article XVIII - Donations**

**Although the Guidance Code states Groups are self supporting and do not take outside donations, the International Service Office (ISO) can accept donations from family and friends of Gamblers Anonymous Members in memory of members that have passed away.**

**Steve F. - Area 1**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

### **B.O.T. Procedures**

**49. Discussion: Should the Trustee Line Home Page be shut down?**

**Ron W. - Area 17**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Other Literature**

**50. Discuss: Change "RESPONSIBILITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEES OF GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS" to "SUGGESTED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEES OF GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS".**

**Tom Z. - Area 15**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **I.S.O. Procedures**

**51. Discuss: Make the month of September Gratitude Month.**

**Tom Z. - Area 15**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **B.O.T. Procedures**

**52. Discuss: More emphasis on our common process used to attain Unity than the actual goal of Unity itself is more emphasis on principles than on personality issues.**

**Odie B. - Area 36**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Guidance Code**

**53. Guidance Code, Article IX, Officers of the Board of Trustees, new Section 2, renumber existing sections**

**To be elected as the Chair of the Board of Trustees, a nominee must meet the same requirements to be a Trustee, plus have previously served as a member of the Board of Trustees Executive Board.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 49 Against 61

Failed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Steps**

#### **54. Recovery step #5**

**Change: Add the word " God."**

**Current version: Admitted to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.**

**Proposed version: Admitted to God, ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.**

**Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Motion to change Recovery Step 5 to read: Admitted to God of our own understanding, ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

Amendment to change "God" to "Higher Power".

Chair ruled amendment out of order and was then challenged. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the amendment out of order.

On the motion.

Approved 18 Against 96

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

### **Group Procedures**

#### **55. Discussion on Unity**

**Topic: Disparaging letters from other members.**

**Jimmy D. for Jerlene D. - Area 1A**

No discussion.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Steps**

#### **56. Unity step 7**

**Change: Add family and friends**

**Current version: Every Gamblers Anonymous group ought to be self-supporting declining outside contributions.**

**Proposed Version: Gamblers Anonymous shall be self-supporting declining outside contributions, except from family and friends.**

**Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 22 Against 86

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

## **Guidance Code**

### **57. Guidance Code, Article XVII, Sec 2**

**Add: Trustee allocation will be determined by group amount; 1 Trustee for every 10 meetings, rounded up. Groups will be defined as per The Guidance Code under article VII Section 1. It will be up to the individual areas (Intergroups) to determine how many trustees they wish to elect up to the allocated amount. At no time will there be less than 1 trustee per area. Requests for additional allocations due to area size, or any other reason, must be approved by the BOT. Each area will be responsible for providing current and adjusted group and Trustee counts during the Fall Trustee meetings prior to the Trustee election deadlines, as per the Guidance Code.**

**Joe B. - Area 15**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 24 Against 67

Failed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

## **Committee Related**

**58. The Conference Oversight & Assistance Committee is looking for a Vote of Confidence from the Board of Trustees in its work to revise the "Hosting an International Conference" brochure.**

**See attachment 58**

**Andre G. - Area 5B**

Chair asked for a vote of confidence for this committee to proceed with the above.

Passed – Committee will proceed.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

## **New Literature Up For Merit Vote**

**59. The Fourth Step Guide and Fourth Step Worksheets are being submitted to replace the current Fourth Step Inventory Book. This Guide is intended to assist GA members in successfully working the 4th Recovery Step: "Made a searching and fearless moral and financial inventory of ourselves."**

**See attachment 59A - 4th Step Guide**

**See attachment 59B - 4th Step Worksheets**

**Jeanne B. for Tom S. - Area 8**

Motion to accept the Fourth Step Guide and Fourth Step worksheets as new literature for a Merit Vote.

Passed

Merit Vote

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

## **Other Literature**

**60. Hosting an International Conference, Page 7, Workshops and Page 10, Booklet and Other Giveaways.**

**Insert the following at the end of each section:**

**Any booklets or other printed material, including workshop handouts are not Gamblers**

**Anonymous approved or appropriate material, unless they are designated as such by the Board of Trustees. These items must include a prominent listing on the cover of any booklet, pamphlet or all individual pages of the following:**

**This material is NOT Gamblers Anonymous approved or appropriate literature. It cannot be**

used, displayed or distributed in any Gamblers Anonymous room, or made available to any GA member outside this conference.

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**61. Let's Host a Mini-Conference, Page 21, Miscellaneous Ideas.**

**Insert the following after the 9th item on Conference Souvenir Programs:**

**Any booklets or other printed material, including workshop handouts are not Gamblers Anonymous approved or appropriate material, unless they are designated as such by the Board of Trustees. These items must include a prominent listing on the cover of any booklet, pamphlet or all individual pages of the following:**

**This material is NOT Gamblers Anonymous approved or appropriate literature. It cannot be used, displayed or distributed in any Gamblers Anonymous room, or made available to any GA member outside this conference.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 56 Against 48

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **B.O.T. Procedures**

**62. Disband the telephone meeting on Wednesday nights as it violates the unity steps.**

**Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**63. Have Combo Book available for publication via e-readers with appropriate price per book set by BOR.**

**Bill B. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

Only one vote needed

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

### **Group Procedures**

**64. Attraction or promotion. Example; when you talk about your own recovery in GA program and at a rehab center and you also mention the name of the center, then you continue to talk about, I have the phone number of that rehab center which helped me tremendously if anyone would like to use them, please contact me after this meeting, I will provide you the information? Is this member crossed the line and at what point crossed the line?**

**Hamid K. and Jimmy D. - Area 1A**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**Committee Related**

**65. Would like to ask the chairman of BOT to create a new committee to define what are requirements at each approved GA meeting**

**Hamid K. and Jimmy D. - Area**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**I.S.O. Procedures**

**66. The ISO Bulletin shall be made digital and available for download, only Lifeliners to receive paper hard copies.**

**Larry J. for Jim H. - Area 8**

Motion to accept above.

Amendment to change “only Lifeliners to receive paper hard copies” to “at the option of the member”.

Chair ruled amendment out of order and was then challenged. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the amendment out of order.

On the motion.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**B.O.T. Procedures**

**67. Discuss: Gamblers Anonymous Wikipedia Statements made about our definition and Gender Bias!**

**Ron W. - Area 17**

Motion to accept above. Item was ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**Awaiting 1st Literature Vote**

**68. Approval of a new piece of literature called Suggestions for New member Retention.**

**See attachment 68**

**Wendy B. - Area 1B**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**Committee Related**

**69. Explain to all GA members the ability to make donations through Online Banking. Several GA members are already doing this.**

**Herb B. - Area 5**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**70. Explain to all GA members as to the functions and needs of the ISO to assure continuing funding. A one-page flyer is attached and could be read at all meetings.**

**See attachment 70**

**Herb B. - Area 5**

Motion to adopt "What the I.S.O. Does" as an appropriate piece of literature.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**71. Suggest to all GA members to consider putting GA in their wills. A special form (Codicil) is attached. To be completed and given to our Lawyers/Notaries and/or the Executor of our estates.**

**See attachment 71**

**Herb B. - Area 5**

Motion to accept attachment as appropriate literature.

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

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**Guidance Code**

**72. To conform the Guidance Code to the steps of Unity, amend Article III, Section 1 to add the word internet, after service clubs.**

**Current Version: Article III - Objects**

**Section 1:**

The specific and primary purposes for which this Fellowship is formed are as follows:

**2.To carry the message of Gamblers Anonymous to the compulsive gambler who still suffers, through the medium of personal contact, telephone, mail, newspapers, films, radio, television, houses of worship, charitable organizations, service clubs, and by whatever dignified method that is approved by the Board of Trustees within the framework of the Unity Program.**

**Proposed Version:Article III - Objects**

**Section 1:**

The specific and primary purposes for which this Fellowship is formed are as follows:

**2.To carry the message of Gamblers Anonymous to the compulsive gambler who still suffers, through the medium of personal contact, telephone, mail, newspapers, films, radio, television, houses of worship, charitable organizations, service clubs, internet and by whatever dignified method that is approved by the Board of Trustees within the framework of the Unity Program.**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 98 Against 3

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**73. To allow Intergroups to sell GA approved literature, Article VII of the Guidance Code needs to be amended.**

**Current Version: Article VII - Groups**

**Section 7:**

**Gamblers Anonymous approved literature is any publication or item that has been approved by the Board of Trustees and is sold or distributed by the International Service Office (I.S.O) and/or any Regional Service Office (R.S.O.). Foreign language translations of Gamblers Anonymous approved literature are deemed to be approved if the final product has followed the necessary steps outlined by the Board of Trustees.**

**Proposed Version: Article VII - Groups**

**Section 7:**

**Gamblers Anonymous approved literature is any publication or item that has been approved by the Board of Trustees and is sold or distributed by the International Service Office (I.S.O) and/or**

any Regional Service Office (R.S.O.), and/or any Intergroup. Foreign language translations of Gamblers Anonymous approved literature are deemed to be approved if the final product has followed the necessary steps outlined by the Board of Trustees.

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 95 Against 5

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Herb B., 2nd Co-Chair.

**74. To conform the ability of Intergroups to sell GA material, Article X of the Guidance Code needs to be amended.**

**Current Version: Article X - Intergroup Guidelines**

**Section 5:**

**Functions of Intergroup:**

**1. To disseminate Gamblers Anonymous information and approved Gamblers Anonymous literature to any group or individual requesting same.**

**Proposed Version: Article X - Intergroup Guidelines**

**Section 5:**

**Functions of Intergroup:**

**1. To disseminate or sell Gamblers Anonymous information and approved Gamblers Anonymous literature to any group or individual requesting same.**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Amendment to change to read:

To disseminate Gamblers Anonymous information and disseminate or sell approved Gamblers Anonymous literature to any group or individual requesting same.

Approved 97 Against 5

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**75. To conform Article XI - Regional Service Office ability to sell GA material with Article VII, Section 7 of the Guidance Code which specifically allows any R.S.O. to sell approved GA literature.**

**Current Version: Article XI - Regional Service Office (R.S.O.)**

**Section 7:**

**Suggested guidelines for the R.S.O.: Any R.S.O. that is formed shall be an arm of the I.S.O., and:**

**1. Disseminate Gamblers Anonymous information and approved Gamblers Anonymous literature to any group or individual requesting same.**

**Proposed Version: Article XI - Regional Service Office (R.S.O.)**

**Section 7:**

**Suggested guidelines for the R.S.O.: Any R.S.O. that is formed shall be an arm of the I.S.O., and:**

**1. To disseminate or sell Gamblers Anonymous information and approved Gamblers Anonymous literature to any group or individual requesting same.**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to change Article XI, Section 7, Item 1

Disseminate Gamblers Anonymous information and disseminate or sell approved Gamblers Anonymous literature to any group or individual requesting same.

Approved 95 Against 4

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., 1st Co-Chair.

**Group Procedures**

**76. Discussion about how other areas handle requests for hearing impaired people.**

**Jodi P. - Area 11**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Denis M., Chair.

**Items Omitted From the Agenda**

**77.** There were no items omitted from the agenda.

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at approximately 9:45 P.M. on Friday, May 29, 2015. The collection for the six (6) sessions was \$1,306.39.

The next physical meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. in Cancun, Mexico..

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen H.*

Karen H.,  
International Executive Secretary

AREA		SESSIONS	ROLL CALL		SESSIONS	AREA		SESSIONS
1	Ara H.	6	6C	Joe B.	6	15	Bill B.	6
	Carlos F.	6	6D	John M.	6		Chuck R.	6
	Len K.	6		Steve S.	6		Eddie M.	Abst.*
1A	Hamid K.	6	7	Donna K	6		Howard C.	Abst.
1B	Marie R.	6		Ray M.	6		Joe B.	6
	Wendy B.	6	7A	Daniel G.	Abst.		Kent D.	6
2	David R.	5		Petra O.	6		Mary R.	6
	Diane S.	6	8	Eileen Z.	Abst.*		Mike R.	6
	Susan W.	6		Fred L.	6		Stanley C.	6
2A	Paul N.	6		Larry J.	Abst.*		Tom Z.	6
2B	Nancy R.	6		Linda S.	6	16	George N.	6
	Steve R.	6	8A	Arlene R.	5		Jim A.	6
2C	Debbie W.	Abst.		Ernie N.	6	16A	Nancy K.	6
2E	Debra B.	6	8B	Brian J.	Abst.*	17	Paul S.	6
2G	Debb W.	6		Linda J.	6		Ron W.	6
	Pam B.	6	8C	Marcus G.	5	18	Gennaro S.	Abst.
2H	Mary H.	6	9	Cesare G.	6		Mark H.	Abst
	Popeye E.	6		Paul K.	6		Russell K.	6*
2K	Richard C.	6	9A	Nick R.	Abst.		Steve A.	6*
3	Bea A.	6	10	Paulette M.	5	18A	Trevor S.	6*
	Brenda R.	Abst*		Tom S.	Abst.		Yvonne R.	6*

	Joanne F.	6	10A	Jim P.	Abst.	19	Miriam C.	6*
	Mike C.	Abst*		Norm B.	6	20	Gabriel A.	6*
3A	Bobby W.	6	10B	Kathy S.	6	21	Joaquin C.	6*
	Karen T.	4		Steve B.	6		Juan B.	6*
	Patrick P.	6	11	Billy C.	6	22	Mala G.	Abst.
3B	Bill S.	6		Jodi P.	6	25	Carlo C.	6*
	Ron G.	6		Joe L.	6		Marco Z.	6*
3C	Terry D.	Abst.	12	Barry H.	6		Rino F.	Abst.
3D	Sue F.	6		Bob W.		6	Ruggero M.	Abst.
	Vicki M.	6		David M.	5	26	Chris K.	Abst.
3F	Dora H.	6		Frank L.	5		Songchun K.	Abst.
4	Petru C.	6		Fred D.	6	28	Celia R.	3
	John H.	6		Gary S.	3		Javier G.	6
5	Herb B.	6	13	John B.	6		Martha G.	6
5A	JR E.	Abst.*		Kevin V.	6		Rafael Z.	6*
5B	Claude C.	6		Ron C.	6		Sergio C.	6*
	Jean-Marc L.	6	13A	Bob F.	6	29	Konstantin U.	6*
6	Clark C.	Abst.*		Thomas N.	6	33	Gabriel V.	6*
	Jim G.	6	13B	Michael R.	6		Rodrigo A.	6*
	Lloyd A.	6		Pete K.	6	34	Carlos D.	6*
6A	Bill W.	6	14	Ira C.	6		Jeysa V.	6*
	Richard F.	Abst.*		Maury C.	6	35	Leodegario R.	6*
6B	Barbara S.	6		Mike M.	6	36	Odie B.	6*
	Paulette T.	6		Steve T.	5			
	William T.	6						

\* Absentee Ballot Received

Chair BOT – Denis M. 6  
 1st Co-Chair BOT – Andy R. 6  
 2nd Co-Chair BOT – Herb B. 6  
 Chair BOR – Steve F. 6  
 I.E.S. – Karen H. 6