

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING  
MAY 12 & 13, 2016  
SHERATON CRESENT HOTEL, PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

**A) Welcome –Andy R. Chair, Board of Trustees**

Andy R. called the meeting to order promptly at 10:00 A.M. He gave his opening remarks including some challenges that have occurred with the Unity in our program over the past six months. He asked the Trustees to help with this and make themselves available to the Groups in their Areas. The head table was introduced along with the new Trustees, who were welcomed to the Board. Points of order and points of information were explained.

Twenty-two absentee ballots were received as follows:

Area 2K	Richard C.	Area 14	Ira C,	Area 20	Gabriel A.
Area 3	Brenda Joy R.	Area 15	Mike R.	Area 21	Joaquin A.
Area 5B	Jean Marc L.	Area 15	Joe B.	Area 25	Marco Z.
Area 6A	Richard F.	Area 18	Steven A.	Area 25	Carlo C.
Area 8	Eileen Z.	Area 18	Daphne C.	Area 28	Rafael Z.
Area 8	Larry J..	Area 18	Russell K.	Area 34	Jeysa V.
Area 9A	Nick R.	Area 19	Eduardo B	Area 36	Odie B.
Area 10	Paulette M.				

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

Steve R. read a list of our members who have passed away since the last Board of Trustees meeting that was held in Cancun, Mexico. A moment of silence was held.

Mike B., Area 1A, passed 11/20/2015, 11 years

Jim M., Area 1A, passed 04/13/2016, 8 years

Sandy T., Area 1B, passed 02/05/2016, 26 years, former B.O.T. and B.O.R. member

George F., Area 2, passed 03/18/2016, 33 years, age 84

Daniel G., Area 2A, passed 01/17/2016, Prince George, British Columbia

Nancy R., Area 2B, passed 02/22/2016, 7 years, age 70, Area 2B Trustee

Denis C., Area 2J, passed 01/21/2016, 21 years, former Trustee 1998-2000, Northern Alberta

Andy N., Area 2K, passed 03/31/2016, 38 years, age 68, Southern Alberta

Jan A., Area 3, passed 02/25/2016, 27 years, Las Vegas, Nevada

Beverly M., Area 3D, passed 03/15/2016, 5 years, Tempe, Arizona

Nancy I., Area 3G, passed 11/24/2015, 4 years, Oregon

Dennis B., Area 4, passed 04/2016, 1 year, Toronto

Angelo M., Area 6, passed 03/23/2016, 8 years, Coral Springs, Florida

Joe G., Area 6, passed 04/24/2016, 2 years, Port St. Lucie, Florida

Shane L., Area 6B, passed 11/02/2015, 1 year, age 36, Florida West Coast

Shirley J., Area 7, passed 04/20/2016, 16 years, age 79, New Orleans, Louisiana

Jeff C., Area 7, Passed 04/2016, Shreveport, Louisiana

Miss V., Area 7, passed 01/2016, Houma, Louisiana

Mike S., Area 8, passed 04/15/2016, 18 years, age 58

Lois W., Area 8, passed 04/26/2016, 7 years, Lisle, Illinois

George E., Area 9, passed 01/29/2016, 14 years, age 65, Chicago, Illinois

Eddie L., Area 12, passed 01/02/2016, 47 years, former B.O.T. Chairman 1978-1983

John H., Area 13A, passed 11/2015, 8 years, 40+years in Program, Virginia

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

Herb B., from Area 5 read the Reflection for the Day for May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup> to begin the first sessions of the day.

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

Carlos F., from Area 1 read the 12 Steps of Unity on May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 13<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 104 votes to begin the first session; 82 physically present and 22 who submitted absentee ballots.

**F) Approval of Minutes from Cancun**

The minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held in Cancun, Mexico were 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 once again report a increase of \$3,374.00 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. also spoke of 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 his report on the International Service Office, which included the financial status of the I.S.O. He also informed the Board about the Life-Line Bulletin going electronic in May 2016, the increase in approved literature pricing effective February 1, 2016, the first amendment to our Office lease for 5 years with a 5 year option to begin on February 1, 2017 and the proposed implementation of new Financial Software.

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

**1) Cancun – Fall ‘15**

Andre G. gave the report on the above Conference stating that all reports and bank statements have been received. Martha G. thanked her committee and everyone who was in attendance for making this Conference a success. Andy R. thanked everyone for a job well done. The financial report follows:

**Revenues**

Registration & Meal Plan Collected	\$ 38, 119.00
Donations	\$ 2, 222.64
Literature Sales (Spanish & English)	\$ 2, 507.25
Seed Money	\$ 1, 000.00
Merchandise Sale	\$ 1, 675.72
Refunds (Travel Expense)	\$ 118.18
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 45, 642.79</b>

**Expenses**

Decoration & Entertainment	\$ 4, 723.70
Travel Expenses	\$ 1, 027.84
Shipping	\$ 78.97
Hospitality Room	\$ 985.21
Printing	\$ 171.22

Virtual Office		\$ 174.60
Miscellaneous		\$ 258.57
Banner		\$ 18.98
Registration (Tags, Lanyards, Folders, etc.)		\$ 1,212.73
Refund Registration		\$ 633.94
T-Shirts, Hats, Beach Bags		\$ 570.28
PO Box – McAllen Texas		\$ 108.71
<i>Coffee Break</i>	\$ 321.55	
<i>Food &amp; Beverage &amp; Scouting</i>	\$ 26,299.14	
<i>Audio</i>	\$ 3,102.62	
Westin Resort & SPA Cancun		\$ 29,723.31
Bounced check		\$ 199.00
GA Seed Money		\$ 1,000.00
Literature English & Spanish		\$ 2,507.25
Bank Fees		\$ 133.28
Refund (Mask)		\$ 225.00
Profit/Loss Currency Exchange		\$ 163.39
Revenue Tax		\$ 125.00
Total Expenses		\$ 44,040.96
Profit		\$ 1,601.83
<b>Expenses + Profit</b>		<b>\$ 45,642.79</b>
~U.S. Currency		

Gamblers Anonymous International Service Office		\$ 1,281.46
Gam-Anon International Service Office. Inc.		\$ 320.37
The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.		

## 2) Phoenix – Spring ‘16

Fred L. reported that all obligations have been fulfilled. Robert B., Conference Chair welcomed everyone and stated that they have exceeded their room night minimum by 100 rooms. They have received 380 registrations so far with 276 people registered for dinner on Saturday night. The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

## 3) San Diego - Fall ‘16

Fred L. stated that everything is in order for the Fall 2016 International Conference to be held October 7 – 9, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego, California. Bobby W. said they have received 12 registrations and that all is going well. They are looking forward to a wonderful Conference.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

## 4) Open - Spring ‘17

Andy R. gave the report for the above “Open Conference”. Since no bid was received, even though Andy asked for someone to come forward and present a bid, only a Trustee meeting will be held on April 30 and May 1, 2017 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Room nights will be \$110.00 per night and the registration fee will be \$30.00 per person. The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

## 5) Inland Empire - Fall ‘17

Andre G. report on the Fall 2017 International Conference to be held October 27 – 29, 2017 at the Double Tree by Hilton Ontario Airport in Ontario, California. He stated that copies of the minutes along with bank signature cards have been received. Wendy B. stated that 8 or 9

registrations have been received and they are looking forward to hosting the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

#### **6) Open - Spring '18**

No bid was presented, therefore this will be on the San Diego Agenda. The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

## **J) Committee Reports**

### **Committees with Pete K. as Co-Chair Liaison**

#### **Blue Book Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Arlene R. – Area 8A | Co-Chair – Jeanne B. – Area 8A**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**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 April 2016**

**Members: Arlene R. Chair, Jeannie B. Co-Chair, Jill T., Pam Z., Tom S., Loretta D.**

**All Committee members are from Area 8A.**

**The Committee continues to meet twice a month for editing. We have completed the Introduction, a section called “How it Works” and a FAQ section. Editing has been completed on the Recovery Steps through Step 9. It is anticipated that the Unity Steps will go a little faster once the Recovery Steps have been completed by the Committee. Every meeting is 2-3 hours in length. Due to the scrutiny and care taken by the committee, the Committee usually completes editing of about 4-5 pages each session. The Committee is careful to use words and terms of inclusion and is concentrating on a voice of “we” and “us”, as opposed to “you” and/or “they”. While working on the Steps, Committee members have begun editing submissions from the fellowship on their own time. There is a very serious dearth of submissions from the fellowship. It is estimated that at least 20 more submissions are needed.**

**The Committee is still accepting submissions from the fellowship. 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.**

**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**

Arlene R. gave the above report which was submitted online. Submissions are still being accepted and the committee would like to have them by the end of this year.

**Digital Media Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Paulette T. – Area 6B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**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.**

**Digital Media Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Digital Media Committee Report for 2016 Spring Conference**

**Committee Chair – Paulette T. – Area 6B | Co-Chair – Jimmy D. – Area 1A**

**Current Members – Jeanne B. – Area 8A, Karen E. – Area 8A, Mark L. -**

**Over the last six months, our committee has worked diligently to produce recordings that can be sold on the ISO website as downloadable literature. We have three agenda items; Item number 38 requests approval of already recorded CD to be converted to MP3 and sold on the ISO website as downloads.**

**Item 39 and 40 request approval of new recordings of literature that we have recorded be sold on the ISO website as downloads.**

**With approval of these three items, we will continue to move forward with additional literature to be made available in the same manner through the ISO website.**

**Our committee is always open to accept additional members. We especially welcome members with experience in the recording process and implementation of these downloads on the website.**

Paulette T. gave the above report which was submitted online.

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

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

**Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**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.**

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

**Following a request by an inmate's father to our local trustee, contacts were established with the Bowden Institution, a federal medium and minimum institution. A Prison starting kit was sent to the institution. Follow-up is being made by the local GA area. You will find details about this institution on the meeting list attached.**

**At the Centre Federal de Formation (Federal minimum security institution) in Laval, Quebec, a meeting was held every week, alternating between a French meeting on a given Wednesday, followed by an English meeting the following week. However, although the English meeting is taking place, the French meeting is inactive for a lack of inmate participation. The Joliette prison for women meeting is running just fine. 6 or 7 inmates attend the meeting regularly. Some local 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 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 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**

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

**Public Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

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

**Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**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).**

No report was submitted.

Billy C. has stepped down as Chair. Volunteers were requested and Paul N. stepped up and is now the new Chair of this committee.

**RSO Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Sue F. – Area 3D**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**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 (R.S.O)**

**Committee Report**

**May 2016**

**Purpose:**

**To create and assemble a comprehensive guide for Regional Service Offices. The Committee will also review Article X1 of the Guidance Code. (Regional Service Office-R.S.O).**

**Board of Trustees Liaison: Pete K.**

**Committee Chair: Sue F. Area 3D**

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

**Use this address to contact the chair of this committee**

**Committee.rso@trusteewebsite.com**

**Committee members are listed below:**

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

**The Committee has assembled a comprehensive guide for Regional Service Offices.**

**This guide explains the functions and purpose of an RSO. This document will be presented as an agenda item # 36 during the International Conference in Phoenix, as a new piece of literature. (Attachment # 36)**

**The Committee has reviewed and made the necessary changes to Article X1 of The Guidance Code (RSO); this item passed the first vote in Cancun, it is up for the second vote during the Conference in Phoenix. See item 59 (Attachment 59)**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Sue F., Chair R.S.O Committee**

Report was not submitted online but was given by Sue F. during the meeting.

**Trustee Election Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Wendy B. – Area 1B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

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

**Trustee Election Guideline Report**

**This committee will begin to develop guidelines for Trustee Elections in all areas. Some of the items to be addressed are: Should voting be per member or per group and procedures on how elections are to be conducted in each area.**

**It will be the goal of the committee to submit these guidelines either at San Diego or the Spring, 2017 Conference.**

**Respectfully Submitted, Wendy B.**

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

**Committees with Andre G. as Co-Chair Liaison**

**Intergroup Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Wendy B. – 1B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andre G.**

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

**Intergroup Guideline Committee**

**There has not been a lot of work done on this committee since the Cancun Conference.**

**It is the goal of the committee to submit guidelines for approval at the San Diego Conference or the Spring 2107 Trustee meeting.**

**Respectfully Submitted, Wendy B.**

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

**International Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Paulette T. – Area 6B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andre G.**

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

**International Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

**International Relations Committee Report for 2016 Spring Conference**

**Since our meeting in Cancun there has been much activity on this committee. Inquiries have come from The Netherlands, France, China, Slovenia, Vietnam, Spain, Egypt, Israel, Norway, Thailand, Chile, and India.**

**As the new chairperson of this committee, I am again amazed at the lengths we will all go to as this addiction grips our lives. These stories are truly heart wrenching.**

**The good news is that with the help of all on the committee, we have begun at least three new meetings; one of which is in Chile. Chile has been in need of a meeting for many years and it appears we now have one started.**

**Our committee is open to new members.**

Paulette T. gave the above report which was submitted online.

**Literature Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Chuck R. - Area 15**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andre G.**

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

**LITERATURE COMMITTEE REPORT for PHOENIX**

**Item #20 on the Cancun agenda (Suggestions for New Member Retention), which passed the second approval vote for new literature, was sent to ISO for formatting and publishing after a final check for punctuation, grammar and spelling.**

**Item #66 from Cancun agenda (Unity Step Handbook) -waited for feedback from Trustees. 60 day comment period ended 12/21/2015.**

Item # 66 on the Cancun agenda (Unity Step Study Handbook) was approved on a merit vote. Following the 60 day comment period (there were no comments or suggestions from the BOT to the Literature Committee), the Committee made the necessary spelling, grammar and punctuation changes and then submitted the item for the Phoenix agenda. Chuck R. gave the above report which was submitted online

**Pressure Relief Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Steve T.– Area 14**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andre G.**

**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.

**PRESSURE RELIEF GROUP COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Committee Chairman: Steve T – Area 14**

**Committee Members: Ira C – Area 14; Pam B – Area 2G; Paul C – Area 14**

After taking over the role of Chairman of this Committee in Cancun, it took several months to identify those people who actually wanted to serve on the Committee and those who couldn't return emails and phone calls.

The reconstituted Committee met this month and have set our sights on the following objectives:

- Make necessary changes and updates to the PRGM Handbook and PRGM Pamphlet (both the paper form and on the CD).
- Set up contact lists (to be available to the membership at large) both at the Trustee level and Intergroup levels so as to create a network of resources for all areas with a special emphasis on those in less served areas.
- Facilitate cooperation between neighboring areas both in matters of conducting workshops to demonstrate PRGMs or to aid with specific questions within an actual PRGM.
- Record a demonstration video to be available on You-tube on how to conduct a PRGM. (Clearly, this is a longer term objective).

Suggestions on how to achieve the above or other goals and volunteers to join the Committee are always welcomed. Kindly contact me via the email below. Respectfully submitted, Steve T., [committee.pressure@trusteewebsite.com](mailto:committee.pressure@trusteewebsite.com)

Steve T. gave the above report which was submitted online

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

**Committee Chair – Bea A. – Area 3**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andre G.**

**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.

**I. PEN PALS & OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Pen Pal relationships are often the only means of connecting an incarcerated individual to the fellowship. In Fall 2015 we were aware of 12 active pen pal relationships coordinated through US JIP Committee. *Certainly many pen pal relationships exist that have not been coordinated through the committee.* Spring 2016 initiated 5 new pen pal relationships coordinated through committee volunteers. Several inmates specifically



requested a “sponsor” in anticipation of future parole. Volunteers wrote to these individuals.

## **II MEETING STARTER KIT REQUESTS**

Total Prison Starter Kits sent Spring 2016 conference – 18

*(Fall 2015 total was 12)*

Of these requests:

2 were from GA members

1 Institutional request - from a former employee of the Prison (Stockton, CA)

15 Inmate Requests

1 From a GA members who attended meetings prior to incarceration (Milwaukee Women’s Center)

1 From a co-addicted inmate participating in other 12-step meetings (NE)

III. ACTIVE US MEETINGS – 28 Sincere thanks to members in NY, NJ and Milwaukee for initiating new meetings!

IV LITERATURE REVIEW - The US JIP Committee will be reviewing GA

Approved Literature “Towards Recovery in Prison” (Current edition Approved 10/02.)

Feedback from ex-inmates has indicated that this literature would be more helpful if it offered guidelines specifically for recovery in an institutional setting where meetings are often not available and gambling is often pervasive. We had hoped to have this ready for Spring 2016; however, this is still a “work in progress.”

Bea A. gave the above report which was submitted online. The Prison Committee meeting will be held Saturday at 4:45 P.M.

## **Video Meeting Format Committee**

Committee Chair- David M. - Area 12

Co-Chair Liaison – Andre G.

Mission Statement: To utilize a visual format to provide more definition and basic structure that would help GA meetings adhere to the GC and Unity Steps regarding suggested meeting formats, including appropriate meeting behaviors and meeting procedures.

Video Meeting Format Committee Report

Phoenix – Spring 2016

After Cancun, the committee of 10 quickly whittled down to 5. We have monthly conference call meetings that have all proved to be very productive.

The committee formulated its mission statement, consistent with the discussions and goals expressed in the Cancun Trustee meeting.

In the production of what we hope to be a sample video of a typical meeting, we will look to start a Gamblers Anonymous video home page on YouTube. This will clear the way for other items that may be distributed for free, with BOT and BOR approval.

The video project that is currently being worked on, will be an effort to promote best practices in a meeting. The video will be done with non-GA members and will be scripted to create relevance for those who view the videos.

The initial video will be a compilation of ideas from members on both the East Coast, along with the West Coast and middle America. There will be full recognition of Unity Step 4. It is also important to realize that many rooms were started by AA members and their knowledge of how GA works, versus AA, can be quite different.

The committee has come up with a preamble for the video, which was a very democratic process, with equal participation from all committee members. We have also gathered meeting formats from other rooms that will form the basis of coming up with the beginnings of a script for the meeting video.

Our idea is to access the various community colleges in our respective areas and solicit the help of those students to be the core of our video. We have not started that process

yet. It will be done after we have the sample meeting formats and then come up with a script for those who participate in the video.

During the committee meeting in January, we thought we might be able to have a video ready for the San Diego Trustee meeting. The project seems to have more complexities than we thought, so that target has to be moved back into 2017. The committee did not meet in April and will not meet in May, so won't have a realistic goal of having a finished product for the BOT to review in San Diego. We will know more in San Diego.

Submitted by, David M. – Video Meeting Format Chair

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

### **Committees with Andy R. as Co-Chair Liaison**

#### **BOR/BOT Revenue Review Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Open**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**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**

No report was submitted. Chair asked for members interested in serving on this committee. The following members will serve on this committee: Herb B., Area 5; Hamid K., Area 1A; Barry H., Area 12; Richie S., Area 6. A Chair for this committee will be announced.

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

**Committee Chair - Fred L – Area 8**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**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.**

**April 19, 2016**

**Conference Oversight and Assistance Committee – Standing Committee**

**Chair of the committee Fred L Area 8 Co-Chair Andre G Area 5B**

**Committee members: Bill A area 7A, Herb B Area 5 and Kathy S Area 7**

The committee has met via phone several times since the last trustee meeting and has worked on a registration spreadsheet which we feel will be of great help to upcoming conferences this is item #37. We are also working on an update to the Hosting an International Conference booklet. The Cancun conference reported a profit before taxes of \$1,727.00. It is still unknown what if any the tax amount will be. A complete breakdown of attendance and income and expenses for the conference is available on the trustee website in the Comparative Conferences Database under the Conference Committee tab. There was an issue with hotel registrations in Cancun. Many trustees made their registration through a third party Expedia, Kayak, etc. The hotel discounts these third party companies and therefore does not credit the conference committee for the rooms. In the future please book your reservation directly through the hotel.

All requirements for the Phoenix conference have been met and we expect a very successful conference. The San Diego Conference in the fall is progressing well and we ask that if you have not picked up a registration form yet that you get one and send in your registration as soon as possible. There have been no bids for a Spring 2017 conference, therefore there will only be a Trustee meeting. Use this email address to contact the Chair of this committee: [committee.conference@trusteewebsite.com](mailto:committee.conference@trusteewebsite.com)

Fred L. gave the above report which was submitted online.

#### **Hotline Implementation Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Paul S. – Area 17**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

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

**May 2016 Hotline Committee Report**

**Committee Members: Paul S. (Area 17), Brad B. (Area 14), Chuck R. (Area 15), Jason M. (Area 13B), Linda S. (Area 7C), Jim G. (Area 7C), Debb W. (Area 2G), Claudia H (Area 6B), Donna K. (Area 7), Doug K. (Area 11)**

**Current Areas on the Ring Central System: (currently 38)**

<b>Area 1</b>	<b>Los Angeles</b>	<b>Area 8</b>	<b>Chicago</b>
<b>Area 1A</b>	<b>Orange County, California</b>	<b>Area 8A</b>	<b>Minnesota</b>
<b>Area 1B</b>	<b>Inland Empire (split from Area 1)</b>	<b>Area 8B</b>	<b>Kansas, Missouri</b>
<b>Area 2</b>	<b>Northern California</b>	<b>Area 8C</b>	<b>Minn., Wiscon, No. Dakota</b>
<b>Area 2B</b>	<b>Greater Sacramento</b>	<b>Area 8D</b>	<b>Missouri, Illinois</b>
<b>Area 2E</b>	<b>Manitoba</b>	<b>Area 9</b>	<b>Michigan, Northwest Ohio</b>
<b>Area 2G</b>	<b>Oregon</b>	<b>Area 10</b>	<b>Ohio</b>
<b>Area 2H</b>	<b>Washington</b>	<b>Area 10A</b>	<b>Western Pennsylvania</b>
<b>Area 2K</b>	<b>Calgary</b>	<b>Area 10B</b>	<b>Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Lexington, Louisville,</b>
<b>Area 3</b>	<b>Southern Nevada</b>	<b>Area 11</b>	<b>New England</b>
<b>Area 3A</b>	<b>San Diego</b>	<b>Area 12</b>	<b>New Jersey</b>
<b>Area 3B</b>	<b>Colorado</b>	<b>Area 13</b>	<b>Delaware Valley</b>
<b>Area 4</b>	<b>Ontario</b>	<b>Area 13A</b>	<b>Maryland, DC</b>
<b>Area 6</b>	<b>South Florida</b>	<b>Area 13B</b>	<b>South Jersey</b>
<b>Area 6A</b>	<b>Central and Northern Florida</b>	<b>Area 14</b>	<b>Long Island, NY</b>
<b>Area 6B</b>	<b>West Coast of Florida</b>	<b>Area 15</b>	<b>New York</b>
<b>Area 6C</b>	<b>North Carolina and South Carolina</b>	<b>Area 16</b>	<b>Rochester &amp; Syracuse, NY</b>
<b>Area 7</b>	<b>Mississippi, New Orleans</b>	<b>Area 16A</b>	<b>New York</b>
		<b>Area 17</b>	<b>Connecticut &amp; Western MA</b>

#### **Status**

**Currently managing the system with 38 Areas on the system and answering questions and reaching out to those Areas that have 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 has gained several new active members but we could still use one or two members familiar with setting up the Ring Central account features to help areas that have questions.**

**We recently did test calls to areas that have local hotline services and found several areas that had disconnected numbers or did not answer the phone. This information was passed on to the chairman of the BOT executive committee. We will do a similar test for all areas on the Ring Central system before the Fall BOT meeting.**

**Current Monthly Call Volume**

**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 to evaluate system performance, improve caller experience and simplify system setup and maintenance.  
Committee still looking for people who are experienced with Ring Central set up to help with background work.

**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**

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

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

**Committee Chair – Steve T. – Area 14**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**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. 4) To actively seek out any known phone meetings and try to assist in making them compliant with current rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings. Make changes to such procedures whenever necessary, with Board of Trustee approval.

5) Look at other platforms being used and make changes to the rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings, with Board of Trustee approval.

#### **TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Committee Chairman: Steve T – Area 14**

**Committee Members: David M – Area 12 Jeanne B – Area 8A Pete K – Area 13B Meeting**

**Administrators: Gerry D – Area 12 Wendy J W – Area 8A**

The Wednesday Meeting continues to grow in leaps and bounds. Unique call-ins pushed up monthly culminating with an average of 85 per week in April. The last 6 months resulted in 41 brand new\* members calling in (Brand new is defined as someone who has never called in previously or attended any physical GA meeting). The Committee has meetings to recap the weekly call while continually looking for ways to improve.

The meeting maintains all volunteer lists of members both needing and willing to provide help between “meetings”. The list is continually refreshed to enhance its utility. The Committee continues to research new platforms in an effort to enhance the ease of administrating and the overall quality of the call. One has been identified that will be “tested” by the Committee members and Meeting Administrators over the next month or two.

Outreach started regarding the BOT’s mandate to migrate all unrecognized Conference Call meetings to comply with its guidelines. Results are as follows:

- Michigan Conference Call reported membership at a level that was typically less than 5 per week. They were willing to consider the BOT recognized platform if the meeting grew to an appropriate level.
- New Jersey Conference Call was called and preferred both to remain on their platform and in non-compliance with the Guidance Code.
- Colorado Conference Call (Saturday nights) was not contacted as of yet.

As of this BOT meeting, time constraints have caused me to need to resign from this Committee. It has been a privilege executing Pete K and David M's vision for this critical resource in GA as well as working so closely with Jeanne B, Gerry D, and Wendy JW. I hope others will step up and help expand this amazing tool for recovery beyond the current meeting. Respectfully submitted, Steve T.  
[committee.telephone.conference@trusteewebsite.com](mailto:committee.telephone.conference@trusteewebsite.com)

Steve T. gave the above report which was submitted online. Steve has stepped down as Chair but will remain on the committee. A new Chair will be determined. Nine new people called into the Conference call last night.

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

**Committee Chair – Steve R. – Area 2B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**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.

**Trustee Removal Merit Panel**

**Phoenix BOT Report**

Since we all met in Cancun in October, the TRMP has already reported that a complaint against a sitting Trustee from a member in that area was being reviewed by the Panel. It was further reported that the Panel made a decision to return this complaint back to that area for further review because it was not given due diligence at that level.

The TRMP is pleased to report that the issue was heard at their December Intergroup meeting. The issues being brought against the Trustee were discussed at that area's Intergroup meeting and a motion was made, seconded to drop the pursuit of any formal action against the Trustee. The motion passed. A further discussion ensued relative to how the problem could be fixed for all parties involved. Within the discussion, several items were brought up including Unity Step #1 and how to move forward with a healing process. The Trustee involved apologized for any wrongdoings and agreed to make amends as well as change the behaviors that led to these issues. The accusers agreed to withdraw the complaints in the interest of unity in their area. The report of this meeting and its results were passed on to the Chairman of the BOT and this matter is officially considered closed.

**Respectfully submitted, Steve R., Chairman of the TRMP.**

Steve R. gave the above report which was submitted online. There will be a new Chair as Steve R. will be stepping down.

**Trustee Website Committee – Standing Committee:**

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

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**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**

**Phoenix – Spring 2016**

The operative word for this report is apathy. The Board of Trustees will be looking at the possibilities of having many features deleted from the platform because of underutilization. These situations will be outlined in Phoenix.

It is clear that the website must be shifted to a new application, and the one that is most utilized in the markets today is Word Press. In order to get this started and make the maintenance of the site much easier, we will have to solicit the help of a Word Press programmer. It appears that the ISO Life-Line Bulletin will be ready for loading to its temporary home, the Trustee website. I link for that has been placed at the very top of the left margin. The monthly editions will continue to be domiciled on the Trustee website, until the programming is done on the ISO website.

The tendencies to have areas hosting International Conferences build websites for registrations, has been underscored by both Phoenix and San Diego. Unfortunately, no one from the respective conference committees thought to contact the Trustee Website Committee to have it help with the planning of the sites and the compliance issues. Both sites had considerable work put into their launch, which only resulted in having the sites be taken down, because of compliance issues.

In the compilation of our departed GA members, it was mentioned that it might be convenient for all GA members to have the ability to submit the information on members who have passed. This could be done with a new website page and a new form. This subject will be discussed in Phoenix.

The Trustee Line had zero occurrences of submissions that were deemed to be inappropriate.

Submitted by,

**David M. – Trustee Website Admin**

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

### **Rules and Procedures**

#### **1. Rules and Procedures, 9. Confidential Trustee Listing**

##### **Remove "Chair of the Board of Regents"**

**Current version:** The Confidential Trustee Listing, published by the International Service Office, is only available to current members of the Board of Trustees, officers of the Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Board of Regents, International Executive Secretary, and all Board of Trustees committee chairs and co-chairs. The International Service Office will maintain a listing of Trustees' personal addresses, which may be used in the event of a Mail Meeting. These street addresses are not to be included on the published version.

**Proposed version:** The Confidential Trustee Listing, published by the International Service Office, is only available to current members of the Board of Trustees, officers of the Board of Trustees, International Executive Secretary, and all Board of Trustees committee Chairs and Co-chairs. The International Service Office will maintain a listing of Trustees' personal addresses, which may be used in the event of a Mail Meeting. These street addresses are not to be included on the published version.

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Item was ruled out of order. There was a challenge to the Chair that this item is in order. The Chair then stated he was incorrect and the item is not out of order.

On the motion.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**2. Discussion on changing the rule that states combo book items may only be submitted at the fall conferences in every odd year.**

**Diane S. - Area 2**

Motion to eliminate clause under #18 Combo Book Change which says: Combo Book changes will only be accepted on the Agenda in the Fall Trustee meeting of the odd years.

Approved 41 Against 39

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**3. Rules & Procedures, Change #20, Second Point, Who may attend a Trustee meeting**

**Current Version: All sessions of a Trustees Meeting shall be open to all G.A. members.**

**Proposed Version: All sessions of a Trustees Meeting shall be open to all G.A. members, with the exception of items affecting the Corporation of GA as a whole, as determined by the executive board of the Board of Trustees. These sessions will only be opened to members of the executive board, to current members of the Board of Trustees, to current members of the Board of Regents and to the International Executive Secretary.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Amendment made to include prior Trustee.

Amendment was ruled out of order because it was changing the motion. Chair was then challenged that the item is in order. Vote on the challenge fails therefore Chair is in order and the amendment out of order.

On the motion.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**4. Rules and Procedures - 32. Time, Discussion on Motion.**

**Add the following:**

**The presenter of an item has an initial 5-minute time limit to speak on the item. All others have a 2-minute time limit when speaking on any item.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**5. Rules and Procedures - 32. Time, Discussion on Motion.**

**Add the following:**

**Once a motion is made on any item during a Trustee meeting and seconded, the timer for discussions will be restarted.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**Tabled From Cancun**

**6. Recovery Step 2**

**Change wording of Step Two:**

**Replace the word "normal" with "healthy"**

**Current version: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to**

normal way of thinking and living.

**Proposed version: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to healthy way of thinking and living.**

**Tabled in Cancun**

**Eileen Z. for Doug K. - Area 8**

Discussion only. There were not enough Trustees physically present for a quorum to change the Steps.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

#### **7. Unity Step 5**

**Add: "of hope"**

**Current: Gamblers Anonymous has but one primary purpose-to carry its message to the compulsive gambler who still suffers.**

**Proposed New: Gamblers Anonymous has but one primary purpose-to carry its message of hope to the compulsive gambler who still suffers.**

**Tabled in Cancun**

**Ron W. - Area 17**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

#### **8. One Day At A Time**

**Area 25 - Italy, asks permission to write and print a book of daily reflections in Italian due to the refusal of Hazelden to have an Italian edition of One day at a Time. This book will be written by a committee elected by the Italian GA groups and once ready and approved by the Italian GA Assembly will be sent to the BOT and the ISO for the final approval.**

**Tabled in Cancun**

**Carlo C. - Area 25**

Motion to accept above.

Motion to table.

Passed

Motion is pending.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

#### **9. Discussion Item: Room Greeter**

**To increase retention of new members coming into the room for the first time, I would like to propose establishment of additional duties of the Trusted Servant who is the Room Greeter at each homeroom. Instead of calling once after they come into the room on their first visit, have the Trusted Servant keep in touch weekly for 1 month and report the outcome to the membership.**

**Tabled in Cancun**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**10. Discussion: A member is the treasurer for three rooms in CT. Steals all three treasuries. Puts all three meetings out of business losing quite a few members. One of the Meetings has re-opened and apparently the member goes there once in a while now. In addition the member borrowed a large amount of money from members with no intent of ever paying them back. Should this member be banned from G.A.?**

**Tabled in Cancun**

**Ron W. - Area 17**



Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**11. Discussion item on temporary sponsorship. Is any area doing it? How you are doing it? Is this working? How important is it for new comers? Should we have a pamphlet on temporary sponsorship?**

**Tabled in Cancun**

**Hamid K. - Area 1A**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

### **Steps**

**12. Discuss Unity Step 5 - Shifting the focus of the Board of Trustees towards the compulsive gambler who has not found Gamblers Anonymous yet. Are we doing our best to make people aware that we exist and aware of what we do?**

**Paul S. - Area 17**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

### **BOT Procedures**

**13. Area 1 would like to ask for one additional trustee. Bringing the number of trustees from 3 to 4**

**Ara H. - Area 1**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**14. Realignment of Area 2H and Area 2A  
Expansion of Area 2H North to the Canadian Border  
Remove all areas of Washington State from Area 2A  
No change in number of Trustees in either Area**

**Popeye E. - Area 2H**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**15. Discussion Item: Significant Expansion of Gambling Choices and in your face advertising in States throughout the USA and around the world.**

**What can GA do to provide more awareness and use additional resources to help the compulsive gambler who still suffers without breaking our Unity Step 11.**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**16. Gratitude List has been working for many of members by put three or more, what they are grateful for and email it to those they are in list. This a way to share our positive thoughts and share them with other members. My suggestion is to have our trustees to start the gratitude list or have committee to work on information pamphlet on this list. It is another to be involved in a positive way and start your day in positive note.**

**Hamid K. for Chris N. - Area 1A**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **Group Procedures**

**17. Have the BOT suggest creating an annual set of 16 therapy topics used in homerooms once each quarter to raise money one day per quarter to discuss a topic and send in \$15.00 in collections for that one day to GAISO.**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Motion to have the Board of Trustees suggest therapy topics to the homerooms one each Quarter to discuss and send in a room donation to G.A.I.S.O. at the end of the meeting.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**18. Create an annual fundraiser event on the calendar each January for GAISO that takes a day to remember your first day in GA and send in a special donation to give back for the recovery you have achieved through this program. Not to exceed \$5.00 per therapy.**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Motion to table to San Diego.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**19. Discussion: For anniversaries and birthdates who chairs the meeting, is it the Secretary, Volunteer for chairing the meeting for that date or any person the birthday person would like? Should we have committee to look at this issue and come up with a best practice or recommendation?**

**Hamid K. - Area 1A**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**20. For Discussion: How can we encourage greater use of the Pressure Relief Group Meeting?**

**Larry B. - Area 15**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**21. Discussion: For our new generation we would needs more tools for GA program. Adoption and implementation of new tools are not easy and takes many risks and commitments. Are we really ready for digital age? I like to see how we could use cell phone for our daily recovery. Such as welcome messages for newcomers and milestones automatic reminders! interactive daily gratitude reminder. What else we could have cell phone to do for our recovery?**

**Hamid K. - Area 1A**

Motion to have a new committee for usage of new technology for young generation in G.A. Recovery Committee.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**22. Australia is granted an exemption from the Gamblers Anonymous BOT Website Guidelines by permitting it to list names and mobile (cell) numbers alongside meetings on the Australian website.**

**Russell K. - Area 18**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**23. Discussion: How do Gamblers Anonymous rooms address the issue of non members and non support people attending open Gamblers Anonymous meetings? Do we need a suggested guideline or pamphlet regarding this issue?**

**Mary H. for John H. - Area 2H**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**24. Discussion Item: Area 17 has created guideline to give to volunteers who take calls from the hotline. Does this document have to be approved as GA approved or GA appropriate literature?**

**See attachment 24**

**Paul S. - Area 17**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**25. Discussion Topic: Sale of GAISO literature at all GA Intergroups as a standard practice.**

**Most Inter-group's that host their mini-conference's in their area do not sell GAISO literature and miss an opportunity to get more awareness to their attendees. Would like BOT to suggest this as a common practice to the Inter-group's.**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**26. Discussion Item: Promote more Group Unity in GA.**

**Having a national Unity Event that is suggested by the BOT and managed by individual InterGroups to promote group unity.**

**An event that would help the fellowship enhance group unity for the GA program as a whole.**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

No discussion.

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**27. Contact names or phone number for events in our flyers which has direction. It has been come to my attention because of anonymity we don't include any names or phone numbers on those flyers goes in the website. This brought some issues with our new members which got lost even with GPS directions. It brought some safety issues and other issues. I would like to discuss this items with other trustees and get some idea on how they do it in their group. Do we need to be that strict about names and contact phone number? Which one has higher weight safety or anonymity?**

**Hamid K. - Area 1A**

Andy R. formed a new committee to rewrite the Group Handbook "that covers everything, but in an inspiring and beautiful way". Committee members are Bill B., Area 15; Terry D., Area 3C; Paul S., Area 17; Jack R., Area 1A; Nancy K., Area 16A; Debb W., Area 2G; Mary H., Area 2H;

Debra B., Area 2E; Bob F., Area 13A; Popeye E., Area 2H; Carlos F., Area 1; Steve R., Area 2B; Pam B., Area 2G; George N., Area 16 and Steve W., Area 2A. Chair will be named at a later date.

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

### **RSO Procedures**

**28. Area 5B (French Quebec) is asking to keep the profits, if any, from the sale of the French literature.**

**Claude C. - Area 5B**

Motion to accept above.

Chair was challenged that this item is out of order as it would not be something for the I.S.O.

Vote on the challenge fails therefore the item is in order and so is the motion.

On the motion.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

### **ISO Procedures**

**29. Proposal: To organize delivery of monthly bulletin via Trustees by email**

**Darius L. - Area 31**

No discussion.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**30. The Life-Line Bulletin is GA appropriate literature. Any changes in form or content is under the supervision/direction of the International Executive Secretary, as editor of the publication.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**31. Information or singular event documents issued by the ISO, RSO, BOT Committees and/or Intergroups are deemed as GA appropriate material, providing they are in compliance with the Guidance Code and any previous decisions of the Board of Trustees, and they are clearly marked as to the source.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Chair was challenged that Conference Booklets would not be included in this item. Chair rescinded his decision.

Amendment to insert "with the exception of Mini-Conference and International Conference produced material" between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> words (documents and issued).

Failed

Item was then ruled out of order.

Chair was challenged that the item is not out of order.

Approved 37 Against 36

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

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.

1 Ara H. Yes 3D Vicki M. No 12 Barry H. No

	Carlos F.	Yes	3F	Dora H.	No		Bob W.	No
	Len K.	Yes	4	Petru C.	No		David M.	Yes
1A	Jack R.	Yes	5	Herb B.	Yes		Frank L.	No
	Hamid K.	No	5B	Claude C.	Yes		Fred D.	Yes
1B	Marie R.	Yes	6	Jim G.	Yes	13	Phil S.	AB
	Wendy B.	Yes		Joel K.	Yes		Ron C.	Yes
2	David R.	No		Richie S.	No	13A	Bob F.	No
	Diane S.	No	6B	Barbara S.	No		Tom N.	No
	Roger L.	No		Paulette T.	No	13B	Pete K.	Yes
	Susan W.	No	7	Donna K.	Yes		Michael R.	Yes
2A	Paul N.	No		Ray M.	Yes	14	Maury C.	No
2B	Steve R.	No	7A	Daniel G.	Yes		Mike M.	No
2E	Debra B.	No	8	Fred L.	Yes		Steve T.	Yes
2G	Pam B.	No		Linda S.	Yes	15	Bill B.	Yes
2H	Mary H.	Yes	8A	Arlene R.	No		Chuck R.	No
	Popeye E.	Yes		Ernie N.	No		Kent D.	No
3	Bea A.	No	8B	Brian J.	No		Mary R.	No
	Joanne F.	No		Linda J.	No		Tom Z.	No
	Mike C.	No	9	Cesare G.	No	16	George N.	No
3A	Bobby W.	Yes		Paul K.	No	16A	Nancy K.	No
	Karen T.	No	10A	Norm B.	No	17	Paul S.	Yes
	Patrick P.	Yes		Tom L.	No		Ron W.	Yes
3B	Bill S.	Yes	10B	Kathy S.	Yes	28	Martha G.	No
	Ron G.	Yes		Steve B.	Yes		Sergio C.	No
3C	Terry D.	No	11	Billy C.	Yes			
3D	Sue F.	AB		Joe L.	Yes			

Approved 34 Against 43 Abstained 2

Vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is out of order and the item in order.

On the motion.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

### **32. For Discussion: Ways to improve and coordinate fundraising for the ISO National Conference Walk-A-Thon.**

**Linda S. - Area 8**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

### **By-Laws**

#### **33. By-Laws, Article XVI - Budget**

##### **Add new section 2**

**Until such time as the Corporation's income exceeds its expenses by the amount required to pay for employees' health care insurance and matching retirement plan contributions, no such payments shall be made.**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Item ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**34. By-Laws: - Article XVII - Order of Business, Section 2**

**Add... "telephonically or electronically" to the first sentence**

**Current version: At all meetings of the Regents of the Corporation, the order of business, except when otherwise determined by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Regents present in person, shall be:**

- (A) Election of officers (if required)**
- (B) A reading of the minutes of the previous meeting**
- (C) Report of officers**
- (D) Consideration of budget (if required)**
- (E) Old Business**
- (F) New business**

**Proposed version: At all meetings of the Regents of the Corporation, the order of business, except when otherwise determined by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Regents present in person, or telephonically or electronically shall be:**

- (A) Election of officers (if required)**
- (B) A reading of the minutes of the previous meeting**
- (C) Report of officers**
- (D) Consideration of budget (if required)**
- (E) Old Business**
- (F) New business**

**Passed 1st vote in Cancun**

**Bill B. - Area 6**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**35. By-Laws, Article XVIII - Amendments, Section 1.**

**Change wording**

**Current Version: Any proposed amendment to the By-Laws must first be approved by the Board of Regents. Such proposed amendments shall require a favorable vote of not less than six(6) members of the Board of Regents to adopt any amendment of these By-Laws. The recording Secretary will include any proposed amendments in the Board of Regents minutes which are published each month. Subsequent to this, the item must be approved by the Board of Trustees in accordance with literature change procedures as outlined in the Guidance Code.**

**Proposed version: Any agenda item to be proposed at an upcoming Board of Trustees meeting that directly affects either the By-Laws, I.S.O. or the functions of the I.S.O. must be discussed by the Board of Regents prior to the Board of Trustees meeting. The Board of Regents Chair or an assigned representative of the Board of Regents will speak on such items at the Board of Trustees meeting to convey the thoughts of the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents Chair or assigned representative will then convey the discussion and the resulting votes to the Board of Regents at their next scheduled meeting. If the item passed at the Board of Trustees meeting, the Board of Regents will take a vote on that item, and that vote shall be recorded in the minutes. If the proposed change is to the By-Laws, then that vote shall require a favorable vote of not less than six (6) members of the Board of Regents.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**Committee Related**

**36. Approval of a new piece of literature called Gamblers Anonymous - A Guide to Regional Service Offices**

**See attachment 36**

**Claude C. - Area 5B**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**37. Approve as appropriate literature an accounting Excel spreadsheet for International Conferences. This spreadsheet will be made available to Conference Committees through the Conference Oversight & Assistance Committee. Changes could be made along the way to enhance the template.**

**See attachment 37**

**André G. - Area 5B**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

Only one vote needed.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**38. Approval of "Towards 90 Days" and "Beyond 90 Days" CDs currently being sold on the ISO website be converted to MP3 format and sold on the ISO website as a downloadable file.**

**Paulette T. - Area 6B**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**39. Approval of the pamphlet Questions and Answers about Gambling literature recorded as MP3 audio file format and sold on the ISO website as a downloadable file.**

**See attachment 39**

**Paulette T. - Area 6B**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**40. Approval of the pamphlet Suggestions for Coping with Urges to Gambling literature recorded as MP3 audio file format and sold on the ISO website as a downloadable file.**

**See attachment 40**

**Paulette T. - Area 6B**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**41. Possible approval of official Gamblers Anonymous Telephone App.**

**The attachment is currently only available to Android phones. In order to view this app, you must click the attachment from your Android phone. It is not currently available from the Google Play Store. It is not for distribution to any other GA members, as it has not yet been approved.**

**See attachment 41**

**David M. - Area 12**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**42. Establish a committee to create a biannual newsletter to be sent to all homerooms that provide some of the accomplishments of the BOT's during the previous 6 month period.**

**Barry H. - Area 12**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**43. Establish a committee to investigate the feasibility of restructuring the Board of Trustees and biannual meetings of the Board of Trustees.**

**Russell K. - Area 18**

Andy R. formed a committee with Russell K. as Chair. Paulette T., International Relations Chair was asked to reach out to Russell and find at least three committee members.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**44. Request For Committee**

**A motion is made for the BOT Chairman to recognize an International Committee formed at the Cancun International GA Conference in October of 2015 to Co-ordinate relations and efforts between Spanish Speaking Areas that are part of our GA Fellowship around the world (over 250 Spanish Speaking GA groups) with the goal of translating, free of regionalisms, all existing, GA approved literature into a Spanish that can be understood by all these areas (work is already underway with the latest versions of the Guidance Code and Combo Book a couple of weeks away from completion). This will enable our ISO to have more Spanish GA Approved literature available and to sell it to a larger customer base. The benefits are three fold:**

**1) More Spanish GA Approved literature is made available to over 250 Spanish Speaking GA groups around the world,**

**2) Larger quantities of Spanish GA Approved literature can be printed at lower costs, and**

**3) More Spanish Speaking GA groups around the world can order GA Approved literature from our ISO resulting in more profits to our ISO from the increased sale of GA literature.**

**Committee Chair: Julian F. (Area 3F, Spanish Speaking Groups in Arizona)**

**Co-ordinator: Andres G. (Area 21, Spanish Speaking Groups in Spain)**

**Committee Members are members of our GA fellowship in Mexico, Argentina, Spain, Colombia, USA Spanish speaking groups in California, Nevada, Arizona and open to members from other Spanish speaking areas.**

**Julian F. - Area 3F**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**45. New technology committee is something we need to look at the new ideas outside of the tool box and bring them to the board for approval and implementation. These ideas are as simple as texting other members instead of phone calls and etc. We are here to help each other new ideas always welcome.**

**Hamid K. - Area 1A**

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

### **Other Literature**



**46. To approve GA Unity Step Group Study Handbook**

**See attachment 46**

**Passed Merit Vote in Cancun**

**Susan W. - Area 2**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**47. To approve the attached "Gamblers Anonymous Gratitude Month" flyer as appropriate literature.**

**See attachment 47**

**Steve F. - Area 1**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**48. To classify wristbands with one, or more, of the 9 slogans of GA as follows:**

**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**

**as Appropriate Literature under Article VII, Section 8 of the Guidance Code**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Item was ruled out of order.

Chair was challenged that the item is not out of order. Vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the motion out of order.

Another motion was made as follows:

To classify wristbands with one, or more, of the 9 slogans of GA as follows:

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

as Approved Literature.

This item was also ruled out of order.

Chair was challenged because item was not made available to the Trustees prior to the meeting. Vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the item out of order.

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**49. Information Packet, Page 3, Page 11, Item 11**

**Adding the words 'Abuse and Harassment Pamphlet' prior to the word "etc.".**

**Current Version:**

**Make area groups aware of and encourage use of tools of Gamblers Anonymous such as Pressure Group Pamphlets, Group Handbook, Sponsorship Pamphlets, Big Book, Public Relations Material, Ninety Day Plateau, New Member Letter, etc.**

**Proposed Version:**

**Make area groups aware of and encourage use of tools of Gamblers Anonymous such as Pressure Group Pamphlets, Group Handbook, Sponsorship Pamphlets, Big Book, Public Relations Material, Ninety Day Plateau, New Member Letter, Abuse and Harassment Pamphlet, etc.**

**Steve T. - Area 14**

Item withdrawn.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

#### **50. Group Handbook**

**New Section at end of Page 12 - " Additional Room Procedures**

**In listing your meeting on any directory or meeting listing, it is important to post a start and finish time. Otherwise, people who might not be able to make the beginning of the meeting, would not know how long the meeting lasts. None of us want to have people come to a meeting and find it is closed, just because they didn't know what time the meeting ended. Also, if turnout at the meeting is lighter than usual and everyone has spoken, do not close the room until the posted closing time. The meeting can close, but at least one person must stay behind, in the event a member arrives late.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

#### **51. Group Handbook**

**New Section at end of Page 12 - " Additional Room Procedures**

**Any prayer or recitation cannot be, used, read, displayed or distributed during any portion of a GA meeting, unless it is already deemed as GA appropriate or GA approved literature. Gamblers Anonymous is not a religious Fellowship. Bringing outside prayers into the room will alienate some members. Additionally, it is a platform for creating controversy. All this serves to interfere with the room members' personal recovery that is dependent on group unity.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

A member deemed this item out of order as it violates Unity Steps 2 and 4. Chair stated the item is in order and was then challenged. The vote on the challenge fails 42 – 36 therefore the Chair is in order and so is the motion.

On the motion.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

#### **52. Group Handbook**

**New Section at end of Page 12 - Additional Room Procedures**

**Each group will eventually develop its own style for how the meeting will operate, within the structure of the Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship. It is important to remember that each group is self-governing, except in matters affecting Gamblers Anonymous as a whole. No area, Intergroup or room can employ stricter procedures than what is outlined in the Guidance Code or any GA approved literature.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**53. Discussion regarding prominent issues regarding "Guidance and Procedures for Handling Situations of Abuse and Harassment in the Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship" and determine the appropriateness of pamphlet.**

**Bill B. - Area 6**

Andy R. called for an Executive Session during the above item which was closed to all members other than current Board of Trustees members, current Board of Regents members and the Executive Board, which included the Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Co-Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees and the International Executive Secretary.

Motion was made that effective immediately the "Guidance and Procedures for Handling Situations of Abuse and Harassment in the Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship" pamphlet will be discontinued as Gamblers Anonymous approved literature and the I.S.O. will destroy any pamphlets in stock, and no further pamphlets will be printed. All Intergroups, meeting Trusted Servants and all members are instructed to dispose of any and all pamphlets that remain and discontinue use of same.

Amendment to add the word "either" between "instructed to" and "dispose of" and between "remain" & "and" add "or return to I.S.O. for a refund".

Passed

On the amended motion which will now read:

Effective immediately the "Guidance and Procedures for Handling Situations of Abuse and Harassment in the Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship" pamphlet will be discontinued as Gamblers Anonymous approved literature and the I.S.O. will destroy any pamphlets in stock, and no further pamphlets will be printed. All Intergroups, meeting Trusted Servants and all members are instructed to either dispose of any and all pamphlets that remain or return to I.S.O. for a refund and discontinue use of same.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

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

**New insert approved at Cancun BOT Meeting (Agenda Item #19)**

**Delete 'or made available to any GA member outside this conference.'**

**Current Version: 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.**

**Proposed Version: 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.**

**Eileen Z. - Area 8**

Motion to accept above.

A member asked to have this item ruled out of order. Chair stated the item is in order.

On the motion.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

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

**New insert approved at Cancun BOT Meeting (Agenda Item #18)**

**Request to delete 'or made available to any GA member outside this conference.'**

**Current Version: 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.**

**Proposed Version: 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.**

**Eileen Z. - Area 8**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**56. Revoke approval of the 3rd edition of the GA Blue Book as GA approved material.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to table to San Diego.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**Conference Bids**

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

Since no bid was received three Trustee meetings in a row (Cherry Hill – Spring 2015; Cancun – Fall 2015 and Phoenix – May 2016), a Trustee only meeting will be held April 30 and May 1, 2017 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**58. The Spring 2018 Conference is open for bids**

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

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**Guidance Code**

**59. Guidance Code, Article XI - Regional Service Office (R.S.O.)**

**Replace completely Article XI of the Guidance Code.**

**See attachment 59**

**Passed 1st vote in Cancun**

**67-15**

**André G. - Area 5B**

Approved 88 Against 0

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**60. Guidance Code Article VII, Section 4.**

**Remove first sentence.**

**Current version: Abstinence from gambling and regular attendance of at least thirty- nine (39) Gamblers Anonymous meetings (exceptions can be made, via group conscience decisions, for medical reasons, and military stationed overseas) in the prior 12 months, by the member's own admission, is required for pinnings and for all successive anniversaries. Date of abstinence starts from your first meeting after your last bet.**

**Proposed version: Date of abstinence starts from your first meeting after your last bet.**

**Pete K. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 22 Against 59

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**61. Guidance Code, Article VII, Section 5**

**Add to the end of existing section:**

**Copying of any GA approved literature is prohibited, unless specifically designated for that purpose. Such designation will be listed on the item(s), where applicable.**

**Current version: All Gamblers Anonymous literature, books, and service pins should be purchased from Gamblers Anonymous through the International Service Office (I.S.O.) except when otherwise approved by the Board of Trustees.**

**Proposed version: All Gamblers Anonymous literature, books, and service pins should be purchased from Gamblers Anonymous through the International Service Office (I.S.O.) except when otherwise approved by the Board of Trustees. Copying of any GA approved literature is prohibited, unless specifically designated for that purpose. Such designation will be listed on the item(s), where applicable.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 83 Against 5

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**62. Guidance code, Article VII-Groups, Section 6.**

**add the words "share, participate or" after the word "may" and before "be"...**

**Current Version: Only members of Gamblers Anonymous may be trusted servants of groups or Intergroups.**

**Proposed Version: Only members of Gamblers Anonymous may share, participate or be trusted servants of groups or Intergroups.**

**Ara H. - Area 1**

Motion made to add to Guidance Code, Article VII, New Section 9

Only members of Gamblers Anonymous may speak at G.A. meetings, with the exception of combined meetings.

Approved 26 Against 47

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**63. Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 1**

**include mandatory membership in Lifeliners at a minimum level of \$20 USD per month.**

**Current Version: The Fellowship shall be guided by a Board of Trustees who are members of Gamblers Anonymous and have completely abstained from gambling for a period of two (2) years and have had regular attendance at Gamblers Anonymous meetings, both by their own admission. Board of Trustees defines regular attendance for International officers as having attended a minimum of thirty-nine (39) meetings per year, by the member's own admission. This does not include Intergroup meetings or picnics but does include Birthday meetings. This Board shall not exceed as many Trustees as necessary by the Board of Trustees.**

**Proposed Version: The Fellowship shall be guided by a Board of Trustees who are members of Gamblers Anonymous and have completely abstained from gambling for a period of two (2) years, have had regular attendance at Gamblers Anonymous meetings, and are members of Lifeliners at a minimum level of \$20 USD per month. Board of Trustees defines regular attendance for International officers as having attended a minimum of thirty-nine (39) meetings per year by their own admission. This does not include Intergroup meetings or picnics but does include Birthday meetings. This Board shall not exceed as many Trustees as necessary by the Board of Trustees.**

**Jack R. - Area 1A**

Motion to change Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 1 to read "The Fellowship shall be guided by a Board of Trustees who are members of Gamblers Anonymous and have completely abstained from gambling for a period of two years, have had regular attendance at Gamblers Anonymous meetings, and are Lifeliners making contributions on a regular basis. Board of Trustees defines regular attendance for International officers as having attended a minimum of thirty-nine (39) meetings per year by their own admission. This does not include Intergroup meetings or picnics but does include Birthday meetings. The Board shall not exceed as many Trustees as necessary by the Board of Trustees".

Approved 28 Against 48

Failed

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**64. Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 18**

**Add Mexico to the last sentence**

**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., Canada and Mexico will count as attendance at the Board of Trustees physical meetings.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

This item was ruled out of order as it does not meet the 2 year rule.

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**65. Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 18:**

**Add: physical presence in place of attendance in the last sentence.**

**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 physical presence at the Board of Trustees physical meetings.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 82 Against 10

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**66. Guidance Code, Article IX - Officers of the Board of Trustees**

**New Section 2 with all remaining sections to be renumbered**

**Proposed New Section 2.: No Officer of the Executive Board may serve as Trustee. In the event a member of the Executive Board needs to be replaced, outside of the regularly scheduled bi-annual elections, any Trustee is eligible to be elected, but must resign his/her Trustee position after the close of the Trustee meeting in which he/she was elected**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 69 Against 16

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**67. Guidance Code, Article X, Intergroup Guidelines, Section 15**

**Current version: An Intergroup does not have the right to set stricter guidelines pertaining to the elections of Trustees other than those that are contained in the Guidance Code.**

**Proposed version: An Intergroup does not have the right to set stricter requirements and responsibilities, pertaining to the election of Trustees, other than those which are contained in either the Guidance Code or the Responsibilities of International Trustees of Gamblers Anonymous, as listed in the Gamblers Anonymous Information Packet. Paul**

**N. for Dave C. - Area 2A**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 75 Against 8

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**68. Guidance Code, Article XIII - Board of Regents, Section 8**

**Rewrite section**

**Current Version: Expenditures by the Board of Regents should be limited to \$2,500.00, except for approved Gamblers Anonymous literature. All expenditures other than these,**

**if the Board of Trustees objects by a majority vote, no money should be spent for that particular item. Board of Trustees time to notify the Board of Regents is sixty (60) days. Proposed Version: Any Expenditures by the Board of Regents will be limited to \$2,500.00, except for approved Gamblers Anonymous literature and normal operating expenses as outlined in the budget. Any other item must first be approved by a majority vote by the Board of Trustees.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion made that "Any expenditures by the Board of Regents will be limited to \$2,500.00, except for approved Gamblers Anonymous literature and normal operating expenses as outlined in the budget. Any other item must first be approved by a majority vote by the Board of Trustees. If the Board of Regents as a fiduciary determines there is an emergency situation, the Board of Regents may act without the approval of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees time to notify the Board of Regents regarding the Budget is sixty (60) days".

Amendment made to add "as outlined in the Annual Budget for a particular Fiscal year".

Passed

On the motion, which will now read:

"Any expenditures by the Board of Regents will be limited to \$2,500.00, except for approved Gamblers Anonymous literature and normal operating expenses as outlined in the Annual Budget for a particular Fiscal year. Any other item must first be approved by a majority vote by the Board of Trustees. If the Board of Regents as a fiduciary determines there is an emergency situation, the Board of Regents may act without the approval of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees time to notify the Board of Regents regarding the Budget is sixty (60) days".

Approved 69 Against 0

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**69. Guidance Code, Article XVI - International Executive Secretary of I.S.O, Section 5 Current: The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible to publish a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin and distribute (via US mail, email or other secured means) copies of same to each group in our Fellowship. Number of copies sent to each group shall be set by the Board of Regents.**

**Proposed: The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible to publish a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin and to distribute the Bulletin using economical and efficient methods approved by the Board of Regents and in compliance with the Guidance Code.**

**Bill B. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 67 Against 18

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andre G., 2nd Co-Chair.

**70. Guidance Code, Article XVI, International Executive Secretary of I.S.O, Section 5. Current Version: The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible to publish a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin and distribute (via US mail, email or other secured means) copies of same to each group in our Fellowship. Number of copies sent to each group shall beset by the Board of Regents.**

**Proposed Version:**

**1. The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible for publishing a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin.**

**2. The monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin shall be distributed in one, or more, of the following methods: US mail, email, posting on the Trusteewebsite, or such other method**



as may be approved by the Board of Regents.

**3. All Lifeliners shall be given the option to (1) receive the monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin by US mail, (2) by email, or (3) not to receive it directly.**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to accept the following:

1. The International Executive Secretary shall be responsible for publishing a monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin.

2. The monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin shall be distributed in one, or more, of the following methods: US mail, email, posting on the Trusteewebsite, or such other method as may be approved by the Board of Regents.

3. All Subscribers to the Bulletin shall be given the option to (1) receive the monthly Gamblers Anonymous Bulletin by US mail, (2) by email, or (3) not to receive it directly.

Approved 3 Against 60

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**71. Guidance Code, Article XVIII, Election of Trustees, Section 2**

**Current version: It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to immediately notify all areas of the number of Trustees eligible to be elected from their respective areas for the coming two (2) year period of July 1st even year to " June 30th even year, as selected by the Board of Trustees.**

**Proposed version: It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to notify all Intergroups and Trustees, prior to January 15th of each even year, of the number of Trustees eligible to be elected from their respective areas for the upcoming two (2) year period of July 1st even year to " June 30th even year, as determined by the Board of Trustees.**

**Paul N. for Dave C. - Area 2A**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 77 Against 6

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 1st Co-Chair.

**72. Guidance Code, Article XVIII - Election of Trustees, New Section 6**

**When a new Trustee 2 year term starts and there is a Trustee vacancy in any area that has been there since the beginning of the previous 2 year Trustee term it shall be removed from the current Confidential Trustee Listing. The area(s) involved will need to resubmit to the Board of Trustees for those Trustee vacancies when they can be filled.**

**Steve R. - Area 2B**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 89 Against 3

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**Combo Book**

**73. Combo Book, Page 12, Section 1, "Isn't Compulsive Gambling basically a Financial Problem?", Sentence 6.**

**Remove the phrase "income is usually increased"**

**Current version: When a compulsive gambler enters Gamblers Anonymous and quits gambling, income is usually increased and there is no longer the financial drain that was**

caused by gambling, and very shortly, the financial pressures begin to be relieved.  
**Proposed Version: When a compulsive gambler enters Gamblers Anonymous and quits gambling, there is no longer the financial drain that was caused by gambling, and very shortly, the financial pressures begin to be relieved.**

**Passed 1st vote in Cancun**

**Paulette T. - Area 6B**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**74. Combo Book, Page 14, Section: Does this mean I can't even participate in a little penny ante game or a world series pool? Sentence three.**

**Insert "fantasy sports" in list of items to avoid.**

**Current Version: This includes Internet gambling, bingo, the stock market, commodities, options, buying or playing lottery tickets, raffle tickets, flipping a coin or entering the office sport pool.**

**Proposed Version: This includes Internet gambling, bingo, the stock market, commodities, options, buying or playing lottery tickets, raffle tickets, flipping a coin, fantasy sports or entering the office sport pool.**

**Passed 1st vote in Cancun**

**61-50**

**Bob F. for Tom N. - Area 13A**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

**75. Combo Book, page 17, #6**

**Change the phrase GET A SPONSOR, IT IS DIFFICULT TO RECOVER ON YOUR OWN to bold.**

**Passed 1st vote in Cancun**

**56-50**

**Bobby W. - Area 3A**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

The above item was chaired by Andy R., Chair.

### **Items Omitted From the Agenda**

**76. Items Omitted From Agenda**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at approximately 3:15 P.M. on Friday, May 13, 2016. The collection for the five (5) sessions was \$930.00.

The next physical meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. in San Diego, California.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen H.,

International Executive Secretary

**ROLL CALL**

AREA		SESSIONS	AREA		SESSIONS
1	Ara H.	5	10A	Tom L.	5
	Carlos F.	5	10B	Kathy S.	5
	Len K.	5		Steve B.	5
1A	Hamid K.	5	11	Billy C.	5
	Jack R.	5		Joe L.	5
1B	Marie R.	5	12	Barry H.	5
	Wendy B.	5		Bob W.	5
2	David R.	5		David M.	5
	Diane S.	5		Frank L.	5
	Roger L.	5		Fred D.	5
	Susan W.	5	13	Kevin V.	Abst.
2A	Paul N.	5		Phil S.	5
2B	Steve R.	5		Ron C.	5
2E	Debra B.	5	13A	Bob F.	5
2G	Debb W.	5		Tom N.	5
	Pamela B.	5	13B	Michael R.	5
2H	Mary H.	5		Pete K.	5
	Popeye E.	5	14	Ira C.	Abst.*
2K	Richard C.	Abst.*		Maury C.	5
3	Bea A.	5		Mike M.	3
	Brenda R.	Abst.*		Steve T.	5
	Joanne F.	4	15	Bill B.	5
	Mike C.	5		Chuck R.	5
3A	Bobby W.	5		Joe B.	Abst.*
	Karen T.	5		Kent D.	5
	Patrick P.	5		Mary R.	5
3B	Bill S.	3		Mike R.	Abst.*
	Ron G.	5		Stanley C.	Abst.
3C	Terry D.	5		Tom Z.	5
3D	Sue F.	5	16	George N.	5
	Vicki M.	5		Jim A.	Abst.
3F	Dora H.	5	16A	Nancy K.	5
4	John H.	Abst.	17	Paul S.	5
	Petru C.	5		Ron W.	5
5	Herb B.	5	18	Gennaro S.	Abst.
5B	Claude C.	5		Russell K.	5*
	Jean-Marc L.	Abst.*		Steve A.	5*
6	Jim G.	5		Daphne	5*
	Joel K.	5	18A	Trevor S.	Abst.
	Richie S.	5		Yvonne R.	Abst.
6A	Richard F.	Abst.*	18B	Brian F.	Abst.
6B	Barbara S.	5	19	Alfredo R.	Abst.
	Paulette T.	5		Eduardo B.	5*
	William T.	Abst.		Miriam C.	Abst.
6C	Joe B.	Abst.	20	Gabriel A.	5*

6D	John M.	4	21	Joaquin A.	5*
	Steve S.	4		Juan B.	Abst.
7	Donna K.	5	22	Dudley B.	Abst.
	Ray M.	5	25	Carlo C.	5*
7A	Daniel G.	5		Marco Z.	5*
	Petra O.	Abst.		Ruggero M.	Abst.
8	Eileen Z.	Abst.*	28	Celia R.	Abst.
	Fred L.	5		Javier G.	Abst.
	Larry J.	Abst.*		Martha G.	5
	Linda S.	5		Rafael Z.	5*
8A	Arlene R.	5		Sergio C.	5
	Ernie N.	5	29	Konstantin U.	Abst.
8B	Brian J.	5	31	Darius L.	Abst.
	Linda J.	5	33	Gabriel V.	Abst.
9	Cesare G.	5		Rodrigo A.	Abst.
	Paul K.	5	34	Carlos D.	Abst.
9A	Nick R.	Abst.*		Jeysa V.	5*
10	Paulette M.	Abst.*	35	Leodegario R.	Abst.
10A	Norm B.	5	36	Odie B.	5*

\*Absentee Ballot Received

Chair BOT – Andy R.	5
1 <sup>st</sup> Co-Chair BOT – Pete K.	5
2 <sup>nd</sup> Co-Chair BOT – Andre G.	5
Chair BOR – Steve F.	5
I.E.S. – Karen H.	5