

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING  
OCTOBER 6 & 7, 2016  
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

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

Andy R. called the meeting to order on October 6, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. He explained some of the different things the Executive Board have been doing since we last met in May 2016. The head table was introduced. All new Trustees were asked to go to the microphones and introduce themselves. There are over 30 new Trustees present today attending their first meeting as a Trustee. The rules and procedures for the meeting were given including information for motions sheets, points of order and points of information.

Twenty-five absentee ballots were received as follows:

Area 3B	Peggy B.	Area 18	Daphne C.	Area 21	Joaquin A.
Area 6A	Mike R.	Area 18	Robert L.	Area 21	Juan B.
Area 6B	Les A.	Area 18	Russell K.	Area 22	Dudley B.
Area 6B	William T.	Area 18	Steve A.	Area 25	Carlo C.
Area 8B	Linda J.	Area 18A	Yvonne R.	Area 25	Maria T.
Area 9	Cesare G.	Area 18B	Brian F.	Area 31	Darius L.
Area 14	Maury C.	Area 18B	John H.	Area 34	Nancy V.
Area 14	Tom K.	Area 20	Ana C.	Area 34	Jeysa V.
Area 15	Josephine F.				

**B) Remembrance of our departed members- Marc L.**

Marc L. read a list of our members who have passed away since the last Board of Trustees Meeting that was held in Phoenix this past May. He asked for a moment of silence.

Michelle S., Area 11; West Medford, Massachusetts, 8 years,- 58

Carol A., Area 6B Holiday, Florida, 4 years

Jim G., Area 10B Louisville, Kentucky 8/10/01

Bill C., Area 10B Louisville, Kentucky, 2/7/07, 75 years old, Vice-Chair Integroup

Kay M., Sacramento, California, 6 years

Karen B., Area 6A, 3 years Orlando, Florida, Intergroup Secretary

Eddie W., 46 years, Toms River, New Jersey

Joey A., 46 years, Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, New York, First Step

Bob M., 3 days less 30 years, Bloomfield, New Jersey

Lou A. (Louie the Pipe), entered G.A. in 1960 clean since 1983, West Orange New Jersey

Bernie A., Southern California/Thailand

Bob R., 5/6/10 Thursday Surrey, British Columbia, Canada

George J., 29 years; Havertown, Pennsylvania

Santino, 22 years, Woodbury, Long Island, New York

Tom P., 30+ years; West Islip, New York

Vinnie, over 15 years, Pomona, New York

Linda C., 10-11 years from Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dorothy M., 14 years, Camp Springs, Maryland

Karen S., about 10 years, Central Florida

Russ M., struggled, then made 3 years, 49 years old, Boynton Beach, Florida

Janet J., 3 years, Denver, Colorado (shot herself)

David M., many years, Denver Colorado (an inspiration)

Oscar G., 3 years, Area 28 Mexico (suicide)

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

Mike M., Trustee from Area 13 read the Reflection for the Day for October 6th and October 7th to begin the beginning sessions of each day.

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

Chuck R., Trustee from Area 15 read the 12 Steps of Unity on October 6th and October 7th to start the beginning sessions of each day.

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

Karen H. took roll and there are presently 107 votes to begin the first session; 82 physically present and 25 who submitted absentee ballots.

**F) Approval of Minutes from Phoenix**

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

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

Karen H. gave a report on Lifeliners handing out a chart showing 34 states and 4 countries along with the number of members (441) who contributed over the past year. The total for this year is \$84,173.98, which is an increase over last year’s total of \$83,458.17 but a decrease over the number of members who have contributed (489). An explanation of what a Lifeliner is and how beneficial it can be was given. Discussion was held and everyone was thanked for their continued support.

**H) Report from the Board of Regents – John C., BOR Chair**

John C. gave the report on the International Service Office which included an update on the current Budget figures along with the status of Bank Accounts and Cash on Hand. He talked about some recent issues the Board of Regents has handled which included increases in cost of literature, no longer mailing Life-Line bulletins at no cost to meetings and the negotiation of a new five year lease in order to lock in current lower rates.

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

**1) Phoenix – Spring ‘16**

Norm B. and Andre G. gave the above report stating that the report that was received is incorrect. The Conference Assistance Committee will see that I.S.O. receives all of the correct and final information.

The correct financial report follows:

Total Registration	\$ 66,960.00
Fund Raising	\$ 1,683.14
Activities	\$ 1,075.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 69,718.14</b>

**Expenses**

Decorations	\$ 553.57
Tee Shirts	\$ 746.71
Hospitality	\$ 2,205.46
Giveaways	\$ 2,544.59
Book	\$ 1,670.26
Contract Services (DJ. Etc.)	\$ 1,620.00
Bank Charges	\$ 344.59
Office Supplies	\$ 96.91
Printing and Copying	\$ 349.89

Golf	\$ 456.12
Horseback	\$ 240.00
Hotel	\$ 43,745.57
<u>Repayment of ISO Loan</u>	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 55,573.67

Net Income \$ 14,144.47

Check to G.A.I.S.O \$ 9,193.91

Check to Gam-Anon I.S.O. \$ 4,950.56

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

## 2) San Diego – Fall '16

Andre G. reported on the San Diego Conference. All reports have been submitted and everything looks good. Bobby W. welcomed everyone to San Diego and stated that we have met our room night commitment and that over 500 room nights have been sold. They are looking forward to a wonderful weekend.

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

## 3) Cherry Hill – Spring '17 (Trustee Meeting Only)

Andy R. and Andre G. gave the above report on the Trustee Only meeting that will be held April 30th and May 1st, 2017 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. We have a 100 room night commitment. Make hotel reservations directly with the hotel. Room nights will be \$110.00 per night and the registration fee will be \$30.00 per person. The closest airport will be Philadelphia.

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

## 4) Inland Empire – Fall '17

Andre G. and Kathy S. gave the 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. Kathy stated that all minutes and bank statements have been received in a timely manner. Wendy B. stated that so far 19 reservations have been received and they are hoping to get a lot more during this weekend. They are anticipating a wonderful Conference.

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

## J) Committee Reports

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

#### Board of Trustee Restructure Committee:

Committee Chair – Russell K. – Area 18

Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.

Mission Statement – To investigate the feasibility of restructuring the Board of Trustees and bi-annual meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Board of Trustees Restructure Committee Report – San Diego (Fall 2016)

Purpose:To investigate the feasibility of restructuring the Board of Trustees and bi-annual meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Board of Trustees Chair Liaison: Pete K. – Area 12

Chair of the Committee: Russell K. - Area 18

#### Key points:

Trustees from outside the United States and Canada feel that the Board of Trustees is out of touch. For decades their voice has not been heard. They feel

that decisions made at the Board of Trustees do not always consider the needs of members throughout the world. This leads to apathy towards the world decision making body and international service office.

Trustees from outside the United States and Canada are just as passionate and energetic about Gamblers Anonymous as their counterparts in North America. They have many year of experience in fellowship. After several years of feeling frustrated and disappointed a possible solution has been formulated.

However, the first step is to outline the problem as these Trustees see it. This will be represented at San Diego by one of the committee members in the form of a “discussion only” read statement.

Participating Trustees are very aware that physical presence at a Board of Trustees meeting to promote their idea is critically important to the process of affecting change. A decision was made for a delegation of Trustees inside and outside the United States and Canada to collectively represent a possible solution to the Board of Trustees. This will be scheduled for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting at Inland Empire in the fall of 2017.

Chair, Russell K (Area 18) said the committee’s objective is to seek a way whereby Trustees across the world would have equal voice on matters concerning the fellowship.

It was for mention that 73% of Trustees reside in the United States and Canada. To amplify these lopsided numbers more than 30 Trustees are located in California and New York alone compared to 43 across the rest of the world.

The current Board of Trustees structure does not lend itself to being a collective and productive decision making body. Too few Trustees go to the microphone to speak.

One committee member voiced their disappointed that most decisions do not relate to the fellowship worldwide. They cited the telephone hotline planning and implementation throughout the United States and Canada as one example. Russell supplied a “discussion only” statement for David to read out at the Board of Trustees meeting in San Diego. A second statement will be represented at Cherry Hills next spring.

The first committee meeting on July 17 2016 was represented by Trustees in Australia, Italy, Mexico and the United States. Participants agreed to gauge the general response of Trustees to the first statement reading in San Diego before deciding when the committee will meet next.

Report was submitted online.

#### **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 for Fall 2016 Conference**

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

**The intention of the Committee is to present a new book which will serve as the “how-to” manual for GA.**

**The Committee has continued to meet between twice and three times a month for writing/editing.**

**Completed:**

**Introduction**

**FAQ**

**Recovery Steps 1-12**

**Unity Steps 1-8**

The stories that have been submitted to the Committee have been collated and are circulating among the Committee members for editing. Those who submitted stories may be contacted within the quarter with editing information or requests. The Revision Committee is still seeking stories from members outside the United States, those with 30+ years in the program and young gamblers. We have members who are willing to help with writing your story—and the talent on the Revision Committee is tremendous. As time ticks down, we are asking Trustees to help us get in touch with those who are under-represented in the currently submitted stories. Please contact Arlene R. or email us at [bluebookrevision@gmail.com](mailto:bluebookrevision@gmail.com)

The San Diego Conference is the last conference at which we will be seeking stories from the fellowship.

If you have submitted a story and have not heard back from a committee member, please send us an email so that we can verify receipt of your story.

If you have not yet submitted your story of recovery, please focus on the how of your recovery—how the GA program has impacted your

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., Blue Book Revision Committee Co-Chair**

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

**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 Report for 2016 Spring Conference**

**Committee Chair – Jimmy D. – Area 1A | Co-Chair – Barb S. – Area 6B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**Current Members – Paulette T. Area 6B, Jim H. Area 8, Jim T. Area 2B**

**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.**

**Our committee has worked diligently to produce recordings that can be sold on the ISO website as downloadable literature. We have two agenda items;**

**1) Item number 38 requests approval of already recorded CDs to be converted to MP3 and sold on the ISO website as downloads.**

**2) Item 39 request approval of a new recording of literature that we have recorded be sold on the ISO website as downloads.**

**With approval of these two 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. There are two items on this Agenda up for approval. Committee is open to new members.

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

**Committee Chair – Jean-Marc L. – 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.**

**PRISON MEETINGS IN CANADA - San Diego Committee Report**

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

**Since our last report in Phoenix, there was only limited activity for our committee, mainly follow-up on existing prison and institutions meetings. We were not made aware of any new prison meeting and ISO received no request for starting kits.**

**We updated the list of committee members. Since the chair of the committee is not a current trustee, Claude C., trustee from Area 5B was appointed co-chair of the committee to follow our Rules & Procedures.**

**At the Centre Federal de Formation (Federal minimum security institution) in Laval, Quebec, a meeting used to be 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 every second Wednesday, 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 some inmates to local meetings as well. This program is under the supervision of the institution and is very appreciated by the inmates.**

**We 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.**

**André G., Committee member, Area 5B**

Andre G. gave the above report which was submitted online. Claude C. is the new Co-Chair. Committee is open to new members.

**Public Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Paul N. – Area 2A**

**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).**

**Public Relations Committee**

**Purpose**

**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).**

**Board of Trustees Chair Liason: Pete K., Chair of the Committee: Paul N. - Area 2A**

**Committee members are: Pam B., Area 2G; Terry D., Area 3C; Kent D., Area 15; Popeye E., Area 2H; JR E., Area 5A; Mary R., Area 15; Paul S., Area 17; Tom Z., Area 15. Use this email address to contact the Chair of this committee  
committee.public@trusteewebsite.com**

**The committee is open to additional members who would like to be involved with this process.**

**Our committee has not had a meeting since the Phoenix Conference. We will be more productive in the coming months and need members who are familiar with using the technology that is available and want to help spread the word of Gamblers Anonymous to as many people and places in the world that we can.**

**Paul N. gave the above report which was submitted online. The committee is looking for members with technical experience.**

**RSO Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Vacant**

**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 (RSO) COMMITTEE - San Diego Committee Report**

**Purpose:**

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

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

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

**Committee.rso@trusteewebsite.com**

**Committee members are listed below, as of 05/08/15**

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

**In Phoenix, the Committee presented a new piece of literature titled 'A Guide to Regional Service Offices'. It passed the first vote and it is now up for a second vote in San Diego. It is item #7, with an attachment. Should the new piece of literature pass the second vote in San Diego, it would fulfill the first part of our mission statement**

**The committee had previously submitted an item on the Cancun agenda to replace the whole Article XI of the Guidance Code (Regional Service Offices R.S.O.). In Phoenix, the item passed the second vote unanimously, thus fulfilling the second part of our mission statement.**

**Should item #7 pass the second vote, this committee will have completed its work and should then be dissolved.**

**André G. and Claude C., Area 5B Members, RSO committee**

**Andre G. gave the above report which was submitted online. Committee has completed their work by the passing of the new R.S.O. Guidelines piece of literature. The committee is no longer in existence.**

**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.**

**There have not been any meetings since the last conference. A new chairperson is being appointed and the necessary work will continue to establish guidelines for the Trustee election process.**

Wendy B. gave the above report which was submitted online. Jo K. from Area 8D is the new Co-Chair.

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

#### **Intergroup Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Wendy B. – 1B**

**Co-Chair Liaison – André G.**

**Mission Statement – To create and assemble a comprehensive guide for Intergroups. There were not any meetings of this committee since the last conference. A new chairperson will be appointed for this committee and the the work toward establishing guidelines will resume.**

The above report was submitted online. Jo K. from Area 8D is the new Co-Chair and she stated, “We are going to get this done”.

#### **International Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

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

**Co-Chair – Frank L. – Area 12**

**Co-Chair Liaison – André 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**

**Mission Statement: Assist the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous with International matters and help create a worldwide united Gamblers Anonymous. Since our meeting in Phoenix there has been much activity on this committee. Inquiries have come from all areas of the globe. We have begun relationships with areas that had no contact in the past. We have also reestablished contact with other areas. We are working with another region of the International community to begin a new area to have representation.**

**Our Co-Chair has been working closely with Australia and will be presenting an agenda item on their Trustee’s behalf.**

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

Paulette T. gave the above report which was submitted online. Zeny K. from Area 3 volunteered to join the committee.

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

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

**Co-Chair Liaison – André 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 San Diego**

**Re: Agenda Item #8 from Phoenix (tabled to San Diego)**

**Italy had requested permission to translate “A Day at a Time” into Italian.**

**Gamblers Anonymous does not own the rights to this work. The publisher, Hazelden, needs a request form to be sent to them and approved by them prior to translation.**

**According to Karen, Italy has not completed or sent in this form. I contacted Hazelden, got a copy of the form and forwarded it to Carlo in Italy. As far as the Literature Committee is concerned, the translation is now an issue between Italy and Hazelden.**



As of August 2016, there has been no reply to my inquiry to Italy regarding an update.

There are also several other literature related items on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted, Chuck R., Literature Committee Chair

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

**Pressure Relief Committee – Standing Committee:**

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

**Co-Chair Liaison – André 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**

**Prepared for the San Diego BOT Meeting**

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

**Committee Members: Ara H – Area 1, Fred D – Area 12, Ira C – Area 14, Pam B – Area 2G, Paul C – Area 14**

**The Committee met monthly for each of the last 4 months with the following progress:**

- **An email was sent to Karen H requesting the email distribution of all local intergroups. The purpose is to set up contact lists (to be available to the membership at large) so as to create a network of resources for all areas with a special emphasis on those in less served areas.**
- **Both the existing PRGM brochure and excel spreadsheet are being reviewed for an agenda item to be brought forward in Cherry Hill. The item will attempt to “match” the format between the 2 platforms to simplify the PRGM process as well as offering several upgrades to the material.**
- **The Chair will respond to the 2 different area inquiries relating to educating people in doing PRGMs as well as setting up structure within the specific area.**
- **The first draft of an outline has been developed and will serve as the basis for a power point demonstration that could be used at workshops. Topics would include a combination of themes already in the PRGM Handbook as well as the actual running of the PRGM.**

**The Committee has set its next meeting to be held at San Diego.**

**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 – André 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.

The JIP Committee's priority is to assure GA recovery tools are available for all inmates and institutions desiring GA support.

**Support is provided in the form of:**

**Literature – “SKRs” – Prison Starter Kits sent from ISO**

**Communication – Pen Pals and Sponsorship via mail with GA members Meetings – Some conducted by GA members/ most held inside the institution with no outside support.**

**Meetings - Of the services provided, meeting support has proven to be the most challenging and in many cases least effective for a myriad of reasons; lack of support from the institution, transitory nature of inmate population, geographical location of facility and GA members proximity to the facility. Certainly there are ongoing meetings that have received tremendous support from our membership; however, the bulk of the committee's time and resources has been dedicated to remote support via communicating with the institution for support, providing literature and individual communication with inmates and offering experience strength and hope via on-going Pen Pal relationships.**

**Literature - Support begins as a response by ISO to literature requests. Once an inmate requests literature, ISO first obtains approval from the institution, as each institution has different rules as to what literature is permissible (e.g. sometimes books must be soft cover, no staples, etc.) Once approval is received, ISO sends an SKR to the inmate or institution and forwards the processed information to the US JIP committee.**

**Pen Pals/Sponsors – All information received from ISO is reviewed, logged and filed. If an inmate specifically requests support in addition to literature, the committee chair coordinates Pen Pal relationships for that inmate. The Pen Pal initiative has become more robust over the past two years and we foresee this as our best means of ongoing support for inmates. Attention is paid to gender, geographical location, etc. to assure the most suitable Pen Pal relationship is established. This has proven to be a “life line” for many inmates and is very gratifying 12-step service for our membership.**

**Literature Review – The GA pamphlet “*Toward Recovery in Prison*” is under review by the committee. Feedback from inmates and those members who are now on the outside has identified a need for more information specifically geared to the unique challenges of recovery from a gambling addiction while incarcerated. A sub-panel of the US JIP committee is presently working on this initiative.**

Hamid K. gave the above report which was submitted online. The committee is open.

**Video Meeting Format Committee:**

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

**Co-Chair Liaison – André 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.**

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

Since there are so many GA rooms that are running in their own world and generally outside the parameters of the Group Handbook, this committee was

started with the intention of guiding those people who wish to start new rooms. The hope is that rooms that use Unity Step 4 as a cover to continue with room conditions that many times mirror other Fellowships, may also see firsthand what would be considered 'best practices' in running a GA room.

The Group Handbook is going to be rewritten by a committee that was initially formed in Phoenix, but has gotten off to a slow start and has not yet begun to deal with their mission statement. That committee will be dealing with significantly more detail.

This committee will be moving toward a series of videos that depict a typical room meeting. These videos are expected to be showcased on the Internet, using the best distribution methods possible, such as a YouTube Gamblers Anonymous page, or whatever else might be an equal if not better platform to carry our message. There will be no GA members used for these videos. They will be college-aged volunteers and actors who have no association with Gamblers Anonymous. All videos will be scripted. Anonymity will be preserved in all aspects.

This reporting period between Phoenix and San Diego was short. From the original 3 scheduled conference calls for the committee, we only met twice. The cornerstones of our efforts have been:

- 1)-Establishment of a preamble for the video platforms discussed above.
- 2-Creation of series of opening announcements for meetings. These are arranged in priority order for 3 categories, in order of importance. This listing was designed to be an à la carte situation. Rooms can select what they want to use, based on group conscience. They of course can add additional items.
- 3-Meeting format – we will start with a regular topic meeting and expect to later branch out to other types of meetings.

The committee's next steps will be to put together the script to this initial meeting and then to find the people necessary to create a video of this scripted meeting. We do not expect any visible results for the BOT to review by the next Trustee meeting in Cherry Hill.

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 – Richie S. – Area 6**

**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.**

After joining this committee at the AZ conference and not hearing anything from the committee I decided to call 2 of the members I knew on the committee.

They informed me the committee had been dormant for quite some time

After speaking to the Chair of the BOT he asked me to chair this committee

Since then I have deciphered that there are only 4 active members on this committee; Bob W., Herb B., Barry H. and of course myself, Richie S.

We are still looking for more members to contribute their ideas as no one person has a corner on ideas

The committee has come up with a new donation category - The MMD

The Meeting Milestone Donation !! We will talk about it further at San Diego

In reference to Agenda item 57

The committee would like it to be heard as an item coming out of a committee and hope the Board will treat it that way

**The committee is unanimous in this request..even though the dormant members were not notified .But the current members are requesting it to be heard this way We are also discussing more ideas and will talk about them further in San Diego Peace, Richie S., Area 6 - Chair of the BOT/BOT Revenue Committee**

Richie S. gave the above report which was submitted online. He gave a history of the committee and what they are planning in the future.

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

**Committee Chair – Fred L. – Area 8**

**Co-Chair – Norm B. – Area 10A**

**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.**

**CONFERENCE OVERSIGHT AND ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

**A bid was received for the fall 2018 Conference but because of timing the local intergroup has decided to postpone their bid until the spring meeting in Cherry Hill.**

**The committee will give a final report on the spring 2016 Phoenix Conference We will present agenda item 37 which is a complete rewrite of the existing “Hosting an International Conference” booklet.**

**Fred L., Committee Chair**

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

**Group Handbook Revision Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Vacant**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Andy R.**

**Mission Statement: To undertake a comprehensive revision of the Group Handbook. No report was submitted. Andy R. asked for volunteers and the following members stepped up: Jo K, Area 8D; Mary R., Area 15; Pam B., Area 2G; Bill B., Area 15; Mary H., Area 2H and Jimmy D., Area 1A.**

**Hotline Implementation Committee:**

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

**Co-Chair – Chuck R. – Area 15**

**Co-Chair Liaison – Andy R.**

**Mission Statement: Implement and oversee a Gamblers Anonymous national hotline. No report was submitted.**

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

**Committee Chair – Jeanne B. – Area 8A**

**Co-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.

#### **The Telephone Conference Call Committee Report Members**

The Conference Call Committee has continued to facilitate and moderate the weekly Wednesday night Telephone Conference Call. The call usually sees about 60 individual callers per week. After general announcements and readings from GA literature, a topic is introduced. Meeting participants can share about the topic, the Day at a Time reading or anything that is concerning them, as long as it relates to gambling. Typically, about 15 people per meeting share. Up to three participants (with 90 days or more clean time) can give comments after each share; however, people who choose to comment are limited to 3 comments for the entire meeting. There are usually 10 plus people who offer comments.

The meeting demographics generally come in with 50% of the attendees being women. 25% are under 90 days. The locations of the members covers the US and Canada, with occasional calls from other countries.

If there are more than 2 newcomers to GA in attendance, another room is opened in order to facilitate the asking of the 20 Questions and to give the newcomers the time and attention that is essential to anyone entering the program.

Attendees are strongly encouraged to attend physical GA meetings. It is stated that the Telephone Conference Call meeting is not meant to be a substitute for physical meetings.

Those who call from an unidentified phone line are not permitted to share/give therapy nor to comment on others' sharing. It was thought by the committee that, in this way, the anonymity of the participants and the safety of the meeting would be best protected. However, it has come to the attention of the committee that there are serious issues concerning the 11<sup>th</sup> Unity Step in the basic premise and function of the meeting. To wit, there is nothing to prevent anyone calling (from a blocked or unblocked phone number) from recording the meeting and using it in any way that they would see fit. This does compromise the anonymity of the meeting and the safety of those in the room. After extensive discussion among the committee members, it is the opinion of the committee that the meeting, and by extension, the platform be shut down and that no further meetings be scheduled by the committee or sanctioned by the GA Board of Trustees. This would, of course, result in the dissolution of the Telephone Conference Call Committee.

This recommendation was not arrived at easily. We are fully aware of the tremendous impact this meeting has for participants. Every week, we hear amazing therapy and sharing of experience, strength and hope from those who attend the meeting. We know that the meeting has been a real lifeline for many who are unable to attend physical meetings. We have hoped that additional meetings would eventually be scheduled and staffed by GA members. However, the members of the committee cannot recommend that the Wednesday night meeting or any other meeting on this platform continue in light of the knowledge that to do so would put the meeting at odds with the Unity Program.

Respectfully submitted, The Telephone Conference Call Committee

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

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

**Committee Chair – Norm B. – Area 10A**

**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 Committee Report**

**Purpose:** To address complaints presented to the Chairman of the Board of trustees requesting the official removal of a current Trustee due to acts deemed detrimental to GA , as provided for in the Guidance Code under Article VIII, Section 4.

Since no complaints were presented, there was no need for the committee to meet nor take any action. No news is good news.

**Norm B., Committee Chair**

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

**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 - San Diego – Fall 2016**

**New platform**

Although the Trustee website has been in existence for 13 years, the platform upon which it operates is antiquated and very labor intensive to keep up with the changes that are required on a periodic basis. This has made it difficult to solicit backup members of the website, as such programming is not what people wish to learn these days. Technology has improved and the platform we need to use is called WordPress. To convert to this site will involve a major rewrite of the functionality of the site, not to mention money. Nobody on the committee has any working knowledge of this platform, so finding a programmer to make these initial changes will be costly. Expenses for such a transition will be part of an agenda item in Cherry Hill.

**Reiteration of the removal of under-utilized segments**

In Phoenix, a report from this committee was given regarding the anticipated removal of many segments of the Trustee website due to lack of participation.

The 6 segments below are at risk of this fate.

- Committee pages
- Trustee Line
- Trustee Poll
- Trustee Transition Roster
- Area Event Flyers
- Trustee Memorial Honor Roll

**Removed segments**

These segments were a result of discussions at previous BOT meetings about 'I would like to see...' website features, but were either completely unsupported or minimally supported

International Section

Local Area Q & A

#### Agenda item submission standard

The procedures for submitting agenda items for San Diego were not followed by everyone. This made the agenda gathering process, more difficult and time consuming than necessary. Items that are submitted and not in conformance with those procedures for future conferences, will not be accepted.

#### Removal of the Life-Line Bulletin

Item #19 on the agenda will pave the way to remove the Life-Line Bulletin from the Trustee website and not tie up resources dedicated to maintaining this page and its functions. The committee is hopeful that the item passes so that the Bulletin would then be permanently domiciled on the ISO website.

#### Committee Dispute Resolutions

There was only 1 matter that required the process of dispute resolution outlined in the Trustee Website Guidelines. However, before a decision by the committee was rendered, the matter was withdrawn, so there was no need run the deliberation process to a conclusion.

David M. – Trustee Website Admin

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

### *Rules and Procedures*

#### 1. Rules and Procedures - Section 7, Committees

Remove "Website updated reports"

Current version: Website Updated Reports

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

New version: none

Pete K. - Area 13B

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

#### 2. Rule & Procedures, #10 Discussion on Item, new section - Reframing an item

If any item fails and time still remains for discussion, the Chair will call any request to reframe the failed item out of order.

David M. - Area 12

Motion to accept above.

Passed

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

### *Tabled From Phoenix*

#### 3. 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.**

**Motion Pending**

**Carlo C. - Area 25**

Motion was ruled out of order.

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

**4. 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**

Item withdrawn.

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

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

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

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

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Vote Items**

### **By-Laws**

**6. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Passed

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote



### **Committee Related**

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

See attachment 7

Passed 1st vote in Phoenix

Claude C. - Area

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

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

#46 from Phoenix

See attachment 8

Passed 1st vote in Phoenix

Susan W. - Area 2

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

### **Other Literature**

**9. 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.

Passed 1st vote in Phoenix

David M. - Area 12

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**10. 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.

Passed 1st vote in Phoenix

David M. - Area 12

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**11. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix**

**David M. - Area 12**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**12. Let's Host a Mini-Conference - 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix**

**Eileen Z. - Area 8**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**13. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix**

**Eileen Z. - Area 8**

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**Guidance Code**

**14. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 83-5**

**94.3% margin**

**David M. - Area 12**

Approved 99 Against 3

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**15. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 82-10**

**89.1% margin**

**David M. - Area 12**

Approved 84 Against 15

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**16. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 69-16**

**81.2% margin**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Approved 66 Against 32

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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	Gagik G.	Yes	6	Richie S.	No	13A	Nan V.	No
	Guy H.	Yes	6A	Mike R.*	Yes		Tom N.	Yes
	Len K.	No		Russ M.	No	13B	Dominic S.	No
1A	Hamid K.	Yes	6B	Barbara S.	Yes		Pete K.	No
	Jack R.	Yes		Les A.*	Yes	14	Ira C.	Yes
1B	Anita R.	No		William T.*	Yes		Maury C.*	Yes
	Joe C.	No	6D	Ian S.	No		Steve T.	Yes
2	Beth Z.	Yes	7	Jim M.	No		Tom K.*	Yes
	Harold A.	Yes		Ray M.	No	15	Bill B.	No
	Roger L.	Yes	7A	Chuck S.	No		Chuck R.	No
2A	Paul N.	Yes	8	Debbie M.	Yes		Mary R.	Yes
2B	Charlene L.	Yes		Linda S.	No		Mitch L.	No
	Rick D.	Yes		Pamela E.	No		Tim M.	Yes
2C	Debbie W.	Yes	8A	Arlene R.	Yes	16	Robin S.	No
2E	Cheryl R.	Yes		Ernie N.	Yes	16A	Nancy K.	Yes
2G	Bob F.	Yes	8B	Brian J.	Yes	17	John R.	Yes
	Suzanne S.	No		Linda J.*	Yes		Ron W.	Yes
2H	Joanie B.	Yes	8D	Jo K.	No	18	Daphne C.*	AB
	Mary H.	Yes		Mike W.	No		Rob L.*	Yes
2K	Allan G.	No	9	Cesare G.*	Yes		Russell K.*	Yes
3	Andrew B.	No		Paul K.	Yes		Steve A.*	Yes
	Mark S.	No	9A	Pat D.	Yes	18A	Yvonne R.*	Yes
	Zeny K.	No	10	Joe N.	No	18B	Brian F.*	Yes
3A	Butch G.	Yes	10A	Norm B.	Yes		John H.*	AB
	Jane L.	Yes		Tom L.	Yes	20	Ana C.*	AB
	Karen T.	Yes	10B	Kathy S.	Yes	21	Joaquin C.*	Yes
3B	Padmani S.	Yes		Steve B.	Yes		Juan B.*	AB
	Peggy B.*	Yes	11	Daniel O.	Yes	22	Dudley B.*	Yes
3C	Terry D.	Yes		Joe L.	Yes	25	Carlo C.*	AB
3D	Jim S.	No		Ron L.	Yes		Maria T.*	AB
	Mike M.	No	12	Barry H.	Yes	28	Martha G.	Yes
3F	Julian F.	Yes		David M.	Yes	31	Darius L.*	Yes
4	John H.	No		Frank L.	Yes	34	Jeysa V.*	Yes
	Petru C.	No		Fred D.	Yes		Nancy V.*	Yes
5	Tom R.	Yes	13	John B.	Yes			
5B	Claude C.	No		Mike M.	Yes			
	Veronik L.	Yes		Phil S.	No			

\* Absentee Ballot

Approved 70 Against 32 Abstained 6

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

With the passing of the above motion, Pete K. stepped down as a Trustee from his Area and will continue as 1<sup>st</sup> Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees.

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

**17. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 75-8**

**90.4% margin**

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

Approved 98 Against 1

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**18. 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 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 69-0**

**100.0% margin**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Approved 77 Against 18

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**19. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 67-18**

**78.8% margin**

**Bill B. - Area 6**

Approved 98 Against 2

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**20. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 77-6**

**92.8% margin**

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

Approved 92 Against 2

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**21. 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.**

**Passed 1st vote in Phoenix 89-3**

**96.7% margin**

**Steve R. - Area 2B**

Approved 98 Against 2

Passed

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

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

**Steps**

**22. Unity Step 5**

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

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

**Ronny W. - Area 17**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 46 Against 60

Failed

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

**23. Unity Step 3**

**Replace "to stop gambling" with "not to gamble".**

**Current version: The only requirement for Gamblers Anonymous membership is a desire to stop gambling.**

**Proposed version: The only requirement for Gamblers Anonymous membership is a desire not to gamble.**

**Pete K. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Amendment was made and ruled out of order.

On the motion.

Approved 26 Against 78

Failed

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

**24. The Unity Program**

**Change all mention of "Gamblers Anonymous" to the abbreviated version "GA".**

**See attachment 24**

**Beth Z. - Area 2**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 6 Against 88

Failed

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

**25. The Recovery Program-Step 2**

**Change wording of Step 2: Replace the word "normal with "healthy"**

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

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

**Linda S. - Area 8**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 36 Against 71

Failed

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

**B.O.T. PROCEDURES**

**26. Trustee Website**

**The Trustee Website will not list any information on local area events that fall within 30 days prior to any International Conference or Trustee Meeting.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

Amendment to add "or following" after "prior".

Failed

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

**27. Motion: Remove Corporate By-Laws from appropriate and approved literature immediately.**

**Bill B. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

**28. Discussion: Use of Electronic Voting System. Beth Z. for**

**Harold A. - Area 2**

Andy R. appointed a committee to see the logistics of a Electronic Voting System.

Harold A., Area 2 will Chair this committee. The following members volunteered:

Hamid K., Area 1A; Russ M., Area 6A; Beth Z., Area 2; Barry H., Area 12; Gagik G., Area 1; Frank L., Area 12; Ian S., Area 6D and Roger L., Area 2.

The Mission Statement will be presented in Cherry Hill.

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

**29. Rescind item 31 from Phoenix 2016 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**

Item withdrawn.

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

### **Group Procedures**

**30. Discussion: A GA member, who is also a meeting secretary, gambles by his or her own admission in the form of a text message to the group, resigns, and does not indicate any intention of returning to the fellowship anytime soon. Does that person's anonymity continue to be protected in subsequent meetings as if he or she was still in the fellowship?**

**Jack R. - Area 1A**

Discussion only.

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

**31. Discussion: What are we doing to attract problem gamblers to GA and what are we doing to retain them?**

**Ronny W. for Steve G. - Area 17**

Discussion only.

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

**32. Discussion: How do meetings around the world handle a 16 yr old gambler who comes into a meeting? How can he relate to a room full of much older members? How do you make him feel comfortable? Any suggestions?**

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

Discussion only.

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

**33. Discussion: Could we prosecute anyone who steals from Intergroup or GA as whole? Is there any other intergroup have such a rule in their Rules and Procedures? What about our liabilities or Past experiences says about this type of actions? We need to ask our lawyers to take a look at these type of rules, have we done it? if yes, what was the outcome of that.**

**Hamid K. - Area 1A**

Item withdrawn.

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

### **B.O.R. Procedures**

**34. Allow for the inclusion of an electronic version of the Life-Liner Bulletin on the Gamblers Anonymous website and authorize up to \$2,500 to facilitate this addition of the Life-Liner Bulletin to the web site. Final placement of the electronic version of the Life-Liner Bulletin on the GA website would require BOR approval.**

**Peter A. - Area 13**

Motion to accept above.



Amendment to allow for the inclusion of an electronic version of the Life-Line Bulletin on the Gamblers Anonymous website. Final placement of the electronic version of the Life-Liner Bulletin on the GA website would require BOR approval.

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

On the motion.

Passed

Only one vote needed.

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

**35. Request for the Board of Regents to have an operational audit of the Corporation of Gamblers Anonymous.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Motion to table.

Passed

Motion is pending.

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

**By-Laws**

**36. By-Laws - Article XVII - Section 2**

**Current: A reading of the previous meeting minutes.**

**Proposed: An approval of the previous meeting minutes.**

**Peter A. - Area 13**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

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

**Committee Related**

**37. Hosting An International Conference**

**Complete rewrite**

**See attached 37**

**Fred L. - Area 8**

Motion to approve the new "Hosting an International Conference" pamphlet, as written, as submitted by the Conference Oversight & Assistance Committee to replace the current version.

Motion to commit item 37.

Passed

Motion to commit cancels the original motion.

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

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

**See attachment 38-A & 38-B**

**Paulette T. - Area 6B**

Motion to accept above.

Motion to table.

Passed

Motion is pending.

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

**39. Approve the MP3 recording of the pamphlet "Suggestions for Coping with Urges to Gamble" literature to be sold as a downloadable file on the ISO website.**

**See attachment 39**

**Paulette T. - Area 6B**

Motion to table.

Passed

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

### **Conference Bids**

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

**No bids were submitted for this conference in Phoenix**

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

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

**41. The Fall 2018 Conference is open for bids**

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

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

### **Overseas Area**

**42. 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.**

**Frank L. for Russell K. - Area 18**

Motion to accept above.

Item was ruled out of order.

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

**43. Do we need the voice of Trustees worldwide to be heard? Is it critical? Can we honestly say that decisions made today in this forum benefit members worldwide? How do we know? Shouldn't decision making come from all four corners of the planet? Can a structure exist to allow all world Trustees to be heard equally?**

**Russell K. - Area 18**

Discussion only.

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

**44. 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 (almost 900 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 version of the Combo Book completed and the Guidance Code is 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 almost 900 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: Paulo H, Sue F, Dora H,(Area 3F, Arizona), Jose N(Los Angeles, Ca), Benito G.(Las Vegas, Nevada), Ricardo G.(Peru), Alberto F.(Republica Dominicana), Javier A., Juan Carlos(Colombia), German (Chile), Andres F.(Venezuela), Celia R., Carmen V.(Mexico), Paco G.(Spain), Leo B., Patricia P., Elena D., and Angel B. (Argentina, Area 19).**

**Julian F. - Area 3F**

The Chair approved the above committee. The name of the committee is the "Spanish Literature Committee".

The Mission Statement follows:

To unify the literature translation efforts with all the Spanish speaking areas in our G.A. fellowship that are authorized to translate and print G.A. approved literature such that all areas that use the same language will coordinate a revision of existing translated literature that meets all area requirements.

The members of this committee are listed above and the committee is still open to other members, especially members of R.S.O.'s in Spanish speaking areas.

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

### **Combo Book**

**45. Combo Book, page 15, question 9**

**Replace: "your last dollar" with "all your money" ...**

**Current version. Did you often gamble until your last dollar was gone?**

**Proposed version. Did you often gamble until all your money was gone?**

**Ara H. - Area 1**

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

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

**46. Combo Book, Page 17, #5 first sentence.**

**CAPITALIZE and BOLD FACE READ and STEPS**

**Current: Read the RECOVERY and UNITY steps often and continuously review the Twenty Questions.**

**Proposed: READ the RECOVERY and UNITY STEPS often and continuously review the Twenty Questions.**

**Ronny W. - Area 17**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

**47. Combo book p. 8, second paragraph**

**Current: Before coming to Gamblers Anonymous many compulsive gamblers thought of themselves as morally weak, or at times just plain "no good". The Gamblers Anonymous concept is that compulsive gamblers are really very sick people who can recover if they will follow to the best of their ability a simple program that has proved successful for thousands of other men and women with a gambling or compulsive gambling problem.**

**Proposed: Before coming to Gamblers Anonymous many compulsive gamblers**

thought of themselves as morally weak, or at times just plain "no good". Gamblers Anonymous believes that compulsive gamblers are capable of being moral, good people by following the Gamblers Anonymous program of recovery that has proven to be successful for thousands of other men and women with gambling or compulsive gambling problems.

**Joel K. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

**48. Combo book, p.11, What is the dream world of a compulsive gambler? part. 1**

**Current:** This is another common characteristic of compulsive gamblers. A lot of time is spent creating images of the great and wonderful things they are going to do as soon as they make the big win. They often see themselves as quite philanthropic and charming people. They may dream of providing families and friends with new cars, mink coats and other luxuries. Compulsive gamblers picture themselves leading a pleasant, gracious life, made possible from the huge sums of money they will accrue from their "system". Servants, penthouses, nice clothes, charming friends, yachts and world tours are a few of the wonderful things that are just around the corner when a big win is finally made.

**Proposed:** This is another common characteristic of compulsive gamblers. A lot of time is spent dreaming of the great and wonderful things they are going to do as soon as they make the big win. They often see themselves as quite philanthropic and charming people who will provide family and friends with expensive cars, and other luxuries. Compulsive gamblers picture themselves leading extravagant lifestyles made possible by the huge sums of money they will accrue from their gambling. Large homes, designer clothes, and expensive vacations are a few of the wonderful things that are just around the corner after a big win is finally made.

**Joel K. - Area 6**

Motion to table.

Passed

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

**49. Combo Book Page 17 Number 7**

**Remove the words: We encourage every Gamblers Anonymous member to**

**Current: We encourage every Gamblers Anonymous member to have a Pressure Relief Group Meeting as it offers guidance toward a normal way of thinking and living.**

**Proposed: Have a Pressure Relief Group Meeting as it offers guidance toward a normal way of thinking and living.**

**Fred D. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Amendment to add a "!" after "meeting"; delete "as" and start new sentence with "It".

The motion will now read; "Have a Pressure Relief Group Meeting! It offers guidance toward a normal way of thinking and living."

Passed

1st Vote

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

**50. Combo Book Page 17 # 6. last three words**

**Current: GET A SPONSOR,**

**Proposed: BOLD FACE GET A SPONSOR,**

**Ronny W. - Area 17**

Motion to table.

Passed

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

**51. Combo Book, Page 13, Why can't a compulsive gambler simply use willpower to stop gambling?**

**Change 'will power' to willpower**

**Current: We believe that most people, if they are honest, will recognize their lack of power to solve certain problems. When it comes to gambling, we have known many problem gamblers who could abstain for long stretches, but caught off guard and under the right set of circumstances, they started gambling without thought of the consequences. The defenses they relied upon, through will power alone, gave way before some trivial reason for placing a bet. We have found that will power and self- knowledge will not help in those mental blank spots, but adherence to spiritual principles seem to solve our problems. Most of us feel that a belief in a Power greater than ourselves is necessary in order for us to sustain a desire to refrain from gambling.**

**Proposed: We believe that most people, if they are honest, will recognize their lack of power to solve certain problems. When it comes to gambling, we have known many problem gamblers who could abstain for long stretches, but caught off guard and under the right set of circumstances, they started gambling without thought of the consequences. The defenses they relied upon, through willpower alone, gave way before some trivial reason for placing a bet. We have found that willpower and self- knowledge will not help in those mental blank spots, but adherence to spiritual principles seem to solve our problems. Most of us feel that a belief in a Power greater than ourselves is necessary in order for us to sustain a desire to refrain from gambling.**

**Beth Z. - Area 2**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

**52. Combo book. Page 2, Paragraph 2, Sentence 1.**

**Change "to stop gambling" to "not to gamble."**

**Current: The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop gambling.**

**Proposed: The only requirement for membership is a desire not to gamble.**

**Pete K. - Area 13B**

Item withdrawn.

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

**53. Combo Book, Page 11, Remove the words Mink coats and servants from the dream world question.**

**Current: They may dream of providing families and friends with new cars, mink coats and other luxuries.**

**Proposed: They may dream of providing families and friends with new cars and other luxuries.**

**Current: Servants, penthouses, nice clothes, charming friends, yachts and world tours are a few of the wonderful things that are just around the corner after a big win is finally made.**

**Proposed: Penthouses, nice clothes, charming friends, yachts and world tours are a few of the wonderful things that are just around the corner after a big win is finally made.**

**Diane S. - Area 2**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

**Other Literature**

**54. Discuss: Would the fellowship be better served if we took some, much, most, or all of the Group Handbook and incorporated it into the Guidance Code as one more way of sustaining or even increasing unity?**

**Jack R. - Area 1A**

No discussion.

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

**55. To create a large print version of the Toward 90 days booklet.**

**Ian S. - Area 6D**

Motion to accept above.

Chair ruled the motion out of order and will speak to the Board of Regents to make sure these pamphlets get reordered.

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

**56. Hosting an International Conference, Page 19, Follow-up, Item 4.**

**Change ratio payouts**

**Current: Accountability of all profits showing:**

**Spring Conferences - 65% of the profits going to GA ISO and 35% going to Gam-Anon.**

**Fall Conferences - 80% of the profits going to GA ISO and 20% going to Gam-Anon.**

**Proposed: Accountability of all profits:**

**The percentage of profits will be decided by the number of attendees for both GA and Gam-Anon. All conference registrations will include a selection for those members who are not affiliated with either GA or Gam-Anon. Non-affiliated registrations will not go into the calculation of the appropriate percentage.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

**57. Approve yellow wristband de-embossed with the words...Page 17... for sale by the ISO, and all it's affiliates.**

**See Attachment 57**

**Samples will be shown at BOT meeting**

**Richie S. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above as a Merit Vote.

Passed

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

**58. Hosting an International Conference, Contract Procedures, Section E, Rooms for workshops, meetings, etc, Page 8, New 4th paragraph All conferences should not provide facilities for holding meetings for other 12 Step programs (with the exception of GamAnon), as a convenience to the attendees. Holding such meetings is a violation of Unity Steps 6 and 10.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

**59. Adding page numbers to the Gamblers Anonymous Working The Steps Pamphlet. To be consistence with other pamphlet and books. We need to add page numbering to all for easier to find the page specially for newcomers.**

**Hamid K. for Dwight B. - Area 1A**

Motion to accept above.

A member wanted this item ruled out of order. The Chair said it was not out of order and was then challenged. Vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and so is the motion.

On the motion.

Passed

1st Vote

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

**60. Guidance Code, Article VIII, Section 9**

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

**Proposed: To change the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY and Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM, it shall require a two thirds (2/3) majority of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees in physical attendance at two (2) consecutive meetings.**

**Joe L. - Area 11**

Item withdrawn.

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

### **Guidance Code**

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

**Add Mexico to the last sentence**

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

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

**Proposed: 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**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 20 Against 78

Failed

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

**62. Guidance Code: Article XIV, New Section 7.**

**The Board of Regents Chair shall supply the International Executive Secretary with a detailed accounting of reimbursable travel expenses within thirty days of said expenses. Such expense reports will be part of the next Board of Regents meeting and accordingly, part of the minutes of those meetings.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept By- Laws, Article III, Section 11

Current version:

When the Board of Regents Chair (or authorized representative from the Board of Regents) is required to attend a Trustee meeting, the International Service Office shall pay the travel, meals, lodging and conference expenses. The amount of expense will require approval from the Board of Regents.

Proposed version:

When the Board of Regents Chair (or authorized representative from the Board of Regents) is required to attend a Trustee meeting, the International Service Office shall pay the travel, meals, lodging and conference expenses. Attendee shall supply the International Executive Secretary with a detailed accounting of reimbursable travel expenses within thirty days of said expenses. Such expense reports will be part of the next Board of Regents meeting and accordingly, part of the minutes of those meetings. The amount of expense will require approval from the Board of Regents.

Chair ruled this item out of order.

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

**63. Guidance Code, Article VII - Groups, Section 1A.**

**Current: Meetings may be classified as special interest meetings; such as "Women Preferred," "Gay/Lesbian Preferred," "Men Preferred," etc. but no meeting can exclude other Gamblers Anonymous members who wish to attend who don't match the room preference.**

**Proposed: Meetings may be classified as special interest meetings; such as "Women Preferred," "Gay/Lesbian Preferred," "Men Preferred," etc. a meeting may exclude other Gamblers Anonymous members who wish to attend but don't match the room preference.**

**Jim G. for Robin B. - Area 6**

Motion to table.

Passed

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

**64. Guidance Code, Article XVIII, Section 4**

**Add the following sentence at the end of Section 4: No elected Trustee(s) will be recognized as such until the area has confirmed the election with the International Executive Secretary of the International Service Office (I.S.O).**

**Current: Each area entitled to elect a Trustee or Trustees, on or before June 1st, shall notify the International Executive Secretary of the International Service Office (I.S.O.) of the Trustee and/or Trustees elected.**

**Proposed: Each area entitled to elect a Trustee or Trustees, on or before June 1st, shall notify the International Executive Secretary of the International Service Office (I.S.O.) of the Trustee and/or Trustees elected. No elected Trustee(s) will be recognized as such until the area has confirmed the election with the International Executive Secretary of the International Service Office (I.S.O).**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 41 Against 45

Failed



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

**65. Guidance Code: Article IX, Section 7**

**Change \$7,500 to \$10,000**

**Current: The Chairman of the Board of Trustees and both Co-Chairmen have a \$7,500.00 per year expenditure total, approved by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and paid by the International Service Office (I.S.O.). The total combined annual expenditure cannot exceed \$7,500.00. The International Executive Secretary shall supply the Board of Trustees with a detailed accounting of said expenditures within sixty days of the close of the fiscal year.**

**Proposed: The Chairman of the Board of Trustees and both Co-Chairmen have a \$10,000.00 per year expenditure total, approved by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and paid by the International Service Office (I.S.O.). The total combined annual expenditure cannot exceed \$10,000.00. The International Executive Secretary shall supply the Board of Trustees with a detailed accounting of said expenditures within sixty days of the close of the fiscal year.**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 69 Against 23

Passed

1st Vote

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

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

**Change the timing of Executive Board elections from odd year to even year.**

**Current: Election for the Chair of the Board of Trustees and any other officer of the Board of Trustees will take place at the first physical meeting in the odd year. Current trusted servants carry on until trusted servants are elected.**

**Proposed: Election for the Chair of the Board of Trustees and any other officer of the Board of Trustees will take place at the first physical meeting in the even year. Current trusted servants carry on until trusted servants are elected.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

A member asked to have this item ruled out of order. The Chair stated the item is in order and was then challenged. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and so is the motion.

On the motion.

Approved 52 Against 42

Failed

(2/3 Vote needed)

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

**67. Guidance Code, Article VIII, Trustees, Section 22**

**Add language about amendments being excluded**

**Current: With the exception of items coming from a Board of Trustees committee, upon the defeat of a motion, any similar motion may not be brought up for a vote for a period of two (2) years.**

**Proposed: With the exception of items coming from a Board of Trustees committee, upon the defeat of a motion, any similar motion may not be brought up for a vote for a period of two (2) years. This provision does not apply to amendments.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 21 Against 67

Failed

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

**68. Guidance Code, Article VIII - Board of Trustees, Section 11**

**Add: Deletions of any literature must be done by the same procedure used to approve them, omitting any procedures through a merit vote.**

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

**Proposed: The Board of Trustees unequivocally will have the sole right to add to, delete or change any word of the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY, the Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM and the Twenty Questions. All Gamblers Anonymous literature or books must be first approved by the Board of Trustees before being published. No changes can be made in any Gamblers Anonymous literature by the International Service Office (I.S.O.) without the approval of the Board of Trustees. Changes can only be made by the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings of the Board of Trustees. Deletions of any literature must be done by the same procedure used to approve them, omitting any procedures through a merit vote.**

**David M. - Area 12**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 64 Against 30

Passed

1st Vote

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	Gagik G.	Yes	6	Richie S.	Yes	13A	Nan V.	Yes
	Guy H.	Yes	6A	Mike R.*	Yes		Tom N.	Yes
	Len K.	No		Russ M.	Yes	13B	Dominic S.	Yes
1A	Hamid K.	Yes	6B	Barbara S.	Yes		Pete K.	Yes
	Jack R.	Yes		Les A.*	Yes	14	Ira C.	Yes
1B	Anita R.	No		William T.*	No		Maury C.*	No
	Joe C.	Yes	6D	Ian S.	Yes		Steve T.	Yes
2	Beth Z.	No	7	Jim M.	No		Tom K.*	No
	Harold A.	No		Ray M.	Yes	15	Bill B.	No
	Roger L.	No	7A	Chuck S.	Yes		Chuck R.	No
2A	Paul N.	Yes	8	Debbie M.	Yes		Josephine F.*	No
2B	Charlene L.	No		Linda S.	Yes		Mary R.	Yes
	Rick D.	AB		Pamela E.	Yes		Mitch L.	No
2C	Debbie W.	No	8A	Arlene R.	Yes		Tim M.	No
2E	Cheryl R.	Yes		Ernie N.	Yes	16	Robin S.	Yes
2G	Bob F.	Yes	8B	Brian J.	Yes	16A	Nancy K.	No
	Suzanne S.	Yes		Linda J.*	Yes	17	John R.	Yes
2H	Joanie B.	Yes	8D	Jo K.	Yes		Ron W.	Yes
	Mary H.	Yes		Mike W.	Yes	18	Daphne C.*	Yes
2K	Allan G.	No	9	Cesare G.*	Yes		Rob L.*	No
3	Andrew B.	No		Paul K.	No		Russell K.*	Yes
	Mark S.	No	9A	Pat D.	Yes		Steve A.*	No
	Zeny K.	No	10	Joe N.	Yes	18A	Yvonne R.*	Yes

3A	Butch G.	Yes	10A	Norm B.	Yes	18B	Brian F.*	Yes
	Jane L.	Yes		Tom L.	Yes		John H.*	No
	Karen T.	No	10B	Kathy S.	Yes	20	Ana C.*	Yes
3B	Padmani S.	Yes		Steve B.	Yes	21	Joaquin C.*	Yes
	Peggy B.*	Yes	11	Daniel O.	Yes		Juan B.*	AB
3C	Terry D.	Yes		Joe L.	Yes	22	Dudley B.*	Yes
3D	Jim S.	Yes		Ron L.	No	25	Carlo C.*	Yes
	Mike M.	Yes	12	Barry H.	Yes		Maria T.*	Yes
3F	Julian F.	Yes		David M.	Yes	28	Martha G.	Yes
4	Petru C.	No		Fred D.	No	31	Darius L.*	Yes
5	Tom R.	No	13	John B.	No	34	Jeysa V.*	AB
5B	Claude C.	Yes		Phil S.	No		Nancy V.*	Yes
	Veronik L.	Yes						

\* Absentee Ballot

Approved 71 Against 32 Abstained 3  
Passed

1<sup>st</sup> Vote

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

**69. Guidance Code; Article VII, Section 1.**

**Delete last sentence, and add: Any member/s wishing to start a new meeting in an area represented by an established Intergroup, should notify the Intergroup Chairperson, who will request a starter kit for the new meeting from the International Service Office (I.S.O.), and the starter kit will be sent to a Trustee from that area. For a new meeting in an area not represented by an intergroup, the member/s wishing to start a new meeting should request the starter kit through their area Trustee, and the starter kit will then be sent to the Trustee. If possible, at least one of the members starting the new meeting should have a minimum of one (1) year of abstinence.**

**Current: Whenever two or more persons with a desire to stop gambling meet together on a regular, weekly scheduled basis to discuss their gambling problem, they will be known as a group, only if they commit themselves to follow Gamblers Anonymous' Guidance Code and limit their use, display and distribution to only approved and appropriate Gamblers Anonymous literature. They are also to notify the International Service Office (I.S.O.) of their existence.**

**Proposed: Whenever two or more persons with a desire to stop gambling meet together on a regular, weekly scheduled basis to discuss their gambling problem, they will be known as a group, only if they commit themselves to follow Gamblers Anonymous' Guidance Code and limit their use display and distribution to only approved and appropriate Gamblers Anonymous literature. Any member/s wishing to start a new meeting in an area represented by an established Intergroup, should notify the Intergroup Chairperson, who will request a starter kit for the new meeting from the International Service Office (I.S.O.), and the starter kit will be sent to a Trustee from that area. For a new meeting in an area not represented by an intergroup, the member/s wishing to start a new meeting should request the starter kit through their area Trustee, and the starter kit will then be sent to the Trustee. If possible, at least one of the members starting the new meeting should have a minimum of one (1) year of abstinence.**

**John B. - Area 13**

Motion to table.

Passed

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

**70. Guidance Code, Article XVIII, Add a new Section 6 and renumber existing Section as Section 7.**

**To the extent the requirements of Section 3 and 4 are not met by an Area, such Area will not be able to have a Trustee or Trustees for the period described in Section 2.**

**Jim G. - Area 6**

Motion to accept above.

Approved 10 Against 77

Failed

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

**Items Omitted From the Agenda**

**71. Items Omitted From The Agenda**

**Andy R. - Area 13B**

No items were omitted from the Agenda.

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at 1:17 P.M. on Friday, October 7, 2016. The collection for the four (4) sessions was \$668.65.

The next physical meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 10:00 A.M. in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen H.*

Karen H.,  
International Executive Secretary

**ROLL CALL**

<b>AREA</b>		<b>SESSIONS</b>	<b>AREA</b>		<b>SESSIONS</b>
1	Gagik G.	4	9	Cesare G.	Abst.*
	Guy H.	4		Paul K.	4
	Len K.	4	9A	Pat D.	4
1A	Hamid K.	4	10	Joe N.	3
	Jack R.	4	10A	Jim P.	Abst.
1B	Anita R.	4		Norm B.	4
	Joe C.	4		Tom L.	4
2	Beth Z.	4	10B	Kathy S.	4
	Harold A.	4		Steve B.	4
	Roger L.	4	11	Daniel O.	4
2A	Paul N.	4		Joe L.	4
2B	Charlene L.	4		Ron L.	4
	Rick D.	4	12	Arunan S.	Abst.
2C	Debbie W.	4		Barry H.	4
2E	Cheryl R.	4		David M.	4
2G	Bob F.	4		Frank L.	4
	Suzanne S.	4		Fred D.	4
2H	Joanie B.	4		Joel C.	Abst.
	Mary H.	4	13	John B.	4

2K	Allan G.	4		Mike M.	4
3	Andrew B.	4		Phil S.	4
	Kirk L.	Abst.	13A	Nan V.	4
	Mark S.	4		Tom N.	4
	Zeny K.	4	13B	Dominic S.	4
3A	Butch G.	4		Pete K.	4
	Jane L.	4	14	Ira C.	4
	Karen T.	4		Maury C.	Abst.*
3B	Padmani S.	4		Steve T.	4
	Peggy B.	Abst.*		Tom K.	Abst.*
3C	Terry D.	4	15	Bill B.	4
3D	Jim S.	4		Chuck R.	4
	Mike M.	4		Josephine F.	Abst.*
3F	Julian F.	4		Mary R.	4
4	John H.	4		Mitch L.	4
	Petru C.	4		Tim M.	4
5	Tom R.	4	16	Frank K.	Abst.
5B	Claude C.	4		Robin S.	4
	Veronik L.	4	16A	Nancy K.	4
6	Jim G.	Abst.	17	John R.	4
	Joel K.	Abst.		Ron W.	4
	Richie S.	4	18	Daphne C.	4*
6A	Mike R.	Abst.*		Rob L.	4*
	Russ M.	4		Russell K.	4*
6B	Barbara S.	4		Steve A.	4*
	Les A.	Abst.*	18A	Mark C.	Abst.
	William T.	Abst.*		Yvonne R.	4*
6D	Ian S.	4	18B	Brian F.	4*
7	Jim M.	4		John H.	4*
	Ray M.	4	20	Ana C.	4*
7A	Alex B.	Abst.	21	Joaquin C.	4*
	Chuck S.	4		Juan B.	4*
8	David M.	Abst.	22	Dudley B.	4*
	Debbie M.	4	25	Carlo C.	4*
	Linda S.	4		Maria T.	4*
	Pamela E.	4	28	Martha G.	4
8A	Arlene R.	3	31	Darius L.	4*
	Ernie N.	4	34	Jeysa V.	4*
8B	Brian J.	4		Nancy V.	4*
	Linda J.	Abst.*	35	Gualberto Z.	Absent
8C	Diane Z.	Abst.	36	Odie B.	Absent
8D	Jo K.	4			
	Mike W.	4			

\*Absentee Ballot Received

Chair BOT – Andy R.	4
1 <sup>st</sup> Co-Chair BOT – Pete K.	4
2 <sup>nd</sup> Co-Chair BOT – Andre G.	4
Chair BOR – John C.	4
I.E.S. – Karen H.	4