

## GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEE MEETING

MAY 2 & 3, 1991

### HOLIDAY INN - LIVONIA, MICHIGAN

- A) **ROLL CALL**  
Roll call was taken by Karen H.
- B) **INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**  
Larry G. welcomed everyone and asked that anyone who was attending for the first time stand and introduce themselves.
- C) **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT**  
Larry G. gave an opening statement explaining procedures of how the meeting would be conducted and that Roberts Rules of Order would be followed.
- D) **MINUTES OF THE NEW ORLEANS MEETING**  
The minutes of the New Orleans meeting were approved as submitted.  
Approved: 31 Against: 0 Abstained: 1
- E) **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
1. **Conference Committee**  
Paul P. gave a report on the three upcoming conferences in San Diego, October 1991, Montreal, May 1992, and Houston, November 1992. He suggested that anyone hosting or planning to host a conference order the piece of literature "How to Host a Conference" from the International Service Office. A request was also made that anyone putting on a conference, please send a copy of the minutes of your meetings to Paul so that he can keep up with everything. Larry G.

added to please try and follow the 30/30 rule so that National Conferences can receive the support they need. Larry G. also stated that U.S./Canadian funds will be converted on the day they are received in regards to the Montreal Conference.

2. **Literature Committee**  
Paul A. gave a report explaining the five pieces of literature on this agenda for approval.
3. **I.E.S. - Lifeliner Report**  
Karen H. gave a report on Lifeliners and passed out a graph that showed Lifeliner activity for the past two years.
4. **Chairman B.O.R. - Financial Status**  
Phil S. read a letter he wrote to all Trustees explaining the financial status of the International Service Office along with a chart showing figures for receipts and disbursements for the period of July 1990 through March 1991.

### F) OLD BUSINESS

1. "A chart of Compulsive Gambling and Recovery" as approved G.A. literature - 2nd vote.  
Motion to table above.  
Approved: 11 Against: 17 Abstained: 7 Failed  
Motion to accept above:  
Approved: 27 Against: 3 Abstained: 4 Passed
2. **Guidance Code:**  
Page 7, Article VIII, Section 10: after "shall" insert "nominate and" and (2nd sentence) after "The" insert "nominations and".  
Amendment: to make any changes in the Guidance Code that this motion contradicts - 2nd vote.  
Approved: 31 Against: 0 Abstained: 1 Passed  
Page 5, Article VIII, Section 1: Increase the number of Trustees and Alternates to forty (40). Also, adjust any other area of the Guidance Code to reflect this change. -2nd vote.  
Approved: 34 Against: 0 Abstained: 0 Passed

### G) COMBO BOOK

1. **Page 8, 2nd paragraph, 2nd sentence: Change to read "The Gamblers Anonymous concept is that compulsive gamblers are really very sick people who can arrest this illness if they follow to the best of their ability a simple recovery program that has proved...etc.."**  
Motion to accept above.  
Approved: 1 Against: 28 Abstained: 2 Failed
2. **Page 2, 3rd paragraph: "GAMBLING CAREERS" to be changed to read "GAMBLING ESCAPADES"**

(Reasoning: The word careers connotes something positive - i.e. business career, professional career. A gambling life is not something to emulate and should not be given positive implications).

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 1 Against: 32 Abstained: 1 Failed

3. Page 6, Unity Step 4: Change "SELF-GOVERNING" to "AUTONOMOUS".

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 1 Against: 34 Abstained: 0 Failed

4. Inside Front Cover: Change poem to read "I SOUGHT MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND FOUND ALL THREE" (Reasoning: to conform with the nonsexist approach of the book).

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 4 Against: 28 Abstained: 2 Failed

5. Page 6, Unity Step 5: After "message" insert "of hope". To read "GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS HAS BUT ONE PRIMARY PURPOSE - TO CARRY ITS MESSAGE OF HOPE..."

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 22 Against: 12 Abstained: 0 Failed

(2/3 vote needed)

#### H) GUIDANCE CODE

1. Should Item #2 in old business pass.

Page 7, Article VIII, Section II: To read: "Trustees shall submit nominations for an International Executive Secretary to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees during the first session of the Board Meeting where the election is to be held. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees will hold the election during the final session of the Meeting."

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 30 Against: 0 Abstained: 3 Passed

(1st vote)

2. Page 5, Article VII, Section 4: Add after (39) "of 52 weekly". (Reasoning: a member may attend 39 meetings in first 4 months and return 8 months later for a pin). Discussion only - no motion made.

#### I) NEW BUSINESS

1. New literature - A comment on the Serenity Prayer etc...

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 1 Against: 31 Abstained: 1 Failed

2. Approve book written by Ray M. (191 pages to date) and cost of typing, proofreading, paper and collating at about \$800.00.

Since this agenda was prepared, Ray M. wrote a letter to Larry G. stating that he has absorbed the cost and donated his work. The book was given to a committee to review. The committee consists of Bill B., Eddie L., and Phil S. When ready copies will be given to all Trustees.

3. What is Sponsorship offered as new literature.

Motion to accept above as "cleaned up" by literature committee.

Approved: 31 Against: 2 Abstained: 1 Passed

(1st vote)

4. Step One worksheet offered as new literature.

Motion to table and send to literature committee.

Approved: 21 Against: 0 Abstained: 3 Passed

5. Past Trustees should be given copies of the current Trustee list if they request it from I.S.O.

Motion to give the Trustee list to only those whose names appear on the list.

Amendment - and past Trustees who are still active members in G.A. and request such list.

Approved: 18 Against: 14 Abstained: 2 Passed

On the motion.

Approved: 20 Against: 12 Abstained: 1 Passed

6. Is Gamblers Anonymous violating the confines of Step 6 and/or Step 7 of the G.A. Unity Steps, by affiliating in areas of lending our name to joint efforts with Gam-Anon and/or accepting or dispensing funds relating to Gam-Anon?

Motion made to insert "except for joint efforts of Gam-Anon or Gamateen" to proceed "Gamblers Anonymous ought never endorse, finance, etc." of step 6 of the Unity Program.

Approved: 5 Against: 23 Abstained: 3 Failed

7. Can an Intergroup take the right to vote away from a room that comes to vote but does not attend other Intergroup meetings?

Discussion was held. It was the consensus of this board that an Intergroup cannot take the right to vote away from a room that comes to vote but does not attend other Intergroup meetings.

8. Can Intergroup make a commitment to a dance for a dollar amount without first having the room reps present it to the members for their prior approval?

Discussion only.

9. Is it a G.A. Group or Meeting if they don't read any part of Combo Book at meetings?  
Discussion was held. According to the Guidance Code the answer to the above would be "yes".
10. Please discuss different methods of paying Trustees' way to Conferences - suggestions.  
A poll was taken of the areas that were present pertaining to the above.
- Area 1 Full funding for Trustees and Alternates.
- Area 2 Full funding (if available) for Trustees and Alternates.
- Area 2A Full funding for Trustee. If funds are available - for Alternate also.
- Area 3 Full funding for Trustee. If both Trustee and Alternate attend, it is split.
- Area 3A Full funding for one. The Trustee attends the Fall meeting and the Alternate attends the Spring meeting.
- Area 4 \$100.00 to the Trustee and no funding for the Alternate.
- Area 5 \$650.00 is split between the Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 6 Full funding for the Trustee only for one meeting per year.
- Area 6A Funding is as available. If both Trustee and Alternate attend, it is split.
- Area 7 Whatever funding is available is split between the Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 8 Roundtrip airfare and one night's lodging for both Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 8A Whatever funds are available are split between the Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 8B They pass around a separate can and whatever is collected is split between the Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 9 100% Funding for Trustee and Alternate when available.
- Area 10 Full funding for Trustee and whatever is available for Alternate.

- Area 10A Whatever is available is split between Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 11 Full funding for Trustee if available. Nothing for Alternate.
- Area 12 \$2,400.00 for two conferences split equally among Trustees and Alternates.
- Area 13 Full funding for Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 13A No funding at all for Trustee or Alternate.
- Area 14 Airfare and one night lodging for Trustees and Alternates.
- Area 15 Equal funding by what's available for Trustees and Alternates.
- Area 16 Equal funding by what's available for Trustee and Alternate.
- Area 17 Full funding for Trustee and Alternate.

11. What is the G.A. policy towards airlines offering discount airfares to G.A. members attending G.A. Conferences?  
Discussion was held. It was the consensus of this board that it is O.K. for airlines to offer discount airfares to G.A. members attending G.A. conferences.
12. Who is responsible for the sale of literature at Conferences? Could a more realistic policy be adopted?  
Discussion was held. It was stated that it is the host groups responsibility for the sale of G.A. literature at conferences. And if a realistic quantity of material is ordered, and the material is properly displayed, then sales would be plentiful and profitable.
13. Would the Board please re-affirm that it is dangerous for G.A. members to take any kind of interest in their spouse's lottery tickets.  
Discussion was held. It was the consensus of this board that it is dangerous for G.A. members to take any kind of interest in their spouse's lottery tickets.
14. Discussion re: banning of individuals from the Wednesday and Sunday night meetings of Gamblers Anonymous in Columbus, Ohio - Note: Both sides of this case will be present to explain the situation in Detroit.  
Discussion was held where all sides presented their view. It was agreed that better communication and understanding could resolve the issue at the local level.
15. Discuss approval of local translations - Argentina & India.  
Discussion only.

16. **Is the Secretary of the B.O.R. complying with Guidance Code page 17, art. XIV, Section 4 when minutes are sent to Chairman and Assistant Chairmen?**  
It was decided that the above is not being complied with and therefore all Trustees and Alternates will receive a copy of the Board of Regents Minutes.
17. **Can one person vote for up to ten (10) groups in Board of Regents Elections?**  
Discussion was held. The answer to the above is "yes".
18. **Can a Conference insist that registrations be paid in full in advance?**  
Motion made that a conference can insist that registrations be paid in full in advance.  
Approved: 1 Against: 29 Abstained: 4 Failed
19. **Can we establish a National Hot-Line?**  
Motion made to establish a committee to check into the possibility of a National Hot-Line and report back to this board in San Diego. Paul A. is heading up this committee.  
Approved: 30 Against: 1 Abstained: 1 Passed
20. **Could tapes from convention workshops be sold by I.S.O.?**  
Motion to accept above.  
Approved: 4 Against: 29 Abstained: 1 Failed
21. **Please give some guidance as to how hot-lines work especially when Gam-Anon shares the line.**  
Discussion only.
22. **Review and clarification of guidelines for Conference advertising schedules.**  
Motion made that there be no restrictions on advertising conferences or mini-conferences.  
Approved: 29 Against: 3 Abstained: 2 Passed

**J) ANYTHING OMITTED FROM THE AGENDA**

Conference site selection - Midwest  
Motion to accept Pittsburgh's bid for the Midwest Conference in the spring of 1993.  
Approved: 30 Against: 0 Abstained: 2 Passed

**ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **Additional information re: Ray M.'s book.**  
Already discussed under New Business Item 2.
2. **Guidance requested re: closed meetings; when does a person have to admit that they are a compulsive gambler or declare themselves?**  
Discussion only.

3. **Re-enforce the Unity Program number 10, that G.A. has no opinion on outside issues - i.e. Cessation of clinic funding in N.Y.**  
Discussion was held. It was the consensus of this board that we ought not disseminate any outside information at group level.
4. **Proposed new literature from Board of Regents regarding Lifeline Contributions.**  
Discussion only.
5. **Amend existing literature re: tax number for conventions.**  
No discussion.

**K) GOOD AND WELFARE**

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at approximately 2:00 P.M.  
Collection for the three (3) sessions was \$587.00.  
The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be October 24 and 25, 1991 in San Diego, California.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen H., International  
Executive Secretary

**ROLL CALL**

AREAS	SESSIONS	AREAS	SESSIONS
Area 1		Area 11	
(T) George M.	3	(T) Jim C.	3
(T) Phil K.	3	Area 12	
(A) Irving S.	3	(T) Eddie L.	3
(A) Bob W.	3	(T) Jim S.	Absent
Area 2		(T) Bob W.	3
(T) Mike S.	3	(A) Mark C.	3
(T) Pete V.	Absent	(A) Bill G.	2
(A) Steve R.	3	(A) Mike D.	3
(A) Tom M.	3	Area 13	
Area 2A		(T) Tony M.	3
(T) Roger D.	3	Area 13A	
(A) Ed B.	Absent	(T) Herb K.	Absent
Area 3		(A) Ralph D.	3
(T) Bob D.	Absent	Area 14	
(A) Laura P.	3	(T) Lou T.	3
Area 3A		(T) Louis M.	3
(T) Richie G.	Absent	(A) Peter P.	Absent
(A) Malcolm B.	3	(A) Mark B.	3

Area 4  
 (T) Sid Y. 3  
 (A) Craig C. 3

Area 5  
 (T) Stirling L. Absent  
 (A) Mike V. Absent

Area 6  
 (T) Joe L. 3  
 (A) Harry L. 2

Area 6A  
 (T) Paul A. 3  
 (A) George K. Absent

Area 7  
 (T) Jo Ann S. 3  
 (A) Donald B. Absent

Area 7A  
 (T) Scott A. Absent  
 (A) Bob G. Absent

Area 8  
 (T) Robert E. 3  
 (A) Sam R. Absent

Area 8A  
 (T) Rod R. Absent  
 (A) Judy G. 3

Area 8B  
 (T) Dave B. Absent  
 (A) Ernie T. 3

Area 9  
 (T) Danny M. 3  
 (A) James M. 3

Area 10  
 (T) Herman S. 3  
 (A) Jim B. 3

Area 10A  
 (T) Jim P. 3  
 (A) Norman B. 3

Area 15  
 (T) Bill B. 3  
 (T) Joe L. Absent  
 (T) Neil A. 3  
 (T) Steve B. 3  
 (T) Al B. 3  
 (A) Marty D. 3  
 (A) Al C. Absent  
 (A) Alan W. Absent  
 (A) John M. Absent  
 (A) Gil S. Absent

Area 16  
 (T) Paul P. 3  
 (A) Dave S. 3

Area 17  
 (T) Tom C. 3  
 (A) Joe C. 3

Area 18  
 (T) Doreen C.  
 (Proxy given to Larry G.)  
 (A) Shirley T.  
 (Proxy given to Larry G.)

Area 18A  
 (T) Seamus D.  
 (Proxy given to Larry G.)  
 (A) Robert W. Absent

Chairman, Board of Trustees  
 Larry G. 3

1st Co-Chairman, B.O.T.  
 Paul A. 3

2nd Co-Chairman, B.O.T.  
 Neil A. 3

Vice Chairman Board of Regents  
 Phil S. 3

International Executive Secy  
 Karen H. 3