
**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING
OCTOBER 15 & 16, 1998
ORLANDO NORTH HILTON
ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FLORIDA**

- A) **Welcome and opening statements - Tom M., Chairman of the Board of Trustees**
Tom M. gave his opening statements, welcoming everyone and asking all new Trustees and Alternate Trustees to stand and introduce themselves. Points of order and points of information were reviewed and it was stated that we would try and follow as closely as we can Roberts Rules of Order. The procedures for the meeting were explained including to please put all motions in writing on the "motion sheets" that are scattered around the room. Four proxy votes were opened and distributed to the designated people for voting. Area 2B Trustee and Alternate give their proxy vote to the past Trustee, Frank H., from Sacramento; Area 13A, Ralph D. has given his proxy vote to Karen H. Karen stated that she would give Ralph's committee reports but that she would abstain from voting because she did not believe her position should be voting. Area 18, Australia, Shirley T. has given her proxy vote to Dan M. and Charlie O., from Area 8B has given his proxy vote to Tom M. The Absentee ballot from Graeme V., Alternate Trustee from Area 18 will count as attendance only.
- B) **Remembrance of our departed brothers and sisters - Marshall R.**
Marshall R. read a list of members who had passed away since our last Board of Trustees meeting in Myrtle Beach. The time of their abstinence and where they were from was also read. A moment of silence was observed.
- C) **Roll Call - Changes - Karen H., International Executive Secretary Gamblers Anonymous**
Karen H. took roll while changes to the Confidential Listing of Trustees were simultaneously made. There are 47 eligible votes at the present time.

- D) **Approval of the Minutes from the Myrtle Beach Meeting**
The minutes of the Myrtle Beach meeting were approved as submitted.
Approved: 37 Against: 0

E) **Committee Reports**

1. **Myrtle Beach Conference Final Report - Dan M.**
Dan M. read a copy of the final financial report that had been submitted by the committee. There was a net profit of \$6,789.42 with the distribution being \$3,734.17 for Gamblers Anonymous and \$3,055.25 for Gam-Anon. There were about 320 people in attendance.
2. **Orlando Conference Report - Jim C.**
Jim C. gave a report and stated he has received copies of everything and it all looks to be in good order. Bob F. welcomed everyone to Florida. So far 316 people have registered and they expect about 340 for dinner on Saturday night. The committee has worked real hard and a nice weekend has been planned with 16 different workshops to attend. Jack Y. also welcomed everyone stating that the Conference is dedicated to all departed members and those who haven't found us yet.
3. **Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati Conference Report - Jim C.**
Jim C. gave a report on the Kentucky/Cincinnati Conference to be held May 14 - 16, 1999 at the Drawbridge Estates. He reported that all requirements are being complied with and that everything seems very well organized. Fred O. stated that the airport to fly into would be Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky airport which is actually in Northern Kentucky. They are looking forward to a good conference and hope that everyone can attend.
4. **San Diego Conference Report - Dan M.**
Dan M. reported on the San Diego Conference to be held October 8 - 10, 1999 at the Handlery Hotel and Resort. He is pleased to announce most requirements are being met. There have been a few glitches with the financial statements that hopefully will be worked out. Everything else is going along smoothly.
5. **New York Conference Report - Jim C.**
Jim C. reported on the New York Conference to be held at the Nevele Hotel May 5 - 7, 2000. They are busy and a steering committee has been established to oversee the Conference. They are doing just fine. Tommy J. spoke assuring everyone that the Hotel renovations would be completed by next Spring.
6. **I.S.O./Lifeline Report - Karen H.**
Karen H. handed out her yearly chart showing the activity for past year while explaining what a Lifeline really is. The amount of Lifeliners worldwide has increased to 435 members with a monetary figure totalling \$50,025.59 for the past 12 months. Questions were answered and several different ideas were presented. Everyone was thanked for their support.

7. **Orlando Walk-A-Thon Update - Marc L.**
Nick R. gave the Walk-A-Thon report stating that since Marc L. could not be in Orlando, Nick was asked to organize this event. The walk will take place at 6:30 A.M. on Saturday and will be 5 miles around a very nice lake. Nick reminded everyone that this is a way to financially help the International Service Office.
8. **B.O.R. Update on the Florida Restitution - Bill B.**
Bill B. gave a report handing out a "Reconciliation Report" showing the accounting as of September 30, 1998 on the Florida situation. Several questions were answered. Restitution is currently being made as ordered by the court.
9. **History Booklet Update - Dan M.**
Dan M. gave a report on the History Booklet stating that he believes we have all of the pertinent statistical information from the early days that we are going to receive. What we are looking for now is stories from different areas. For instance a chapter on the history of G.A. in New York City or Portland, Oregon, etc. Thirty seven Audio tapes were sent out with only 6 being returned. After much discussion it was decided to have a January 1, 1999 deadline to get any additional information to Danny. He will correspond with the Trustees via the Trustee Line and will send all available information out prior to the Kentucky meeting.
10. **12 Step Audio Tape Committee Report - Ralph D.**
Karen H. gave the report she received from Ralph D. that the Steps tapes will take time. A lot of good people are involved but it is a struggle to get everyone helping at one time - they are moving forward. Several of the committee members spoke and stated that 4 or 5 of the Steps are completed, with Step One having been recorded. This tape along with other submitted information will be forwarded to Ralph and the committee will continue.
11. **Internet Report - Karen H.**
Karen H. gave a report on the Internet website along with some statistical information. A letter was read from a grateful member who found Gamblers Anonymous through the website. Rob S. also spoke of being on the Internet and how it has helped so many compulsive gamblers. He discussed chat rooms and possibilities of future plans for meetings online.
12. **Pressure Relief Committee Report - Ralph D.**
Pressure Group guidelines were handed out by the Chicago area and will be forwarded to Ralph D. This piece will not be discussed at this meeting and will come up on the next agenda in Kentucky. Karen H. gave the report for Ralph that he is meeting with New Jersey, New York and the Northeast areas for input. They are going forward and gathering information.

13. **Trustee Election Guidelines Committee - Norm B.**
Norman B. reported that the committee is not prepared to offer Trustee election guidelines at this time and would like to defer this to Kentucky. Any area that has guidelines for electing their Trustees, please submit them to Norm by December 15, 1998.
14. **Literature Committee Report - Rocky M.**
Passed on this report as nothing was received and Rocky M. is not present.

F) OLD BUSINESS

1. Approve "Gamblers Anonymous Your First Meeting" (attachment #6) as approved G.A. literature. Tabled from Manhattan Beach and tabled from Myrtle Beach to the Literature Committee for presentation in Orlando.
Chuck R. handed out a new attachment.
Motion to table.
Approved: 31 Against: 9 Passed
2. Discuss adopting "How it Works" from A.A. literature as presented in the G.A. form (attachment #3). This item was tabled from Manhattan Beach and from Myrtle Beach.
Motion to accept above.
Approved: 4 Against: 38 Failed
3. Towards 90 Days, page 9, 3rd paragraph so that the wording will also include business owner and not only employee. It would now read as follows: "However, irrespective of age or ability, any member can become a better worker". Also change to: "Probably for the first time in years, we are able to concentrate on what our job requires us to do". Passed first vote 20-13
Approved: 32 Against: 7 Passed (2nd vote)
4. Combo Book, page 10, number 2 change from "The only place I really felt like I belonged was sitting at the poker table"...to "The only time I felt I belonged was when I was gambling. Then I felt secure and comfortable"... Passed first vote 21-19
Approved: 30 Against: 16 Passed (2nd vote)
5. Approve as G.A. literature "Beyond 90 Days" as written by the U.K. G.A. area. (attachment #5) (Quebec Canada) This item was sent to literature committee for correction and clarification. This item is out of order until it is returned from the Literature Committee.
6. Combo Book, page 1 change from "a chance meeting between two men..." to "a chance meeting between Jim W. and Sam J..."
Passed first vote 22-14
Approved: 16 Against: 27 Failed

7. Combo Book, page 9 "How does someone...basic concept of the Gamblers Anonymous Recovery Program...add "Recovery and Unity Programs". Passed first vote 32-7
Approved: 23 Against: 22 Passed (2nd vote)
8. Pamphlet titled "Compulsive Gambling" page 1 eliminate the first sentence. Passed first vote 27-2
Approved: 39 Against: 1 Passed (2nd vote)
9. The Board of Trustees will elect the members of the Board of Regents at the Western Conference. The term will run for a two year period. Passed first vote 27-8
Approved: 30 Against: 16 Failed (2/3) vote needed
A roll call vote was requested and then taken with the results as follows:

AREA	TRUSTEE	VOTE	AREA	TRUSTEE	VOTE	AREA	TRUSTEE	VOTE
1	Sandy T.	NO	6	Sandy L.	YES	12	Carol L.	NO
	Lanny R.	NO	6A	Larry E.	YES		Denis M.	NO
	Linda M.	NO	6B	Lenny L.	YES		Marshall R.	YES
2	Ed E.	YES	6C	Thom M.	YES	13	Eileen B.	YES
	Pete V.	NO		Vicki L.	YES		James D.	Abstain
2A	Henry I.	YES	7	Sandy L.	YES	14	Joe B.	YES
2B	Frank H.	YES	7A	Tony W.	YES		Dennis M.	YES
2C	Debbie W.	YES	8	Allan S.	NO	15	Jeff W.	NO
2G	Terry H.	NO		Frank K.	NO		Bill B.	NO
3	Ron D.	YES	8A	Duane O.	YES		Chuck R.	YES
	Liz N.	YES	8B	Tom M.	YES		Marty D.	NO
3A	Joel K.	YES	9	Nick R.	YES		Tommy J.	YES
3C	Robert K.	YES	10	Lou K.	YES	16	Jolin N.	YES
3D	Marilyn L.	YES	10A	Norman B.	YES	17	Tom C.	YES
5	Johnny N.	NO	10B	Gary B.	NO	18	Danny M.	YES
5A	Mike M.	NO	11	Paul K.	YES			

Approved: 31 Against: 15 Passed (2nd Vote)

10. 20 Questions, number 13 change to read, "Did gambling make you careless of the welfare of yourself or your family"? Passed first vote 25-19
Approved: 36 Against: 6 Passed (2nd vote)
11. Have New Member Packets available with designated approved pieces of literature in the packet. (Tabled from Myrtle Beach)
Note, as of this time no specific pieces of literature have been received for review by the Board.
Motion to table to Kentucky.
Approved: 40 Against: 0 Passed

12. Approve letter entitled "Lifeliners" as approved G.A. literature. (This item was tabled from Myrtle Beach to Orlando so the members of the Board could review it prior to accepting it)
Motion to table until Kentucky.
Approved: 44 Against: 1 Passed

G) NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve as G.A. literature poem "I put my hand in yours..." (attachment #1) (Area 17 Connecticut)
Motion to allow the use of "I put my hand in yours" to be used in G.A. meetings.
Approved: 7 Against: 32 Failed
2. Step 12 of the Recovery Program add after, "in all our affairs, and having had a spiritual awakening". (Area 8 Chicago)
Motion to accept above.
Approved: 5 Against: 33 Failed
3. Combo Book, page 13, third paragraph change "always with disastrous results" to "always with the same disastrous results". (Area 8 Chicago)
Motion to accept above.
Approved: 6 Against: 38 Failed
4. Combo Book, page 16, question 15 change to read "Have you ever gambled to escape worry, trouble, or responsibility?" (Area 8 Chicago)
Motion to accept above.
Approved: 19 Against: 26 Failed
5. Combo Book, page 15, question 5 change to read "Did you ever gamble to get money to pay debts, or solve any financial difficulties?" (Area 8 Chicago)
Motion to accept above.
Amendment to delete the word "any".
Approved: 6 Against: 35 Failed
On the motion.
Approved: 3 Against: 39 Failed
6. Discuss establishing a committee to edit the Combo Book and make it grammatically correct. (Area 8 Chicago)
Motion to accept above.
Approved: 8 Against: 33 Failed
7. As part of the opening of every B.O.T. meeting we should include a reading from the, "A Day at a Time" book, Chairperson to choose the person to do the reading. (Area 8 Chicago)
Motion to accept above.
Approved: 20 Against: 19 Passed

18. The Board of Trustees vote to ban working members of the press and or media from attending National Conferences in their capacity as working members of the press and media. This ban would include, but would not be limited to Conference workshops, therapy sessions, B.O.T. meetings, Conference social functions. This ban could be waived only by a two third vote of the B.O.T. and then, if waived, all promotional material regarding the Conference should state that the Conference is open to members of the press and or media. In addition, an announcement would have to be made at every meeting, workshop, etc. stating that the press and or media is in attendance. (Area 12 New Jersey)

Motion to accept above.

Amendment that when working members of the press attend National Conferences they be banned from therapy meetings and that they be required to wear press I.D. at all other functions of the Conference.

Approved: 7 Against: 38 Failed

On the motion.

Approved: 20 Against: 23 Failed

19. Guidance Code, page 3, step 6, after the word "enterprise" and before the word "lest", insert Gam-Anon. (Area 12 New Jersey)

Motion to accept above adding the word "except" before Gam-Anon.

Approved: 12 Against: 32 Failed

20. Guidance Code, page 3, Step 7, after the word "contributions" insert, "except from Gam-Anon". (Area 12 New Jersey)

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 1 Against: 39 Failed

21. Guidance Code, page 3, Step 10, after the word "issues" and before the word "hence" insert except with regards to Gam-Anon. (Area 12 New Jersey)

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 2 Against: 38 Failed

22. Combo Book, Unity Program, Step #3 add after, "...stop gambling" followed by commitment. (Area 16 Upstate N.Y.)

Motion to change Step 3 of the Unity Program from "The only requirement for Gamblers Anonymous membership is a desire to stop gambling" to "The only requirement for Gamblers Anonymous membership is a desire to stop gambling followed by commitment".

Approved: 1 Against: 45 Failed

23. Combo Book, page 17, delete item #6 and replace with, "A Pressure Relief Group Meeting, or reevaluation, will be conducted with you and adherence to it will aid in your recovery". (Area 12 New Jersey)

Motion to accept above.

Approved: 6 Against: 40 Failed

24. Discussion. "First time attendees should not be excluded from request to participate in self-supporting contribution".

(Area 12 New Jersey)

Motion that it is entirely appropriate for first time attendees to financially contribute to the Program.

Approved: 40 Against: 2 Passed

25. Site selection for the 2000 Southern Conference.

No bid was made, therefore this item will be brought up again in Kentucky and will now be open to any area wishing to make a bid. Tom M., Chairman of the Board of Trustees stated that if there is no bid made that he will pick a place and we will have a Trustees meeting only.

26. Combo Book, page 14 definition of gambling, change to read, "Gambling for the compulsive gambler is defined as follows, any betting or wagering for self or other for money constitutes gambling". (Area 1 Los Angeles)

Discussion only.

27. Discussion, Is it appropriate to celebrate your Anniversary the day before the actual clean date? (Area 3A San Diego)

Motion that it is appropriate to celebrate your Anniversary the day before the actual clean date.

Approved: 1 Against: 40 Failed

28. Combo Book, page 17 delete "particularly the new members"

Motion to table. (Area 15 New York)

Approved: 28 Against: 15 Passed

29. Does an Intergroup have the right to add extra conditions on those wishing to run for Trustee? If they don't have the right and do so, excluding people that were qualified to run according to the National Guidelines, should the election be upheld or another election required allowing those people to run? (Area 13 Pennsylvania)

After much discussion the Chairman of the Board of Trustees stated, "No, an Intergroup cannot pose stricter guidelines than those in the Guidance Code".

Motion to table.

Approved: 21 Against: 21 Failed

Motion to table to last session.

Approved: 25 Against: 11 Passed

Motion that the 1998 Delaware Valley Intergroup Trustee election be declared null and void.

Motion to table.

Approved: 6 Against: 39 Failed

On the motion.

Approved: 42 Against: 6 Passed

A letter will be written by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to the Delaware Valley Intergroup instructing them to conduct a new Trustee election. The Trustees and Alternates who were in Office on June 30, 1998 will remain in Office until a new election has taken place.

H) Anything omitted from the agenda

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

30. Discuss if an area or meeting can recognize a member for work they have done on behalf of the Program; i.e. certificate of appreciation, etc. (Area 2 No. California)
Discussion only.
31. Change Unity Step 11 to now read "at the level of press, radio, films, television and the internet. (Area 14 Long Island)
Motion to table to Kentucky.
Approved: 30 Against: 7 Passed
32. Permission for Canada to translate into French and print the G.A. Combo book and any other approved G.A. literature that would be cost effective. (Area 5 Quebec)
Motion that Quebec may print and distribute G.A. literature in French at the same mark up as I.S.O. Profit to be forwarded to I.S.O. quarterly.
Approved: 40 Against: 1 Passed
33. Request for Italy to translate approved G.A. literature into Italian and recognize the translator by placing his or her name on the literature. (Italy)
Motion to allow Italian literature to acknowledge the translator.
Amendment "or any other foreign language".
Approved: 30 Against: 5 Passed
On the motion.
Approved: 0 Against: 42 Failed
34. Discuss whether it be permissible for New York G.A. Intergroup to combine G.A. phone service with Gam-Anon. (Area 15 New York)
Motion that Gamblers Anonymous not allow G.A. and Gam-Anon to jointly run a Telephone Answering Service.
Motion to table.
Approved: 6 Against: 39 Failed
On the motion.
Approved: 17 Against: 28 Failed

I) Good and Welfare

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at approximately 4:30 P.M.
The collection for the four (4) sessions was \$816.00.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held May 13, 1999 in Northern Kentucky.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen H., International
Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

AREAS	SESSIONS	AREAS	SESSIONS
Chairman, Board of Trustees Tom M.	4	Chairman, Board of Regents Bill B.	4
1st Co-Chairman, Board of Trustees Danay M.	4	International Executive Secy Karen H.	4
2nd Co-Chairman, Board of Trustees Jim C.	4		
1 (T) Sandy T.	4	8 (T) Frank K.	4
(T) Larry R.	4	(A) Joe M.	4
(T) Linda M.	4	(A) Trong T.	4
(A) Marvin F.	4	8A (T) Duane O.	4
(A) Al. N.	4	(A) Chaz R.	4
(A) Grant M.	2	8B (T) Charlie O.	Absent*
(T) Ed E.	4	(A) Patrick N.	Absent
(T) Pete V.	4	9 (T) Nick R.	4
(A) Dan B.	4	(A) Danny M.	4
(A) John A.	4	10 (T) Lou K.	4
(T) Henry I.	4	(A) Glenn F.	4
(A) Dennis C.	Absent	10A (T) Nerman B.	4
2B (T) Bob S.	Absent*	(A) Jim P.	4
(A) Bill G.	Absent	10B (T) Gary B.	4
2C (T) Gerry M.	Absent	(A) Fred O.	4
(A) Debbie W.	4	11 (T) Jim C.	4
2G (T) Terry H.	4	(A) Paul K.	4
(A) Sharon H.	4	12 (T) Carol L.	4
3 (T) Candance R.	Absent	(T) Denis M.	4
(T) Ron D.	4	(T) Marshall R.	4
(A) Liz N.	4	(A) Jack K.	4
(A) Rollo V.	Absent	(A) David L.	4
3A (T) Joel K.	4	(A) Ted K.	Absent
(A) Larry D.	4	13 (T) Eileen B.	4
3B (T) Brooks H.	2	(T) James D.	4
(A) Jim B.	Absent	(A) Marie G.	4
3C (T) Robert K.	4	(A) Freddy S.	4
(A) Marcene W.	Absent	13A (T) Ralph D.	Absent*
3D (T) Marilyn L.	4	(A) Kevin O.	Absent
(A) Richie G.	4	(T) Joe B.	4
4 (T) Terry H.	Absent	(T) Dennis M.	4
(A) Jim C.	Absent	(A) Lloyd A.	4
5 (T) Mel D.	Absent	(A) David J.	4
(A) Johnny N.	4	15 (T) Jeff W.	4
5A (T) Mike M.	4	(T) Bill B.	4
6 (T) Sandy L.	4	(T) Chuck R.	4
(A) Richard M.	4	(T) Marty D.	4
6A (T) Larry E.	4	(T) Tommy J.	3
(A) Jack Y.	4	(A) George G.	4
6B (T) Lenny L.	4	(A) Susan S.	Absent
(A) Rick B.	4	(A) Bernard G.	4
6C (T) Thom M.	4	(A) George A.	4
(T) Vicki L.	4	(A) Ray H.	Absent
(A) Irwin B.	Absent	16 (T) John N.	4
(A) Richard P.	Absent	(A) Sal S.	4
7 (T) Sandy L.	4	(T) Tom C.	4
(A) Chateau S.	4	(A) Walt H.	4
7A (T) Tony W.	4	(T) Shirley T.	4
(A) Alex B.	4	(A) Graeme V.	4
7B (T) Rocky M.	Absent	18A (T) Denis K.	Absent
8 (T) Allan S.	4		

*Proxy Received