

Website Revision Committee Louisville, Kentucky Spring 2010

Committee members:

David M. – Chair, Area 12

Ian S. – Area 6D

Sammy S. – Area 10A

Kevin O. – Area 13A

Paula C. – Area 3C

Since Montreal, little has changed for the purpose of this committee's report. We have replaced to 2 members with 2 new committee members due to other time constraints. The committee members have yet to be activated, but will tackle the most difficult issues with the site, which will incorporate design and functionality issues. The actual mechanics of how the site works are of little consequence to the committee members. Some of the committee members are admittedly not Internet savvy, but their contribution to the committee and to the Fellowship will be to deal with the content, appearance and flow of the site.

Functionality issues will be handled directly with the people at ISO. Important to the transition to the new site, when it is ready, will be a complete integration of features designed to help reduce the workload and time dedication required to maintain and operate the site. The staff at ISO is keenly aware of what improvements they would like to see and have been open about what processes they would like to worked in the new site. Although ease of use by a viewer in what is commonly referred to as the Front End , is important, the Back End that will be utilized by ISO, is equally critical.

Once the site is constructed and approved by the committee, it will be rolled out in what is called a Beta Test Model. The Board of Trustees, in addition to the ISO will be advised of this event when it happens. The site will be available for use with all users having the ability to send in feedback for errors or problems that they find. The developers will fix any errors and only when ISO is 100% comfortable that the new site is stable and functional will the new site be officially turned into a live site using the current web addresses found for the ISO site that is now in effect.

The initial payment of \$2,250 was paid last year. The 2nd of 3 payments has also been paid. The website development company is continuing to build the site and is currently unable to show any visual versions other than the initial design. The committee stands ready to review all proposed components of the site and will spend whatever time is required to bring this site into a usable and vibrant tool to enhance the user's experience when visiting the Gamblers Anonymous ISO website.

Here are some points that were highlighted in the Montreal meeting regarding the new ISO website. They are still very much in place.

The rollout of the new site will come in stages:

- 1) - Beta testing as a separate stand-alone site to check for errors including:
 - Content
 - Links within the site
 - Meeting information
 - Meeting information addition and modification protocols
 - Telephone hotline linkage
 - Online credit card transactions
 - Reporting procedures for online transactions to ISO
 - Shopping cart pictures and editing capabilities
- 2) - Linked access to the new site from the existing ISO website
- 3) - Replacement of the existing Gamblers Anonymous website to the new one

During the various rollout stages of the Beta site, the Board of Trustees will have the opportunity to view and use the new site and view its features, as mentioned previously. The Beta site will not be visible through the use of any Internet search engines and will therefore not be confused or interfere with the existing ISO website, until the switchover is officially approved by ISO.

The site will be deployed with the same service provider that ISO currently uses. The company clearly has the capability to host the site and more important is the relationship the ISO has developed with the service provider that will be maintained.

David M.