

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS TRUSTEES MEETING
OCTOBER 17 - 18, 2019
HOLIDAY INN & SUITES POINTE CLAIRE, MONTREAL, QUEBEC**

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

Andy R. called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M on Thursday, October 17, 2019. He thanked the hosts of Montreal Conference. The members at the head table were introduced. New Trustees were asked to stand and go to the microphones to introduce themselves. A loose version of Roberts Rules of Order, Rules and Procedures and the Guidance Code were given. Points of information and points of order were explained as well as the Motion Sheets.

Thirty-six absentee ballots were received as follows:

Area 1B	Laura M.	Area 13B	Craig F.	Area 19	Ana B.
Area 3A	Bob C.	Area 14	Maury C.	Area 19	Dario B.
Area 3A	Butch G.	Area 14	Tom K.	Area 19	Elena D.
Area 3C	Terry D.	Area 15	James G.	Area 19	Silvia G.
Area 3F	Julian F.	Area 16A	Dan L.	Area 20	Jose C.
Area 6A	Mike R.	Area 17	Ronny W.	Area 21	Angel B.
Area 8	Allen H.	Area 18	Alison M.	Area 21	Juan B.
Area 8	Pam E.	Area 18	Daphne C.	Area 22	Dudley B.
Area 8B	Brian J.	Area 18	Jeremy M.	Area 28	Martha G.
Area 9A	Pat D.	Area 18	Russell K.	Area 28	Sandra G.
Area 12	Ted S.	Area 18A	Yvonne R.	Area 29	Konstantin U.
Area 13	Scott S.	Area 18B	Brian F.	Area 33	Moises A.

B) Remembrance of our departed members- Marc L.

In Marc L.'s absence, Andre G., from Area 5B (French Quebec) read a list of members who have passed away since the last Board of Trustees meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky:

Joe B., Area 2E	Justin C., Area 13	Terry B., Area 3D
Lynne H., Area 1 & 1A	Joe S., Area 13	Jack L., Area 2G
Lanny R., Area 1B	Jerry S., Area 16A	Martin K., Area 4
Russ T., Area 14	Jerry H., Area 2	Bobbi C., Area 13A
Ricky E., Area 14	Mike R., Area 3	Herb K., Area 13A
Fernand L., Area 5B	Audrey C., Area 9	Dorathay M., Area 13A
John C., Area 6B	Michelle P., Area 2A	Chris E., Area 13A
Barry B., Area 13	Joy M., with 21 Yrs.	Judy M., Area 13A

A moment of silence was observed in all of their memories.

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

Jo K., Trustee from Area 8D read the Reflection for the Day for October 17th to begin the first session of the day.

Andy G., Trustee from Area 13B read the Reflection for the Day on October 18th to begin the first session of the day.

D) Reading of the "12 Steps of Unity"

Nan V., Trustee from Area 13A read the 12 Steps of Unity on October 17th to start the first session of the day.

Lyla A., Trustee from Area 2H read the 12 Steps of Unity on October 18th to start the first session of the day.

E) Roll Call-Karen H. International Executive Secretary

Karen H. took roll and there are presently 100 votes to begin the first session; 64 physically present and 36 who submitted absentee ballots. 18 of the absentee ballots are from outside the U.S. and Canada.

F) Approval of Minutes from Louisville

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

G) ISO / Lifeliner - Karen H.

Karen H. gave the report on Lifeliners handing out a chart showing 35 states and 2 countries along with the number of members (329) who contributed over the past year. The total for this year is \$80,816.18 which is over a \$2,000.00 decrease from last year's total of \$83,169.02. Members from the floor were called upon to explain what a Lifeliner is, how it works and how easy it is to give either through the mail or by a members bank online "Bill Pay" system, and how important it is to have all of the current Trustees support. Questions were answered and everyone was thanked for their continued support.

H) Report from the Board of Regents – Bob W., BOR Chair

Bob W. gave a report regarding the financial status of the International Service Office.

I) Conference Reports – Conference Assistance Committee

1) Louisville – Spring '19

Andre G. stated that the committee is waiting for the final Bank Statement from the above Conference. Gary B. went over some highlights from the Conference including there was a profit of \$1,733.22.

The financial report received through an email from the above Conference Committee follows:

FINANCIAL REPORT – 2019 INTERNATIONAL SPRING CONFERENCE

TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 43,978.88	
TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	\$ 42,245.66	
PROFIT	\$ 1733.22	
DEPOSITS	308.00	MEETING COLLECTIONS
	850.00	GROUP DONATIONS
	1640.00	TEE SHIRT SALES
	415.12	REFUNDS COMMITTEE BUDGETS
	40765.00	REGISTRATION FEES

EXPENSES	28369.00	HOTEL
	1290.00	REGISTRATION COMMITTEE
	215.12	TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
	5790.76	HOSPITALITY/DECORATIONS COMM.
	874.50	PRINTING
	1145.00	TEE SHIRTS
	882.60	BOAT CRUISE
	1505.00	REGISTRATION REFUNDS
	47.50	BANK FEES
	255.00	RETURNED CHECKS
	86.00	MISCELLANEOUS FEES
	1300.00	ENTERTAINMENT
	485.00	SCHOLARSHIPS

The profit of \$1733.22 was divided as follows:

GA ISO (50%)	\$866.85
GamAnon ISO (30%)	\$519.90
Greater Louisville Intergroup (20%)	\$346.47

2) Montreal – Fall '19

Andre G. gave a report on the Montreal conference stating all needed documents have been received. Herb B. spoke welcoming everyone and thanking all for coming. They are expecting close to 300 people.

3) Seattle – Spring '20

Andre G. reported that they have received documentation “beyond all expectations” from the Seattle Conference committee for the above Conference to be held April 24 - 26, 2020 at The Double Tree by Hilton Seattle Airport in Seattle, Washington. The Area Trustees, Lyla A. and Lori C. spoke along with Pete K., who asked everyone to register as soon as possible. Gary G. passed on pertinent information.

4) San Diego – Fall '20

Andre G. stated that all needed information, including the Hotel Contract has been received for the above Conference which will be held October 15 – 17, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego, California. They are still waiting to open the checking account. Hugo V., Trustee from the Area also spoke.

J) Committee Reports

Committees with Steve F. as Co-Chair Liaison

Abuse and Harassment Committee:

Committee Chair - Gagik G. - Area 1

Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F.

Mission Statement: To look at the feasibility of re-writing the Abuse and Harassment Pamphlet.

Abuse and Harassment Booklet Trustee Meeting Committee Report Purpose:

To reintroduce the Abuse and Harassment booklet that was removed as GA approved literature, with changes that are necessary for approval. Board of Trustees Chair Liaison: Steve F. Chair of the Committee: Gagik G. – Area 1 Use this email address to contact the Chair of this committee committee.abuse@trusteewebsite.com The committee is NOT open to additional members. Committee members are listed below, as of 10/2/19 Beth Z – 2 Dom S. – 13B Guy H. - 1 Kathy S. – 10B 1 Mary H. – 2H Nan V. – 13A Norm B. – 10A During the Spring 2019 Trustee Meeting our committee asked and received a vote of confidence from the Board of Trustees. The Board of Regents was asked to reexamine the revised Abuse and Harassment Pamphlet and come to the BOT with their recommendations. We submitted an agenda item to have the new pamphlet recognized as GA approved literature. After submitting the item our committee learned that the BOR recommends the literature be approved as GA appropriate literature instead.

Gagik G. gave the report which was submitted online.

Defining our Relationship with Gam-Anon

Committee Chair – Jo K. – Area 8D

Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F.

Mission Statement: To Define the relationship Gamblers Anonymous has with Gam-Anon. Defining Gamblers Anonymous Relationship with Gam-Anon Committee Report Fall 2019 BOT Meeting This committee by majority, have concluded that Gamblers Anonymous is Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon is Gam-Anon and we are two separate enterprises with different purposes. We would like to continue to looking at this relationship by reviewing all pieces of Gamblers Anonymous literature that mentions Gam-Anon. Currently there are 14 areas containing Gam-Anon. Committee Members Allan G. Area 2K Barry H. Area 12 Gagik G. Area 1 Hugo V. Area 3A Jim G. Area 7C Jo K. (chair) Area 8D John C. Area 1A Walter G Area 12 Wendy B Area 1B

Jo K. gave the report which was submitted online.

A Trustee stated the work of the committee was finished. The Chair Liaison stated that the committee would continue and was then challenged because he would not let the body decide. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the above committee will continue. Alan J. from Area 15 volunteered to be on the above committee.

International Relations Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Ara H. – Area 1

Co-Chair – Frank L. – Area 12

Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F.

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

The IRC was busy during the past few months helping our brothers and sisters around the world who are struggling with this disease. We have been helping in a few different ways. One way is by helping people who have no GA meetings in their country stop gambling by starting their own meeting. This is usually not an easy task, they have to be willing and familiar somehow in 12 step programs. We have tried to help those in Cayman Islands, Guatemala, Zimbabwe, Iran among others. We have sent them new group forms and waiting for response and hoping to list their countries on our website. Another way we have helped is by assisting in working the program. We have assisted in working the steps, sponsorship, meeting format and answered many questions about the Pressure relief group meeting. We were also found out of a meeting that had opened in Armenia and had them fill the proper forms to be recognized and have been listed on our website. Finally, we have been busy updating our website with the group information in different countries. Of course it is difficult to follow up on every country and find out if each group is still active and locations, times have not changed. We have been grateful for the trusted servants from the following

countries who have kept us updated with their country meeting lists... They are, Latvia, Hungary, Argentina, Czechia, St. Petersburg Russia, The Phillipines and The Netherlands. I have been in constant contact with a brother in Kenya who started two groups who has had many questions about GA, Gamonon, formats, etc and I feel we have made great strides. One final point I would like to make was a couple of months ago I was asked to reach out to Scotland who is not using our GA approved literature if we could come to some agreement and have them join the ISO "Umbrella", I had a very pleasant exchange with the secretary there but no progress was made at this time. Let's see what the next few months have in store for us. Ara H Irc Chair

Ara H. gave the report which was submitted online.

Committee is open to new members. Contact Ara H. if interested.

Meeting Removal Merit Panel Exploration Committee

Committee Chair – Cheryl R. – Area 2E

Committee Chair Liaison – Steve F.

Mission Statement: To guide groups and Intergroups on how to address the issue of non-adherence to the Guidance Code and/or other Trustee decisions per Article VII, Section 1 and Article VIII, Section 1A of the Guidance Code.

Meeting Removal Merit Panel Exploration Committee Montreal October 2019 Trustee Meeting Committee Report Committee Liaison: Steve F. 1st Co-chair Members: Cheryl R. (2E)(Chair) Stuart B. (14) Steve C. (6) Lori C. (2H) Andy G. (13B) Herb B. (BOR) Jo Anne B. (6) Walter G. (12) Frank M. (12) Pat D. (9A) Mark S. (3) Purpose: To guide groups and Intergroups on how to address the issue of nonadherence to the Guidance Code and/or other Trustee decisions per Article VII, Section 1 and Article VIII, Section 1A of the Guidance Code. The committee met in September and discussed writing a fair, detailed procedure to be followed in the event that there is reported non-adherence to the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code by a group or Intergroup. The role of the local trustee in the process was discussed. It was suggested that there be communication with the local trustee to determine: • Whether there should be further effort to encourage the group / intergroup to take the appropriate steps to adhere to the Guidance Code, or • whether the group / Intergroup will remove itself from the official listing of Gamblers Anonymous meetings. Next meeting: Oct. 9, 2019 @ 8 PM CENTRAL

Stuart B., Area 14, gave the report which was submitted online.

Committee is open to new members. Dave T., Area 6A volunteered for the committee.

Pressure Relief Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – John R. - Area 17

Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F.

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.

No report was submitted.

Spanish Literature Committee

Committee Chair - Julian F. - Area 3F

Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F.

Mission Statement: 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.

No report was submitted.

Telephone Conference Call Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Jeanne B. – Area 8A

Co-Chair – David M. - Area 12

Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F.

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.

Telephone Conference Call Committee Report Fall 2019 BOT Meeting The Wednesday Night Telephone Conference Call Meeting continues to convene on Wednesday evenings from 9:00-10:30 Eastern Time. The call is facilitated by members of the Committee. The phone number for the call is 712.770.4160. The access code for participants is 611704. The Wednesday night call usually sees about 40-70 unique callers per week. After general announcements and reading from GA literature, a topic is introduced by the moderator. Meeting participants can share about the topic, the reading from “A Day at a Time” or anything that is concerning them, as long as it is related to gambling. All callers who call from an identifiable phone number are encouraged to share. The meeting is a comment meeting; those who give comments must have 90 days or more of clean time. Up to 3 people may comment per person sharing. There are usually about 15 attendees who share per meeting and typically 5 to 10 attendees offer comments. Those who have never attended any GA meeting are asked the 20 Questions and encouraged to share with the group. A newcomer is allowed 5 comments. This happens about midway through the meeting, in order for the newcomer to listen to members and to get a feel for the meeting and the GA program. If there are more than 3 newcomers, a second room is opened to ask the newcomers the 20 Questions and to give them the time and attention that is essential to anyone entering the program. The second room is opened after a few members have given therapy in order for the newcomers to hear what happens at the meeting and what the program is about. Members with clean time are encouraged to move to this second room to share their own experience, strength and hope with the newcomers. Attendees are strongly encouraged to attend physical GA meetings. It is stated that the Telephone Conference Call meeting is not intended to be a substitute for physical meetings. Of the callers, about 50% of those attending are women. The locations of most callers cover the US and Canada, with occasional calls from other countries. More than half of the callers are considered “regular” attendees, many of whom have been attending the meeting for 4 years or more. Those who call from an unidentified or “anonymous” phone number are not permitted to share nor to offer comments. They are encouraged to call from an unblocked number if they wish to participate. There are currently 6 trained moderators who take turns chairing the meeting and running the webbased platform. The Conference Call Committee is happy to announce that the Canada Wide meeting is up and running. The Canada Wide Tuesday night Phone Meeting has been working very successfully since July 30 of this year. The meeting has been getting 13-14 calls a night on the average and growing. Calls have come from Montreal, Toronto, Edmonton, New York, Fort St. John, Williams Lake, High Prairie Alberta and Thailand as well as the Vancouver area. Several callers are not able to attend physical meetings. The Canada Wide meeting sends GA-approved literature to those in need. The call begins at 6:45 pm Pacific Time. Any questions can be sent to friend@gabc.ca. This meeting

is not a comment meeting; newcomers are read the 20 Questions. Readings from GA literature are read at the beginning of the meeting.

The Telephone Conference Call Committee would greatly benefit from Trustees spreading the word about the conference call meetings. We request that the BOT members share information about the meetings with their fellowships. Additionally, if BOT members would like to refer GA members to serve as moderators, we would be happy to train them and welcome them to the committee. The Telephone Conference Call Committee is willing and eager to assist GA members who are interested in starting and maintaining additional Conference Call Meetings. Many of those who call have asked about additional meetings; the need for more meetings on other mornings, afternoons or evenings is great. The nature of the online platform and the demands of running a meeting require that 5 GA members commit to running a meeting. More Telephone Conference Call meetings would certainly serve many current and potential GA members who, for whatever reason, have difficulty in attending regular physical meetings or who could benefit from additional meetings to strengthen their recovery. Submitted by the Telephone Conference Call Committee
Pete K. gave the report which was submitted online.

Committees with Pete K. as Co-Chair Liaison

Blue Book Committee:

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

Committee Liaison Chair – 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 Fall 2019 BOT Meeting

The Committee met following the Spring BOT meeting in Louisville and decided to seek input from the Trustees. A blast email was sent soliciting specific input from the Fellowship. The Committee met in September to sift through the offered suggestions for improvement and is currently working to implement some of the recommended changes. These include rewriting the foreword (eliminating the quotation from Dr. Custer), adding clarifying information, fine-tuning some of the language and adding some material that is currently in the Red Book. The Committee will continue to meet and is confident that the final revision will be submitted for approval at the Spring 2020 BOT meeting. Thanks to everyone who gave feedback. We look forward to the completion of our mission and to submission of the revised Blue Book.

Respectfully, The Blue Book Revision Committee

Pete K. gave the report which was submitted online.

Electronic Voting Committee

Committee Chair - Harold A. - Area 2

Committee Liaison Chair - Pete K.

Mission Statement: To explore various electronic/digital platforms allowing voting by use of a device. The system would encompass all forms of voting including attendance, roll calls, and amendment issues. Any system considered for presentation should provide benefits such as increasing accuracy and accountability while also being affordable.

Electronic/Digital Voting Committee Report – September/PreMontreal BOT Meeting – 2019 Committee Members: Harold A – Chair – Area 2, Hamid K – Area 1A, Beth Z – Area 2, Ian S – Area 6D, Roger L – Area 2, Gagik G – Area 1

Work completed at this time, potential next meeting and moving forward: There is nothing new to report and whether or not we want to take the time and effort and consider an expenditure for this technology from the Current Selected Vendor or any other potential vendor needs to be revisited at the Montreal BOT Meeting Current Selected Vendor: <http://www.live-tally.com/> Thank you for allowing me to be of service. ODAAT.

Respectfully submitted, Harold A. Area 2 Trustee Chair: Electronic/Digital Voting Committee

Harold A. gave the report which was submitted online.

The Chair has disbanded the committee.

Fourth Step Inventory Review

Committee Chair – Jeanne B. – Area 8A

Committee Chair Liaison – Pete K.

Mission Statement: Review, revise, and rewrite the Gamblers Anonymous publication “A Guide to Fourth Step Inventory” to create a more robust and effective tool of recovery for the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous that addresses both moral and financial inventories.

Fourth Step Inventory Revision Committee Report Fall 2019

The mission of the Fourth Step Inventory Revision Committee is to review, revise, and rewrite the Gamblers Anonymous publication “A Guide to Fourth Step Inventory” to create a more robust and effective tool of recovery for the fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous that addresses both moral and financial inventories. All members of the Committee have been contacted concerning platforms for working on a “live” editable document and to establish monthly meeting times. Work on the revision will begin in earnest in October. It is expected that this process will likely last between 2-4 years in order to produce a workable publication for use by the GA Fellowship. Submitted by the Fourth Step Inventory Revision Committee
Pete K. gave the report which was submitted online.

Literature Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Chuck R. - Area 15

Co-Chair - Nan V. - Area 13A

Committee Liaison Chair – Pete K.

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

The Literature Committee coordinated with the ISO on the final version of the "Pressure Relief Group Meeting Workbook" regarding formatting and printing. As there was no other literature approved in Louisville, the Literature committee had no other work to perform. All changes made to literature at prior conferences have been incorporated into the most recent printings of current items available for sale through the ISO.

Respectfully submitted, Chuck R. (Literature Committee Chair)

Pete K. gave the report which was submitted online.

Prison Committee – Canada – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Jean-Marc L. – Area 5B

Co-Chair - Adrien R. - Area 5B

Committee Liaison Chair – 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.

Monthly Committee Report - September 2019 BOT meeting - 2019 Fall Conference -Montreal Prison Committee - Canada Purpose To provide, in Canada, 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 when an intergroup and its committee are outreaching to prisons, jails, etc. Also, to compile in the I.S.O. office an unpublished JIP meeting directory as a much needed resource for federal, state, and local judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors, probation officers and clinicians. Board of Trustees Chair Liaison: Pete K. Chair of the Prison Committee - Canada : Jean-Marc L. - Area 5B Use this email address to contact the Chair of this committee committee.prison.canada@trusteewebsite.com The committee is open to additional members who would like to be involved with this process. Committee members are listed below, as of 08/31/19 : Debra B. 2E Jean-Marc L. 5B Richard F. 4 Adrien R. 5B Attached is the updated list of J.I.P. meetings in Canada. Since our last report of the May 2019 for Louisville KY, during our committee follow-up on existing prison and institutions meetings, we were not aware of a new changes. ISO did not transfer to us any request for starting kits or for information. We need every trustee in Canada to contact the Committee and let us know of any G.A. activities in local prisons and institutions. Any Canadian member or trustee who wants to be of service on our committee is welcome.

Jean-Marc L. Committee Chair Area 5B

Adrien R. gave the report which was submitted online.

Committee is open to new members.

Prison Committee, US – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Beth Z. - Area 12

Committee Liaison Chair – Pete K.

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.

Prison Committee US – September Report I have received several old letters addressed to ISO from inmates requesting help. This happened during the transition from the previous Chair. I did reach out to the trustees in the prisoner's areas to give them the information they needed to reach out to them. This past month I received two new letters and will continue to be a conduit to the trustees. ISO has already sent the literature requested. I did have one trustee from Area 15, Alan J. contact me about starting a meeting in his area. After a conference call with Rick B. from Area 6B I informed Alan that the easiest way to do this was for an inmate to directly request a meeting. I wish to thank Israel from the ISO office for getting me up to speed on the duties of this position. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Beth Z. Area 2

Pete K. gave the report which was submitted online.

Public Relations Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Harold A. - Area 2

Committee Liaison Chair – 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 Report – September/Pre Montreal BOT Meeting – 2019 Current Committee Members: Harold A. – Chair, Pam B., Paul N., Steve W., Tom R., Beth Z. Paul G. from Area 3B Work completed, potential next meeting and moving forward: A joint email with the Prisons Committee is set to go to the Trustees as well as some members from various Areas that have been identified as the Public Relations and/or Prisons Committee Chair for that Area. What I have found in those individual members that have reached out to me for support and advice recently is that many PR Committee Chairs also work in Prisons and Institutions, and Beth Z , the Prisons Committee Chair has found the same scenario. The goal of the email is to find out what is and is not working in the areas of PR/Prisons and Institutions. Since the last BOT Meeting in Louisville I have received feedback from several Area PR Chairs, most recently Area 3A San Diego where I was given a very detailed description of what they are trying to do...Area 17 Connecticut has reached out as has Area 8. I've also had discussions with 1st Vice Chair Steve F about literature being used for PR in Area 1. Also, we already have a lot of responses from the last email blast but once we have responses from this current email we will need our Committee members to do the follow-up so we might have some concrete things for the following BOT meeting in the spring, including a newly designed Public Relations Flyer. A more comprehensive list of what works and doesn't work in the Area of PR will be made in my report in Montreal from the various responses. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. ODAAT.

Respectfully submitted, Harold A. Area 2 Trustee Chair: Public Relations Committee

Harold A. gave the report which was submitted online.

Committee is open to new members. Patrick G., Area 9 volunteered for the above committee.

Committees with Andy R. as Co-Chair Liaison

Conference Oversight and Assistance Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Andre G. - Area 5B

Co-Chair – Norm B. – Area 10A

Committee Liaison Chair – 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 & ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE 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. Board of Trustees Chair Liaison: Andy R. Chair of the

Committee: André G. Co-chair of the Committee: Norm B. – Area 10A Use this email address to contact the Chair of this committee committee.conference@trusteewebsite.com The committee is not open to additional members. Committee members are listed below, as of December 31, 2018 Name Area André G. 5B Bill A. 7A Herb B. 5 Kathy S. 7 Norm B. 10A Wendy B. 1B

COMMITTEE REPORT – MONTREAL, FALL 2019 Since our last Committee report for the Louisville trustee meeting last May, our committee has been active through exchange of emails, phone calls and/or meetings between members. We are following up with the organising committees of the International Conferences to be held in Montreal in the fall of 2019, in Seattle in the spring of 2020 and in San Diego in the fall of 2020. We are receiving documentation on a timely basis, thus respecting the procedures in place. Members of the Conference Oversight committee even attended meetings of the organizing committees in Seattle and Montreal. The Louisville conference committee has sent our committee a final financial report and some other documents. We are reviewing this documentation and we should soon be able to enter this information in our Past Conferences database on the Trustee Website for the benefit of future international conferences. We will also add the

information for the upcoming Seattle and San Diego international conferences. Our committee has placed an item on the agenda of the Montreal trustee meeting. If approved, our proposal will correct a loophole in the procedures concerning hotel contracts after an International Conference has been awarded to an Area. Two votes will be needed since this is a literature change. Please help us correct this situation by voting in favor of our item. Most Conference organizing committees have to deal with registrations often coming in the last few weeks before their conference starts. This causes worries and problems for them, not knowing if they will be able to meet their commitments with the hotel. Conference committee members are hard at work and certainly deserve to be in a better mind set, knowing that their numbers will be met. Many of this could be avoided if trustees and members would book registrations and hotel arrangements at least 2 or 3 months before the conference takes place. Many are already doing it but too many are still procrastinating with their registration. Please help the organizing committees by registering early, whenever possible. Finally, at least 4 or 5 members of our committee will be attending the Montreal trustee meeting and conference. If you want more information on what we do, do not hesitate to approach any one of these members and ask questions. We also welcome all suggestions on what the committee should work on in the future, besides the follow-up of current conferences. We are first and foremost a standing committee and we continue our basic work as described in our Purpose above.

André G. Committee chair, Area 5B Submitted Oct. 1st 2019

Andre G. gave the report which was submitted online.

Domestic Area Borders Committee

Committee Chair - David M. - Area 12

Committee Liaison Chair - Andy R.

Mission Statement: To define areas of the Fellowship by counties or provinces.

Domestic Borders Committee Report Board of Trustees October 17-18, 2019 The purpose of this committee is to define areas of the Fellowship by counties or provinces. In doing so, the committee hopes to ultimately have a clear definition of where every meeting belongs, relative to the framework of boundaries within each state in the US. The attempt to clarify these boundaries will enable the ISO and/or any new meeting find out whom they should be contacting to begin their meetings. It is the hope of the committee that concomitant with this will be a contact mechanism that will be consistent with anonymity standards for the Fellowship, while giving such new meetings the immediate guidance and assistance they need to not just be in compliance with the Fellowship, but to more immediately aid in any means to get the new member assistance that is currently lacking within Gamblers Anonymous. Of the 50 states, only 23 have multiple areas within them. The committee has had the difficult task of putting perspective on the problem of area coverage. What we found out, with few exceptions, was that many areas had no coverage for many of the counties within those states. In first getting such information, the next step was to negotiate expansions of areas to try and cover the unclaimed counties. This seemingly easy task has been difficult for some areas to maintain contact with the assigned members of the committee to those states. We only have partial answers, which means that the committee's work is far from completed. An approval process has to be undertaken by all areas to cover additional counties and follow the provisions of the Guidance Code to make that process official. One thing that should be clarified, is that the committee members are not acting in an official capacity to define the individual areas by counties in the US. We are acting as the source for suggestions for changes. The final decisions are to be made and verified by the individual areas. Additionally, individual meetings have the ultimate right to select which area they wish to belong to. Final results, when available, will include some form of color-keyed graphics for each affected state, as a guide. Samples of two such states are attached

to this report. Once again, nothing on that form constitutes a final result. There are states with counties that are still unclaimed. An item is on the Montreal agenda to obtain some direction on that specific matter from a discussion with the members of the Board of Trustees.

Respectfully submitted, David M. – Area 12, New Jersey

David M. gave the report which was submitted online.

Group Handbook Revision Committee:

Committee Chair – Jack R. - Area 1A

Committee Liaison Chair – Andy R.

Mission Statement: To undertake a comprehensive revision of the Group Handbook.

Group Handbook Committee Report for Montreal Conference The composition of the committee at the time of the Montreal Trustee Meeting is as follows: Name Area Betty S. 7 Bill B. 15 Cheryl R. 2E David M. 12 Jack R. 1A Jim G. 7C Mike M. 3D Since the Louisville Trustee Meeting in May, we have had telephone meetings each and every month on the second Monday of the month. With few exceptions, each member of the committee has been present for all meetings. The overarching philosophy of the committee has not changed since this committee was first convened in June, 2017; that is, that the new Group Handbook should become a combination of suggested rules and procedures that would serve as an exemplar of best practices and rules and procedures that we feel must be binding on all groups in the fellowship. The broad topics to be addressed in the new Group Handbook are as follows:

- Group Handbook Definition
- Group Definition/Establishment
- Group Organization
- Types of Meetings
- Trusted Servants/Responsibilities
- Meeting Procedures
- Room Finances
- Supplies
- New Member Support
- Room Actions
- Combined Meetings
- Group Problems
- Hosting and Open Meeting
- Ending/Relocating a Group
- Gam-Anon
- Trustees

At each monthly meeting since the Louisville Trustee meeting, the committee has continued to meticulously bullet out each item that will be discussed under each broad topic above.

This step was completed in September and an outline of our work product will be provided to each Trustee attending the Montreal meeting under separate cover (see handout).

Following the Montreal meeting, and after receiving anticipated feedback from the membership, we intend to immediately begin work on our first draft of the new Group Handbook which we hope to have available at the Spring Board of Trustees meeting in Seattle. Ultimately, once the new Group Handbook is approved and published, the next step will be find a way to optimally incorporate it into the governing structure of the fellowship.

Respectfully submitted, Jack R. Trustee Area 1A Orange County, California

Jack R. gave the report which was submitted online. He also handed out an 8 page Group Handbook Committee Preliminary Outline.

Guidance Code Audit Committee

Committee Chair – Anita R. – Area 1B

Committee Chair Liaison – Andy R.

Mission Statement: To audit the Guidance Code.

Montreal Conference Guidance Code Audit Committee Report

1. Our mission statement is: To Audit the Guidance Code.
2. Articles I and II stays the same.
3. Article III - we are still working on.
4. Article IV - change but “will win” to “will gain.”
5. Article V - take page numbers out.
6. Article VI - stays the same
7. Article VII - still working on

We are asking the Board of Trustees to please give us some feedback. Such as are we going in the right direction? Like changing the purpose of GA Article III, and the “will win” to “will gain”, even the mindset of the committee - taking teeth out of the guidance code making it just a guide. If we are not going in the right direction, we would like some input on our thought process.

Thank you, Anita R. Area 1B Chairman

Walter G., Area 12 gave the report which was submitted online.

Hotline Implementation Committee:

Committee Chair – Paul S. – Area 17

Co-Chair – Jo K. – Area 8D

Committee Liaison Chair – Andy R.

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

Hotline Committee Report (October 2019) **THREE IMPORTANT ITEMS: 1. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT MORE THAN ONE PERSON IN YOUR AREA HAS THE RING CENTRAL PASSWORD AND SECURITY QUESTION. 2. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR AREA MEETING LISTING ON THE ISO WEBSITE IS UP TO DATE 3. PLEASE REMIND YOUR VOLUNTEERS TO NOT SPEND TOO LONG ON THE RING CENTRAL SYSTEM. SOME CALLS ARE LASTING OVER AN HOUR.** Committee Members: Paul S. (Area 17), Jo K (Area 8D), Chuck R. (Area 6), Jim G. (Area 7C), Andy G (Area 13B), Anne D (Area 5B), Ron B (Area 6B), Gary M (Area 2H).
Current Areas on the Ring Central System: (currently 39)

• Area 1 – Los Angeles • Area 1A – Orange County, California • Area 1B –Inland Empire (split from Area 1) • Area 2 – Northern California • Area 2A – Vancouver, Alaska • Area 2B – Greater Sacramento • Area 2E – Manitoba • Area 2G – Oregon • Area 2H – Washington • Area 2K – Calgary • Area 3 – Southern Nevada • Area 3A – San Diego • Area 3B – Colorado • Area 4 – Ontario • Area 6 – South Florida • Area 6A – Central and Northern Florida • Area 6B – West Coast Florida • Area 6C – NC and SC • Area 7 – Mississippi, New Orleans, Baton Rouge • Area 7C – Oklahoma City, OK • Area 8 – Chicago, IL • Area 8A – Minnesota • Area 8B – Kansas, Missouri • Area 8C – Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota • Area 8D – Missouri, Illinois • Area 9 – Michigan, Northwest Ohio • Area 10 – Ohio • Area 10A – Western Pennsylvania • Area 10B – Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Lexington, Louisville • Area 11 – New England • Area 12 – New Jersey • Area 13 – Delaware Valley • Area 13A – Maryland, DC • Area 13B – South New Jersey • Area 14 – Long Island, NY • Area 15 – New York • Area 16 – Rochester & Syracuse, New York • Area 16A – New York • Area 17 – Connecticut and Western Massachusetts Page 2 of 3 Please Note: If your area is not on the national hotline and your current system sends all callers to a single number (volunteer or answering machine), the national system could forward calls from your area to your local number. Please contact the committee if you would like more information.

Status

- Working to compile an up to date list of Hotline Coordinators for all areas.
- The Hotline Committee work for 2019:
 - Initiated discussion for the development of a uniform guide for Hotline volunteers.
 - Committed to updating Trustee website committee pages.
 - Give technical support when needed for national hotline.
 - Rewrote the purpose of the committee (on Montreal BOT meeting agenda).
- Quebec is researching to possible setup for Ring Central in their area.

Reminder! The committee has been active during the past six months. Paul S Chairperson will be stepping down in 2019, but will stay on the committee to help with technical issues. Please ask your members if they are willing to help this vital committee. The committee needs one or two more technical minded committee members to provide backup to Paul S. Please inform the Hotline Committee via the Trustee website if you have any new area codes added in your region.

Message from outgoing committee chair

I have been involved with the Hotline Committee since 2010 and I have worked for and with some amazing members of Gamblers Anonymous. It was a great experience to be involved in the formation and implementation of the GA National Hotline, I thank you all for giving me this opportunity. The committee has worked hard to get to this stage of the Hotline development and there is still work left to do. As we gain experience, we may find ways to make the system more efficient and serve the callers better. There are still areas that are not on the system and calls from these area are going to voicemail instead of a live person. I hope we can fix this in the coming years. Although I am stepping down as the chairperson of this committee, I am committed to continuing my work on the committee. I hope you will all encourage your areas to support the committee as well. We have a strong committee and I know they will continue the great work that makes this hotline a success. Thank you for this opportunity of service and growth, I wish you all success in your recovery and your personal lives. In faith and service. Paul S. Outgoing Hotline Committee Chair

Report Respectfully Submitted, Paul S. Hotline Implementation Committee Chair Area 17
Past Trustee

Jim G., Area 7C gave the report which was submitted online.

Paul S. is stepping down as Chair but will remain on the committee. Chair appointed Jo K. as the new Chair of this committee.

International Area Borders Committee

Committee Chair - David M. - Area 12

Committee Liaison Chair - Andy R.

Mission Statement: To more clearly define all the areas of Gamblers Anonymous on a global level.

International Area Borders Committee Report Board of Trustees October 17-18, 2019 The purpose of this committee is to define the International areas of the Fellowship by counties or provinces. In doing so, the committee hopes to ultimately have a clear definition of where every meeting belongs, relative to the framework of boundaries within each country that is currently part of our Fellowship. The attempt to clarify these boundaries will enable the ISO/applicable RSO and/or any new meeting find out whom they should be contacting to begin their meetings. The original volunteers for this committee were 3 in number and 1 member was unable to maintain the commitment to stay on the committee. Since there is a minimum requirement of 3 members to remain a valid committee, no work was done. The

committee was reconstituted with some new members and will attend to the tasks outlined by the mission statement and to hopefully have completed its charge by the Seattle Board of Trustees meeting next Spring. It is the hope of the committee that concomitant with this will be a contact mechanism that will be consistent with anonymity standards for the Fellowship, while giving such new meetings the immediate guidance and assistance they need to not just be in compliance with the Fellowship, but to more immediately aid in any means to get the new member assistance that is currently lacking within Gamblers Anonymous. Special attention will be given to country specific native languages to make such aid more relative. Of the 19 countries that are part of Gamblers Anonymous, only 4 have either multiple areas within them or unclaimed areas comprising a total of 7 separate areas. One thing that should be clarified, is that the committee members are not acting in an official capacity to define the individual areas by counties in the US. We are acting as the source for suggestions for changes. The final decisions are to be made and verified by the individual areas. Additionally, individual meetings have the ultimate right to select which area they wish to belong to. Final results, when available, will include some form of color-keyed graphics for each affected state, as a guide.

Respectfully submitted, David M. – Area 12, New Jersey

David M. gave the report which was submitted online.

Trustee Removal Merit Panel – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Norm B. – Area 10A

Committee Liaison Chair – 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.

No report was submitted.

Trustee Website Committee – Standing Committee:

Committee Chair – Mike R. - Area 6A

Committee Liaison Chair – 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 This committee has been active in updating the Trustee Website on a regular basis. There has been a lot more use of the Trustee line in recent months. We are working to add a notification option that will be opt-out. What that means is that when a Trustee Line item is submitted, everyone will get a blast email about the item, including replies to an item. You will then be able to click a link or reply “unsubscribe” and be removed from all future trustee line items. We hope to have something in beta before Seattle.

SHORT TERM GOALS:

1) Implement a mailing list for various functions, such as automatic reminders of deadlines a week before, Trustee line entries, and agenda submission notifications.

LONG TERM GOALS:

1) Review the current local area website guidelines and propose possible amendments.

2) Once finalized, send the updated guidelines to all areas, especially those with websites, and perform a review of those sites to assist in compliance.

3) Discuss ways to incorporate a basic website layout for local areas to use, if they wish, that could become a “one-click” install setup after the area establishes web space. This committee is not looking for new members at this time.

Mike R. Trustee Website Chair

David M. gave the report which was submitted online.

Andy R. thanked Mike R. and the entire committee for all they have done for us. The committee is open to new members. Reba-Anna L, Area 8 volunteered for this committee.

The Committee Reports concluded at 12:39 P.M. on Thursday.

Rules and Procedures

1. **Rules and Procedures, Section 7, Committee Mission Statements, Add new item as follows:**

Newly formed committees shall submit an agenda item containing their mission statement, by the deadline for the next Board of Trustees Meeting for approval by the Board of Trustees.

Walter G. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Approved 59 Against 32

Passed

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

2. **Rules and Procedures, Section 7, Committee Mission Statements, Add new item as follows:**

Newly formed committees must have their mission statements approved by the Board of Trustees, prior to the close of any Trustee meeting at a time designated by the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Approved 49 Against 37

Passed

Item 2 was replaced by Item 1 after the vote was taken on Item 1 (Item 2 was voted on first).

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

3. **Rules and Procedures, Section 8, Conference (International), new item**

The Conference Oversight and Assistance Committee will be responsible for conference and Trustee only meeting reports at all Trustee meetings. The committee chair will have 5 minutes to present each event without interruption, other than points of order, followed by 5 minutes of discussion. The committee chair may yield to other responsible parties for each event. Discussion time can be extended by additional 5-minute segments.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Passed

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

**4. Rules and Procedures, Section 10, Discussion on an Item, Add new section:
Eligible Speakers on an Item**

Any current Trustee that is not a current Lifeliner will not be permitted to speak at a Trustee Meeting.

Richie S. - Area 6, Southern Florida

Motion to accept above.

Item was ruled out of order.

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

5. Rules and Procedures, Section 24, Motions, new item

Motions may be made on any item on the agenda, irrespective of how the item is listed, except when specifically outlined otherwise in the Rules and Procedures. The motion must be relevant to the item under consideration.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Passed

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

6. Rules & Procedures, Section 37, Voting, Roll Call Votes, add new item

A Roll Call can only be called when there is less than a 5% difference between an Agenda Item

Ronny W. - Area 17, Connecticut m passing or failing.

No discussion.

Chair was challenged because he took this item after it was already finished. Chair changed his decision and the item is finished.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

7. Rules & Procedures

Should a Guidance Code audit committee communicate directly to the Board of Trustees and not have a chair oversight?

Walter G. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to table.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

8. Rules & Procedures, Is the role of the chair liaison a position of authority to command, direct, influence a committee or is the role of the chair liaison limited to oversee a committee as outlined in the rules and procedures manual?

Walter G. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion that the Liaison serves as a resource to enable the Committee to fulfill its charge and accomplish its goals. They are to communicate with the committee Chair on its progress.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

Tabled From Louisville

9. Tabled From Louisville – Item# 82

Responsibilities for International Trustees of Gamblers Anonymous. Change item #9, Add the words “Trustee Must”.

Current: Be a Lifeliner and encourage group and membership to support the

International Service Office through Lifelines and Group Contributions.

Proposed: Trustee must be a Lifeliner and encourage group and membership to support the International Service Office through Lifelines and Group Contributions.

Alan J. - Area 15, New York, for Marshall R. - Area 12, New Jersey

Item was ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

10. Tabled From Louisville - Item #105

Should Gamblers Anonymous be active in sharing the message to other compulsive gamblers through social media, examples: pop ups, paid ads, Google search etc.

Walter G. - Area 12, New Jersey, for Joel N.

Motion made that Gamblers Anonymous should be active in sharing the message with others through social media such as pop ups, paid ads, Google, etc.

Motion to commit.

Passed

This item is now in the hands of the Public Relations Committee.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

11. Tabled From Louisville – Item# 108

How do you feel about tough love in the G.A. Fellowship?

Alan J. - Area 15, New York, for Marshall R. - Area 12, New Jersey

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

12. Tabled From Louisville – Item# 110

Rotation of meeting chairperson. There are meetings that have the same person chairing the meeting every week. How do you feel about this and does it go against Group Handbook which states Secretary is there to facilitate the meeting?

Alan J. - Area 15, New York, for Marshall R. - Area 12, New Jersey

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

13. Tabled From Louisville – Item# 115

Should there be a minimal attendance requirement for a member to celebrate 90 days of abstinence in G.A.? What is done in your area?

Alan J. - Area 15, New York, for Marshall R. - Area 12, New Jersey

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

14. Tabled From Louisville – Item# 118

Which of these comes first in your life;

1) Love of Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship

2) Love of God of your own understanding

3) Love of family

4) Love of your work, career.

Alan J. - Area 15, New York, for Marshall R. - Area 12, New Jersey

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

15. Tabled From Louisville – Item# 119

Does your Area use sit downs as a tool to help members with pressing issues?

Alan J. - Area 15, New York, for Marshall R. - Area 12, New Jersey

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

Items Up For A Second Vote

Group Handbook

16. 2nd Vote – Louisville Item #4

Group Handbook – Page 11, Add Gamblers Anonymous – Gam-Anon Combined Meeting and its description (description below in the proposed version is copied from the “A New Beginning” ISO book 5th Edition, March 2007)

Current: Page 11 under heading Open Meetings, Closed Meetings and Modified Closed Meetings Proposed Version: Change heading to read, “Open Meetings, Closed Meetings, Modified Closed Meetings and Combined Meetings”

Current: No description exists for combined meetings.

Proposed: Add the following to the end of the first paragraph. A Gamblers Anonymous, Gam-Anon combined meeting, unlike an open meeting but similar, where the Gamblers Anonymous group and the Gam-Anon group join for the purpose of increased understanding between Fellowships. There are two chairpersons, one from Gamblers Anonymous, one from Gam-Anon. Excerpts from Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon literature are read; first one, then the other. The meeting itself is held under the exact conditions as if they were being held separately. There are many variables as far as speakers are concerned. The presiding chairperson can alternate speakers, one for Gamblers Anonymous, one for Gam-Anon or two Gamblers Anonymous speakers in a row, and then two Gam-Anon speakers in a row, or if agreed upon in advance, one-half of the meeting for Gamblers Anonymous and the other half of the meeting for Gam-Anon. The main purpose of the meeting is the same as any other Gamblers Anonymous or Gam-Anon meeting, but by holding them together, the individual Gamblers Anonymous or Gam-Anon members have the opportunity to learn and understand more about the respective programs.

Lenny S. - Area 3D - Arizona & New Mexico

Chair was challenged that the above item is out of order. Chair ruled the item in order since it is already in the Red Book, A New Beginning. Vote on the challenge fails, therefore the Chair is in order and so is the item.

Passed

2nd Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

Guidance Code

17. 2nd Vote – Louisville Item #26

Amend Guidance Code as follows: Article VII, Section 1, Add “Failure to comply with Guidance Code will result in the meeting no longer being recognized as part of Gamblers Anonymous and such meeting will be removed from the International Service Office directory of meetings.”

Current: Whenever two or more persons with a desire to stop gambling meet together on a regular, weekly scheduled basis to discuss their gambling problems, 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 problems, 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. Failure to comply with Guidance Code will result in the meeting no longer being recognized as part of Gamblers Anonymous and such meeting will be removed from the International Service Office directory of meetings.

Passed 1st vote in Louisville – 78 to 9, 89.7% margin

Jack R. - Area 1A, Orange County, California, for Jimmy D.

Approved 75 Against 11

Passed

2nd Vote

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

18. 2nd Vote – Louisville Item #31

Guidance Code: Article VIII section 18, Paragraph 1, Page 7, Sentence 3. Remove the words ‘and Canada’ from that sentence.

Current: Any Trustee that misses two (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 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.

Proposed: Any Trustee that misses two (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., will count as physical presence at the Board of Trustees physical meetings.

Passed 1st vote in Louisville – 74 to 19, 79.6% margin

Patricia D. - Area 2J, Northern Alberta, Canada

Approved 63 Against 25

Passed

2nd Vote

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

Combo Book

19. 2nd Vote – Louisville Item #65

Combo book, page 17, #7, remove “legal”.

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. The Pressure Relief Group Meeting may help alleviate legal, financial, employment and personal pressures. Adherence to it will aid in your recovery.

Proposed: 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. The Pressure Relief Group Meeting may help alleviate, financial, employment and personal pressures. Adherence to it may aid in your recovery.

Alan J. - Area 15, New York

Passed

2nd Vote

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

Literature Changes

20. 2nd Vote – Louisville Item #80

Red Book, page 39, 4th line, replace ‘acquire a senior partner much greater than oneself to’ with ‘let your sponsor’.

Current: Then acquire a senior partner much greater than oneself to guide and accompany you through the remaining steps.

Proposed: Then let your sponsor guide and accompany you through the work of the remaining steps.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey, for Marco Z. - Area 25, Italy

Passed

2nd Vote

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

21. 2nd Vote – Louisville Item #81

Add a 10th slogan to our approved Slogans of the Program cards that are posted in our meetings. The new Slogan would read as follows: “Here, compulsive gamblers are listening to you”

Current: One Day At A Time, Keep Coming Back, Let It Begin With Me, I Can Only Change Myself, It Works If You Work It, Help Is As Near As My Phone, Work The Steps, Get Involved and Be of Service, Be A Lifeliner

Proposed: One Day At A Time, Keep Coming Back, Let It Begin With Me, I Can Only Change Myself, It Works If You Work It, Help Is As Near As My Phone, Work The Steps, Get Involved and Be of Service, Be A Lifeliner, Here, compulsive gamblers are listening to you.

Adrien R. - Area 58, French Québec, for Richard D.

Passed

2nd Vote

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

22. 2nd Vote – Louisville Item #103

Discontinue producing and selling combo book on CD.

Wendy B. - Area 1B, Inland Empire, California

Passed

2nd Vote

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

Steps

23. Unity Step 6 – Add to beginning of #6: “With the sole exception of Gam-Anon.”

Current Version: Gamblers Anonymous ought never endorse, finance or lend the Gamblers Anonymous name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Proposed Version: With the sole exception of Gam-Anon, Gamblers Anonymous ought never endorse, finance or lend the Gamblers Anonymous name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

John B. - Area 13, Pennsylvania

Chair was challenged because a member was allowed to read an email that had not been viewed by the Chairs of the Board of Trustees prior to it being read during the discussion on the item. The vote on the challenge fails therefore the Chair is in order and the email can be read.

Motion to accept above.

Approved 34 Against 59

Failed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

24. Recovery Step 7, insert the words ‘help us’ between the words ‘to’ and ‘remove’.
Current version: Humbly asked God (of our understanding) to remove our shortcomings.
Proposed version: Humbly asked God (of our understanding) to help us remove our shortcomings.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Approved 41 Against 55

Failed

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

25. Unity Step #11 add “the” before Internet.

Current Version: 11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television and Internet.

Proposed Version: 11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television and the Internet.

Walter G. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Approved 15 Against 71

Failed

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

Guidance Code

26. Guidance Code, Article VII – Groups, Page 5, Section 1.

Add at the end of the last sentence:

International Service Office (ISO) contacts the trustee for the area they are part of.

Trustee assists the new meeting contact with filling out the Group Information Request Form and sends it to International Service Office (ISO) for approval.

Current version – They are also to notify the International Service Office (ISO) of their existence.

Proposed version – They are also to notify the International Service Office (ISO) of their existence. International Service Office (ISO) contacts the trustee for the area they are part of. Trustee assists the new meeting contact with filling out the Group Information Request Form and sends it to International Service Office (ISO) for approval.

Paul G. - Area 3B, Colorado

Motion to accept above.

Approved 20 Against 66

Failed

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

27. Guidance Code, Re-write Section 1 of Article VII-Groups.

Current Version: 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 version: 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 Version: 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. As such, they must adhere to the following:

- 1. They must commit themselves to follow Gamblers Anonymous' Guidance Code and limit their use, display and distribution to only approved and appropriate Gamblers Anonymous literature.**
- 2. They must notify the International Service Office (I.S.O.) of their existence.**
- 3. In his/her fiduciary responsibility, the treasurer must ensure that members' direct donations to the I.S.O. Can are forwarded to the Intergroup and earmarked for the I.S.O. on a regular and consistent basis — at least monthly, or at most, quarterly. For Areas that do not have an Intergroup, I.S.O. Can collections are to be sent directly to the I.S.O.**
 - 1. The treasurer must ensure that no other group donations are comingled with the funds in the I.S.O. Can.**
 - 2. The treasurer must maintain a handwritten log of donations received from members, and donations forwarded to the Intergroup and earmarked for the I.S.O. The log must also reflect the current balance.**
 - 3. Handwritten logs may be electronically tracked and supported, and they must be made available at the meeting site for review and inspection upon request by any Gamblers Anonymous member.**
 - 4. Handwritten logs are not to be destroyed and must be kept for at least two (2) years.**
- 5. Non-compliance of any of the paragraphs and sub-paragraphs in Section 1 forfeits the status of the group and being recognized as a Gamblers Anonymous group. Therefore the group may be subject to removal from the Meeting Directory in the Gamblers Anonymous website.**

Ed E. - Area 1B, Inland Empire, California

Motion to accept above.

Approved 11 Against 80

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

28. Guidance Code, Should a group have to cease gamblers anonymous meetings and close if it is not a new room and has only 1 member willing to accept the dual responsibility of Secretary-Treasurer, having no other members willing or able to accept either responsibility?

Reference: Article VII – Groups Section 3:

Each group is self-governing however, by tradition each group should elect a SECRETARY-TREASURER (can be the same person, only if a new room), PRESSURE RELIEF GROUP CHAIRMAN, GROUP REPRESENTATIVE, PUBLIC RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE, who will assume the workload necessary to keep the group together and in operation. A member can only be TREASURER for one (1) room at a time. It is suggested that group trusted servants be elected for a three (3), four (4) or six (6) month period, to be decided by each individual group. It is further suggested that no secretary, treasurer, group representative, pressure relief group chairman, or public relations representative be elected that has not abstained from gambling for at least six (6) months, unless it is a brand new group. All positions should be rotated at the end of each term. This suggestion is based upon experience.

Walter G. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above removing (can be the same person, only if a new room). Everything else remains the same.

Approved 7 Against 48

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

29. Guidance Code, Article VII, Section 4

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

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

Stuart B. - Area 14, Long Island, New York

Motion to accept above.

Approved 75 Against 13

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

30. Guidance Code, Article VII – Groups, New Section 9

Physical meetings cannot employ any electronic device or application to allow anyone not in physical attendance, to access any part of the meeting.

Stuart B. - Area 14, Long Island, New York

Motion to accept above.

Approved 68 Against 16

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

31. Guidance Code: Article VIII – Section 1, Add “(as of the date of nomination)” to the first sentence.

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

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

Anita R. - Area 1B, Inland Empire, California

Motion to accept above.

Approved 54 Against 28

Passed

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.

Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote
1	Ara H.	Yes	6	Jo Anne B.	Yes	13	Scott S.*	No
	Gagik G.	Yes		Steve C.	Yes	13A	Bob F.	No
	Guy H.	Yes	6A	Dave T.	Abst.		Nan V.	Yes
1A	Dean W.	Yes		Mike R.	No*	13B	Andy G.	Yes
	Jack R.	Yes	6B	Rick B.	No		Craig F.*	No
1B	Anita R.	Yes		Ron B.	No	14	Ira C.	Yes
	Laura M.*	Yes		Steve P.	No		Maury C.*	Yes
2	Harold A.	Yes	7	Iris D.	No		Stuart B.	Yes
	Mark S.	Abst.		Trisha M.	No		Tom K.*	Yes
	Roger L.	Yes	7C	Jim G.	Yes	15	Alan J.	Yes
2A	Glenn N.	Yes	8	Allen H.*	Yes		Bill B.	Yes
2B	Charlene L.	Yes		Bob C.	Yes		James G.*	Yes
	Clair W.	No		Pam E.*	Yes	16	Robin S.	Yes
2G	Connie M.	Yes		Reba-Anna L.	Yes	16A	Dan L.*	Yes
2H	Lori C.	Yes	8A	Ernie N.	No	17	Ron W.*	Yes
2H	Lyla A.	Yes	8B	Brian J.*	No	18	Alison M.*	No
2J	Pat D.	Yes	8D	Jo K.	Yes		Daphne C.*	No
2K	Allan G.	Yes	9	Janet S.	Abst.		Jeremy M.*	Yes
3	Mark S.	No		Patrick G.	No		Russell K.*	Yes
	Pilar L.	No	9A	Pat D.*	Yes	18A	Yvonne R.*	No
	Rob P.	Yes	10	Beth S.	No	18B	Brian F.*	No
3A	Butch G.*	No	10A	Norm B.	Yes	19	Ana B.*	Yes
	Hugo V.	No	10B	Gary B.	Yes		Dario B.*	Yes
	Bob C.*	No		Steve B.	Yes		Elena D.*	Yes
3B	Paul G.	Yes	11	Jeff H.	No		Silvia G.*	Abst.
3C	Terry D.*	Yes		John L.	Yes	20	Jose C.*	Yes
3D	Dave A.	No		Stacey A.	Yes	21	Angel B.*	Abst.
	Pat M.	No	12	David M.	Yes		Juan B.*	Abst.
3F	Julian F.*	No		Frank M.	Yes	22	Dudley B.*	No
4	Peter M.	Yes		Ted S.*	No	28	Martha G.*	Yes
5	Tom R.	Yes		Walter G.	Yes		Sandra G.*	Yes
5B	Adrien R.	Yes	13	John B.	Yes	29	Konstantin R.*	Yes
	Anne D.	Yes		Marla J.	Yes	33	Moises H.*	Yes

* Absentee Ballot

Approved 64 Against 29 Abstained 6
Passed

(1st Vote)

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

32. Guidance Code, Does the insertion of the phrase ‘with at least 27 of those meetings being at an Area (number omitted) designated meeting.’, make the below-cited local area Trustee requirements, more restrictive than that which is outlined in the Guidance Code?

“In order for a member to be nominated for an Area (number omitted) trustee position, they must be a regular attending member of Area (number omitted). Regular attending for Area (number omitted), is defined as, during the prior 12 months from date of nomination, the member went to at least 39 weekly meetings, with at least 27 of those meetings being at an Area (number omitted) designated meeting.”

References:

Guidance Code, Article VIII – Board of Trustees, Section 1:

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

Guidance Code, Article X – Intergroup Guidelines, Section 5, Item 15

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.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion made as follows:

Guidance Code, Does the insertion of the phrase ‘with at least 27 of those meetings being at an Area (number omitted) designated meeting’ make the below-cited local area Trustee requirements, more restrictive than that which is outlined in the Guidance Code?

“In order for a member to be nominated for an Area (number omitted) trustee position, they must be a regular attending member of Area (number omitted). Regular attending for Area (number omitted), is defined as, during the prior 12 months from date of nomination, the member went to at least 39 weekly meetings, with at least 27 of those meetings being at an Area (number omitted) designated meeting.”

The Board voted YES, that these local provisions are more restrictive, therefore this is found to be in violation of the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code.

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

33. Guidance Code, Does the insertion of the word ‘weekly’, make the below cited local area Trustee requirements, more restrictive than that which is outlined in the Guidance Code?

“In order for a member to be nominated for an Area (number omitted) trustee position, they must be a regular attending member of Area (number omitted). Regular attending for Area (number omitted), is defined as, during the prior 12 months from date of nomination, the member went to at least 39 weekly meetings, with at least 27 of those meetings being at an Area (number omitted) designated meeting.”

References:

Guidance Code, Article VIII – Board of Trustees, Section 1:

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

Guidance Code, Article X – Intergroup Guidelines, Section 5, Item 15

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.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion made as follows:

Guidance Code, Does the insertion of the word 'weekly', make the below cited local area Trustee requirements, more restrictive than that which is outlined in the Guidance Code?

"In order for a member to be nominated for an Area (number omitted) trustee position, they must be a regular attending member of Area (number omitted). Regular attending for Area (number omitted), is defined as, during the prior 12 months from date of nomination, the member went to at least 39 weekly meetings, with at least 27 of those meetings being at an Area (number omitted) designated meeting."

The Board voted YES, that these local provisions are more restrictive, therefore this is found to be in violation of the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code.

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

34. Guidance code, Article X, Section 15, Intergroup Guidelines remove "An Intergroup does not have the right to set stricter requirements and responsibilities" add An intergroup does not have the right to set stricter responsibilities, but may have the right to set minimum requirements"

Current 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.

Proposed Version – An Intergroup does not have the right to set stricter responsibilities, but may have the right to set minimum requirements 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.

Walter G. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Chair was challenged that he was out of order for letting the discussion continue without a second to the motion. Vote on the challenge passes therefore the Chair is out of order and the item is dead.

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

Conference Bids

35. The Spring 2021 Conference is open for bids.

No bids were presented in Louisville.

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

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

36. The Fall 2021 Conference is open for bids.

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

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

New Literature

37. " THERE IS HELP" Tri-fold brochure for handout. This is a new version with the 20 questions on it and the current toll free number.

See attachment #37

Glenn N. - Area 2A, British Columbia, Canada

Motion to accept as new Literature.

The item was ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

Other Literature

38. To list the Life-Line Bulletin Subscription in the GA Store and on the Literature Order Form

Richie S. - Area 6, Southern Florida

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

39. To approve the attachment as appropriate literature.

See attachment #39

Richard C. - Area 2K, Southern Alberta, Canada, for Allan G. and RonaLee M.

Item ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

40. Discussion on the ISO Bulletin

Richie S. - Area 6, Southern Florida

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

41. Change to Gamblers Anonymous Sponsorship Manual, page1, first paragraph. Eliminate the word "older".

CURRENT VERSION: When we speak of sponsorship in Gamblers Anonymous we mean the opportunity of the "older", more experienced member to help another compulsive gambler to achieve the Gamblers Anonymous Program.

PROPOSED VERSION: When we speak of sponsorship in the Gamblers Anonymous we mean the opportunity of the more experienced member to help another compulsive gambler to achieve the Gamblers Anonymous Program.

Wendy B. - Area 1B, Inland Empire, California

Motion to accept above.

Amendment to take out "the" in the first line, and change "the more" to "an" in the second line.

Passed

The item will now read:

When we speak of sponsorship in Gamblers Anonymous we mean the opportunity of an experienced member to help another compulsive gambler to achieve the Gamblers Anonymous Program.

Passed

(1st Vote)

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

42. Remove 'First Forty Years' as approved and/or appropriate literature

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Failed

Committee was formed to create a document in 10 year increments to chronicle the history of Gamblers Anonymous. Committee members are Rob P., Area 3; Pilar L., Area 3; Ron B., Area 6B., Lori C., Area 2H; Gagik G., Area 1; Guy H., Area 1; and Andy R., Area 13B. Rob P. is the Chair and Pete K., is the Chair Liaison.

The name of this committee is "G.A. Chronological History Committee".

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

43. Rescind item #37 from the Orlando '18 Trustee meeting

To accept as appropriate literature silicone bracelet saying 'One Day At A Time'.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

44. Rescind #35 from Orlando '18 Trustee meeting

Deem that Memorial Plaques can be displayed at a Gamblers Anonymous meeting as appropriate literature.

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Motion to accept above.

Approved 40 Against 49

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

45. Designate as "Appropriate Literature" local area Gam-Anon Meeting Lists.

See attachment #45

John B. - Area 13, Pennsylvania

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

46. Hosting an International Conference, Page 16, Section 7. Reports, second paragraph, second line: Add "within 60 days" after "signed hotel contract"

Current version: Once a conference is awarded, the Area Conference Committee will provide the Conference Oversight & Assistance Committee with a copy of a signed hotel contract and, if possible, bank signature cards.

Proposed version: Once a conference is awarded, the Area Conference Committee will provide the Conference Oversight & Assistance Committee with a copy of a signed hotel contract within 60 days and, if possible, bank signature cards.

André G. - Area 5B, French Québec, Canada

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

Committee Related

47. To designate the attached Dealing with Abuse and/or Harassment flyer as approved literature.

See attachment #47

Gagik G. - Area 1, Los Angeles, California

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

48. The Gamblers Anonymous Hotline Committee recommends the following guidelines for hotline volunteers:

- **Volunteers should have a minimum of 1 year of abstinence**
- **Volunteers should be active in Gamblers Anonymous and regularly attending GA meetings**

Would the BOT like the Hotline Committee to develop a set of guidelines for Hotline Volunteers similar to the Treasury Guidelines?

Paul S. - Area 17, Connecticut

The Hotline Committee is asking for a vote of confidence on the above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

**49. Trustee's Website – Hotline Implementation Committee – Hotline Purpose Change
HOTLINE PURPOSE**

Current Version: Implement and oversee a Gamblers Anonymous Hotline.

Proposed Version:

To provide assistance in implementing a Gamblers Anonymous Hotline and oversee the operations.

- **Give support and help when needed to local areas using the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline provider.**
- **Assist local areas in developing guidelines for hotline volunteers.**
- **Follow up on voicemails on the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline for areas that do not have a hotline.**
- **Maintain the routing information for all areas using the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline.**
- **Review areas that use another hotline system.**
- **Review the data usage on the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline and report at each Board of Trustee meeting.**
- **Maintain communication with the Executive Secretary of the I.S.O. regarding usage and payments to the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline provider.**
- **Maintain information on the Trustee Website for the Gamblers Anonymous Hotline.**

Anne D. - Area 5B, French Québec, Canada

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

50. To change the mission statement of the Guidance Code Audit Committee to: To review and verify the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code for compliance with the Unity and Recovery Programs and on a practical level for the sustainability of Gamblers Anonymous.

Current Version: To audit the Guidance Code.

Proposed Version: To review and verify the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code for compliance with the Unity and Recovery Programs and on a practical level for the sustainability of Gamblers Anonymous.

Anita R. - Area 1B, Inland Empire, California

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

51. What is the BOT supposed to do about geographic areas in the US and Canada that are not claimed by any existing and bordering areas?

David M. - Area 12, New Jersey

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

52. Formulate a committee to improve implementation of Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code Article III Section 1 & 2. Utilizing technology such as teleconferencing to Compulsive Gamblers who are unable to attend physical meetings due to physical or geographical limitations.

Beth S. - Area 10, Cleveland, Ohio

No committee was formed at this time.

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

Group Procedures

53. When a person with some time (let's say 10 years) in the program leaves for 4 years and then returns having not gambled in that time, assuming he now has 39 meetings, can he/does he celebrate 15 years at his next anniversary?

Stuart B. - Area 14, Long Island, New York

Discussion only.

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

54. When a new member is asked the 20 questions, should they answer them to themselves?

Ira C. - Area 14, Long Island, New York

Discussion only.

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

55. Seeking guidance on how to handle a situation where a GA member commits a crime against a GA group or Intergroup. Assume that the perpetrator is known without doubt and there is abundant evidence of fraud, theft and/or forgery.

Warren S. - Area 2J, Southern Alberta, Canada

Discussion only.

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

Intergroup Procedures

56. Is it acceptable for an Intergroup to use a portion of the "Take Back Your Life" flyer (found on the Trustee Website), which has been approved as appropriate Gamblers Anonymous material, for use on an Auto-Magnet for purposes of spreading the word of the availability of Gamblers Anonymous?

Specifically, the wording would be as follows: "Gamblers Anonymous can help you TAKE BACK YOUR LIFE, Phone: 855-2-CALL-GA, 855-222-5542, to speak with someone now." This wording is exactly what is used in the "Take Back Your Life" flyer.

Linda M. - Area 1, Los Angeles, California

Item withdrawn.

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

B.O.T. Procedures

57. New England Intergroup, Area 11 requests that the number of area Trustees be reduced from three (3) to two (2) effective July 1, 2020.

Jeff H. - Area 11, Massachusetts

Motion to accept above.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

58. What should we do about the Trustees that are full face, breaking their anonymity, on these phony Gamblers Anonymous Websites?

Ronny W. - Area 17, Connecticut

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

59. Area Trustee terms of Service Discussion.

In our literature it talks about the principle of rotation. This should apply to Area Trustee. A trustee should serve a maximum of 3 terms before stepping aside to allow others to take over. To ensure the area is not left without representation the serving trustee may have his or her name put forward but should withdraw if another candidate is also nominated.

Glenn N. - Area 2A, British Columbia, Canada, for Shirley C.

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

60. Does the Board of Trustees have any plans or put some thought into creating a new piece of GA literature on Anonymity and the Internet?

Adrien R. - Area 5B, French Québec, Canada

Discussion only.

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

61. Brainstorming Public Relations:

What are the best practices for Gamblers Anonymous to get the message of hope to other compulsive gamblers who still suffer.

What are the best practices to prioritize new member attraction and member retention for Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.

Ronny W. - Area 17, Connecticut

Motion to table.

Passed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

Combo Book

62. Add the words “Combo Book” to the cover below the words “Gamblers Anonymous” and before the Serenity Prayer.

Paulette T. - Area 6B, Florida West Coast

Motion to accept above.

Passed

1st Vote

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

63. Add a blank page to the front of the small combo book for new members to make notes or write down someone’s phone number. The blank page would be between the opening poem and page 1.

Bob C. - Area 8, Chicago, Illinois

Motion to add 4 blank pages to the Combo Book, 2 in front and 2 in the back.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

64. Page 2, Last paragraph; change the sentence that ends with the great obsession of every gambler; to the great obsession of every gambler “in action”.

Current Version: The idea that somehow, someday, we will control our gambling is the great obsession of every compulsive gambler.

Proposed Version: The idea that somehow, someday, we will control our gambling is the great obsession of every compulsive gambler “in action”.

Dave A. - Area 3D, Arizona, for Bill O.

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

65. Page 12, 1st paragraph – last sentence:

Remove the word “bankruptcy”

Current Version: Bankruptcy, borrowing and/or lending of money (bailouts) in Gamblers Anonymous is detrimental to our recovery and should not take place.

Proposed Version: Borrowing and/or lending of money (bailouts) in Gamblers Anonymous is detrimental to our recovery and should not take place.

Pamela E. - Area 8, Chicago, Illinois, for Fred L.

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

66. Page 12, 1st paragraph; sentence beginning with “Gamblers Anonymous members have found the best road to recovery”

Replace “repayment of our debts. Bankruptcy, borrowing and/or lending of money (bail outs) in Gamblers Anonymous is detrimental to our recovery and should not take place”.

Change – “making financial amends wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others. Be watchful when borrowing and/or lending money, as these may be harmful to our recovery.”

Current Version: “Gamblers Anonymous members have found that the best road to financial recovery is through hard work and repayment of our debts. Bankruptcy, borrowing and/or lending of money (bail outs) in Gamblers Anonymous is detrimental to our recovery and should not take place”.

Proposed Version – “Gamblers Anonymous members have found that the best road to financial recovery is through hard work and making financial amends wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others. Be watchful when borrowing and/or lending money, as these may be harmful to our recovery.”

Dave A. - Area 3D, Arizona

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

67. Page 14. Last paragraph. Definition of gambling:

Current Version: Gambling, for the compulsive gambler is defined as follows: Any betting or wagering, for self or others, whether for money or not, no matter how slight or insignificant, where the outcome is uncertain or depends upon chance or skill

constitutes gambling.

Proposed Version: Gambling, for the compulsive gambler is defined as follows: Any betting or wagering, or involvement or participation in gambling activities or receiving a gift of chance, whether for money or not, no matter how slight or insignificant, where the outcome is uncertain or depends upon chance or skill constitutes gambling.

Stuart B. - Area 14, Long Island, New York, for Dave J.

Item ruled out of order.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

68. Page 15, Question 10. Add “this includes credit cards”

Current Version: Did you ever borrow to finance your gambling?

Proposed Version: Did you ever borrow (this includes credit cards) to finance your gambling?

Stuart B. - Area 14, Long Island, New York

Motion to accept above.

Approved 44 Against 44

Failed

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.

Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote	Area	Trustee	Vote
1	Ara H.	Yes	6	Jo Anne B.	No	13A	Nan V.	Yes
	Gagik G.	Yes	6A	Dave T.	Yes	13B	Andy G.	Yes
	Guy H.	Yes		Mike R.*	Yes		Craig F.*	No
1A	Dean W.	Yes	6B	Rick B.	No	14	Ira C.	Yes
1B	Anita R.	No		Ron B.	No		Maury C.*	No
	Laura M.*	No		Steve P.	No		Stuart B.	Yes
2	Harold A.	No	7	Iris D.	Abst.		Tom K.*	No
	Mark S.	No.		Trisha M.	Abst.	15	Alan J.	Yes
	Roger L.	No	7C	Jim G.	No		Bill B.	No
2A	Glenn N.	Yes	8	Allen H.*	Yes		James G.*	Yes
2B	Charlene L.	Yes		Bob C.	Yes	16	Robin S.	Yes
	Clair W.	No		Pam E.*	Yes	16A	Dan L.*	Yes
2G	Connie M.	Yes		Reba-Anna L.	Yes	17	Ron W.*	No
2H	Lori C.	No	8A	Ernie N.	Yes	18	Alison M.*	No
2H	Lyla A.	No	8B	Brian J.*	Abst.		Daphne C.*	No
2J	Pat D.	Yes	8D	Jo K.	Yes		Jeremy M.*	No
2K	Allan G.	No	9	Janet S.	No		Russell K.*	No
3	Mark S.	No		Patrick G.	No	18A	Yvonne R.*	No
	Pilar L.	Yes	9A	Pat D.*	No	18B	Brian F.*	No
	Rob P.	Yes	10	Beth S.	Yes	19	Ana B.*	Yes
3A	Butch G.*	Yes	10A	Norm B.	No		Dario B.*	No
	Hugo V.	No	10B	Gary B.	No		Elena D.*	Yes
	Bob C.*	No		Steve B.	No		Silvia G.*	Yes
3B	Paul G.	No	11	Jeff H.	No	20	Jose C.*	Yes
3C	Terry D.*	No		John L.	Yes	21	Angel B.*	No
3D	Dave A.	No		Stacey A.	No		Juan B.*	No
	Pat M.	No	12	David M.	Yes	22	Dudley B.*	No
3F	Julian F.*	Yes		Ted S.*	Yes	28	Martha G.*	No
4	Peter M.	Yes	13	John B.	Yes		Sandra G.*	Yes
5	Tom R.	No		Marla J.	Yes	29	Konstantin R.*	Yes
5B	Adrien R.	Yes		Scott S.*	Yes	33	Moises H.*	Yes

Anne D.	Yes	13A	Bob F.	Yes	
Approved	46	Against	46	Abstained	3
Failed					

* Absentee Ballot

The Chair ruled that since there is nothing in our Rules and Procedures regarding a tie vote that per Roberts Rules of Order a majority is needed for a vote to pass.

The above item was chaired by Pete K., 2nd Co-Chair.

69. Pages 15 and 16, Questions 1 through 20.

Add additional question.

Proposed version:

“1. Have you ever lied about your gambling?”

(Renumber balance of questions 2 through 21.)

Janet S. - Area 9, Michigan

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

70. Page 16-Question 18 -Change Do to Have

Current Version: Do arguments, disappointments or frustrations create within you an urge to gamble?

Proposed Version: Have arguments, disappointments or frustrations created within you an urge to gamble?

Wendy B. - Area 1B, Inland Empire, California

Motion to accept above.

The Chair was challenged that the motion is out of order because it was not made in time. The vote on the challenged fails therefore the Chair is in order and so is the motion.

Amendment made by adding the word “ever” between “frustrations” and “created”.

Passed

The motion now reads:

Have arguments, disappointments or frustrations ever created within you an urge to gamble?

On the motion.

Approved	39	Against	55
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Failed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

71. Page 17, #5 – Bold the entire phrase ‘RECOVERY and UNITY steps’

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

Proposed version: Read the RECOVERY AND UNITY STEPS often and continuously review the Twenty Questions.

Lori C. - Area 2H, Washington, for Cindy M.

Motion to accept above.

Failed

The above item was chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair.

72. Page 17; Number (5.)

– Practicing them is the key to your growth; change to “spiritual growth”.

– After spiritual growth add “As a result of working the 12 step you will have a psychic change. This subtle change in thinking reaches deep down within us and awakens our spirit. Get involved and carry the GA message of hope.”

Current version: Read the RECOVERY and UNITY steps often and continuously review the Twenty Questions. Follow these steps in your daily affairs. These steps are the basis for the entire Gamblers Anonymous Program and practicing them is the key to your growth. Get involved and be of service. If you have any questions, ask them of your Trusted Servants and Sponsors.

Proposed version: Read the Recovery and Unity steps often and continuously review the Twenty Questions. Follow these steps in your daily affairs. These steps are the basis for the entire Gamblers Anonymous Program and practicing them is the key to your spiritual growth. As a result of working the 12 step you will have a psychic change. This subtle change in thinking reaches deep down within us and awakens our spirit. Get involved and carry the GA message of hope. If you have any questions, ask them of your Trusted Servants and Sponsors.

Dave A. - Area 3D, Arizona

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

73. Page 17, #8

Last sentence – replace you will experience continued recovery, with “you will have a character change and experience recovery.”

Current version: Be patient! The days and weeks will pass soon enough, and as you regularly attend meetings, abstain from gambling and follow the guidelines on this page, you will experience continued recovery.

Proposed version: Be patient! The days and weeks will pass soon enough, and as you regularly attend meetings, abstain from gambling and follow the guidelines on this page, you will have a character change and experience recovery.

Dave A. - Area 3D, Arizona

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

74. Page 17, Number 8.

Bold and capitalize it the word “will” in the last sentence and add a coma.

Current Version: BE PATIENT! The days and weeks will pass soon enough, and as you regularly attend meetings, abstain from gambling and follow the guidelines on this page, you will experience continued recovery.

Proposed Version: BE PATIENT! The days and weeks will pass soon enough, and as you regularly attend meetings, abstain from gambling and follow the guidelines on this page, you WILL, experience continued recovery.

Glenn N. - Area 2A, British Columbia, Canada, for Paul N.

Motion to accept above.

Failed

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

75. Items Omitted From The Agenda

Andy R. - BOT Chair

There were no items omitted from the agenda.

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at 3:45 P.M. on Friday, October 18, 2019. The collection for five (5) sessions was \$915.00.

The next physical meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. in Seattle, Washington.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen H.

Karen H.,
International Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

AREA		SESSIONS	AREA		SESSIONS
1	Ara H.	5	10	Beth S.	4
	Gagik G.	5		Greg H.	Absent
	Guy H.	5	10A	Norm B.	5
1A	Dean W.	5	10B	Gary B.	5
	Jack R.	5		Steve B.	5
1B	Anita R.	5	11	Jeff H.	5
	Laura M.	Abst*		John L.	5
2	Beth Z.	Absent		Stacey A.	5
	Harold A.	5	12	David M.	5
	Mark S.	5		Frank M.	4
	Roger L.	5		John F.	Absent
2A	Glenn N.	5		Lorenzo T.	Absent
2B	Clair W.	5		Ted S.	Abst*
	Charlene L.	5		Walter G.	4
2E	Cheryl R.	Absent	13	John B.	5
2G	Connie M.	5		Marla J.	5
	Kevin M.	Absent		Scott S.	Abst*
2H	Lori C.	5	13A	Bob F.	5
	Lyla A.	5		Nan V.	5
2J	Pat D.	5	13B	Andy G.	5
2K	Allan G.	5		Craig F.	Abst*
3	Mark S.	5	14	Ira C.	5
	Pilar L.	5		Maury C.	Abst*
	Rob P.	5		Stuart B.	5
	Terri K.	Absent		Tom K.	Abst*
3A	Butch G.	Abst*	15	Alan J.	5
	Hugo V.	5		Bill B.	5
	Bob C.	Abst*		James G.	Abst*
3B	Paul G.	5		Mark D.	Absent
	Rick F.	Absent	16	Robin S.	5
3C	Terry D.	Abst*		Wayne C.	Absent
3D	Dave A.	5	16A	Dan L.	Abst*
	Pat M.	5	17	John R.	Absent
3F	Julian F.	Abst*		Ron W.	Abst*
4	Peter M.	5	18	Alison M.	5*
	Richard F.	Absent		Daphne C.	5*
5	Tom R.	5		Jeremy M.	5*
5B	Adrien R.	5		Russell K.	5*

	Anne D.	5
6	Jo Anne B.	5
	Richie S.	5
	Steve C.	4
6A	David T.	5
	Mike R.	Abst*
6B	Rick B.	5
	Ron B.	5
	Steve P.	5
7	Iris D.	5
	Trisha M.	5
7C	Jim G.	5
8	Allen H.	Abst*
	Bob C.	5
	Pam E.	Abst.*
	Reba-Anna L.	5
8A	Ernie N.	5
8B	Brian J.	Abst*
8C	Deni L.	Absent
8D	Jo K.	5
9	Janet S.	5
	Patrick G.	5
9A	Pat D.	Abst*

18A	Mark C.	Absent
	Yvonne R.	5*
18B	Brian F.	5*
	John H.	Absent
19	Ana B.	5*
	Dario B.	5*
	Elena D.	5*
	Silvia G.	5*
20	Jose C.	5*
21	Angel B.	5*
	Juan B.	5*
22	Dudley B.	5*
26	Tony L.	Absent
28	Julio M.	Absent
	Martha G.	5*
	Sandra G.	5*
29	Konstantin R.	5*
31	Mantas J.	Absent
33	Moises H.	5*
36	Odie B.	Absent

* Absentee Ballot Received

Chair BOT – Andy R.	5
1 st Co-Chair BOT – Steve F.	5
2 nd Co-Chair BOT – Pete K.	5
Chair BOR – Bob W.	5
I.E.S. – Karen H.	5