

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 5-6, 2024

Pleasanton, California

### **A) Welcome – Pete K. Chair, Board of Trustees**

Pete introduced the front table. He let everyone know that Val D. would be filling in for KC. Pete reminded everyone that motion sheets needed to be turned in for every motion. He went over the Point of Information and Point of Order items.

Pete asked anyone who is serving as a Trustee for the first time to stand up. He then reminded everyone to get to the microphone early if they want to speak on an item.

### **B) Remembrance of our departed members – Mark L., Area 3D read the list of departed members.**

Area 1	George D.	Area 13A	Dick L.
Area 1A	Mickey R.	Area 14	Brad B.
Area 2A	John H.	Area 14	Ira C.
Area 2A	Dennis L.	Area 15	Marco B.
Area 2A	John G.	Area 15	Paul C.
Area 2B	Dennis F.	Area 15	Murray B.
Area 2B	Helen B.	Area 15	Mike G.
Area 2B	John	Area 15	Shelly S.
Area 2H	Joanna B.	Area 16	Mark M.
Area 2K	Zachary L.	Area 17	Brian M.
Area 12	Mike G.	Area 17	Frank P.
Area 12	John D.	Area 17	Tom R.
Area 12	Harvey G.	Area 17	John R.

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

Bob C. of Area 3A read from A Day at a Time to start the first day.

Rob P. of Area 3 read from A Day at a Time to start the second day.

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

Roxanne W. of Area 3D read the 12 Steps of Unity at the start of the first day.

Donna M. of Area 8 read the 12 Steps of Unity at the start of the second day.

### **E) Roll Call – Valerie D., Acting International Executive Secretary**

Valerie D. took roll call.

### **F) Approval of Minutes from Chicago**

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Minutes approved.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair.

### **G) ISO / Lifeliner – Valerie D., IES**

Over the last year, we received \$98,319.67 from Lifeliners. This was a \$7006.54 difference from the year before. We have 341 Lifeliners, 46 of those being trustees, which is approximately 13% of total Lifeliners.

### **H) Report from the Board of Regents – Ara H., BOR Chair**

Ara reported that he took over from Bob W. in December. He went over the numbers for the ISO. The ISO was in surplus most of the months of the last 12. Fiscal year to date, we’re in a surplus \$68,601.58, that includes cash in our operating accounting. In our CDs, we have \$548,017.07.

Ara also reported that he was able to review the committee report from the Restructuring Committee. It gave us about 16 items about how we should restructure the Board of Regents. We will not rush through those items. To date, we've talked about 8 of them and have started changes on 3 of those items. The first one is making amendments to the Articles of Incorporation. It hasn't changed since the minimum number of directors was 3 and maximum was 7. As a board we are going to amend it to match the by-laws to be a minimum of 5 and maximum of 9. Another change we decided to go with was the Chair of the BOT to attend the BOR meetings as ex-officio and be able to speak as a non-voting member. The Chair or their designee will be invited each month for the Board of Regents meetings. This will start in May. The last thing we discussed was the Board of Regents elections. Most of the members who run are in the LA area. We are going to have a Zoom meeting in March or April who wants to run for the Board of Regents. Everybody who is running could be on the Zoom meeting and speak for 3 minutes and introduce themselves. If this works out, this will be in the by-laws or standing rules. We will see how it goes and make final decisions after.

The Board of Regents are now meeting via Zoom instead of the phone. This was a new experience for everyone involved on the BOR meetings. The floor was open for questions for Ara.

#### **D) Trustee Meeting Report – Valerie D., IES**

There was a total of \$2004 collected for the Walk-a-thon; \$1087.83 was collected during the four BOT meeting sessions and \$925 was collected for Lifeline donations.

- 1) Cindi C. reported on the Chicago International Conference. We had over 500 attendees, including a large number of trustees. Financially, we broke even and will be sending an \$80 check to ISO. She has some evaluations from workshops here for review. The only negative feedback was on running out of coffee at a few points.

#### **J) Committee Reports**

<b>Committees with Harold A. as Co-Chair Liaison</b>
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#### **Conference Oversight and Assistance Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Wendy B. - Area 1A**

**Co-Chair – Jack R. – Area 1A**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**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.**

*The Chicago Conference was a success. All has been finalized and the conference showed a small profit. A report will be given at this conference. There have been no other bids or inquiries as to future international conferences. This committee is available to answer any questions and/or offer guidance to any area that is thinking of hosting a conference.*

Report submitted online.

Wendy B. report that there were no bids for an international conference.

#### **Digital Strategy Committee**

**Committee Chair – Butch G. – Area 3**

**Committee Co-Chair – Reba L. – Area 8**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: The purpose of this committee is to give guidance and suggestions to the Board of Trustees on the most efficient use of digital media in order to share our message with the compulsive gambler who still suffers.**

*Current Status of the Trustee What's App group. Current membership is at 70 members, including Past Trustees, Current Trustees and Trustees outside of North America. Current Trustee terms end at the end of June 2024. The chairman will send a message to everyone on the App letting them know that their current membership will expire at that time. If they would like to keep their membership, they will have to send the chairman a message saying that they would like to keep their membership. Information about their status as a trustee will also be needed (are they continuing as a Trustee or not. If not then they will be members as past trustees). The PowerPoint presentation to the Board of Trustees was also discussed. The chairman has received some comments about the images on the slides of the presentation. It was presented that these images could be triggers for people who would see the presentation. It was discussed that this presentation was to attract people who were looking for solutions and that the images would not be changed at this time. It was also discussed if the use of text messages could be used in the presentation, however, it was determined that the committee would recommend the use of both QR codes and website addresses to give people information about who to contact when reaching out to Gamblers Anonymous. It also discussed about the conversations that were held on the Trustee What's App group and the ones that were being presented on the agenda.*

Report submitted online.

Butch report that there are 72 members now on the WhatsApp Trustee Line. These include current and past trustees internationally.

#### **Pressure Relief Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Bruce W. - Area 1**

**Committee Co-Chair- Alvin F. – Area 1**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**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.**

*The committee has met on multiple occasions and discussed numerous topics while deciding the following courses of action going forward:*

- 1. A new Mission Statement is completed*
- 2. The promotion of Pressure Relief at each local inter-group and individual meeting level.*
- 3. The tracking of individual Pressure Relief meetings.*
- 4. The use of Zoom while conducting PRGM.*
- 5. The use of spreadsheets to be provided in conjunction with the PRGM workbook.*
- 6. The suggestions of a moratorium approach while conducting PRGM.*
- 7. Integration and training of females to run Pressure Relief*
- 8. Workshops. With viable outline for local & international usage*
- 9. Training workshops for Pressure Relief*
- 10. International outreach for Pressure Relief*

**Proposed Mission Statement:**

*Our mission is to provide comprehensive support, guidance, and resources to those facing financial, employment, and personal pressures, enabling members to return to a normal way of thinking and living. This is conducted in a safe and confidential environment. We provide leadership and guidance through coordination, education, and training in the pressure relief group meeting process. Our commitment is to reach as many members as possible. We enable members to find financial and personal recovery, support, and the necessary tools to relieve the pressures the compulsive gambler experiences. This committee is vibrant and active. We look forward to executing the above measures and continuing to provide service.*

Report submitted online.

Alvin F. gave the report and answered questions as needed.

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

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

**Co-Chair – Aldo I. - Area 4**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**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.**

No report was submitted.

**Prison Committee, US – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Ed G. - Area 10**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**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.**

*Since the last report, Deb M. and Tom S. formed a group of GA members who completed the necessary background checks and volunteer training program. They are scheduled to start a weekly GA meeting inside coordinating with the Challenge Incarceration Program. Much thanks to all involved who picked up this call to service to help those still suffering from the consequences of their addiction.*

Report submitted online.

Ed G. was present to speak on the report and answer questions.

**Public Relations Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Cindi C. - Area 8**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: Communicate information relating to the existence of Gamblers Anonymous meetings to outsiders. Spread the awareness of the Gamblers Anonymous Program with other when requested.**

*We're working on templates of letters and flyers that can be adapted for every area to use and where to store them to make them available to all. A subcommittee was formed to work on updating the outreach letters in the Information Packet - possibly make it its own piece of literature. Looked at videos from Toronto Ga for use on social media and our role overall on social media. Ed G. participated in a panel for NPR/Ideastream Media Committee members answered inquiries from:*

- *Wall Street Journal*
- *WGN TV Chicago*
- *WBBM Radio Chicago*
- *USA Today-Nevada*
- *WWAY News NC*
- *Telemundo*
- *CBS West Palm FL*
- *Fox6 Alabama*
- *Air Mail Digital Magazine*
- *CBS 21 Harrisburg PA*
- *NBC News Daily*
- *WFMY NC*
- *USA Today-Consumer Health*

● *Bay News 9 Florida*

*Our goal with the inquiries is to get them to use our website link and hotline number. We include any local websites and hotline numbers. Sometimes we don't end up doing interviews if they want to use our likeness or names. We helped in the recreation of a trifold for public information use.*

Report submitted online.

Cindi C. gave report and was present for questions.

Time was extended to discuss further.

Large discussion on digital media and how to protect our unity steps. The PR committee and the Digital Strategy committee are working together so that everything works hand in hand from area to area.

**Virtual Meeting Committee**

**Committee Chair – Patrick G. - Area 9**

**Committee Co-Chair- Butch G. – Area 3A**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**Mission Statement: To develop guidelines for regularly scheduled video online G.A. meetings, including but limited to how to start a meeting, technical requirements, and suggested meeting formats.**

*The first meeting a number of items were discussed including it was determined that Wendy B would research all references to physical meetings within the Guidance Code where trustee meetings are concerned. The chairman stated that finding software that the Board of Trustees could use for virtual meetings was vital for the committee to the whole board. Steve C said that he knew someone who worked for a company that had software we could use. The committee talked about the need for certain uses and restrictions on the software and what the costs would be. Steve told us that he would talk with the company and see if they would work with us. We stated that we would meet again on the 20th to see what the company would say about working with us. The second meeting two items were discussed. The first was that the chairman and Wendy B presented the Guidance Code items that referenced “physical meetings” in reference to trustee meetings. It was stated that these guidance code items would need to be changed for the committee to move forward. The chairman stated that he would forward the items to be included on the agenda. Steve C stated that he had not met with the company yet but he would within the month of January 2024. The third meeting the status of finding software was discussed. Steve C stated that he had met with the company that he thought would be able to meet our needs. He stated that the company would not relinquish control over the software and did not want to work with a nonprofit. It was determined that we would have to search for software that we could use.*

Butch G. gave the report for Patrick G.

Report submitted online.

There was a question on the current mission statement on this agenda. It was changed in Chicago under Item #75 to add “To develop guidelines and ensure the proper functioning of a digital/virtual trustee meeting.” To the end of the mission statement.

**Website Meeting Audit Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Ed G. Area 10**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Harold A.**

**To assist the International Service Office with maintaining an accurate and current listing of active group meetings by providing the following:**

- 1. Create a Master (unpublished)list of all known and verified active meetings and a means of contacting a trusted servant from the same.**
- 2. Provide a central point of contact to provide meeting additions, closures, and changes to provide Intergroups, Trustees, and ISO web administrator with timely and accurate information,**
- 3. Provide ISO web admin with a periodic, consolidated list of changes that occurred within that period.**

4. Provide an Email address where updates can be sent that is exclusive for this purpose. GA.MeetingAuditCommittee@gmail.com
5. To the extent possible, verify groups not represented or underrepresented by an Intergroup/Service Board.

*Committee creation and mission statement was approved at the Chicago Fall 2023 International Conference. Since inception, two trustees reached out for sample templates to complete, but none returned. Informed of one new meeting starting in a location currently not having an active Intergroup. Reached out to offer contact information and assistance. Got a great update from Area 9 who followed up on meetings in the area still listed as "Closed due to Covid". Updates forwarded to Jason. Submitted periodic master list to Jason for their records.*

Report submitted online.

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

#### Fourth Step Inventory Review

Committee Chair – Jeanne B. – Area 8A

Committee Co-Chair – Debra B. – Area 2E

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.

*This committee has continued to meet via zoom to create and edit our writing in real time. As we made our way through writing this process, we tried to write for the member who has not practiced this step before. We are careful to use inclusive language and to honor different life experiences. We have finished the body of the work and now have begun to review each section to check for content consistency and understanding. We are looking at possible appendix content and are also discussing what a format might look like when this new GA Fourth Step Inventory Process is ready for submission and publishing.*

Report submitted online late; floor opened for questions. There were no questions.

#### Guidance Code Audit Committee

Committee Chair – Bob C. – Area 3A

Committee Chair Liaison – Pete K.

**Mission Statement:** 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.

*We have completed our mission tasking and have assembled the final agenda items for Trustee discussion and approval. This was a three-year task and over the years have lost many members. One of the biggest lessons learned is that our organization has two (2) competing governance documents. The group tried to focus on ensuring that the Guidance Code remained true to the Twelve Steps of Recovery and the Unity Program, but found ourselves at odds with the By-Laws. A document that was created to provide guidance to our programs to keep order and uniformity is vitally important and it has been our pleasure reviewing this document on behalf of all of our trustees. We hope that trustees continue to bring agenda items to the board that make the Guidance Code a viable tool to be used fairly and responsibly by all members. This is our Final Report to the BOT.*

Report submitted online.

After 2nd votes on items on the agenda, this committee will disband.

#### GA Restructuring Committee

Committee Chair – David M. – Area 12

**Committee Co-Chair – Jack R. – Area 1A**

**Committee Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement: Review the current structure of the corporation and fellowship of Gamblers Anonymous to research and recommend a possible plan to restructure all related entities.**

Report submitted online.

Jack R. gave report on behalf of the committee. The committee finished up their work with exactly two members. The 27-page report is available online. This committee has officially disbanded.

### **Telephone Conference Call Committee**

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

**Committee Chair Liaison – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement: 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. To formulate, implement and maintain rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings, with Board of Trustee approval. To be responsible for coordinating the Gamblers Anonymous members who will administrate the individual telephone conference call meetings. To actively seek out any known phone meetings and try to assist in making them compliant with current rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings. Make changes to such procedures whenever necessary, with Board of Trustee approval. Look at other platforms being used and make changes to the rules and procedures covering all aspects of the telephone conference call meetings, with Board of Trustee approval.**

*We begin our report with a request: We need 2 to 3 more GA members who are interested in expanding their service work by serving as a meeting Admin for the US meetings (as described below). Our current admin staff is wonderful and dedicated; however, we are currently being spread a little thin on some weeks. It would be VERY helpful to have a couple of members to serve once or twice a month. This is an amazing opportunity for a GA member to really deepen their recovery experience! The clean time requirement is two-years and a new meeting admin would need to be familiar with basic computer/online practices. No one, however, needs to be an expert. We are willing to train any person who is interested! Please send an email to: [weeklycalhelp@gmail.com](mailto:weeklycalhelp@gmail.com) Please think of members in your Area who might be interested in this opportunity and have them get in touch!*

*The Telephone Conference Call Committee and meeting administrators currently host 2 meetings a week: Wednesdays from 9-11 PM Eastern and Fridays from 3:00-4:00 PM Eastern. The phone number is 264-807-9601; the participant code is 9131957#*

*The Wednesday night meeting is a comment meeting. Attendees who have 90 days or more of clean time are allowed to make up to three comments per meeting; those who give therapy are allowed to receive up to 3 comments. Those who are new to the program and claim a desire to stop gambling are read the 20 Questions, either in the main room or in a newcomers room. The first quarter of 2023 saw a bit of an upswing in Wednesday night newcomers, sometimes seeing 4 or 5 on any given evening.*

*At the Friday afternoon meeting, newcomers are welcomed and read the 20 Questions following the meeting. At both meetings, members with 90 days or more of clean time are encouraged to make comments sharing their experience, strength, and hope with the newcomer.*

*Attendance at the Wednesday night meeting ranges between 35-50 callers per meeting. On Fridays the*

*range is from 20-35 callers. Attendees range from newcomers up to those who have 40 or more years of clean time. The importance of attending a physical meeting if at all possible is stressed at each meeting. It is stated that telephone conference calls are not meant to replace physical meetings. Those who would like help between meetings are urged to reach out to others using a list of volunteers who offer support, which is obtainable by email request. We are careful not to call those offering support as “sponsors”, as this relationship happens at physical meetings—another reason*

*to make every effort to attend a physical meeting. The US meetings use the same email address for all meetings: [weeklycallhelp@gmail.com](mailto:weeklycallhelp@gmail.com)*

*We receive between 1 and 10 requests for assistance or information a day. The Canada-wide meeting continues to meet three times per week. Canadian meetings are held on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday. Moderators for these meetings have been trained by members of the Telephone Conference Call committee and their formats have been approved. These meetings are also included on the list found on the Trustee Website. (Meeting times are listed by the local time of the originating cities.) A full list of Telephone Conference Call meetings and contact information can be found on the Trustee website.*

Report submitted online.

There was no one from the committee to address questions.

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

**Committee Chair – John B. – Area 13**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Pete K.**

**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 submitted.

#### **Trustee Website Committee – Standing Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Butch G. – Area 3A**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Pete K.**

**Mission Statement:**

– To oversee the Trustee website.

– 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.

– To review new designs, features, enhancements, and any other changes that would be demonstrated to the Board of Trustees for approval and deployment to any website approved by the Board of Trustees.

*Not too much new with the website. The site was down briefly as the WordPress “theme” had expired without notice. It was renewed, and the site came back up. Again, much thanks to former website admin Mike R (former Florida trustee) for speedy assistance! Otherwise, Walter, Renee and Butch continue to do an awesome job of adding to the website as they are able. Much appreciation for their efforts! The Trustee Line’s function may transition to a new social media tool, testing in progress. If you are a committee chair, please do not hesitate to check your committee’s webpage for updates, and do not hesitate to send changes, big or small. Also, I can add any documents to your page for downloads.*

*Others continuing to contribute and editing the website: (Thank you!)*

*Walter G Memorial*

*Renee G Trustee Line*

*Butch G Rolling Agenda*

**SHORT TERM GOALS:**

- 1. Keep the existing website up and running, essentially maintaining the site as needed*
- 2. Outlining all the roles others have in helping to maintain the site, encouraging others to help, as able*



3. *Maintain trustee mail lists, current and past.*
4. *Provide information to trustees about the process of forming the agenda*
5. *Respond to all inquiries that come into the website, forward as needed*

**LONG TERM GOALS: (rolled over from previous trustee meetings)**

1. *Find new members to volunteer for the website.*
2. *The admin position is open to a new member; training provided!*

Report submitted online.

The Chair pointed out that the committee has done a phenomenal job on the Trustee Website.

## **Committees with Steve F. as Co-Chair Liaison**

### **Chronological History Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Andy D. - Area 18**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F., 1st Co-Chair**

**To write the history of Gamblers Anonymous.**

No report submitted.

Andy D. from Area 18 was present to answer any questions.

### **Group Removal Merit Panel Committee**

**Committee Chair – Cheryl R. – Area 2E**

**Committee Chair Liaison – Steve F., 1st Co-Chair**

**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.**

No report submitted.

### **Hotline Implementation Committee:**

**Committee Chair – Andy G.- Area 13B**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F., 1st Co-Chair**

**Mission Statement: 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.**

***Since the Fall 2023 BOT Meeting in Chicago, IL the committee held their first meeting of the new year on March 12, 2024. We initially were going to meet quarterly this year but progress on migrating areas to the National Hotline has us meeting monthly. We have also picked up a couple of new committee members and are now averaging 7 members in attendance. Highlights from the meetings are as follows:***

***• Scott S. has migrated Area 13B's area codes to the new National Hotline queue. Scott S. and Andy G. testing of the migration has been successful and our next step is to develop a strategy for migrating the other area hotlines to National. Areas will have the option of migrating to National or staying independent.***

- *Area 14 will move to National due to the death of their hotline coordinator. Currently, no one can access their hotline information on Ring Central and migrating to National will allow us access to manage their information.*
- *Each area on Ring Central currently has a Hotline Coordinator who manages the hotline for their respective area. They are responsible for adding/deleting/modifying hotline volunteer information on Ring Central, as well as providing area hotline call statistical reports. Migrating areas to the National Hotline will move area hotline coordinators responsibilities to a Regional Super Administrator. Area Hotline Coordinators will still be needed but their ability to make changes on Ring Central or generate reports will now be done by the Regional Super Admin. The committee is working on the process to make this happen.*
- *Next Hotline Committee meeting scheduled for April 30, 2024, at 8:30 pm est.*

Report submitted online.

Doris S. is new to the committee but says that things have been very active.

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

**Committee Chair – Ara H. – Area 1**

**Co-Chair – Igor K. – Area 3**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F., 1st Co-Chair**

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

*The IRC members have been busy again the last few months assisting our international brothers and sisters. We have been in communication with the following countries updating and uploading the website with their meetings in both in person and virtual meetings. The countries are Russia, Romania, Kazakhstan, Georgia and Iran. With Iran they have voted for a new trustee who is very young and lives in Iran. Their previous trustee lived in the US and helped them get established. We also had discussion with the Netherlands regarding translation and changes in literature as per our procedures. We explained the process and if they wanted to make a change. Helped define gambling for members in Belarus because their members were trying to find some loopholes in the definition in our literature. Poland also is asking for permission to translate the remaining pieces of literature they had not translated yet. As for the Spanish speaking South and Central America countries. Our committee members have assisted the following.,*

***Puerto Rico:***

*Contacted Juan P. as far as he found out since the pandemic most of the Groups closed and has not reactivated. Area 6B is listed as follows:*

***AREA 6B – WEST COAST OF FLORIDA, PANAMA, JAMAICA, PUERTO RICO, AND TRINIDAD – 3 TRUSTEES***

*Trinidad only has one meeting listed at the ISO website, but I don't know if they still exist. As far as I know Panama has never had an official meeting.*

***Panamá:***

*Several compulsive gamblers are in the process of establishing meetings there.*

***Guatemala:***

*We responded to the email (April 11, 2024) but haven't heard back from Daniel yet.*

***México:***

*A new Group in Mexico City started to meet the paperwork will be sent to ISO this week. Some members of Polanco Group are the ones starting these new meetings.*

*Martha attended two Group Anniversaries, one in Ciudad Obregón Sonora (14 years) and the other in Tijuana, BC (12 years).*

*Monterrey where I live will be hosting the 10th Annual Conference of Area 28 México next October 18-20, 2024.*

***Colombia:***

*Elena is more in contact with them, maybe she can add any development there.*

*I would like to thank Martha, Elena and Luis for helping in this area.*

*Some of our members have been communicating with African countries asking for help. But it has been difficult to establish any permanent groups there within the last few months.*

*I would like to thank committee member Igor for assisting with the Russian groups in communication and Kazakhstan. He also helped reach out to emails from Turkey who were interested in starting groups there. A form has been sent to them and we are waiting for a response.*

Report submitted online.

Ara is thinking of stepping down as the Chair of this committee and is present for questions.

Pete asked if there was anyone returning as trustee that would want to take over as Chair. Ara will remain as Chair until the new trustees get seated.

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

**Committee Chair – Debra B., Area 2E**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F., 1st Co-Chair**

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

*One item was reviewed by the Literature Committee since the last trustee meeting:*

• *The literature item entitled, “There is Help” which up for a merit vote today.*

*This item has been reviewed and approved for the absence of spelling and grammatical errors.*

*The Literature Committee would also like to ask for assistance from other Trustees at this time to join the committee. There is not usually a lot of work to do on this committee, but if you’re proficient at editing for spelling and grammar mistakes, I would like to welcome you to the committee and ask for volunteers at this time.*

Report submitted online.

This committee is looking for volunteers. Paulette T., Area 6B volunteered.

### **Spanish Literature Committee**

**Committee Chair - Julian F. - Area 3F**

**Committee Liaison Chair – Steve F., 1st Co-Chair**

**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 submitted.

Julian was present to answer any questions.

Before moving on to the Rules and Procedures section of the agenda, Pete K. asked if there were any items being withdrawn.

The following items have been withdrawn: 16, 47, 48, and 60.

Pete let everyone know that we have 96 eligible votes between the people who are here and the absentee ballots.

## ***RULES AND PROCEDURES***

### **1. RULES AND PROCEDURES**

**Rules and Procedures, Section 19. Approval Process: Add #9:**

**The Bylaws are a legal document required by the State of California and shall not fall into the category of either Approved or Appropriate Literature. Any changes to the Bylaws shall require only one passing vote of the Trustees.**

**Jack R. for John C. – Area 1A – Orange County, California**

This item was ruled out of order by the Chair as a violation of the two-year rule.

The Chair was challenged on the ruling.  
 Challenge failed.  
 Item ruled out of order.  
 This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

## 2. RULES AND PROCEDURES

### Add new rules and procedures

**Any piece of Gamblers Anonymous approved or appropriate literature should be considered as one single piece for any purpose of any change, alteration, or deletion, with the exception that if the proposed change, alteration, or deletion is repeated in another Gamblers Anonymous piece of approved or appropriate literature from Gamblers Anonymous, should be updated on all single pieces of the literature. In order that all single pieces of literature that is repeated can be updated, the initial proposed change must have previously been approved by the Board of Trustees according the voting requirements for the individual piece, which can be 2/3 of votes or majority of votes depending on the proposed change.**

**Luis O – Area 28 – Mexico**

Motion as written.

Item passed.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

## 3. RULES AND PROCEDURES

### Change existing rules and procedures.

**Section 5 Add a new bullet point between bullet point 1 and bullet point 2**

#### •Combo Book Revisions

**Changes to the combo book shall be made by an agenda item every 5 years when the year ends in a 0 or a 5 with the exception of the back cover. The back cover can be updated with the current Gambler Anonymous Logo, website, Address QR Code, or Physical or Post Office Box address when required.**

**Current Version: – Rules and Procedures provisions and changes do not automatically change existing literature.**

#### Maintenance of the Rules and Procedures manual

**The Trustee Website committee will be responsible for updating and maintaining the rules and procedures manual on the trustee website.**

#### Proposed Version: – Changing Literature

**Rules and Procedures, provisions and changes do not automatically change existing literature.**

#### Combo Book Revisions

**Changes to the combo book shall be made by an agenda item every 5 years when the year ends in a 0 or a 5 with the exception of the back cover. The back cover can be updated with the current Gambler Anonymous Logo, website, Address QR Code, or Physical or Post Office Box address when required.**

**Maintenance of the Rules and Procedures manual The Trustee Website committee will be responsible for updating and maintaining the rules and procedures manual on the trustee website.**

**Walter G. – Area 12 – New Jersey and Northeastern Pennsylvania**

Motion as written.

Item passed.

A roll call vote was done.

Area	Name	Vote	Area	Name	Vote	Area	Name	Vote
1	Alvin F.	Yes	6B	Paulette T.	No		Wayne C.*	No
1	Alyssa C.	No		Dave T.	No	16A	Dan L.*	Yes
1	Bruce W.*	No	6C	Mike A.	No	17	Robert A.*	Yes
1A	Dean W.	No		Tom K.	No		Ronny W.*	No

1A	Jack R.	Yes	7	Iris D.*	Yes	18	Andy D.	Yes
1B	Anita R.*	Yes		Leanne W.	Yes	18A	Mark C.*	Yes
1B	Wendy B.	No	7A	Deborah S.	Yes	19	Elena D.*	Yes
2	Jared H.*	Abstain		Mike H.*	Yes		Jorge C.*	Yes
2	Ray J.	Abstain	8	Cindi C.	Abstain		Julia A.*	No
2	Tita M.	Yes		Dianna R.*	Yes	21	Francisco M.*	Yes
2A	Paul N.	Yes		Donna M.	No		Pedro T.	Yes
2B	Charlene L.	No		Mary W.	No	23	Joao Carlos	Abstain
	James B.	No	8A	Renee G.	Yes	23A	Clecio S.	Abstain
2E	Debra B.	No	8E	Barbara L.	No	28	Hector T.*	Yes
2G	Chris M.	Yes		Jeff R.	Yes		Luis O.	Yes
	Dave M.*	Yes	9	Carol K.	Yes	28	Marymar V.*	No
2H	Doris S.	No	10	Anthony K.	Yes	29	Konstantin U.*	Yes
	Terry D.	No		Ed G.	Yes	29A	Oleg I.*	Yes
2J	Patricia D.*	No	10A	Jeff H.*	No	29B	Eduard U.*	Yes
2K	Steve L.	No		Loreane S.*	Yes	33	William S.*	Yes
3	Igor K.	No	11	Jodi P.	No	38	Belinda L.*	Yes
	Mark S.	No		Billy C.	No			
	Rob P.	No	12	Andy R.	Abstain			
	Steve D.	No		Walter G.	Yes			
3A	Bob C.	Yes	13	Greg M.	No			
	Butch G.	Yes		Marla J.	Yes			
3B	Paul G.*	Yes	13A	Rick L.	No			
3C	Paula C.	No		Tijuana MT	Yes			
3D	Marc L.	Abstain	13B	Ron P.	No			
	Roxanne DW	No	14	Mitch M.	No			
3F	Julian F.	Yes		Stuart B.*	No			
5	Frank P.	No	15	Alan J.*	No			
5B	Adrien R.	Yes		James G.*	Yes			
	Marc C.	Yes		Jesse C.*	No			
6	Neal G.*	Yes		Joe B.	Abstain			
	Steven C.*	No		Mark D.*	No			
	Steven H.	Yes		Stanley C.*	No			
6A	James C.	No	16	Carl D.	No			

For 45 Against 44 Abstain 8

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

#### 4. RULES AND PROCEDURES

**Change existing rules and procedures.**

**Section 19 Literature. Combo Book Changes Remove Combo Book changes can be accepted at any time and replaced with Changes to the combo book shall be made by an agenda item every 5 years when the year ends in a 0 or a 5 with the exception of the back cover. The back cover can be updated with the current Gambler Anonymous Logo, website, Address QR Code, or Physical or Post Office Box address when required.**

**Current Version: – Combo Book Changes. Combo Book changes can be accepted at any time.**

**Proposed Version: – Combo Book Changes. Changes to the combo book shall be made by an agenda item every 5 years when the year ends in a 0 or a 5 with the exception of the back cover. The back cover can be updated with the current Gambler Anonymous Logo, website, Address QR Code, or Physical or Post Office Box address when required.**

**Walter G. – Area 12 – New Jersey and Northeastern Pennsylvania**

Item withdrawn due to a previous vote passing that would nullify this from having to be a separate issue.  
This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

## **ITEMS UP FOR SECOND VOTE**

### **5. CURRENT LITERATURE**

**Combo Book – Change of combo book language- 2. on page 17. Replace “Telephone” with “Connect”, Replace “Use the telephone list” with “STAY CONNECTED!”, Bold and Capitalize “STAY CONNECTED!”**

**Current Version: 2. Telephone other members as often as possible between meetings. Use the telephone list!**

**Proposed Version: 2. Connect with other members as often as possible between meetings. STAY CONNECTED!**

**Alyssa C. for Eric F. – Area 1 – Southern California**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

## ***TABLED FROM CHICAGO***

### **6. CURRENT LITERATURE Item #39 in Chicago**

**Combo Book – Page 17 – Section 5 – Change the word steps to Programs.**

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

**Proposed Version: Read the RECOVERY and UNITY Programs often and continuously review the Twenty Questions. Follow these Programs in your daily affairs. These Programs are the basis for the entire Gamblers Anonymous Program and practicing them is the key to your growth**

**Ara H. for Arthur F. – Area 1 Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

No motion.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

### **7. CURRENT LITERATURE Item #40 in Chicago**

**Combo Book – Page 4. Item Number 2. Based on the original text, re-add the first sentence.**

**Current Version: 2. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.**

**Proposed Version: 2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving Higher Power as expressed in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.**

**Ara H for Arthur F. – Area 1 Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

No motion.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

### **8. CURRENT LITERATURE Item #41 in Chicago**

**Combo Book – Page 3. Section Gamblers Anonymous. Add a line to the last paragraph.**

**Current Version: Therefore, in order to lead normal happy lives, we try to practice to the best of our ability, certain principles in our daily affairs.**

**Proposed Version: Although there is no organizational affiliation between Alcoholics Anonymous and our fellowship, we are based on the principles of AA. Therefore, in order to lead normal happy lives, we try to practice to the best of our ability, certain principles in our daily affairs.**

**Marc L. for Arthur F. – Area 1 – Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

### **9. CURRENT LITERATURE Item #42 in Chicago**

**Combo Book – Page 3. Gamblers Anonymous. Change the word “normal” to “healthy”**

**Current Version: Therefore, in order to lead normal happy lives, we try to practice to the best of our ability, certain principles in our daily affairs**

**Proposed Version: Therefore, in order to lead healthy happy lives, we try to practice to the best of our ability, certain principles in our daily affairs.**

**Marc L for Arthur F. – Area 1 – Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

### **10. CURRENT LITERATURE Item #43 in Chicago**

**Combo Book – Page 17. Item 7. – Change the word “normal:” to “healthy”**

**Current Version: We encourage every Gamblers Anonymous member to have a PRESSURE RELIEF GROUP MEETING as it offers a normal way of thinking and living.**

**Proposed Version: We encourage every Gamblers Anonymous member to have a PRESSURE RELIEF GROUP MEETING as it offers a healthy way of thinking and living.**

**Marc L for Arthur F. – Area 1 – Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

### **11. CURRENT LITERATURE Item #44 in Chicago**

**Combo Book – Page 17. Item Number 5. Line 1. – Change “steps” to “Programs” in Line**

**1. Change “steps” to “Principles” in Lines 2 and 3. As in the last line of our Preamble.**

**“Therefore, in order to live normal happy lives, we try to practice certain principles in our daily affairs.**

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

**Proposed Version: Read the RECOVERY and UNITY Programs often and continuously review the Twenty Questions. Follow these principles in your daily affairs. These principles are the basis for the entire Gamblers Anonymous Program and practicing them is the key to your growth.**

**Ara H for Arthur F. – Area 1 – Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

## ***NEW BUSINESS***

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## **CONFERENCE BIDS**

### **12. Fall 2024 Conference**

The Fall 2024 Conference is open for bids.

Pending location and information on the 2024 BOT fall meeting.

### **13. Spring 2025 Conference**

The Spring 2025 Conference is open for bids.  
There were no bids.

#### **14. Fall 2025 Conference**

The Fall 2025 Conference is open for bids.  
There were no bids.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **15. DISCUSSION ITEM – Attendance age requirement**

**Should Gamblers Anonymous have an age limit for attending meetings?**

**With the change in the availability of gambling on various electronic devices, should Gamblers Anonymous have an age limit for individuals attending a meeting?**

**Butch G. Area 3A – Actual discussion on the Trustee What’s App group.**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

#### **16. DISCUSSION ITEM – Misapplication of Time**

**How do we as Trustees express to our members that their item submitted is a waste of time?**

**Butch G. Area 3A – Actual discussion on the Trustee What’s App group.**

This item was withdrawn.

#### **17. DISCUSSION ITEM – Flyer storage**

**Does the ISO have the capacity to save / store flyers from different areas for future use?**

**Butch G. Area 3A – Actual discussion on the Trustee What’s App group.**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

#### **18. DISCUSSION ITEM – Anonymity**

**Anonymity is a spiritual foundation of this program so why are “we” not enforcing it?**

**Butch G. Area 3A – Actual discussion on the Trustee What’s App group.**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

#### **19. DISCUSSION ITEM – Hold Harmless**

**An explanation of the “hold harmless” agreement in Article 3, Section 12 of Gamblers Anonymous By-Laws. The question by a GA member in area 13 B is “If section 12 of the by-laws states ” Gamblers Anonymous International Service Office hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless all of its officers and directors for any and all actions taken by them in furtherance of the business and operations of Gamblers Anonymous, including but not limited to, negligent acts, intentional acts and wrongful acts. Further, Gamblers Anonymous agrees to pay any and all damages, legal fees and cost on their behalf for which they may become liable,” what specific acts would be covered in the “hold harmless” agreement. The concern with the language is in reference to the words “intentional acts and wrongful acts. Further, Gamblers Anonymous agrees to pay any and all damages, legal fees, and cost on their behalf for which they may become liable.” What is the rationale for holding harmless intentional acts and wrongful acts?**

**Ron P – Area 13 B – South New Jersey Counties**

Discussion only.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair



## **20. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**Make hybrid meetings GA recognized.**

**Adrien R. – Area 5B – All French meetings in Quebec**

A question came up on whether this is out of order. It was said that it is not out of order.

Challenge to the chair.

Challenge failed.

Motion to add a sentence on the virtual meeting section of the Trustee Website. “Any meeting that is both a virtual and physical meeting will be a recognized hybrid meeting.”

Item Passed.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

## **21. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**COMMITTEE RELATED – GA Restructuring Committee**

**Open the floor for any further clarifications or questions on the committee report that was submitted by the GA Restructuring Committee for the Pleasanton Trustee Meeting.**

**David M. – Area 12 – New Jersey and Northeastern Pennsylvania**

This item was withdrawn.

## **LITERATURE CHANGES**

### **22. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 4:**

**Add the words “either physical or virtual” at the end of the section to allow for online trustee meetings.**

**Current Version: Any Trustee is automatically removed from office for gambling by his/her own admission. Current or past Trustees who return to gambling and subsequently come back to G.A. should not have a voice at the BOT meeting until they have 2 years of abstinence, the same qualification as becoming a Trustee. 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. He or she may be removed for other acts on his or her part, which are detrimental to Gamblers Anonymous as a whole, as per established Trustee Removal Procedures, or for not attending Gamblers Anonymous meetings. Removal requires 2/3 vote for expulsion by the Board of Trustees at the next physical meeting of the Board of Trustees.**

**Proposed Version: Any Trustee is automatically removed from office for gambling by his/her own admission. Current or past Trustees who return to gambling and subsequently come back to G.A. should not have a voice at the BOT meeting until they have 2 years of abstinence, the same qualification as becoming a Trustee. 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. He or she may be removed for other acts on his or her part, which are detrimental to Gamblers Anonymous as a whole, as per established Trustee Removal Procedures, or for not attending Gamblers Anonymous meetings. Removal requires 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive Board of Trustee meetings either physical or virtual.**

**Butch G. – Area 3A – Digital Meeting Committee**

Motion as written.

There were several amended motions to this item.

The amended motion remains the same as written, however, changing physical or virtual to “physical and/or virtual”

The Chair called this amendment out of order since it’s changing the intent of the item.

The Chair was challenged.

Challenge went against the Chair.

The first amended motion failed 7 For and 41 Against.

The second amendment is to change the last sentence of the proposed version to read: "Removal requires 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive Board of Trustee meetings."

The second amended motion failed 0 For and 53 Against.

Original motion failed 38 For and 52 Against.

The third amended motion changes the last sentence to read "Removal requires 2/3 of the voting members of the Board of Trustees at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees."

The third amendment passed 39 For and 9 Against.

Item passed. Need second vote.

1st Vote.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair and Pete K., Chair

### **23. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 6A:**

**Add the words "either physical or virtual "at the end of the section to allow for online trustee meetings.**

**Current Version: Current Trustees who cannot physically attend a Trustee meeting can only be represented by submitting an absentee ballot. The Board of Trustees will designate the voting provisions of absentee ballots. Proxies will not be allowed for any aspect of any Trustee meetings, physical or otherwise.**

**Proposed Version: Trustees who cannot physically attend a Trustee meeting can only be represented by submitting an absentee ballot. The Board of Trustees will designate the voting provisions of absentee ballots. Proxies will not be allowed for any aspect of any Trustee meetings, either physical or virtual or otherwise.**

**Butch G. – Area 3A – Digital Meeting Committee**

This item was withdrawn.

### **24. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 9:**

**Add the words "either physical or virtual" at the end of the section to allow for online trustee meetings.**

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

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

**Butch G. – Area 3A – Digital Meeting Committee**

This item withdrawn.

### **25. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 11:**

**Remove the word "physical after the word consecutive and add the words after the word meetings "either physical or virtual," to allow for online trustee meetings.**

**Current Version: The Board of Trustees unequivocally will have the sole right to add to, delete or change any word of the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY, the Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM and Page 8 the Twenty Questions. All Gamblers Anonymous literature or books must be first approved by the Board of Trustees before being published. No changes can be made in any**

**Gamblers Anonymous literature by the International Service Office (I.S.O.) without the approval of the Board of Trustees.**

**Changes can only be made by the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings of the Board of Trustees. Deletions of any literature must be done by the same procedure used to approve them, omitting any procedures through a merit vote.**

**Proposed Version: The Board of Trustees unequivocally will have the sole right to add to, delete or change any word of the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY, the Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM and Page 8 the Twenty Questions. All Gamblers Anonymous literature or books must be first approved by the Board of Trustees before being published. No changes can be made in any Gamblers Anonymous literature by the International Service Office (I.S.O.) without the approval of the Board of Trustees.**

**Changes can only be made at two (2) consecutive meetings either physical or virtual, of the Board of Trustees. Deletions of any literature must be done by the same procedure used to approve them, omitting any procedures through a merit vote.**

**Butch G. – Area 3A – Digital Meeting Committee**

This item was withdrawn.

## **26. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article IX – Officers of the Board of Trustees – Section 2:**

**Add the words “either physical or virtual” after the word meeting, in the section talking about an election for a new #2 Co-Chair will be held at the next Board of Trustees meeting,**

**Current Version: If the Chair is temporarily unable to carry out the duties and responsibilities required of that office, then the #1 Co-Chair will contemporaneously handle such issues, until the Chair is able to resume those same issues. Consent to do so, must be unanimously agreed upon by the remaining members of the Executive Board and the International Executive Secretary. If any Executive Board member is permanently unable to carry out the duties and responsibilities of their respective positions, all remaining Executive Board members will move up to the next higher position. An election for a new #2 Co-Chair will be held at the next physical Board of Trustees meeting to fill the resultant open position on the Executive Board.**

**Proposed Version: If the Chair is temporarily unable to carry out the duties and responsibilities required of that office, then the #1 Co-Chair will contemporaneously handle such issues, until the Chair is able to resume those same issues. Consent to do so, must be unanimously agreed upon by the remaining members of the Executive Board and the International Executive Secretary. If any Executive Board member is permanently unable to carry out the duties and responsibilities of their respective positions, all remaining Executive Board members will move up to the next higher position. An election for a new #2 Co-Chair will be held at the next Board of Trustees meeting, either physical or virtual, to fill the resultant open position on the Executive Board.**

**Butch G. – Area 3A – Digital Meeting Committee**

This item was withdrawn.

## **27. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XVII – Area Location of Trustees**

**To remove the word physical before “Trustee meeting” to allow for online Trustee meetings.**

**Current Version: Existing areas that wish to redefine their borders, new areas previously not covered by any other Gamblers Anonymous area that wish to be recognized, and new areas that wish to be recognized by splitting off from existing areas in any configuration, may submit agenda items to accomplish this at any physical Trustee meeting, as needed by the areas concerned, providing they follow such procedures, as outlined in the Guidance Code. This also applies for any area that wishes to change the number of Trustees allocated to them.**

**Proposed Version: Existing areas that wish to redefine their borders, new areas previously not covered by any other Gamblers Anonymous area that wish to be recognized, and new areas that wish to be recognized by splitting off from existing areas in any configuration, may submit**

agenda items to accomplish this at any Trustee meeting, as needed by the areas concerned, providing they follow such procedures, as outlined in the Guidance Code. This also applies for any area that wishes to change the number of Trustees allocated to them.

**Butch G. – Area 3A – Digital Meeting Committee**

This item was withdrawn.

## **28. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XVIII – Election of Trustees – Section 7:**

**To remove the word physical before the word meeting and add the words Board of Trustees to allow for online trustee meetings.**

**Current Version: Election for the Chair of the Board of Trustees and any other officer of the Board of Trustees will take place at the first physical meeting in the odd year.**

**Current trusted servants carry on until trusted servants are elected.**

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

**Butch G. – Area 3A – Digital Meeting Committee**

This item was withdrawn.

## **29. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XIII– Board of Regents, Section 9**

**Change the third sentence to read “...A biography not to exceed 400 words and phone number (both optional) would be included as an attachment to the ballot. As part of this biography, the nominee should include their prior experience running or materially participating in a for-profit or non-profit business.**

**Current Version: Article XIII-Board of Regents, Section 9: On or before February 1st of each odd year any member of Gamblers Anonymous with at least 2 years of abstinence from gambling can submit their name to the I.S.O. to be included on the Board of Regents ballot. Previous service as Regent of the Corporation or as a Trustee of Gamblers Anonymous, total abstinence from gambling and home group of nominees shall be listed alongside the name of each nominee. A biography not to exceed 400 words and phone number (both optional) would be included as an attachment to the ballot. Each recognized Gamblers Anonymous meeting should be contacted by their area Trustee(s) so that the groups at their option, have involvement in the voting process. Each Trustee, based on guidance from their groups and their personal knowledge, will be able to select no more than nine (9) Regents from the ballot.**

**Proposed Version: Article XIII-Board of Regents, Section 9: On or before February 1st of each odd year any member of Gamblers Anonymous with at least 2 years of abstinence from gambling can submit their name to the I.S.O. to be included on the Board of Regents ballot. Previous service as Regent of the Corporation or as a Trustee of Gamblers Anonymous, total abstinence from gambling and home group of nominees shall be listed alongside the name of each nominee. A biography not to exceed 400 words and phone number (both optional) would be included as an attachment to the ballot. As part of this biography, the nominee should include their prior experience running or materially participating in a for-profit or non-profit business. Each recognized Gamblers Anonymous meeting should be contacted by their area Trustee(s) so that the groups at their option, have involvement in the voting process. Each Trustee based on guidance from their groups and their personal knowledge, will be able to select no more than nine (9) Regents from the ballot.**

**Jack R. – Area 1A – Orange County, California**

Motion as written.

Failed two-thirds.

For: 60 Against: 34

This item was chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **30. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XIII, Section 1 — Board of Regents – Add to the last sentence as follows: “In addition, the Chair of the Board of Trustees, or designee from the Board of Trustees Executive Team, shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board of Regents.”**

**Current Version: Article XIII – Board of Regents – Section 1: The International Service Office (I.S.O.) shall be guided by a Board of Regents of nine (9) members of Gamblers Anonymous who have abstained from gambling for at least two (2) years. This Board shall be elected at the Spring Board of Trustees Meeting of the odd years. (Every 2 years).**

**Proposed Version: Article XIII – Board of Regents – Section 1: The International Service Office (I.S.O.) shall be guided by a Board of Regents of nine (9) members of Gamblers Anonymous who have abstained from gambling for at least two (2) years. This Board shall be elected at the Spring Board of Trustees Meeting of the odd years. (Every 2 years). In addition, the Chair of the Board of Trustees, or designee from the Board of Trustees Executive Team, shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board of Regents.**

**Jack R. – Area 1A – Orange County, California**

Motion as written

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 78 Against 5

This item was chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **31. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**Guidance Code – Article III – Objects -Section 1:**

**The specific and primary purposes for which this Fellowship is formed are as follows:**

**1). To contact compulsive gamblers no matter where they may be and help them overcome a gambling problem. To Remove item 1. To contact compulsive gamblers no matter where they may be and help them overcome a gambling problem.**

**Current Version: – Article III – Objects -Section 1:**

**The specific and primary purposes for which this Fellowship is formed are as follows:**

**To contact compulsive gamblers no matter where they may be and help them overcome a gambling problem.**

**To carry the message of Gamblers Anonymous to the compulsive gambler who still suffers, through the medium of personal contact, telephone, mail, newspapers, films, radio, television, houses of worship, charitable organizations, service clubs, Internet and by whatever dignified method that is approved by the Board of Trustees within the framework of the Unity Program.**

**To distribute Gamblers Anonymous literature to compulsive gamblers and to any person, organization or institution which desires some.**

**To encourage interest and knowledge of the activities and program of Gamblers Anonymous with the peace officers, educational institutions, penal institutions, judges, probation officers, parole officers, doctors, newspapers, motion picture companies, radio broadcasting companies, television broadcasting companies, houses of worship, charitable organizations and service clubs of the world.**

**Proposed Version: – Article III – Objects – Section 1:**

**The specific and primary purposes for which this Fellowship is formed are as follows:**

**To carry the message of Gamblers Anonymous to the compulsive gambler who still suffers, through the medium of personal contact, telephone, mail, newspapers, films, radio, television, houses of worship, charitable organizations, service clubs, Internet and by whatever dignified method that is approved by the Board of Trustees within the framework of the Unity Program.**

**To distribute Gamblers Anonymous literature to compulsive gamblers and to any person, organization or institution which desires some.**

**To encourage interest and knowledge of the activities and program of Gamblers Anonymous with the peace officers, educational institutions, penal institutions, judges, probation officers,**

parole officers, doctors, newspapers, motion picture companies, radio broadcasting companies, television broadcasting companies, houses of worship, charitable organizations and service clubs of the world.

**Marc L – Area 3D – Arizona and New Mexico**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 49 Against 3

This item was chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **32. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

This item is for a Guidance code change. Guidance Code, Article VIII Board of Trustees, Section 9

Add a second paragraph to Section 9

To change, amend, replace, or remove any text, font, or words in the combo book pages 1 through 17 including the front cover, inside the front cover, and the back cover it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than the presence of 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive Board of trustee meetings. However, the back cover can be updated with Gamblers Anonymous contact details should any info change from the last printing: GA Logos, address, telephone number, website, or a QR code directing to the Gamblers Anonymous website.

**Current Version: – Guidance Code Section 9: To change the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY and Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM, it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than the physical presence of 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings.**

**Proposed Version: – Guidance Code Section 9: To change the Twelve Steps of RECOVERY and Twelve Step UNITY PROGRAM, it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than the physical presence of 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive physical meetings.**

To change, amend, replace, or remove any text, font, or words in the combo book pages 1 through 17 including the front cover and the inside the front cover and the back cover it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority by not less than the presence of 2/3 of the eligible voting members of the Board of Trustees at two (2) consecutive Board of trustee meetings. However, the back cover can be updated with Gamblers Anonymous contact details should any info change from the last printing: GA Logos, address, telephone number, website, or a QR code directing to the Gamblers Anonymous website.

**Walter G. – Area 12 – New Jersey and Northeastern Pennsylvania**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

For 5 Against 47

This item was chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **Item added to agenda:**

### **66. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XIX – Voting**

**Current Version: Section 2: Institutional groups or meetings that do not meet in a physical location will not be allowed to vote on any issues which affect groups other than their own.**

**Section 3: None**

**Proposed Version: Section 3 – Groups that take place on a virtual platform and are part of an Intergroup or area will be eligible to vote on any issues coming from their Intergroup, including elections; assuming they have met the (3) month probation period, as outlined in the Guidance Code, Article X, Section 5.**

**Steve F. – Area 1, Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

Motion as written

Item passes. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 46 Against 10

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **33. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XIII – Board of Regents – Section 6 – To change Article XIII – Board of Regents – Section 6. Remove acceptance of a “written proxy” to maintain consistency with the Gamblers**

**Anonymous By-Laws. (Art. III, Sect. 6)**

**Current Version: – Article XIII – Board of Regents Section 6:**

**Five (5) members of the Board of Regents shall constitute a quorum. Only a written proxy shall be counted in determining the number present for the purpose of a quorum.**

**Proposed Version: – Article XIII – Board of Regents Section 6:**

**Five (5) members of the Board of Regents shall constitute a quorum. The Board of Regents does not acknowledge proxies in any form.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 80 Against 8

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

### **34. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XVI – International Executive Secretary and the Office Manager – Section. 2 – To change Article XVI – International Executive Secretary and the Office Manager – Section 2. – restructuring Section 2 to separate “other acts detrimental to Gamblers Anonymous as a whole” from the definition of gambling.**

**Current Version: – Article XVI – International Executive Secretary and the Office Manager Section 2:**

**The International Executive Secretary is automatically removed from office for gambling by his/her own admission. 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, or other acts on his/her part that are detrimental to Gamblers Anonymous as a whole. Should the International Executive Secretary be terminated or unable to carry out the functions, duties and responsibilities of the position, the Chair of the Board of Regents will temporarily assume the position of the International Executive Secretary until the Board of Regents hires a permanent International Executive Secretary.**

**Proposed Version: – Article XVI – International Executive Secretary and the Office Manager Section 2:**

**The International Executive Secretary is automatically removed from office for gambling by his/her own admission or committing any act that is detrimental to Gamblers Anonymous as a whole. 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. Should the International Executive Secretary be terminated or unable to carry out the functions, duties and responsibilities of the position, the Chair of the Board of Regents will temporarily assume the position of the International Executive Secretary until the Board of Regents hires a permanent International Executive Secretary.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs 2nd vote.

1st Vote.

For 65 Against 6

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

### **35. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XVII – Area Location of Trustees – Section 3 – remove Section 3 in its entirety. Election of Board of Trustee members is covered in other Articles. (XIX)**

**Current Version: – XVII – Area Location of Trustees – Section 3:**

**How can Board of Trustees members be elected in large geographical areas? Notify each group to send nominations to the International Service Office (I.S.O.) and International Service Office (I.S.O.) makes ballots and returns them to the groups. Each group has one vote in electing their Trustee.**

**Proposed Version: – XVII – Area Location of Trustees – Section 3: Remove Entire Section**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

For 47 Against 28

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

### **36. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XIX – Voting -Section 2 – remove meetings that do not meet in a physical location (i.e. virtual meeting) from this section that limits their ability to vote on matters that affect other groups or Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.**

**Current Version: – Article XIX – Voting – Section 2:**

**Institutional groups or meetings that do not meet in a physical location will not be allowed to vote on any issues which affect groups other than their own.**

**Proposed Version: – Article XIX – Voting – Section 2:**

**Institutional groups will not be allowed to vote on any issues which affect groups other than their own.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 53 Against 14

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

### **37. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article XX – Amendments – Section 3 – to change Article XX – Amendments Section 3. – clarifying the responsibilities of the International Executive Secretary and adding the Office Manager with regard to the maintenance of the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code.**

**Current Version: – Article XX – Amendments – Section 3:**

**An up-to-date permanent file of the Guidance Code shall be maintained by the International Executive Secretary of the International Service Office (I.S.O.) and a current copy (including all and any amendments or replacements) shall be made available during office hours for inspection by any member.**

**Proposed Version: – Article XX – Amendments – Section 3:**

**An up-to-date permanent file of the Guidance Code shall be maintained by the International Executive Secretary and a current copy (including all and any amendments or replacements) shall be maintained by the Office Manager and made available during office hours for inspection by any member.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 78 Against 4

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



### **38. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 1A – To change Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 1A. Restating the influence of the Guidance Code over Board of Trustee decisions and as well as including the Recovery and Unity Steps to Board of Trustee decision making.**

**Current Version: – Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 1A.**

**All decisions of the Board of Trustees, passed in the form of a motion are binding. In the event of conflicting decisions, the most recent decision will prevail. However, provisions of the Guidance Code supersede all Board of Trustee decisions.**

**Proposed Version: – Article VIII – Board of Trustees – Section 1A.**

**All decisions of the Board of Trustees, passed in the form of a motion are binding. In the event of conflicting decisions, the most recent decision will prevail. The Recovery and Unity Programs and provisions of the Guidance Code should guide all Board of Trustee decisions.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 61 Against 23

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

### **39. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VII – Groups – Section 3 – To change Article VII – Groups – Section 3. To include Unity Step 4 exceptions to self-governing.**

**Current Version: – 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.**

**Proposed Version: – Article VII – Groups – Section 3:**

**Each group should be self-governing except in matters affecting other groups or Gamblers Anonymous as a whole, 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.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

For 54 Against 27

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

#### **40. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VII – Groups – Section 1 – To change Article VII – Groups – Section 1. Removing the negative implications of a group failing to comply with the recommendations contained in the Guidance Code by removing the last sentence in the section.**

**Current Version: – Article VII – Groups – Section 1:**

**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.**

**Proposed Version: – Article VII – Groups – Section 1.**

**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.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

For 29 Against 56

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

#### **41. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article VII – Groups – Section 1. – To change Article VII – Groups – Section 1. redefining the definition of a group to encourage use of the Gamblers Anonymous Group Handbook, and redefine the role of the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code as it relates to a group.**

**Current Version: – Article VII -Groups – Section 1:**

**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.**

**Proposed Version: – Article VII – Groups Section 1.**

**Whenever two or more persons with a desire to stop gambling meet together to discuss their gambling problem, they will be known as a group, provided they have no other group affiliation, and receive no outside support. It is encouraged that each group follow the Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code and Group Handbook and limit the 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.**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

For 49 Against 22

1st Vote.

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

## **42. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article V, Section 1- Summary of Operations – Motion 1. Guidance Code Change To change Article V – Summary of Operations Section 1:9 International Executive Secretary adding Office Manager to the category and removing all page numbers**

**Current Version: – Article V – Summary of Operations – Section 1: The Fellowship shall be guided in our overall program as follows:**

**Category Article Page**

**Members IV, V, VI 2-4**

**Groups VII 4-6**

**Board of Trustees VIII, IX, XVII, XVIII 6-13; 25-26**

**Intergroup Guidelines X 13-15**

**Regional Service Office XI 16-18**

**Area Delegates XII 18**

**Board of Regents XIII, XIV 18-22**

**International Service Office XV 22**

**International Executive Secretary XVI 22-25**

**Voting XIX 27**

**Amendments XX 28**

**Proposed Version: – Article V – Summary of Operations – Section 1: The Fellowship shall be guided in our overall program as follows: Category Article**

**Members IV, V, VI**

**Groups VII**

**Board of Trustees VIII, IX, XVII, XVIII**

**Intergroup Guidelines X**

**Regional Service Office XI**

**Area Delegates XII**

**Board of Regents XIII, XIV**

**International Service Office XV**

**International Executive Secretary & Office Manager XVI**

**Voting XIX**

**Amendments XX**

**Bob C. – Area 3A – San Diego, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

For 76 Against 5

This item chaired by Steve F., 1st Co-Chair

## **43. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**Other Existing Literature – Group Handbook – Page 11 – add paragraph.**

**Add the following sentence as a new paragraph at the bottom of page 11 of the Group Handbook. All minors are welcome at all G.A. meetings as long as they are accompanied by an adult. This is required for both open meetings and closed meetings. There are no exceptions.**

**Current Version: None.**

**Proposed Version: All minors are welcome at all G.A. meetings as long as they are accompanied by an adult. This is required for both open meetings and closed meetings. There are no exceptions.**

**Ara H. – Area 1 – Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

Motion as written

Amended motion to remove “There are no exceptions.”

Amended motion failed.

Item tabled.

This item chaired by Harold, 2nd Co-Chair

#### **44. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**By-Laws – Article III — Directors Section 7 – Change “...Under Special Circumstances, absence from a Board meeting may be excused by a majority vote of the Board of Regents in attendance...” to “...Absence from a Board meeting may be excused by the Chairman of the Board of Regents...”**

**Current Version: Section 7: A Regent is automatically removed from office on missing two (2) consecutive regular board meetings or when any Regent has missed four (4) regular meetings during their two (2) year term inclusive of the mandatory June meeting immediately following the election of the Board of Regents, or for not maintaining regular attendance at G.A. meetings as prescribed by the Guidance Code. Under special circumstances, absence from a Board meeting may be excused by a majority vote of the Board members in attendance.**

**Proposed Version: Section 7: A Regent is automatically removed from office on missing two (2) consecutive regular board meetings or when any Regent has missed four (4) regular meetings during their two (2) year term inclusive of the mandatory June meeting immediately following the election of the Board of Regents, or for not maintaining regular attendance at G.A. meetings as prescribed by the Guidance Code. Absence from a Board meeting may be excused by the Chairman of the Board of Regents.**

**Jack R. for John C. – Area 1A – Orange County, California**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs a second vote.

1st Vote.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

#### **45. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**By-Laws – Article III — Directors Section 6**

**Change 200 miles wherever it appears to 100 miles.**

**Change “...if approved by a majority of the Board members in physical attendance...” to “will be granted by the Chairman of the Board of Regents”.**

**Current Version: – Section 6: Five (5) members of the Board of Regents shall constitute a quorum. The Board of Regents does not acknowledge proxies in any form. If a Board member resides within 200 miles from the International Service Office, physical attendance constitutes presence. For Board members residing within 200 miles, telephonic or video conferencing will constitute presence, Under special circumstances if approved by a majority of the Board members in physical attendance. For those residing outside of 200 miles a physical, telephonic or video conferencing attendance constitutes presence. A maximum of four (4) Regents residing outside of 200 miles of the International Service Office who do not physically attend meetings can be seated at one time.**

**Proposed Version: – Section 6: Five (5) members of the Board of Regents shall constitute a quorum. The Board of Regents does not acknowledge proxies in any form. If a Board member resides within 100 miles from the International Service Office, physical attendance constitutes presence. For those residing outside of 100 miles, physical, telephonic, or video conferencing attendance constitutes presence. As trusted servants, requests for telephonic, video, or excused absence will be granted by the Chairman of the Board of Regents. A maximum of four (4) Regents residing outside of 100 miles of the International Service Office who do not physically attend meetings can be seated at one time.**

**Jack R. for John C. – Area 1A – Orange County, California**

Motion as written,

Item passed. Needs 2nd Vote.

1st Vote.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

#### **46. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**Combo Book – Page 14 Top**

**world series pool to Super Bowl box pool**

**Current Version: – Does this mean I can't even participate in a little penny ante game or a world series pool?**

**Proposed Version: – Does this mean I can't even participate in a little penny ante game or a Super Bowl box pool?**

**Joe B – Area 15 – New York City and surrounding areas**

Motion as written.

Item failed majority.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

**47. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**New Literature – Appropriate Literature Combo Book Page 14 Add Sports Betting**

**Current Version: – ... fantasy sports or entering the office sports pool.**

**Proposed Version: – ... fantasy sports or entering the office sports pool or sports betting.**

**Ron W. – Area 17 – Connecticut and Western Massachusetts**

This item was withdrawn.

**48. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**New Literature – Appropriate Literature Combo Book Page 14 first paragraph – remove entering the office sport pool and replace with (sports betting.)**

**Current Version: – ...fantasy sports, or entering the office sports pool.**

**Proposed Version: – ...fantasy sports or sports betting.**

**Ron W. – Area 17 – Connecticut and Western Massachusetts**

This item was withdrawn.

**49. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**New Literature – Appropriate Literature Combo Book Page 17 item number 5 first sentence Bold (RECOVERY AND UNITY STEPS) “AND” in smaller font**

**Current Version: – 5. Read the RECOVERY and UNITY steps often and continuously review the Twenty Questions.**

**Proposed Version: – 5. Read the RECOVERY AND UNITY STEPS often and continuously review the Twenty Questions.**

**Doris S. – Area 2H – Western Washington, North of Longview To The Canadian Border and West Of The Cascade Mountains**

Motion as written

Item failed majority.

This item chaired by Harold A., 2nd Co-Chair

**50. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**Combo Book – Page 13 1st full sentence starting with “When it comes to gambling, we have known many compulsive gamblers who could abstain for long stretches...”**

**Current Version: – When it comes to gambling, we have known many compulsive gamblers who could abstain for long stretches but caught off guard and under the right set of circumstances, they started gambling without thought of the consequences.**

**Proposed Version: – When it comes to gambling, we have known many compulsive gamblers who could abstain for long stretches but caught off guard and under the right or wrong set of circumstances, they started gambling without thought of the consequences.**

**Doris S. – Area 2H – Western Washington, North of Longview to The Canadian Border and West Of The Cascade Mountains**

Motion as written.

Item failed.

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

### **51. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**Combo Book – Page 16 of the Combo Book Question 18 – Add the word “resentments” to the list of items that “create within you an urge to gamble?”**

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

**Proposed Version: – Do arguments, disappointments, frustrations, or resentments create within you an urge to gamble?**

**Alvin F. – Area 1 – Central California, Los Angeles Area and Hawaii**

Motion as written.

Item failed.

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

### **52. LITERATURE – Current Literature**

**Combo Book – Page 14 First Paragraph – remove entering the office sport pool and replace with sports betting.**

**Current Version: – This includes internet gambling, bingo, the stock market, commodities, options, buying or playing lottery tickets, raffle tickets, flipping a coin, fantasy sports or entering the office sport pool.**

**Proposed Version: – This includes internet gambling, bingo, the stock market, commodities, options, buying or playing lottery tickets, raffle tickets, flipping a coin, fantasy sports or sports betting.**

**Harold A. for Ron W. – Area 17 – Connecticut and Western Massachusetts**

Motion as written.

Item failed.

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

## **NEW LITERATURE**

### **53. NEW LITERATURE –New Pamphlet**

**THERE IS HOPE**

**See Attachment**

**Paul N – Area 2A – Alaska and British Columbia**

Motion as written.

Item passed. Needs second vote.

1st Vote.

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

### **54. LITERATURE – New Literature**

**Creation of New Literature – Combo Book Companion Guide of Definitions**

**See Attachment**

**Andy R. for Nancy W. – Area 13B – South New Jersey Counties – Burlington, Camden, Atlantic, Salem, Gloucester, Cumberland, and Cape May**

Motion as written.

Item passes merit vote.

It was pointed out that the agenda does not list this item as a merit vote, so the count was redone to show that the item failed majority.

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

### **55. NEW LITERATURE – Merit Vote**

## **Gamblers Anonymous Daily Quotes and Topics**

**See Attached for new literature**

**Andrew R. – Area 12 – New Jersey and Northeastern Pennsylvania**

Motion as written.

Committee was created. Members of this new committee are:

Andy R., Area 12 – Chair

Dean W., Area 1A

Anthony K., Area 10

Marc L., Area 3D

Wendy B., Area 1B

Walter G., Area 12

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

## **STEP CHANGES**

### **56. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article IV, Declaration, Principles for recovery 3- change” this Power of our own understanding” to “God as we understood Him”**

**Current Version: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of this Power of our own understanding.**

**Proposed Version: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.**

**Igor K. – Area 3 – Southern Nevada; Mesquite, Nevada; St. George, Utah; Cedar City, Utah; Bullhead City, Arizona; and Pahrump, Beatty and Overton, Nevada**

Motion to table this item.

Item tabled.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

Item added to the agenda:

### **67. CURRENT LITERATURE – Step Change**

**Change Article IV, Declaration, Principles of Recovery 5 and add the word God.**

**Current Version: Admitted to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.**

**Proposed Version: Admitted to God, ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.**

Motion to table item.

Item tabled.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **57. LITERATURE – Guidance Code Change**

**Article IV, Declaration, Principles for Recovery 6- change wording “these defects of character removed” to “God remove all these defects of character”**

**Current Version: Were entirely ready to have these defects of character removed**

**Proposed Version: Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.**

**Igor K. – Area 3 – Southern Nevada; Mesquite, Nevada; St. George, Utah; Cedar City, Utah; Bullhead City, Arizona; and Pahrump, Beatty and Overton, Nevada**

Motion to table.

Item tabled.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair.

### **58. STEP CHANGE – Change A Step**

**Combo Book, Unity Step #11, page 7**

**Remove the words “press, radio, films, television and Internet” and replace with “all public media”**

**Current Version: – 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: – Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion, we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of all public media.**

**Roxanne D – Area 3D – Arizona and New Mexico**

Motion to table.

Item tabled.

Marked as discussion only.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

## **BOT DECISIONS**

### **59. BOARD OF TRUSTEES DECISION**

**Translation of Literature**

**Poland would like permission to translate all GA-approved literature into Polish, except for “A Day at a Time” meditation book due to copyright restrictions.**

**Ara H. – Area 1 – Central California, Los Angeles Area, and Hawaii**

Motion as written.

Item passed.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **60. DISCUSSION ITEM – Hotline Cost**

**That the entire cost of administering the Hot Line be borne by the ISO rather than by individual Intergroups.**

**Jack R. For Jimmy D. – Area 1A – Orange County, California**

Item withdrawn.

## **TRUSTEE ALLOCATION / REALIGNMENT**

### **61. DISCUSSION ITEM – Realignment of Area**

**Area 6B Intergroup has decided by consensus that we can no longer effectively provide services to the Caribbean and any other meetings outside the state of Florida. We are presently working with the International Relations Committee to communicate this change to the affected meetings. Therefore, we request the realignment of Area 6B to immediately remove all meetings outside the state of Florida.**

**Steve P – Area 6B – West Coast of Florida, Panama, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and Trinidad**

Motion as written.

Item passed.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **62. DISCUSSION ITEM – Trustee Allocation**

**Area 1B currently has two trustees. We are requesting number of trustees be reduced to one effective July 1, 2024.**

**Wendy B. – Area 1B – Inland Empire, Palm Springs and San Bernardino California**

Motion as written.

Item passed.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair.



## **COMMITTEE RELATED**

### **63. COMMITTEE RELATED –Request a new committee**

**We plan to update the “Hosting an International Conference” pamphlet. Then submit it for approval. It would be temporary and then disbanded when done.**

**Cindi C. – Area 8 – Illinois and Northern Indiana**

Motion as written.

New committee created.

Members of the committee are Mary D., Chair; Donna M., Co-Chair; Reba L., Area 8, Wendy B., Area 1B, Cindi C., Area 8; and Doug K., Area 8.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair.

### **64. COMMITTEE RELATED**

#### **Digital Oversight Committee**

**The committee has done some research and realized that we (Gamblers Anonymous as an organization) fall short with our presence on all platforms of social media. The committee has produced a YouTube video that is attached. The committee is working on additional videos to post on other platforms.**

**Butch G. – Committee Chair**

This item ruled out of order.

This item chaired by Pete K., Chair

### **65. GENERAL DISCUSSION – Committee Formation**

**Consider the formation of a committee to reach out to College and University Mental Health Departments, to supply literature. Also, advise Hot line numbers and meeting lists. Possibly help to start meetings on campus.**

**Andy R. – Area 12 – New Jersey and Northeastern Pennsylvania**

The PR committee would be willing to start a subcommittee for this.

This item was chaired by Pete K., Chair

Pete K. then had the room recognize the trustees in the room who would not be returning as trustee for their area. He thanked them for their service to the fellowship.

The meeting was closed on May 6,2024. The fall Board of Trustees meeting will be announced at a later date.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KCB.**

KCB,  
International Executive Secretary

**ROLL CALL**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
1	Alvin F.	4	9A	Patricia D.	Absent
1	Alyssica C.	4	10	Anthony K.	4
1	Bruce W.	Absent*	10	Ed G.	4
1A	Dean W.	4	10A	Jeff H.	Absent*
1A	Jack R.	4	10A	Loreane S.	Absent*
1B	Anita R.	Absent*	10B	Gary B.	Absent
1B	Wendy B.	4	11	Jodi P.	4
2	Beth Z.	1	11	Billy C.	4
2	Jared H.	Absent*	12	Andry R.	4
2	Ray J.	4	12	Ted S.	Absent
2	Tita M.	4	12	Walter G.	4
2A	Paul N.	4	13	Greg M.	4
2B	Charlene L.	4	13	Marla J.	4
2B	James B.	4	13	Mike M.	Absent
2E	Debra B.	4	13A	Rick L.	4
2G	Chris M.	4	13A	Tijuana MT	4
2G	Dave M.	Absent*	13B	Andy G.	Absent
2H	Doris S.	4	13B	Ron P.	2
2H	Terry D.	4	14	Maury C.	Absent
2J	Patricia D.	4*	14	Mitch M.	4
2K	Steve L.	4	14	Rob S.	Absent
3	Igor K.	4	14	Stuart B.	Absent*
3	Kirk L.	Absent	15	Alan J.	Absent*
3	Mark S.	4	15	James G.	Absent*
3	Rob P.	4	15	Jesse C.	Absent*
3	Steve D.	4	15	Stanley C.	Absent*
3A	Bob C.	4	16	Carl D.	4
3A	Butch G.	4	16	Wayne C.	Absent*
3B	Paul G.	Absent*	16A	Dan L.	Absent*
3B	Ron G.	Absent	17	Robert A.	Absent*
3C	Paula C.	4	17	Ronny W.	Absent*
3D	Marc L.	4	18	Andy D.	4
3D	Roxanne W.	4	18A	Mark C.	4*
3F	Julian F.	4	18A	Yvonne R.	Absent
4	Aldo I.	Absent	18B	Philomina V.	Absent
4	Debbie R.	Absent	18B	Rod B.	Absent
5	Frank P.	4	19	Horacio P.	Absent
5B	Adren R.	4	19	Jorge C.	4*
5B	Marc C.	4	19	Julia A.	4*
6	Neal G.	Absent*	21	Francisco M.	4*
6	Steven C.	Absent*	21	Pedro T.	4*
6	Steven H.	4	22	Andrew B.	Absent
6A	Alan A.	Absent	23	Joao Carlos	4*
6A	James C.	4	23A	Clecio S.	4*
6B	Paulette T.	4	28	Hector T.	4*
6B	Dave T.	4	28	Luis O.	4

6C	Mike A.	4	28	Marymar V.	4*
6C	Tom K.	4	29	Konstantin U.	4*
7	Iris D.	Absent*	29A	Oleg I.	4*
7	Leanne W.	4	29B	Eduard U.	4*
7A	Deborah S.	4	33	William S.	4*
7A	Mike H.	Absent*	37	Ali A.	Absent
7C	Jim G.	Absent	38	Belinda L.	4*
8	Cindi C.	4			
8	Dianna R.	Absent*			
8	Donna M.	4			
8	Mary W.	4			
9	Carol K.	4			

**\*Absentee ballot received**

Chair B.O.T. – Pete K. 4  
1st Co-Chair – Steve F. 4  
2nd Co-Chair – Harold A. 4  
Chair B.O.R. – Ara H. 4  
I.E.S. – Valerie D. 4