

MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

16TH ANNUAL MIDWEST CONFERENCE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS MARRIOTT OAK BROOK HOTEL

OCTOBER 20th & 21st, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Al G., Chairman of the Board of Trustees at 2:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Designation - Trustee (T) Alternate Trustee (A)  
Alternate Trustee Acting Trustee (AT)  
Number of Sessions (4) 100% Attendance  
Number of Sessions Attended (4)

PRESENT: Manuel E., (T) (4)-(4), Melvyn M., (T) (4)-(4), Al G., (T) (4)-(4), Don S., (A) (4)-(4), Phil G., (T) (4)-(4), Howie C., (T) (4)-(4), Jerry S., (A) (4)-(4), Abraham L., (AT) (4)-(4), Ira C., (T) (4)-(4), George J., (T) (4)-(4), Stafford K., (T) (4)-(4), Jerry G., (A) (4)-(4), Lou D., (A) (4)-(4), Larry K., (T) (4)-(4) Bill G., (T) (4)-(4), James P., (T) (4)-(4), Robert B., (A) (4)-(1), Tom S., (A) (4)-(2), Don S., (T) (4)-(4), Eddie L., (T) (4)-(4), Pat P., (T) (4)-(4), Joe K., (T) (4)-(4), Milt K., (A) (4)-(4), Tony D., (T) (4)-(4), Joe S., (T) (4)-(4), Steve T., (T) (4)-(4), Robert N., (AT) (4)-(4), Wm. B., (AT) (4)-(4), Ken G., (AT) (4)-(4), Ed B., (AT) (4)-(4), David F., (A 2nd Ch.) (4)-(4).

ABSENT: Harry P., (T) Marcia R., (A) Lynne H., (A) Jerry S., (A) Hank K., (T) Bob G., (A) Charles S., (A) Al J., (T) Milton K., (A) Dick G., (A) Robert B., (A) Jimmy S., (A) Bill G., (A) Joe N., (A) Norman B., (A) Scott A., (A) Joel F., (T), Simon S., (T) Steve B., (A) Phillip G., (A) George B., (T) Paul T., (T).

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Directory of Gamblers Anonymous terms. Motion to table Joe S., 2nd.  
For...22 Against...1 Abstained...0
2. Sponsorship pamphlet - 2nd voting.  
Page 1. Motion George J., 2nd Tony D.  
Amendment #1 Motion Phil G., 2nd George J.  
Amendment #2 Motion Eddie L., 2nd Howie C. Incoordinate 1 & 2 amendment most likely to select Group Secretary or Trusted Servant.  
For...18 Against...3 Abstained...0 Remove B.  
Page 2. Motion change K. No second the motion dies. Page 2 o.k.  
Page 3. Motion Bill B., 2nd Howie C., after program- underline reciprocate.  
For...17 Against...3 Abstained...3  
Page 4. Motion Steve T., 2nd Kim G., 1st line take out period.  
Insert line 6 belonging for community  
Insert line 9 fellowship for community  
For...19 Against...0 Against...0  
Page 5. Motion Eddie L., 2nd Howie C., take out line 3, (who are) take out (if there are enough willing members). 2 paragraph add line 4 after is one.  
For...20 Against...0 Abstained...0  
Page 6. Motion Bill B., 2nd Bob N., take 4 heading take out RETURNS.  
Amendment #1 add and ask that a new sponsor be appointed.  
Amendment #2 it is no sin to let go.  
Motion For...21 Against...0 Abstained...0 Passed  
1st Amendment For...23 Against...0 Abstained...0 Passed  
2nd Amendment For... 5 Against...18 Abstained...0 Defeated

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- Page 7. Remove the number 8 capitalize rest of sentence and move down some for separation from 1st seven. Al G., to make correction and send out to Board of Trustees for 2nd voting by mail meeting.
3. Motion regarding the 12 Steps of Recovery. Bill B., 2nd  
Tabled For...16 Against...4 Abstained...0
4. Cassette tapes-reading of Combo Book - 2nd voting. Motion Bill B., on the question.  
For...24 Against...0 Abstained...0  
Also Spanish and French. Passed
5. Change National Service Office to World Service Office discussion on question.  
For...0 Against...21 Abstained...2 Defeated
6. Combo Book - Page 17, #3 - Don't Gamble for Anything in BOLD TYPE.  
For...22 Against...0 Abstained...0 2nd voting passed
7. Gamblers Anonymous multi use public awareness booklet type, telephone send to committee. Motion Mel M., 2nd Bill B.  
For...24 Against...0 Abstained...0  
Produce the initial cost suggested by committee. Motion Bill B., 2nd Eddie L.  
Selling price/100,000, \$24.00 per 1,000 approximately or 3.1¢  
Suggest to Board of Regents to let committee print. *OK*  
For...20 Against...5 Abstained...0 2nd vote passed
8. How I keep from Gambling - Booklet - 1st vote. Motion to table Bill B., 2nd.  
For...13 Against...0 Abstained...0
- 8A. Questions and Answers About Gambling. Page 2, 4th paragraph - 2nd voting.  
For...21 Against...0 Abstained...1 Approved

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. 30th Anniversary Conference 1987.  
Phil G., motion to have one conference 1987, 2nd Howie C.  
For...1 Against...22 Abstained...0 Defeated  
Will have three (3) as per usual.
2. Big Book Report:  
New Big Book Committee: Interim Report - April 83 to the present

The portion of the book devoted to the fictionalized short story has been completed by Mr. Johns of Writers Alliance - Eddie L., and Bill B., have copies in their possession. We have been informed by Writers Alliance that the entire book (COMPLETED THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 10th) has been proofread by their staff. It is my belief that the book should be reviewed by the Committee before our going to production. There were errors found in the manuscript as well as changes and revisions suggested by Committee members. In addition, the short story (not so short) must be reviewed by the committee and a decision made as to where it will be placed in the book.

I must also state that the committee found Mr. Johns very uncooperative in meeting our deadline for finishing the book. It has been a very frustrating experience in our seeing this through to a conclusion. His procrastination and long-winded double talk has pushed most of us to the limit.

As far as ownership of the short story, through the efforts of Bill B. we reached an agreement with Mr. Johns - to reflect our ownership of

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2. (Big Book Report Continued)  
the entire book. Mr. Johns, again, has put off completing a document which would put it in writing. I would ask at this time that Bill, if he feels it appropriate, be more specific as to the agreement.

There has been some discussion among committee members as to whether they would approve the additional \$5,000 to Writers Alliance. For reasons stated above and for differences in opinion concerning the quality of the short story (relating to length, form and content) a final decision on paying him the additional money has not been made.

I would like to state that the entire committee still feels that the short story would be an excellent addition to the book - and I believe a majority of members would approve the short story, with certain changes and modifications. (I WOULD LIKE SANDY, EDDIE AND BILL TO VOICE THEIR COMMENTS AT THIS TIME).

An out of pocket expense voucher (covering the period January 1983 through the present) is attached to the report. Writers alliance asks for prompt payment of \$2,496. I have not as yet seen the bill (they are mailing it to me today) but I request that the members of the committee present make comment on the vouchers credibility.

As far as production of the book, the entire committee feels it would be best if this Committee carries the project through to its completion. We have been receiving estimates on costs and are aware of all the elements that go into the entire production package. Equally important, we are most familiar with the content of the book and how it should be presented. We would present all our findings and recommendations to the Board of Regents for their approval. I welcome any additional comments from the committee members present and from Dave, (Connecticut).

In conclusion, I applaud the entire committee for their efforts. Their devotion to this project, as well as their desire to get the job done, has never wavered.

Production of the book the entire committee feels it would be best if this committee carried through the entire project to it completion printing and all. Motion Mel M., to present this to the Board of Regents and Trustees. Suggest the Board of Regents give committee permission to print book themselves.  
For...20 Against...0 Abstained...0 Passed

3. National Service Office bulletin long discussion try to improve letters. What should not be put in etc., try to improve. Board of Trustees to write articles and stories to put in bulletin? Better work, better editing, keep working on the bulletin, has improved in last three months. Shall try Jim Z., Editor and Chief.
4. Open and combined meetings handled at a previous Board of Trustees meeting. Passed provided you follow the Guidance Code on seven steps to conduct a Gamblers Anonymous meeting.
5. Expenses for Trustees and Alternate Trustees. Motion Mel M., Trustees be paid by National Service Office and Alternate, 2nd.

For...7 Against...15 Abstained...0 Defeated

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6. Have standing rules for Board of Trustees things passed by Board of Trustees in previous Board of Trustees meeting and not put any place. Bill B., volunteered to be chair of this committee. For...22 Against...1 Abstained...0
7. Committee to be formed to write a new recovery and unity book. Send idea to Sandy Casentine, 440 W. 34th Street, New York, New York 10001 Telephone # (212) 594-6287 on Recovery and Unity Book

NEW BUSINESS:

1. National Executive Secretary of National Service Office should serve a two year term - the same as the Trustees. Page 9, section 9, Guidance Code. Motion Steve T., 2nd Bob N., 2 year term as written. Takes 2/3 votes to carry. For...14 Against...9 Abstained...0 Defeated
2. Regional 2-A only conference be published in the National Service Office bulletin regardless of the time frame, providing they are at least 700 miles away from the National Conference. For...12 Against...11 Abstained...0 Passed
3. Combo Book, page 6, #6, to read: Gamblers Anonymous ought never endorse, finance or lend the Gamblers Anonymous name to any outside enterprise which is not related to the Gamblers Anonymous or Gamanon fellowships, lest problems of money, property and prestige, divert our fellowship from our primary purpose. For...0 Against...25 Abstained...0 Defeated
4. Combo Book - move "I sought my soul" prayer to the back page under the National Service Office information. 1st vote on the question. Motion Al G., 2nd Ken G. For...3 Against...18 Abstained...0 Defeated
5. Combo Book - page 13, change, "right set of circumstances" to "wrong set of circumstances." 1st vote. Motion Phil G., 2nd Bob N., on the question. For...6 Against...18 Abstained...0 Defeated
6. Combo Book - inside cover, 5th line of the Prayer to read, "I sought my brothers and sisters." 1st vote on the question. For...0 Against...23 Abstained...1 Defeated
7. Combo Book - page 11, paragraph 2, eliminate "Then too, there is a theory that." 1st vote. For...1 Against...23 Abstained...1 Defeated
8. Combo Book - page 11, new paragraph to read as follows:  
What types of compulsive gamblers attend Gamblers Anonymous?  
There are at least three types of compulsive gamblers attending Gamblers Anonymous.
  1. The compulsive gambler who gambles for the action.
  2. The compulsive gambler who gambles to win.
  3. The compulsive gambler who gambles to lose.For...0 Against...25 Abstained...0 Defeated
9. Combo Book - page 5, step 11, change "understood" to "understand." 1st vote. Motion Al G., 2nd Phil G. For...2 Against...18 Abstained...0 Defeated
10. Schedule for future Trustee Meetings enclosed. Motion change National conference from 3 per year to 2 a year Jerry G., 2nd Bill B. For...1 Against...24 Abstained...0 Defeated
- 10A. Schedule for future conference national one per year. Schedule 2nd meeting for trustees. Motion Jerry G., 2nd Al G. For...0 Against...23 Abstained...2 Defeated



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- Gamblers Anonymous posters (enclosed). Poster price \$37.00 per 1,000. Motion David S., 2nd Steve T., to except the poster without telephone number. Motion Phil G., 2nd Steve T., local area put in telephone number intergroup put in name, address. For...24 Against...0 Abstained...0 Passed 1st vote
12. Gamblers Anonymous bumper stickers (enclosed). Motion Howie to adapt bumper stickers but not the wording just a concept discussion. For...8 Against...16 Abstained...0 Defeated
13. Increase the number of members on the Board of Trustees Article XI, Section I an any other place it appears in Guidance Code to read this board shall not exceed thirty-six (36) Trustees and thirty-six (36) Alternate Trustees. Guidance Code takes 2/3 vote. Motion Al G., 2nd George J. For...21 Against...3 Abstained...0 Passed 1st vote
14. Combo Book - pages 4 and 5, change everything to the present tense. 1st vote on the question. For...1 Against...13 Abstained...0 Defeated
15. To affirm the suitability of a contribution specifically for Gamblers Anonymous upon the death of a Gamblers Anonymous member. Long discussion. Bulletin indicates from Jake G., #385 memorial fund. Motion Bill G., 2nd Manie E. For...6 Against...17 Abstained...0 Defeated  
Motion Bill B., list as Cincinnati, Ohio Jake G., 2nd Eddie L. For...Motion withdrawn.  
Motion Mel M., 2nd Manie E., to except the money with no restriction. For...7 Against...15 Abstained...0 Defeated  
Motion Tony D., 2nd Don S. Return the money donated by Cincinnati, Ohio to National Service Office. For...2 Against...19 Abstained...0 Defeated
16. Taping of the 20 question response and any therapy of a first time attendee at a Gamblers Anonymous meeting. Presentation of this tape to the individual a predetermined date. Motion Manie E., 2nd Bill B. For...2 Against...21 Abstained...0 Defeated
17. Ralph G., from Atlanta, Georgia booth 24 hours a day for four days. For suggestion how to present prevention of Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental health administration convention. Ralph has been asked to present Gamblers Anonymous to this convention.
17. Ira C., Florida. Motion Bill B., the act is ones own admission of "I was Gambling." Quote, unquote - 2nd. For...14 Against...10 Abstained...0  
Al G., to write a letter to Florida Intergroup. Yes.
17. Special request from Gamanon. Report by Eddie L., New Jersey in 1985, it will be 25 years from Gamanon. Would like a candle lighting at Eastern Conference up to the individual group that has the 1985, Eastern Conference.

ADDENDUM

- #1-A "Volunteer Compulsive Gambler Questionnaire." Permission is requested to allow the member groups of Tri-State Intergroup to pass these out to their members of their meetings. This request has been approved by the Tri-State Intergroup. The questionnaire is strictly anonymous and voluntary and the answers will be used by the State of Connecticut Compulsive Gambling Treatment Program to further their research, and develop statistics and criteria which will further enhance their treatment and study of compulsive gambling.  
Motion on the question David F., 2nd Tony D.  
Amendment For...24 Against...0 Abstained...0 Passed  
Motion For...22 Against...0 Abstained...2 Passed

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- #2-A Combo Book Change: Page 15- Add after "Twenty Questions" at top of page. Please answer yes or no for each question. (Think back to your active gambling days before you joined Gamblers Anonymous.) 1st vote. Motion David F., 2nd.  
For...1 Against...23 Abstained...0 Defeated
- #3-A Pressure Group Form Change: Under Part 3 Financial Summary change "Wife's Income" to "Spouse's Income" and add "(If agreeable)."  
From 3-A, 4-A and 5-A, take back and submit and bring back next meeting.
- #4-A Pressure Group Form Change: Under Part 1 LIST OF CREDITORS change to read as follows: (In following order: (a) bad checks or debts that can lead to criminal prosecution, (b) delinquent judgements, (c) delinquent taxes, (d) delinquent mortgage payments or rent, (e) banks and finance companies, (f) family and friends, (g) loan sharks and bookmakers, (h) others.  
From 3-A, 4-A and 5-A, take back and submit and bring back next meeting.
- #5-A Pressure Group Form Change: Under Part 2 Living Expenses:  
From 3-A, 4-A and 5-A, take back and submit and bring back next meeting.
- #6-A Combo Book, Page 6, #3, to read "The only requirements for Gamblers Anonymous membership is a desire to stop gambling and regular attendance at meetings. 1st vote Motion Tony D., 2nd George J. For...3 Against...22 Abstained...0 Defeated
- #7-A Combo Book, Page 12, 2nd paragraph, to read (Compulsive gambling is an emotional problem." 1st vote. Motion Ken G., 2nd Bill B.  
For...2 Against...23 Abstained...1 Defeated
17. Gamblers Anonymous Day By Day Book - Remove from agenda.
2. Pressure Group (Change to Pressure Relief Program) Change Combo Book Page 17, #6. Also change Pressure Group Meeting pamphlet and pressure group financial forms.  
For...24 Against...0 Abstained...0 1st vote passed
3. Whom you see here, What you hear here, When you leave here, Let it stay here. (Copy attached) For...24 Against...0 Abstained...0 Passed 1st vote.

18. GOOD AND WELFARE:

Dave F., I want to thank everyone for the opportunity of serving. This is my sixth year. More talking but, I have got a lot more out of it. It has been a pleasure a learning process. Thank you all.

Howie C., More unity and principle before personalities. Thanks AL G., for letting me share a portion of the meeting. Thanks to all of you, for putting up with my inexperience with emotions and the honor of serving. Thank you.

George J., I have had so much extraction in this meeting. The time has come that you people, trustees and alternates that you people really do care. The trustee's meeting is coming to an end. Expand the Board of Trustees, I understand that our area is picking up Texas, Arkansas, Brazil. Thank you.

Jerry G., It was a trying time but, I enjoyed it. One statement flying back from Chicago, we had a bit of therapy. Could not pickup share with the new people at the tables at the meals, it is very important. Thank you. 90% of 100 members from Chicago has not been to a conference. Share with them, who you are how long you been in the program. It is very important to them. Thank you.

Ed D., My first Board of Trustees meeting. Great to be here, I find it is nice to be in here. Thank you.

Norman W., Could not pickup.

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18. Eddie L., Could not pickup.

Bill B., Played a tape of the Gamblers Anonymous song, "The Gamblers Anonymous Theme Song." I enjoyed the discussion at the meeting participation in Gamblers Anonymous is important. Thanks for putting up with my talking sometimes extrenious talking. Thank you.

Tory D., I want to take this opportunity to thank Al G., Dave F., Howie C., a job well done.

Larry K., Participation with the collective experence everything right or wrong in the highest form on the disscussion of what the fellowship talked about and I was allowed to participate to the best of my ability. I will at all time carry the wishes of this fellowship to Gamblers Anonymous as a whole.

Marie E., I learned one thing, the high percentage of emotions, this has been very, very nice. I love everybody in the room. I enjoy everything, I have come to this fellowship. Thank the people in Los Angeles, that had enough confidence to vote for me and send me to this conference. Thank you.

Mel M., Was an honor to be here the last two days. Was happy to participate and get involved with everybody to learn and give with everybody. Thank you.

Abraham L., My first meeting, very happy to be here. I learned more in the last two days of the concept of Gamblers Anonymous, than I did the last 4½ years being a member. Thank you.

Jim P., Always an honor to be here as always. Thank you.

Jerry S., Been a lot of B.S. from Bill and Steve, I learned a lot patience, tolerance. Thank you.

Bill G., A very worthwhile meeting. It was great subject that were tabled (How I Keep From Gambling). Suggest 12-Step of Recovery, I suggest we get these out now so the trustees can think about them. Rather that putting them out in March. Let the trustees do their home work early. Veterans Hospital Program, Brecksville worth while. Colorado, Springs Colorado, started with a treatment center.

Tom S., Alternate Trustee, thank you for sharing this meeting with me. Thank.

Phil G., Always a please to be here at conference. I thank you very much for passing the conference in North South Western Canada etc. My people in my area will appreciate it. Thank you and keep up the good work, I think it is Fantastic.

Dan C., I thank you, new chair people for a job well done. Especially host from Chicago for providing limousine service from airport, sorry I was late getting here. Thank you. "More envolved in next meeting."

Don S., Advised to talk at Philadelphia could not pickup. If you have difference of opinions express them here, loud and clear and we will listen. Thank you.

Joe K., New Jersey, 2nd meeting accelerating the first meeting. The second meeting, I was accelerated twice as much at this meeting. One though about the tape at first meeting, when reading 20 questions. Thank you.

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8. Pat P., (Committees) Most committees the Trustees and Alternates a job well done regardless if they are pro or con. We accomplished something in every trustees meeting. Their always some subject where we accomplished something. Thank you.

Milt K., I can not understand how, I got up and spoke. Each conference is better than the last. My son-in-law and I were talking and I said, we are just finishing a conference. He said give them hell. I am a doer. I appreciate it, so much. Want to thank everyone. Thank the Big Book committee for a job well done.

Ira C., I phoned everyone about these problems I have, I had a lot of them. Thank everyone for their output and hope we have a lot more unity in South Florida.

Dave S., Ship a couple of members from Long Island, New York to Florida. Thank the officers for a job well done. Critized the Chicago group for having the conference across from the shopping center. My wife has been there for six (6) hours. Hospital now in Long Island, which is doing a marvelous job. Thank you.

Bob N., Thank the chairman for making a good agenda. Thank the trustees for sharing my learning experience and for me, to be able to present something that does not always come out on top. I can except this in the right spirit and I thank you for this.

Steve T., Proud to be here. Bob said, something important life on the opposite side of an issue and really felt something for the fellows for his or her views. Chicago made a major effort to get other areas involved in the work shops. New York Conference 27th to 29th of April, 1984. New York racing as on public address system like so, Bet your head-Not over your head. Thank you. I know where I came from and very proud to be here.

Ken G., Enriching meeting, been will organized. I listen and learned and I owe it to my fellowship, to the best of my ability. Thank you.

Stafford K., First meeting thank you for a very good meeting and I love you all.

Lou D., Thank Board of Trustees, Chairman and Co-Chairman. Great learning experience in two days, I have spent my six years in Gamblers Anonymous new input to Gamblers Anonymous as a whole. Thank you.

Jim Z., National Executive Secretary, More input from the Trustees from the different area of the country so, we can present a better bulletin. Much better than what we have had.

Al G., I want to thank everybody for the support and encouragement.

Joe S., I would like to thank the chairman and co-chairman. Like to remind everyone here that we have the Public Awareness pamphlet that we have to print. We need all answering service telephone numbers.

Bob B., Thanks for getting the meeting over on time

Al G., Third time my name is Al G. I will do everything I can to make the next agenda much better than this one and I will try to have everything up to date and ready to go. To get the most out of it. Thank you for the faith in me and the two assistant chairmen for doing an excellent job. May we all enjoy good health so, we may see each other in New York at the next Trustees Meeting. Collection \$250.00.

Respectively Submitted By  
Jim Z., Recording Secretary