

MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
18TH ANNUAL GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS MIDWEST CONFERENCE
DETROIT HILTON AIRPORT INN
OCTOBER 24 - 25, 1985

The meeting was called to order by George J, #1 Assistant Chairman at 3:10 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: Irving S., (T)(4)(4), Manuel E., (T)(4)(4), Phil K., (A)(4)(4),
Melvyn M., (A)(4)(4), Dan B., (T)(4)(4), Jim S., (A)(4)(4),
Bob M., (T)(4)(4), Peter C., (T)(4)(4), Marvin H., (T)(4)(4),
Hank K., (T)(4)(4), Harvey S., (A)(4)(4), Morris B., (T)(4)(4),
Frank D., (T)(4)(4), Jerry G., (T)(4)(4), Stafford K., (T)(4)(4),
Don B., (A)(4)(4), Danny M., (T)(4)(4), Bill G., (T)(4)(4), James
P., (T)(4)(4), Tom S., (A)(4)(4), Eddie L., (T)(4)(4), Arnie W.,
(T)(4)(3), Ed W., (AT)(4)(4), Tony D., (T)(4)(4), Tony M., (A)
(4)(4), David S., (T)(4)(4), Marvin H., (T)(4)(4), Wm. B.-Chair-
man, (T)(4)(4), Steve T., (T)(4)(4), Jerry R., (T)(4)(4), Arthur
F., (AT)(4)(4), Norman W., (AT)(4)(4), Marty D., (A)(4)(4),
Sandy C., (A)(4)(4), Kenneth G., (T)(4)(4), Paul P., (A)(4)(4),
Ed B., (T)(4)(4), Rick E., (A)(4)(4), Andy P., - Chairman, Board
of Regents, (4)(4), Davie F. - 2nd Assistant Chairman, (4)(4),
George J. - 1st Assistant Chairman, (4)(4).

ABSENT: Harry P., (T), Frank M., (A), Nina C., (A), Abraham L., (A),
Harold S., (A), Robert V., (A), Lou D., (A), Dick D., (A), Fred
P., (A), Don S., (T), Robert G., (A), Matty C., (T), Thomas
H., (A), Irwin S., (A), Lee K., (A), Don R., (A), Joe S., (T),
Simon S., (T), Scott A., (A).

2. Statement by the Chairman. First, it is the responsibility of the Trustee to obtain information to bring the International Directory up to date. Take your area and send in all active groups and make all deletions and corrections. Eliminate last names from all printing in bulletin, etc.
3. Minutes of the Meeting of May 16, 1985. Approved by default. No-one made any corrections. They stand approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Second vote: No Trustee should serve more than three consecutive terms.
For...10 Against...15 Defeated
2. Second Vote: Combo Book - Page 16, Question 13 to read, "Did gambling make you careless of the welfare of yourself and your family?"
For...22 Against...1

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OLD BUSINESS:

3. Second Vote: Insert in the Guidance Code the vote taken in Chicago in 1977 concerning length of time Trustees have to get the items on the Agenda, and for the Chairman to get to the hands of the Trustees. It is now 65-45 prior to Conference.
For...24 Against...0
4. Second Vote: To insert in Guidance Code-Page 11, "Upon election of new Chairperson and Assistant Chairpersons of the Board of Trustees, it will be their responsibility to fulfill votes and suggestions approved by previous Board."
For...26 Against...0
5. Second Vote: Combo Book-Page 10, Delete lines 3, 4,5.
For...21 Against...1
6. Second Vote: Combo Book-Page 10, first two lines to read: "What are some characteristics of a person who is a compulsive gambler?"
For...21 Against...0
7. Second Vote: Combo Book-Page 11, Line 11 to read: "This is another common..."
For...23 Against...0
8. Second Vote: Combo Book-Page 8, starting with the last word, third line from the bottom, "However, it will seldom" to "However, it will never"
For...19 Against...5
- 8A. From the Minutes of May 16, 1985, a motion was made by Steve T, seconded by Arnie W. Put on Page 17, #3 in Combo Book, "For the compulsive gambler purchasing of stock, commodities and options is gambling".
For...23 Against...2 Second Vote
9. Second Vote: Guidance Code-Page 11, Section 2, "To hold mail meeting as often as possible".
For...11 Against...11 Defeated
10. Second Vote: Guidance Code-Page 15, Section 4, "Trusted servants are required to have abstained from gambling for at least two years".
For...20 Against...2
11. Second Vote: Guidance Code-Article 12, Section 7, "To limit \$2,500.00 per year by voucher".
For...24 Against...0

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OLD BUSINESS:

12. Second Vote: Guidance Code-Article 25, Section 5 to eliminate, "All group representatives".
For...25 Against...1
13. Second Vote: Guidance Code-Page 8, Article 11, Section 6, to change #17 to #20.
For...25 Against...1

REPORTS:

1. Las Vegas problem: A letter from every Trustee and Alternate Trustee. Write them your thoughts and feelings and recommendations. Committee to contact - Las Vegas Group, Chairman-Andy P., Bob F., Phil S., Jim Z., and have a meeting of all that want to attend from Las Vegas G.A. and Las Vegas Intergroup in the future, before Brown's.
2. Fall River, Massachusetts wants reinstatement as a Gamblers Anonymous Group. Board of Trustees can only recommend Gamblers Anonymous approved literature for conducting a Gamblers Anonymous Group.
3. How it works. Motion to table. Seconded.
For...18 Against...1
4. New Big Book Report: In stock - 2,200 copies. Keep pushing to sell. Groups, Intergroups, local libraries, 90 Day Plateaus.
5. Committee concerning the updating of N.S.O. free literature. Motion to table to Brown's Trustees Meeting.
6. Bulletin Committee: Send your question to N.S.O. Put Agenda of Board of Trustees Meeting in Bulletin, personal experiences, group experiences, Trustees section. Share your hope, strength and experiences through the Life Line Bulletin.
7. Northern California Intergroup By-Laws, Article 16: Is this in accordance with the G.A. Guidance Code? Motion made and seconded to leave Article 16 to Northern California Intergroup By-Laws.
For...11 Against...21 Defeated

NEW BUSINESS:

1. How items are placed on the Agenda. Must have a name on it, explanation or brief explanation of topic.
For...8 Against...17 Defeated

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NEW BUSINESS:

2. Can the Board of Trustees recommend a book for the Fellowship to read? There was a motion by Peter C., seconded. Board of Trustees can only recommend Gamblers Anonymous approved Gamblers Anonymous literature.
- 2A. Bibliography is not approved for information only Amendment. Should we continue to send out Bibliography.

For...17	Against...6	On Amendment
For...4	Against...16	On Motion Defeated
3. To correct "tense" of Recovery Steps. See enclosed. Amend to "present tense" verbs are:
Motion on the Questions as submitted by George J. and seconded.

For...3	Against...20	Defeated
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4. Recovery and Unity Revision. See enclosed Recovery. How they went about it. Three meetings were having Step Meetings and asked for feedback. George J., made a motion to accept this as a first vote for Gamblers Anonymous approved literature, subject to revision as appointed by the Chairman. Committee to clean up are Ed W. and Eddie L.

For...22	Against...0	First Vote
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5. Combo Book-Page 17, Item 3. Change from current to definition of gambling.

For...0	Against...22	Defeated
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6. Combo Book-Page 14, Second Paragraph. Put semi-colon after "avoid" and remove the phrase after that word. Then put last sentence of Page 17, Item 3 after the word "avoid" on Page 14. Then Page 14 would read as follows: "it means exactly that a stand has to be made somewhere. Gamblers Anonymous has found the first bet is the one to avoid; this includes buying lottery tickets, raffle tickets, flipping a coin or entering the office sports pool. (This will be voted as corrected concerning the Stock Market)

For...6	Against...15	Defeated
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7. Australian proposal for "New Big Book". See Glen's letter enclosed. Combined #7 and #4 for Committee. (Eastern-Arthur F.) (Southwest-Houston-Frank D., New Orleans) (Western-Marvin H., Phoenix; Bob M., Andy P., Bob F., Manie E.) (Midwest-Hank K., Kenny G., Harvey S.)

For...17	Against...4
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8. Reprinting and revising of Foreign printing-French and Spanish when they run out.

For...17	Against...4
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- 8A. Suggest to the Board of Regents on Foreign printing consider for a period of one year.

For...11	Against...2	
For...22	Against...2	Recount

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NEW BUSINESS:

- ff. From minutes of 5-15-85. A motion was made by Steve T. and seconded. Put on Page 17-#3, "for the compulsive gambler, purchasing of stocks, commodities and options is gambling".

For...23 Against...2

Compcare Publications, "A Day At A Time" book. Shall it be continued? Are we going to do it the G.A. way? Motion made by Jerry G., and seconded to try to have the "One Day At A Time" book.

For...12 Against...13 Defeated

NOT ON
AGENDA:

1. Motion made by Stafford K. and seconded to have Compcare "A Day At A Time" book.

For...9 Against...12 Defeated

- 1A. A report on Anonymity in every Life Line Bulletin.

2. Seed Money. Guidelines for National Conference Fund Raising. It is our belief that an interest bearing checking account be set up in the amount of \$1,000.00 dollars. This money should be transferred from the General N.S.O Treasury. This Account to be double signature account and overseen by the Chairman of The Board of Trustees and his two Assistant Chairmen. This fund should be available to any committee of an already selected National Conference to alleviate the need of smaller host groups raising their own seed money. It would be a loan until end of Conference. After Conference to be sent back to N.S.O. treasury.

For...14 Against...11

3. Gamblers Anonymous Suggested Therapy and Step Meeting Format.

For...4 Against...19 On Amendment
For...3 Against...17 On Amendment
For...24 Against...0 On Motion

4. Change in Guidance Code-Page 7, Article XI, Section I, delete "39 meetings per year".

For...2 Against...23 Defeated

5. The Step Meeting as corrected.

For...25 Against...0 Second Vote

6. Can the N.S.O. put a phone number where none currently exist. Committee-Ken G.

7. Can any one City have more than one answering service. Motion made by Norman W.

For...4 Against...19 Defeated

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NEW BUSINESS:

9. Realignment of Trustees.

Area #1A Australia and New Zealand 25 Groups
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee 300 Members

Area #1 Central California and Greater 27 Groups
 Los Angeles 350 Members
 2 Trustees 2 Alternate Trustees

Area #2 Northern California, Nevada, 22 Groups
 So. Lake Tahoe, Carson City 275 Members
Motion for Northern California to be awarded another Trustee
and Alternate Trustee.
 For...26 Against...0

Area #2A Northwestern United States, 11 Groups
 Western Canada 150 Members
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee

Area #3 Nevada 18 Groups
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee 75 Members

Area #3A Southern California, Arizona 10 Groups
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee 150 Members

Area #4 Ontario Canada, Hamilton 5 Groups
 Toronto 85 Members
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee

Area #5 Ottoway Valley, Quebec, 4 Groups
 Montreal 40 Members
Motion made by Bill B., and seconded by Manie E.
 For...20 Against...0

Area #6 Florida, Puerto Rico 11 Groups
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee 120 Members

Area #7 Georgia, Tennessee, North 10 Groups
 Carolina, South Carolina 85 Members
Motion made by Bill B. and seconded.
 For...24 Against...0
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee

Area #7A Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, 22 Groups
 Arkansas 150 Members
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee

Area #8 Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana
Motion made by Bill G. and seconded by Manie E.
 1 Trustee 1 Alternate Trustee

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NEW BUSINESS:

Area #8A	Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota , Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota	22 Groups 325 Members
1 Trustee	1 Alternate Trustee	
Area #9	Michigan, Toledo Ohio	5 Groups 60 Members
1 Trustee	1 Alternate Trustee	
Area #10	No. Ohio, Cleveland, Erie Pennsylvania, Youngstown, Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus Ohio, Louisville Kentucky, Albany Indiana	25 Groups 250 Members
1 Trustee	1 Alternate Trustee	
Area #10A	Wheeling W. Virginia, Western Pennsylvania, Washington,	13 Groups 150 Members
Motion made by Bill G., and seconded by Manie E. For...22 Against...0		
1 Trustee	1 Alternate Trustee	
Area #11	Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont	18 Groups 200 Members
1 Trustee	1 Alternate Trustee	
Area #12	New Jersey, Suffern, New York, Scranton Pennsylvania, Lockborough	25 Groups 500 Members
3 Trustees	3 Alternate Trustees	
Area #13	Eastern Pennsylvania and South Jersey, Baltimore Maryland, Washington D.C.	25 Groups 299 Members
2 Trustees	2 Alternate Trustees	
Area #14	Long Island New York, Hemstead New York, Long Island Inter- group	8 Groups 120 Members
		13 Groups 200 Members
2 Trustees	2 Alternate Trustees	
Area #15	New York, New York	45 Groups 900 Members
5 Trustees	5 Alternate Trustees	
Area #16	Upstate New York, Rochester, Niagara Falls, Bringhamton, Albany, Syracuse, Troy, Buffalo, Corning	14 Groups 100 Members
1 Trustee	1 Alternate Trustee	
Area #17	Tri-State Intergroup, Connect- icut, Long Meadows, Massachu- setts	14 Groups 220 Members
1 Trustee	1 Alternate Trustee	

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GOOD & WELFARE:

George J., Chicago - Former Trustee, 1st Assistant Chairman.

As I attend each Trustee Meeting over the years, I have noticed changes. I think that people are in doing the work at solving the problems that come before the Board, rather than personalities. I am most proud to be a member of this Board in the capacity I now serve as long as you people want me to. Thank you.

David F., Connecticut - 2nd Assistant Chairman, past Trustee.

We can all leave here in the frame of mind of helping ourselves, and the Fellowship to grow and forget the personalities that arrive here. We are here to help each other and ourselves and the Fellowship with the gambling problem and to help the Fellowship grow. I thank you for allowing me to serve our Fellowship.

Ed W., New Jersey - I accept the fact of where I am and I accept the fact that I was here and it was good to be able to share my own recovery with you. It made me feel good that I was a part and parcel of this package. The things that were brought up here have to be kept simple. For myself we have to spell out the different things. I do not believe in judgement. I believe that we can disagree and still have the same bond. In some of the Board meetings, I disagree with a very dear friend of mine in one area and that is growth. It all comes down to how free you feel within yourself. I saw a lot of positive things here. I am going to give my dollar at the door as I leave. Thanks.

Eddie L., New Jersey - A very nice job of finding a place that we all felt comfortable at and the warmth and sharing, it was great. I was not aware that Don S. of Massachusetts, Trustee, had a heart attack and is not here. I think we should have a moment of silence when we say the Serenity Prayer, that he will be back with us in the near future. I thank you.

Tom S., Cleveland - I would like to thank every one of you for sharing with me. Thank you.

Don M., Detroit - I feel honored to be able to be here and I feel honored to be one of your hosts. I think what is good for Gamblers Anonymous we do and we do not miss what is good for ourselves. Thank you.

Dick D., Detroit - Could not pick up. Thank you, Dick.

Andy P., Board of Regents Chairman, Los Angeles - A lot of good came out of this. We are not perfect, but we can keep striving. Maybe we can make the Fellowship better for compulsive gamblers who are still suffering. I do thank you.

Sandy C., New York - We have serenity. We really have it and I feel good about it. I want to thank Detroit for being a gracious host. I feel good about it. It was really nice for the warmth. I feel good about it. Thank you all from my second home town.

Ken G., Up-State New York - I want to thank Detroit for their hospitality. I really feel good about it. This meeting has taught me an awful lot. Pardon me for the judgement of this body. It hit me for what I was doing and I assessed it and changed my mind. Thank you.

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GOOD & WELFARE:

Paul P., Upstate New York - I am kind of groggy on the Board of Trustees, but you will probably hear more from me at the next meeting. Thank you.

Marty D., New York - Once again it has been a pleasure. I am very happy about some of the decisions that were made here. I am very pleased with the area of the meeting room. It was my pleasure. I feel I am coming away with something - a lot of warmth. Thank you. A very nice job. Thanks. I am very happy for some of the decisions that were made here today. I think it will help the meeting some. A very nice job.

Frank K., Canada - Former Trustee. I am pleased for the new literature. Thank you. I invite all of you to come to the 24 Hour Marathon we are having in Canada. Thank you, we can use your strength.

Frank D., Texas - This is my first meeting as a Trustee. My sponsor, he taught me the right way, "pay attention to the book, not me". He taught me the right way. I want to thank him. If it was not for him, I would not be where I am today.

Jerry R., New York - I want to thank everyone here for their knowledge, wisdom and their dedication. I want to thank everyone here for their input and for the fellowship.

Steve T., New York - I'd like to thank you for my name is a success for trying.

Artie F., New York - Gamblers Anonymous, I want to thank everybody but for some reason, I feel better. Thank you.

Tony M., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - I want to thank you all too, for my intake and knowledge I have gained.

Jim P., Wheeling, West Virginia - I'm very happy to be here. I want to thank the Committee that worked on the Conference. A job well done. Thank you.

Fred P., Pittsburgh - My first opportunity to be here and it was very impressive to me. I became more knowledgeable of the operation of the Gamblers Anonymous. I am impressed. I'd like to thank everyone for their sharing and I'd like to thank the hosts of this Conference. Thank you.

Marvin H., Phoenix, Arizona - Again it was an experience. When I attended my first Trustee Meeting at San Mateo it was my baptism of fire, and did I welcome myself to the fold. I thank you for that.

Bill G., Cleveland - Once again Stafford, we win some and we lose some, baby. Keep on working on it and we may come up with a Day at A Time book. I would like for the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to give the definition of Point of Order and Point of Information. We are all confused. That would clear this up some. In the Cleveland area, we have the Brecksville Program. I would like to point out one thing: approximately 27 Gamblers Anonymous Groups have been started by the members who came out of this program. I am very proud of them. Thank you.

Dan B., No. California - I really appreciate the effort Stafford put into this. I do not think we are different than A.A. members. I think there will be other literature coming up. We will work on the Unity Program as a trusted servant and share with everyone.

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GOOD & WELFARE:

Jim S., No. California - I have grown enough to come to grips with my problem, drugs and alcoholism. I know that there is room for more growth, and I am sure I will absorb it. Thanks a lot to all.

Ed D., Connecticut - You know the old saying, "you cannot teach an old dog new tricks" is not true. I have set here and listened to what is going on and I have learned some new tricks. I thank you. Hoping I can put it to work at meeting level.

Rich D., Detroit - It hasn't been within me to listen. I have set here and listened to what has been said and I learned a lot. Thank you. I have been educated.

Arniw W., New Jersey - I think the Board of Trustees has come a very long way so we could go back to the groups and report that the stock market is gambling. I am happy about that. It is disillusioning to find the figures so different. I am sure some are inflated.

Marvin H., L.I. New York - Thank the host for this Conference. Long Island will host the next Eastern Conference. I have flyers on this and will be taking reservations. \$75.00 deposit. Thank you.

Morris B., Florida - This is my first Trustees Meeting. I can see the changes that are taking place from personalities to people. I think we should concentrate on keeping members. Thank you.

Jerry G., Chicago - I would like to congratulate all the Trustees for a very good meeting. I thank you. I enjoyed it all.

Stafford K., Minneapolis - The Day At A Time book I am not ready to give up on yet. I will continue. Thanks.

Davis S., Long Island - Like to thank Detroit for a well organized and super meeting. I also will be distributing, beginning January 5, 1986 at one open meeting per week, to libraries, police stations, etc., and place the Big Books in them. Thank you.

Tony D., Philadelphia - It has been good to share with you people. Yesterday, today sharing, loving and caring together. Tomorrow continue with that. Thank you.

Peter C., Las Vegas - I am very happy to have come to my second Trustees Meeting. I want to thank Detroit for hosting this Conference. The serenity that has prevailed here has taught me more about the 12 Steps of Recovery and Step Meeting for my recovery, my serenity, my strength. I can only find my God in the Recovery Program. I thank you.

Bob F., Board of Regents, Los Angeles - A lot of decisions were made by the Board of Trustees at this meeting. I will be working with the Board of Regents when I go back. I saw a lot come out of this Board Meeting that I never saw when I was on the Board before. I thank you all for being here.

Manie E., Los Angeles - I want to thank Detroit for doing a good job of putting on this Conference. I was asked why I was so serene at this meeting. I do not know. I asked for about 20 times to call for the question. That is about as hostile as I will get. I thank you. I love you all.

Mel M., Los Angeles - It was great to be here at Detroit Airport Inn. I am not happy to learn from Arnie W. that there are 500 lottery sales for every G.A. member in Los Angeles County. We should have more members, but we do not. I am sorry for the reason. I am happy to be a member of the Board of Trustees. Thank you.

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GOOD & WELFARE:

Phil K., Los Angeles - This is the third meeting I have seen slow but positive changes, as I have in all of Gamblers Anonymous. I believe if not today, tomorrow. Everything has been great. I thank you.

Irving S., Los Angeles - It is amazing to me. I have just heard 50 people praise this Program. We are supported by Life Lines. If you look in the Bulletin each month, you'll see 1 from one state, 2 from a state that has 900 members. Everyone should go back and everyone should be a Life Liner.

Norman W., New York - I do feel that we can ask each other to put something worthwhile on the Agenda. Let's all try. Thank you.

Bob M., Portland, Oregon - First, I want to thank all the old timers that were here when I came in for keeping the Program alive. Second I want to thank the younger people for keeping it alive. I have a goal in mind to help a gambler that has just come in. I am very active in social affairs. The most important thing in my life is abstaining from gambling. Sometimes I think that is the reason I love these conferences. They have so much action here. God bless.

Jim Z. National Executive Secretary, Los Angeles - I am one of your many trusted servants of this Fellowship. I will ask you again, please send in to the National Service Office input for the Life Line Bulletin. I hope that Las Vegas problem will be settled and I will say the Serenity Prayer for them as many times as it is necessary. Thank you.

Bill B., New York, Chairman of Board of Trustees - The collection has been going downhill. Participation is not the amount of time we put in but your effort. Try, try and try again. A lot of people put in a lot of time. Do what you like for the Agenda. I will put it on. I find it rewarding to work with the Board of Trustees and rewarding to be Chairman. Please do what you can to improve the Agenda. I am sorry for the thing that was left off the Agenda. I thank you for your patience and your patience with me.

The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer.

Respectively Submitted by
Jim Z.,
National Executive Secretary