

**The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A.,**

**Fellowship**-**Wide Services, Inc.**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES INTERIM MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 13th, 2020**

**Time: 10:00 am ET, 9:00 am CT, 7:00 am PT**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 8246657208**

1. **Opening Matters** 
   * 1. Check-Ins/Sobriety Statements: Nancy G., Ned J., P.A.K., Jay G.,

Seth S., Rick S., Christina M., Anne K., Celia G.

* + 1. Readings:
       - [Twelve Concepts](https://slaafws.org/download/core-files/The_Twelve_Concepts_of_SLAA.pdf) - (Non-Chair Member with most seniority) – **Nancy G.**
       - [Twelve Traditions](https://slaafws.org/download/core-files/The_Twelve_Traditions_of_SLAA.pdf)- (Member next most seniority on the BOT) – **P.A. K.**
       - **BOT Preamble** - *Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous is a Twelve Step, Twelve Tradition oriented fellowship based on the model pioneered by Alcoholics Anonymous. The only qualification for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. S.L.A.A. is supported entirely through contributions of its membership and is free to all who need it. The BOT is a business meeting. We are the business arm of our recovery organization. Respecting the Second Tradition, we need to put individual feelings aside when we work for the BOT and focus on what serves the Fellowship best. This is a job. We are trusted servants. We abuse that trust when we do not act professionally in discharging the business of the Fellowship*. – **Jay G.**

**Start Recording (\*9)**

1. **Assign roles**
   1. Facilitator – **Ned J.**
   2. Record Keeper – **Christina M.**
   3. Timekeeper – **Seth S.**
   4. Spiritual Reminder – **All**
2. **Announcements**
   1. Welcome to our newest BOT Member – Celia G.

We are now officially a full 9 member Board. Yea!

* 1. Next BOT Meeting is a Regular Meeting on July 11th, 2020

Reminder: All Board Committee Reports, Conference Liaison Reports and Documents and Materials are due in DropBox by Wednesday July 8th, 2020 by 5:00pm EDT.

* 1. Your Board Committee Organizational Questionnaires forms will be due soon. Please review and distribute to your Committee members.
  2. Thank you to all Board Committee Chairs for submitting your Reports to the 2020-Summer Newsletter, and thanks Jay for submitting the *Open Letter from the Board.*
  3. Board Committee Chairs*-* Be prepared to present your 2-minute oral report at the upcoming ABC/M
  4. The Board Self-Assessment form has been posted- please review. We will be

discussing this when we discuss the BOT Face to Face Meeting

***( Draft MASTER OrgnlSelf- Assessment Revised 21June17.doc)***

**3) Approval of Today’s Agenda** (***BOT Agenda 06-13-2020 FINAL***)

Seth moved to approve the Agenda, Anne seconded. Agenda was approved by consensus.

1. **Approval of last Month’s Minutes**

Minutes from May 9th, 2020 Regular Meeting.  ***(BOT Minutes 2020 05. docx****)*

Minutes were approved by consensus.

1. **Monthly Action Items**
   1. Forward April 11th, 2020 BOT Meeting Minutes to Beth and Pam - **Christina M.** (DONE)
   2. Forward 2020-03 Profit and Loss Statement, and 2020-03 Balance Sheet to F.W.S. Newsletter- **Jay G.** (DONE)
   3. Notify FWS Office and Webmaster of the appointment of Celia G. as a new BOT Member – **Seth S.** (DONE)
   4. Forward *The Step Questions Workbook* to FWS for the process of costing, final desk top publishing and printing – **Ned J.** (DONE)
   5. New action item: Forward May 2020 BOT Meeting Minutes to Beth and Pam –**Christina** (DONE)
2. **Routine Reports**
   1. Suggestions to the Board Report

* S.L.A.A. Online request to the BOT and FWS concerning the 2020 ABM

***( SLAA Online Suggestion to the BOT.pdf ) – Ned J.***

We moved discussion of this to P.A.’s report, item d)

* 1. Treasurer’s Report - **Jay G.**

(***Treasurer’s Summary 5.31.2020 docx ;*** ***Treasurer’s Summary 4.30.2020-06 docx)***

* 1. Webmaster’s Report *(****2020-06 Webmaster Report.pdf****)*

Nancy sent us an update on the COVID-19 spike in San Antonio. The office staff will most likely continue their working arrangements as established when the pandemic began.

New soft cover ASOG books still have not been posted on the website. The hard cover remains a stand-alone item for ordering, cannot be mixed with soft cover items. However the soft cover can be mixed and ordered with other items.

There are just under 400 hard cover copies left--$35,000 in sales so far.

It was noted the thermometer graphic was taken off the website for the Lifesaver program; question arose regarding whether it would be replaced. It should not have been removed and it is on Ned’s to-do list to inquire after it.

* 1. BPMC- ABM Planning Committee Update and Report – **P.A.K.**

***( ABM/PC Update June 13th 2020.docx)***

The S.L.A.A. online meeting submitted a suggestion to extend the days of the Virtual ABM to include motions on the agenda. As of now, there will not be time for IFD’s or Motions. There will be days allotted for Conference Committee Meetings on Thursday 7/30 and Saturday 8/1, and the General Assembly will meet Friday 7/31.

It was noted the BOT did not make the decision to leave off IFD’s and Motions—this decision was delegated to the ABM Planning Committee, which is comprised of 3 BOT members and 6 non-BOT members. The Conference Charter Committee is also responsible for making decisions regarding the structure of the Virtual ABM.

It has been a huge project to convert the normally in-person 4-day ABM to an abbreviated Virtual Zoom experience; expanding the event to include IFD’s and Motions will be extremely challenging/difficult for the Board Technology Committee, which has its hands full facilitating even the limited agenda.

It’s unclear at this point who exactly was in charge of the decision (whether it was CCC or ABM/PC) to take on a limited agenda; the BOT needs to take ultimate responsibility for how the ABM agenda is presented. Proceeding in this way does seem to make the most sense and is best for the Fellowship. It is important to review the literature that is currently on the agenda, rather than simply pushing it aside until next year. Perhaps we can acknowledge the need for an alternate pathway to present important pieces of literature, and perhaps announce that everything on the 3rd edition of the agenda could be placed in the Intergroup forum, where written submissions would be welcome.

There are roughly seven literature-related IFD’s/motions this year; there are several extenuating circumstances (pandemic, nearly cancelling the ABM, etc.) that have an impact on the effectiveness of executing a packed ABM agenda and perhaps it’s wise to be prudent about potentially taking on too much.

Decision to send a letter response from the BOT articulating the decision being made by the CCC/ABM-PC and the possibility of other alternate pathways to discuss literature IFD’s and Motions. ACTION ITEM: Jay and P.A. will co-author the letter to S.L.A.A. online and circulate for BOT approval.

**BUSINESS**

**ELEVATED PRIORITY:**

1. Designate Committee assignments for Celia G. – **Seth S., P.A.K., Celia G.**

Ned moved for Celia to remain on the Board Development Committee, join the Board Finance Committee, and will become the liaison to the CICC (Seth will transition off). She will remain on the CCC. Seth seconded. Motion was approved 9-0-0.

Things will potentially change with the upcoming BOT elections in July.

Ned moved to change the time of the July BOT meeting to 4pm EDT/ 1pm PST to accommodate Celia’s Australian time zone. Anne seconded. Motion was approved by consensus.

1. Step Questions Workbook- Approval of the Printing Cost and Quantities, and selection of Vendor- **Ned J.**

(***SQW-BOC Recommendation-Specs docx; SQW Price Comparison-Various Printers xlxs; SQW-Printers Quotes – Various file; BOT Approved Steps Question Workbook v06-1 pdf.*** )

The cover is recommended to have a white background with a multi-color print. Recommended 1500 units for printing. The hope is the costs of printing will be recovered quickly with sales of the literature (536 units @ $9.95ea). Comment was raised about luke-warm feelings about the cover, and would it be possible to update the cover in the next printing for branding/merchandising purposes.

This book may appeal to first-time sponsors.

Discussion to consider changing the cover for future printing if we are able to move through the initial printed units quickly.

Seth made a motion to approve Brenner Printers to print 1500 copies for $5325.00 in 4-color print at a unit cost of $3.55 and a sale price of $9.95. Jay seconded. Motion was approved 9-0-0.

1. Subsidized / Free Shipping for literature -ABM Promotion **– Jay G.**

***(Free Shipping Code Information. docx )***

Last year, we consciously eliminated a physical store at the ABM and provided every group or intergroup who sent delegates to the ABM an online code for free shipping. Rick moved we continue this same ABM shipping code policy this year for 2020. Seth seconded. Motion was approved 9-0-0.

1. Discuss the process of cancelling BOT Members existing travel expenses to the ABC/M - **Nancy G**

It was recommended that each Board member attempts to get either cash back for their cancelled flights, or flight credit. Offers vary depending on the airline.

1. CLC request for the BOT

(***Contact the Board of Trustees Motion re A State of Grace second printing. pdf ; ARS Response to CLC Motion-ASOG.docx ; CLC Response Nancy and Jay4.docx)***

Opinion was stated there is no desire to make any printing changes to ASOG, therefore this is an issue between the CLC and the ARS. The CLC’s motion was rejected by the ARS,

If the CLC is still wanting changes to be made, they were advised to take those requests to the Conference, and it appears this is what they are intending to do. There is still dispute over the percentage of changes made and whether it fell in line with Appendix I.

There is concern over bringing this dispute before the Conference, the desire was expressed to attempt to solve this amongst the CLC and BOT. Opinion was stated the CLC’s request is reasonable to want the original version restored regarding the affirmations at the end of each entry and the desire was expressed to work this out with the CLC.

Opinion was expressed that the CLC motion as written presented to the ARS is poorly worded and confusing, this is not an issue the BOT needs to weigh in on; proper procedure was in fact followed in the editing process for ASOG, per Appendix I (Conference Service Manual).

Desire was expressed to support each group/entity, including those who are in conflict, and continue to focus on the process/procedures that are approved.

Opinion stated the editing process ultimately improved the book, the Conference may not necessarily agree with the arguments presented for the restoration of certain parts of the original text.

Support was voiced for this issue to be taken forward to the Conference and let them decide, and leave the BOT out of it.

Opinion expressed to fix the CSM. The wording of how and what can be changed/edited according to Appendix I is too vague, nebulous, and is the reason behind this entire conflict.

A letter needs to be sent to the CLC as a response to this issue, even though this is a moot point, since no IFD’s or Motions will be brought to this year’s Virtual ABM.

Jay moved that Seth draft a statement expressing the sentiment on this call and circulate it to the BOT for approval by email. ACTION ITEM: Seth and Jay will work together on this. Anne seconded. Motion was approved 9-0-0. Seth will let Lee know the response from the BOT will be forthcoming.

1. Discuss upcoming BOT Face to Face Meeting- ***Ned J., Jay G.***

( ***BOT F2F Proposed Agenda V.01 .pdf*** )

1. Determine if we want to have a F2F? If so, it should be early in the week of the ABM at a collectively convenient time. We need to do BOT self-evaluations and there is no time frame for these discussions; these F2F’s will be several hours long.

No one was opposed to having a virtual F2F; idea was put forward to have an annual board dinner in tandem with the meeting.

A sub-committee was formed with Celia, Jay, and Seth to circulate times/dates for a proposed F2F. Ned already has a proposed agenda in the dropbox to look at. Feedback is welcome.

Point was raised in regard to the voting process for the Virtual ABM—that people should be visible on their screens during the voting process.

1. Email from Anthony Concerning the destruction of recordings after the ABM. ***( Anthony Email 6.12.2020.pdf)***

This will be deferred for now. No response will be coming from the BOT. Note that Pam smashes the flash drive with all ABM material with a hammer after the ABM.

**Stop Recording**

**Check-outs:** Nancy G., Ned J., P.A.K., Jay G., Seth S., Rick S., Christina M.,

Anne K., Celia G.

**Closing Prayer:**

*Higher Power- make me worthy to serve You through this Fellowship and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Help me to be generous with my time and effort, to give without counting the cost, to give back wholly for what I have so freely received without looking for any reward, other than that of knowing I have done your will. Through my service, may I give hope and peace to those who still suffer.* – **Celia G.**

**Meeting Schedule for Conference Year 2019-2020**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *14 Sept 19 – Regular* | *12 Oct 19 – Interim* | *9 Nov 19 – Regular* |
| *14 Dec 19 – Interim* | *~~11 Jan 20 – Regular~~* | *~~8 Feb 20 – Interim~~* |
| *~~March 14~~~~th~~~~, 2020~~****~~14~~* Mar 20 – Regular** | *~~11 Apr 20 – Interim~~* | *~~May 9, 2020 –~~**~~Regular~~* |
| **June 13, 2020 – Interim** | July 11, 2020 – Regular | F2F- TBD |