1. **Opening Matters** 
   1. Check-Ins/Sobriety Statements - Jay G.(OH), Seth S.(MA), Rick S.(PA), Christina M. (CA), Gabriel G. (CA), Hernan V. (CA), Suzanne D. (TX), Juanita J. (DC), Sam E. (NJ), Jim B. (CA – non-BOT Record keeper),
   2. Readings:
      * + [Twelve Concepts](https://slaafws.org/download/core-files/The_Twelve_Concepts_of_SLAA.pdf) – Concept Eight (Non-Chair Member with most seniority) – **Jay G.**
        + [Twelve Traditions](https://slaafws.org/download/core-files/The_Twelve_Traditions_of_SLAA.pdf)– Tradition Eight (Member next most seniority on the BOT) – **Rick S.**
        + **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*. – **Christina M.**

**Start Recording (\*9)**

1. **Assign roles**
   1. Facilitator – **Seth S.**
   2. Record Keeper – **Jim B. (non-BOT member - present)**
   3. Timekeeper – **Gabriel G.**
   4. Spiritual Reminder – **All**
2. **Announcements**
   1. Update on ABC/M. – **Jay G.**

*---47 delegates, 7 BOT, 3 Observers, 2 staff, CCC Chair, CLC Rep, Journal Editor, and LPC Chair. Total of 63 people registered. Received $27,962 between fees and donations. Two refund requests still need to be processed. It is anticipated that the event will be subsidized by the FWS more than usual for an ABC/M. While normally subsidized approximately $25,000-$40,000, it is projected to be around $80,000 this year.*

1. **Approval of Today’s Agenda** (***BOT Agenda 08 07 2022***) *---Agenda approved.*
2. **Approval of last Month’s Minutes**

Minutes from July 9, 2022 Meeting. (BOT Minutes, revised, 7-9-22)

*---the minutes were BOT approved with Jay G. amendments. They will be posted to the website.*

1. **Monthly Action Items**
   1. Post preliminary Agenda for August 7, 2022 Face-to-Face Meeting in DropBox – **Seth S** – (DONE)
   2. Forward approved June Meeting Minutes to Beth and Pam – **Christina M.** – (DONE)
2. **Routine Reports**
   1. Suggestions (None)
   2. Technology Director’s Report *---No questions, no discussion.*
   3. ED Report and ED Sales Summary *---no report provided.*

**BUSINESS**

**ELEVATED PRIORITY:**

1. Refunds for cancelled ABC/M Registrations. – **Jay G.**

*----Historically, and based on policy, refunds have been processed differently based on when requested. There have been five individuals who have cancelled or asked to remove extra nights. Two have requested refunds. Discussion as follows:*

* *Options proposed: Give no refund; give a partial refund; apply the amount to next year’s ABC/M.*
* *The policy concerning refunds is included on the website and on the registration form.*
* *Recommended to provide a 50% voucher for the next years ABC/M.*
* *Suggested to provide a pro-rated credit for next year’s ABC/M.*
* *Concerns that lack of refund could negatively impact an intergroup.*
* *Also concerns that this could set a precedent.*

*---Motion made to provide a voucher for 100% of the fees paid to the FWS, toward the fees that will need to be paid to FWS for the 2023 ABC/M, to the two requesting individuals. The individual who is a Delegate may transfer the voucher to their intergroup. The other individual not representing an intergroup cannot transfer it. Motion seconded, with vote as follows: 6 in favor, none opposed, 3 abstain. Motion passed.*

1. Update on 2023 ABC/M. – **Gabriel G.**

*---Discussion about the next ABC/M, as follows:*

* *No new ABC/M host applications received.*
* *Concerns over hiring an outside vendor for facilitating the hybrid meeting for the next ABC/M.*
* *Discussion about developing the hybrid component.*
* *Stated that Los Angeles and Houston intergroups have adequate support to host a hybrid component to the ABC/M.*
* *Noted that a commitment was made to the fellowship to have a hybrid ABC/M for 2023, and that more work is needed.*
* *Suggested that someone with passion for the hybrid idea take over the BTC.*

1. June quarter end and financial statements. – **Jay G.**

*---Review and discussion as follows:*

* *E book income approximately $14,900 for the nine-month period through June.*
* *Annual expense for Dropbox used by the Board and Board committee’s is $1,200.*
* *The FWS is in a sound financial condition.*
* *Prudent reserve is within 2% of being fully funded.*
* *There is adequate cash on hand to more substantially subsidize the ABC/M at a higher level for this year (only).*

*---Motion made to approve the June 30th balance sheet and profit / loss financial statement, as approved by the Board Finance Committee, and then publish in the FWS Newsletter. Motion seconded and unanimously approved (9-0-0).*

1. FWS proposed budget 2022-23, review and discussion. – **Jay G.**

*---BFC has been working on a new budget for three months. Discussion / details as follows:*

* *This budget reflects a net loss of $7,000.*
* *It does not currently include any conference committee costs.*
* *Numbers reflect ABC/M costs increases / cost savings to host a hybrid conference.*
* *Numbers also reflect more meetings shifting back to face to face, with contributions and sales in alignment.*
* *The budget assumes that about $20,000 in free shipping will occur.*
* *The cost for an audit was not included in this budget because the BFC voted to engage the CPA firm for a Review, not an Audit.*
* *Concern that the budget may be overly optimistic in regards to revenue, specifically 7th Tradition contributions.*
* *Belief that new literature could sell well and increase sales revenue.*

*---Motion made to continue 25% international discount. Motion seconded and unanimously approved (8-0-0) [NOTE: Gabriel G. was out of the room during the vote].*

*---Motion made to conduct a financial review for 2021-22 fiscal year. Motion seconded and unanimously approved (9-0-0).*

*---Motion made to change the budget assumption to include a 9% cost of living salary increase, instead of the 7% already included, for staff in the first three quarters of 2023. Motion seconded and unanimously approved (9-0-0).*

*---Motion made to allocate $1,500 to the Conference Finance Committee for distribution to all conference committees. Motion seconded and unanimously approved (9-0-0).*

1. Discussion regarding Pam’s work from home options. – **Gabriel G.**

*---Board went into Executive Session.*

1. BHRPC policy discussion and approval. – **Jay G.**

*---Revisions made to FWS office complaint policy as per previous board input. Discussion as follows:*

* *Policy only applies to volunteers working in FWS office.*
* *BOT chair added as a potential “go to” for reporting.*
* *Includes confidentiality statement.*
* *Will be placed in policy and procedure manual.*
* *Some input received from BOT members, and minor changes made to align with those suggestions.*

*---Motion made to approve the revised policy. Seconded with vote as follows: 8 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstain. Motion passed.*

1. Review liaison assignments for the Conference Committees during the ABC/M. – **Seth S.**

*---Reviewed and took liaison commitments to conference committees for Sessions 1, 2 and 3 on Wednesday and Thursday, and also Sessions 1 and 2 for Friday. Friday Session 3 liaison commitments not made because the new BOT will be meeting at that time.*

1. Review motions and IFD’s for 2022 ABC/M and discussion on any direct involvement or comment by the BOT. – **Seth S.**

*---The third version of the Agenda will be the final version, with the addition of a piece of Anorexia literature.*

*---Item 21-17: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 21-18: Discussion as follows --*

* *Pointed out that the board has already responded to the questions in this IFD.*
* *Concerns that the S.L.A.A. name and logo is being used in multiple locations on social media, and that it appears to be an endorsement by S.L.A.A.*
* *There may be copyright violations with the use of the name and logos.*
* *Stated that the CPIC may not have the authority to post S.L.A.A. content to social media sites.*
* *There is a potential for legal ramifications for the fellowship if someone whose voice recording is on social media takes issue with it being posted.*
* *Stated that CPIC activities are not a board concern, and that the board should have no comment on this IFD.*
* *Statement proposed clarifying the BOT position, for reading at the ABC/M.*
* *Question asked: Does the CPIC or a subcommittee have authority to post to social media?*

*---Motion made to state the following:* *“There is no official S.L.A.A. material posted to YouTube or other public media other than the FWS website. The only audios about Sex and Love Addition currently distributed by FWS are audios available to listen to for free on the FWS website. All material posted to YouTube or other public media other than the FWS website must clearly state that it is not S.L.A.A. FWS material. All material must not use S.L.A.A. intellectual property in violation of FWS legal rights and policies.” Included in the motion is that Suzanne will read it at the microphone. Motion seconded, with vote as follows: 5 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstain.*

*---Minority report taken. Concern that the Twelve Guidelines for Dealing with the Media are not referenced in this statement. New vote taken, with vote as follows: 2 in favor, 7 opposed, 0 abstain.*

*---New minority report taken. Concern that the Twelve Guidelines are only one policy, and that there are others that could apply. New vote taken, with vote as follows: 5 in favor, 3 opposed, 1 abstain. Motion passed.*

*---Item 21-19: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 21-20: Discussion as follows:*

* *Pointed out that there is already a free version of the Basic Text available on the FWS website as an audio download.*
* *Noted that Basic Text sales bring in approximately $50,000 per year, which is a significant portion of the annual revenue. Loss of this revenue would severely impact the ability of the FWS to function and provide service to the fellowship.*
* *Pointed out that financial decisions are strictly under the purview of the BOT.*
* *Stated that this item should not have been placed on the Agenda as it is in conflict with board authority and the By-Laws.*
* *Requested that a board statement be made in opposition.*

*---Motion made to state the following: “**While the BOT is interested in the opinions of conference member on the format and pricing of our literature, ultimately it is within the fiduciary duty of the board and we do not believe it is financially responsible at this time.”* *Included in this Motion is that Sam will read it at the microphone. Motion seconded, and unanimously approved (9-0-0).*

*---Item 20-02: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 20-04: Discussion as follows:*

* *Noted that many groups have been reading the draft version.*
* *Stated that primary writing group for this document was resistant to accepting edits.*
* *Concern that the project editor was also very involved in the primary writing group, and that it may have affected objectivity during the editing.*
* *Suggested to* ***not*** *have a BOT statement, but that suggestion was not agreed upon by all BOT members.*
* *Concern that commenting on this piece of literature was not in alignment with what the BOT has determined for other literature on the Agenda (no comments were provided for any other), and that it would be inconsistent and potentially create confusion.*
* *Mentioned that the CSTCC would be supporting this literature at the ABC/M.*
* *Stated that the individual votes by the board members during the assembly would allow each to reflect their support for or against the document.*

*---Motion made to support approval of this literature. Motion seconded, with vote as follows: 4 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstain. Minority report taken. New vote taken, with vote as follows: 4 in favor, 5 opposed, 0 abstain. A second minority report taken, with new vote as follows: 4 in favor, 4 opposed,1 abstain. Motion did not pass.*

*---Item 20-05: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 19-05: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 21-01: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 21-05: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 21-06: Discussion as follows---*

* *Concern that this motion is in conflict with the By-Laws, and that it is a board decision only on when and what type of fees are needed.*
* *Stated that this could have a significant negative impact on the financial health of the fellowship.*
* *Noted that the dollar figures in the Motion are not accurate.*

*---Motion made to state the following: “While the BOT is interested in the opinions of conference members, ultimately it is within the fiduciary duty of the board and we do not believe it is financially responsible at this time.” Included in this Motion is that Seth will read it at the microphone. Motion seconded, and unanimously approved (9-0-0).*

*---Item 22-01: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 22-02: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 22-03: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 22-04: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 22-05: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 22-06: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 22-07: Board has no statement.*

*---Item 22-08: Discussion as follows ---*

* *Stated that a core document will also need to be given away for free as that is part of current policy.*
* *Noted that these documents focus on a portion of the addiction, rather on the whole of it, which is not consistent with the other core documents.*
* *Core documents reflect our common addiction characteristics, not specific distinct aspects of it.*

*---Motion made to state the following:*  *“The Board opposes this motion. It’s been said that it is our similarities that bring us together and our differences that set us apart. We are all Sex and Love Addicts; everything else falls under that umbrella (Anorexia, Fantasy, Porn, Intrigue, etc.). The Core documents currently reflect our common core addiction.” The motion also includes Gabriel reading it at the microphone. Motion seconded, and unanimously approved (9-0-0).*

1. Board self-assessment with facilitator (Jim B.) – **Seth S.**

*---see separate document with responses / minutes.*

1. Discussion to alter the monthly BOT Agenda to include a full reading of the Twelve Concepts and the Twelve Traditions at the beginning of the meeting. - **Seth S.**

*---Suggested to bring the full Traditions and Concepts back and read both at the beginning of each board meeting. Discussion as follows:*

* *Some support for bringing them back.*
* *Concern that they will take extra time.*
* *Meetings are already very long, so any extra readings make it worse.*
* *Suggested to leave this decision to the new board.*

*---Motion made to include them back as readings. Motion seconded, with vote as follows: 2 in favor, 3 opposed, 4 abstain. Motion did not pass.*

1. What are the most significant challenges facing the Fellowship today? Setting a strategic plan for the Fellowship. – **Seth S.** *---tabled until the next meeting.*

**REGULAR PRIORITY:**

1. Discussion around possible BOT working retreat(s). – **Seth S.**

*---tabled until next meeting.*

**Stop Recording** **(\*9)**

**Check-outs:** Jay G., Seth S., Rick S., Christina M., Gabriel G., Hernan V., Suzanne D., Juanita J., Sam E., Jim B.

**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.* – **Sam E.**

**Meeting Schedule for Conference Year 2021-2022**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *~~11 Sept 21 – Regular~~* | *~~9 Oct 21 – Interim~~* | *~~13 Nov 21 – Regular~~* |
| *~~11 Dec 21 – Interim~~* | *~~8 Jan 22 – Regular~~* | *~~12 Feb 22 – Interim~~* |
| *~~12 Mar 22 - Regular~~****~~14~~*Mar 20 – Regular** | *~~9 Apr 22 – Interim~~* | *~~14 May 22 – Regular~~* |
| *~~11 Jun 22 – Interim~~* | *~~9 Jul 22 – Regular~~* | ~~7-8 Aug 22 – Face-to-Face~~  ~~(Sacramento)~~ |