



The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A.,
Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES INTERIM MEETING MINUTES 9 December 2023

Time: 11:00 am ET, 10:00 am CT, 8:00 am PT, 1:00 am (Darwin, AU) – 3 hour meeting

1) Opening Matters

- a. Check-Ins/Sobriety Statements – Hernan V. (CA), Sam E. (NY), Phoenix G. (TX), Rick B (FL), Chris D. (CA), Jack F. (AUS), Juanita J. (MD), and Suzanne D. (TX)
- b. Readings – Done:
 - [Twelve Concepts](#) – Concept 12 - (Non-Chair Member with most seniority) – **Hernan V.**
 - [Twelve Traditions](#) Tradition 12 - (Member next most seniority on the BOT) – **Sam E.**
 - [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 meeting 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.* – **Phoenix G.** (Member with the third-most seniority on the BOT)

Start Recording (*9) – Done.

2) Assign roles

- a) Facilitator – **Suzanne D.**
- b) Record Keeper – **Rick B.**
- c) Timekeeper – **Chris D.**
- d) Spiritual Reminder – **All**

3) Announcements

- Jim B. is taking on other services commitments and will no longer be able to serve as our record keeper. Rick B. as Secretary will take up this task now.

4) **Approval of Today's Agenda** - (*BOT Interim Agenda 9 December 2023*)

a) Hearing no objection – **Approved.**

5) **Approval of last Month's Minutes** - (*BOT Minutes 11 November 2023*)

a) Hearing no objections – **Approved.**

6) **Monthly Action Items**

a) Add last month's BOT Minutes and this month's BOT Agenda to the Drop Box – **Suzanne D. – Done.**

b) Forward the approved BOT Minutes to the ED for posting to the website – **Rick B.** – Will be done now that they are approved.

BUSINESS

ELEVATED PRIORITY:

a) Year-end financial report FY22-23 presentation - (**Hernan V., December 2, 2023**)

- a. A \$6k shrinkage from the FWS Office inventory not captured over 2 years in the computer accounting system has now been recorded in this year.
- b. Recommend that the FWS Office send out a report on inventory so others can keep tabs on the ebb and flow of office sales.
- c. Contributions are down \$26k over last year's numbers.
- d. Suggest: that the BOT meet for a special meeting just about the financials.
- e. Maybe on December 16th, 2023, at the regular BOT call time for 1-hour.
- f. Out – II (I – unless a half hour earlier), In – IIIII
- g. **Point of Clarification (POC):** The five (5) members that are available are quorum.
- h. **Suggest:** That an email be sent out to the Board to share what is being voted on for the next meeting.
- i. The BFC is recommending a "Review" of the financials by the accountant.
- j. Tabled till next week.

b) FY23-24 Monthly Budget and Annual Budget correction presentation and motion to approve - (**BFC Chair Hernan V., December 2, 2023**)

- a. Shared the transfers from the old account to the newer account.
- b. **Action Item:** Someone – Draft a better process for removing past Trusted Servants and adding newer Trusted Servants at the start of the Conference Year.
- c. Tabled till next week's special call.

c) ABM Dates Motion – (**ABMPC Chair Chris D., December 2, 2023**):

- a. This was just a survey of Trustee opinion of ABM dates.
- b. Remove.

d) Amended By-laws motion – (**Chris D., November 19, 2023**)

- a. This was the second version of this Motion.
- b. Amended By-Laws including all the approved Motions from the Annual Business Meeting.

- c. Motion (Chris D./Jack F.): Authorize the CBC prepared Amended By-Laws to be posted to the FWS website and included in all the locations that they need to be found (the Delegate Binder)
- d. **Vote:** 8-0-0, **Unanimous.**

- e) indemnification of the BOT – **(Chris D., December 2,2023)**
 - a. Before the 2023 ABM, there were some Trustees that stated that the CBC got this By-Laws Motion – wrong. That the number of times that the term “member” was used, was correct and changing it between “Trustee” and “member” was incorrect.
 - b. **Action Item:** Suzanne D. – Reach out to the BAT to ask what is the best course of action on the Indemnification By-Laws Motion that was removed from the ABM Agenda at the request of the Board.
 - c. **Point of Inquiry (POI):** This was from last year, what is it about?
 - i. This section looked like a poorly written sentence, it was made better with the use of two different terms, but the Committee got the intention of this By-Law incorrect.

- f) Executive Session – Initial Inquiry **(Suzanne D. December 6, 2023):**
 - a. Discussed the information that was gathered by the team asked to inquire.
 - b. **Action Item:** Someone – Draft some form letters to make suggestions for concerned members about the Traditions.

- g) Approve Anorexia 8 & 9 – **(BPDC Chair Rick B., November 30, 2023)**
 - a. BPDC has forwarded the formatted Anorexia 8 & 9 that was approved at the ABM by the Conference with the recommendation to approve for sale.
 - b. **Motion** (Rick B./Jack F.): Approved the formatted Anorexia 8 & 9 approved at the ABM with the input from the Style Committee.
 - c. **Vote:** 8-0-0, **Unanimous.**

REGULAR PRIORITY:

- h) Review and approval of the 2023 SLAA FWS Survey draft – (Former BOC Chairperson Hernan V. July 29&30, 2023) – **Hernan V. & Sam E., Current BOC Chair**
 - a. Discussion held.
 - b. Motion to approve the wording. This needs to be built. The Board needs to authorize the Fellowship to purchase a subscription to Survey Monkey.
 - c. **POC:** This is anonymous. No personal information will be retained.
 - d. This gives information about and trends within the Fellowship.
 - e. Send the link about the
 - f. **POI:** How long is it out there for? (six months to 1 year).
 - g. **Round Robin #1:**
 - i. Important to find out about the Fellowship.
 - ii. Concern: How many fellowships do I belong to? (Allow to skip) and How do you identify? Sexual orientation: Add “Other”.
 - iii. **Action Item:** Builder – Make all questions optional instead of mandatory.
 - iv. **Action Item:** BOC – Add “Other” to the Sexual Orientation question.
 - v. **POC:** This info can be used to draft an Information Flier for outreach.

- h. **Motion** (Sam E./Rick B.) : approve the wording, to purchase a subscription to Survey Monkey for one year, and to have the survey up for six (6) months.
 - i. **Vote:** 8-0-0, **Unanimous.**

- i) ~~Special Delegate~~ Founders Scholarship Fund – (Former Chair B7TC Rick B. July 29&30, 2023) – **Rick B.**
 - a. Please remove until the B7TC has had time to work on this topic more.
 - b. Removed.

- j) Motion to make the BOT introductions each year in the first FWS Newsletter following the ABC/M a requirement. (Jack F Sept. 9, 2023) – **Jack F.**
 - a. For all BOTs new and old to make an introduction for the Newsletter right after the ABM.
 - b. **POI:** What about if a Trustee doesn't do it?
 - c. Friendly amendment – within the first three months of the ABM.
 - i. Accepted.
 - d. POC: Most Board members just send in a paragraph or two.
 - e. **Motion** (Jack F./Phoenix G.): Make BOT introductions each year in the first FWS Newsletter following the ABC/M a requirement (within three months).
 - i. Round Robin held.
 - ii. Vote: Yea: 7 Nay: 1 Abstain: 0

- k) **Motion:** To make events held by the B7TC to raise much needed funds - FWS approved - (email as of October 10, 2023 - Rick B. & Jack F.) – **Rick B. & Jack F.**
5. Discussion surrounding tenders for ABM 2025 / 2026 (email as of October 10, 2023) – **Jack F.**
 - a. Fall Spiritual Fitness workshop is currently being facilitated by B7TC members.
 - b. First Round Robin:
 - i. **POI:** Just looking for FWS Approval? Yes
 - ii. **POI:** Does A.A. or other Fellowships do this? Looking into this.
 - iii. Where is this going to? The General Fund. It could be used for the Endowment Fund to repay it.
 - 1. Maybe even an homage to the founding of \$19.76.
 - iv. **POI:** Has the B7TC come up with a plan for when members come to a fundraiser but want to come for free or at a reduced price?
 - 1. Considering a ticketing system. Looking for something less controversial.
 - v. Like it. Please get working on this. St. David's Prayer? Find more spiritual topics. Consider doing a Tradition and Concepts Study.
 - c. Second Round Robin (60 sec.):
 - i. The BFC is also trying to figure out how to increase giving. Maybe collaboration with the two Board Committees.
 - ii. Good ideas. Like to hear more about it. Online functions, maybe in person.
 - iii. An Intergroup did day of sharing with music from a faith tradition. Maybe asking members to give \$19.76 from each member.
 - iv. Would ask the B7TC to work on a Fundraising Manual that clarifies all the Best Practices, Standard Operating Procedures, and processes that

- will be used to facilitate an event/campaign. At least a letter that states how to address some common challenges that show up when a fundraiser is held and members want to come for free. More Framework mapped out before asking for Board approval on this.
- v. Nervous about the Presentations and who will verify that they are inline with the Fellowship’s core values. How well will the facilitators be representing S.L.A.A.
 - vi. Great idea. Consider taping the events then selling the audio portion as an additional fundraiser.
 - vii. This is just the beginning of this. Looking forward to what the B7TC does moving from this point. If the information were posted to the website, it could bring more traffic to the site and get more interest in regularly visiting the FWS website.
- d. Going to bring more of this to the Board so that the Trustees can review, discuss, critique, and ask for clarifications.
 - e. **Motion (Jack S./Suzanne D.):** To make events held by the B7TC to raise much needed funds - FWS approved – pending BOT approval.
 - i. **Motion to Table:** Yea -IIII Nay -IIII
 - 1. **POI:** With equal votes there is no minority.
 - a. 2nd counting: 5-3, Tabled.
 - 2. **Minority opinion:** those who voted against tabling.
 - a. Further action needed by the B7TC and didn’t want it tabled.
 - 3. **POC:** At an ABM, when a Motion to Table is called, it is Yea, Nay, no abstentions, and no discussion.

Stop Recording (*9) – Done.

- a) **Closing Matters:**
 - a. **Check-outs:** Hernan V. (CA), Sam E. (NY), Phoenix G. (TX), Rick B. (FL), Chris D. (CA), Jack F. (AUS), Juanita J. (MD), Suzanne D. (TX)

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.
– Juanita J. (Member with the least seniority on the BOT)

Meeting Schedule for Conference Year 2023-2024 (All 3 hours)

09 Sept 23—Regular	14 Oct 23—Interim	11 Nov 23—Regular
09 Dec 23 – Interim	13 Jan 24 – Regular	10 Feb 24 – Interim

BOT Monthly Meeting

<i>09 Mar 24 - Regular</i>	<i>13 Apr 24 – Interim</i>	<i>11 May 24 – Regular</i>
<i>08 Jun 24 – Interim</i>	<i>13 Jul 24 – Regular</i>	<i>F2F (TBD) Aug 2024</i>