



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

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES INTERIM MEETING MINUTES 10 February 2024

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), Suzanne D. (TX)
- b. Readings:
  - [Twelve Concepts](#) – Concept 2 - (Non-Chair Member with most seniority) – **Hernan V.**
  - [Twelve Traditions](#) Tradition 2 - (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)

### 2) Assign roles

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

### 3) Announcements

- The Conference Approved By-laws changes are not yet on the Website. CLC Liaison to ask them to send them to Pam Reyes.
- BOT Reports to be added to the next Newsletter are due to Chris D. by February 18, 2024.

- 4) **Approval of Today's Agenda** - (*BOT Meeting Agenda 10 February 2024*)
  - a) Add Staff Salary discussion.
  - b) Catlyn K. from Chicago Intergroup for the BFC.
  - c) Financials need approval for the FWS Newsletter (added to "f" in elevated priority).
  - d) Any opposition to approving the agenda as edited?
    - a. Hearing none – **Approved.**
  
- 5) **Approval of last Month's Minutes** - (*BOT Meeting Minutes 13 Jan 2024*)
  - a) [*Both December BOT Minutes to be voted on in March*]
  
- 6) **Monthly Action Items**
  - a) Upload BOT Meeting Agenda to Dropbox – Suzanne D.
  - b) Upload prior month BOT Meeting minutes to the Dropbox – Rick B.
  - c) Forward the approved BOT Minutes to the ED for posting to the website – Rick B.

## **BUSINESS**

### **ELEVATED PRIORITY:**

- d) Publishing an audio version of the Basic Text. – **BOC Chair, Same E.**
  - a. Someone reached out asking to make a new audio recording of the S.L.A.A. Basic Text.
    - i. 60 second Round Robin held.
      1. Need more info.
      2. Great idea. Would be wonderful to have on Audible. Keep illegal activity to a minimum. Different voices, different ethnicities. May be great for revenue. Plus, keep misuse of copyright – down.
      3. Who will own the copyright? How much will it cost? Is it going to be a "good" version? BCTC states it needs to have Digital Rights Management (DRM) be added the recording. 2 years away from a new edition to the Basic Text – Is now the time to make a recording or wait till the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition is available? Please do it with multiple "voices" – women reading the women's stories, men reading the men's stories, gender-fluids reading the gender-fluid stories.
      4. Make it professional. Different voices. Sounds great.
      5. No – to the S.L.A.A. Basic Text. Yes – to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition. Many voices.
      6. Love the idea. Audible can be vicious about keeping companies away from their field of business. Yes – to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition.
      7. Get the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition prepared. Going to be a good product because it will go through the new LCEP process. Group Effort with BPDC, BCTC, and BOC work collaboratively. Ask the person to send in a proposal on this.
        - a. Second shares:

- b. The 12x12 has been worked on for 15-18 years. Don't want to hold my breath that the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition will be approved. Can work on both. This could be an immediate source of revenue for FWS which is desperately needed. Let's not limit ourselves.
  - c. Don't know how long it is going to take the Second Edition to get approved. This could be a far quicker revenue source.
  - d. **Point of Clarification (POC):** The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition is finished. The Founder written Preface and edited first three chapters are done. Kate has reviewed the edits to her story. 10 or 11 new stories are to be added. And there are two years to go through the ABM Conference.
  - e. **Point of Inquiry (POI):** Are we voting on this or is it just feedback for the BOC? Feedback. Financial aspects would be nice to know. How much will it cost? How long will it take? This will take a couple of years to produce. This is a production.
  - f. Jerry Clark from Echo Point Publishing sent the letter asking to develop the new audio recording of the Basic Text.
    - i. Don't think FWS gives away our audio rights.
  - g. **Action Item:** Sam E. and Rick B. – Construct a response to Echo Point Publishing asking for many voices, DRM, length of time to produce, that the copyright to the audio recording will be retained by FWS, etc.
- e) Motion to add 2<sup>nd</sup> Whistleblower Investigator candidate Kathleen A. (CA)– **BDC Chair, Suzanne D.** (*added 10 January 2023 to Dropbox*)
- a. Discussion held.
  - b. **Motion:** To appoint Katheen A. (CA) to the Whistle Blower Complaint team.
    - i. **Vote:** 8-0-0, **Approved.** Unanimous.
- f) Financial Documents review (Actual vs. Budget, Profit & Loss, and Balance Sheet):
- a. Actual vs. Budget:
    - i. Literature sales are up (+\$19k) Contributions are down (-\$8k) and recovered from the bank the \$7k because of the fraudulent activity.
    - ii. **POI:** How much is budgeted for BOT travel to the ABM?
      - 1. \$5k for housing + \$10k for travel to the ABM = \$15k total.
  - b. Profit and Loss (P&L): the P&L is the **same** as the Actual vs. Budget but without the budget part of the previous form.
    - i. The Prudent Reserve has grown by \$2k so far this fiscal year.
  - c. Balance Sheet:
    - i. This is where the Fellowship is at this moment – financially.
    - ii. POC: Just voting on where we are from October 2023 till now.
  - d. **Motion:** Approve FWS Financials (P&L, Actual vs. Budget, and Balance Sheet) October – December of 2023. .
    - i. **Vote:** 7-0-1, **Approved.**
    - ii. **POC:** The FWS website used to have a “carousel” that would rotate through several different announcements on the Landing Page.

- iii. **Action Item:** Hernan V. – Forward the P&L and Balance Sheet to the FWS Newsletter for sending to the Fellowship.
- g) B7TC fundraising campaign for approval – B7TC Chair Jack F. (Tabled during the December 2023 BOT Meeting, originally from October 10, 2023, email): [Postponed]

**REGULAR PRIORITY:**

- h) Motion: to add Celia G. to the B7TC – **B7TC Chair Jack F.**, (*January 12, 2024*)
  - a. Discussion held.
  - b. **Vote:** Not approved.
- i) Motion: BPDC recommended 12 Steps in Plain Language – **BPDC Chair Rick B.** (*January 17, 2024*):
  - a. Discussion held.
  - b. **POI:** There is an odd formatting with Step 10 being at the bottom of the page?
    - i. There are two versions. One that is for physical printing, one that is for digital publishing, and their formats are different to get them paginated correctly. (Folio style, pg. 1 and the opposite side will be the last page).
  - c. **Motion** (Rick B./Jack F): Approve the BPDC recommended 12 Steps in Plain Language and authorize it to be sold in print format at the price of the Anorexia Recovery Tools Booklet and the PDF version to be sold at the price of the Anorexia Booklets PDFs.
  - d. **Vote:** 8-0-0, **Approved.** Unanimously.
- j) Motion to approve Nicole M. join the BOC – **BOC Chair, Sam E.** (*from email on 29 January 2024*)
  - a. Discussion held.
  - b. **Vote:** member **Approved.**
- k) Request of the CPIC (group conscience) to move the YouTube Channel from the **CPIC** to **S.L.A.A. Virtual Intergroup (SVIG)\* - CPIC Liaison, Jack F.** (*emailed on 8 January 2024*) for a six-month trial period (*friendly-amendment*):
  - a. **POI:** How do we transfer a Conference asset to a corporation for a limited duration? (What if they do not want to return the Channel to the Conference?) [Is there a document that is signed?]
    - i. If there is a document, please point us in the right direction. The corporation was going to funnel the money back to the Fellowship. (No document to state this as of yet).
  - b. **POI:** Why is the Fellowship giving an asset over to another corporation?
    - i. Doesn't the Fellowship do that with *the Journal*? The Chair is part of an Intergroup and FWS benefits from that.
      - 1. **POC:** *The Journal* is a product of the Conference Journal Committee (CJC) and therefore part of the Conference structure.
  - c. **POI:** Who is the chair of S.L.A.A. Virtual?
    - i. It was Wnedy M. but that email complaint makes it unclear until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month (tomorrow).
    - ii. **POI:** The S.L.A.A. Virtual Intergroup is incorporated just like FWS but in Australia, correct?
      - 1. Yes, It was formed 3 years ago. As part of the CPIC. (?)
  - iii. **POI:** How will the YouTube Channel be branded?

1. They will have their own statement saying that it is not affiliated with FWS. There is something on there about S.L.A.A. Virtual. That is not essentially a copyright. If you are going down the route of suing then you are doing it to a legal entity.
  - iv. **POI:** The colors are the same as that of the Fellowship's, will these be changed?
    1. We can make friendly amendments.
    2. So, there are no documents stating that colors will be changed.
  - v. **POI:** Will they be raising funds?
    1. They were hoping to stream the funds back into FWS.
    2. Maybe make a friendly amendment on funds raised as well.
    3. **POI:** There is nothing preventing that corporation from boycotting us if they disagree, right?
      - a. Yes.
  - vi. **Motion:** Request of the Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC) to move the S.L.A.A. YouTube Channel to the S.L.A.A. Virtual Intergroup corporation.
    1. **Friendly Amendment:** That all funds created from the YouTube channel go directly to FWS, with the colors being changed from the Augustine Fellowship's colors or logo, with a time allowance of 6-months – so that in 6 months there will be a review (on how they go) to show all the money is accounted, forwarded to the office, and no marketing done as the Augustine Fellowship.
  - vii. **Amended Motion:** Request of the Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC) to move the S.L.A.A. YouTube Channel to the S.L.A.A. Virtual Intergroup corporation. That all funds created from the YouTube channel go directly to FWS, with the colors being changed from the Augustine Fellowship's colors or logo, with a time allowance of 6-months – so that in 6 months there will be a review (on how they go) to show all the money is accounted for and sent to the Fellowship-Wide Services office.
  - d. Discussion held:
    - i. Suggest a legal expert review this.
    - ii. There is a lot involved in maintaining this outreach.
    - iii. Need to see contracts.
    - iv. Would like much more paperwork on this.
    - v. Doesn't look ready for a vote.
    - vi. Not enough information.
    - vii. Difficult to wrap my head around this.
    - viii. **POC:** When a member Abstains from a vote, it doesn't count toward a motion, so potentially something can pass by 2-1-5.
    - ix. Concerns about copyright and funds.
  - e. Vote: not approved.
- l) BOT Board & Conference assignments 2024 - discussion & mapping out – **Jack F.** (From email discussion on 6 January 2024) – Sent via chat. [**Tabled** for discussion via email]
- m) BPMP updates (FWS Newsletter and ABMPC) – **BPMP Chair, Chris D.** (From email dated 6 February 2024)
  - a. The Executive Director has been working on the paperwork and forms.
  - b. Everything will be using United States Central Time Zone for all ABM activities.
  - c. Newsletter deadline is February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Please send in your Board Committee Reports and Trustee Introductions.

- d. *CSM Re-write Work Group – has reviewed the documents from Pam R. and*
- n) Discuss 2024 BOT ABM Meetings Location (In-person v. Virtual) – **BOT Chair, Suzanne D.** (*Email discussion beginning 10 December 2023*)
- a. POC: The only votes that must be unanimous are items worked on via email discussion, otherwise they need to be addressed during a Board Call where tallies do not need to be unanimous.
  - b. POC: Have reviewed the By-Laws many times only email votes have to be unanimous. Asked a lawyer about virtual meetings and said that no state has caught up with pandemic protocols requiring unanimity for online annual business meetings.
  - c. Believe that the vote must be unanimous depending on the Charter.
  - d. No research. Please feel free to share.
  - e. No recollection of the Texas Statutes saying that a virtual meeting needs to be unanimous.
  - f. If the Fellowship is having financial challenges, I am fiduciarily responsible to adhere to what the Fellowship is going to do.
  - g. Didn't look. Even if an in-person is held maybe the others can be
  - h. B7TC Statement: The B7TC supports the Board meeting virtually. Virtual.
  - i. Virtual is the most prudent way to go.
  - j. **Motion** (Sam E./Chris D.):The BOT meets virtually to address the Board face-to-face meetings that take place prior to the Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M) for 2024.
    - i. **Vote:** 8-0-0, **Approved.** Unanimous.
- o) Staff Compensation Discussion (**Tabled**): Added to Elevated Priority next month.
- p) **Motion:** Caitlyn K. to the BFC as a non-BOT member:
- a. *Asking to be part of the Board Finance Committee and been a Delegate.*
  - b. **Vote:** member **Approved.**
  - c. **Everything below TABLED.**

### Stop Recording (\*9) – Done.

- q) **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)

BOT Monthly Minutes

<del>09 Sept 23 – Regular</del>	<del>14 Oct 23 – Interim</del>	<del>11 Nov 23 – Regular</del>
<del>09 Dec 23 – Interim</del>	<del>13 Jan 24 – Regular</del>	10 Feb 24 – Interim
09 Mar 24 - Regular	13 Apr 24 – Interim	11 May 24 – Regular
08 Jun 24 – Interim	13 Jul 24 – Regular	F2F (TBD) Aug 2024