



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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES INTERIM MEETING MINUTES

1 Feb 2025

Time: 11:00 p.m. UTC, 3-hour meeting

<https://www.worldtimebuddy.com/pst-to-utc-converter>

1) Opening Matters

- Check-Ins/Sobriety Statements – Phoenix G. (TX), Rick B. (FL.), Jack F. (AUS), Jeff R. (WA), John S. (CA), Patrick D. (UK), Ari F. (NJ), Chris D. (CA)
- Regrets: None
- a. Readings:
 - [Twelve Concepts](#) – Concept 2 - (Non-Chair Member with most seniority) – **Phoenix G.**
 - [Twelve Traditions](#) Tradition 2 - (Member next most seniority on the BOT) – **Rick B.**
 - [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.* – (Member with the third-most seniority on the BOT) – **Jack F.**

Start Recording (*9) and turn on transcript

2) Assign roles

- a) Facilitator – **Chris D.**
- b) Record Keeper – **James B.**
- c) Timekeeper – **Ari F.**
- d) Spiritual Reminder – **All**

2) Announcements

- a) Directors and Officers indemnification Insurance policy applies to all Board Members.

- b) Pam's deleting Zoom recordings from our Zoom accounts from prior to November 2024 because our storage is getting full. Please contact her by Friday, 7 February, if there are recordings that you don't want deleted.
- c) F.W.S. Newsletter due date for Board Committee reports is 16 Feb 2025.
- d) 2024 ABM Minutes are finished!
- e) ONR update. We haven't received the refund and Pam continues to reach out.
- f) BDC is looking for a whistleblower investigator.

3) Approval of Today's Agenda - (*BOT Agenda 1 Feb 2025*) – Approved with no objections.

4) Approval of last Month's Minutes -

BOT Minutes for 5 October 2024, 2 November 2024 and 7 December 2024 are still being worked on. BOT Minutes for 4 January 2025 not available yet.

5) Monthly Action Items

6) Routine Reports

BUSINESS

ELEVATED PRIORITY:

1) Quarterly Financial Presentation: - Jeff R

- a. Completed the move of the bequest from Frost to Wells Fargo. Within the next 2 weeks we will no longer be a customer of Frost Bank.
- b. 1st Quarter of the Conference Year ended December.

Key Points were as follows:

- Dec 2024 Balance Sheet – Balance in Operating Account now above \$50,000. With bequest, now over \$60,000. Jeff asks BOT to consider what is the right amount to keep in the Operating Account. And what is the target for the Prudent Reserve?
- Profit & Loss – Net positive \$37,148.
- Profit & Loss vs. Budget – beat budget by \$9,600.
- Profit & Loss vs. Last Year – CY is \$37,000 which is \$26,000 above LY \$11,000 – even without the bequest.
- c. Contributions have been on an upswing. The 1976 campaign is having a positive effect.

MOTION: To approve the first quarter financials for the conference year 2024/2025 as represented in the financial documents – (Rick B, Ari F)

Vote: 8-0-0, Motion passed.

2) Vote on Non-BOT Board Committee Members – none up for vote.

3) MOTION: The BOT to approve the registration fees for the 2025 ABC/M to \$250 USD for delegates and \$125 USD for observers. (Ari F., 1/23/2025, Chris D)

- Friendly amendment requested to make the fees \$125 USD for delegates and \$50 USD for observers but was declined.

Round robin requested - 90 seconds.

- There are financial aid packages (scholarships) available as a separate motion. Scholarships should be proposed by Feb 27 before the next BOT meeting.
- High costs are not relevant when our only expenses are Zoom fees, which are already paid. We can ask for higher contributions instead; the board will be accountable for the high costs.
- The Fellowship is repaying prior costs.
- We will recuperate costs from this ABC/M.
- It makes sense that we are paying for the overtime of the F.W.S. office to attend outside of their regular working hours.
- Point of clarity that the registration fees for the 2025 ABC/M should be noted as USD.

Vote: 5-2-1, Minority Heard.

- Registration fees exceed the costs for the ABM and the motion doesn't specify that the excess will be used for future ABM's.
- The cost for technical services for the ABM is already included in the budget.
- S.L.A.A would be better represented globally if the cost were lower.

2nd Vote: 5-2-1, motion passed.

- 4) MOTION:** To include a one-time \$20 USD coupon voucher for all Delegates registered for the 2025 Virtual ABM to use towards any product in the S.L.A.A. F.W.S. Online Store. (Ari, 1/31/2025, Chris)

Round robin requested - 60 seconds.

- Include the amount in USD.
- Will help get members through the doors of the F.W.S.
- Triggered by the terminology "coupon," as we have previously given gift cards to former members.
- Delegates will be given a bonus for stepping up for service; coupons are considered as value.
- In 2019, a free shipping code was made available, and 18 intergroups placed orders.

Vote: 6-2-0, No Minority Discussion, Motion passed.

- 5) MOTION:** That the 2025 pre-ABM BOT meetings be virtual. (Chris, 1/31/2025, Ari)
Round Robin:

- The in-person experience and camaraderie would be missed.
- Better to deal with disagreements in person.
- In person not feasible in this year's budget.
- In person would be more effective for getting through this year's agenda.
- Cannot justify the cost of meeting in person pre-ABM.
- Not built into the budget.

Vote: 6-1-1, Minority heard.

- If conducting virtual meetings then the BOT should meet frequently and not have to spend 20 or so hours right before the ABM.

2nd Vote: 7-0-1, Motion passed.

- 6) **IFD:** Statement needed from the BOT about what we want done with the YouTube Channel and why we don't want ownership of a Conference asset to be transferred to an individual intergroup. (Jack F., 9/2/2024)

Executive session conducted.

MOTION: To "Approve a board response to a request by the CPIC regarding ownership of the S.L.A.A. YouTube channel."

"Thank you for asking the board about what we want done with the YouTube Channel and why we don't want ownership of a Conference asset to be transferred to an individual intergroup. We would firstly like to thank Celia G. for their service work as Digital Outreach Strategy Manager for countless years. We believe wholeheartedly that a conference asset should remain within the committees. The benefits include a functioning group conscience and allowing Higher Power of the committee to take place, which is crucial." (Jack F./ Rick B.)

Vote: 6-1-1, Minority opinion heard

2nd Vote: 5-3-0. Motion passed.

- 7) **MOTION:** Retire the Lifesaver Campaign, removing all references to it from receipts sent out to donors from F.W.S. substituting "Monthly Contributions" or the current donations campaign name, as appropriate." (Phoenix G, Jeff R)

- Some felt that it's confusing to have more than one campaign and that the campaign needs to be refreshed to help keep members involved.
- Others said there is no need to reduce the number of campaigns. Having four campaigns is not an issue and that some are already comfortable with giving through the Lifesaver campaign.
- Implied actions are the removal of the terminology on the website.
- The lifesaver has saved our fellowship with a \$100,000 USD donation. Not wise to change now since it is a stream of revenue for the fellowship.

There were 2 Round Robins. **Vote:** 5-3-0, Minority heard.

2nd Vote: 1-6-1, no minority opinion, motion failed.

MOTION to extend meeting (Jeff R, John S), **Vote:** 5-2-1. Motion passed.

MOTION: (Jeff R, Phoenix G) Replace the Lifesaver Campaign on the website with the 1976 campaign, removing all references to it from receipts sent out to donors from, and inform existing lifesaver donors that the name of the campaign they are giving to is changing. **Vote** 6-1-1, no minority opinion, motion passed.

----- Remaining motions tabled -----

- 8) **MOTION:** Eliminate Hazelton's special pricing of \$11.50 per Basic Text and charge them the same price as others based on the amount they order. (Chris D., 10/3/2024)

- 9) **MOTION:** To make the 90-day trial period from the first meeting for all new non-BOT members of Board Committees with updates to the Board Committee flier and the Board Committee Application. (Rick B., 9/14/2024/Jack F., previously tabled)
- 10) **MOTION:** The list of membership roles stated in the BOT motion that created the BABMPC be non-exclusive. (Phoenix G., 10/4/2024/Chris D., previously tabled)
- 11) **IFD or MOTION?:** Add all BOT members to all board committee google groups, to attend if they want; 3rd BOT members for board committees with low attendance. (Phoenix G., 9/1/2024)

REGULAR PRIORITY:

- j) **MOTION:** All F.W.S outreach materials must be within seven years of board's approval. (Jack F., 8/27/2024)
- k) **MOTION:** To make the F.W.S. office update all conference committees contact us pages with the new chairs & bot liaisons within four weeks from the ABC/M. (Jack F., 9/8/2024)
- l) **IFD:** please add board committee information getting posted to F.W.S. site with descriptions and/or applications. (Ari F., 9 Oct 2024)
- m) **MOTION:** All future policies be drafted using the term "persons" and remove all pronoun references. Current policies will incorporate 'persons' terminology and remove all pronoun references when they are next revised. (Chris, 21 Oct 2024/Ari F.)
- n) **MOTION:** Approve the CHRC Healthy Relationship Bundle, proposed by the CHRC, for sale on the FWS website. (Phoenix G., 30 Oct 2024)
- o) **MOTION:** Pay printing costs of the conference-approved literature, "The Importance of Making Outreach Calls" (Phoenix G., 11/27/2024).
- p) **MOTION:** The Executive Director has the authority to make non-substantive changes to S.L.A.A. policies to ensure consistency, clarity, and alignment without requiring prior approval from the Board of Trustees (BOT). Non-substantive changes are edits that do not alter the intent, meaning, or fundamental provisions of a policy. Examples include: Correcting typographical errors, grammatical issues, or formatting inconsistencies and updating references to addresses or committee titles, for example. The Executive Director will notify the BOT of any non-substantive changes at the next scheduled BOT meeting or before. A record of all non-substantive changes will be maintained and made available for review. (Chris/John, 11/18/2024)
- q) **IFD:** Definition of a group.
- r) **IFD:** BOT recovery meetings? (10/23/2024)
- s) **IFD:** Schedule a Strategy Summit to Review of Board Self-Assessment (Action Items) and form BOT Annual goals – 3 year goals and 5 year goals- Chris D.
- t) **IFD:** Endowment fund donation maximums?
- u) **IFD:** 50th anniversary merchandise.
- v) **IFD:** Errors and Omissions insurance for BOT non-officers?

Stop Recording (*9) and turn off transcript

Closing Matters:

- a. **Check-outs:** Phoenix G. (TX), Rick B. (FL.), Jack F. (AUS), Jeff R. (WA), John S. (CA), Patrick D. (UK), Ari F. (NJ), Chris D. (CA)

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. – (Member with the least seniority on the BOT) – Ari F.

Meeting Schedule for CY 2024-2025 (Central Time, All 3 hours)

1 Feb 2025	1 Mar 2025	5 Apr 2025
3 May 2025	7 Jun 2025	5 Jul 2025
2 Aug 2025		