

**General Service Association of ABA**

Board Meeting minutes

February 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm Mountain/8:00 pm Eastern

Recorded by Inna

<b>Present</b> Amy G. - Director (President) Tammie N. - Director (Treasurer) Kheri T. - Director (Vice-President) Alison E. - Guest Inna S. - Director June S. - Director Judy K. - Guest Tara - Director Myra - Director	<b>Regrets</b> Caren – Director Judy B - Director
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2/3 quorum throughout the meeting

- Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm Mountain time
- Motion to adopt the minutes of January 18, 2021
  - Motioned by Kheri, seconded by Inna.
- Bylaw number 20 read with no questions or further comments.
- Nominate Tara T for the Board - **MSC**

**Officer's Reports**

- **President's Report:**
  - Report stands
- **Treasurer's Report:**
  - Report stands, donations were down this month. Sales were approximately \$2000.
  - The balance at end of last month was \$11,564.00 – this is the balance before the books were ordered and paid for.
- **Office Manager's Report: Kheri:**
  - Once the latest printing of second edition book arrives in March, Manager will be busy, so she will need to prioritize what needs to be done first.
  - Highlights from the Operations Manager's report:

- Sales are low, we have inventory that is not selling: pocket size books and retreat CDs.
  - CD s can be utilized in various ways – the Self Support Committee may have feedback on this issue. We will discuss this again in April.
- Motion to increase the limit memorial donations to ABA via a will to \$10,000.00. **MSC**
- Motion to increase the maximum yearly donation to \$5,000.00. **MSC**
- Myra suggested that we have another person designated in the US to ship out books and medallions. Personnel Committee to discuss the feasibility of this at their next meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

- **GSR Report** - No report
- **Self-Support Committee - Judy**
  - since the last board meeting Committee has held 2 workshops. 1 new workshop was added to the choices. People from the same pool of 15 people either attend or give the workshops. Committee would like to attract a wider audience. Committee has decided to provide workshops related more to recovery such as Sponsorship etc.
  - If a non-ABA member would like to attend a workshop, the group at the workshop would have to decide to let them attend for free; we cannot accept donations from non-members as per our traditions.
  - If a non-ABA member is interested in a workshop, they need to contact Judy K.
- **Group Inventory Committee – Judy/Tammie**
  - There have been over 100 responses to the inventory.
  - A report will be generated and will be submitted to the Self-Support Committee.
- **Literature and Outreach Committee - Lou**
  - See report.
  - The Committee would like to GSA to trial the company Lulu for on-demand printing.
  - The pros: cheaper shipping around the world, we would not have to store or ship the books ourselves which would free up time for the Operations Manager. Lulu can also be used to sell the e-book. Our costs to sell the hard copy with Lulu are as follows: soft cover 14 CAD, hard cover 24 CAD. We would add profit to this. Lulu charges .60 per copy as their fee.
  - Cons - we do not control the process, the cost to print is higher, quality of the book may not be as good as Friesens. We would need to clarify the return process.

- Tammie - print on demand has a lot of benefits, margin of profit should be considered but we may be able to make almost as much.
- Kheri: people are not happy with the cost of the book currently; we will need to reconsider the price and what is the biggest value: getting the book out to those who need to hear the message or making revenue.

Motion was made to do the trial using 5 members around the world. **MSC**

Lou will contact Tammie to link PayPal account to the purchases of the 5 members.

- **Retreat and Conference Committee**

- Myra - I spoke with the venue and we canceled the retreat for the May date due to COVID, we would need to get people's opinion if we still going to do it this year or push it to the next year. Myra will speak to Dawn who is the current Retreat Committee Chair.

- **Public Information Committee**

- Report stands

- **GSO/Personnel Committee**

- Kheri: not much to report, we have not had a meeting since the last board meeting.

- **Website Committee**

- We have not met yet, plans to meet in the beginning of March.
- Discussion of server for a website:
- Getting a new server has to wait until we have changed banks. Kheri: I'm working on it and hope to have a meeting with Scotia Bank at the end of February.

### **Old Business**

**Amazon e-book** - we would have to tie the account to a SIN number.

- Motion to pause the process of selling the e-book through Amazon as we may do an e-book through Lulu, who do not require a SIN number (as far as we know). **MSC**

### **New Business**

- Discussion re voluntary poverty and prudent reserve: Motion to set the prudent reserve at 3 months operating expenses = \$9000. **MSC**
- Re voluntary poverty we would have to use any excess wealth we have and could refuse a donation if we felt that it would result in too much wealth. Prudent reserve is \$9000 and we do not have much more than that in our account currently.
- Action regarding book if ABA goes under: The group felt that this could be dealt with if and when the situation arose. It is too difficult to plan when we don't know the particulars of the situation yet. Will be taken off the agenda for now.
- Non-ABA members on the board would like to know the prayers used at board meetings. Amy to forward this to them.

### **Closing Remarks**

- The next board meeting will be the AGM to be held on March 15 at 6 PM Mountain time/8 pm Eastern time.
- The meeting was concluded with the serenity prayer at 19.48 Mountain time.