

General Service Association of ABA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2021

Present:

Directors: Amy G (President), June, Tammie, Kheri, David F

Guests: Kristina, Dawn (Retreat Chair), Judy K, Arye (GSR Committee Vice-Chair), Con, Karen T

Regrets: Judy B

1. Meeting was called to order at 8:02 Eastern

2. 2/3 Quorum met

3. Motion to approve agenda. Topic of Younger people at meetings added to new business Kheri/June MSC

4. Motion to adopt Minutes from September 20, 2021. Kheri/David MSC

5. Bylaw review

(27) The Treasurer shall disburse or cause to have disbursed the funds of the Society under the direction of the board of Directors, taking proper vouchers therefore. No questions/concerns.

6. Board Director nominations and elections. Motion to have Kristina Wells as Director. Amy/June MSC.

Amy to ask Shahin to email Kristina a copy of the Orientation binder for new directors.

All committees can use support.

7. Reports

- President's Report: see report.

- Treasurer's Report: Good profit and sales in September. See reports. Stripe has been working well for one-time donations. Better than Paypal for that.

- Operations Manager's Report:

See report.

We have approximately 200 mini books to use that are not selling quickly.

Motion to provide the self-support committee with 25 copies and the PI Committee with 50 copies of the mini books to disburse at workshops and treatment centers respectively. Kheri/David MSC. Note that if they sell otherwise, we will have that happen. We can always get more made.

Dawn noted that there is the list from the storage place of all the treatment centers Joan used to send books to. Dawn will send that list to the PI Committee. For the self-support committee, Dawn can get mini books signed by Joan.

Dawn and Shahin went through the storage container and cleaned it up. Thus, we were able to move to a smaller unit, saving us \$40 per month. Thank you to Dawn and Shahin! We are paid up for the next 2 years.

Motion to accept officers` reports. June/Kristina MSC

8. Standing Committee reports

- GSR Committee – Arye does not have minutes of the last meeting but reviewed what he recalls. There was some discussion re the new edition of the book and who authorizes the final product in terms of literature. Some differences were found in the Sobriety is Surrender document in the book as compared to the document on the website. They are waiting to hear back from Lou in terms of her perspective on this.
We might want to look at some type of board approved process around approving literature. This could be referenced in the bylaws perhaps. Arye has some info re how other fellowships do this. He will send this to Amy. Amy will make this an agenda item for the next meeting.
The GSR Committee is still looking for a Chair.
- Self-Support Committee – Judy. Various workshops are being planned for the new year. One on service is being jointly planned by the committee and the GSR Committee. There is the possibility of having a monthly meditation workshop.
- Group Inventory Committee: no report. In order to carry out the next phase they need more members. Otherwise, it is on pause. Whoever steps up would need to be objective as the next phase is reviewing the board and how it operates.
- Literature and Outreach Committee: see report.
There was much discussion on the Hebrew translation and the question posed by the literature committee. The board wonders if the current translation should be completed first before translating the 2nd Edition. There is currently a translation of the 1st Edition being used and sold in Israel. It is unclear what the agreement was between the board and the Hebrew Committee. Amy will ask the literature committee to send someone to the board meeting to answer questions. Amy will speak to Lou.
In terms of the French translation a process needs to be fleshed out as for the Hebrew translation. Con offered his services as he is a translator fluent in Spanish, French and English. Kheri will speak to Judy B as to where they are at in terms of the Concepts.
- Retreat and Conference Committee: see report. There has not been a lot of feedback received from members who attended the retreat. The next meeting is at 2 pm eastern November 14. Arye will let the GSR Committee know that the retreat committee is looking for feedback and that anyone wanting to attend the meeting on November 14 is welcome to do so in order to talk about next year`s retreat.
- Public Information Committee: see report. Committee has been working with Joan to get the books out with a letter. We are looking for someone to contact treatment centers in the US. Arye will take this request back to the GSR Committee.
- GSO and Personnel Committee: see report. Committee is recommending that we reduce the OM`s hours due to us now using print on demand.

Motion to reduce Operation Manager`s hours to 60 per month (approximately 15 hours per week). Kheri/Tammie MSC

- Website Committee: no report. Committee is now ready to work on other items such as creating a new schedule for members. Will be getting together in the next month.
- Bylaw Committee: Is making progress. Will take 2 or 3 months to finalize a draft to bring to the board.

10. Old Business – none

11. New Business

a) Young people attending our meetings. Con and Amy attended the meeting in Cape town today. There is also a meeting in the UK at a treatment center for younger members that is a gentler version of ABA for younger people. There is a need to look at creating a guideline regarding young people attending our meetings. Currently they can attend and can provide their contact info in the chat. This poses some issues regarding their safety. Kheri will bring this to the Safety Committee. Amy will forward what Con found in AA in terms of guidelines to the Safety Committee. It is clear that young people do benefit from attending our meetings, but they may need particular support due to their age and subsequent vulnerability. The bylaws may also be able to give direction to this. We might in the future look at specific meetings for younger people with sponsors who are properly vetted (i.e. Abateen).

Motion to resend out the Safety Statement to the groups. June/Tammie MSC.

14. Date of Next meeting: Sunday November 21 at 2 pm Eastern/12 PM Mountain.

Motion to adjourn. MSC

Meeting wrapped up with the ``we`` version of the Serenity Prayer

Minutes taken by Amy.