

**General Service Association of ABA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda  
June 18, 2023**

1. Call to order/prayer (2 minutes)

Tammie opens with Serenity Prayer

2. Attendance (directors and visitors) - confirm quorum (1/3rd except 2/3rd regarding expenditures over \$500) (2 minutes) 1/3 = 3 people; 2/3 = 6 people.

1. Amy G (**board**)
2. Tammie N (**board**)
3. Keren (Israel)
4. Chantelle B (**board**)
5. Adam K
6. Con (**board**)
7. Caren J
8. Shelby (**board**)
9. Joan (**board**)
10. Christina (**board**)
11. Torrey S
12. Stephanie P
13. Kathryn M
14. Lisa M

More than  $\frac{2}{3}$  quorum

3. Review and adopt agenda for today's meeting (2 minutes)

Amy votes to adopt today's meeting agenda and Christina seconds.

4. Review and adopt minutes from May 14, 2023. (3 minutes)

Con moves to adopt and Amy seconds.

5. Bylaw review (4 minutes)

5. (a) Any Director, upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all Directors of the Society, may be expelled from the Board for any cause which the Directors deem reasonable.

(b) Any Director who misses three (3) consecutive Board Meetings without good cause will be expelled from the Board and deemed no longer a Director.

6. Board membership in the Society, at any given time, shall consist of a minimum of seven (7) persons and a maximum of twenty (20) persons.

As always, we can use more Directors and more folks on our committees.

6. Board Director nominations and elections, if applicable. (10 minutes)

No nominations for new Directors today.

## 7. Officers Reports

- President's Report — Tammie (4 minutes)

Following up about Amazon. We have access now and have the First Edition set up on Amazon. We are just waiting for final approval/release (review before setting it up. Some specifications on chapters to finalize). First Edition to be live and then Second to be set up after. Things are moving nice and smoothly overall.

Newsletter went well. Summer to be discussed with respect to board meetings.

- Treasurer's Report — Shelby (5 minutes)

See the Treasurer's Report on the ABA website. Important/concerning: we did not make money in the month of May. Sales were up, but donations were down. We actually lost \$84.32 in the month of May. \$12,000 is the current bank balance.

Amy says its great to see things are back to being higher. Tammie agrees, nice to see that buffer.

- Operations Manager's Report — Tammie (5 minutes)

Nothing really changed since last month. Fairly slow month. Nothing out of the ordinary.

Con has a question: motion to move the CDs to online availability? Tammie says the majority of them are there. As the CDs get purchased, they will not be restocked, and only the digital version will bel online.

If not all of the digital versions of the CDs are currently uploaded, they definitely will be within the next month.

Amy motions to adopt the Officer's Reports. Christina seconds.

## 8. GSR Committee Report — (10 minutes)

There were 6 members in attendance at the last meeting. Met quorum and voted to lower their quorum, from 6 to 3. Three being the minimum required to pass a unanimous vote.

Adam has taken over updating the active meetings list. He is creating a spreadsheet for that.

The GSR is also potentially taking a group inventory to definite their purpose and goals assessment, etc.

Stephanie met with Jessa a little over a month ago to potentially visit some other committee meetings to get an idea of how things run, and how to be more effective as a committee.

Adam is very grateful for Stephanie's leadership. They have been struggling to fill positions, etc. Adam also thanks Christina for attending the GSR meeting and answering some questions.

Joan asks what the percentage is of the membership that forms the quorum. Stephanie (6 months) says there are 19 on email thread, but most of them are not active. Normally a quorum is a certain percentage of the total. That is the way quorum is set.

Have they considered the ramifications of doing that? Stephanie says a lot of folks on the email thread that are listed as 'Active GSRs' but they don't respond to emails.

6 members were present last meeting, which was the highest they've had a long time.

3 being very low, and reevaluating on a monthly basis. Ask Stephanie to complete this last part.

## 9. Standing Committee reports

- Self-Support Committee — (5 minutes)

Caren J here. The Self-Support Committee met last week. They are hosting an upcoming workshop June 25th.

No questions for the Self-Support Committee.

- Literature and Outreach Committee — (5 minutes)

Amy and Kathy are here for the Literature and Outreach Committee.

They now have enough meditations to complete the meditation book!! They are currently in the process of a final review. They are also working on an introduction to the meditation book.

The committee was wondering about the Polish translation of the preamble on the website. And was also wondering about having a specific folder under 'Documents' named 'Translations' so they can put all of those documents into. Tammie says she will have that taken care of.

The preambles that are currently on website are in Hebrew and Spanish.

No questions or comments for the Literature Committee.

- Ad hoc Hebrew Translation Committee — (5 minutes)

Keren: good news since last board meeting. The current translator (Orr) will finish Chapter 15. The previous translator (Mary [full name Mariam]) will then return to finish the remaining Second Edition. Mary, is a professional translator and well versed in the Twelve Steps. She has translated for ABA and other Twelve Step groups.

The Israel group would like to ask if the Board approves of this arrangement so that Mary may begin translating and hopefully finish the Second Edition soon. The Israel Group would like to know if once she finishes the first part of book, can they send it to the Board, get approval and then move onto the second edition?

Tammie asks Amy if there is a process to follow. Joan says we need a motion. Since Mary is a professional translator, not an ABA member, she needs to be paid for her service. The Israel group is paying Mary from their 7th tradition. They are an ABA group, so they are connected to the whole of ABA, so the GSA can definitely provide them some funds because we are not an outside organization. They are not independent of us. The Israel ABA group is part of the whole of ABA.

Shelby shares that we have \$416.43 earmarked for translations. Tammie says it's for any language.

We should approve the first translation once Orr is finished. And then have Mary translate the stories of the Second Edition. Mary will concentrate on the updates. Orr has translated all of Part 1 in the Second Edition. Orr and Mary have been working together. They've worked together in the past.

Con suggests they send a PDF of what has been done as a simple proof, to file the document, and justify where the money was spent.

**Con motions to receive a copy, for the GSA records, of the Hebrew First Edition as completed by Orr.**

Con motions. Joan seconds.

Is anyone opposed to this motion? No one. We move that motion.

Shelby: Second motion to get Hebrew translation to be published on Amazon. Tammie shares we still need the rest of the Second Edition.

Donation for Mary: should Keren come to the next board with how much it will cost? Tammie says yes if she could come back with a quote from Mary to help us understand the cost, that would be great.

- Retreat and Conference Committee — (5 minutes)

Lisa M. is here. She says the flyer for the retreat has gone out. Workshop and Panel themes. The committee has started asking folks to speak or be part of a panel. Schedules and timelines have been completed. They are attached with the report.

They are going to use the same pricing as last year (\$30/ticket) with scholarship donation (no added cost for somebody to attend). Suggest minimum donation of \$5 but no one will be turned away.

Any questions for the Retreat Committee? None.

- Public Information Committee — (2 minutes)

Amy: moving along to again invite members to submit requests of their local library so that we can (to be put in the newsletter) get our book into the library database.

Want to make a Newcomer Package to help engage with folks who want to know What ABA is. They will work with the Literature Committee on that.

Make an updated version of the ABA flyer (and do in conjunction with literature committee).

Questions? Joan asks if she can donate a box of Second Edition books to the PI committee. Amy says yes!

Con has a question or comment: Con has received a request from someone who works in a treatment centre about purchasing books. Sometimes PI Committees in Twelve Steps send out their books to treatment centres. Amy says she will send some books out to them.

- GSO and Personnel Committee — (5 minutes)

Report online. Not much to report, just keeping up to date with everything. Everything is running smoothly. OM keeping on top of everything, doing really well.

Questions? None.

- Website Committee — (3 minutes)

The rest of the information up for retreat will be up this week. Still ironing out how information is sent and pulled together for information collection. Not much to report on that side of things.

Questions? None.

- Bylaw Committee — on pause
- Safety Committee — on pause
- Group Inventory Committee — on pause

10. Old Business:

Nothing but Amazon. Only thing left is the privacy policy and terms of use.

11. New Business:

- a) Privacy Policies and terms of use for the website. Requesting the annual purchase of services for privacy policies and terms of service that update as laws change. This is very important since we are a global organization and now take orders online as well as newsletter subscriptions. This will protect the organization

moving forward with all privacy laws globally. The fee for the first year is \$280 CDN. Following years it is \$165. This provides us with the best option to cover all bases with policies.

Would we like to protect our organization from privacy policies? This put information on the website that shows what our privacy options are. It helps describe how the information we collect is dealt with. It ensures that everything is clear and, transparent. Covered for any countries, states, provinces.

**Tammie puts forth a motion that we register for Termageddon's service for the privacy policies and terms of use for our website for \$280 for this year.**

Amy seconds.

Joan asks where the money goes to. Tammie answers it goes to Termageddon. They are an organization whose sole purpose is to be on top of all aspects of privacy policies, payment policies globally. It helps us ensure that we are complying with privacy policies in different states, provinces and countries.

Joan asks if Termageddon enforces that policy? Tammie answers that we are the ones that enforce the policy from our website. What Termageddon does is explains how we're managing policies. Our OM will be the contact if there's anything that needs to be adjusted. As legal policies are updated in different countries, we are notified if we need to update ours.

Joan asks which country's privacy policy will be displayed/published? Will our site have 20 different policies displayed for all the countries we do business in? Tammie answers No, only one policy with different specifications for specific locations if necessary, but in most cases the most stringent will be listed in the policies. Everything is labelled, document-wise.

Our OM will answer requests about privacy concerns. She has to make sure she adheres to the policies. Shelby asks what about using a cookie cutter system/solution? Tammie answers that that could cost us down the road. Con compares with AA's website.

No more questions.

We vote:

1. Con yes
2. Joan abstains
3. Amy yes
4. Shelby abstains
5. Christina yes
6. Chantelle yes
7. Tammie yes

5 yeses. The motion carries.

12. Discuss taking the summer off and the date of Next meeting/adjournment/prayer (3 minutes).

Amy shares that in the past, if the Board was having money issues, they wouldn't take time off. Because we're doing okay, Amy feels as though it would be alright to take the summer off.

Joan says we do not need a motion for this.

The group votes and decides to take July and August off.

Our next meeting will be **SEPT 17TH, 2023**

Amy and Joan motion to adjourn.

We close with the We version of the Serenity Prayer.