

General Service Association of ABA Board of Directors Meeting Draft Minutes
19 January 2025

1. Call to order/prayer and Tradition 2. Kathryn at 12:00 EST with the Serenity Prayer

2. Attendance –

Directors: Kelly, Alison, Kathryn, Jessa, Christina, Peter, Joan, Con

Visitors: Kheri (OM), Maria (GSR), Amy

3. Review and adopt agenda for today's meeting – an addition of the GSR report

4. Primary Purpose review –

Tradition 1- Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on ABA unity.

Step 12- Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to others suffering from eating disorders, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Officers Reports

- President's Report — everything Kathryn has in her report gets addressed during the meeting with what's on the agenda
- Treasurer's Report — Kelly – there are some questions regarding the 2023 financial report and it needs to be signed off, Kelly couldn't find the report on website. Kheri to email them to her. Current financials are doing well. Better break downs in Quickbooks. Kelly recommends moving to a cash flow reporting structure since ABA does not need to file tax returns. No concerns from anyone regarding this. Kheri questioned the CD sales line report and will look further into it.
- Operations Manager's Report — Kathryn and Kheri discussed the report

***MOTION TO ADOPT THE OFFICERS' REPORTS. Kathryn motioned, Kelly seconded.
Passed***

GSR Report — Maria - special inventory meeting held to discuss purpose of GSR

Desire to become more familiar with the 12 traditions, is there someone on the board who can provide an hour introduction workshop on this? And the concepts at a different time.

Will the GSA give permission for Strength through Our Traditions 2004 specific recordings to be released to members free of charge for this purpose? There are currency issues with exchange rates making the cost prohibitive.

Some new GSRs coming on and a welcome package being created.

Peter – not volunteering to do a workshop but AA has good materials, a brochure with explanations

Alison – agreed that it would be valuable to go through the traditions, supports having those audio recordings available

Maria posits that there appears to be a lack of understanding of the traditions and why attending meetings is important.

Kathryn supports the idea of a traditions workshop. Amy asks what the timeline is for the workshop. Maria says as soon as possible but at the Board member's convenience – April or May. They are hoping this will be for everyone, ABA as a whole. They want to encourage people to become GSRs and for them to understand why it's important. Peter – ABA seems to still be in the process of working out details compared to AA. He hopes ABA constructs a service manual for incoming people performing service. Kathryn – the GSR will need to be the ones to create this and agrees this would be helpful. Joan would be willing to help facilitate a workshop. Amy would be happy to participate in a workshop. Kathryn would be willing to lead the workshop but says she doesn't have a lot of experience with the 12 and 12. Kathryn suggests Jessa assist if she is willing. Jessa – had suggested the GSR contact the SSC but ideas currently look different. The traditions can be interpreted different ways. Maybe have a group of people to come together to put together an information session. Not call it a workshop. Have the GSR come up with a list of questions that is sent to the session facilitators ahead of time. What are the GSRs wanting answered. Maria will take this all back to the GSR and plan for April with the concepts in autumn. Jessa agrees that it would be worth reading AA's illustrated traditions and concepts brochures.

Kathryn motions that the traditions recordings be made free of charge. Kelly seconds. Unanimous other than Jessa abstaining.

Standing Committee reports

- Self-Support Committee — Jessa – need people on the committee, will be a blurb in the newsletter but need the word passed on. AGM date needed. ABA-non is looking for members to speak.
- Literature and Outreach Committee — nothing this month
- Retreat and Conference Committee — report posted
- Public Information Committee — There have been some requests in people using the ABA logos for posters, etc. Are there guidelines for this? Kathryn stated Lou has

generally dealt with the copywrite issues. No one else had information around this. Kathryn suggests Alison connect with Lou around this. Kheri asked for a copy of this for the office. Amy said there is a document about copywrite that could be used as a start. Alison mentioned brand guidelines. Jessa mentioned she and Amy have been discussing a service manual and have Kheri involved. Does the Literature Committee need to be involved with this? SSC here to ensure the viability of ABA. Vtally important to get started on it and get the knowledge of the longer term members. Kathryn agrees this needs to be done. It is on the agenda later to have updated Committee Terms of Reference. Do this in tandem. Have a Service Manual Committee. Ad Hoc committee. Jessa is willing to do it and have a group of others help.

- GSO and Personnel Committee — Christina is the new Chair. She and Kheri are working together to update things like the job description and Google Drive. Christina will write up a request for a bookkeeper for the newsletter asap.
- Website Committee — announce that we need a chair and members to join – Kathryn is currently chair but is looking for someone else to take over. The Committee has a question for the Board – would like group operations documents to be free of charge.

Joan moves for all group operations documents to be free of charge for the membership. Kathryn seconds. Unanimous

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

9. New Business:

- Sign off 2023 Financials – discussed in the Treasurer Report portion of the meeting
- Board Meeting Manual – Kathryn talked about some confusion around how motions are made and discussed. Joan explained there's a business process that ABA follows. Kathryn asks if anything needs to be streamlined for meetings. Jessa suggested that some of this will likely come up while we formulate a service manual. Peter downloaded Robert's Rules of Order AA Edition and will email it to the office for Board dissemination.

Jessa motions that a committee be created to explore the process of a service manual. Kathryn seconded.

The Personnel Committee probably would need to be involved with this. Christina stated that she and Kheri have already been discussing having an Executive Committee roles explanation so this would fit within the service manual. Kathryn says it's important to make sure we aren't duplicating efforts. Jessa and Amy will co-organize a meeting to start and then start inviting people in.

Kathryn would like the Committee Chairs to update Terms of Reference by the AGM. She would prefer to have it done by the next Board meeting actually. Amy expressed that it might be a lot to try to do that. Christina asked what that would involve. Kathryn explained that it would be a Terms of Reference document, what the committee is responsible for. Terms of Reference will evolve as the service manual evolves. Helps with what gets brought to the Board and what stays within a committee. Alison says that the deadline shouldn't be an issue unless there's a question that comes up that needs an answer from the Board. Jessa says she will talk about it with the SSC. Kheri to find the Terms of Reference and send it to all. Joan stated that the Board is to create the Terms of Reference for the committees. Jessa said that wasn't her experience but that the committee does it and the Board ratifies. That's Jessa's most recent experience and that it's been the last couple of years that the chair of the committee is responsible and the Board approves. Kathryn says this is a good area to have in the service manual so there isn't further confusion.

Amy asked if we have auditors for the audit in February. Christina states that Chantelle was one but has left and Con has volunteered to be the second auditor. It needs to be voted on by the Board. Con agreed to be an auditor.

Joan moves that Con be appointed an auditor for this fiscal year. Kathryn seconded. Unanimous.

- AGM preparation- Goals and Projects for 2025 – March 16, 2025 – Joan said the focus of the AGM is recruiting new Board Members. Would like a good portion of non-ABA members for balance. Amy said we need to figure out Board terms for current members. Update the recruitment documents and send it with an email saying who is outgoing and needs to be replaced.

Daylight Savings Time changes for North America March 09 but not for the UK until March 30. So there should only be a 4 hour time gap for that day.

30 days notice for the AGM to every registered group

Christina is our only non-ABA member

Next meeting date: 16 February 2025

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING. 1:54pm EST

Closed with the Serenity Prayer.