



ICSAA  
Secular AA

20 July 2024 **Secular AA Board MINUTES** 2PM ET/11AM PT

Meeting ID: 737 034 1591

Passcode: Rule62

*MINUTES Recorded by Margarita, Secretary of Secular AA*

Call to Order by the Chair - Will.I.Am at 2:02 PM EST

AA Declaration of Unity: Read by Will.I.Am

“This we owe to AA’s future: To place our common welfare first: To keep our fellowship united. For on AA Unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.”

Attending Interim Meeting Quorum met at 9/10

Board Members (Start Date)

Will.I.Am	Acting Chair (01/2023)	PRESENT
Jeff S	Vice-Chair (06/2023)	PRESENT
Margarita A	Secretary (01/2023)	PRESENT
Kurt R.	Treasurer (07/2022)	PRESENT
Dale K	Member at Large (01/2023)	PRESENT
Izzy D	Member at Large (01/2024)	ABSENT
“Jeb” James	Virtual ICSAA 2023 Committee Chair (01/2023)	PRESENT
“Sonny” Sherman	Member at Large (01/2023)	PRESENT
Lisa P	Member at Large (06/2023)	PRESENT
Mikey J	Technology Coordinator (01/2023)	PRESENT
Alison P	ICSAA Orlando 2024 Committee Chair (03/2023)	PRESENT
Joe C	Advisor to Acting Chair (Nonmember)	ABSENT

**Officers Reports/Updates**

Secretary - Margarita (Bylaw 7.1.4) **Agenda Item 1) VOTE to Approve** ‘MINUTES Secular AA Board Meeting 2024\_04\_20, and MINUTES Secular AA Board Meeting 2024\_05\_04, and MINUTES Secular AA Board Meeting 2024\_05\_18’~ **SEE DOCUMENTS** on aasecular.org.

Lisa moved to approve all minutes. Jeff seconded. Passed unanimously and will be posted on the aasecular.org website.

Treasurer - Kurt (Bylaw 7.1.5) **Agenda Item 2) VOTE to Approve** 2024 Second Quarter Report (link to documents below) Margarita moved to approve and Jeff seconded. Passed unanimously and will be posted on aasecular.org website. ■ [secaa-2024-q2-treasurer-letter.pdf](#)

■ [secaa-2024-q2-pl.pdf](#) ■ [secaa-2024-q2-bs.pdf](#)

**Standing Committee Reports/Updates**

Nominating Committee – Vice-Chair (Bylaw 8.2.1) Will.I.Am Reporting **Agenda Item 3) Sonny has submitted his resignation as Vice Chair. He will remain on the Board of Secular AA as a Member-at-large effective immediately.**

**VOTE on new Vice Chair** Will.I.Am proposed Jeff S, and Jeff accepted. Kurt moved to nominate Jeff and JEB seconded. Passed unanimously.

JEB discussed his reasoning behind resigning from the Board after ICSAA Orlando 2024 in the spirit of rotation of service and maintenance of institutional memory for future board members. The Board discussed term limits and how our current Board inherited a situation whereby no former institutional memory was maintained (with the exception of Treasurer Joy R’s support) due mainly to the Pandemic. JEB suggested potentially updating Bylaws to reflect new Board member term limits. Will.I.Am said that the Bylaws are still amendable before presenting them to the membership for ratification on Oct. 6, 2024 but further discussion would be required.



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**This committee needs to collect nominees to propose at the General Membership meeting on October 6.** Will.I.Am named Tracy C of Cleveland, OH with Higher Palooza and Westside Agnostics experience and Mary C of Savannah, GA with New Freedom Women's Group experience as two people he's had discussions with who both would accept nomination to the Board at the Oct. 6, 2024 General Membership meeting. Both are also active in the ICSAA Orlando 2024 committee.

ICSAA 2026 Site Selection Committee – (Bylaw 8.2.2) Agenda Item 4) Will.I.Am UPDATE. 3 cities have voiced interest and have received “Request for Proposal” questionnaires to return to the committee. The groups and corresponding cities are Westside Agnostics in Cleveland, Secular Sobriety in Tulsa, and We Agnostics in Phoenix.

Site selection committee members include Jeff S, Will.I.Am, Margarita, Joe C, Rachel, Izzy, and Sonny.

ICSAA Orlando 2024 Host Committee - Alison P (Bylaw 8.2.8) Agenda Item 5) UPDATE on Program, Marketing, etc.

218 registrants as of today. 324 out of 440 room nights booked at DoubleTree. In the last 2 weeks before Austin, registration increased by 50% and before Toronto, registration increased by 25%. Alison feels confident we fulfill our contracted commitment.

42 confirmed sessions scheduled on the program which is accessible on the Eventbrite registration page

(<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/international-conference-of-secular-aa-2024-registration-717779707427>) A pdf version of the program is almost completed and ready for distribution as well.

Zoom access is not being arranged out of financial restrictions and to not cannibalize in-person participation and the immeasurable value of in-person fellowship. Testimonials from members who have participated in past conferences will be used to promote registration in addition to ongoing spotlights on the sessions.

In-Reach - Jeff S (Bylaw 8.2.4) Agenda Item 6) UPDATE Glenn G of Jacksonville, FL has joined the committee. Secular presence is being promoted in area meetings in Oklahoma and Florida and at the Vancouver 2025 A.A. Conference. (NOTE Jen B of NM and others are also working on getting a secular presence at the Women's International A.A. Conference in San Diego next summer.)

Fellowship Margarita (Bylaw 8.2.5) Agenda Item 7) UPDATE Mailchimp Newsletters going out about twice a month about the conference and once a month about the monthly Global Speakers Tour to a list of over 800 emails.

UPDATE Global Secular Tour monthly speaker meetings and Buzzsprout account. Langley, BC “One Big Tent” roundup sessions from July 13th have been added to our Podcast posts. Share What Works for You from Montreal is lined up for August's Global Speakers Tour.

IT- Mikey J (Bylaw 8.2.7) Agenda Item 8) UPDATE by Will.I.Am and Mikey: Updated the tab on Recordings to be “Resources” with sub navigation to recordings and literature (linked to Roger C's AA Agnostica) and in need of creating an option of “How to Start a Meeting” with resources. Looking for a volunteer/s to put that together.

Archives (Open)(Bylaw 8.2.6)

Outreach (Open)(Bylaw 8.2.3)

OTHER BUSINESS:



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**Agenda Item 9)** Secretary Margarita ~ discuss the agenda for the General Membership Meeting on October 6, 2024. Margarita will email the Agenda document to Board members for input. So far it will include approving today's Board meeting minutes, Kurt's 3rd quarter treasury report; ratification of amended Bylaws; Recap of ICSAA Orlando 2024; election of new Board members; approval of ICSAA 2026 location; In-Reach Committee updates; Fellowship updates; IT updates; promotion of committee service position availabilities...

**Agenda Item 10)** Schedule for future quarterly meetings.

Upcoming board meeting times (to be confirmed), Saturday's 2PM Eastern time/ 11AM Pacific.

1. 2pm ET/11am PT - SUNDAY Oct 6, 2024
2. 2pm ET/11am PT - **Saturday, Jan 18, 2025**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:59 PM EST**

**NEXT MEETING 2pm ET/11am PT - SUNDAY, October 6, 2024**

#### Mission Statement

"Our mission is to assure suffering alcoholics that they can find sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or deny their own. Secular AA does not endorse or oppose any form of religion or belief system and operates in accordance with the Third Tradition of Alcoholics Anonymous: The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking."

#### Vision Statement

"Secular AA recognizes and honors the immeasurable contributions that Alcoholics Anonymous has made to assist individuals to recover from alcoholism. We seek to ensure that AA remains an effective, relevant and inclusive program of recovery in an increasingly secular society. The foundation of Secular AA is grounded in our experience that anyone - regardless of their spiritual beliefs or lack thereof - can recover in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. Secular AA exists to serve the community of secularly-minded alcoholics by supporting worldwide access to secularly formatted AA meetings and fostering mutual support within a growing population of secularly-minded alcoholics."

#### Board Meeting Procedures

Parliamentary authority per Robert's Rules of Order within the principles found in AA's 12 Concepts for World Service, AA's 12 Traditions, AA Service Manual and our Bylaws. Bylaws - should be considered a work in process, please provide the chair with any suggested amendments.

##### Committee process

- o Status reports at board meetings
- o Board functions as oversight and holds committees responsible to the collective group conscious.
- o Work to be done in committees not at board meetings.
- o Committee chairs should involve non-board member Secular AA Members in committee work.

Agenda - be prepared to table new topics if needed.

Back to Basics and Keeping it Simple

**LINK TO BYLAWS:**

[https://www.aasecular.org/files/ugd/c732f8\\_b4e5c963a01b4c748a8644f08a4988de.pdf](https://www.aasecular.org/files/ugd/c732f8_b4e5c963a01b4c748a8644f08a4988de.pdf)