



13 January 2024 **Secular AA Board MINUTES** 2PM ET/11AM PT

Meeting ID: 737 034 1591 Passcode: Rule62

Call to Order by the Chairman - Will.I.Am

AA Declaration of Unity: Read by Chair-

“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 12:02

Board Members (Start Date)

Will.I.Am Acting Chair (01/2023)	PRESENT
“Sonny” Sherman Vice-Chair (01/2023)	PRESENT
Margarita A Secretary (01/2023)	PRESENT
Kurt R. Treasurer (07/2022)	PRESENT
Chris M Member at Large (01/2024)	PRESENT
Dale K Member at Large (01/2023)	PRESENT
Izzy D Member at Large (01/2024)	PRESENT
“Jeb” James Virtual ICSAA 2023 Committee Chair (01/2023)	PRESENT
Jeff S Member at Large (06/2023)	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)	

Officers Reports/Updates

Secretary - (Bylaw 7.1.4) Margarita **Agenda Item 1) VOTE to Approve** ‘MINUTES Secular AA Board Meeting 2023_10_14’ and ‘MINUTES Secular AA INTERIM Board Meeting 2023_12_02’~ SEE DOCUMENTS **Moved to approve by Will. Seconded by Jeff S. Approved unanimously.**

Treasurer - (Bylaw 7.1.5) Kurt **Agenda Item 2) VOTE to Approve** 2023 Fourth Quarter (Letter) (Profit/Loss) Next payment to Orlando \$7500 in March 2024. Will moved to approve. Margarita seconded. **Approved unanimously. Treasury reports will be posted on our website.**

Standing Committee Reports/Updates

Site Selection Committee – Vice-Chair Sonny (Bylaw 8.2.2) **Agenda Item 3) Will.I.Am** reported we need to post and disseminate the “Request for Proposal” document and actively announce at meetings the opportunity for groups in different cities no later than March 2024 per our bylaws. The Site Selection Committee should present 3 to 5 options for the hybrid/online General Membership meeting September 22, 2024.

Margarita will create graphics for posting and a banner that Board members can use as zoom backgrounds to help publicize.

ICSAA Orlando 2024 Host Committee - (Bylaw 8.2.8) Alison P **Agenda Item 4) UPDATE**

The ICSAA Orlando 2024 committee will have a draft program by the end of February and a program ready to publish in May.

\$7500 is due to Wyndham in March.

168 of the 440 minimum contract number of room nights are booked. The committee hopes to appeal to membership service motivation and build panels and workshops. So far 88 people



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have registered with 10 participants who have already volunteered for panels and to provide workshops including Glenn Rader, Joe C, Jeffrey Munn. Panels include a creativity series for artists, writers, etc. There will be a marathon room for groups to sign up to host, as well as a game room, and potentially LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, neurodivergence panels and more.

T shirts are being designed for fundraising.

Committee will let Will.IAm know if they need an Interim Board meeting in March.

Virtual ICSAA 2023 Committee - (Bylaw 8.2.9) **JEB** Agenda Item 5) FINAL REPORT ICSAA 2023 was an overall great success. All minutes from planning meetings, as well as graphics, service organization charts, and programs are saved together on our Secular AA Google drive for future reference. Tony F of PA is putting together a How-to-Organize-Tech-and-Service-Positions document to help guide future virtual conference organizers that will also be stored on our Google drive.

In-Reach - (Bylaw 8.2.4) **Jeff S** Agenda Item 6) UPDATE Vancouver - Jeff has organized a committee out of his Tulsa We Agnostics group to put together a clear explanation of what using a secular recovery program as opposed to the traditional Christian-based program looks like based on input from the secular recovery website out of Michigan and will present it in next quarterly meeting.

Fellowship (Bylaw 8.2.5) **Margarita** Agenda Item 7) Mailchimp UPDATE by Margarita: Carolyn GK populated our Mailchimp account with over 800 addresses taken from our virtual conference participants and off the Worldwide Secular Meetings Calendar website.

Monthly **Global Speaker Tour** meetings - We have been using Beyond Belief Toronto's Zoom account to accommodate the over 100 participants we've been having. If we were to use our own account, it would cost us another \$50/month so we would like to offer BB Toronto compensation. Margarita will create a 7th Tradition graphic with QR codes to our Venmo and PayPal accounts to display when speakers finish before open discussion instead of just posting to the chat.

Margarita will resend a description of the meeting format to guide Board members in recruiting new groups to be featured in future first Mondays.

Next February 4th we are featuring Godless Heathens of Colorado.

Tony has updated our BuzzSprout feed with recordings of all our last Global Speaker Tour meetings and ICSAA 2023 sessions.

Claudia continues to translate all our graphics and disseminate them in Spanish speaking secular recovery meetings, What's App groups and FaceBook groups as well as translate everything posted in the chat during the meetings.

Veronica continues to provide free simultaneous translation during the GST meetings.

IT- Mikey J (Bylaw 8.2.7) **Agenda Item 8)** UPDATE by **Will.IAm and Mikey**

We need someone with UX (User Experience) expertise to improve our website. In the meantime, the IT committee plans to reorganize our "Recordings" tab to become a "Resources"



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tab that includes recordings, archives, literature, chips... The goal is for our website to serve as a hub to redirect users to resources already available online.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Agenda Item 9) Schedule for future quarterly meetings approved unanimously.

1. 2pm ET/11am PT - April 20, 2024
2. 2pm ET/11am PT - July 13, 2024

NEXT MEETING 2pm ET/11am PT - APRIL 20, 2024

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:30 PM ET

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