

**MONDAY NIGHT ABA PHONEMEETING MINUTES OF
AUGUST BUSINESS MEETING 2009**

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**PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THIS
MONDAY'S SEPTEMBER BUSINESS MEETING**

MINUTES OF AUGUST BUSINESS MEETING -

FINANCIAL REPORT (from Treasurer Andrea B.)

Latest bank balance - \$281.

Thirteen ABA textbooks in stock, plus pamphlets for newcomers.

See Agenda Item later considering a donation to the GSA.

Most of the meeting was taken up with one matter arising from the July Minutes:

PHONELINE ACCESS PROBLEMS

Due to ongoing reports of participant callers getting randomly cut off once in meetings, and often having some difficulty ringing back in, the following strategies were suggested:

1) Let members of the Telephone and Technology Committees know of any glitches, for referral to possible help and a link with our website - www.abaphonemeetings.wordpress.com.

Phone Committee - Laurie A. and Darlene B.

Technology Committee - Amy (Illinois) and Darlene B.

NOTE An asterisk (*) will be put beside these names on the phone list updated monthly, so that folk can spot them easily for emailing etc.

2) We suspect these problems may be part of the nature of the limited technology at hand, but in case improvement can also come with better phone etiquette, a reminder goes out to anyone volunteering to chair meetings to reiterate each week the Phone Etiquette Protocols (listed clearly in the Meeting Preamble on the website).

3) The Moderator role is best handled by more than one person, but at present is carried mostly by Laurie A. She and Andrea B. are willing to make information about command keys etc more easily accessible, and open the role to others.

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER BUSINESS MEETING -

These will need prioritising as not listed in order of importance...

1) Treasurer's Report

2) Matters arising from July Business Meeting - outstanding service positions

- milestone celebration ideas

3) Matters arising from August Business Meeting -

- Motion to consider whether a contribution to the GSA is now due.

- Proposal that Group emails have "ABA" in the subject line..

- Notion that information about the ABA Phone Meeting Website be given out earlier on, in the slot when Newcomers are asked to introduce themselves at the end of the meeting preamble.

- Consideration be given to requesting the GSA Literature Committee change the term "Check-in Buddy" (as it is understood in ABA terms and defined in the Guidelines to Long-Distance Sponsoring document) to "Step One Sponsor" - given that this clarifies the true nature of the role.

- Tradition Ten Issue: Sarah B. wonders if the following protocol statement would be pertinent to include with our meeting preamble? -

We save comments on outside issues, such as other addictions, and naming other 12 Step programmes or treatment models and treatment centres, for another time and place.

- Reflections on the Preamble from Osk D.

4) Thought be given to creating a more comprehensive Newcomer Pak for folk who have no computer and cannot access ABA-related websites etc - e.g. including hard copy lists of meetings and phone list.

5) Suggestion that Meal Support be put forward as a Ninth Tool in ABA's list of Tools: this will require careful consideration and debate, so feedback welcomed.

6) Where has the sentence or two inserted over a year ago into the Preamble explaining the Traditions gone? (Sarah B. believes something concise here is still called for.)

IF FOLK HAVE ANY FURTHER AGENDA ITEMS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING THEM TO THE MEETING (given shortness of time to submit them by email).

Last month, we had a record of over eight attendees at the Business Meeting - let's see if that can double this month!

SERENITY BLESSINGS

From the ABA Monday Night Meeting Secretary