

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS GREAT BRITAIN
MINUTES OF 37th NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Date: Saturday 22nd October 2022
Time: 10 am to 5 pm
Held: Marriot Windsor Hotel, Slough

Abbreviations used:

NSA = National Service Assembly of Overeaters Anonymous Great Britain

IG = Intergroup

OAGB = Overeaters Anonymous Great Britain

NSB = National Service Board of OAGB

WSBC = World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous

WSO = World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous

Agenda

1. Welcome

NSB Chair Teresa welcomed everyone to the 37th National Assembly. She advised the assembly of the roles of Parliamentarian, minute takers, Centre Mic, motion speaker, and Gavin's attendance as Board Administrator. Teresa asked for any objections – none received.

2. Housekeeping

Hosting committee and SEEIG Chair Hannah provided delegates information about fire escapes, tea, coffee, phones, toilets etc.

3. Preamble, Steps, Traditions, Concepts

Preamble read by Julie (Cannock); 12 Steps read by Jay (Exeter); Traditions read by Belinda; Concepts read by Darren.

4. Establish Quorum

25% from groups and IG's are required to establish quorum. There are currently:

- 132 Groups
- 9 Intergroups
- 3 Board members
- Total = 144 eligible to vote

Therefore, 36 are needed to conduct business today.

Total voting delegates registered = 56

The chair declared the meeting quorate.

The Chair advised that the NSA will follow parliamentary procedure as per the bylaws.

5. Apologies

The Chair extended apologies from Stella and Charlotte, the 2 additional board members, absent for health and family reasons.

6. Agreement of agenda and special rules of order

The agenda was agreed unanimously.

7. Voting for non-affiliated groups

No non-affiliated groups were present and therefore no voting agreement required.

8. Approval of minutes from 2021 Assembly

These minutes were proposed as read by Teresa (Chair) and unanimously agreed.

9. Appointment of minutes review committee for 2022 Assembly

Pat L (Heart of England IG) and Sara (South-East England IG) were agreed as minutes review committee members

10. Appointment of timekeeper

Emelia (Region 9 Trustee) volunteered as timekeeper for the morning business. Danny volunteered as timekeeper for the afternoon business.

11. Introduction of NSB Officers, Minute taker, Parliamentarian and Centre Mic person

Teresa introduced herself as Chair and Company Secretary, and then welcomed the other assembly officers:

Ellen – Chair of Professional Outreach

Joanna – Parliamentarian

Mel – Centre Mic

Suzi - Volunteering to help the board,

Phyll and Richard – Literature Stand

12. Review of Special Rules of Order and Parliamentary procedure

Joanna (Parliamentarian) referred to the rules of order and guidelines provided in pack 2, pages 38 & 39 and all questions and messages to go through to Centre Mic (Mel)

13. Board and paid worker reports (questions only)

Chair/Company Secretary – Teresa

Three questions were asked, no report amendments required.

Treasurer – Stella (absent)

Apologies for Stella's absence, Teresa (Chair) offered to take questions.

No questions asked.

Communications/WSBC – Charlotte (absent)

Apologies for Charlotte's absence, Teresa (Chair) offered to take questions.

Three questions asked, no report amendments required.

Literature – Deborah (absent)

Apologies for Deborah's absence, Teresa (Chair) offered to take questions.
Four questions asked, no report amendments required.

Region 9 representative – Teresa
No questions.

Professional Outreach – Ellen 2 Questions asked, no report amendments required.

14. Motions

Chair advised there would be four motions presented this year and quorum had been established.

MOTION A - If a member is elected to the board of OAGB they cannot be a member of another service board.

Proposed by Suzi (on behalf of OAGB).

There were 2 speakers Pro; (Liz - WOE IG; Richard - Aberdeen, Friday); and 2 speakers Against; (Jules - Scarborough; Hannah – Clapham).

Elizabeth (Bristol) raised a point of order.

Caroline (South-East England IG) raised a question.

46 Votes were cast.

For = 43

Against = 3

Motion A Carried

MOTION B: That the candidates for the National Service Board of OAGB are familiar with the twelve concepts of OA.

Proposed by Suzi (on behalf of OAGB), seconded by Joanna (Parliamentarian)

There were no speakers against.

Two questions were raised by Sarah (Soho, Sunday) and Carole (Alba IG).

47 Votes were cast.

For = 47

Against = 0

Motion B Carried unanimously.

MOTION C: That attached document “Service Body Treasurer Practices – some suggestions” should be placed on the OAGB website.

Proposed by Suzi (on behalf of OAGB).

There were 2 speakers Pro; (Susie – Plymouth, Tuesday; Sheila - Reading, Friday)

There were no speakers against.

Two questions were raised by Hannah (South of England IG) and Gemma (Wimbledon).

47 Votes were cast.

For = 47

Against = 0

Motion C Carried unanimously.

MOTION D: That OAGB submits a motion to WSBC regarding the wording of concept of service 12d.

Chair (Teresa) moved to rule motion D out of order.

This was seconded by Joanna as parliamentarian, quoting the following bylaws of WSBC. 'Concept Twelve states in part: "The spiritual foundation for OA service ensures that d) all important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, by **substantial unanimity.**"

They quoted the following:

"Being unanimous means that we are one mind or have the agreement and consent of all. Substantial means being largely but not wholly that which is specified. In practice, and according to Roberts Rules of Order, therefore "substantial unanimity" is defined as two-thirds affirmative vote for some things and majority vote for others.' *OAGB Service, Traditions, and Concepts Workshop Manual A Guide for Planning.*

Motion D was ruled out of order by unanimous agreement.

Lunch was held.

15. Afternoon session, Serenity Prayer, and Preamble

Teresa led all in the Serenity prayer and Sarah (Soho, Sunday) read the pre-amble.

16. Emergency Motions

MOTION E: MOTION: THAT WE INCORPORATE A PROCESS TO DEAL WITH LATE APPLICATIONS FOR THE NSB SO THAT THEY ARE RATIFIED BY RELEVANT INTERGROUP WITHIN 2 MONTHS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

SUBMITTED BY: Parliamentarian (Joanna) and NSB (Teresa)

INTENT: TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE ABLE TO DEAL WITH LATE APPLICATIONS FOR THE BOARD

IMPLEMENTATION:

CURRENT WORDING

1. Each Intergroup will put forward the names of suitable candidates to the Assembly. Their elections will normally be carried out by intergroups. The names of successful candidates will then be forwarded to the National Service Board prior to the next meeting of the Assembly, together with the OA biography of each candidate, and a brief written report detailing the election procedures used, signed by the chairperson and secretary of the election meeting. The Assembly will consider each candidate for his/her qualifications to serve the Board. In addition to his/her previous record of service to the Fellowship, and faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and familiarity of the twelve concepts of OA, the Assembly will consider each candidates' particular skills and background knowledge and experience, in order to ensure that the best qualities available for Board service are selected. The final election will take place at the Assembly, which the nominee must attend, other than in very exceptional circumstances.

`New Wording

2. Each Intergroup will put forward the names of suitable candidates to the Assembly. Their elections will normally be carried out by intergroups. The names of successful candidates will then be forwarded to the National Service Board prior to the next meeting of the Assembly, together with the OA biography of each candidate, and a brief written report detailing the election procedures used, signed by the chairperson and secretary of the election meeting. **In the case of late applications members elected by the National Assembly would have a voice but no vote on the NSB until the above election procedural document has been received from the Nominating Service Body by the NSB. This Is To Occur Within 2 Months of the National Assembly at Which the Election to the NSB Was taken.** The Assembly will consider each candidate for his/her qualifications to serve the Board. In addition to his/her previous record of service to the Fellowship, and faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and familiarity of the twelve concepts of OA, the Assembly will consider each candidates' particular skills and background knowledge and experience, in order to ensure that the best qualities available for Board service are selected. The final election will take place at the Assembly, which the nominee must attend, other than in very exceptional circumstances.

COST: NIL

RATIONALE: TO ENABLE LATE APPLICANTS TO THE NSB

Proposed by Joanna (on behalf of OAGB).

There were 2 speakers Pro; (Richard – Aberdeen, Friday; Marios - Borehamwood)

There were no speakers against.

Three questions were raised by Sarah (Soho, Sunday); Pam (South-East England IG); and Julia (Worcester).

The Assembly voted on the motion by anonymous poll.

49 Votes were cast.

For = 49

Against = 0

Emergency Motion E Carried unanimously.

17.NSB Officer Elections

Chair advised Board is small, currently with 3 members, 2 of whom were retiring. The Board needs a minimum of 3 members to legally stay open.

Two applications had been received (details in Pack 2) and if they were both elected, the board would not be legal. Four late applications had also been received.

Candidate A (Teresa) answered 4 questions.

Candidate B (Sarah) answered 2 questions.

With emergency motion E carried, 4 further applications were received.

Candidate C (Caroline) answered 2 questions.

Candidate D (Mel) answered 2 questions.

Candidate E (Rob) answered 1 question.

Candidate F (Alex) answered 1 question.

Six candidates stood for election. All were elected unanimously.

18. Intergroup Reports

Alba, presented by Carole – no questions received.

Caledonian, presented by Richard – no questions received.

Heart of England, presented by Ellen – no questions received.

North of England, presented by Trish – 1 question received.

Red Dragon, presented by Cheryl – 1 question received.

South and East England, presented by Hannah – 2 questions received.

West of England, presented by Liz – no questions received.

South Coast Intergroup, presented by Liz – no questions received.

19. National Assembly Hosts 2023

No bids received. NA in 2023 will therefore be virtual, on Zoom. IGs encouraged to think about giving hosting service.

20. PI Report

Ellen provided a summary of Professional Outreach programs and received 1 question.

21. AOB

Teresa thanked all who gave service at the assembly. She thanked the outgoing board members and expressed her joy in working with new Board members.

Meeting ended with a serenity prayer and OA Promise.

Meeting ended at 5pm