

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS GREAT BRITAIN
MINUTES OF 39TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Date: Saturday 19th October 2023
Time: 10am to 4.30pm
Venue: Venue Cymru, Llandudno, LL30 1BB

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, as acting Chair, welcomed everyone to the 39th National Assembly with a call to order and a short moment of silence. The theme this year is 'keeping it simple'.

2. Housekeeping

Heidi from Red Dragon explained the housekeeping issues.

3. Serenity Prayer, Preamble, 12 Steps Traditions, 12 Concepts

Serentiy Prayer was delivered in Welsh and English.

'Duw dyro imi dangnefedd I dderbyn y pethau na allaf eu newid, gwroldeb I newid y pethau a allaf, y doethineb I wybod y gwahaniaeth.'

Preamble by Tim; 12 Steps read by Hannah and then Lowri-Ann in Welsh; 12 Traditions by Julie and then Lowri-Ann in Welsh; Concepts by Owain

4. Establish Quorum

25% from groups and IG's are required to establish quorum. With 149 groups in 5 intergroups and 4 board members, there are 158 potential voters, by Friday evening there were 40 voting members and 4 board members, the minimum needed is 40, *the meeting was declared quorate.*

There was a request to give voting rights to Charlotte from the Greenwich zoom meeting, which is affiliated to the OA virtual IG, this was discussed by the board and recommend that Charlotte from Greenwich Virtual Meeting be a voting delegate. The chair read out the correspondence on this matter. *This was agreed by overwhelming majority.*

There was one objection; that it would be inappropriate for the group to have votes in multiple areas and therefore receive multiple votes.

The answer to this concern is found in sub part B in the bylaws of WSO and OAGB g a group or service body may have participating rights if approved by the service body. Although the request is for voting rights it is valid and in order within the scope of the OA bylaws.

A voting card was issued to Charlotte. Hence there were 45 voting delegates.

5. Agreement of Agenda

Chair advised that the agenda was supplied in pack 2, pages 2 and 3.
The agenda was agreed unanimously.

6. Approval of minutes from 2023 Assembly

These were proposed by Teresa (Chair) and *agreed unanimously.*

7. Appointment of Minutes Review Committee for 2024 Assembly

Sarah, Mel and Hannah from Clapham were agreed as minutes review committee members.

8. Appointment of Timekeeper

Frankie volunteered as timekeeper for the morning business.

9. Introduction of NSB Officers, Minute Taker, Parliamentarian and Centre Mic person.

Teresa introduced herself as acting Chair and Secretary and welcomed the other assembly officers:

Mel – Treasurer, Company Secretary and R9 rep
Robbie – Communications Officer and WSBC delegate
Sarah – Literature Liaison Officer

Sharon – professional minute taker
Alexandra – Centre Mic
Sharlotte – Parliamentarian
Red Dragon IG – Organising Committee for National Assembly.

10. Review of Special Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure

Sharlotte (Parliamentarian) referred to the rules of order and guidelines provided in pack 2, page 47 along with the parliamentary procedure.

11. Board & Paid Workers Reports – questions only

Secretary Report – Teresa
One question was asked with no amendments to the report.

Treasurer Report – Mel
Two questions were asked with no amendments to the report.

Company Secretary Report – Mel
No questions asked.

Communications – Robbie
Two questions were asked with no amendments to the report.

Literature Liaison – Sarah
Three questions were asked with no amendments to the report.

Literature Admin – Deborah with Sarah taking questions
One question was asked with no amendments to the report.

Professional Outreach/Public Information – Ellen with Maria taking questions
Two questions were asked with no amendments to the report.

Region 9 Delegate – Mel
Two questions were asked with no amendments to the report.

World Service Business Conference delegate – Robbie
Two questions were asked with no amendments to the report.

12. NSB Officer Elections

The chair explained the voting process by secret ballot. Tellers were appointed they were Hannah B, Lucy and Owain.

This was carried out as a secret ballot.

Candidate A – Ghislain (attended via zoom)
His application was submitted in the NA pack and 3 questions were asked.

Candidate B – Robbie
His application was submitted in the NA pack and 3 questions were asked.

Candidate C – Hannah
Her application was submitted in the NA pack and 3 questions were asked.

Following the first vote, the tellers found some spoilt voting slips.

Proposal by Julia R: to have a recount for Candidate A as there was some confusion for some in the voting process and think it fair on the candidate recognising that the meeting is only just quorate.

This was seconded by Caroline P.

Hannah B: spoke as con – asking whether or not to use the result to give an indication if it is worth proceeding with a fresh vote bearing in mind the timeframe.

Sharlotte spoke con – asking if a recount would be necessary and are there enough votes to elect

5 minutes were given for questions. Teresa advised that there is a clear outcome with the original vote and decided that a fresh vote would be repetition of labour.

Vote: for a recount = 0 and against = unanimous therefore the proposal was defeated.

Teresa thanked the tellers, Hannah, Lucy and Owain for their assistance in collating the votes.

Candidate A – Ghislain – was elected with a clear majority of 37 and welcomed to the board.

Candidate B – Robbie – was elected with a clear majority of 41 and welcomed to the board.

Candidate C – Hannah – was elected with a clear majority of 41 and welcomed to the board.

13. Motions

Chair advised that one motion was made which was stated in pack 1, page 5. Pros and cons of the motion will be discussed before lunch and the questions and voting take place in the afternoon session.

Proposer = Sarah, Seconder =Mel

Motion: We are proposing that we limit our stock to books and leaflets that we can print in the UK on licence. That we seek to increase the range of books and leaflets that we publish in the UK.

Belle proposed that the standing orders procedure be amended for questions to be asked first before pros and cons for the motion are delivered.

This was seconded by Fajed.

The assembly recessed at 1pm at this point for lunch so that pros and cons on this motion can be addressed in the afternoon.

14. Serenity Prayer & Preamble

Chair welcomed everyone back to the meeting and led the serenity prayer. The preamble was read by Pat.

The meeting remained quorate.

15. Appoint an afternoon timekeeper

Veronica volunteered as the afternoon timekeeper.

16. Special Rules of Order Review

Sharlotte reminded all attendees of the special rules of order and recapped on queries that had been raised during the morning session.

17. Emergency Motion Submitted

The Chair advised that an emergency motion had been submitted. This motion wanted the removal of the wording “familiarity with the Concepts” from the criteria for nominations to the board. *The chair ruled that this was not an emergency motion.*

18. Agenda

The Chair sought consent for swap agenda items 17 and 18 around – this was agreed with a unanimous decision.

19. Motions

Proposal to suspend the special rules of order so that questions can be asked about the motion before the debate.

Belle spoke for a motion to change the standing order on motions, this was seconded by Fajed.

Cons – 3 cons were received on this motion.

Belle then asked that the motion be withdrawn. *The request to withdraw the motion to suspend the standing orders was agreed unanimously.*

The original motion was revisited.

Motion: We are proposing that we limit our stock to books and leaflets that we can print in the UK on licence. That we seek to increase the range of books and leaflets that we publish in the UK.

Richard proposed an amendment to the motion which was reworded as:

'We are proposing that we print in the UK on license but in a non-exclusive way so small quantities can be purposed from WSO if opportunity and finance allow. That we seek to increase the range of books and leaflets that we publish in the UK.'

Seconded by Sarah.

Richard spoke pro. There were no cons, and one question asked.

The assembly voted in favour of the amendment with a unanimous decision.

The assembly voted in favour of the amended motion unanimously.

The motion as amended was carried.

20. Intergroup Reports (questions on reports only)

Alba Intergroup (Richard) – 3 questions were asked.

Heart of England (Frankie) – 2 questions were asked

North of England (Hannah B) – 2 questions were asked

Red Dragon (Maria) – 3 questions were asked

South Coast (Daisy) – 3 questions were asked

Chair thanked all the IG chairs and representatives for their service.

21. National Assembly bids 2025

With no bids being submitted prior to the NA, the Chair reiterated that any host could do so with responsibility for the venue only, not accommodation.

Frankie, from Heart of England, will go back to consult with their intergroup to potentially host the 2025 NA.

22. Discussion

Chair suggested that discussion be held on the literature to publish in the UK, suggestions that had added to the board during the assembly and gave a background on the work that had been done to date by Sarah.

The suggestions were taken away by the board who will work out a viable mechanism and work on a demand basis.

23. AOB

Heidi from Red Dragon flagged up payments but unable to trace the relationship of the payment and payee. Chair advised that if any cannot be reconciled then they are to go to the 7th tradition.

24. 7th tradition and thanks

The meeting was concluded by congratulating first time attendees (the green dots), on graduating and thanking Red Dragon for hosting, and acknowledging their hard work.

Meeting closed with a serenity prayer.

Teresa
Acting Chair for National Assembly 2024