

LAA *Love Addicts Anonymous*

Meeting Type: Ordinary International Business Meeting (IBM)

Location: [Zoom Link](#)

Date: March 2, 2024

Start time: 8:00 a.m. PST (59 mins.)

Attendees: Katya, Lindsey, Andrew, Faedra, Kendra, Lisa, Vincent, and Pamela

IBM Service Positions:

Interim Chair: Lindsey

Secretary: Pamela

Timekeeper: None

- I. Opening Verse** – Serenity Prayer (variation)
- II. Approval of IBM Minutes** – Pamela screen-shared the meeting minutes from February 3rd for final review and approval. On February 17th, a draft of the minutes was posted on the WAGs for fellowship-wide review. Katya motioned to approve the minutes and Pamela seconded. The February IBM minutes were unanimously approved with no objections.
- III. Committee Reports**
 - i. IBM Chair** (Katya/Lindsey) – Katya announced that effective March 2024, she is stepping out of the IBM chair role.
 - ii. Website** (Katya, in Tisha’s absence) – Effective immediately, Diane will assume the webmaster position for LAA’s website, replacing Mary.
 - iii. Treasurer** (Vincent/Kendra) – Vincent reported that, at the end of February, when he transferred the remaining balance of \$2,279.21 to Kendra, the account was slightly overdrawn by £8. Vincent assured that he will cover this amount personally as a 7th Tradition donation. Before transferring the remaining balance to Kendra, Vincent paid the webhosting and Zoom licensing fees. After Kendra reactivated the 7th Tradition link, LAA received \$335 in donations. Kendra advised that LAA’s monthly expenses average \$54, and she will pay these expenditures monthly, going forward. When she assumed the treasurer position, Kendra applied for an EIN, opened a business bank account with Chase, and identified LAA as “an unincorporated non-profit association.” The beginning and ending account balances for the month of February are shown below:

Month	Transaction	Sum of Amount
February 2024		
	Treasury Balance Transfer Via Stripe	\$2,050.00
	Stripe Donations	\$335.00
	Stripe Processing Fees	-\$105.79
February 2024 Total		\$2,279.21
BANK BALANCE		\$2,255.24
Pending Stripe Payout to Bank		\$23.97

LAA 7th Tradition balance as of February 29th, 2024. All funds are listed in USD.

- iv. **LAA Literature Committee** (Pamela, in Tisha's absence) – Tisha is in the process of reorganizing the LAA literature committee and hopes to schedule a meeting soon. Regarding the LAA basic text, Vincent stated that Susan P.'s most recent position is that she wants LAA to buy the text from her, at which time she will relinquish the copyright. Vincent is still of the opinion that Susan P. does not own the copyright.
- v. **Identity** (Kendra) – Kendra and Gwendolyn were the only members who showed up for a committee meeting held on February 24th. Based on her research, Kendra believes the most appropriate business entity for LAA to assume at this time is an unincorporated non-profit organization.
- vi. **International Fellowship Reports** [ODAAT, South Africa, Russia, Christian, Sunday Step Study, Women-Only, In-Person meetings] – As representatives reported in the WAGs, the LAA for Christians and the South Africa meetings are ongoing and doing well.
- vii. **ODAAT Business** (Andrew) – The host coordinator position is currently vacant. If anyone is interested in taking on this key service position, please let us know. At the February meeting, a resolution passed to cease the conduct of business on the WAGs. Additionally, a resolution passed to employ the Zoom timer app at all ODAAT meetings.
- viii. **ODAAT ad hoc Literature Committee** (Pamela) – Pamela screen-shared and reviewed the edited meeting script including changes that were previously proposed. Edits include organizing the script's content by headings (instead of numerically), minor word changes/repositioning, adding use of the Zoom timer app, and deleting a few sentences that were deemed unnecessary and carried a negative connotation. Pamela looks forward to getting the meeting script approved and turning the ad hoc committee's attention toward developing a host training manual.

- ix. **Safety Committee** (Lisa) – Other than a few “personality clashes” occurring here and there, Lisa advised there are no major safety issues to report.

IV. **Discussions & Motions**

- i. **Leaving Service Positions Vacant #1** – Katya raised the question of whether members who have fulfilled and/or exceeded their service commitment should leave the position “unfilled” versus waiting until another member steps up to assume the role. She asked if certain positions in LAA (e.g., IBM chair) should be treated differently than others. This issue was raised in light of Katya’s earlier announcement that she will no longer serve as IBM chair, as of this month. Katya claimed she raised this issue at a previous IBM and per a “group conscience decision” continued to serve in the position.

Vincent suggested that if left vacant, the IBM service position could be filled on a “rotating basis” until someone agrees to commit to a longer term. Andrew proposed giving three months’ notice, if possible, after which time the service member leaves, which effectively creates a “vacuum” that might motivate others to volunteer. Andrew added that staying in a service position too long could engender “complacency.”

Pamela opined that when a person remains “frozen” in a position, it becomes problematic, as it runs the risk of an individual crossing over into “governing,” which clearly violates the traditions. Moreover, when a member stays on well beyond their service commitment, regardless as to the rationale, there is a risk of becoming “codependent in the role,” effectively “mistaking codependency for altruism.” Pamela indicated that she loves the LAA program, but if she herself remained in a service position too long, she would question whether she was governing and/or becoming codependent in the role. With that, Pamela nominated Lindsey to serve as the interim IBM chair, and Katya seconded. Lindsey stated she would be “happy to help out” and, with some procedural guidance, feels confident she could serve effectively as interim chair. Katya offered Lindsey her support.

Katya then directed her statements specifically toward Pamela, maintaining she wanted to go “on the record” that, at a previous meeting, she raised the issue of remaining in the IBM chair role and per “group conscience” it was “decided” that she “shouldn’t leave.” Having served as secretary for the past eight months, Pamela asked Katya when that happened, as she could not recall documenting a group conscience decision by vote that Katya remain in the IBM chair position. Katya replied she could not recall the “exact date” of the meeting, but she was certain that a group conscience decision had been made to that effect. Pamela maintained that the minutes she has composed to date do not reflect a group conscience decision by vote. Katya then walked back her statement adding, “We didn’t take a group conscience; you’re absolutely right.” At that point, Katya turned the meeting over to Lindsey and left. Let it be known that this secretary

maintains a list of all motions adopted over the past eight months that reflect the collective conscience of this fellowship. The list of motions is available upon request.

- ii. **Website Domain Name** (Vincent) – Mary, the former webmaster, recommended that LAA renew the loveaddictsanonymous.com domain so that when anyone goes to the .com domain, they will automatically be redirected to loveaddictsanonymous.org. Vincent stated that the cost to renew the .com domain is \$20 annually. Lindsey and Andrew agreed that renewing the .com domain makes sense, economically. Moreover, taking control of the .com domain could prevent potential domain conflicts in the future. A motion was set forth and Andrew seconded. No one opposed, and the motion passed. Per group conscience, LAA will renew the .com extension for the reasons stated above.
- iii. **LAA Basic Text** – Vincent suggested that IBM consider using AI to reword or rephrase the basic text and then copyright the revised work. According to Vincent, there is precedent for using AI where copyright disputes exist. Citing an example from the ACA program, Vincent asserted that ACA sought legal advice and rephrased the Tony A. steps. He delineated that although the wording is copyrighted, the *ideas* behind the words cannot be copyrighted. Essentially, ACA rephrased the Tony A. steps and then copyrighted the revised version. In general, Andrew has an “aversion to AI,” particularly as it relates to AI “doing the work for us.” Because AI is relatively new, there is a lot of gray area, especially as it pertains to creative and intellectual property. Vincent maintained his position that Susan P. does not own the copyright to the basic text, as her name does not appear anywhere in (or on) the text. Andrew is in favor of reviewing, editing, and updating the text to make it more robust. For example, Andrew would like to see the text updated to expand the list of typical kinds of love addicts to include anorexic love addicts. Vincent indicated that at present there are three different versions of the text in circulation, which is confusing, especially for newcomers. Regardless of who authored or contributed to the basic text, said Andrew, if it was written for or on behalf of LAA, then the fellowship owns the copyright.

- V. **Closing Prayer** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 A.M. PST with the LAA Closing Prayer:

LAA Closing Prayer

*We pray for inner strength and wisdom
to do together
what we cannot do alone.*

Thank you for the courage to change.

*Show us how to open our eyes
to your unconditional love for us,*

*and teach us how to love ourselves and others
in a healthy way.*

*May we find hope for a brighter tomorrow
and pass that on to others in need.*

Thank you for a better way to live.