

LAA *Love Addicts Anonymous*

Meeting Type: Ordinary ODAAT Meeting

Location: [Zoom Link](#)

Date: June 1, 2024

Start time: 10:30 a.m. PST (90 m.)

Attendees: Andrew, Erica, Jeff, Jennifer, Kiki, Lindsey, Nicole, Sara, Shaina, & Pamela

ODAAT Service Positions

Chair: Andrew

Secretary: Pamela

Timekeeper: None

- I. Opening Verse:** Moment of Silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer
- II. Review & Approval of Prior Minutes:**
 - i.** Pamela screen-shared the meeting minutes from May 4th for final review and approval. On or about May 18th, a draft of the minutes was posted on the WAGs for fellowship-wide review. Andrew moved to approve the minutes and Pamela seconded. None opposed, and the May minutes were adopted.
- III. IBM and Committee Reports**
 - i. IBM – (Tisha)** In Tisha’s absence, Pamela reported that the 7th Tradition account balance is ~\$2,500. The LAA literature committee is still collecting personal recovery stories from the fellowship. If anyone is interested, please submit your story to: literature@loveaddictsanonymous.org. Per a group conscience vote, Promise #9 was amended as follows: *I can leave anyone who is abusing me*. Due to poor attendance, the remaining South Africa meeting held on Tuesdays will be closing. The Sunday Step Study and Christian fellowship meetings are ongoing and well attended. A question was raised as to the original purpose and function of the safety committee, and this question was added as a new agenda item.
 - ii. ODAAT (ad hoc) Literature Committee (Pamela)** – Several months ago, Pamela proposed that a host training manual be developed for training purposes and to provide best practices for hosting meetings. Pamela posted a draft of a table of contents on the WAGs for review and feedback. While the ODAAT ad hoc literature committee is tasked with drafting a host training manual, Pamela

has asked that meeting hosts with at least six months' experience contribute to the writing of the manual. Although Pamela has volunteered to launch the writing project, she believes the development of a host training manual should be a joint effort. Pamela is recruiting new members to join the ad hoc literature committee.

IV. New Business & Motions

- i. **Open Service Positions** – In August, two key service positions will become available including the ODAAT business chair role and the secretary position. If anyone is interested in either of these two positions, please contact Andrew and Pamela, respectively, or post your interest on the WAGs.
- ii. **LAA Secretary Duties** – Pamela has served as secretary for the LAA fellowship for nearly a year. She will resign from this position on July 31st. The amount of time it takes to prepare minutes for both the IBM and ODAAT monthly business meetings is proving to be a barrier for recruiting purposes. Put simply, members that Pamela has approached have said that the secretary role is too much of a time commitment. Based on this feedback, Pamela believes that separating the secretarial duties between both meetings may help in recruiting a successor. Accordingly, Pamela moved that the ODAAT fellowship establish its own secretarial position, separate and apart from the IBM. Andrew seconded Pamela's motion. None opposed, and the motion carried.
- iii. **After-Hours Shares & Time Management** – Some members complained that participants in after-hours are dominating conversations, oversharing, and speaking for too long. A discussion ensued regarding time limits for shares in after-hours and whether a timekeeper should be used for this later portion of the meeting. Pamela opined that the problem of participants dominating conversations and oversharing is a host training and facilitation issue. She maintained that it is the hosts' responsibility to rein in participants who tend to abuse the guidelines around time limits. In the meeting script, hosts ask that participants limit their shares to one or two minutes. If participants fail to observe this guideline, hosts must gently enforce it. Members continued offering their opinions on this recurring problem, as well as the issue of whether participants should be required to raise hands in after-hours. Shaina moved that participants be required to raise hand in after-hours. The motion was seconded, several members opposed; thus, Shaina's motion was not adopted.
- iv. **Third Parties Participating in Meetings** – Members raised a concern about third parties joining live meetings via a logged-in participant (e.g., on speaker phone). While this does not appear to be a widespread problem in LAA, according to a couple of members it has occurred a few times and could pose a safety risk related to privacy, confidentiality, and/or anonymity. Members discussed this issue at length, offering different viewpoints. Andrew opined that while an LAA member is attending a meeting and others are physically present (e.g., a shared workspace), members should use headphones. Moreover, when an LAA member

logs onto a meeting while another person is physically present, and the other person decides to participate, then both individuals should be clearly identified and screen named.

The discussion about privacy and confidentiality segued to a disclosure regarding an incident that occurred during a recent after-hours in which a participant shared a graphic account of intimate partner violence. Upon gathering further information, Andrew moved to refer the following items to the ODAAT ad hoc literature committee to propose revisions to the existing meeting script and sharing guidelines. Proposed script changes should include language to the following effect:

- 1) To enhance privacy and confidentiality, please use headphones if others are physically present in your space;
- 2) Each person participating in this meeting should be logged in and identified by name;
- 3) In your shares, please refrain from disclosing violent or graphic content.

Pamela seconded Andrew's motion, and there were no objections. Thus, the motion to refer the aforementioned items to the ODAAT ad hoc literature committee for its review and recommendations carried.

V. Closing: Andrew adjourned the business meeting with the LAA Closing Prayer:

God,

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.