

Meeting Type: LAA International Business Meeting

Location: [Zoom Link](#)

Date: Feb 1st, 2025

Start Time: 11:00am (EST)

Attendees: Tisha, Lori, Oskar, Alex, Chris, Lori, Basil, Maria, Mary Ruth, Irish, Oskar, Riena, Vika, Vincent, Vladimir, Tanya, Alyona, Cherise, Chris, Johanna, Basil, Tatiana, Vika, Vincent, Vladimir, Rich, and Dominic

ODAAT Service Positions

Chair: Tisha

Treasurer: Riena

Note taker: Dominic

Timekeeper: None

1. **Opening Verse:** Serenity Prayer
2. **Agenda:** Tisha shares screen to share the agenda. Dominic shares the IBM LAA minutes from last LAA IBM in January. Approval of IBM minutes have been motioned, seconded, and approved by unanimous consent.
3. **Treasurer:** Riena has submitted the tax form and needs to get her name on the bank account. No current treasurer status report was provided but Riena has access to all the bank accounts. Tisha mentions that next month Riena will be in a position to share the treasurer reports. Motion to elect Riena as incoming LAA treasurer. Riena has been voted into LAA Treasurer service position.
4. **International Fellowship Reports**
 - a. ODAAT – Chris the current chair/host and reports that all is well.
 - b. Christian – Tisha mentions that the women-only and co-ed meetings are going well.
 - c. LAA/ACA Hybrid – No one to represent and give a report at this time.
 - d. Saturday West Coast LAA– No one to represent and give a report at this time.
 - e. Russian Fellowship – see discussion below. There was a special meeting last week to address concerns.
5. **Discussions**
 - a. Russian LAA Fellowship discussions – Alyona represents the LAA Russian Inter Group as the second representative and introduces Oskar as the first representative in the LAA Russian Inter Group. Oskar says they are responsible for updating the LAA Russian website and translating literature from English into Russian, supporting 6 online groups and 12 in person groups. Online members are approximately 2,000 – 3,000 members with some groups being women-only, men-only, and mixed-gender. Oskar reports violations of several members who recently joined the LAA Russian fellowship. First violation is that some members impose the literature of AA as the foundation as the

recovery from love addiction. Multiple Group Conscience votes were conducted to only use LAA-approved literature. The violation is that some people continue to insist to use AA books and seminars. The violation is the ignoring of group conscience. A no-contact was implemented to protect the LAA Russian members. Oskar and others have left the LAA Russian fellowship group chat to establish a new one led by trusted servants. The new RSIG (Russian speaking inter group) has decided to only use the official LAA approved literature, the LAA Basic Text and LAA Step work book. While AA is respected we (new RSIG) do not accept the AA dogma. We (new RSIG) do not believe AA dogma is safe and appropriate foundation for recovery from love addiction.

- b. Basil claims that he didn't do anything this week this the last LAA russian special meeting. Tomorrow is a meeting for the RSIG to discuss what the LAA international group will say to us.
- c. Alyona mentions that UAA United of addicts anonymous, these ideas are real dangerous and were voted to not use this literature. The decision was made by the majority of servants. The new RSIG would like some support from the LAA international community. All meetings are going. The website is working. The new RSIG deletes only when someone has some violations. Alyona mentions that if someone used AA literature that it is not a reason to delete from the group. They can use any literature they want but in the Russian Inter Group there were decisions and that LAA international support was needed.
- d. Vladimir serves in the online group and old Russian speaking intergroup (RSIG). Vladimir recognizes that only the LAA literature was suggested but no other books banned and doesn't understand the decisions. Vladimir says that he didn't violate any rules of the main chat and doesn't understand the decisions made by the new RSIG.
- e. Tisha is asking for clarification on what UAA is. Basil says that it's the same as AA or NA or any other parallel as American triple A community. Tisha confirms that a group conscience was taken and asks Oskar and Alyona (new RSIG representatives.) Oskar explains UAA that learned literature from AA and made his own fellowship and we (new RSIG) believes he violated tradition number 1 using a type of authority and he showed his authority to give his own understanding of the 12 step program. The Group Conscience voted that the majority of members to only use LAA approved literature which is the same as the LAA American website. The workbook and the second is the basic text book for LAA. Chris mentions that he doesn't understand what the problem is and doesn't understand what LAA IBM is being asked.
- f. Oskar says that LAA Russian Inter Groups have misunderstandings of people using AA dogma tools for love addiction. This is the main misunderstanding. The new RSIG believes in order to recover from love addiction we need to use literature for love addiction. Tisha shares screen to share the traditions. All traditions are read and heard. Tisha shares the traditions because there are several traditions that we need to keep in mind. There are opposing ideologies on what literature should be the primary literature in the Russian fellowship. Tisha confirms that the LAA IBM body doesn't have a role to request or endorse or support one ideology or the other. Tisha said that if the Group Conscience (GC) is taken than that is what is decided what to do. If the LAA logo or name is used, it's important to use the LAA steps and it also doesn't mean that is the only literature to be used. Tradition 4 says each group should be autonomous. Tisha also asked if the Russian fellowship meetings being affected. Tisha summarizes the Russian LAA issue as two different groups that one wants to use only LAA approved literature and the other who wants to be more of an open approach and is not necessarily and LAA one.

- g. Vladimir is using the AA Big Book (AABB) personally for recovery. Has nothing against LAA material, and using the promises.
- h. Chris is not clear on UAA and confirms this is an outside thing. Chris mentions that conference approved literature means that the fellowship is going to publish it. Other groups can print other literature. LAA literature is not entirely comprehensive. Chris doesn't understand the problem of the approved literature.
- i. Oskar believes approved literature on the LAA American website saying we are following tradition 1. No group has been closed or removed from the website, because we believe all groups have their own autonomous. We are speaking about the Russian Inter Group, website, online groups and in person. We decided to use only LAA literature on our websites.
- j. Basil mentioned that the old Russian intergroup don't talk about literature and our only concern is the opinion of the statement which was posted in the WhatsApp chat
- k. Tisha mentions that there can be more than one intergroup
- l. Vincent is not clear what the LAA Russian fellowship is hoping to achieve, it's up to the groups themselves to decide which groups to join. Vincent mentions that AABB is a book of recovery for alcoholism only and the steps for other fellowship are adapted because the needs of the fellowship are different.
- m. Tisha says that LAA does support the Russian LAA fellowships having a group conscience and decide how the LAA Russian fellowships are going to run the LAA Russian meetings. The Russian LAA fellowships can have a Group Conscience if you would like to have multiple intergroups and are able to do that. LAA would support this. Tisha mentions that it's not appropriate for this LAA IBM body to issue a statement to another fellowship saying that a fellowship must do something but could provide an opinion on the LAA Russian statement. Tisha asked for clarification that LAA literature and other outside literature would be used. Basil says that is not accurate, the statement is what the RSIG should do, and is, and what happened, and we suggest groups to decide how they want to be served, this is what was posted in the LAA WhatsApp chat. We need an opinion or no opinion.
- n. Oskar agrees with Tisha that Russian can have multiple Inter Groups, using LAA literature or outside literature. Our (new RSIG) position is that only LAA literature to be used.
- o. Vladimir doesn't understand how we can let all groups of LAA know that we (old RSIG)are going to have two intergroups and let them decide which intergroup they want to be served by. Basil and Vladimir wanted to ask if the statement could be shared to all the Russian LAA groups
- p. Chris mentions that all groups starts with one person at a time, starting with sponsees and groups. Chris asks Oskar a question for Oskar that only LAA literature, our website has lots of literature, reading list, is that part what your intergroup says is ok? Yes, all of these books are related to love addiction and not alcoholism is what Oskar says.
- q. Maria says that the LAA Russian fellowships supports that you can make your own website and your own groups and your own way of recovery.
- r. Tisha summarized that there will be two intergroups and meetings will choose where they want to do, and by GC will decide on what literature to use.
- s. Tisha shares screen and offers Vincent a chance to speak on the agenda item of a new meeting time. Vincent is aware there is no time left and doesn't want to intrude into the ODAAT meeting happening soon and suggest to use the WhatsApp to get some feedback on it.
- t. Tisha thanks everyone who attended the meeting. 11:57am EST the meeting is adjourned. (motioned and seconded and multiple hands are raised)

- u. Tisha asked that the links of the LAA Russian websites be posted in the WhatsApp group.
6. **Closing:** Serenity Prayer (“we” version)- God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change. The courage to change the things we can. And the wisdom to know the difference. Thy will not mine be done.