

**Approved Minutes from BDA Help for Debtors (registered BDA group # 7720)**

**Service Meeting on August 31, 2021**

**Urgent business**

We had both a zoom bomber and an email bully, both BDA members, harassing us last month. We agreed not to overreact to either of these situations. We believe we are on the right track with the development of a definition for “Who is a voting member of our group?,” along with our service position qualifications, protocols for filling positions, and stability in service roles. See below for related details.

More specifically related to the zoom bomber, all service coordinators will be made co-hosts in zoom at the beginning of each zoom meeting, so that no one person is responsible for managing disruptive meeting attendees. **Approved unanimously.**

More specifically related to the zoom bomber and the email bully, we have a zero-tolerance policy for harassing, abusive, and / or slandering behaviors. Anyone who acts out in this way will be immediately removed from future service meetings without discussion. **Approved unanimously.**

We discussed and decided that only solvent BDA members holding a service position, as either service leader or service coordinator, has a vote during our service meeting decision-making processes. But everyone present may participate in discussion. **Approved unanimously.**

We discussed and decided on the qualifications for our coordinator positions:

Before they volunteer for a coordinator position, we ask our BDA fellows to have: at least 90 days solvency; taken at least the *first five Steps* in DA or BDA; a DA or BDA sponsor; reviewed our website as thoroughly as possible, perhaps beginning with <https://www.helpfordebtors.org/site-map-and-spiritual-ground-rules>; and attended *at least two* of our monthly service meetings. **Approved unanimously.**

We discussed and decided on our expectations for attendance:

Two consecutive absences from monthly service meetings or two months with no action taken in service will be considered a resignation. **Approved unanimously.**

## Urgent business — continued:

We discussed and decided when we will hold annual “elections.”

We will attempt to fill all coordinator positions for one year in October of each year. This will allow for two months of transition. This also means that coordinator positions filled in any other months will still end in December of the new year. **Approved unanimously.**

We still have details to work out related to our service leader role and to our “elections” process. These items and any other related discussions and decisions will be considered urgent business in September, in preparation for filling service positions in October.

## July minutes and treasury

July 2021 minutes were summarized. **Minutes approved.**

August 2021 treasury report was summarized. **Treasury report approved.**

## Coordinator reports

Nancy presented a literature report through August 29<sup>th</sup>, including inventory.

Quick review of our August 13<sup>th</sup> newsletter. Everyone was please with the results and changes.

## Old business

1. Review of upcoming events with the Fall Business Planning Conference beginning on Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.

Due to the ongoing success of our two primary recovery events, we have agreed to “soft schedule” a repeating schedule of DA and BDA Visioning Conferences and BDA Business Planning Conferences twice each, each year, in 2022 and 2023. **Approved unanimously.**

2. Update on previous radio media outreach project — reporting will continue through September 2021. Beginning in August, this update has been added to our newsletter. That’s where those updates will be offered monthly going forward. **Approved unanimously.**

### Old business — continued:

3. Update (if any) on next radio media outreach project — next PSA distribution begins in early October 2021.

Due to our success attracting radio stations to play our BDA PSA so far, we have agreed to “soft schedule” a repeating performance of the same PSA distribution project — this or something better — twice each year in 2022 and 2023. **Approved unanimously.**

### New business (not addressed in August, will roll forward to September

1. We have a revised spending plan to review and approve. See bottom of <https://www.helpfordebtors.org/treasury-plans-and-reports>.
2. Is there anything we can do to support the start of a women’s online BDA meeting?
3. How do we get more members and newcomers engaged with and invited to our various recovery events and conferences and into our growing online BDA community?
4. Developing ideas for carrying the message and reaching our fellow debtors, especially business debtors and still-suffering debtors, inside and outside of the DA and BDA fellowship.
5. We have a new web page at <https://www.helpfordebtors.org/active-group-conscience-decisions>, which needs to be reviewed and approved. **Not urgent.**

### Filling open service coordinator positions (see [www.helpfordebtors.org](http://www.helpfordebtors.org) )

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Heather has volunteered to fill one of our public information roles. She will spend some time looking at the available materials and opportunities and will let us know which audience — helping professionals; general public; or hospitals, institutions, and prisons — she will like to work with in September. **Approved unanimously. Welcome, Heather!**

### 6:32pm pacific / 9:32pm eastern — Closed with Serenity Prayer