

Winter Assembly
Final Agenda,
Lord of Life Church, December 14, 2013
(District 61, Host)

- 8:00 AM Registration and welcome
- 9:00 AM Call to order
Quiet time
New attendees
AA anniversaries
Twelve Concepts of World Service
Announcements
- 9:15 AM Approval of Fall Assembly Minutes
- 9:15 AM Treasurer Report (10 min. limit)
- 9:25 AM Delegate Report (10 min. limit)
- 9:35 AM Service Committee Breakout Meetings
- 10:15 AM Area Business
1. Bids for the 2014 Big Book Conference
 2. Bids for the 2015 Spring Assembly Conference
 3. Proposed 2014 NIA Calendar
 4. Primary Purpose Registrar
 5. Motion from Report & Charter
 6. Motion from Finance Committee
 7. Motion by Joe S.
 8. Motion from Electronic Equipment Committee
 9. Motion from Literature Committee
 10. Election of NIA Treatment Chair
- 12:00 PM LUNCH
- 1:00 PM Conference Reports (3 min. limit)
1. 2013 NIA Big Book Conf. (D62)
 2. 2014 Spring Assembly Conference (D10,11&12)
 3. Delegates Past and Present Conference
 4. 2014 State Conference
- 1:20 PM Committee Reports (Breakout sessions) (3 min. limit)
- 2:00 PM Officer Reports (3 min. limit)
- 2:30 PM Open Mic
- 2:45 PM Adjournment and Close

5. Motion to have a Service Orientation Workshop held at the January Winter Committee Meeting

Motion: It is moved that a Service Orientation Workshop be held at the NIA Winter Committee Meetings. That a bulleted item be placed under the section entitled "Scheduled Committee Meeting Agenda Items" which reads:

January (Winter) Committee Meeting

- Provide a Service Orientation Workshop

This section is currently on page 41 of the Northern Illinois Area 20 Service Handbook (Unabridged). This is true of both the version on the web and the most recently printed version.

An additional bullet point should be added to the responsibility section of the Alternate Delegate that reads:

- Organize and coordinate orientation workshops for both January's Winter Committee Meeting and as outlined in the Service Handbook section entitled "Orientation Workshops."

Background Material

In January 2010 and 2012 a Service Orientation Workshop was held in conjunction with the NIA Winter Committee Meetings. This activity was well attended and seemed to be well received. It gave newly elected trusted servants at the Area, District and Group level an opportunity to better understand the AA Service Structure and their role in it early into their new rotations. It also provided the opportunity for any questions to be asked regarding the AA Service Structure and what the responsibilities are for each position in the structure.

In both years, the previous panel of Area Officers hosted this event. This custom could be continued although expanded to any member of the Area Committee who has a broad knowledge of the service structure. Because this event is a Service Orientation Workshop we would like to see everyone in Northern Illinois Area 20 invited to the event. If this activity were approved arrangements would be needed to use a space larger than normally needed for a committee meeting to accommodate the expected attendance. In 2010 and 2012 this meant the use of the sanctuary at Lord of Life.

While NIA rotates every two years, there are Districts that rotate on the other year. For this reason, it is suggested that the orientation happen every January. This would also help those people who are elected to positions that are vacated between normal election times.

6. Motion from the Finance Committee on the Finance Guidelines

Motion: It is moved that under Finance Committee Guidelines on page 67 of the Northern Illinois Service Handbook, version 06/15/2013, the paragraph at the top of the page be stricken. In version 01/01/2012 the paragraph is the last full paragraph on page 60.

The paragraph reads:

Schedule and conduct an annual PPR meeting at least three weeks prior to the Fall Area Committee Meeting. Attendees should include the Treasurer, Delegate, Officers, Standing Committee Chairpersons, and alternates for all previously named, and should be open to other interested members of the fellowship. During the meeting the Finance Committee records all issues that may impact the PPR for the coming year. The Finance Committee works to resolve all issues and reports their resolutions at least one week prior to the Fall Area Committee Meeting.

Replace with:

The Finance Committee should meet at a time and place of its own choosing or by whatever means it finds suitable, prior to the Fall Committee meeting to adjust or amend the Primary Purpose Basic for discussion, if any, at the Fall Committee meeting followed ultimately by consideration at the Winter Assembly.

Rationale

This language is a holdover from our previous, more traditional budget model which required that annual budgets be approved for specific Area Committee members. The meeting was held prior to budget discussions at the Fall Committee meeting so that budgeted trusted servants could present their budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year. With the advent of Primary Purpose Finance the meeting as defined here is unnecessary for the following reasons:

1. There are no budgets for individuals.
2. Spending is linked to activities approved by the Assembly.
3. Even with the change of Trusted Servants in a rotation year an activity remains a part of the Primary Purpose Motions and may be followed through with by the new servant(s).
4. New activities can be proposed at any time. There is no advantage to making such proposals at a particular time of year.

7. Motion to Add to the Procedures for Planning the Spring Assembly Conference

Motion: It is moved that the following bullet points be added to the 'Purpose and Guiding Principles' section of the 'Procedures for Planning the Spring Assembly Conference' found on page 101 of the NIA Service Handbook, starting after the second bullet "The Assembly is a business meeting...", as the third and fourth:

- For those AA members solely attending the Spring Assembly and corresponding committee breakout sessions Saturday, the Conference registration fee is waived.
- AA members that wish to attend any non-business portion of the Conference are required to pay the registration fee.

Background Material

- 2011, 2012, 2013 NIA held Assembly at Spring Conference
- 2013 Summer Assembly: passed Spring Assembly Conference Guidelines as proposed by Service Structure VII Committee.
- 2012 Spring Assembly voted 131:2 to combine Spring Assembly and Spring Conference, "to begin in 2014."
- Ad Hoc Committee Service Structure VII, appointed by our chair in 2012, met approx. 30 hours/close to 20 times over a year to discuss combing Spring Conference with Assembly, and simplifying those guidelines for SAC planning committees.
- 2011 Survey Summary (online) :fellowship needs more service education opportunities" (question 14). Survey was administered at Spring Assembly, and also online.
- 2010 Fall Assembly approved motion to hold 2011 Spring Assembly at Spring Conference.
- 2007 Ad Hoc Service Structure Committee (first) suggested two conference-style Assemblies per year, as weekend long conference.

8. Motion by the Electronic Equipment Committee

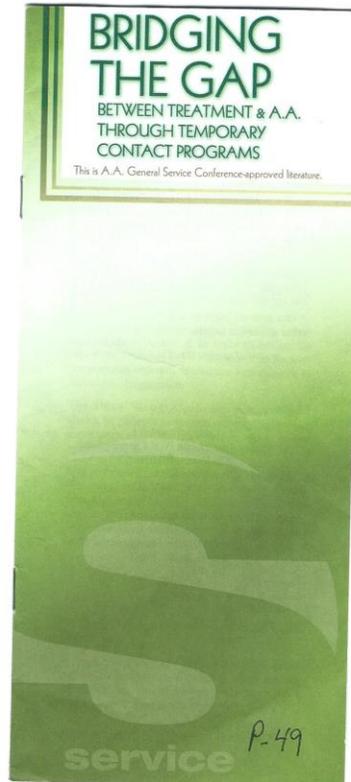
Motion: It is moved that the area provide a computer, to the concepts editor, for the purpose of creating the concepts newsletter and that this computer be equipped with Microsoft Publishing software.

Background: The concepts editor has been given the responsibility to produce a newsletter and requires a computer with the Publisher program in order to do this. The current editor has been using his personal computer since becoming the editor but is unable to continue to do so. Furthermore future editors will require a computer and it would be prudent to be able to pass the computer to the next editor rather than trying to transfer the program itself and all related documents stored on a non-area owned computer.

Item #	Activity	Description, expected outcome and execution guidelines	Example expenses	Reimbursement Guidelines	Projected Cost
PPM#	Purchase a Laptop	Purchase a laptop computer with Microsoft Publisher software and mouse for the Concepts Editor to use for publishing the newsletter	To help the Concepts editor to publish the NIA newsletter	Reimbursement authority: Area Treasurer	\$1,500.00

9. Motion by the Literature Committee

Motion: The NIA Literature Committee, after discussion of the matter, recommends that the Area 20 delegate send correspondence to GSO requesting that pamphlet P-49 (Bridging The Gap) be revised. This pamphlet currently addresses Bridging the Gap only in terms of Treatment Facilities. The desired revision would be to rewrite this pamphlet so it is sufficiently broad in coverage to include "Treatment", "Corrections" or any other institutions where "Bridging the Gap" may apply. A draft copy of a letter that the Delegate can use as the basis for their correspondence and a copy of the current P-49 pamphlet are attached as background material.



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
BRIDGING
THE
GAP
TEMPORARY CONTACTS

A letter from the 2013 BTGWW

At the request of the [Bridging the Gap committee(s)] within Area _____, our [Area Committee/Assembly] has asked me to pass on the request that the Conference Literature Committee revisit a revision to the "Bridging the Gap" pamphlet (P-49) to be more inclusive than Treatment Facilities.

Our Area members who are active in our local Bridging the Gap endeavors – whether they be under the auspices of the Area, District, Central Office/Intergroup or some independent geographic location – would like to have a pamphlet which is sufficiently broad in its definition of "bridge" that it can be used by any BTG committee regardless of whether the majority source of the bridging the gap activity is "Treatment", "Corrections", or some combination of institutions.

A similar request was made of the General Service Office in regards to the two pamphlets which are included as a part of the Corrections workbook materials (F-162 and F-163), and because of this request, two pamphlets were developed which now refer to both Pre-Release Contact and Bridging the Gap, and are sufficiently generic that they are being used by several local BTG committees regardless of whether the local use is "corrections" or "treatment" oriented (F-183 and F-184). However, these service pieces are specifically aimed at the AA prospective volunteer or the AA on the inside about to be released. The Bridging the Gap pamphlet is directed to anyone, AA member or not, who might be interested in this service, and is used by our [BTG Committee] in their presentations to professionals.

Changes in conference approved literature should be supported by a broad AA interest in the change. Because of this, we in Area ____ have obtained the support of our Area GSR's in favor of this request which was initiated by a committee of alcoholics using this service pamphlet in their AA service.

Sincerely,

Delegate, Area _____

Coordinator: Diana Adam 858 673 0844 coordinator@btgww.org
CoCoordinator: Michael Oates 816 304 7537 altcoordinator@btgww.org

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

- The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.
- A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.
- Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.
475 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10115

Mail address:
Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

www.aa.org

30M 11/07 (SELLS)

Bridging the Gap

Part of Bridging the Gap between a treatment program and A.A. is the Temporary Contact Program, which is designed to help the alcoholic in an alcoholism treatment program make that transition.

As you know, one of the more "slippery" places in the journey to sobriety is between the door of the facility and the nearest A.A. group or meeting. Some of us can tell you that, even though we heard of A.A. in treatment, we were too fearful to go.

A.A. experience suggests that attending meetings regularly is critical. In order to bridge the gap, A.A. members have volunteered to be temporary contacts and introduce newcomers to Alcoholics Anonymous.

The video "Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous," shown to patients in treatment, emphasizes the importance of having a *temporary contact* as the essential link between treatment and recovery.

It is suggested that the temporary contact take the newcomer to a variety of A.A. meetings; introduce him or her to other A.A.s; insure that he or she has the phone numbers of several A.A. members, and share the experience of sponsorship and a home group.

Temporary Contact Guidelines

- Keep in mind that this is basic Twelfth Step work.
- Experience suggests that it is best to be accompanied by another A.A. member when meeting our newcomer. One of the two temporary contacts should have at least a year of sobriety.

- Experience also suggests that men work with men and women work with women.
- The intent is to provide the newcomer with your help for a limited time. You need not have experience with treatment facilities. Your qualifications are experience as an alcoholic and recovery in A.A.
- It may be helpful for you as a temporary contact to attend workshops on bridging the gap and attend meetings of your area's hospital and/or treatment facilities committees.
- Remember, the goal of both A.A. and the treatment facility is the same — the recovery of the alcoholic.
- Be familiar with the paper "Information on Alcoholics Anonymous," particularly the section on what A.A. *does* and *does not* do.
- In all contacts or activities with treatment facilities, it is extremely important to be punctual and to look your best.

***Try to do
the following***

- Make contact with the newcomer while he or she is still in treatment. To avoid any misunderstandings, explain clearly that this is a *temporary* arrangement.
- Review the many different meeting formats — cover the difference between open and closed A.A. meetings and accompany the newcomer to a variety of meetings. Give the newcomer an A.A. meeting schedule.
- Introduce the newcomer to A.A. Conference-approved books (particularly the Big Book), pamphlets and the A.A. Grapevine.
- Explain group membership and the value of having a home group.
- Explain sponsorship to the newcomer, referring to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship," and perhaps help the newcomer find a sponsor.

***Points to
Remember***

A.A. does not provide housing, food, clothing, jobs, money or other welfare or social services.

The professional treatment facility is in charge of its patients or clients and is responsible for them. While we cannot compromise our A.A. Traditions, we should remember that we are there as guests of the facility, and must abide by its rules. We are there to carry the A.A. message to the newcomer, and to answer any questions regarding the A.A. program of recovery and the A.A. way of life. Statements that may be interpreted as medical or psychological diagnosis or advice on medication should be avoided. We are there only to share our experience of staying away from one drink, one day at a time, through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

In many cases, months of hard work have gone into establishing a relationship which enables us to be invited into a facility. A careless action could destroy that trust and interfere with carrying the message. If problems arise, inform the local service committee. They may wish to present an A.A. informational meeting.

No one speaks for A.A. as a whole. When we carry the A.A. message to those in treatment, we are just one drunk talking with another. How we look, act and talk may be all they are going to know about Alcoholics Anonymous. Since we may be seen as part of A.A., let our new friends see, hear and talk to a winner!

***If you would
like to help...***

If you would like to help in this very important Twelfth Step work and have at least one year of continuous sobriety in the A.A. program, please complete the following information and give it to your group's treatment facilities representative, general service representative (G.S.R.), or mail it to the chairperson of your area or district treatment facilities committee or your general service delegate. In some areas, service committees and temporary contact programs are organized through the local intergroup or central office. Or send it to the Treatment Facilities Desk, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163, so that G.S.O. can forward the information to your area, district or other Treatment Facilities Committee.

DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE OR PROVINCE _____

ZIP OR MAIL CODE _____

PHONE: DAY _____

EVENINGS _____

A.A. PUBLICATIONS Complete order forms available from
General Service Office of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS,
Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

BOOKS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (regular, portable, large-print and abridged pocket editions)

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS COMES OF AGE

TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS

(regular, soft-cover, large-print, pocket and gift editions)

EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

AS BILL SEES IT (regular & soft cover editions)

DR. BOB AND THE GOOD OLDTIMERS

"PASS IT ON"

DAILY REFLECTIONS

BOOKLETS

CAME TO BELIEVE

LIVING SOBER

A.A. IN PRISON: INMATE TO INMATE

PAMPHLETS

44 QUESTIONS

A.A. TRADITION—HOW IT DEVELOPED

MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY ASK ABOUT A.A.

THREE TALKS TO MEDICAL SOCIETIES BY BILL W.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AS A RESOURCE FOR

THE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL

A.A. IN YOUR COMMUNITY

IS A.A. FOR YOU?

IS A.A. FOR ME?

THIS IS A.A.

IS THERE AN ALCOHOLIC IN THE WORKPLACE?

DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DIFFERENT?

A.A. FOR THE BLACK AND AFRICAN AMERICAN ALCOHOLIC

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON SPONSORSHIP

A.A. FOR THE WOMAN

A.A. FOR THE NATIVE NORTH AMERICAN

A.A. AND THE GAY/LESBIAN ALCOHOLIC

A.A. FOR THE OLDER ALCOHOLIC—NEVER TOO LATE

THE JACK ALEXANDER ARTICLE

YOUNG PEOPLE AND A.A.

A.A. AND THE ARMED SERVICES

THE A.A. MEMBER—MEDICATIONS AND OTHER DRUGS

IS THERE AN ALCOHOLIC IN YOUR LIFE?

INSIDE A.A.

THE A.A. GROUP

G.S.R.

MEMO TO AN INMATE

THE TWELVE CONCEPTS ILLUSTRATED

THE TWELVE TRADITIONS ILLUSTRATED

LET'S BE FRIENDLY WITH OUR FRIENDS

HOW A.A. MEMBERS COOPERATE

A.A. IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

A MESSAGE TO CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONALS

A.A. IN TREATMENT FACILITIES

BRIDGING THE GAP

IF YOU ARE A PROFESSIONAL

A.A. MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

A MEMBER'S-EYE VIEW OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

PROBLEMS OTHER THAN ALCOHOL

UNDERSTANDING ANONYMITY

THE CO-FOUNDERS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

SPEAKING AT NON-A.A. MEETINGS

A BRIEF GUIDE TO A.A.

A NEWCOMER ASKS

WHAT HAPPENED TO JOE; IT HAPPENED TO ALICE

(Two full-color, comic-book style pamphlets)

TOO YOUNG? (A cartoon pamphlet for teenagers)

IT SURE BEATS SITTING IN A CELL

(An illustrated pamphlet for inmates)

VIDEOS

A.A.—AN INSIDE VIEW

A.A.—RAP WITH US

HOPE: ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

IT SURE BEATS SITTING IN A CELL

CARRYING THE MESSAGE BEHIND THESE WALLS

YOUNG PEOPLE AND A.A.

YOUR A.A. GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

THE GRAPEVINE AND THE GENERAL SERVICE STRUCTURE

PERIODICALS

THE A.A. GRAPEVINE (monthly)

LA VINA (bimonthly)