

From the January Board Weekend

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (This is the report from the Staff Assignments):

Accessibilities/LIM

Staff is reviewing fellowship sharing regarding Deaf and Hard-of Hearing technology, ways to lower access barriers for A.A. members who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing, and activities in underrepresented or remote communities.

Communication Services

Three major projects are on-going: website design, You Tube development, and the A.A.W.S. app, which includes the Meeting Guide platform. New videos, video descriptions, tags, key words and translations are being developed and added to the YouTube channel. Analytics are also being developed to measure the effectiveness of the channel. Research has begun to identify an app vendor capable of developing components for our licensed Meeting Guide app.

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment

The assignment has recently heard from professionals sharing how effective A.A. has been in their practices, with one neurologist noting that in the past few months he has handed out 60-70 copies of the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?" which he finds has been very effective for some of his patients. The C.P.C. assignment has begun to contact local committees about their availability to staff the traveling A.A. exhibits at national professional conferences in their area; 35 exhibit locations are scheduled in 2019.

International Convention

Preparation is ongoing for informational flyers and Convention registration forms for a Summer 2019 mailing. A 2020 International Convention video/flyer is in final editing and will soon be available for download through G.S.O.'s website. Registration and housing will open in September and, as in the past, members will be able to register online.

OFFICE MANAGEMENT

Administration: In early December the internal G.S.O. leadership team had another in a series of team-building workshops with an outside facilitator. Additionally, supervisors, department managers, management and G.S.O. Staff met with Impact Collaborative (IC) to review procedures for completion of the communications survey IC has prepared to gather critical information for the development of the 3-year communication plan they are working on for the General Service Board. .

Administrative Services: Records staff has updated files to reflect area rotation of service positions for 2019. The RFP process seeking new venues for meetings of the General Service Board/A.A. Grapevine, Inc., A.A. World Services, Inc. and the General Service Conference is now concluding, with the possibility of adding the Brooklyn Marriott as an additional venue for meetings and events for 2021-2022, including the Conference.

Archives: A new exhibit documenting the history of the writing of the Twelve Steps was created to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Steps (December 1938); a similar exhibit was created to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the creation of the General Service Board (August 1938). In 2018, Archives staff responded to approximately 1,600 requests for information and research and accepted over 375 new items. Projects for 2019 include digitizing Bill W.'s personal collection of unpublished correspondence; scanning past trustee correspondence and conference committee background; organizing, filing and digitizing historical materials from the 1950s and 1960s. There is also a plan to add new content to the Archives section of the G.S.O. A.A. website, including new digital exhibits, excerpts of audio recordings and the Timeline.

Information Technology Services: Reviews of the different pieces of the ERP have been completed and user acceptance testing has begun, pending completion of full data migration. A permanent help desk technician was hired.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Finance:

The board accepted the report of the Finance Committee, highlighting the following information for the year ended December 31, 2018:

- Revenues were 2.16% higher than budgeted.
- Operating expenses were 2.50% greater than budgeted.
- Contributions were \$8,384,721, 2.25% higher than budget.
- Online contributions for the year of 2018 amounted to \$878,333. In 2018 online contributions accounted for 10.57% of total contributions.

The following variances were noted for the twelve months:

- The Salary line is \$202,670 (2.82%) more than budget and \$756,336 (11.41 %) more than the year ended December 31, 2017. Part of the variance to budget is due to several more positions in the year of 2018 compared to last year.
- Mailing and Labor were down by \$12,216 when compared to last year.
- Professional fees are \$15,820 higher than budget and \$140,237 lower than 2017. The \$135,000 settlement for the manuscript case is the reason we were over budget in 2018.
- Contracted Services are over budget by \$333,245 and over last year by \$378,627. This is mainly caused by expensing \$554,840 of ERP costs in 2018 (rather than pre-paying these expenses).
- Travel, Meals and Accommodations are \$433,973 (50.62%) over last year. This is because the Conference was held in Rye last year and in New York City this year and the World Service Meeting being held this year.

Self-Support: the committee discussed developing a Seventh Tradition impact report which could include stories about people who have benefited from A.A. services that are funded by contributions.

The Board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the Finance Committee:

- That the budget for 2019, which reflects gross sales of \$15,000,000 and a bottom line profit of \$501, 221, be approved by the A.A.W.S. Board.
- That a Seventh Tradition summary communication that illustrates the link between membership contributions and efforts to carry the A.A. message be developed and shared quarterly or annually.

Publishing:

- Gross sales: December gross sales are under budget with actual gross sales at \$967,043, which is a \$20,642 or 2.09% negative variance against budget of \$987,685.
- Web sales: Total web sales (A.A.W.S. Online Bookstores) for December stand at \$611,008 that accounts for about 64.3% of total sales for the company.
- Total online orders for December are 1,748, which is 89.69% of total orders, this year's highest percentage. Sales on the B2B online store (primarily Intergroup/Central Offices and other bulk orders) for December are \$423,386, and B2C sales (individual customers) stand at \$187,621.
- Digital books: Total eBook gross sales January through December 2018 stand at \$215,701, with 55,330 units distributed. History Shelf gift sets: a total of 1,159 sets were sold, with \$34,77Q net sales (representing 4,636 books distributed).
- License renewals: For the period January through December 2018, international translation and licensing continued to demonstrate a marked uptick of activity compared with the same period in 2017. A notable surge in activity includes renewal licenses issued' and new licenses granted to reproduce and distribute items of translated

copyrighted literature, with 265 total licenses fully executed in 2018, as compared to 73 in 2017.

- *Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951-1971*: Estimated availability of finished books in English, French and Spanish is on track for mid-April 2019. An announcement flyer is in development and an introductory article for *Box 4-5-9* is scheduled for the Spring 2019 issue.

The Board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the Publishing Committee:

- That the AAW.S. Policy on Publication of Literature, as amended, be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Literature and the 2019 Conference Literature Committee for review.
- That the selling price for *Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951-1971* be \$10.00 in all three languages.
- That a proposal to cease development of new literature and focus on making all current literature accessible in all possible formats be forwarded to the trustees' Conference Committee.

Technology/Communication/Services (TCS):

- The director of I.T. Services noted that ERP data conversion is ongoing and warehouse integration is underway. Grapevine integration is planned for phase 2 of the project. It was noted that some difficulties have emerged with data migration to the new ERP system and the reconciliation of such data gaps is underway.
- It was noted that development of the app would be prioritized over website development and would be designed to deliver the essentials within a framework to support significant updates. It was also reported that the contract with the website vendor was ended; nevertheless, there are many assets from the work with the vendor that will be transferable to a new vendor when one is identified.

The Board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the TCS Committee:

- That the proposed General Service Conference agenda item for the removal of the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services YouTube channel be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public information.
- That the 2018 Fourth Quarter Website analytics, 2018 Website Visitors Activity Report, 2018 Fourth Quarter Report on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website Activities and 2018 Annual Report on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website Activities be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
- That the YouTube analytics and progress report be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public information.
- That the following proposed General Service Conference agenda item be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public information: "That A.A.W.S. and the 2019 General Service Conference consider postponing the launch of the new meeting guide app and conduct a full review of the possible implications of the app initiative for New York Inter-Group and all intergroups in the U.S. and Canada."

A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

Overview: December YTD Sales (cash) are ahead of projections. December YTD cash inflows were \$3,122,526 vs projected inflows of \$2,811,718 that is a total of \$311K ahead of projections.

Board Meeting:

Customer service information has been added to every edition of A.A. Grapevine and Your Group; management is continuing to work with vendor to develop an ongoing analysis of customer service satisfaction responses, as well as a follow-up procedure in an effort to improve overall customer service; discussed ideas for the 2020 International Convention commemorative item, possibly a historical book or audio stories in different formats; a report from Market Partners International, on Digital Distribution to Correctional Facilities.

Grapevine Web Report: The operations manager reported monthly web traffic is averaging at 37,370 unique visitors and 139,700 page views.

General Service Conference: The A.A. Grapevine Board reviewed agenda item requests and agreed to forward the following to the 2019 General Service Conference Committee on the Grapevine:

- Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2020 and later.
- Remove the Alcoholism at Large page from the A.A. Grapevine.
- Review progress report on Grapevine Workbook revisions.
- Review A.A. Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey and Summary.

Requests not forwarded:

- That the book, *Language of the Heart*, be translated into a Spanish audio book audio format.
- Consider revising the A.A. Preamble to use gender neutral pronouns. For example, "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other"
- That the General Service Conference authorize the Grapevine Executive Editor/Publisher to hire and Oversee a writer to research and draft for publication the story of the Grapevine (including La Viña) from inception until present with inclusion of a chapter in the spirit of "A Vision For You."
- Request that the General Service Conference consider the production of an audio format (preferably CD) of the Spanish language book *El Lenguaje del Corazon*.
- The General Service Conference consider translation of the A.A. Grapevine Workbook to Spanish.

Board Actions:

- **Approved** the translation of the GV Daily Quote Book into Spanish and French.
- **Agreed** to notify the Trustees' Finance Committee (*and hence the General Service Board*) that A.A. Grapevine, Inc. will be requesting an additional draw down from the Reserve Fund during 2019, amending the capital project to build the new La Viña Archive from \$28,000 to \$33,000.

Trustees' Committee Reports

Archives:

- Proposal to change G.S.O. Archives Policy on loans: The committee considered a request to change the statement in the G.S.O. Archives Policy on Loans from "The G.S.O. Archives generally does not accept items on loan" to "The G.S.O. Archives welcomes items on loan that meet our policy for loaned items" and took no action. The committee noted that accepting items on loan presents liability concerns for A.A.W.S., security issues, increased operational costs and other factors.
- The committee agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on Archives a request to consider adding the newly accessioned 1940s home movie of the co-founders and their wives to the video "Markings on the Journey."

Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference:

Review of Proposed items for 2019 Conference Agenda:

- Consider establishing a Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Elderly Community (CEC): The committee considered a proposed agenda item "That the Conference consider establishing a new Conference Committee on CEC" and took no action. The committee requested that the secretary forward the proposed agenda item's secondary request "that the General Service Office consider the need to develop a service piece and/or service material on CEC" to the trustees' Committee on C.P.C/Treatment and Accessibilities for consideration.
- Young People in A.A. Liaison: The committee discussed the proposed agenda item "Consider a request that a staff assignment be created at the General Service Office for a Young People in A.A. (YPAA) Liaison." The committee determined suggestions related to the oversight of the General Service Office are the responsibility of A.A. World Services, Inc. and forwarded the proposed agenda item to the Board for consideration.
- Consider a suggestion that the General Service Conference should move to a Midwestern, city: The committee considered a proposed agenda item "That the General Service Conference should move to a Midwestern city in the interest of financial prudence" and took no action. The committee felt there was not a widely expressed need supporting the request. General Service Office management is performing ongoing site selection analysis and a report will be provided to the 2019 Conference Policy and Admissions Committee.
- General Service Conference consider ceasing the development of new literature and focus on accessible formats: The committee considered the proposed agenda item that "The General Service Conference consider ceasing the development of new literature and focus on making all our current literature accessible in all possible formats" and agreed to forward it to the trustees' Literature Committee due to the broad implications of this request.
- Report on Conference Agenda Process: The committee agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Agenda Committee the "Report to the Conference on the Implementation and Effectiveness of the Conference Agenda Process." The Conference Agenda Committee requested an annual survey be completed of the communication experience between Conference Committee and Trustee Chairs which is included in the report.
- Review proposed process on Agenda Items Not Forwarded to a Conference Committee: The committee agreed to forward a final process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee to the Conference Policy and Admissions Committee for consideration. The committee requested staff develop a workflow diagram of the process to include in the background.

- The committee agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Policy and Admission Committee the 1986 Advisory Action: "If a committee recommendation does not receive the two-thirds vote required to become a Conference Advisory Action, but has a majority of votes, it automatically becomes a suggestion and be duly noted in the Conference Report."
- The committee agreed to forward to the trustees' Literature Committee for review at their January 2019 meeting a proposed agenda item "That work begin on the development of a fifth edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*."

Trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities:

- Following a motion and second, the Board approved a recommendation that the Scope of the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities be updated to include activities related to carrying the A.A. message to underserved populations and remote communities.
- Request for a static LinkedIn page: The committee reviewed the following proposed Conference agenda item: "That LinkedIn be used only as a link to AA.org with no further content added to LinkedIn" and took no action. The committee felt that an introductory description would be more effective and would meet the goals of the 2018 Advisory Action to create a LinkedIn page.
- Request to repeal the use of LinkedIn: The committee considered the following proposed Conference agenda item: "Repeal the CPC Delegate Committee and the General Service Conference's decision to approve the use of LinkedIn," and took no action. The committee noted the due diligence of the Conference process and agreed that sufficient time is required to implement the 2018 Advisory Action for a LinkedIn page.

Trustees' Committee on Corrections:

- Letter about Prerelease and Bridging the Gap services: The committee reviewed a draft of a letter for professionals regarding A.A.'s Prerelease and Bridging the Gap (BTG) temporary contact volunteer services. The committee agreed that the intent of the letter (from the Corrections assignment at the General Service Office) is to inform corrections professionals that A.A. services for alcoholics soon to be released from prison are provided by corrections committees in their local areas, and how to contact them. The committee asked a member of the committee to edit the letter taking into consideration the suggestions provided during the meeting and that a new draft be brought back for review at their July meeting. The committee also agreed to share a working draft of the letter with the Conference Committee on Corrections for their information.
- Review of corrections-related literature: The committee agreed to forward to the 2019 agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on Corrections a request that the General Service Office establish and help maintain a database of Correctional Facilities in each service area in the United States and Canada and the status of meetings held therein for their consideration.
- "A New Freedom": the committee reviewed the 15-minute and 3-minute versions of the existing 30-minute video "A New Freedom." The committee agreed that the new shorter versions of the video will increase opportunities for sharing the video within correctional facilities.

Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee:

G.S.O. Financial Results:

For the year ended December 31, 2018.

- Gross Sales of \$14,235,594.
- Gross Profit from literature was \$9,452,615
- Contributions for 2018 were \$8,384,721.
- Online contributions grew to \$878,333 in 2018, representing 10.6% of the total.
- The committee offered a very sincere thank you to the Fellowship for their continuing support and for the growing use of the online system.
- Total Revenue (gross profit from literature plus contributions) was \$17,837,336.

- Total operating expenses for the period was \$17,382,733.
- Compared to 2017, the \$1,370,186 increase in operating expenses was due to the filling of open staff positions, additional costs associated with the installation of the new ERP system, higher costs associated with holding both the General Service Conference in New York City in 2018 and supporting the World Service Meeting in South Africa, and the successful completion of the American Sign Language (ASL) project. These increases were offset by savings from adopting a new credit card processing platform and lower expenses in every other expense category.
- Net profit for the year 2018 was \$454,603.

- G.S.O. 2019 Budget Presentation: The 2019 G.S.O. budget projects gross sales of \$15,000,000. After subtracting manufacturing costs and shipping expense, gross profit is budgeted at \$9,775,000.
- Contributions are budgeted at \$8,384,721 to equal the 2018 actual.
- Total budgeted expenses for 2019 of \$17,658,500. After deducting \$17,658,500 of operating expenses from the anticipated revenue of \$18,159,721, the result is a budgeted net profit of \$501,221.

Grapevine Financial Results:

- For 2018, the 72,300 average paid circulation of the Grapevine magazine decreased by 3,029.
- Online circulation was 3,390.
- The GV subscription APP circulation was 2,053.
- Gross profit on the magazine of \$1,318,317.
- Gross profit on other content producing activities of \$562,436.
- Total gross profit for the year was \$1,880,753.
- Total costs and expenses of the magazine for the year were \$2,065,013.
- After adding interest earned, there was a net loss in 2018 of \$164,260 compared with a net profit of \$126,128 in 2017 and a budgeted net loss of \$271,313 for 2018. It was pointed out that the 2018 net loss would have been substantially lower if it had not been for severance payments.

La Viña Results:

For the year ended December 31, 2018:

- Income from magazine sales was \$120,519.
- The average paid subscriptions for La Viña was 9,635.
- Gross profit on the magazine was \$65,343.
- Other publishing income added \$20,306 to the revenue stream.
- After deducting the costs and expenses of \$229,202, a shortfall between revenues and expenses of \$148,467 resulted for this service activity.

Old Business:

- 2020 International Convention Update: Talley Management Group presented an updated budget; this budget includes an attendance assumption of 47,500 with early bird event pricing of \$115 per person and on-site of \$140 per person.
- Pension Matters: The Chairman updated the members on the three pension issues discussed at the October 28, 2018 meeting. If you are interested in this see my full report on the website.

The committee reviewed and agreed to forward the following agenda items to the Conference Finance Committee:

- a. Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.
- b. Review the Conference-approved level for bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members.
- c. Review of the Conference-approved maximum contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.
- d. Review Self-Support Packet.
- e. The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the 2019 G.S.O. budget, which reflects gross sales of \$15,000,000 and a bottom line profit of \$501,221.
- f. The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the 2019 Grapevine budget reflecting a net loss of \$134,559.
- g. The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the 2019 La Viña budget reflecting a shortfall between revenue and expenses of \$165,838 to be covered by the General Fund.
- h. The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve a transfer from the Reserve Fund for the capital projects of La Viña of \$33,000 for the archival project.

Trustees' International Committee:

- International A.A. Data Map Plan: The committee reviewed the plan for Phase II of the International A.A. Data Map. The committee agreed to move forward with Phase II to post the International A.A. Data Map presentation slides on www.aa.org. The slides would be made available as service material in PDF format on www.aa.org and the WSM dashboard. Implementation of this phase to be completed in February.
- The goal of Phase III is to make the International Data Map available in a live interactive format on the A.A. Around the World page on www.aa.org.
- Class A trustee professionals (U.S./Canada) and in other countries: The committee discussed the topic of linking our GSB Class A trustee professionals (U.S./Canada) with Class A professionals serving A.A. GSBs in other countries.
- General Service Board (GSB) Strategic Plan: The committee discussed the GSB Strategic Plan and Process 4.1 "The GSB will develop a plan to embrace more direct sponsorship of other countries, will explore ways to strengthen our relationships with other service structures and ways to make the World Service Meeting more efficient and effective." The committee noted that the GSB (U.S./Canada) welcomes requests to visit and attend A.A. events in other countries. There was a suggestion to consider inviting board members of other countries to attend one of our GSB weekends, and a suggestion that our trustees-at-large attend other zonal meetings. The committee will continue discussion on this agenda item at their next meeting in July.

Trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums:

The Board approved a recommendation that St. Louis, Missouri be the site for the 2030 Alcoholics Anonymous International Convention.

The committee noted the following comments from the summaries:

- Providing members the opportunity to register earlier than the current two months lead time.
- Suggestions for Forum workshops included:
 - Consideration should be given to lengthening workshop times.
 - Trustees and G.S.O. staff could lead more workshops to foster more interaction with Forum attendees,
 - Adding workshops that would specifically address the topic of our Primary Purpose.
 - Providing additional Spanish workshops.
- The committee also discussed providing "meet and mingle" opportunities for Forum attendees to meet with trustees and G.S.O. staff in informal settings (i.e. lunch).
- Distribution of A.A. Grapevine: The committee reviewed a subcommittee report regarding the distribution of A.A. Grapevine issues through G.S.O. staff assignments.
- The committee recommended to the General Service Board to include a line item in the IC/RF Committee's 2019 budget to accommodate an expense of up to \$10,000 to provide free A.A. Grapevine Complete subscriptions to the first 50 first-time Forum attendees at each of the four Regional Forums in 2019.

International Convention

Staff Report:

- Staff reported that preliminary information about the Convention will be sent to Conference members, international G.S.O.s and intergroup/central offices in the following months, letting them know that they will receive registration forms by August 2019 and that Online Registration will open on September 9, 2019.

2020 International Convention Budget:

- The committee recommended to the General Service Board that the 2020 International Convention Advanced Registration fee be \$115.00 (USD) per attendee and that the Registration after April 15, 2019 be \$140.00 (USD) per attendee.

Trustees' Literature Committee:

- Consider "translating the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, into plain language - at a fifth grade or similar reading level": The committee reviewed and tabled the request for "translating the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous* into plain language - at a fifth grade or similar reading level." The committee suggested that the General Service Board form a committee to gather information covering a variety of perspectives related to accessibility, and other pertinent issues in order to fully evaluate the request.
- Consider requests to develop of a Fifth Edition of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*: The committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Committee on Literature requests to develop a Fifth Edition of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*.
- Consider creating an individualized workbook to accompany *Alcoholics Anonymous*: The committee reviewed and tabled a request to create an individualized workbook to accompany the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The committee suggested that this item also be considered by the proposed General Service Board committee asked to evaluate the request for "translating the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous* into plain language - at a fifth grade or similar reading level."

- Consider the development of a contemporary and comprehensive new workbook to study the Twelve Steps, Traditions, and Concepts: The committee considered and tabled a request to develop a contemporary and comprehensive new workbook to study the Twelve Steps, Traditions and Concepts. The committee requested the staff secretary provide the Al-Anon workbook "Reaching for Personal Freedom" as background for the July 2019 trustees' Literature Committee meeting.
- Consider creating a pamphlet to help A.A. members and groups apply the Twelve Concepts for World Service at the group level: The committee considered a request to create a pamphlet to help members and groups apply the Twelve Concepts for World Service at the group level and took no action. The committee agreed that there was not a widely-expressed need in the Fellowship.
- Consider creating a pamphlet on "service sponsorship": The committee considered a request to create a pamphlet on "service sponsorship" and took no action. The committee noted content on service sponsorship in the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" and agreed that there was not a widely-expressed need in the Fellowship.
- Create a pamphlet on the origins, meaning and application of The Responsibility Statement: The committee considered a request to create a pamphlet on the origins, meaning and application of The Responsibility Statement and took no action. The committee agreed that there was not a widely-expressed need in the Fellowship.
- Amend existing literature to reflect the origins, meaning and application of The Responsibility Statement: The committee considered a request to amend existing literature to reflect the origins, meaning and application of The Responsibility Statement and took no action. The committee agreed that there was not a widely-expressed need in the Fellowship.
- Consider discontinuing the booklet *Living Sober*. The committee considered a request to discontinue the booklet *Living Sober* and took no action. The committee agreed that there was not a widely-expressed need in the Fellowship.
- Consider discontinuing the pamphlet 'The 'God' Word': The committee considered a request to discontinue the pamphlet, "The 'God' Word" and took no action. The committee noted that it was important to allow time to assess the Fellowship's response to the pamphlet and that in four months over 38,000 copies of the pamphlet have been purchased since its release in October 2018. It was also noted that there was not a widely-expressed need in the Fellowship for discontinuation of the pamphlet.
- General Service Board Strategic Plan (updated July 2018): The committee reviewed and discussed the vice chair's progress report on aspects of the General Service Board Strategic Plan relevant to the trustee's Literature Committee. The committee noted that "an inventory of materials and services with an eye for inclusion and acceptance" included in the Strategic Plan may be covered in the Conference Committee on Literature item to review recovery literature. Discussions to "review A.A. literature for targeted audiences" and to "discuss a plan for reviewing literature" will continue.

Trustees' Committee on Nominating:

- General Service Board service position requirements and effectiveness: The committee discussed the draft questionnaire designed to explore the current composition and effectiveness of the General Service Board. Pending final revisions, an implementation plan will be designed for review by the trustees' Nominating Committee.
- Request that only Class B trustees chair General Service Board committees: The committee discussed a request that - except for the trustees' Finance committee - only Class B trustees chair General Service Board committees, and took no action. The

committee agreed that *The Twelve Concepts for World Service* provide the right and responsibility for each trustee committee to determine the best way to carry out their respective business.

- Request that the General Service Board develop policy and procedures regarding litigation: The committee discussed a request that the General Service Board develop policy and procedures regarding litigation, and took no action. The committee agreed that a formalized policy might serve to impose constraints that would prevent the trustees from fulfilling their fiduciary responsibilities. The committee also noted the 2018 Conference Committee on Trustees report, specifically the portion regarding the fiduciary responsibility of the General Service Board as it relates to litigation.
- Request for a change to the General Service Board composition: The committee discussed a request for a change to the composition of the General Service Board as to the ratio of Class A and Class B trustees, and took no action. The committee noted that they are currently in the beginning phases of an exploration of General Service Board composition and effectiveness.
- General Service Board officer rotation: The committee discussed possible resource material which would be helpful to new General Service Board Officers. The committee requested that the General Manager and Staff Coordinator begin the process of collecting a "rotation" memo from current General Service Board officers with the intent that this information can be used to develop job descriptions for General Service Board officer positions.

Trustees' Committee on Public Information:

- A.A.W.S. YouTube Account: In response to a 2018 Advisory Action, the committee discussed the request that "a progress report including website analytics and the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube account be brought back to the 2019 Conference Committee on Public Information." The committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2019 Conference Public Information Committee a progress report on the A.A.W.S. YouTube Account.
- The committee discussed a request for "the immediate removal (cease active use) of the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services YouTube Channel." The committee asked that the item be tabled to the July 2019 meeting. The committee noted that the A.A.W.S. YouTube account is still in its infancy and that more information may be needed before determining its usefulness and effectiveness.
- The committee discussed a request to "repeal the P.I. Delegate Committee and the General Service Conference's decision to approve the use of YouTube" and took no action. The committee noted that the A.A.W.S. account is still in its infancy and it may be too early to determine the usefulness and effectiveness of YouTube.
- The committee discussed a request "to repeal the P.I. Delegate Committee and the General Service Conference's decision to approve the use of Google for Nonprofits" and took no action. The committee noted that information regarding implementation and usefulness of Google-for-Non-Profits may be too new to fully determine its value in carrying the message of AA to the public.
- Anonymity Card: The committee discussed the suggestion that "The Anonymity Card" (F- 20) be updated. The committee noted that "The Anonymity Card" was in need of updated language and tabled their discussion to the July 2019 meeting. The committee also suggested that a review of all anonymity cards be included in this discussion for a broader and consistent review process.

- Posthumous Anonymity Policy: The committee discussed the G.S.O. Public Information Policy on the Co-Founders' Posthumous Anonymity Policy and tabled this item to the July 2019 meeting.
- A.A. Videos for Young People Project: The committee reviewed videos submitted from a young people's conference advisory committee to the "A.A. Videos for Young People Project" and took no action. The committee asked that the staff secretary send a memo of appreciation to the submitters with information to include feedback that the submitters have requested and information on how G.S.O. and the trustees' P.I. Committee may be helpful and available to them. The committee also noted that the project guidelines are in need of an update and to continue discussion regarding the guidelines at the July 2019 meeting.
- Meeting Guide App: The committee discussed the request that "A.A.W.S. and the 2019 General Service Conference consider postponing the launch of the new meeting guide app and conduct a full review of the possible implications of the app initiative for New York InterGroup and all intergroups in the U.S. and Canada" and took no action. The committee noted that the Meeting Guide app has already been launched. The committee also noted that the Meeting Guide app developers are open to feedback from the Fellowship as this project continues.