

Proposed Items for the Agenda of the 2021 General Service Conference*

As of 11/11/2020
20 Items

Below is a list of items that have been submitted for the Conference Agenda. These proposed items are not the final agenda items for the Conference committee agendas. These proposed items will be reviewed by trustees' committees, who may forward them to a Conference committee, keep them at the Board level for additional background and consideration, or route them to the A.A.W.S. or Grapevine Boards. The final list of Conference committee agenda items will be available in early February following the General Service Board meeting.

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
1	6/23/19	That literature be developed sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation.	Trustees' Committee on Literature	<p>Took No Action: The committee tabled the discussion on the request for a developing literature sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation until the February 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature Committee reviewed and agreed to continue discussions to consider developing literature sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation at their August 2020 meeting. The committee noted that Grapevine is in the process of developing a similar item.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature Committee discussed the request to consider developing literature sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation and noted that Grapevine is in the process of developing a similar item. The committee agreed to table discussion to the October 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature committee discussed the request to develop literature sharing experience, strength and hope on meditation and took no action.</p> <p>The committee noted that shared experience on the topic is available in the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as a wide variety of articles available through AA Grapevine. The committee also noted that current consideration is underway for the development of a book on meditation by AA Grapevine.</p>

*May include items submitted for a previous year, but still under consideration by a trustees' committee.

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2	10/15/19	That the Conference Corrections committee review corrections related literature intended for use by members in correctional facilities and take action to removing the words "inmate" and "offender" from A.A.W.S. literature and replace these words with more inclusive terms.	Trustees' Committee on Corrections	<p>Under consideration by trustees' committee: The trustees' committee had a wide-ranging discussion on language options to refer to incarcerated individuals in A.A. literature for Corrections, including discussion on a request forwarded from an area to "review Corrections related literature for use by members in correctional facilities and take action to removing the words "inmate" and "offender" from A.A.W.S. literature and replace these words with more inclusive terms." The committee considered the alternatives provided in the request, noting the relevance of providing the appropriate language for the appropriate audience. The committee suggested that a plan be considered by the trustees' Corrections Committee in August for a full review of the corrections literature with a focus on identifying the appropriate language based on the audience the corrections literature is trying to reach. The committee requested that the full background from the request received and a complete list of corrections literature, including service material, be brought to the August 2020 meeting of the committee.</p> <p>The committee reviewed a suggestion from the trustees' Corrections Committee's February 2020 meeting to consider a full review of the corrections literature with a focus on identifying the appropriate language based on the audience the corrections literature is trying to reach. The chair asked the committee to consider alternative language and bring their ideas to the next meeting in October 2020.</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
3	10/15/19	Consider that a pamphlet be published by the General Service Office explaining YPAA (Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous) events, bid committees, state, regional and international conventions, also the ICYPAA Advisory Council.	Trustees' Committee on Literature	<p>Took No Action: The trustees' Literature Committee reviewed the request to develop a pamphlet about Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous (Y.P.A.A.) and agreed to continue discussion at their August 2020 meeting. The committee requested that the staff secretary reach out to the submitter for more information as to the goal and purpose of the request.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature The committee reviewed the request to develop a pamphlet about Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous (Y.P.A.A.) as well as the additional information received from the submitter as to the goal and purpose of the request. The committee tabled discussion to the October 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature committee discussed the request to develop a pamphlet about Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (Y.P.A.A.) and took no action.</p> <p>The committee noted the importance of inclusivity as it relates to young people in A.A. and suggested that as the Publishing department develops and updates relevant literature items to consider including general information about Y.P.A.A. The committee also suggested that the Publishing department consider including general information about Y.P.A.A. as a resource in the update underway for the pamphlets "Young People in A.A." and "Too Young," as well as exploring the idea of podcasts consisting of sharing from Y.P.A.A. members.</p> <p>The committee requested that the staff secretary look into options for including general information about Y.P.A.A. as a resource within existing service material and</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
4	10/17/19	A revised version of the pamphlet, "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings" be considered to replace the current version. This revision seeks to clarify and make more concise the message conveyed, rendering this piece a more effective tool for use by A.A. members cooperating with non-A.A. persons and entities. The current version is 24 pages in length, and while the information contained therein is valuable, a concise piece may be a more effective and practical tool.	Trustees' Committee on Public Information	<p>for a progress report to be provided at the January 2021 meeting.</p> <p>Under consideration by trustees' committee: The committee reviewed a request to consider a revised version of the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings." The committee asked that discussion on a revision to the pamphlet be continued at the August 2020 meeting. The committee also asked that a review of all Public Information pamphlets be included for discussion with a comprehensive review of the usefulness and relevancy of these pamphlets for P.I. committees and carrying the A.A. message to the public.</p> <p>The committee discussed the request that the P.I. pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings" be revised. The committee asked that this item be discussed at the October meeting along with a comprehensive review of all Conference-approved literature under the purview of P.I.</p> <p>The trustees' PI committee reviewed a request that the P.I. pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings" be revised.</p> <p>The committee noted the need for a comprehensive review of all P.I. pamphlets.</p> <p>The chair appointed a working group consisting of Cathy B., Christine C. and Ino F. to begin a review of all P.I. pamphlets and materials. The chair requested that working group members provide feedback to the staff secretary, and that the staff secretary compile the feedback and provide a progress report to the January 2021 meeting.</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
5	11/14/19	Consider the relevance and applicability of the passage in the essay portion of Concept Twelve, Warranty Two, (A.A. Service Manual, p.65) which states that neither the groups nor AA as a whole should function as a “money charity” via the practice of “selling of our books at cost or less.”	Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee	<p>Under consideration by trustees' committee: At the February 2020 meeting, the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee reviewed but did not forward the agenda item to the Conference Finance Committee. The committee is requesting information from the Archives department. The background originally submitted for this agenda item is being reviewed for clarity before sending to the Conference Finance Committee. Discussion will continue at the trustees' August 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The committee chair asked that this item be moved from August and placed on the agenda for discussion at the October 2020 meeting.</p> <p>At the November 2020 meeting the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee reviewed proposed agenda:</p> <p>"Consider the relevance and applicability of the passage in the essay portion of Concept Twelve, Warranty Two, (A.A. Service Manual, p. 62) which states that neither the groups nor A.A. as a whole should function as a 'money charity' via the practice of 'selling of our books at cost or less.'"</p> <p>The committee asked that both the original background submitted by the area along with the clarification documentation provided by Archives, be sent to the trustees' committee for further review. This item will be brought back to the January 2021 board meeting for further discussion.</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
6	11/18/19	Consider that the words "Agenda Item" along with a definition be included in the Glossary of General Service Terms in the first chapter of the A.A. Service Manual.	A.A.W.S. Publishing Department	Forwarded to G.S.O.'s Publishing Department: For consideration in the thorough evaluation, update, and redesign of the Service Manual recommended by the 2018 Conference.
7	11/18/19	Consider that paragraphs 2 and 3 of the section "Sources of Agenda Items" in Chapter 7 of the A.A. Service Manual be updated to better state the path that a proposed agenda item takes to be included in the final agenda of a General Service Conference, and that the stated path be separated from the section "Sources of Agenda Items" with a new subtitle "The Path for an Idea to Become an Agenda Item" and a flowchart.	A.A.W.S. Publishing Department	Forwarded to G.S.O.'s Publishing Department: For consideration in the thorough evaluation, update, and redesign of the Service Manual recommended by the 2018 Conference.
8	11/21/19	Consider a request to study the feasibility of scheduling the international conventions to correspond with A.A.'s anniversary in June versus July.	Trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums	<p>Under consideration by trustees' committee: The trustees' committee considered requests to discuss alternate dates for the International Convention. The committee noted that the Site Selection Guidelines for the 2035 International Convention had been updated in October 2018 to include all weekends in the month of July, and suggested that the weekends in the month of June be included as options for interested cities wishing to bid for the 2035 International Convention. The committee requested that the revised Guidelines be brought back to the August 2020 meeting of the committee for review.</p> <p>The trustees' committee also noted that the review process of the Site Selection Guidelines includes further review prior to the beginning of the 2035 International Convention site selection process in 2022.</p> <p>The request will be reviewed as part of the agenda for the Q4, October/November meeting.</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
9	12/11/19	That the General Service Conference consider presenting the A.A. program of recovery as outlined in the book Alcoholics Anonymous in a digital format, (such as but not limited to podcasts), to be made available online, in accordance with all AA Traditions.	Trustees' Committee on Literature	<p>Under consideration by trustees' committee: The trustees' Literature Committee reviewed the request to present the A.A. program of recovery in digital formats and agreed to continue discussion at the August 2020 meeting of the trustees' Literature Committee. The committee requested that the staff secretary reach out to the submitter for more information as to the goal and purpose of the request.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature Committee reviewed the request to present the A.A. program of recovery in digital formats as well as the additional information received from the submitter as to the goal and purpose of the request. The committee tabled discussion to the October 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature committee discussed the request to present the A.A. program of recovery in digital formats and tabled the item until their January 2021 meeting.</p> <p>The committee requested that the 2020-21 subcommittee on Researching Issues, Possible Tools and Access to the Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, discuss this item and provide a progress report at the January 2021 meeting.</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
10	12/11/19	In order to maintain the historical integrity of our Fellowship, we are requesting that the General Service Conference return to the practice of not changing Bill W.'s writings.	Trustees' Committee on Literature	<p>Took No Action: The trustees' Literature Committee reviewed and agreed to continue discussions on the consideration to return to the practice of not changing Bill W.'s writings at their August 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature Committee discussed the consideration to return to the practice of not changing Bill W.'s writings. The committee agreed to table discussion to the October 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The trustees' Literature committee discussed the request to return to the practice of not changing Bill W.'s writings and took no action.</p> <p>The committee noted that past Advisory Actions reference not making changes to certain writings of Bill W. and that editorial practices as well as past Advisory Actions have resulted in certain changes to other portions of Bill W.'s writings. The committee also noted that the group conscience of one Conference is not binding on another.</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
11	12/12/19	Consider and recommend to the General Service Board that for all A.A. International Conventions planned and Host Cities to be considered, the Host Cities will be provided dates in addition to, or that do not include, a July Fourth weekend.	Trustees' Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums	<p>Under consideration by trustees' committee: The trustees' committee considered requests to discuss alternate dates for the International Convention. The committee noted that the Site Selection Guidelines for the 2035 International Convention had been updated in October 2018 to include all weekends in the month of July, and suggested that the weekends in the month of June be included as options for interested cities wishing to bid for the 2035 International Convention. The committee requested that the revised Guidelines be brought back to the August 2020 meeting of the committee for review.</p> <p>The trustees' committee also noted that the review process of the Site Selection Guidelines includes further review prior to the beginning of the 2035 International Convention site selection process in 2022.</p> <p>The request will be reviewed as part of the agenda for the Q4, October/November meeting.</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
12	7/8/20	Request for the Trustees Literature Committee to develop a new General Service Conference Approved text book describing the “how to” of working the steps, which is to be written in a simplified language (no greater than a fifth grade educational level).	Trustees' Committee on Literature	<p>Took No Action: The trustees' Literature committee discussed the request to develop a simplified language workbook for the Steps and took no action.</p> <p>While the committee took no action on this specific proposed agenda item, it was noted that the item touches on what it considers to be an expressed, broader need that is reflected in similar requests. The committee is exploring this need through subcommittee efforts and by seeking wider group conscience discussions.</p> <p>The committee noted that the background provided will be helpful in these discussions related to the agenda item to consider whether a common solution can address proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.</p>
13	7/8/20	Consider adding the Long Form of each Tradition at the beginning of each essay for that Tradition in the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.	Trustees' Committee on Literature	Under consideration by trustees' committee: The trustees' Literature committee considered adding the Long Form of each Tradition at the beginning of each essay for that Tradition in the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and agreed to table the item until the January 2021 meeting.

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
14	7/29/20	That the LinkedIn page of Alcoholics Anonymous be discontinued.	Trustees' Committee on C.P.C./Treatment & Accessibilities	<p>Took No Action: The trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities committed considered a proposed agenda item, "Consider a request to discontinue a LinkedIn page" and took no action.</p> <p>The committee noted that the submitter's concerns mentioned in the request were included in previous discussions by the committee.</p>
15	9/14/20	Reconsider and possibly change the 1972 G.S.C. Action stating "The Conference agreed that G.S.O. should not accept contributions from clubs, listed or known as such, whether or not composed solely of A.A. members. Contributions are welcome from Groups," by sending a new questionnaire to clubs to determine if the reason for the previous Action is still the same, and if appropriate, to change the policy.	Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee	<p>Forwarded to Conference Finance: The committee agreed to forward to the 2021 Conference Committee on Finance a proposed agenda item, with additional background, to "Reconsider and possibly change the 1972 G.S.C. Action stating 'The Conference agreed that G.S.O. should not accept contributions from clubs, listed or known as such, whether or not composed solely of A.A. members. Contributions are welcome from Groups,' by sending a new questionnaire to clubs to determine if the reason for the previous action is still the same, and if appropriate, to change the policy."</p>
16	10/4/20	That service material be developed, collecting shared experience from the AA fellowship with best practices using virtual technologies [such as Zoom, et.al.] to carry the AA message.	Group Services Staff Assignment	<p>Under consideration: Based on the nature of the request it <i>does not rise</i> to the level of a proposed agenda item for the General Service Conference due to the following reason, "G.S.O. does develop some literature that <i>does not have to be approved by the Conference</i>, such as <i>Service Material</i>, Guidelines and bulletins."</p>

Item	Date Received	Proposed Item	Forwarded to	Status
17	10/12/20	Consider that the General Service Board expand the use of the existing LinkedIn page for A.A.W.S. to include regular updated fresh content by posting existing information on a routine basis that fulfills the purposes in accordance with the 2018 Advisory Action.	Trustees' Committee on C.P.C./Treatment & Accessibilities	<p>Took No Action: The trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities committee considered a proposed agenda item, "That the General Service Board expand the use of the existing LinkedIn page for A.A.W.S. that fulfills the purposes in accordance with the 2018 Advisory Action" and took no action.</p> <p>The committee noted that a conference agenda item to discuss a progress report on LinkedIn was forwarded to the 71st Conference Committee on C.P.C. The committee requested the secretary to provide the background contained in the proposed agenda item to the 71st Conference Committee on C.P.C. to inform their discussion on the LinkedIn progress report.</p>
18	10/25/20	Consider a proposed revision and addition to the A.A. Pamphlet, "Experience, Strength and Hope. Women in A.A."	Trustees' Committee on Literature	Under consideration by trustees' committee
19	10/18/20	Consider that the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous be scheduled and held in Mid-May of each year.	Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference	Pending
20	7/24/20	Consider a suggestion for clarification of the Floor Action procedure at the General Service Conference.	Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference	<p>Forwarded to Conference Policy/Admissions: The trustees' General Service Conference committee agreed to forward to the 2021 Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions for consideration a proposed agenda item to update the Floor Action Process.</p>