

## I. Agenda

A. It was recommended that the theme for the 2020 General Service Conference be: "2020: A Clear Vision for You." **Vote: 117/7; My vote: Yes**

B. It was recommended that the following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2020 General Service Conference:

Recovery - Who Is Missing in Our Rooms?

Unity - Practicing Our Principles

Service - Keeping A.A. Relevant

**Vote: 123/3; My vote: Yes**

C. It was recommended that the workshop topic for the 2020 General Service Conference be: Attraction Through Action

**Vote: 123/4; My vote: Yes**

D. The committee reviewed the 2019 General Service Conference evaluations and noted that improvements were implemented from the 68th G.S.C. Evaluation suggestions.

The committee reviewed the summary of the 2019 General Service Conference evaluations. The committee suggests that Conference members be given the option to select the Conference Manual format and that the online version of the evaluation form be formatted such that it can be continually updated during Conference week.

E. The committee discussed the report of the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference and encourages Conference committee chairs to communicate with their committee both before and after the Board weekend conference calls with their corresponding trustees' committee chairs. The committee noted that this may help to ensure all Conference committee members are fully informed.

The committee reviewed the report on the Implementation and Effectiveness of the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference, which included sharing from the 2019 Conference committee chairs. The committee noted that the January conference call portion of the plan was implemented and request reporting of the 2019 participant survey results to the 2020 Conference Agenda Committee.

The committee reviewed the sharing results of the 2019 survey of Conference committee chairs.

## II. Cooperation with the Professional Community

A. The committee discussed the progress on implementing a static LinkedIn page and felt that the overall goal of the 2018 Advisory Action on creating a LinkedIn page had not yet been achieved. The committee agreed that the wording suggested for the LinkedIn page did not adequately describe Alcoholics Anonymous. The presence of a LinkedIn page describing Alcoholics Anonymous would be a valuable tool to aid local C.P.C. committee work in the U.S. and Canada to inform professionals about A.A. The committee requested that the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities revisit the plan for implementing a LinkedIn page taking into consideration the following suggestions:

- Add a disclaimer explaining that the "promoted" content on the LinkedIn page is not affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Include information from current A.A. literature about what A.A. does and does not do that can be useful to professionals who work with alcoholics.
- Add a concise description of Alcoholics Anonymous that is based on the Conference-approved literature intended for professionals that was reviewed at the October 2018 trustees' meeting.
- Add a link to aa.org and a link to the information for professionals' page.

- Add a link to the *About A.A.* newsletter.
- Include a schedule of C.P.C. exhibits at national level events that are coordinated through the General Service Office.
- Annually provide a report tracking the A.A. LinkedIn page, including visits to aa.org from the LinkedIn page for review by the Conference Committee on C.P.C.

**B.** It was recommended that the text "They may help arrange hospitalization" be removed from the section "What can you expect from A.A.?" in the pamphlet "Alcoholics Anonymous in Your Community."

**Vote: 123/4; My vote: Yes**

**C.** The committee reviewed the C.P.C. Kit and Workbook and noted their value to local C.P.C. committees and suggested that a section be added where local experiences can be noted.

Additional Consideration: The committee requested that the trustees' committee review the pamphlet "A.A. in Your Community" with a focus on what professionals can expect from A.A. and A.A. members and bring a report back to the 2020 Conference Committee on C.P.C.

### III. Corrections

**A.** The committee considered a request for a review of all corrections-related literature in order to make the language more modern and inclusive and agreed to take no action. The committee noted that there was not a widely expressed need to warrant a change in the language currently used in A.A. literature for corrections. The committee also noted the absence of suitable language alternatives that could be used across all areas.

**B.** The committee considered a request that the General Service Office establish and help maintain a database of Correctional facilities in each service area in the U.S. and Canada and the status of meetings held therein, and took no action. The committee noted the merits of the goal but considered that the diverse experiences and needs in different areas would be better served by a tool, or resource, that would help areas develop their own database tailored to their needs. The committee requested that the staff on the corrections desk ask for shared experience from A.A. members involved in corrections service for tools currently being used to create local databases with correctional facility meeting information, the status of the meetings, contacts, possible needs, and any other relevant information, and that the information be considered for a possible service piece or added to the Corrections Workbook, as appropriate.

The committee expressed appreciation for the hard work accomplished by the trustees' Committee on Corrections and encouraged the continued communication between the chairs of the trustees' and Conference committees on Corrections throughout the year.

**C.** The committee reviewed the Corrections Kit and Workbook and noted that many of the pamphlets used in correction service work have staples. The committee shared that a growing number of correctional facilities will not allow materials with staples into their facilities. The committee requested that the Publishing Department give priority to pamphlets used in corrections service for publication without staples, including, but not limited to, "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated," "The Twelve Steps Illustrated," "Many Paths to Spirituality," "Is A.A. for Me?," "This Is A.A.," "Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.," "Do you think you're different?," "Too Young?" and "Women in A.A."

It was recommended that the Scope of the Conference Committee on Corrections which currently reads: "The purpose of the committee will be to encourage A.A. members to assume responsibility to carry the message to alcoholics who cannot, of their own free will, seek A.A. help"

Be revised, to read:

The purpose of the committee will be to encourage A.A. members to assume responsibility to carry the message to alcoholics who cannot seek A.A. help **outside the walls.**

**Vote: 47/84; My vote: No; Motion to reconsider: failed**

#### **IV. Finance**

**A.** The committee reviewed and discussed area contributions for delegate expenses for the Conference and took no action.

The committee reviewed area contributions for delegate expenses, discussed the costs of the Conference and suggested that the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee provide a detailed breakdown of Conference expenses be included as background when delegate expenses are reviewed every two years, beginning in 2021.

The committee requested that additional information regarding statistical information on delegate fees and contribution limits be available as background when reviewed every two years, beginning in 2021.

**B.** It was recommended that the level of \$5,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members be raised to \$10,000.

**Vote: 113/18; My vote: Yes**

**C.** The committee reviewed and discussed the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$5,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member and took no action.

**D.** The committee reviewed the Self-Support Packet and suggested the following changes:

- In the Finance Guidelines mirror the language on how to make a contribution from the end of "The A.A. Group Treasurer" pamphlet.
- Include the regular contribution envelope in the packet.
- Revise the back of the Self-Support card as suggested, to reflect the following:
- Move "What is the value of your sobriety?" under the title.
- Move last bullet under "Some facts" to be first: "Your contributions help ensure the future of our Fellowship worldwide."
- Rephrase the first bullet under "Some facts" to read: "Historically, less than half of all A.A. groups contribute to the General Service Office" and make it the second bullet.
- Remove second bullet regarding "Costs of services..." from "Some facts."
- Rephrase the third bullet under "Some facts" to read: "Gross profit from literature sales make up for the shortfall in contributions," or something similar to emphasize being more self-supporting.
- Remove the titles "Personal thoughts" and "Some facts."
- Include contribution information from the end of "The A.A. Group Treasurer" pamphlet.

#### **V. Grapevine**

**A.** The committee agreed to forward to the AA Grapevine Corporate Board the suggestion that Grapevine produce in the year 2020 or later:

1. The Early Days of AA (working title)

Classic stories previously published in Grapevine by members from the 1930s, '40s and '50s about what A.A. was like in its earliest days.

2. Getting Involved in General Service (working title)

Inspiring stories previously published in Grapevine by A.A. members who have been involved in general service.

3. Surrender and Hope (working title) (La Viña book)

Stories by Spanish-speaking A.A. members, previously published in La Viña, about how they came to surrender and join A.A. for a new life.

**B.** The committee considered a request to remove the Alcoholism at Large section from AA Grapevine and took no action. The committee affirmed Grapevine and La Viña's editorial freedom, as expressed in the Grapevine Charter that states: "to prepare, edit, print and publish...written material concerning generally the subject of alcoholism and related matters and dealing with various means, methods, techniques and procedures available or proposed for the treatment, relief, rehabilitation and recovery of persons suffering from or potentially subject to alcoholism."

The committee requested that the disclaimer for the Alcoholism at Large section be printed more prominently and visibly.

**C.** The committee reviewed the progress report on the AA Grapevine Workbook revisions and looks forward to reviewing a progress report or draft at the next Conference. The committee also forwarded suggestions to the Grapevine office including expanding shared experience and how to use GV/LV as a recovery tool.

**D.** The committee reviewed the AA Grapevine Fellowship Survey and summary and noted the actions the Grapevine Board and staff have taken on the findings. The committee looks forward to a progress report at the next Conference on further actions taken.

## **VI. Literature**

**A.** The committee reviewed the progress report on the development of a pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women and looks forward to reviewing a progress report or draft pamphlet at the 2020 General Service Conference.

**B.** The committee reviewed the progress report on the development of a pamphlet based upon A.A.'s Three Legacies and looks forward to reviewing a progress report or draft pamphlet at the 2020 General Service Conference.

**C.** It was recommended that a draft Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* be developed and a progress report be brought to the 2020 Conference Literature Committee, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that:

The first 164 pages of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, "The Doctor's Opinion," "Dr. Bob's Nightmare," and the Appendices remain as is.

**Vote: 54/78; My vote: Yes; Motion failed**

The committee reviewed the request for the development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* which would include a section of stories comprised of individuals who got sober under the age of 25, and took no action noting that A.A. is inclusive, never exclusive. If a Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* is to be developed the committee suggested that stories be gathered from as broad a cross-section of the Fellowship as possible, including from those who got sober under 25.

**D.** The committee reviewed the progress report on the comprehensive update to the video "Your A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure." The committee looks forward to reviewing a progress report or draft revised video at the 2020 General Service Conference.

**E.** It was recommended that the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" be revised to add the following text regarding anonymity:

Under the section, "What does a sponsor do and not do?" (p. 13), after the current bullet "Impresses upon the newcomer the importance of all our Traditions," add a new bullet with the following language:

Emphasizes the relevance and spiritual value of anonymity, both on a person to person basis, as well as at the public level including social media. (For more information see the pamphlet, "Understanding Anonymity").

Under the section, "How can a sponsor explain the A.A. program?" (p. 15), add a 6th paragraph:

Many sponsors discuss the significance of anonymity at a personal level and public

level early on. Anonymity at a personal level provides protection for all members from the identification as alcoholics, a safeguard often of special importance to newcomers. At the public level of press, radio, films, and other media technologies, such as the internet, anonymity stresses the equality in the Fellowship of all members by putting the brake on those who might otherwise exploit their A.A. affiliation to achieve recognition, power, or personal gain. The sponsor is quick to point out the benefit of anonymity at this public level. Sponsors may provide examples from their own experience of maintaining public anonymity.

**Vote: 121/6; My vote: Yes**

**F.** The committee suggested that the trustees' Committee on Literature develop a Literature Committee Workbook and provide a progress report to the 2020 General Service Conference.

**G.** The committee reviewed a progress report on the revision of the pamphlet "Too Young?" The committee looks forward to reviewing a draft revised pamphlet and/or samples of other potential formats of the pamphlet at the 2020 General Service Conference.

**H.** The committee reviewed a progress report on the revision of the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." The committee looks forward to reviewing a revised draft pamphlet at the 2020 General Service Conference.

**I.** The committee discussed the draft of the proposed revision to A.A. World Services' "Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials" and supports the proposed policy and its intended impact to support more effectively carrying the A.A. message.

In keeping with Concept Eight which states in part, "The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) with respect to the larger matters of overall policy and finance, they are the principle planners and administrators..." the committee expressed support for G.S.O.'s publishing professionals and their efforts working on behalf of A.A.

In keeping with Concept One which states in part, "The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship," the committee recognized the importance and the sensitivity of maintaining the integrity of the Conference process for developing and updating literature to best reflect A.A.'s collective experience, strength and hope.

The committee requested that the final version of the complete text of A.A. World Services' "Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials" be included as background for future General Service Conference committees.

#### **Floor Action #7**

It was recommended that the "A.A.W.S. Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials" be recommitted to the trustees' Literature Committee with an updated policy to be brought back to the 70th General Service Conference.

**Declined to Consider failed: 46/85; Vote: 108/20 My Vote Yes**

**J.** The committee considered a request to add information regarding safety to the pamphlet "The A.A. Group" and took no action. The committee noted that the pamphlet already addresses safety.

**K.** The committee reviewed a progress report for the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" and suggested an emphasis on the importance of anonymity on social media perhaps by adding an image of the Anonymity in the Digital Age poster as well as the following text:

To quote Bill W.'s writing on page 15 from *The Language of the Heart*, "...it should be the privilege, even the right, of each individual or group to handle anonymity as they wish." However, when dealing with social media, personal anonymity as well as the group's anonymity may be easily compromised. We must be careful when using social media to

not use full names and/or photos of A.A. members in a way that would identify them or others as A.A. members.

The committee looks forward to reviewing a progress report or revised draft pamphlet at the 2020 General Service Conference.

**L.** The committee reviewed a progress report for language on safety and A.A. for inclusion in the booklet *Living Sober* and the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" and clarified that the language is meant to focus on safety at the group level.

**M.** It was recommended that the text be added to the foreword of the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions as follows (addition in italics):

A.A.'s Twelve Steps are a group of principles, spiritual in their nature, which, if practiced as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole.

A.A.'s Twelve Traditions apply to the life of the Fellowship itself. They outline the means by which A.A. maintains its unity and relates itself to the world about it, the way it lives and grows.

*A.A.'s Twelve Concepts for World Service are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure. The Concepts provide guidelines for carrying the message to thousands of suffering alcoholics yet to come. They aim to record the 'why' of our service structure. They may be found in The A.A. Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service.*

**Vote: 25/106; My vote: No**

**N.** It was recommended that the phrase "Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers" be added as the final sentence to the "Open Meeting" side of the Primary Purpose (Blue) Card. The card will read as follows (addition in italics):

THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

This is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are glad you are all here – especially newcomers. In keeping with our singleness of purpose and our Third Tradition which states that "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking," we ask that all who participate confine their discussion to their problems with alcohol. *Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers.*

**Vote: 32/100; My vote: No**

**O.** It was recommended that the trustees' Literature Committee update the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated" and bring back a progress report or draft pamphlet to the 2020 General Service Conference.

**Vote: 118/9; My vote: Yes**

**P.** The committee reviewed the matrix of A.A. recovery literature and suggested that the trustees' Literature Committee consider an update to the pamphlet "Is A.A. for Me?" The committee noted that the pamphlet has not been updated since 1989.

It was recommended that the trustees' Literature Committee update the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" and bring back a progress report or draft pamphlet to the 2020 General Service Conference.

**Vote: 116/17; My vote: Yes**

## VII. Policy/Admissions

**A.** In order to provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select three proposed dates for the 73rd and 74th General Service Conferences. The committee selected the following dates in order of preference for the 73rd General Service Conference: April 23-29, 2023; April 30-May 6, 2023 and April 16-22, 2023. The committee selected the following dates in order of

preference for the 74th General Service Conference: April 14-20, 2024; April 28-May 4, 2024 and May 5-11, 2024. The committee noted that these proposed Conference dates do not conflict with any significant holidays. The committee asks that all Conference members be notified of the final dates for the 73rd and 74th General Service Conferences as soon as they are finalized by G.S.O. management.

**B.** The committee reviewed the report from G.S.O.'s general manager on site selection of the General Service Conference and looks forward to a progress report for review by the 2020 General Service Conference.

In reviewing the report from G.S.O.'s general manager on site selection for the General Service Conference, the committee noted the change of dates for the 71st G.S.C. that will take place in 2021 and that it had been necessary for the general manager to move forward and contract for the hotel for the 72nd General Service Conference prior to the selection of dates by the Conference Policy/Admissions Committee.

The 71st General Service Conference will take place from April 18-24, 2021 in Brooklyn, New York and the 72nd General Service Conference will take place from April 24-30, 2022 in Brooklyn, New York.

**C.** The committee considered a process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss, and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee and appreciates the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference's work on developing a process thus far. The committee noted the inclusion of a rationale on items not forwarded that are listed on the grid of proposed agenda items. The committee requested that the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference continue developing the process outlined in their report and provide a report to the 2020 General Service Conference that includes more information regarding the distribution of background and the January conference call between the trustee committee chair and the corresponding Conference committee.

**D.** The committee requested that the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference develop a process for approving qualified representatives from other A.A. service structures to observe the U.S. and Canada General Service Conference that allows for these observers to be presented for General Service Conference consideration prior to the General Service Conference week for review by the 2020 General Service Conference.

**E.** The committee discussed a request to "develop a procedure to deal with special requests/agenda items" and took no action. The committee noted that Concept Three and the Conference Charter provide adequate guidance and flexibility for dealing with agenda items that are outside of the usual process.

**F.** It was recommended that to allow time for discussion, the "Process for Polling the General Service Conference between Annual Meetings" which currently reads:

Timing

In keeping with the G.S.B. Bylaws, Conference members will be given two weeks from the time the poll is emailed to respond with their vote. Dates for all votes and motions will be included with the poll, using a form similar to the "Timeline for Polling Conference Between Meetings." All times listed are Eastern Time.

The original poll will be emailed by 2 p.m., and voting will open that day and remain open for two weeks.

Voting will close at 2 p.m. two weeks after the poll was emailed. By 5 p.m. on the day the poll results are due, Conference members will be notified of the results by email. A request for any minority opinion will be included with the poll results.

Be replaced with:

Timing

In keeping with the G.S.B. Bylaws, Conference members will be given two weeks from the time the poll is emailed to respond with their vote. Dates for all votes and

motions will be included with the poll, using a form similar to the "Timeline for Polling Conference Between Meetings." All times listed are Eastern Time.

The original poll will be emailed by 2 p.m., and discussion will open that day and remain open for one week. Voting will commence on day seven at 2 p.m. after discussion closes.

Voting will close at 2 p.m. two weeks after the poll was emailed. By 5 p.m. on the day the poll results are due, Conference members will be notified of the results by email. A request for any minority opinion will be included with the poll results.

**Vote: 125/2; My vote: Yes**

**G.** The committee discussed reconsidering the 1986 Advisory Action regarding a simple majority vote by the full Conference and took no action. The committee asked that implementation of this 1986 advisory action resume with the 69th General Service Conference Final Report:

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 noted that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee scheduled a Presentation/Discussion on the Equitable Distribution of the Workload of Conference Committees at the 69th General Service Conference.

The committee looks forward to receiving a plan or progress report on this important process for review by the 2020 General Service Conference from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

### **VIII. Public Information**

**A.** The committee reviewed and accepted the 2018 annual report from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.

The committee suggested that the A.A.W.S. Publishing Department update all A.A. pamphlet covers to prominently display the G.S.O. website "www.aa.org."

The committee also suggested that it may be helpful to include "www.aagrapevine.org" on the cover of A.A. pamphlets.

**B.** It was recommended that the trustees' Committee on Public Information develop a plan to produce video shorts based on current A.A. pamphlets that provide information about A.A. to the public and that a report be brought back to the 2020 Conference Committee on Public Information.

**Vote: 122/2; My vote: Yes**

**C.1.** The committee reviewed and accepted the information on centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the public service announcement "Changes."

**C.2.** The committee reviewed and accepted the 2018 report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on the Usefulness and Relevance of Public Service Announcements.

**C.3.** It was recommended that the video PSA "My World" be discontinued.

**Vote: 124/6; My vote: Yes**

**C.4.** It was recommended that the "Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. Members in Videos Produced by the General Service Board or its Affiliates" be reaffirmed.

**Vote: 101/22; My vote: Yes**

It was recommended that two PSAs be developed at a cost not to exceed \$50,000 for each PSA, and that if full-face characters are shown, to include an "actor portrayal" disclaimer on screen.

**Vote: 115/13; My vote: Yes**

It was recommended that all current video PSA titles be updated for search



optimization purposes.

**Vote: 127/1; My vote: Yes**

**D.** It was recommended that the text addressing anonymity and safety be included in the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" as follows:

Q. Is it okay to tell someone if I witness or experience inappropriate behavior that happens either during or outside meeting times? Can I alert the proper authorities if there is criminal behavior?

A. Groups strive to provide as safe an environment as possible in which members can focus on sobriety, and, while anonymity is central to that purpose, it is not intended to be a cloak protecting inappropriate or criminal behavior. Saying something about inappropriate behavior or calling the proper authorities does not go against any A.A. Traditions and is meant to preserve the safety of all members.

**Vote: 108/20; My vote: Yes**

**E.** It was recommended that the wording of the last sentence in the section titled "How A.A. Members Maintain Sobriety" in the flyer "A.A. at a Glance" be changed from:

Sobriety is maintained through sharing experience, strength and hope at group meetings and through the suggested Twelve Steps for recovery from alcoholism.

To

Sobriety is maintained through sharing experience, strength and hope at group meetings and through the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, which are suggested as a program of recovery.

**Vote: 114/14; My vote: Yes**

**F.** It was recommended that a progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube channel be brought back to the 2020 Conference Committee on Public Information.

**Vote: 94/35; My vote: Yes**

**G.** It was recommended that A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc. apply for "Legit Script" certification to qualify for Google Ad Words/Grants.

**Vote: 97/31; My vote: Yes**

It was recommended A.A. World Services, Inc. apply for Google AdWords/Grants, for the purpose of providing information about A.A. to the public.

**Vote: 91/36; My vote: Yes**

It was recommended that A.A. World Services, Inc. implement Google AdWords/Grants for the purpose of providing information about A.A. to the public and that a report be brought back to the 2020 Conference Committee on Public Information.

**Vote: 101/27; My vote: Yes**

**H.** The committee reviewed the contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook, and asked that the contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook continue to be updated with current and relevant information for P.I. committees.

The committee suggested that the trustees' Committee on Public Information explore online platforms as a possible additional media outlet for future public service announcement distribution.

The committee suggested that the "how to find A.A." section of all existing PSAs be edited to include current terminologies that describe how people search for A.A.

## IX Report and Charter

**A.** The committee accepted a report from the Publishing Department outlining the General Service Office process for timely and accurate preparation and publication of *The A.A. Service Manual, 2020-2022 Edition* and the 2019 General Service Conference *Final Report*. The committee agreed with the suggestion from G.S.O. management that a new level of privacy was needed in the General Service Conference Final Report for Conference members' personal information, and that as of 2019:

- The roster section for Area Delegates include only each person's name, city, state or province.
- The bios of trustees and nontrustee directors include only each person's name, city, state or province.
- No email addresses for delegates, trustees, or nontrustee directors will be included.

**B.** The committee reviewed the progress report from the A.A.W.S. Publishing Department on the redesign of The A.A. Service Manual and forwarded their comments to the Publishing Department.

**C.** The committee considered the A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., and Western U.S.) especially in light of the new ERP system and the Meeting Guide app, and requested that the General Service Office explore alternative methods of accessing and distributing the contact information contained in the A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., and Western U.S.) The committee requested that a report be brought back to the 2020 Report and Charter Conference Committee.

## X. Treatment and Accessibilities

**A.** The committee considered revising the pamphlet "Bridging the Gap Between Treatment and A.A. Through Contact Programs" to include related corrections activities and agreed with the concept. The committee requested that the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities consult with the trustees' Committee on Corrections to review all treatment and corrections committee literature from G.S.O. related to bridging the gap and temporary contact activities with the following in mind:

- How treatment and corrections material can be updated for currency and inclusion;
- How this material could be combined;
- What material might be discontinued;
- How the combined material might be broadened to encompass the full range of possibilities in which a temporary contact might be useful.

The committee requested that a report be brought to the 2020 Conference Treatment and Accessibilities committee.

**B.** It was recommended that Ashley's story (an A.A. member who is Deaf) be added to the pamphlet "Access to A.A.: Members Share on Overcoming Barriers" and that the video version of the pamphlet be updated to reflect this change.

**Vote: 111/18; My vote: Yes**

**C.** It was recommended that the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic - Never Too Late" be updated with a revised introduction; current and inclusive stories; reference to online A.A.; and an updated "How Do I Find A.A.?" section. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2020 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

**Vote: 124/0; My vote: Yes**

**D.** It was recommended that the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/ Treatment and Accessibilities develop anonymity-protected

audio interviews with military professionals about their experience with A.A. as a resource for posting online.

**Vote: 122/5; My vote: Yes**

**E.** The committee reviewed a draft Remote Communities Kit and agreed that there is a need for this new material. The committee suggested that before the Kit is made available that a guideline or workbook be developed for inclusion. The guideline or workbook might use a locally produced current Remote Communities workbook as an example.

The committee also suggested that the guideline or workbook include a list of available material, with details, including the intended audience, and suggestions for when, why and how it might be used. The committee forwarded a list of additional pamphlets and service material to be considered for inclusion in the Kit. The committee suggested that the trustees' committee not include paper copies of the pamphlets in the Kit but provide a list of material by category and purpose, linked to encourage digital use.

The committee noted the availability and relevance of past articles in Grapevine, *Box 4-5-9*, and *About A.A.*, and requested that the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities and staff work with AA Grapevine to make past Remote Communities articles from Grapevine available for those involved in Remote Communities service.

**F.** The committee reviewed the Treatment Committees Kit and Workbook and forwarded a list of suggestions to the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities.

**G.** The committee reviewed the Accessibilities Kit and Workbook and forwarded a list of suggestions to the trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities.

## **XI. Trustees**

**A.** The committee reviewed the resumes and approved as eligible for election all Class B trustee candidates for Northeast regional trustee, Southwest regional trustee, and trustee-at-large/Canada.

Francis G, Eastern Mass. - Northeast Region

James D, Northeastern Texas - Southwest Region

Trish LaNouze, - Trustee-at-Large/Canada

**B.** It was recommended that the following slate of trustees of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in May 2019 following presentation at the 2019 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

### Class A Trustees

Leslie S. Backus

Michele Grinberg, J.D.

Peter Luongo, Ph.D., LCSW-C

Al J. Mooney, M.D., FAAFP, FASAM

Hon. Christine Carpenter

Sister Judith Ann Karam, CSA, FACHE

Nancy McCarthy

### Class B Trustees

Thomas A

Carole B

James D

Kathi F

Patricia L

David

Ginger Rhoades B

Cathy B

Beau B

Mark E

Francis G

Jan L

Newton P

Cate W

**Vote: 125/3; My vote: Yes**

It was recommended that the following slate of officers of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in May 2019 following presentation at the 2019 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Chairperson	Michele Grinberg, J.D.
First Vice-Chairperson	Nancy McCarthy
Second Vice-Chairperson	Newton P
Treasurer	Leslie S. Backus
Secretary	Ginger Rhoades B
Assistant Treasurer	Bob S*
Assistant Secretary	Mary C*

\*G.S. 0. Employees

**Vote: 124/3; My vote: Yes**

**C.** It was recommended that the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board in May 2019 following presentation at the 2019 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Beau B	Cathy B
Mary C*	Deborah K
Jan L	Homer M
David N	Gregory T*
Carolyn W	

\*G.S. 0. Employees

**Vote: 125/5; My vote: Yes**

**D.** It was recommended that the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA Grapevine Corporate Board in May 2019 following presentation at the 2019 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Carole B	Josh E
Mark E	Ina F
Kathi F	Tommi H
Nancy M	Ginger Rhoades B
Albin Z*	

\*AA Grapevine employee

**Vote: 125/5; My vote: Yes**

**E.** The committee reviewed the drafted procedures for a partial or complete reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A. World Services Board and AA Grapevine Board. The committee agreed that the procedure needed additional specificity, offered suggestions, and requested that the trustees' Committee on Nominating bring back a revised plan to the 2020 Conference Committee on Trustees.

## **XII. Archives**

**A.** It was recommended that the 1940s home movie of the co-founders and their wives be added to the Archives video "Markings on the Journey" at an estimated cost of \$5,000.

**Vote: 134/0; My vote: Yes**

**B.** The committee reviewed the revised Archives Workbook and newly released Archives Service Piece, "Archives Checklist: A quick guide for local A.A. archivists" and expressed satisfaction with the content. The committee suggested that the use of gender specific language be avoided, when possible, in future printings of the Archives Workbook.

The committee appreciates the work of the trustees' Committee on Archives in exploring the feasibility of including in the A.A.W.S. Literature catalog all reproductions of archival materials being distributed by the Archives department upon request. However, the

committee expressed concerns of pursuing this suggestion, noting that over-exposure of these items would increase the workload of the Archives staff and could trivialize the archival materials.

### **XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums**

**A.** It was recommended that an anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2020 International Convention.

**Vote: 130/0; My vote: Yes**

**B.** It was recommended that an anonymity-protected Internet broadcast of the 2020 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony be approved.

**Vote: 130/1; My vote: Yes**

**C.** The committee discussed ways of encouraging interest in Regional and Local Forums and attracting first time attendees and suggested: ➤ Compiling notes from the first timer sharing at a Forum for later distribution to encourage members to attend a future Forum;

- Compiling notes from the first timer sharing at a Forum for later distribution to encourage members to attend a future Forum;
- Consider developing a Regional Forum app;
- Consider developing a micro-site in addition to surface mail for distributing the Regional Forum flyers;
- Increase awareness at the local level, including “intentional” outreach to different populations (i.e., young people, Spanish-speaking communities, Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing);
- Encourage local welcome committees to create “Save the Date” flyers; Consider inviting A.A.W.S./AA Grapevine directors to “non-service” A.A. events to increase awareness of regional forums;
- Consider inviting A.A.W.S./AA Grapevine directors to “non-service” A.A. events to increase awareness of regional forums;
- Place information about Regional Forums in the AA Grapevine and La Viña.

### **Floor Actions**

**1.** It was recommended that a draft Fourth Edition of the Spanish Big Book, *Alcoholicos Anonimos*, be developed and a progress report be brought to the 2020 General Service Conference.

**Declined to Consider failed 59/74;**

**Motion to commit to the Trustee’s Committee:**

The proposed floor action that “A draft Fourth Edition of the Spanish Big Book, *Alcoholicos Anonimos*, be developed and a progress report be brought to the 2020 General Service Conference” be committed to the trustees’ Literature Committee.

**Approved 104/28; My vote: Yes**

**2.** Production of *The Language of the Heart* in Spanish as an audio book be prioritized by AA Grapevine, Inc. and a timeline for production be reported at the 70th General Service Conference.

**Declined to Consider failed: 85/45; Vote: 57/71 Not Approved; My vote: Yes**

**3.** The pamphlet “The ‘God’ Word” be added as one of the pamphlets used in Corrections service for possible publication without staples.

**Declined to consider 95/32; My vote: Yes to decline**

**4.** It was recommended that the pamphlet AA for the Black and African American Alcoholic be updated and a progress report and/or a draft be presented to the 2020 General Service Conference.

**Declined to Consider failed 69/62;**

**Motion to commit to Trustees’ Committee:**

The proposed floor action that "The pamphlet AA for the Black and African American Alcoholic' be updated and a progress report and/or a draft be presented to the 2020 General Service Conference" be committed to the trustees' Literature Committee.

**Vote: 120/12; My Vote: Yes**

5. In order to illustrate the importance of the committee recommendations that achieve simple majority but not substantial unanimity (i.e., a vote of two-thirds), that such "simple majority suggestions" be prominently included in the Conference Final Report.

**Declined to Consider failed 76/53; Vote: 18/113; My vote Yes**

6. The "Alcoholism at Large" section be removed from the AA Grapevine.

**Declined to Consider 105/27; My vote No**