



72nd General Service Conference (2022)

Agenda Topic Summaries

Pre Conference Assembly April 8-10, 2022

Abbreviations used to save space:

"GSB" → General Service Board

"GSC" → General Service Conference

"PI" → Conference Committee on PI

"AAWS" → AA World Services

"GV" → Grapevine

"LV" → LaVina

EDW Equitable Distribution of Workload

I. Agenda

Conference Committee: **Agenda – Items A, B, and C**

Agenda Topics	<p><u>Review:</u></p> <p>A. Suggestions for the 2023 73rd General Service Conference theme,</p> <p>B. Presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2023 73rd General Service Conference</p> <p>C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2023 73rd General Service Conference</p>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>These items appear every year. You will find suggested ideas for each category in the background material. If your Group feels strongly about any of these, let your Delegate know so they can share that information. Remember you can submit ideas for future General Service Conferences. Want some ideas on themes for workshops? Look no further than these lists in the background material. They are great sources for workshop topics.</p> <p>This year’s theme is “AA Comes Of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	None. If you have ideas you would like considered for upcoming years you can submit them to your Delegate

Conference Committee: **Agenda – Items D and E**

Agenda Topics	<p><u>Review:</u></p> <p>D. Conference evaluations of the 2021 General Service Conference</p> <p>E. Discuss progress report on General Service Conference improvement</p>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>D. This section shows the attendees’ answers to the survey given after the 71st General Service Conference. It also addresses the upcoming 72nd GSC survey, where they’ve added questions regarding the Equitable Distribution of Workload trial for the attendees this year.</p> <p>E. This item occurs every year and is a continuing effort to improve the General Service Conference process. This year, the subcommittee addressed a perennial complaint by some delegates regarding there not being enough committee time to discuss Agenda items. They also discussed alternating between face to face and virtual conferences in the future.</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

II. Cooperation with the Professional Community - <u>Review:</u> E. Contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

Conference Committee: **Cooperation with the Professional Community – Item A & B**

Agenda Topic	<p>A. Review progress Report on LinkedIn Account</p> <p>B. Review suggested revisions for draft pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community”</p>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>A. In 2021 the 71st GSC recommended that a “dynamic” LinkedIn page be implemented to provide current and relevant content about AA to professionals in accordance with AA principles and Traditions and that a progress report on the effectiveness be brought back in 2022. In Q4 we had 1600 followers, 585 unique visitors and 1587 total page views.</p>

	B. There are quite a few proposed changes to this pamphlet—too many to run through today. We suggest that you review the draft in the CPC background information. Hyperlinks to AA’s Online Intergroup Directory, a state-by-state link to AA’s central offices, Grapevine, La Viña and pamphlets for professionals have been included, amongst other changes.
What the Delegate needs to know?	A. Information Only B. What do you think of the revisions

Conference Committee: **Cooperation with the Professional Community – Item C**

Agenda Topic	C. Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A focus group of Mental Health Professionals (both alcoholics and non-alcoholics) was formed to advise on what should be included in this pamphlet. They discussed 3 questions: 1) What are the barriers to referring or providing information to your clients about AA? 2) What clear AA message should be given to professionals and what should the ongoing message be? 3) What do you tell your peers about AA? A report based on the findings of the focus group was sent to publishing for them to review prior to writing the pamphlet.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you like the direction the new pamphlet is going?

Conference Committee: **Cooperation with the Professional Community – Item D**

Agenda Topic	D. Consider creating a new pamphlet designed to help C.P.C. Committee reach as many doctors as possible
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The submitter feels that CPC is not getting engagement from most local doctors and that when CPC reaches out, it’s to organizations, rather than individual doctors. This proposed pamphlet would help members to have conversations with their doctors—suggesting what you could say to them and what questions you could ask them. There would also be space for one to write local contact information.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you think a new pamphlet is needed?

III. Corrections - Review: A. Contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

Conference Committee: **Corrections**

III. Corrections – Item B	
Agenda Topic	Reconsider use of the term “Person in Custody” in AA literature
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	According to the submitter, “Person in Custody” is not used in Canada’s judicial system so they may not be used to that term. They feel that in all literature directed to professionals, it’s ok to refer to them as convicts or inmates.

	They also advocated referring to them as “Inside AA Members” in literature that is not directed to professionals. The submitter feels that this would be more respectful and encourages inclusiveness.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you think the terminology to describe incarcerated members should be changed again?

Conference Committee: **Corrections – Item C**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider requests to limit changes to the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The submitter is concerned that some decisions during the pandemic were made with less than a full group conscience, and the significant decisions should be delayed under these circumstances. They reaffirm the 1995 that limited changes to the first 164 pages, the preface, the forward, the Doctor’s opinion, Dr. Bob’s Nightmare and the Appendixes
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree? Yes or No? Why? Or Why Not?

Conference Committee: **Corrections – Item D**

Agenda Topic EDW	Discuss requests to make A.A. literature changes slowly and with A.A.’s primary purpose in mind
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The submitter is concerned that some decisions during the pandemic were made with less than a full group conscience, and the significant decisions should be delayed under these circumstances. They reaffirm the 1995 that limited changes to the first 164 pages, the preface, the forward, the Doctor’s opinion, Dr. Bob’s Nightmare and the Appendixes
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree? Yes or No? Why? Or Why Not?

IV. FinanceConference Committee: **Finance – Item A**

Agenda Topic	Review Self-Support Packet
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	FV-19 A cardboard sleeve containing several service pieces, including our Self Support pamphlet, The AA Group Treasurer pamphlet and the Self Support Card. The Self Support Subcommittee noted that the language used on the various pieces of literature included in the Self Support Packet was inconsistent and sometimes incorrect, referring to contributions going to General Service Office when it should say the General Service Board. The sub-committee further recommended that we should consider updating the images in the materials to reflect current contributions from the US and Canada. Please refer to the background information to see all the pieces included in this packet and to help your group decide whether or not they think we should update them.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Informative only! Does your group have suggestions for revisions, updates or additions to the packet? Suggestions to Delegate

Conference Committee: **Finance – Item B**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add a disclaimer to the front of the book <i>Twelve Steps and</i>
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EDW	<i>Twelve Traditions</i>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The submitter believes small changes to this book are eroding its meaning. It is suggested the text be left as originally written and a disclaimer would speak to the age of writing and different times when it was written.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this disclaimer should be added? Yes or No? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: **Finance – Item C**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request that all proposed changes to the book <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> be handled in footnotes
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This request is submitted by a district, and again, the intention is to protect the original text of the book, as in “B” above.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree with handling changes as footnotes? Yes or No? Why or why not?

V. Grapevine - Review: A. Grapevine Workbook Revisions **B.** Review progress report on Grapevine and LaVina Instagram accounts

Conference Committee: **Grapevine – Item B**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on Grapevine and La Vina Instagram accounts
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p style="text-align: center;">(Grapevine—alcoholicsanonymous_gv) (La Viña – alcoholicosanonimos_lv)</p> <p>Grapevine Instagram has 6,243 followers as of 2/23/22. As of Feb 1st they’ve posted 395 times since their launch on 7/7/21. They post a daily quote, new book announcements, inspirational quotes, new magazines and other items. La Vina has 687 followers as of 2/23/22 and has posted 252 times during that same time frame. The goal is to help members stay connected to Grapevine and LaVina and to AA as a whole. In addition, they hope to attract those who might benefit by learning more about AA, by aiming for attraction rather than promotion. Posts are kept anonymous. They’ve currently reach over 132,000 people in the 90 days preceding the background material coming out. During that same time, there’s been an 8.21% growth rate. The vast majority of followers are in the US. The largest age group of followers are those 45-54 years old, with 56.71% of followers being female and 33.91% male. 9.38% are unidentified. For LaVina the largest age group is 35 to 44 with males outnumbering females 55% to 35% with 10% unidentified.</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	This is informational only

Conference Committee: **Grapevine – Item C**

Agenda Topic	Consider the list of suggested Grapevine books topics for 2023 or later
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<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best of Dear Grapevine – Previously published letters from the pages of Grapevine by AA members which were printed in the magazine’s letters section, Dear Grapevine • Book for Newcomers – Previously printed stories by AA members sharing helpful tools and suggestions during their first year of sobriety • Best of La Vina • Prayer and Meditation – Previously submitted stories by Spanish-speaking AA members sharing about the many ways they practice Step Eleven (may include some translated stories) <p>All of these soft cover books will be between 120-200 pages. The projected unit cost is \$2.50 each for a print run of 10,000, and will be sold for \$11.50. The eBook versions will cost approximately \$2,000 for the project and will sell for \$9.99.</p>
<p>What the Delegate needs to know?</p>	<p>This is informational only</p>

Conference Committee: **Grapevine – Item D**

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Discuss the wide-ranging impact the Preamble changes has had on our Fellowship</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>After its passage, the Grapevine Board received a number of correspondences regarding the change—some favorable, some unfavorable and some requesting additional information. Both those in favor and those against cite our Traditions as the reason. As a result, the Director of the Grapevine submitted this agenda item, asking “How do we, as a Fellowship, move forward in love and unity?”</p> <p>Some in favor cite Tradition 1—that AA Unity has been enhanced by welcoming all. Those against cited Tradition 1—that AA Unity has been disrupted by the change. Both cited Tradition 4, Group Autonomy. Some against the change cited Tradition 10, stating it’s an outside issue (either political or sociological) while others claim it is an inside issue, supported by Tradition 3 (being welcoming, inclusive).</p> <p><u>It is possible that we will see a floor action regarding this change</u></p> <p>Timeline leading up to the change: 12/18—AAGV Board received a request to revise the AA Preamble 1/19—AAGV Board took no action, noting the then current process being undertaken by the Trustee’s Literature Committee and AAWS to look at the language in all AA literature. AAGV forwarded a request that the Preamble be included in this broader review 9/19—additional requests were received by AAGV to degenderize the Preamble. The AAGV board requested that the previous request to the Trustees Committee on Literature to review this matter be rescinded. 12/19—AAGVB had roundtable discussion regarding the many requests to change the Preamble and as a result, decided to send the requests to the 70th General Service Conference Committee on Grapevine for further discussion.</p>

	<p>1/20—Forwarded to the 70th 2020 GSC Committee on Grapevine as Agenda Items D and E, both reflecting changing “men and women” to “people”</p> <p>4/20—No action was taken on Item D, On item E, the Grapevine Committee requested that the AAGV Board consider developing examples of generalized language options and to report back with draft versions at the 71st GSC in 2021</p> <p>6/20—Board reviewed the consideration of the 70th GSC and asked management to develop some ideas regarding the Preamble item</p> <p>7/20– Amid reports that groups were already changing the Preamble language, Senior Editor Jon W asked for board members to forward language and ideas to him</p> <p>9/20—Board requested several options to be brought to Oct board meeting</p> <p>10/20—Jon W presented suggest changes to the Preamble to serve as background to the 71st Conf committee on AAGV and LV</p> <p>1/21—Board finalized the background and forwarded to the Conf Committee on GV and LV</p> <p>4/21– Item E under GV and LV “Review suggested gender-neutral language options for changes to the AA Preamble. The committee took no action, stating that they felt they needed more information to make a decision. They further requested that the GV Board gather additional shared experience from the Fellowship regarding gender neutral language options for the AA Preamble. Later in the Conference, the Floor Actions occurred.</p>
<p>What the Delegate needs to know?</p>	<p>How does your group think we can move forward in love and unity?</p>

VI. Literature

Conference Committee: **Literature Items for Review**

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>The 12 Steps Illustrated The 12 Concepts Illustrated A.A.’s Three Legacies Too Young? Young People and A.A. A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic Q & A on Sponsorship A.A. for the Native North American Living Sober Q & A on Sponsorship 12 Traditions Illustrated Is A.A. For You Is there an Alcoholic In Your Life Frequently Asked Questions About A.A. This is A.A.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>This slide merely lists some pamphlets and progress reports the Literature Committee will be reviewing during the Conference. Delegates who aren’t assigned to Literature will have no input into these unless that Committee forwards them as a recommended Advisory Action.</p>
<p>What the Delegate needs to know?</p>	<p>Information Only</p>

Conference Committee: **Literature – Item K**

Agenda Topic	Review Progress Report regarding the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (4 th edition) into plain and simple language.(AKA Easy English or Easy to Read English
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The Trustees Literature Committee received 11 Proposed Agenda Items (PAI) for the 72nd General Service Conference pertaining to translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous into plain and simple language. While the TLC “took no action” on these proposals, they forwarded them to the Tools To Access the Big Book (or TABB) Subcommittee for review. 8 of the 11 PAIs requested that the translation be discontinued, rescinded or to stop the development of a draft version. Of note in these proposals were concerns regarding political intentions, eradication of God, and removal of all gendered language.</p> <p>The Subcommittee can affirm: The goal of the project was described to the prospective translation companies as “the final work product must be accessible to readers at a fifth-grade reading level. The translation as a whole must capture the welcoming and inclusive spirit of Alcoholics Anonymous and inspire a sense of belonging and hope in the alcoholic seeking help”.</p> <p>The subcommittee hopes that sharing this information will address some of the concerns expressed by the submitters of these 8 PAIs. It’s possible that we will see a floor action regarding this Proposed item.</p>
Example 1	<p>“We never apologize to anyone for depending upon our Creator. We can laugh at those who think that spirituality is the way of weakness. Paradoxically, it is the way of strength. The verdict of the ages is that faith means courage.” (P. 68)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">translates to</p> <p>“And we are not ashamed of relying on God, or of needing God. We know that our faith and trust isn’t a sign of weakness, it is a sign of strength. Faith is a kind of courage, just as trusting God is a kind of courage.”</p>
Example 2	<p>“And it means, of course, that we are going to talk about God. Here difficulty arises with agnostics” (P 45)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">translates to</p> <p>“It also means that we are going to talk about God. If you aren’t sure that God exists—in other words, if you are an agnostic—this may worry you”</p>
Example 3	<p>“Frothy emotional appeal seldom suffices” (The Dr’s Opinion, P. XXVII)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">translates to</p> <p>“Begging these people to stop drinking never helps”</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	How does your Group feel about an Easy Read, Accessible, Big Book?

Conference Committee: **Literature – Item L**

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Review progress report regarding requests to develop study guides workbooks for AA</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>Our very own Joyce C submitted this agenda item in 2018 on behalf of a teacher in District 7 for the 69th General Service Conference and it finally became part of an Advisory Action to make the Big Book more accessible in 2021. These study guides, or workbooks will not be designed to replace or supplant the current basic text, Alcoholics Anonymous. Instead, this content would be designed to introduce those who cannot access the message in its current form to the program of recovery.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workbook format: Brief introductions, sharing on each principle and questions to prompt self-examination and/or work with a sponsor. Example: Reaching for Personal Freedom, Al-anon’s workbook for steps, traditions, and concepts. 2. Study Guide format: In depth chapters on each step, tradition, and concept, with sharing and questions at the end of each. Example: Pathways to Recovery.
<p>What the Delegate needs to know?</p>	<p>This discussion will happen in the Literature Committee, but you may always provide your concerns about a topic to your delegate</p>

Conference Committee: **Literature – Item P**

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Review progress report regarding strategy to make current literature accessible in all possible formats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braille • Large Print • American Sign Language • Staple-less • Audio eBook • Video • Podcasts • Screen Reader Technologies
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Braille items have now been converted to Unified English Braille in a lay-flat binding b. Large print books are the most requested formats for the past decade. A plan is in place to redesign pamphlets, books and booklets to conform with accepted large format standards. c. American Sign Language—videos have been updated to reflect changes in the ASL vernacular, with new translations to the Big Book and 12 & 12 already released and available to watch for free on aa.org. There is an expressed need for Spanish Sign Language versions of our literature. d. Staple-less pamphlets have been requested by Corrections and CPC/Treatment/Accessibility resulting in 9 pieces of literature slated for staple less production this year. e. Audiobooks—Responding to a surge in requests the last couple of years, there are 9 Audiobooks available to be listened to for free on aa.org—Big Book, 12 and 12 and Living Sober, each in English, Spanish and French. Next up is the Daily Reflections in all 3 languages as well.

	<p>f. eBook publishing program is moving forward with nearly all of our books and booklets available in EPub3 format. Next up is Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W’s General Service Conference Talks 1951-1970.</p> <p>g. New Videos on Your GSO, Grapevine and the Service Structure and Regional Forums are now available on aa.org as well as video Public Service Announcements (both animated and live action)</p> <p>h. Podcasts—AAWS and AAGV are collaborating on podcasts and short take, “snackable” and accessible formats.</p> <p>i. Screen reader friendly measures being taken include visual image “alt tags”, format considerations, font sizes and other designs</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	This discussion will happen in the Literature Committee, but you may always provide your concerns about a topic to your delegate

Conference Committee: **Literature – Item R**

Agenda Topic	Discuss changes to the text of the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions as directed by the 71st General Service Conference
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>This is regarding changes made to the 12 & 12 by the 71st Conference.</p> <p>a. On Page 117 the words “mate of the opposite sex” were replaced by the word “partner”</p> <p>b. Page 66 the sentence "No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health." was replaced with "No one wants to commit the deadly sins of anger, lust or gluttony."</p> <p>c. Finally, Advisory Action 23 recommended including “The Long Form of each Tradition at the end of each essay for that Tradition.”</p> <p>GSO received 40 requests to reverse or rescind some of these changes. The submitters of those proposed agenda items cited the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1995 Advisory Action, no changes to the BB ▪ These changes create a “slippery slope” that may lead to future changes ▪ Covid prevented fully informed group conscience—Groups may not have been aware of proposed changes due to Covid ▪ These changes are based on outside issues, not in keeping with Tradition 10. <p>Of those 40 Proposed Agenda Items received, all were against changing the 12 & 12, but only 1 mentioned adding the long form of the Traditions at the end of each essay. They were all directed against the first two changes. As written, this agenda item is only asking the Literature Committee to discuss these changes. But it’s possible that a recommendation may come to the Conference from the Committee or as a Floor Action. Consequently, If your Group feels strongly either way, please let the Delegate know.</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	This discussion will happen in the Literature Committee, but you may always provide your concerns about a topic to your delegate

VII. Policy/Admission: Review: A. Report regarding General Service Site Selection. B Dates for the 2026 General Service Conference. C. Report on the process, implementation and status on the site selection of the General Service Conference. C. “Process for approving Observers to the Conference”

VII. Policy/Admission: Review: B Dates for the 2026 General Service Conference and **C.** “Process for approving Observers to the Conference”

Conference Committee: **Policy and Admissions – Item D**

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the development of a process using virtual meeting technologies for polling the General Service Conference between annual Conference meetings.
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p> <p>Polling: A survey or vote of Conference members probably electronically</p>	<p>A. The 71st General Service Conference recommended that this report contain more details on specific sites and agreed that the goal should be for an overall reduction of costs as well as the cost and convenience of transportation to the property. For 2022 and 2023 we are contracted to have the Conference at the Brooklyn Marriott instead of the Crowne Plaza in Times Square. They are now looking to contract for 2024. The contenders are this year’s hotel, the Crowne Plaza, the Hyatt Regency NYC and the Princeton CT Marriott. I’ve heard many ask about why they don’t move the site out of the NY area since costs there are higher than average. Our current Conference charter does state that the Conference will meet in NYC unless otherwise agreed upon.</p> <p>D. It was also recommended that the Trustees General Service Conference Committee enable real time discussion and debate, allowing broader participation and greater efficiency. The Committee acknowledged that efforts on this undertaking were paused due to multiple reasons, among them, the Equitable Distribution of Workload, the sheer number of Proposed Agenda Item submissions, combined with staff availability due to the pandemic related office closure, staff shortages and the then current remote work environment. Since there was only one poll since the last GSC, they used the old method of polling. They will revisit this after the 72nd GSC.</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Policy and Admissions – Item E**

Agenda Topic	Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload process
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>As previously discussed, the Equitable Distribution of Workload is a 3 year trial process to more evenly distribute the workload of the committees at the Conference which have a very heavy workload, by distributing items between other committees which don’t receive as many proposed agenda items. A scoring tool is used to evaluate agenda items to enable this redistribution. I’m sure many of you have noticed the preponderance of Literature items—year after year. This has caused a very lopsided workload for the folks on that Committee.</p> <p>The amount of extra work required evaluating all agenda items for committee assignment, combined with the advanced timeline required for items to be ready for the Jan Board weekend, resulted in the date for submission of proposed agenda items to be moved forward to September from December this past year. As a result, the deadline was scheduled prior to most Areas meeting at their Fall Assembly, which possibly reduced the opportunity to discuss items at the Area level prior to submission. Do we see this as problematic for going forward? When all was</p>

	said and done, this year’s end result was the redistribution of 12 Literature items among other committees with smaller workloads.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Policy and Admission—Item F**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request to restore paragraph on the story “Freedom From Bondage” in the Fifth Edition of the Big Book and future printings of the Fourth Edition
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This item is submitted by an Area, and they believe it is a very powerful paragraph and should be restored. The paragraph was removed from the Fourth Edition of the Big Book as a result of publishing decision regarding “hanging paragraphs” on a page by themselves to control the page count.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Discuss and forward any ideas, suggestions to your delegate

Conference Committee: **Policy and Admission—Item G**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” to reflect shared experience on service sponsorship.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	An Area submitted this agenda item. They believe the topic needs more attention, and this will encourage members to serve. Their suggestion includes adding “Service Sponsorship” to the title
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this change is necessary? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

VIII. Public Information: Review: M. contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

Conference Committee: **Public Information – Item A & B**

Agenda Topic	<p><u>Review:</u></p> <p>A. 2018 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan</p> <p>B-1. Review the distribution and tracking for two video PSAs</p> <p> “Sobriety in A.A.: My Drinking Built A Wall”</p> <p> “Sobriety in A.A.: When Drinking is No Longer a Party”</p> <p>B-2. 2021 report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Video PSAs”</p>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>A. The 2021 committee supported this plan and noted the new architecture is in line with today’s communication standards. They also suggested that the content of the CMP be expanded to reflect a broader interest in reaching targeted audiences within A.A. relating to all genders and all potential members. Working groups focusing on this project include website, social media, AAWS LinkedIn, the meeting guide app, tv and radio PSA , podcasts and others. Recommendations for support of Google Ads campaigns and the AAWS YouTube Channel suggest best practices for utilizing grant money and reaching the still suffering alcoholic. This is reviewed every year and additional information is provided in the background material.</p> <p>B. An advisory action from the 71st GSC requested that 1 to 2 PSAs be centrally distributed to broadcast media, tracked and evaluated at a cost not to exceed</p>

	\$60,000. Those two PSAs have had approximately 8,000 English TV airings and 3,400 Spanish TV airings in 2021.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Public Information Item C-F**

Agenda Topic	<p><u>Review:</u></p> <p>C. Progress Report and the GSO Podcast Plan.</p> <p>D. Report on “You Tube Performance</p> <p>E. Report on “Google Ads Performance”</p> <p>F. “Report on Meeting Guide Performance” Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.</p>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>C. GSO podcast, not to be confused with the GV podcast. The pilot episode is about virtual AA – getting and staying sober, step work, etc, featuring a gal who got sober virtually and her sponsor. There’s a link to listen to it in the background. Check it out when you’re reading the background info. The 2022 budget for the podcast project is \$15,000.</p> <p>D. There are currently 109 AAWS videos posted publicly to YouTube, in English, Spanish and French. As of Dec 31, 2021, we had over 6500 subscribers with 31,515 views for a total watch time of 1100 hours.</p> <p>E. We are currently running two ad campaigns, one we call “Find Meeting” and the other is “Get Help”. Find Meeting gets far greater attention consistently. All of the analytics are in the background, if you are interested.</p> <p>F. The App team launched the 4th major upgrade since App Development was handed off. The latest release included features requested by users, such as filtering a search by “online” or “in person” or to be able to set the distance to search by.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	These reports are reviewed in Committee, no input is needed. There is additional information in Background, if you are interested in a particular one

Conference Committee: **Public Information Item G-I**

Agenda Topic	<p><u>Review:</u></p> <p>G. “2021 Fourth Qtr Report on AAWS Board Oversight of GSO’s A.A. Website</p> <p>H. Report on “AAGV/LA Vina Website, Marketing and Podcast</p> <p>I. Discuss Feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platform</p>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	G. Report back on the launch of the new website, very early issues were cited and reworked where possible. Other feedback suggests additional consideration and adjustments to be made going forward.

	<p>H. This report tracked traffic and performance, monitored queries (top being for a sobriety calculator) and e-Commerce for the site and the store along with where and how the podcast was listened to.</p> <p>As of Jan 16, 22 16 episodes with 38k plus downloads, 46% on Apple, 27% Grapevine site and 9% Spotify. And did you know that if you have an Alexa device at home, or the Alexa App on your phone, you can just say “ Alexa, play the Grapevine Podcast” and she will? Pretty cool, huh?</p> <p>I. This considers passive and active ad placement, where and when, for how long and how often these ads would run. Results and budget considerations are discussed in the background as well. We all know that not everyone watches regular TV anymore and consequently may not see our PSAs, since they watch streaming platforms like HULU, Nextflix and others.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Public Information – Item J.1**

Agenda Topic	Consider suggestion to review the flyer “A.A. At A Glance”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	AA At A Glance, was created in 1954. They have suggested editorial edits and a new look.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Public Information – Item J.2**

Agenda Topic	Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	When looking at the pamphlet, Speaking at Non AA Meetings, they saw a need for revision and additional information added for media and press interaction. The background material cites specific examples of current language vs. suggested language.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Public Information – Item J.3**

Agenda Topic	Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The committee thought that Understanding Anonymity needs an update to reflect current technology concerns
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Public Information – Item J.4**

Agenda Topic	Consider request to retire and replace the “A.A. Fact File”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The 72 nd will see a suggested replacement for The AA Fact File, and it can be found in the background material (note A.A. Fact file is conference approved but the replacement is considered service material)
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: Public Information – Item K

Agenda Topic	Review request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Consideration from 2020 has developed into a request to gather feedback from the membership via a survey. Reworking is expected but the current draft is included in the background material.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Please forward any comments or suggestions to your Delegate.

Conference Committee: Public Information – Item L

Agenda Topic	Review request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>We have not had a membership survey since 2014. Gender identity has been the largest challenge. A study was undertaken, and changes were recommended to questions 2, 3 and 4, about gender, race and ethnicity. Two additional questions have been added for on- line meeting participation evaluation. A copy of the 2014 survey, the study report and the current suggested survey may be found in the background material.</p> <p>Would your group like to see the survey revived so that we have a better understanding of who comprises AA today?</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

IX. Report and Charter:

Conference Committee: **Report and Charter – Item A, B, C**

Agenda Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report B. Review the A.A. Service Manual, 2021-2023 Edition C. Review progress report from AAWS Publishing on a new section to be added at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service titled “Amendments”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. You can view the final report digitally or check with Ruth to see if she has any hard copies left. B. Who’s seen the new Service Manual? Isn’t it great? How do you like the changes? The size? The color? Please give me your feedback so that can be passed on to that committee. C. This progress report was requested in Advisory Action #44 from the 71st General Service Conference. The Publishing Department has concerns regarding the possibility that carrying out this Advisory Action will “fundamentally alter the basic editorial framework” of the Service Manual. Consequently, they’ve provided 3 sample versions of actions that they feel would be within the intent of the committee, while maintaining the integrity of book along with a 4th sample of the proposed Amendment section from the

	Advisory Action. The Publishing Department is seeking further guidance from the Report and Charter Committee regarding which approach to take when moving forward. Once determined, that format will be implemented for the 2024-2026 edition of the Service Manual.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Report and Charter - Item D**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider a request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet “G.S.R.: Your Group’s Link to A.A. As a Whole”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This suggestion come from an Area. The submitter suggests this preamble would provide a clear-cut directive to G.S.R.’s regarding their responsibility, and provide consistency, thus unity, across AA as a whole
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree with adding this preamble to the document? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

Conference Committee: **Report and Charter – Item E**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider requests that the chapter titled “The Doctor’s Opinion” in the book <i>Alcoholics Anonymous</i> be returned to page One, as it was in the First Edition
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The submitter believes that members skip the “roman numeral” pages, and therefore miss reading this important chapter
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree with this change? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

X. Treatment and accessibilities: Review: D. Contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook
E. Content and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities Item A, B, C**

Agenda Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Review progress report on pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic” B. Review Progress report on military audio interviews C. Discuss draft version of A.A. Guidelines for remote communities
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Of 42 stories submitted for the update, 7 have been chosen to be considered for the update to the pamphlet. They will then review those 7, plus the stories submitted for the update in 2019 as well as stories from the Sept 2014 and August 2021 issues of GV, along with stories that are in the existing version of the pamphlet. In Jan, the Trustees CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee reviewed and discussed the first round of 84 stories and selected 23. Those will be narrowed down to 12 to be sent to the Conference Committee for feedback. B. In Dec, two consultants with relevant military experience, one from Canada and one from the US, were selected to work with the committee to develop a questionnaire for the interviews, create a standard road map between the US and Canada, seek contacts from several military branches, and to develop a project plan. C. The Trustees committee met in Jan and discussed these Guidelines, suggesting several edits regarding appropriate language and removing two

	quotes under the Spanish Speaking Women in AA section. Those edits were then sent in a memo to Publishing as well as to the Conference Committee since it's new service material.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities Item G.**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request to revise text in the chapter “Getting Plenty of Rest” in the booklet <i>Living Sober</i>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	G. This essay states “No one ever died of lack of sleep” The submitter believes this statement is misleading and false, that it implies sleep is not important and there is no consequence to a lack of sleep. This could affect serious medical conditions members may have. “As AA reminds us, we should avoid getting too hungry, angry, lonely or tired, because we tend to misconstrue signals and think being tired means being thirsty. Sleep is a healthy part of well being and we shouldn’t discount its importance”
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this change is necessary? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities Item F.**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request to revise the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as sated in the Long Form of Tradition Five
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The idea of a “spiritual entity” is not mentioned until page 31 in the Group Pamphlet, and then only in relationship to safety. The submitter believes that including the long form of the fifth tradition here will provide a clearer picture that an A.A. Group is, as suggested by our Traditions, a spiritual entity.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this change is necessary? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

Conference Committee: **Treatment and Accessibilities Item G.**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request to revise text in the chapter “Getting Plenty of Rest” in the booklet <i>Living Sober</i>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	G. This essay states “No one ever died of lack of sleep” The submitter believes this statement is misleading and false, that it implies sleep is not important and there is no consequence to a lack of sleep. This could affect serious medical conditions members may have. “As AA reminds us, we should avoid getting too hungry, angry, lonely or tired, because we tend to misconstrue signals and think being tired means being thirsty. Sleep is a healthy part of well being and we shouldn’t discount its importance”
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this change is necessary? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

XI. Trustees; Review:Conference Committee: **Trustees – Item A, B, C, D**

Agenda Topic	A. Review Resumes for candidates for 1) Eastern Canada Regional Trustee; 2) Pacific Regional Trustee
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	<p>B. Review slate of trustees and officers for the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc</p> <p>C. Review slate of directors for AAWS, Inc</p> <p>D. Review slate of directors for AA Grapevine, Inc.</p>
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Only the delegates will get the resumes of the candidates for these positions. Each delegate will give a 2 minute presentation of that Area's candidate. We have no input since our region or the US are neither having elections this year.</p> <p>Each Board slate of officers will be presented – the Conference does not “approve”, they are offered the opportunity to “disapprove”</p>
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Trustees – Item E**

Agenda Topic	Discuss the revised “Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.W or A.A. Grapevine Boards
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	When there was a motion brought to remove and re-organize the board, it was realized there was no procedure in place to accomplish this. In 2018 a proposal was brought to develop a process, and the work continues. There was a need to change a voting process in the Charter that delayed work, and at the 70 th GSC, Report and Charter brought that change to be approved. Now the reorganization continues. It is a complex plan and spelled out in the background material, if you have an interest.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Information Only

Conference Committee: **Trustees – Item G**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think you are different?” to include stories reflecting greater diversity
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Submitted by an individual from the Yukon Territory. This pamphlet was just updated in 2018, but the submitter feels it does not cover all aspects of the different populations in our Canada/US structure, due to multicultural population of immigrants from Asia, the middle east indigenous people from both countries and others.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this change is necessary? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

Conference Committee: **Trustees – Item F**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider revising text highlighting ercic roles at the group level in the pamphlet “The A.A. Group”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This suggestion comes from an Area and there is no other background
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this change is necessary? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

Conference Committee: **Trustees – Item G**

Agenda Topic EDW	Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think you are different?” to include stories reflecting greater diversity
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Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Submitted by an individual from the Yukon Territory. This pamphlet was just updated in 2018, but the submitter feels it does not cover all aspects of the different populations in our Canada/US structure, due to multicultural population of immigrants from Asia, the middle east indigenous people from both countries and others.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Do you agree this change is necessary? Yes or No? Why or Why Not?

XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

Conference Committee: **International Conventions/Regional Forums – Item A**

Agenda Topic	Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The Committee has requested more feedback from the fellowship. There will be a survey for the 2025 International, that will include a question regarding this topic. Questions to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What ideas do you or your Group have for closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention? • Is closing with a prayer inclusive, considering the diversity of our Fellowship? • Does closing with the Lords Prayer support the perception that AA is a religious organization? • Since it's International, do we want to have a closing that is considered appropriate for all the countries involved? • Should we survey the Fellowship to see how they feel? • The Responsibility Statement? • The Unity Pledge?
What the Delegate needs to know?	How would your Group like to see the Big Meetings Close?

Conference Committee: **International Conventions/Regional Forums – Item B**

Agenda Topic	Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This is discussed regularly. Here are some questions to use to provide feedback: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you've gone to a Regional Forum, what was the impetus for you to attend? • Should we move to Hybrid format to encourage remote attendance? • How do we involve more members? • Do you feel the forums are marketed well? • Have you ever heard of the Regional Forums? Let Ruth know of any feedback you receive from your Groups or any thoughts you have regarding the Forums.
What the Delegate needs to know?	Let our delegate know of any feedback you receive from your Groups or any thoughts you have regarding the Forums.