

72nd GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

Quick reference

AGENDA

Recommended

- A. 73rd GSC Theme will be “A.A.’s 3 Legacies – Our Common Solution” **Passed**
- B. Presentation Topics:
 - 1. Our Common Perils and Common Solution
 - 2. Using A.A.’s Literature in Carrying the Message
 - 3. Fostering a Thriving 3 Legacy Culture **Passed**
- C. Workshop Topic: Practicing Our 12 Traditions Across All Group Settings **Passed**

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

Committee Considerations

- A. The Committee made suggestions to increase posts on LinkedIn
- B. “A.A. in Your Community” The Committee requested that a final draft be brought back to the 73rd GSC
- D. The Committee requested that a final draft be brought back to the 73rd GSC for a new pamphlet to help mental health professionals

Took No Action

- E. The Committee took no action on a pamphlet to reach doctors and suggested a service piece on how to speak to our doctors

CORRECTIONS

Additional Consideration

That the 5th Edition Big Book include a reference to more information available at aa.org

Took No Action

- B. Reconsider use of “Person in Custody”
- C. Consider request to limit changes to the book “Alcoholics Anonymous”
- D. Request to make Literature changes slowly and with primary purpose in mind

FINANCE

Committee Consideration

- A. The Committee requested a full review of the self-support package, with all service piece language updated to be a consistent message for the US and Canada

Additional Consideration

The committee requested a full review of the pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” to clarify that contributions sent to the General Service **Office** are made to the General Service **Board**

Took No Action

- B. Regarding adding a historical disclaimer regarding language to the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, the Committee took no action, stating that this is covered in the current forward to the book
- C. Regarding a request to handle all changes to the book, 12 steps and 12 Traditions, in footnotes, the Committee took no action, stating they did not want to mandate a specific format

GRAPEVINE

Committee Consideration

- B. The Committee forwarded suggestions to the Grapevine Office to encourage members to submit anonymity-protected content for Instagram Account
- C. The Committee recommended suggested book titles for 2023 be accepted

Additional Consideration

The Committee requested that the Grapevine Office consider the feasibility of using American Sign Language (ASL)

Took No Action

- D. The committee discussed the wide-ranging impact the AA Preamble change has had on the Fellowship. The committee felt that after careful consideration of Fellowship feedback, it would be premature to quantify the impact when many A.A. members are still either uninformed or ambivalent about the change. The committee emphasized that at every level of our Conference process there is a reciprocal responsibility of all A.A. members and trusted servants, of participation and communication, to embrace the guiding principles of trust and transparency.

LITERATURE

Recommended:

- B. Add the following text to the pamphlet “Q&A on Sponsorship”:
(p.14) Stress the importance of A.A. being a safe place for all members, encouraging members to become familiar with safety service material **p.23**) add “sponsorship can also help a group to create a welcoming and secure environment. Safety is an issue affecting all members and it is important for groups to remain accessible to all who are seeking recovery. Sponsorship can help keep the group focused on the common welfare.” **Passed**
- D. That the draft pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated” be approved **Failed**
- E. That the video animation of the pamphlet “Twelve Concepts Illustrated” currently published by the General Service Office of Great Britain be adopted and produced and a draft be brought to the 73rd GSC. **Passed**
- G. The draft of the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” be approved **Passed**
- N. To update the existing “12 Traditions Illustrated” and review a draft next year **Passed**
 - 01. The updated pamphlet “Is A.A. for You?” be approved **Passed**
 - 02. The updated pamphlet “Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?” be approved **Passed**
 - 03. That the updated pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.” be approved **Passed**

- S. That the book Experience, Strength and hope be updated to include stories removed from the 4th edition of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous **Failed**

Committee Consideration

The Committee review progress reports on the following items and returned to changes and return to 73rd

Conference:

- H. A.A. for the Black and African American Alcoholic
- I. A.A. for the Native North American
- J. The 4th Edition of the book Alcoholicos Anonimos
- K. Translation of 4th Edition Alcoholics Anonymous to plain and simple language
- L. Requests for study guide workbooks
- M. Fifth Edition of book, Alcoholics Anonymous

Additional Considerations

That the booklet *Living Sober* be revised to add a paragraph (**Chapter 29, page 76**) "Of course, A.A. is a reflection of the larger society around us and problems found in the outside world can also make their way into the rooms of A.A. But by keeping the focus on our common welfare and primary purpose, groups can help provide a safe and secure environment for all their members"

Took No Action

- R. The Committee took no action on a request to re-consider changes made to the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and return to the original text. There did not appear to be a consensus among members

POLICY / ADMISSIONS

Recommended

- C. The Policy and Admissions Committee will approve routine Observer Requests from outside the US and Canada with full Conference approval **Passed**
- E. The full background material will be available prior to 2/15 of each year in English, Spanish and French **Passed**
- F. The Committee recommended to restore the paragraph removed from "Freedom From Bondage". **Failed**

Committee Consideration

- A. The Committee requested a new cost and spiritual analysis of holding the General Service Conference in other locations around the U.S.
- B. Three possible dates for the 2026 General Service Conference were recommended: 4/26-5/2, 4/19-25, and 5/3-9
- D. The Committee looked forward to further research regarding use of virtual methods for polling the Conference between meetings

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Recommended:

- J3. Revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" were recommended **Passed**
- J4. That the pamphlet "A.A. Fact File" be retired **Passed**

- L. Format changes, two new questions and six changed questions on a 2022 membership survey were recommended **Passed**

The Committee recommended a 2022 membership survey with a cost not to exceed \$20,000 **Passed**

REPORT AND CHARTER

Recommended

- B. The Committee approved that *The A.A. Service Manual*, Chapters 8, 9, 10, and 11, be revised to correct inaccuracies and provide clarity and consistency in roles, responsibilities, between the GSO, AA GV and AAWS. **Passed**

The Committee approved removing items 5 and 6 that related to Regional Directories be removed from the Scope of the Report and Charter Composition, Scope and Procedures **Passed**

Committee Consideration

- C. The Committee approved creating a new section in the *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, "Amendments" and that the updated Chapter 11 and updated descriptions of the current GSB committees

Additional Consideration

The Committee discussed a possible edition of the *A.A. Service Manual* in ASL and requested A.A.W.S. research the feasibility and bring a report back to the 73rd GSC Areas, Districts and Intergroups are encouraged to make ASL interpretation and service opportunities available to the Deaf Community

Took No Action

- D. The Committee took no action on a request to add a "GSR Preamble" to the GSR Pamphlet
- E. The Committee took no action on a request to move "The Doctor's Opinion to page one in the book Alcoholics Anonymous

TREATMENT/ACCESSIBILITIES

Recommended:

- F. That the Long Form of Tradition Five be added to the pamphlet, "*The A.A. Group*" on page 12 in the section "What is an A.A. Group?" at the next printing **Passed**

Committee Consideration

- A. The progress report was reviewed and accepted for the pamphlet, "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic", and numerous changes were suggested, including making the format more accessible, due to accessibility challenges with the current fold-out version
- B. The progress report was reviewed and accepted on military audio interview and several suggestions to reach out for stories were suggested.

Took No Action

- G. The Committee took no action on the request to remove the sentence "Nobody has ever dies due to of lack of sleep" in the section "Getting

plenty of rest” in the booklet Living Sober. The Committee noted that later in the section “if the condition persists, it may be advisable to check with a good physician who understands alcoholism well”

TRUSTEES

Recommended

- C. The approval of the slate of trustees and officers for GSB, **(C)** A.A.W.S., Inc. Board, **(D)** Grapevine Board, and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Board. **Passed**
- F. That the “Suggested Procedure to Reorganize the GSB and the boards of A.A.W.S, Inc. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. be approved with the final procedure to be determined by the GSC considering such action **Passed**
- G. That the pamphlet “Do you Think You Are Different?” be updated to stories representing greater diversity and bring a report to the 73rd GSC **Passed**

Additional Consideration

In regards to the pamphlet “Do You Think You Are Different?”, it was suggested that the Trustees

1. Review accuracy and effectiveness of direct translation practices which do not present an authentic and culturally relevant message to linguistic communities and,
2. That the A.A. Grapevine consider using this pamphlet as a recurring theme to allow for
3. presentation of a diverse group of current voices finding a common identification

Took No Action

- F. The Committee took no action on the request to highlight service roles differently in the pamphlet “The A.A. Group”

ARCHIVES

No Recommendations

INT’L. CONVENTIONS / REGIONAL FORUMS

Committee Considerations

- A. The Committee reviewed the report regarding surveying the fellowship on methods to close the Big Meetings at the International Convention and acknowledged that a survey will be conducted in May 2022, via numerous methods
- B. The Committee made suggestions to improve attendance at Regional Forums: 1) Retitle utilizing more current language 2) Utilize digital and non-digital communications option to ensure full accessibility

FLOOR ACTIONS

Recommended

2. That edits continue to the draft pamphlet “12 Traditions Illustrated” keeping in mind: color, diverse expressions of spirituality and

accessible interpretation of meaning in the illustrations **Passed**

3. That the Trustee Committee will consult with the Survey Methodologist to address concerns about verbiage and approve a final survey to release this year **Passed**
5. That the Ad Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups develop a plan to create one or more non-geographic areas for online and telephone groups, with a progress report at the 73rd GSC **Failed**
7. To develop a process for creating the GSC background material, keeping in mind the Conference desire for material to be targeted, balanced and with relevant historical content **Failed**
9. To reaffirm the 1995 Conference Advisory Action that the first 164 pages of the Big Book, the Forewords, “The Doctor’s Opinion,” “Doctor Bob’s Nightmare” and the Appendices remain as is **Failed**

Declined to Discuss

1. The translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous to plain and simple language, include the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts in their exiting form in English
4. The GSC impose a one-year moratorium on any new agenda item received through 9/15/2022, with items held for the 74th GSC, allowing the GSB time to adjust and align their process to accommodate 2022 recommendation to provide simultaneous translation of all background material
6. To add a GSR Preamble to the GSR pamphlet
8. That changes to the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions be return to their original text, reversing the changes made by the 71s GSC