

70TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

QUICK REFERENCE

May 2020

AGENDA

- A. 71st GSC Theme will be “A.A. in a Time of Change.”
- B. Presentation Topics:
 - Recovery – in a Changing World; Unity – in a Changing World; Service – in a changing world
- C. Workshop Topic: Inform – Communicate, Involve – Act, Inspire – Attract.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ (A) Discussed discontinuing the pamphlet “AA in Your Community & **TOOK NO ACTION**. Noting an update of the language and style is needed.
 - ◆ Update content of the pamphlet “AA in Your Community” with focus on modern settings and various formats such as digital resources.

CORRECTIONS

- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ Report heard from AAWS publishing director on efforts to provide digital distribution of AA literature into correctional facilities. Several viable options identified. Also, reported Publishing plan to make most used AA pamphlets staple-free
 - ◆ Reviewed Kit & Workbook, provided list of suggestions including adding the pamphlet “The God Word”.

FINANCE

- A. **(3)Recommended:** Add draft language related to virtual basket be included in the pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.” **PASSED**
Note: See Financial Guidelines and Group Treasurer Pamphlet for additional info on this

GRAPEVINE

- G. **Recommended:** Change name to Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña. **PASSED**
- E. Change language first sentence of preamble. **TOOK NO ACTION**
- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ (D) Requested Grapevine Board consider developing gender neutral language options and bring a revised plan to the 2021 GSC.
 - ◆ (A) Book topics for 2012 or later: **(English)** Step Three -Turning it Over, Steps 6 & 7. **(La Viña)** AA & Families in Recovery, Old-timers Stories, Twelve Steps

LITERATURE

- G. **Recommended:** Updated video “Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure. **PASSED**
- J. **(-2) AAWS policy** “Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlet & Other A.A. Materials. **PASSED**
 - ◆ **Committee Considerations: (Report back to 71st Conference)**(A-F) For the following pamphlets: Twelve Traditions Illustrated, The Twelve Concepts

Illustrated, AAs Three Legacies, Too Young, Young People in AA, Pamphlet for Spanish Speaking Women.

- ◆ (K) Request the committee explore plain language, accessible translations and large print versions of Alcoholics Anonymous as well as workbooks.
- ◆ (Q & S) Request a review of draft language to be included in “Living Sober” and Q & A on Sponsorship re: accessibilities.
- ◆ (I) Committee noted the final draft update of “Twelve Traditions Illustrated” distinct item from original, addresses a different audience and serves a different purpose. Consider a new piece instead of replacement.
- ◆ (J-2)The “AAWS Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other AA Materials” concerns expressed by the 69th GSC were fully addressed by the revised policy.

POLICY / ADMISSIONS

- A. **Recommended:** Process for Approving Observers to the Conference be approved. **PASSED**
- B. **Recommended:** General Service Conference implement electronic voting for trustee elections starting in 2021. **PASSED**
- C. **Recommended:** Continuing review of dates for the GSC be changed to consider dates with timing and years to review as requested by the General Manager. **PASSED**
- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ (F) Considered proposed process for the equitable distribution of workload. Requested clarification of specifics and bring back a more fully developed process for review by the 2021 GSC.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- E. **Recommended:** Adjust all AAWS video titles for search engine optimization (SEO.) **PASSED**
- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ (A) Reports reviewed and accepted: Annual Report regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org; GSO Comm. Dept. report on the AAWS Meeting Guide App; status of Google AdWords/Grants; PI Comprehensive Media Plan; draft plan to create video shorts based on pamphlets; Relevance and Usefulness of Video PSAs; AA Membership survey. Report back in 2021.
 - ◆ (H) Accepted report distribution and tracking information on PSA “changes”; new financial reporting system for PSA media valuations; report on the development of two PSAs. Draft to 2021.
 - ◆ (I) Creating a new form of communication: requested information be gathered on Social Media before moving forward, i.e.: Suggested: Shared experiences; safety & etiquette. Anonymity. Report or draft proposal back in 2021.
 - ◆ (J) AA Podcast, develop and bring back to 2021.

- ◆ (L) Committee shared concerns on the relevancy of a print copy workbook and kit for PI. Suggestions included: explore developing a Service Committee App; Create PDF version; broader sharing; more Accessibilities in PI work; reflection of AA digital assets and how applied to PI work (such as YouTube, Meeting Guide App, etc.) Report back to 2021.

REPORT AND CHARTER

- D. **Recommended:** Amend Article 4 of current Conference Charter to read FROM: “3/4 vote of all conference members” TO: ¾ vote of all Conference members **participating in the vote...** **PASSED**
- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ (A) Reviewed and accepted: Report from Publishing re: timely and accurate preparation & publication of 2020 GSC Final Report.
 - ◆ (C) Discussed restoring two paragraphs with footnote to Concept Eleven previously removed by 66th GSC. **TOOK NO ACTION.**
 - ◆ (E) Reviewed draft of AA Service Manual, requested update draft incorporating suggestions from the Committee be brought back to 2021 GSC.

TREATMENT/SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES

- **(A) Recommended:** Revising the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” updating for currency and inclusion to reach broader scope of treatment settings, and that a progress report or draft be brought to the 2021 Conference Committee on T/A. **PASSED**
- **Committee Considerations:**
- (B) Suggested that the trustees’ CPC/TA committee develop a BTG Workbook and bring progress report to the 2021 GSC. (Service piece)
- (C) Suggest reopen call for stories with a broad & diverse representation of AA experience.

TRUSTEES

- **A-B: Recommended:** the approval of the slate of trustees and officers for GSB, (D) and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Board. **PASSED**
- **C. Recommended:** approval of the slate of Directors for A.A.W. S. – **Ruled out of order**
- **Recommended:** the approval of the slate of trustees for A.A.W.S as presented. **Passed**
- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ Resumes approved as eligible for election candidates for W. Central and W. Canada Region.
 - ◆ The slate of directors, Summary of Events re: Appeal: amend by-laws to include language similar to that in the by-laws of the GSB specifically eligibility of past delegates to apply. Report to 2021 GSC.

ARCHIVES

- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ (A) Considered request for development of a book on AA history from 1955 through the present. Suggested Committee consider possible themes, content ideas and the time period such a book might cover. Report back to 2021.

INT’L. CONVENTIONS / REGIONAL FORUMS

- **Committee Considerations:**
 - ◆ (B) Accepted report from Talley Management outlining steps taken prior and post cancellation of the 2020 International Convention.
 - ◆ (A) Discussed use of the Lord’s Prayer for closing the Big Meetings at the IC. Wide-ranging discussion followed. More to come in 2021.
 - ◆ (C) Encouraging interest in Regional and Local Forums, many suggestions offered for consideration. Including: remote attendance, digital access to materials and presentations develop service material for host committees, at local area: Early and communication, involve members at all levels, do sponsorship road trips; use Regional Forum video after its release.

AAWS / GSO Reports

Note: Due to Virus interruption, the audit will not be complete until 5/31/2020. A special virtual meeting in mid-June will provide final figures.

Contributions	8,863,480	Up 5.71%
Literature Sales	+ 14,405,491	
Total Income	18,222,233	
Expenses	- 18,601,888	
Net	(379,655)	
La Viña	(297,396)	
Net Operating Loss	(677,051)	

Online Contributions 1,973,379

There are great cost savings using the system & recurring contributions are easy to set up.

FLOOR ACTIONS

The following floor actions failed a motion to decline consideration and will be forwarded to the 71st General Service Conference:

- # **1 Recommended:** Proposal to revise the pie chart percentages emphasizing that any percentages included are only suggestions and examples, not recommendations.
 - # **3 Recommended:** Consider developing a PSA about AA geared toward minorities.
 - # **4 Recommended:** 70th GSC approve slate of directors for AAWS as originally submitted.
 - # **5 Recommended:** Pamphlet AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic” be updated to include fresh stories & a new title.
 - # **6 Recommended:** Slate of directors of AAWS as submitted be approved.
 - # **7 Recommended:** Launch of Google AdWords-Grants halt until the 71st approves and the Ad Hoc Committee Progress Report from Finance be immediately released to all members of the 70th GSC
- On these floor actions a motion to decline consideration passed and they go no further.**
- # **2 Recommended:** Due to many agenda items being forwarded 71st GSC. Consider extending the 71st GSC by as many as three working days, whether 71st GSC is face to face or digital.