

74TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

Quick Reference Guide - Advisory Actions

CORRECTIONS

- Updated Singleness of Purpose text to replace the existing paragraph in the pamphlet "A Message to Corrections Professionals."
- The committee recommended that the video "Carrying the Message Behind the Walls" be discontinued.
- The committee recommended that a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A. be developed. The committee requested that a draft pamphlet or progress report be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Corrections.

GRAPEVINE/La Viña

- The committee recommended that the AA Grapevine Board develop a 5-year financial plan for La Viña with the goal to reduce shortfalls and increase revenue to be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Grapevine & La Viña.

POLICY/ADMISSIONS

- The committee recommended that the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) process be adopted and implemented.
- The committee recommended that the Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) submission date deadline for the 2025 General Service Conference be moved to a date no earlier than September 30, 2024.

AGENDA

- The committee recommended the following theme for the 2025 General Service Conference: "Working Together, Increasing Trust."
- The committee recommended the following presentation theme and topics for the 2025 General Service Conference:
 - "Delegating: It Is Okay to Ask for Help."
 - "Bridging the Gap: How Do We Make the Voice of Every Group Count?"
 - "Our Financial Responsibility In Carrying the Message."
- The committee recommended the workshop topic for the 75th GSC be: "How do we address the new financial reality facing our spiritual movement?"
- The committee recommended that the General Service Conference Inventory Plan be approved and that an inventory summary (not to exceed eight pages), be included in the 2025 Final Conference Report.
- The committee recommended that a comprehensive summary of the 2025 General Service Conference Inventory be developed and distributed as an electronic version only.

REPORT and CHARTER

- The A.A. Service Manual, 2024-2026 Edition: The committee recommended that the section "The (Typical) Area Assembly" in the Area Assembly and its Activities chapter of The A.A. Service Manual be amended to add a text reference in addition to the color reference in order to address readability for members that are color blind. The committee recommended that in the ft section "Board's Custodial Oversight" in the "The Board's Operating Corporations" chapter of The A.A. Service Manual be amended.
- The committee recommended that in the section "Board's Custodial Oversight" in the "The Board's Operating Corporations" chapter of The A.A. Service Manual be amended.
- The committee recommended that the order of the chapters in The A.A. Service Manual be amended to:
 - Chapter 8: The General Service Board
 - Chapter 9: The Board's Operating Corporations Chapter 10: A.A. World Services, Inc.
 - Chapter 11: AA Grapevine, Inc. Chapter 12: The General Service Office
- The committee recommended that in Article 9, "The General Service Conference Meetings," a footnote be added to the Current Conference Charter with the following text: "In 2023 an Advisory Action was passed by the General Service Conference outlining a process for polling the General Service Conference body between annual meetings using virtual technology."
- The committee reviewed the current format for reporting on simple majority items in the Conference Final Report. The committee recommended that the items that receive simple majority be included in the Final Conference Report under the heading "Recommendations that achieved Simple Majority – These items did not receive the two-thirds majority required to pass as a Conference Advisory Action."

LITERATURE

- The committee recommended that the pamphlets "It Happened to Alice" (P-39) and "What Happened to Joe" (P-38) be retired.
- The committee recommended that the draft of the revised pamphlet "A.A. for the Black and African American Alcoholic" (re-titled "Black in A.A.: Experience, Strength and Hope") be approved with minor editorial changes.
- The committee recommended that the draft manuscript "Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous" be approved with minor editorial changes to include:
 - Relocation of the "A.A. Steps Table" to constitute an Appendix (on the Twelve Steps) at the back of the new publication.
 - Replace the references to "addiction" and "addicted" with language related to alcoholism."
- FINAL VOTE: 129 Votes (2/3=86) Yes-91 No-38 Passed
- The committee recommended permanently suspending the "Too Young?" video adaptation project.
- The committee recommended that the word "donation" be utilized in "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" pamphlet to state that A.A. does not accept donations from outside entities; and that the word "contributions" be utilized when referring to Seventh Tradition contributions from A.A. members, in AAWS literature as it comes up for reprint.

TRUSTEES

- The committee 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 on April 20, 2024, following presentation at the 2024 General Service Conference for disapproval if any.
- Approved the proposed slate of trustees for 2024.
- Approved the proposed slate of officers of the GSB for 2024.
- Approved the proposed slate of the A.A.W.S., Inc. board for 2024
- Approved the proposed slate of the Grapevine, Inc. board for 2024

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- The committee recommended that the :30 and :60 English language version of the Public Service Announcement (PSA) "Since Getting Sober I Have Hope" be discontinued.
- The committee recommended that the radio Public Service Announcement (PSA) "We Know How You Feel" :15 English language version be discontinued.
- The committee recommended that two Public Service Announcements be distributed on broadcast media, tracked and evaluated at a cost of \$17,000 which would be in addition to the \$48,000 that is planned to be spent to track the Value of Donated airtime on PSAs in 2024 per the audit requirement. The total expenditure should not exceed \$65,000.
- The committee recommended that the 18 interviews recorded to date as part of the Young People's video project be approved.
- The committee recommended that the revised draft of the flyer "A.A. at a Glance" (F-1) be approved with minor edits.
- The committee recommended that the revised pamphlet "Speaking at Meetings Outside of A.A." (P-40) be approved.
- The committee recommended that the flyer "A Message to Teenagers" be retired.

FINANCE

- The committee recommended that a change to the language in the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" be implemented.
- The committee recommended that the maximum annual contribution from an individual A.A. member to the General Service Board be increased from \$5,000 to \$7,500.

TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES

- The committee recommended that the draft pamphlet "Bridging the Gap" (P-49) be approved with minor editorial revisions.
- The committee recommended that the flyer "Where Do I Go from Here?" (F-4) be updated with current inclusive language and information on how to find A.A. both in person and online. The committee requested that a progress report or draft flyer be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

KERRI K. Area 46 Delegate: delegate@nm-aa.org

74TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

Quick Reference Guide - Floor Actions & Notable Events

ADVISORY ACTIONS CONT.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS

- The committee recommended that an anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2025 International Convention.
- The committee recommended that an encrypted, delayed anonymity-protected Internet video of the 2025 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony be approved and that the video be placed on appropriate communication channels.
- The committee recommended providing five options for closing the Big Meetings at an International Convention: the Serenity Prayer, Responsibility Statement, Declaration of Unity, Third Step Prayer, a Moment of Silence or the Seventh Step Prayer.
- The committee recommended that anonymity-protected video footage with highlights of the 2025 IC be produced for maintaining archival footage.
- The committee recommended that a delayed, anonymity protected, digital access stand-alone product offering of the three Big Meetings be created.

FLOOR ACTIONS VOTED ON

Floor Action #1:

It was recommended that: "A pamphlet for the unhoused person that specifically addresses alcoholism, what A.A. is and is not, who is welcome at A.A. meetings, and includes stories from A.A. members who have experienced homelessness be developed, and a draft or progress report be brought back to the appropriate 2025 Conference committee."

FINAL OUTCOME: Did not consider

Floor Action #2:

It was recommended that: "PAI's requesting censure and reorganization have no submission deadline and be forwarded directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees."

FINAL OUTCOME: Motion Failed

Floor Action #3:

It was recommended that: "A pamphlet on the Asian and Asian-American alcoholic in A.A. be developed."

FINAL OUTCOME: Motion Passed

Floor Action #4:

It was recommended that: "All memorandums between Conference Committee and Trustees Committees or Boards be made available to all members of the Conference."

FINAL OUTCOME: Did not consider

Inserted Floor Motion:

The Chair entertained and accepted this motion from the floor at 10:55pm, Friday 4/19/24. It was recommended that: "**The Conference forward floor action #'s 5-15 to the appropriate trustees' or corporate board.**"

FINAL OUTCOME: Forwarded

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NOTABLE FAILED RECOMMENDATIONS

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- The committee recommended that to better provide equality in availability and messaging, starting with the July 2024 General Service Board Meeting, that unedited but anonymity-protected minutes, including trustees' committee reports in English, Spanish, and French, be provided to all Conference members within three weeks following quarterly Board Weekends. Minutes should retain the current format and scope.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- The committee recommended that a social media policy be developed for all current and future social media channels and requested that a draft be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information.

Floor Actions that were sent to the Trustees or the appropriate corporate board:

Floor Action #5: It was recommended that: The conference affirm that La Viña continue to be published by the AA Grapevine and supported by the General Service Board as a service to the Fellowship. La Viña continues to be published utilizing AA Grapevine resources in order to achieve efficient production and distribution.

Floor Action #6: It was recommended that: The Grapevine Board develop a plan for a more effective La Viña subscription procedure, fulfillment process and customer service experience, and that a progress report be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña.

Floor Action #7: It was recommended that: All non-offensive PAI's submitted for consideration of the 72nd, 73rd and 74th General Service Conferences regarding the change made to the AA Preamble by the 71st General Service Conference be grouped as one item, and forward to the appropriate 75th General Service Conference committee with the following suggestion: given the importance and interest of this issue, consider forwarding the item to the general service areas for wider discussion, looking toward a fair and reasonable solution to the division within the Fellowship by the use of different copyrighted Preambles.

Floor Action #8: It was recommended that: The additional feedback from the Conference Committee on Literature identified in their memo to the Publishing Department on sticking points for the Plain Language draft manuscript be implemented in the draft before printing.

Floor Action #9: It was recommended that: Whenever any changes are brought to the Conference floor to the Founders' writings, considered by this motion to be:

1. The book Alcoholics Anonymous — specifically, the first 164 pages, the chapter "The Doctor's Opinion," Forewords to the first and second editions, the Appendices on Spiritual Awakening and the Traditions, and Dr. Bob's Nightmare

2. The book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and the Conference must achieve a supermajority of 75% in order for the General Service Board to act upon it. However, the General Service Board shall not immediately act upon the Conference's directions, and instead, shall request all Area Delegates to

conduct further discussions in their respective Areas. Area delegates' report backs will be conducted the second following General Service Conference at which the Conference may amend or change the previously approved change to the Founders' writings described above. For final action by the General Service Board, the Conference must achieve substantial unanimity.

Floor Action #10: It was recommended that: The AA Grapevine Board develop a 5-year financial plan for the Grapevine with the goal to reduce shortfalls and increase revenue to be brought back to 2025 Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña.

Floor Action #11: It was recommended that: Reaffirming the 1975 Advisory Action that delegate in reports to their areas place more emphasis on group support. Delegates should emphasize to the groups the effect that inflation has had on the contribution dollar and the necessity for adjusting contributions accordingly to support services provided by the General Service Board.

Floor Action #12: It was recommended that: Delegates who require translation be provided with all documents, materials, reports, communications, etc., in their native language, with all necessary information to be able to fulfill their role as trusted servants, bearing in mind the traditional right of participation.

Floor Action #13: It was recommended that: In the flyer "A.A. At a Glance" -- in the last paragraph on page one under the heading "Who can attend A.A. meetings?" that the last sentence "'Closed" discussion meetings are for alcoholics only" be changed to: "Attendance at a "closed" meeting is limited to A.A. members and persons who have a desire to stop drinking."

Floor Action #14: It was recommended that: The explanations of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts be removed from the Plain Language Big Book.

Floor Action #15: It is recommended that: Retitle the Plain Language Big Book to: "The Plain Language Guide to A.A.'s 12 Steps of Recovery"