

72nd General Service Conference  
“A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service”  
April 24 – April 30 2022  
Brooklyn, New York



General Service Committee of Eastern Massachusetts  
Area 30  
Delegate's Report Back  
May 15, 2022

## Why Do We Need a Conference?

The late Bernard B. Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairperson of the board of trustees, and one of the architects of the Conference structure, answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting: "We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life.

"We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing overintegration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services.

"We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is."

## 2021 GSO Financial Highlights

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Net</u>
7th Tradition Contributions	10.78 M	10.26 M	5.07% increase
AAWS Publishing Gross Profits	6.30 M	6.58 M	4.3% decrease
Grapevine Surplus/(Deficit)	(113 K)	(298 K)	241 K decrease (positive)
General Fund Support of La Vina	388 K	385 K	3 K increase
Operating Expense	15.28 M	22.34 M	31.6% decrease
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	1.6 M	0.7 M	129% increase
Reserve Fund Coverage Ratio	8.5 months	7.9 months	0.6 months increase

## 2022 Budgets

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022 Budget</u>
7th Tradition Contributions	10.78 M	10 M
AAWS Publishing Gross Profits	6.30 M	6.53 M
Grapevine Surplus/(Deficit)	(113 K)	19 K
General Fund Support of La Vina	388 K	402 K
Operating Expense	15.28 M	18.11 M
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	1.6 M	(1.35 M)

It is expected that contributions will decline as in-person service work resumes at the group and area level. It is expected that operating expenses will increase as in-person events and travel resumes. The 2021 surplus will be used to cover the anticipated 2022 deficit.

### 7th Tradition Contributions

The percentage of on-line contributions remained steady at approximately 20 percent. 44% of contributions are for \$50 or less, and 23% are between \$51 and \$100. Only 4% of contributions are over \$500.



**”What I Saw and Heard and Felt”**

## General Service Conference Terms

- **Committee Recommendation:** The Committee reaches substantial unanimity (2/3) and makes a recommendation to the Conference to take a specific action. Committee recommendations are discussed and voted on by the Conference.
- **Conference Advisory Action:** Any Committee Recommendation or Floor Action that has been approved by the Conference body with substantial unanimity becomes a Conference Advisory Action. They advise the Trustees and GSO what action to take.
- **Committee Consideration:** If a Committee does not feel that a recommendation for action is needed or requires more information to make a decision, it may send an item back to a Trustees' committee with suggestions for further work. These are discussed by the Conference but not voted on.
- **Take no action:** This phrase is frequently used in a Committee report when they believe there is not a stated need within the Fellowship and decline to take action on an item.
- **Floor Actions:** A Floor Action is a motion to take specific action that is made by a member of the Conference. Any matter which falls within the scope of a Conference committee cannot be introduced as a Floor Action until that Committee's report is concluded. Any member of the Conference may make a Floor Action. A Floor Action needs to be seconded by another member. All seconded Floor Actions are held until all Committees have presented their reports. Floor Actions are then handled *similarly* to a Committee Recommendation and may result in an Advisory Action.

## Report of Conference Actions

### I. AGENDA

#### A. Review Suggestions for the theme of the 2023 GSC.

**Recommended:** the 2023 Conference theme be –  
“A.A.’s Three Legacies – Our Common Solution”

**Passed 122-3**

#### B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2023 GSC.

**Recommended:** The presentation theme and topics for the 2023 GSC be:

Presentation Theme –

“Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm”

Presentations –

“Our Common Perils and Common Solution”

“Using AA’s Literature in Carrying the Message

“Fostering a Thriving Three Legacy Culture.”

**Passed 129-0**

#### C. Discuss Workshop topic ideas for the 2023 GSC.

**Recommended:** Workshop topic:

“Practicing Our Traditions Across All Group Settings”

**Passed 125-1**

#### D. **Recommended:** That the GSB develop a status report on the progress and outcomes from the 2013-2015 Conference Inventory with a draft plan for another Conference Inventory.

**Passed 120-11**

**Consideration:** The committee requested that the GSB conduct a sharing session at the 73<sup>rd</sup> GSC on the participation of online groups in the US and Canada service structure.

### II. CORRECTIONS

#### No Recommendations

**A. Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook. Consideration:** The committee provided a detailed list of revisions and suggested that GSO staff gather shared experience regarding online meetings in correction facilities for addition to the workbook.

**B. Reconsider the use of the term “person in custody” in AA Literature.** Regarding reconsideration of the use of the term “Person In Custody” in AA literature the committee **took no action**. The committee affirmed the actions and inclusive non-stigmatizing language expressed by the 71<sup>st</sup> Conference.

**C. Consider requests to limit changes to the book Alcoholics Anonymous.** The committee **took no action**. The committee discussed the concerns of the fellowship and noted that we work on a system of checks and balances and agreed that the 12 Concepts adequately provides guidance for our trusted servants that reflect the informed group conscience of A.A. as a whole.

**D. Discuss request to make A.A. literature changes slowly and with A.A.’s primary purpose in mind.** The committee discussed and **took no action**. The committee agreed that the cadence and role the annual GSC already provides is appropriate guidance. Also mentioned Concept Four – “The Right of Participation” and that all members are invited to participate in the year-long process of the conference.

### III. COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

#### No Recommendations

**A. Review progress report on LinkedIn.** The committee reviewed the progress report on LinkedIn page implementation and an update. **Consideration:** Requested a progress report for 2023.

1. Additional strategy that increases the number of posts per month developed over a year.
2. A strategy of posting often to increase search result ranking.
3. Posts targeted to professionals on topics such as A.A. anonymity, Self-Support, cooperation without affiliation, and our public relations policy

**B. Review suggested revisions for the draft pamphlet “AA in Your Community”.**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed revisions – and offered additional suggestions and requested a progress report or final draft at the 2023 Conference.

**C. Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlets for the mental health professional.** **Consideration:** Noted that using a focus group was a useful approach to explore and identify needs of mental health professionals when they are addressing the suffering alcoholic. The committee requested a draft or progress report be brought back to the 2023 GSC.

**D. Consider creating a new pamphlet designed to help C.P.C. committee to reach as many doctors as possible.** The committee **took no action** noting that many healthcare professionals may lack the time to meet with CPC committees and that health care systems differ in the US and Canada. It was suggested that service material could be developed for A.A. members on how to speak with their own healthcare provider about A.A.

**E. Review content and format of the CPC Kit and Workbook.** **Consideration:** The committee suggested development of a disclaimer that clarifies that the printed version may not reflect the most updated revisions on AA.org and to include a list of revised pamphlets, experience from online, in-person and virtual CPC events and use accessible formats for all digital devices.

### IV. FINANCE

#### No Recommendations

**A. Review Self-Support Packet** **Consideration:** Requested the Trustees committee undertake a full review and compiled a list of suggestions.

**B. Consider request to add a historical disclaimer to the front of the 12x12.** The committee agreed that the current introduction in the book already addresses concerns regarding language in the book and **took no action**.

**C. Consider request that all proposed changes to the 12x12 be handled in footnotes.** The committee agreed that they did not want to mandate a specific format for possible changes to a future conference. They noted that future proposals for changes should be considered by the group conscience of each Conference and **took no action**.

## V. GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA

### No Recommendations

**A. Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook Revisions. Consideration:** The committee reviewed the progress report revision, forwarded editorial suggestions and looks forward to having it available on the website in English and Spanish.

**B. Review Progress report on the GV and LV Instagram accounts. Consideration:** The committee reviewed the progress report and requested a progress report be brought back to the 2023 Conference. The committee forwarded suggestions to the Grapevine Office to encourage members to submit anonymity protected content to Instagram pages.

**C. Consider the list of suggested Grapevine Book Topics for 2023 and later.**

#### Forwarded suggestions:

1. Best of Dear Grapevine (working title)
2. Book for Newcomers (working title)
3. Best of LaViña II (working title)
4. Prayer and Meditation (working title) (LaViña Book)

**D. Discuss the wider ranging impact the Preamble change has had on our AA Fellowship.**

The committee felt that after careful consideration of the Fellowship feedback it would be premature to quantify the impact when many AA members are still either uninformed or ambivalent about the change.

## VI. LITERATURE

**A. Annual review of recovery literature matrix.** The committee agreed to follow up with the publishing Department with suggestions regarding the usefulness and purpose of the recovery literature matrix.

**B. Review draft language regarding safety and AA to be included in *Living Sober* and the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."**

#### Recommended:

In the section "For the person wanting to be a sponsor" (p. 14) under the heading "What does a sponsor do and not do?" add "Stresses the importance of A.A. being a safe place for all members and encourages members to become familiar with safety material available from the General Service Office."

In the section "For groups planning sponsorship activity" (p. 23), under the heading "How does sponsorship help a group?" add a fourth paragraph: "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 101-28**

The booklet *Living Sober* be revised to add the following paragraph regarding safety and A.A. in 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." **Passed 114-6**



**C. Review draft pamphlet based on AA's Three Legacies.**

**Consideration:** The committee offered additional suggestions and asked that a draft version be brought back to the 2023 Conference.

**D. Review draft pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated".**

**Recommended:** That this be approved with minor editorial revisions.

**Failed 40-92**

**E. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated".**

**Recommended:** That the video animation currently published by the GSB of AA Great Britain be adapted and produced by the publishing dept. The committee requested a progress report or rough cut be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee.

**Passed 121-10**

**F. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "Twelve Traditions Illustrated."**

**Recommended:** That the pamphlet be updated with non-offensive, contemporary text and illustration with a progress report or draft pamphlet to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee.

**Passed 122-9**

**G. Review draft of the revised pamphlet "Young People and AA"**

**Recommended:** The committee recommended that the draft pamphlet be approved. **Passed 111-17**

**H. Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet "AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic"**

**Consideration:** The committee asked for a draft or progress report be brought back to the 2023 Literature Committee.

**I. Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet "AA for the Native North American."**

**Consideration:** That a draft or progress report be brought to the 2023 Conference Literature Committee.

**J. Review progress report regarding the development of the fourth edition of *Alcohólicos Anónimos*.**

**Consideration:** The committee asked for a draft manuscript or progress report be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.

**K. Review progress report regarding the translation of the Big Book (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language.**

**Consideration:** That a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.

**L. Review progress report regarding requests to develop study guide workbooks for AA.**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed the Subcommittee Report on Tools to Access the Big Book (TABB) and several requests for development of study guides from the Fellowship. The committee noted that additional information will be needed to provide direction on these requests. The committee requests the Trustees committee provide further information regarding the purpose of the proposals and examples of what study guides would look like.

**M. Review progress report regarding development of a Fifth Edition of the Big Book.**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed a progress report and requested that a progress report or manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference committee.

**O. Discuss GSO Publishing updates per the AAWS print policy.**

1. Review draft update of the pamphlet "Is AA for You?"  
**Recommended:** That the updated pamphlet be approved. **Passed 122-6**
2. Review the draft update of the pamphlet "Is There an Alcoholic In Your Life?"  
**Recommended:** That the update be approved. **Passed 122-6**
3. Review the draft update of the pamphlet "Frequently Asked Questions About AA"  
**Recommended:** That the updated pamphlet be approved. **Passed 120-6**
4. Review the draft of the pamphlet "This is AA"  
**Recommended:** That the updated pamphlet be approved. **Passed 123-5**

**P. Review progress report regarding strategy to make current literature accessible in all possible formats. Consideration:** The committee encourages the Trustees Literature Committee to continue in their efforts to make literature accessible in all formats and provided several suggestions for more e-literature and other accessible digital platforms.

**Q. Review progress report regarding Literature Committee Workbook. Consideration:** The committee noted that the development is moving in the right direction. The committee supplied several suggestions re: length and content and requested that a revised draft be brought back to the committee in 2023.

**R. Discuss changes to the text of the 12x12 as directed by the 71st GSC.** The committee noted that there does not appear to be a consensus on the changes among A.A. members at the local level as well as in the committee process and **took no action.**

**S. Consider an update of the book "Experience Strength and Hope".**

**Recommended:** That a second volume of the book be developed with stories dropped from the Fourth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, and that a progress report be brought to the 73<sup>rd</sup> Conference Committee on Literature. **Failed 14-114**

**VII. POLICY/ADMISSIONS**

**A. Discuss the procedure "Process for Approving Observers to the Conference."**

**Recommended:** That the process for Approving Observers to the Conference be changed so it would allow the Policy/Admissions committee to approve routine admissions from structures outside the U.S. and Canada. **Passed 119-6**

**B. Consider request to restore a paragraph in the story "Freedom From Bondage" in the Book Alcoholics Anonymous. Recommended:** That the paragraph which has been removed from the Fourth Edition be restored in all future printings and publications in which the story is included.

**Failed 35:93**

**C. Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload Process.**

**Recommended:** The committee recommended that the compilation of all Conference committee background be made available on February 15th in English, French, Spanish. It was amended to: The compilation of all Conference committee background be made available simultaneously in English, French, Spanish. **Passed 95-30**

## VIII. PUBLIC INFORMATION

**A. Review the 2022 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.** The committee supports its vision and architecture and that this version brings a practical implementable plan into vision.

**Considerations:**

1. Continue focus on standardization, create a synopsis on details
2. Ensure we do not lose the work that is captured and try not to branch out in too many directions and digital platforms
3. Consider a short video as a guidepost.
4. Recognize that we are a Fellowship of varying technical abilities and to ensure we are not leaving anyone behind
5. Include additional info on how AA can connect with the professional community.
6. Use consistent language throughout versus more marketing or business terminology

**B. Public Service Announcements.**

**B1. Review distribution and tracking information for two video PSAs:** The committee accepted the distribution and tracking information on: “Sobriety in AA : “My Drinking Built a Wall” and “Sobriety in AA: “When Drinking is no longer a Party” **Consideration:** The committee encourages enhancement of future tracking and distribution to include analytics to other non-profits and PSA distribution.

**B2. Review the 2021 report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Video PSAs”**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed and accepted the report and found the current Conference-approved PSAs to be relevant and useful. The committee did not see the need for a new PSA at this time.

**C. Review a progress report and the GSO Podcast Plan.**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed the progress report and asked for focus on considering moving in the direction of creating a GSO Podcast using AA Grapevine podcast experience. Focus on providing sharing within the Fellowship and info on AA to the public. Entrust GSO to manage the creation, to research the best methods for future episodes to be completed, use internal and external resources for production, and implement analytics. The committee looks forward to a progress report in 2023.

**D. Review report on “YouTube Performance”** The committee reviewed the report and made the following suggestions and looks forward to a report coming back to the 2023 Conference

**Considerations:**

1. That staff continue to update the AAWS YouTube account to maximize its effectiveness as a social media channel to carry the message.
2. Improve the ability to search and locate our channel as members have shared it is difficult to find.
3. Consider adding more Spanish video content.

**E. Review report on “Google Ads Performance”.**

**Consideration:** The committee encouraged GSO to develop an annual project calendar and that the office should continuously optimize the campaigns based on best standards and practices. The GSO office and staff secretary should make updates to the campaigns to ensure improved performance.

**F. Review report on “Meeting Guide Performance”.**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed and accepted the report and looks forward to a report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference. The committee suggested that the app keep its focus on providing information on locating AA meetings.

**G. Review “2021 Fourth Quarter Report on AAWS Board Oversight of GSO’s Website”.**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed and accepted the report and finds the website easier to navigate and user-friendly. It suggested that GSO continue to improve our Search Engine Optimization.

**H. Review report on “AAGV/LV Website, Marketing and Podcast”.**

**Consideration:** The committee reviewed and accepted the annual report and found recent modernization of the website to be effective and inviting. Although the podcast is well received by many AA members, the committee noted that the current hosts might limit attraction to all members, potential members, or professionals and to consider the full intended audience regarding diversity, attraction and belonging.

**I. Discuss feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms.**

**Considerations:** The committee reviewed and accepted the 2022 report and requested that further research be conducted. The committee offered the following suggestions and looks forward to a report back at the 2023 Conference.

1. Additional research comparing paid versus donated media value ads and its effectiveness
2. Include research of Canadian streaming platforms
3. Focus on obtaining AA member feedback from various age groups.

**J. Discuss PI Information pamphlets/materials.**

**1. Consider suggestion to revise the flyer “AA At a Glance”. Consideration:** The committee requested that the trustees and staff secretary focus on improvements based on suggestions – Keep most of the content messaging and modernize the look. Remove any reference to the words “hopeless drunks” to focus more on the solution and to update contribution and self-support language.

**2. Revise suggested revisions to the pamphlet “Speaking and Non-AA Meetings”.**

**Consideration:** The committee considered the suggestion to revise the pamphlet and asked that the trustees committee move forward with the update with a draft pamphlet to be brought back to the 2023 Conference.

**3. Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity.”**

**Recommended:** In the section “Anonymity in the Digital Age” add the following to the paragraph regarding websites: “It is suggested that when A.A.s gather as A.A.s or as an A.A. group on social media pages and other similar platforms that these pages are set to “private” rather than “public”.

**Passed 121-1**

**Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity.” - continued**

**Recommended:** Add the following to the section “Anonymity in the Digital Age”:

Q. Are virtual A.A. meetings considered “Public”?

A. These online gatherings are not streamed to the general public; however, information about the meeting is provided to A.A. members, potential members, and the general public similar to in-person meetings.

While some members feel comfortable using their full names and faces, other members feel comfortable using their first name and last initial or turning their video off.

For safety purposes, some groups have provided helpful reminders in their group format that picture taking, or screen shots are not in keeping with anonymity principles. **Passed 96:26**

**4. Consider request to retire and replace the “AA Fact File”** The committee considered the request to replace the AA Fact File with a service material version of a new digital PI Press Media Kit. The committee reviewed this and offered suggestions.

**Recommended:** The outdated “AA Fact File” be retired.

**Passed 120-3**

**K. Review request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media. Consideration:**

The committee reviewed a survey developed to gather shared experience from the Fellowship and requested the trustees committee and staff secretary focus on distributing it to all age demographics, particularly a young population to get results that will inform future communications.

**L. Review report on development and distribution ideas for the “AA Triennial Membership Survey”.**

**Recommended:** A 2022 A.A. Membership Survey be conducted with a budgeted cost not to exceed \$20,000 including a “How To Video” with format changes, two new questions and six changed questions on the 2022 membership survey be approved.

**Passed 120-6**

**M. Review content and format of PI Kit and Workbook.**

**Consideration:** The committee discussed the content and format of the kit and workbook and noted the updated content list provided by the staff secretary and agreed to all the changes.

**VIII. REPORT AND CHARTER**

**A. Discuss GSC Final Report**

**Recommended:** That chapters 8,9,10 and 12 of the A.A. Service Manual be revised to correct inaccuracies and to provide clarity and consistency.

**Passed 110-7**

**C. Review the AA Service Manual, 2021-2023 Edition.**

**Recommended:** That items regarding Regional Directories be removed from the scope and procedures of Report and Charter Committee.

**Passed 114-3**

**Considerations:**

1. Encouraged use of digital version through Fellowship Connection for the Final Report.
2. The committee encouraged the removal and retirement from aa.org of the print listing of Intergroups and answering services for the US and Canada (F-25) and recognized an overdependence on GSO placing cooperation on Central Office/Intergroups and that in some cases important local relationships are overlooked.
3. The committee discussed an addition of an American Sign Language (ASL) version of the Service Manual and asked for a progress report at the 2023 Conference.

4. Discussed the request to place the GSR Preamble in the Pamphlet “GSR Your Link to AA as a Whole” and **took no action** stating that the role was clearly described.
5. The committee considered the request to revise the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” to reflect shared experience on service sponsorship and **took no action** stating that the topic is well addressed in the current version.
6. On returning the Dr.’s Opinion to page one in the Big Book of AA the committee **took no action** noting that it would impact other pieces in AA that reference pages in the Big Book and that Bill was involved in the original pagination.

## **X. TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES**

**A. Review progress report on pamphlet “AA For the Older Alcoholic”.** **Considerations:** The committee requested that trustees committee keep the following suggestions in mind and looks forward to a report at the 2023 Conference.

1. Include stories of only those who found recovery from the age of 60 years or older.
2. Form a working group to help gather sharing from members.
3. Consider the target audience.
4. Conduct a broader call out for stories.
5. Include stories from members with health issues.
6. Consider a new format for the pamphlet that is more accessible.

**B. Review progress report on military audio interviews.** The committee accepted and reviewed the report and added these suggestions. **Considerations:**

1. Reach out to military senior leadership.
2. Seek interviews from members in various armed forces branches.
3. Consider broad distribution in Grapevine/LaViña, WhatsApp and *LIM*.

**C. Discuss draft version of AA Guideline for remote communities.** The committee discussed the draft version, offered suggestions and looks forward to a report in 2023. **Considerations:**

1. Continue to maintain the most current cultural terminologies.
2. Remove the names from sharing in the guidelines.
3. Remove the section “Three Challenges” and replace with new language.
4. Remove current sharing on sponsorship from the section “Spanish Speaking Women in AA Remote Community” and include positive sharing through the importance of sponsorship.
5. Expand the section and title on online group/meeting resources.

**D. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook Consideration:** The committee discussed the contents and format of the kit and workbook and noted that suggestions provided in the 2021 Committee Consideration that will be implemented in the next printing.

**E. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook Consideration:** The committee discussed the contents of the kit and workbook and suggested that the section “Sharing Experience” in the workbook include experience from AA members with service animals.

**F. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “The AA Group” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the long form of Tradition 5.**

**Recommended:** The long form of Tradition Five be added to the pamphlet on page twelve in the section “What is an AA Group?” at its next printing.

***Passed 117-3***

**G. Consider request to revise text in the chapter “Getting Plenty of Rest” in the booklet *Living Sober*.** The committee ***took no action*** noting that the section includes this comment later in the chapter: “If the condition persists, it may be advisable to check with a good physician who understands alcoholism as well.”

## **XI. TRUSTEES**

**A. The committee recommended** the approval of the slate of trustees for the General Service Board:

Class A Trustees (non-alcoholic)

Molly Anderson, Linda Chezem, Sr. Judith Ann Karam, Kerry Meyer,  
Al Mooney, Andie Moss, Kevin Prior

Class B Trustees (alcoholic)

Cathi C., Jimmy D., Josh E., Francis G., Tom H., Deborah K., Reilly K. (Pacific),  
Trish L., Mike L., Paz P., Marita R., Joyce S. (Eastern Canada), Irma V., Carolyn W.

***Passed 127-0***

**B. The committee recommended** the approval of the slate of officers for the General Service Board:

Chairperson: Linda Chezem

First Vice-Chairperson – Jimmy D.

Second Vice-Chairperson – Francis G.

Treasurer – Kevin Prior

Secretary – Cathi C.

Assistant treasurer – Paul Konigstein (GSO Employee)

Assistant Secretary – Jeff W. (GSO Employee)

***Passed 127-0***

**C. The committee recommended** the approval of the slate of directors for the AAWS Board:

Cathy C., Vera F., Deborah K., Clinton M., Irma V., Carolyn W., John W.,

Bob W. (GSO Employee), Jeff W. (GSO Employee)

***Passed 127-0***

**D. The committee recommended** the approval of the slate of directors for the AA Grapevine Board:

Molly Anderson, Chris C. (GSO Employee), Josh E., Cindy F., Tom H., Coree H.,

Mike L., Paz P., David S.

***Passed 127-0***

**E. Discuss the revised “Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or Grapevine Boards.”**

**Recommended:** That this be approved as one acceptable pathway to be determined by  
whichever GSC might be considering reorganization.

***Passed 111:16***

**F. Consider revising text highlighting service roles at the group level in the pamphlet “The AA Group”.** The committee ***took no action*** acknowledging that the phrases “holding office” and “officer” are used in several sections and that groups are free to adapt the inventory questions to suit their needs.

**G. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different” to include stories reflecting greater diversity. Consideration:** Suggested during review of the pamphlet that the Literature Committee begin to look at the accuracy and effectiveness of direct translation to present an authentic and culturally relevant message to linguistic communities. Also that AA Grapevine consider using “Do You Think You’re Different?” as a recurring theme to represent a diverse group of current voices finding a common identification

## XII. ARCHIVES

### No Recommendations

**A. Review content and format of Archives Workbook** The committee reviewed the Archives Workbook and expressed satisfaction with the content.

**Considerations:**

1. New shared experience and new subsection from local archivists.
2. Revised guidelines for Collecting Oral Histories to include text offering suggestions on ways to conduct ASL (American Sign Language) interviews to offer wider sharing.
3. Replace gender-specific language throughout the book.
4. Updated Archives policies and other minor editorial updates.

## XIII. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS

### No Recommendations

**A. Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International**

**Convention. Consideration:** The committee recognizes that a survey will be released in May 2022 with questions regarding the use of The Lord's Prayer, Third Step Prayer 7<sup>th</sup> Step Prayer and the Declaration of Unity will be added and that a progress report be brought back to the 2023 Conference.

**B. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.**

**Consideration:** Consider an Option to the title "Regional Forum" utilizing more current language. Continue utilizing digital communication options, however, also continue non-digital options to ensure full accessibility and participation.

## FLOOR ACTIONS

**Motion to Decline:** This is where a Floor Action differs from a Committee Recommendation.

When a floor action is to be heard, its maker is given two minutes to state the rationale behind the action. The chair then asks the Conference if there is a motion to decline. If a motion to decline is made and seconded, it is voted on without discussion. If the motion to decline passes with substantial unanimity, the Floor Action is declined and goes no further. The motion to decline has no minority voice or motion to reconsider. This is the Conference's opportunity to refuse a Floor Action they think has no merit.

1. It was recommended that:

With the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain language, that the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts not be translated into plain language in any way; that these remain in the existing form in English as in previous editions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.

***Motion to Decline Passed 82-3***

2. It was recommended that:

The trustee's committee on Literature continue to make edits to the draft pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated" with a new draft or progress report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature, keeping in mind: color, diverse expressions of spirituality and accessible interpretation of the meaning in the Illustrations.

***Passed 108-11***



3. It was recommended that:  
The 2022 Membership Survey questionnaire receive final editorial review by the trustee's Public Information Committee after consulting with our professional survey methodologist, to address concerns raised by the 72<sup>nd</sup> General Service Conference related to the survey questions about Racial and Ethnic Background, and Employment Status. **Passed 107-9**
4. It was recommended that:  
The General Service Conference impose a one-year moratorium on any new agenda item received through September 15, 2022, with new agenda items held to be placed on the agenda for the 74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference, allowing the General Service Board and its corporate affiliates time to adjust and align their processes to accommodate the 2022 Policy and Admissions recommendation to provide simultaneous translation of all background material. **Motion to Decline Passed 80-38**
5. It was recommended that:  
The trustees' Ad Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups develop a plan to create one or more non-geographic Areas for online and telephone groups in the US/Canada General Service Conference structure, with a progress report on the plan to be presented to the 73<sup>rd</sup> General Service Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions. **Failed 48-68**
6. It was recommended that:  
The GSR Preamble be added to the pamphlet "Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole.". **Motion to Decline Passed 80-39**
7. It was recommended that:  
The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference evaluate the current process of developing Conference background material and bring back to the 2023 General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions a plan that describes the process of developing background material, keeping in mind the Conference desire for background material to be targeted, balanced and with relevant historical content. **Failed 27-92**
8. It was recommended that:  
The Advisory Actions from Panel 71:  
Advisory Action 18 for changes to page 117 phrase "opposite sex" with the word "partner"  
Advisory Action 19 changes to page 66, "No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health. No one wants to commit the deadly sins of anger, lust or gluttony" in the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, be returned to the original text. **Motion to Decline Passed 86-31**
9. It was recommended that:  
Reaffirm the Advisory Action from the 1995 (45<sup>th</sup>) General Service Conference stating "The first 164 pages of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, "The Doctor's Opinion", "Doctor Bob's Nightmare" and the Appendices remain as is". **Failed 38-75**