

Advisory Actions General Services Conference 2024

Floor Actions

It was recommended that:

- A pamphlet on the Asian and Asian-American alcoholic in A.A. be developed. (99-27)

Agenda

It was recommended that:

- The following theme for the 2025 General Service Conference: “Working Together, Increasing Trust.” (120-3)
- The following presentation theme and topics for the 2025 General Service Conference (119-5):
 - o 1.“Delegating: It is okay to ask for help.”
 - o 2.“Closing the Gap: How do we make the voice of every Group count?”
 - o 3.“Our Financial Responsibility in carrying the message.”
- The following workshop topic for the 2025 General Service Conference: “How do we address the new financial reality facing our spiritual movement?” (113-9)
- 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. (123-4)
- A comprehensive summary of the 2025 General Service Conference Inventory be developed and distributed as an electronic version only. (108-16)

Cooperation with the Professional Community

No Recommendations

Corrections

It was recommended that:

- The Singleness of Purpose description in the pamphlet “A Message to Correctional Professionals,” which currently reads (123-6):

“Some professionals refer to alcoholism and drug addiction as “substance abuse” or “chemical dependency.” Nonalcoholics are, therefore,

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sometimes introduced to A.A. and encouraged to attend A.A. meetings. Nonalcoholics may attend open A.A. meetings as observers, but only those with a drinking problem may attend closed meetings.”

Be replaced with the following text:

“Some professionals refer to alcoholics and drug addicts as a single group when using professional terminology. Nonalcoholics are, therefore, sometimes introduced to A.A. and encouraged to attend A.A. meetings. Nonalcoholics may attend open A.A. meetings as observers, but attendance at closed meetings is limited to persons who have a desire to stop drinking.”

- The video “Carrying the Message Behind the Walls” be discontinued. (121-10)
- 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. (86-40)

Finance

It was recommended that:

- The following change to the language in the pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” be implemented (115-4):

At the bottom of page 9 where it currently reads:

Q: Who manages GSO’s share of your group contributions?

A: The General Service Board’s Finance Committee meets quarterly to review and approve GSO’s budget and the audited financial accounts.

The A.A. World Services Board meets monthly and maintains direct control of income and expenditures. The annual General Service Conference reviews A.A.’s finances through its own Finance Committee. A.A.’s financial affairs are an “open” book. A summary is published in each Quarterly Report and a full accounting is in the Final Conference Report. The account books themselves are available at the General Service Office for scrutiny at any time.

Be revised to read:

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Q: Who manages **GSB's** share of your group contributions?

A: The General Service Board's Finance Committee meets quarterly to review **and approve the financial reports of all three corporations. In addition, the committee reviews and approves the budgets two times per year.**

The A.A. World Services Board meets **regularly** and maintains direct control of income and expenditure. The annual General Service Conference reviews A.A.'s finances through its own Finance Committee. A.A.'s financial affairs are an "open" book. A summary is published in each Quarterly Report and a full accounting is in the Final Conference Report. **These reports themselves are available at aa.org and at the General Service Office for review at any time.**

- The maximum annual contribution from an individual A.A. member to the General Service Board be increased from \$5,000 to \$7,500. (95-28)

Grapevine

It was 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 and La Viña. (108-18)

Literature

It was recommended that:

- The pamphlets "It Happened to Alice" (P-39) and "What Happened to Joe" (P-38) be retired. (114-11)
- The draft of the revised pamphlet "A.A. for the Black and African American Alcoholic" (retitled "Black in A.A.: Experience, Strength and Hope") be approved with the following minor editorial changes (121-3):
 - o Generalize terminology surrounding drug and addiction references.
 - o Removal of one story.
 - o The removal of the political commentary within two stories.

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- The draft manuscript *Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous* be approved with minor editorial changes to include (91-38):
 - o Relocation of the “A.A. Steps Table” to constitute an Appendix (on the Twelve Steps) at the back of the new publication.
 - o Replace the references to “addiction” and “addicted” with language related to alcoholism.
- Permanently suspending the “Too Young?” video adaptation project. (117-10)
- The word “donation” be utilized 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. (115-11)

Policy and Admissions

It was recommended that:

- The Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) process be adopted and implemented. (93-35)
- 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. (114-12)
- Alice G., who currently serves as the Area 80 Alternate Delegate and has been selected by the Area to replace Lawrence P., serve as a 2024 Conference Member during Conference Week. The Area has communicated that Lawrence P. will continue to serve as the Area 80 Delegate. (118-0)
- Dwayne M., (who is replacing Gerry W. as Area 82 Delegate) serve as a 2024 Conference Member. (121-0)

Public Information

It was recommended that:

- The :30 English language version of the Public Service Announcement (PSA) “Since Getting Sober I Have Hope” be discontinued. (110-8)

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- The :60 English language version of the Public Service Announcement (PSA) “Since Getting Sober I Have Hope” be discontinued. (117-7)
- The radio Public Service Announcement (PSA) “We Know How You Feel” :15 English language version be discontinued. (119-6)
- 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 and that the information gathered from the process be brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information. (118-8)
- The 18 interviews recorded to date as part of the project be approved, giving the General Service Office (GSO) the latitude to edit and distribute the videos in the style of “I Thought Drinking Made me an Artist (working title)” and “The World has Color Now (working title)” The videos can be produced in various formats and made available on our communication channel platforms. The committee requested that an update report be provided to the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information. (122-4)
- The revised draft of the flyer “A.A. at a Glance” (F-1) be approved with minor edits. (121-6)
- The revised pamphlet “Speaking at Meetings Outside of A.A.” (P-40) be approved. (121-4)
- The flyer “A Message to Teenagers” be retired. (92-33)

Report and Charter

It was 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. (124-4)
- In the draft section “Board’s Custodial Oversight” in the “The Board’s Operating Corporations” chapter of *The A.A. Service Manual* be amended from (123-6):

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“To facilitate the board’s custodial oversight, there are three corporate mechanisms: electing directors, approving budgets, and authority to make changes to corporate bylaws). These are used for the primary in the management of the principal assets of the General Service Board: the trustees’ Finance and Budgetary Committee, the General Service Board Reserve Fund, and the many trademarks, copyrights and logos maintained on behalf of A.A. as a whole.”

to:

“To facilitate the board’s custodial oversight, there are three primary corporate mechanisms to manage the principal assets of the General Service Board: electing directors, approving budgets, and authority to make changes to corporate bylaws.”

- The order of the chapters in *The A.A. Service Manual* be amended from (123-6):

Chapter 8: The General Service Board
Chapter 9: The Board’s Operating Corporations
Chapter 10: The General Service Office
Chapter 11: A.A. World Services, Inc.
Chapter 12: AA Grapevine, Inc.

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

- In Article 9, "The General Service Conference Meetings," a footnote be added to the Current Conference Charter with the following text (127-0):

“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 items that receive simple majority be included in the Final Conference Report under the heading “Recommendations that achieved Simple Majority – *These*

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items did not receive the two-thirds majority required to pass as a Conference Advisory Action.” (119-3)

Treatment and Accessibilities

It was recommended that:

- The draft pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” (P-49) be approved with minor editorial revisions. (116-10)
- 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. (121-5)

Trustees

It was 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 (102-23):

Class A Trustees (Nonalcoholic)	Class B Trustees
Sr. Judith Ann Karam, C.S.A.	Cathi C.
Dawn Klug	Tom H.
Hon. Kerry Meyer	Scott H.
Al J. Mooney, M.D., FAAFP, FASAM	Teresa J.
Anadora (Andie) Moss	Reilly K.
Molly Oliver	Deborah K.
Kevin Prior, MBA, CFA, CPA	Robert L.
	Paz P.
	Marita R.

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	Joyce S
	David S.
	Ken T.
	Carolyn W.
	Gail P.
	Charles H.

- The following slate of officers 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 (114-11):

Chairperson	Scott H.
First Vice-Chairperson **	Deborah K.
Second Vice-Chairperson **	David S.
Treasurer	Kevin Prior, MBA, CFA, CPA
Secretary **	Teresa J.
Assistant Treasurer	Paul Konigstein *
Assistant Secretary	Racy J. *
**Elected by Third Legacy Procedure	*GSO Employee

- The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board on April 20, 2024, following presentation at the 2024 General Service Conference for disapproval if any (110-12):

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Vera F.	Ken T.
Racy J. *	Carolyn W.
Reilly K.	John W.
Deborah K.	Bob W. *
Clinton M.	
	*GSO Employee

- The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA Grapevine Corporate Board on April 20, 2024, following presentation at the 2024 General Service Conference for disapproval if any (116-6):

Teddy B.W.	Molly Oliver
Morgan B.	Paz P.
Chris C. *	Joyce S.
Teresa J.	David S.
Nikki O.	
	*GSO Employee

Archives

No Recommendations

International Conventions and Regional Forums

It was recommended that:

- An anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2025 International Convention. (124-0)

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- 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. (122-1)
- Providing six options for closing the Big Meetings at an International Convention: the Serenity Prayer, Responsibility Statement, Declaration of Unity, Third Step Prayer, the Seventh Step Prayer, or a Moment of Silence. (115-11)
- That anonymity-protected video footage with highlights of the 2025 International Convention be produced for maintaining archival footage of the Convention, as well as for sharing the spirit and enthusiasm of the 2025 International Convention. (121-4)
- That a delayed, anonymity protected, digital access stand-alone product offering of the three Big Meetings be created. (117-5)

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