

# 72<sup>ND</sup> GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE QUICK GUIDE

## I. AGENDA

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- A. Review Suggestions for the theme of the 2023 General Service Conference.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The Conference theme for the 2023 General Service Conference: "A.A.'s Three Legacies—Our Common Solution."

- B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2023 General Service Conference.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** Presentation Theme: "Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm," Presentation Topics: "Our Common Perils and Common Solution," "Using A.A.'s Literature in Carrying the Message," "Fostering a Thriving Three Legacy Culture."

- C. Discuss Workshop topic ideas for the 2023 Conference: "Practicing Our Traditions Across All Group Settings."

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The General Service Board develop a status report on the progress and outcomes from the 2013-2015 Conference Inventory with a draft plan for another Conference Inventory.

**ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION:** the committee requested that the General Service Board conduct a sharing session at the 73rd General Service Conference on the participation of online groups in the US and Canada service structure.

## II. COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

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- A. Review progress report on LinkedIn.

**CONSIDERATION:**

1. Requested a progress report for 2023.
2. Additional strategy that increases the number of posts per month developed over a year.
3. A strategy of posting often to increase search result ranking.
4. Posts targeted to professionals on topics such as A.A. anonymity, self-support, cooperation without affiliation, and A.A.'s public relations policy

- B. Review suggested revisions for the draft pamphlet "A.A. in Your Community."

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee reviewed revisions, 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 General Service Conference.



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- D. Consider creating a new pamphlet designed to help CPC committee to reach as many doctors as possible.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee noted that many healthcare professionals may lack the time to meet with CPC committees and that healthcare 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 A.A..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.

## III. CORRECTIONS

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- 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 experiences regarding online meetings in correction facilities for addition to the workbook.

- B. Reconsider the use of the term “person in custody” in A.A. Literature.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee affirmed the actions and inclusive, non-stigmatizing language expressed by the 71st Conference.

- C. Consider requests to limit changes to the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

**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.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee agreed that the cadence and role that the annual General Service Conference 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.

## IV. FINANCE

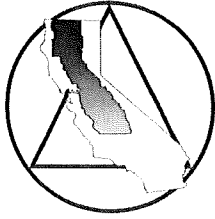
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- A. Review Self-Support Packet

**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 *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee agreed that the current introduction in the book already addresses concerns regarding language in the book.



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- C. Consider request that all proposed changes to the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* be handled in footnotes.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** 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.

## V. GRAPEVINE/La VIÑA

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- A. Review progress report on A.A. Grapevine Workbook revisions.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee reviewed the progress report revision, forwarded editorial suggestions, and looks forward to it being available on the website in English and Spanish.

- B. Review Progress report on the Grapevine and La Viña 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 La Viña II (working title)
4. Prayer and Meditation (working title) (La Viña Book)

- D. Discuss the wide ranging impact the Preamble change has had on our A.A. Fellowship.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee felt that after careful consideration of the Fellowship feedback it would be premature to quantify the impact when many A.A. members are still either uninformed or ambivalent about the change.

## VI. LITERATURE

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- A. Annual review of recovery literature matrix.

**CONSIDERATION:** 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 A.A. to be included in *Living Sober* and the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."

**ADVISORY ACTION:** Revise text on "What Does a Sponsor Do and Not Do?" and add a paragraph to the section: "How Does Sponsorship Help a Group?" to include a referral to material from the General Service Office "Safety in A.A.—Our Common Welfare."

- C. Review draft pamphlet based on A.A.'s Three Legacies.

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



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

**MOTION FAILED (See Floor Actions):** The pamphlet be approved with minor editorial revisions.

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

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The video animation currently published by the General Service Board of A.A. Great Britain be adapted and produced by the publishing department. The committee requested a progress report or rough cut be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee.

F. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "Too Young?"

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

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

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The committee recommended that the draft pamphlet be approved.

H. Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet "A.A. 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 "A.A. 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.

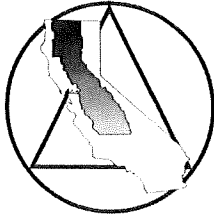
**CONSIDERATION:** That a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.

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

**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 *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

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



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N. Discuss existing version of the pamphlet "Twelve Traditions Illustrated."

**CONSIDERATION:** 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.

O. Discuss General Service Office Publishing updates per the A.A. World Services' print policy.

**ADVISORY ACTIONS:** The updated pamphlets be approved.

1. "Is A.A. for You?"
2. "Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?"
3. "Frequently Asked Questions About A.A."
4. "This is A.A."

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 *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* as directed by the 71st General Service Conference.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** 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.

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

**MOTION FAILED:** 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 73rd Conference Committee on Literature.

## VII. POLICY/ADMISSIONS

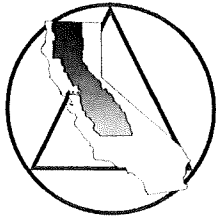
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C. Discuss the procedure "Process for Approving Observers to the Conference."

**ADVISORY ACTION:** 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.

E. Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload Process.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The committee recommended that the compilation of all Conference committee background be made available simultaneously in English, French, and Spanish.



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- F. Consider request to restore a paragraph in the story “Freedom from Bondage” in the Book Alcoholics Anonymous.

**MOTION FAILED:** The paragraph which has been removed from the Fourth Edition be restored in all future printings and publications in which the story is included.

- G. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” to reflect shared experience on service sponsorship.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee felt that the topic of service sponsorship is well addressed in the current version of the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” and in the current *A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

## VIII. PUBLIC INFORMATION

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- 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 ensure we are not leaving anyone behind.
5. Include additional info on how A.A. can connect with the professional community.
6. Use consistent language throughout versus more marketing or business terminology.

- B. Public Service Announcements.

1. Review distribution and tracking information for two video PSAs.

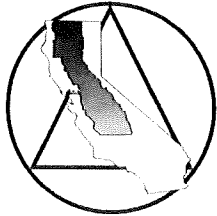
**CONSIDERATION:** The committee encourages enhancement of future tracking and distribution to include analytics to other non-profits and PSA distribution.

2. 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 A.A. Grapevine podcast experience. Focus on providing sharing within the Fellowship and info on A.A. 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.



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## 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 A.A. World Services' 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 A.A. meetings.

## G. Review "2021 Fourth Quarter Report on A.A. World Services 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 "A.A. Grapevine/ La Viña 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 A.A. 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 A.A. member feedback from various age groups.



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## J. Discuss PI Information pamphlets/materials.

1. Consider suggestion to revise the flyer “A.A. 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-A.A. 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.”

**ADVISORY ACTION:** Text be changed in this pamphlet to describe more of what happens in online/streaming meetings.

4. Consider request to retire and replace the “A.A. Fact File.”

The committee considered the request to replace the “A.A. Fact File” with a service material version of a new digital PI press media kit. The committee reviewed this and offered suggestions.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The outdated “A.A. Fact File” be retired.

## 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 “A.A. Triennial Membership Survey.”

**ADVISORY ACTION:** Format changes, two new questions and six changed questions on the 2022 membership survey be approved.

## 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.

## IX. REPORT AND CHARTER

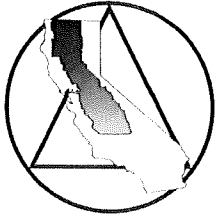
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### A. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee discussed the General Service Conference Final Report and noted the following:

1. Appreciated the use of digital versions and encouraged the Conference coordinator to continue noting the availability of these in pre-Conference documents.
2. Encouraged area delegates to make its local reporting innovative and fun, especially considering the use of new digital technologies.
3. Noted the importance and effectiveness of making use of Fellowship Connection to connect the





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trusted servants in the service structure to the digital version of the Final Report.

4. The committee suggested that the following local efforts might be helpful in these initiatives:

An area or district thank you letter and an invite to the area assembly with a link to the Final Report.

(Note: Fellowship Connection lists GSR's and these trusted servants can be introduced to their DCM and/or area delegate and be invited to participate in the local district and area discussions of the General Service Conference.)

5. Areas consider making the Final Report accessible in new digital formats.
6. The creation of a local anonymity-protected voice only power point.

(Note: The Final Report reflects Conference actions and discussions, therefore the committee wanted to express that the Final Report is an extension of the experience we learn about in The A.A. Service Manual.)

- B. Review the A.A. Service Manual, 2021/2023 Edition.

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

**CONSIDERATION:** The A.A. Service Manual can be utilized for all individuals involved in the General Service structure. The text is not limited to new people in service or only GSRs. Class A trustees, appointed committee members, non-trustee directors and other roles in general service should be able to draw upon the experience shared in specific chapters.

- C. Review progress report from A.A. World Services Publishing on a new section to be added at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service titled "Amendments."

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee wanted to reaffirm the 2021 advisory action that: "A new section be added at the end of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* titled 'Amendments,' and that it contain an updated version of the Concept XI essay that incorporates the information in the current footnotes and endnotes, along with comprehensive descriptions of the current General Service Board committees."

- D. Consider request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet "G.S.R.: Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole."

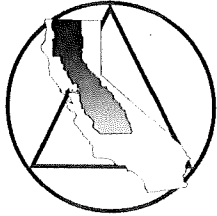
**TOOK NO ACTION:** Discussed the request to place the GSR Preamble in the Pamphlet "GSR Your Link to A.A. as a Whole" stating that the role is clearly described.

- E. Consider requests that the chapter titled "The Doctor's Opinion" be returned to page one, as it was in the First Edition.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee noted that it would impact other pieces in A.A. that reference pages in the Big Book and that Bill was involved in the original pagination.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee discussed an addition of American Sign Language (ASL) version of the manual and asked for a progress report at the 2023 Conference.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** Items regarding Regional Directories be removed from the scope and procedures of Report and Charter Committee. Regional Directories are no longer printed.



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## X. Treatment and Accessibilities

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### A. Review progress report on pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic."

**CONSIDERATION:** 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.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee reviewed and accepted a progress report on military audio interviews and suggested that the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community and Treatment and Accessibilities Committee:

1. Reach out to military senior leadership.
2. Seek interviews from members in various military/armed forces branches.
3. Consider broader distribution channels, through diverse communication methods such as A.A. Grapevine, La Viña, WhatsApp, and LIM.
4. Distribute a questionnaire to interviewees for the audio-military project.
5. The military consultants on the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee develop a project plan that will include reporting to the entire trustees' committee.

### C. Discuss draft version of A.A. Guidelines for remote communities.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee discussed the draft version of the A.A. Guidelines for Remote Communities and offered the following suggestions:

1. The committee encourages G.S.O. Publishing to continue to maintain the most current cultural terminologies.
2. Remove the names from the sharing in the guidelines (though currently anonymity protected; highlight the message rather than the name).
3. Remove the section "Three Challenges" and replace it with the title "Challenges in carrying the message to underserved populations," and include broader sharing with culturally sensitive language.
4. Remove the current sharing on sponsorship from the section "Spanish-Speaking Women in A.A. Remote Community" and include sharing that positively highlights the importance of sponsorship.
4. Also include in the section "Spanish-Speaking Women in A.A. Remote Community" information on special-interest meetings/groups, like what is shared in the Conference-approved pamphlets



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“Hispanic Women in A.A.” and “Women and A.A.”

5. Expand the section and title on online group/meeting resources to include a broader cross-section of digital sharing and resources.

The committee asked that the staff secretary revise the service piece and looks forward to it being made available to Remote Committees once the updates have been made.

- D. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee discussed the contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook. The committee noted with appreciation that the suggestions provided in the 2021 Committee Consideration that will be implemented at the next Kit update.

- E. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee discussed the contents of the Accessibilities Kit and Workbook and suggested that the section “Sharing Experience” in the workbook include experience on A.A. members with service animals.

- F. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The committee recommended that the Long Form of Tradition Five be added to the pamphlet, *The A.A. Group* on page twelve in the section “What is an A.A. Group?” at its next printing.

- G. Consider request to revise text in the chapter “Getting plenty of rest” in the booklet *Living Sober*.

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee noted 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 well.”

## XI. TRUSTEES

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- A. Review resumes of candidates for:

**ELECTED:** Eastern Canada Regional Trustee: Joyce S.

**ELECTED:** Pacific Region Trustee: Reilly K.

- B. Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The following slate of trustees of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting.

CLASS A TRUSTEES: Molly Anderson, Linda Chezem, JD, Sr. Judith Ann Karam, C.S.A., Hon. Kerry Meyer, Al Mooney, MD, FAAFP, FASAM, Andie Moss, Kevin Prior, MBA CFA, CPA

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



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- C. Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The slate of officers of General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting.

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\*

Assistant Secretary—Jeff W.\*

\*GSO Employee

- D. Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board

**ADVISORY ACTION:** Directors A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

Molly Anderson, Chris C.\*, Josh E.\*, Cindy F., Tom H., Coree H., Mike L., Paz P., David S.

\*A.A. Grapevine Employee

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

**ADVISORY ACTION:** This be approved as one acceptable pathway to be determined by whichever General Service Conference might be considering reorganization.

- F. Consider revising text highlighting service roles at the group level in the pamphlet "The A.A. Group."

**TOOK NO ACTION:** The committee acknowledged 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.

**ADVISORY ACTION:** The trustees' literature committee update the stories in the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?" to represent greater diversity, revise the front and back material, and bring back a draft pamphlet or progress report to the 2023 General Service Conference.

**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.

**CONSIDERATION:** Requested that A.A. 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.

**ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION:** The report of the Trustees' Nominating Committee noted they had begun discussion of thread-based forums and that more discussion is needed. The Conference committee had a discussion on thread-based forums which could allow better communication throughout the Conference structure and is forwarding a summary of their suggestions to the Trustees' Nominating Committee.



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## **XII. ARCHIVES**

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A. Review content and format of Archives Workbook.

**CONSIDERATION:** The committee reviewed the Archives Workbook and expressed satisfaction with the content.

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**

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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, Seventh Step Prayer, and the Declaration of Unity will be added and that a progress report be brought back to the 2023 Conference.

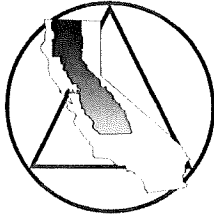
B. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

**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**

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1. **MOTION DECLINED:** 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.
2. **ADVISORY ACTION:** 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.
3. **ADVISORY ACTION:** It was recommended that: The 2022 Membership Survey questionnaire receive final editorial review by the Trustees' Public Information Committee after consulting with our professional survey methodologist, to address concerns raised by the 72nd General Service Conference related to the survey questions about racial and ethnic background, and employment status.



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4. **MOTION DECLINED:** 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 74th 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.
5. **MOTION FAILED:** 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 U.S./Canada General Service Conference structure, with a progress report on the plan to be presented to the 73rd General Service Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions.
6. **MOTION DECLINED:** It was recommended that: The following GSR Preamble be added to the pamphlet "Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole."

### *GSR Preamble*

*We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A.*

*We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as he may express Himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship.*

*Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole.*

7. **MOTION FAILED:** 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.
8. **MOTION DECLINED:** 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," and 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.
9. **MOTION FAILED:** It was recommended that: The 1995 Conference Advisory Action be reaffirmed 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.