

April 2023

NOTE: These are Advisory Actions only. Details are contained in full Conference committee reports.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS OF THE 73rd GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The following recommendations were approved by the 73rd General Service Conference:

FLOOR ACTIONS

It was recommended that:

- In an effort to improve communication, ensure Board policies are reflective of our principles, and reestablish a relationship of trust between the General Service Conference, the General Service Board and the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, the General Service Board is asked to undertake an inventory prior to the 74th General Service Conference. To assist the Board in this endeavor, the 73rd General Service Conference will establish a working group to aid the General Service Board in formulating possible inventory questions.
- The options for closing the Big Meeting at the International Convention be the Serenity Prayer or the Responsibility Statement. ***(Motion passed to recommit to Trustees' ICRF Committee)***

AGENDA

It was recommended that:

- The following theme for the 2024 General Service Conference be: "Connecting with Love, Unity and Service."
- The committee recommended the following presentation theme and topics for the 2024 General Service Conference:

Presentation Theme: "Responsibility in Service: When and How to Give"

Presentation Topics:

1. "Safety Throughout the Structure in our Fellowship"
2. "1728 Sponsorship"
3. "Overcoming the Barriers to Participation"

- The workshop topic for the 2024 General Service Conference be: “Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the Year, to Better Inform the Group’s Conscience.”
- The General Service Conference conduct a thorough inventory of itself during the 2025 General Service Conference and that a Conference Inventory Planning Committee be established by the General Service Board to develop a comprehensive inventory plan, timeline and cost estimate, to bring forward to the 2024 Conference Committee on Agenda for consideration.

ARCHIVES*

No recommendations.

*Members serve on this committee as a secondary committee assignment.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

It was recommended that:

- The pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community” be approved with minor editorial changes.

CORRECTIONS

It was recommended that:

- The committee recommended that item #5 in the Procedures of the Conference Committee on Corrections which currently reads:

“To maintain correspondence with committee secretary and other committee members during the year,”

Be revised, to read:

“To maintain communication with committee secretary and other committee members during the year.”
- The following section be added to the pamphlet “A.A. in Correctional Facilities” on page 12 between the sections titled “Corrections Correspondence Service (CCS) – a special kind of A.A. service” and “The following-through – released A.A. persons in custody”:

Sponsorship

Like all A.A. members, persons in custody can benefit from sponsorship. For more information, please refer to the Corrections Kit and Workbook or contact your local Corrections committee.

FINANCE

It was recommended that:

- The materials produced and maintained by A.A. World Services, AA Grapevine, La Viña, and the General Service Office (GSO), clarify that the General Service Board is the entity which receives all voluntary A.A. contributions and that GSO performs contribution processing. Any text changes should be implemented when each item comes up for reprint or revision.
- The suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference be increased from \$1,800 to \$2,200.
- The Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee develop additional ways to report quarterly the fiscal performance of the AAWS, GSB and GV Boards throughout the year to the members of the General Service Conference for the purposes of transparency and assisting in the reporting to the A.A. Fellowship.

GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA

No recommendations.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS*

It was recommended that:

- The committee recommended that the following three cities, expressed here in alphabetical order, be considered as possible sites for the International Convention in 2035:

Phoenix, Arizona
Indianapolis, Indiana
New Orleans, Louisiana

- The committee recommended that up to 21 non-A.A. speakers be invited to attend the 2025 International Convention at A.A.'s expense.

*Members serve on this committee as a secondary committee assignment.

LITERATURE

It was recommended that:

- The revised draft of the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” be approved.
- The print version of the pamphlet “Too Young” be retired and the content be repurposed as an animation video at an estimated cost no higher than \$70,000. The committee requested that a progress report or a rough cut of the video be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The work on the draft pamphlet based on A.A.’s Three Legacies be ceased. The committee noted that the material gathered would be most useful as service material.

POLICY/ADMISSIONS

It was recommended that:

The “Process for Polling the General Service Conference Between Annual Meetings Using Virtual Technology” be approved as amended below:

Process for Polling the General Service Conference Between Annual Meetings Using Virtual Technology

- Videoconference Meeting
- Meeting Time and Date: With as much notice as possible, and the fewest possible conflicts, the Conference Coordinator sets up a videoconference call in Eastern Time, keeping in mind that circumstances involving great emergencies may have their own deadlines.
- Quorum and Abstentions: The Current Conference Charter states that for Conference business, “A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of all the Conference members registered.” For the purpose of determining a quorum for polling between Conferences, abstentions *will* be counted. Abstentions will *not* be counted in the vote totals. The responsibility to vote is incumbent on each Conference member. Alternate delegates should be invited by the sitting delegate if the delegate cannot attend. The Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions will plan to meet virtually, prior to the GSC meeting, to accept admissions.
- Notifications about the Poll: Notice of the poll determination will be emailed to all Conference members. To help guarantee the availability of each Conference member to participate, anyone whose email bounces back will be contacted by telephone.

- To foster unity, trust, and transparency in the Fellowship, the members of the General Service Conference meet outside of the annual meeting for general sharing sessions at least two times per year utilizing virtual meeting technology. The General Service Board Chair and Delegate Chair will set the date and time as well as determine what issues currently facing the Fellowship would be chosen as topics.

Committee recommendations made Pre-Conference:

- That Daniel Gutarra, trustee member of the Peru General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, or their substitute, be admitted to the 2023 U.S./Canada General Service Conference as an observer. (The substitute who attended the Conference was Luis Pastor Nevado Salas, General Manager, GSO Peru.)
- That Gonzalo Teodoro Montaña, General Custodian of the Southern Territory for Central Mexico General Services of Alcoholics Anonymous, or their substitute, be admitted to the 2023 U.S./Canada General Service Conference as an observer. (The substitute who attended the Conference was Fernando Enrique López Ramírez, Southwest Regional Trustee, GSO Mexico.)
- That an International Delegate, on behalf of the Poland General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, be admitted to the 2023 U.S./Canada General Service Conference as an observer. (The person who attended the Conference was Tadeusz Chyl, Trustee, GSB Poland.)
- That Jocelyne Caouette, alternate Area Chair, Area 89, Northeast Québec, be seated as a Conference member at the 73rd General Service Conference because neither Gisèle Vaillancourt, Panel 73 delegate for Area 89 nor the alternate delegate from that area were able to attend.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

It was recommended that:

- The Membership Survey pamphlet be updated to reflect the findings from the 2022 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey, with minor editorial changes.
- The AAWS Board prepare sufficient periodic analytics reporting on our current communications platforms to be provided to the trustees' Public Information Committee and the Conference Committee on Public Information.

REPORT AND CHARTER

It was recommended that:

- *The A.A. Service Manual* not be printed in 2023 and that a new edition be published biennially (i.e., every two years), beginning in 2024.
- A full rewrite be conducted of chapters 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 to correct inaccuracies and to better clarify the roles, responsibilities and relationships between the General Service Office, AA Grapevine, and A.A. World Services, Inc. in *The A.A. Service Manual* and that the trustees' Literature Committee forward these draft sections or a progress report to the 2024 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.
- Anonymity-protected Conference *Final Reports* be posted annually on aa.org beginning with the 2023 General Service Conference.

TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES

It was recommended that:

- The revised pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic—Never too Late" be approved with minor edits in a format that does not require folding.
- The 22 interviews recorded to date as part of the Military Audio project be approved, giving the General Service Office (GSO) the latitude to distribute the audio interviews in various formats and on various platforms, and that an update report be provided to the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

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 29, 2023, following presentation at the 2023 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Class A Trustees

Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA, FACHE
 Hon. Kerry Meyer
 Al Mooney, M.D., FAAFP, FASAM
 Anadora (Andie) Moss
 Molly Oliver
 Kevin Prior, MBA, CFA, CPA
 Vacant

Class B Trustees

Cathi Clark
 Tom Hoban
 Teresa Jacks
 Reilly Kalles
 Deborah Koltai
 Robert Lalonde
 Mike Lewis
 Paz Preciado
 Marita Rhinehart
 Joyce Saunders
 David Steward

Ken Taylor
Irma Van De Bon-Nicol
Carolyn Walsh

- The committee recommended that 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 29, 2023, following presentation at the 2023 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Chairperson:	Vacant
First Vice-Chairperson:	Mike Lewis
Second Vice-Chairperson:	Sister Judith Ann Karam, CSA, FACHE
Treasurer:	Kevin Prior, MBA, CFA, CPA
Secretary	Irma Van De Bon-Nicol
Assistant Treasurer:	Paul Konigstein*
Assistant Secretary:	Jeff Wine*

*G.S.O. employees

- The committee recommended that the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board on April 29, 2023, following presentation at the 2023 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Cathi Clark	Carolyn Walsh
Vera Farrell	John Weis
Reilly Kalles	Bob Wilcox*
Deborah Koltai	Jeff Wine*
Clinton MacKenzie	

*G.S.O. employees

- The committee recommended that the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA Grapevine Corporate Board on April 29, 2023, following presentation at the 2023 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Teddy Basham-Witherington	Molly Oliver
Morgan Biggs	Paz Preciado
Chris Cavanaugh*	Joyce Saunders
Cindy French	David Steward
Tom Hoban	

*AA Grapevine employee