

SUMMARY OF THE 11 AGENDA ITEMS REVIEWED BY AREA 8 DURING PRE-CONFERENCE MEETINGS

The next section of this report can be separated and used by itself as it contains a brief summary of the Agenda Items Area 8 reviewed during our Pre-Conference Workshops meetings and Assembly. You will find the full Conference Advisory Action Summary, The Additional Considerations, and the Floor Actions posted at AREA8aa.org as well. Please, let your groups and districts know I am available to come to your meetings and answer any questions about your Conference that I can.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

AGENDA ITEM A:

CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE SECTION, "REFERRALS FROM COURT AND TREATMENT FACILITIES" IN THE PAMPHLET "IF YOU ARE A PROFESSIONAL..." (clarifying attendees are responsible for managing their own court cards)

RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE VOTE – passes with unanimity.

CORRECTIONS

AGENDA ITEM A:

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR REVISIONS TO THE "WHAT A.A. DOES NOT DO" IN THE PAMPHLET "A MESSAGE TO CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONALS," TO BE CONSISTENT WITH SIMILAR TEXT IN C.P.C. LITERATURE. (Remove word "drying out" – Add Phrase "Host Retreats", etc)

RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE VOTE – passes with unanimity.

GRAPEVINE

AGENDA ITEM C:

REVIEW REPORT FROM A.A. GRAPEVINE BOARD ON FEASIBILITY OF PRODUCING ONE BOOK IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL). (note: book in ASL means video book)

NO ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE: DOESN'T GO TO CONFERENCE FOR VOTE

Committee Report stated they did not find it financially feasible and not enough members had requested this.

GRAPEVINE**AGENDA ITEM C:**

RECONSIDER PUBLISHING THE “ALCOHOLISM AT LARGE” SECTION OF THE GRAPEVINE. (This proposal wants pages removed– NonConference Approved articles in Grapevine and LaViná that provide information on alcoholism)

**NO ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE: DOESN'T GO TO CONFERENCE FOR VOTE
(gray pages stay)**

LATER IN CONFERENCE A FLOOR MOTION IS MADE TO REMOVE GRAY PAGES

CONFERENCE VOTE : (total 123) Yes 70 - No 53 – motion failed

Much discussion during floor motion – motion needed 82 to pass. Comment I made directly to a Grapevine Editor that making the disclaimer larger may unite everyone around this issue.

LITERATURE**AGENDA ITEM D:**

“DISCUSS SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE PAMPHLET “QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ON SPONSORSHIP.” (P-15) (Various suggested changes including how a sponsor might approach the God topic with a newcomer)

NO ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE: DOESN'T GO TO CONFERENCE FOR VOTE

LITERATURE**AGENDA ITEM E:**

“DISCUSS THE SUGGESTED CHANGE TO “LIVING SOBER”
(remove drug related wording / statements)

RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE VOTE : 118 TOTAL – yes 50 – no 68 – motion fails. (wording stays)

The points made were polar opposites even though a clear majority voted not to remove the language. Some seem to think having the language in there is the wide tent philosophy; others feel words are not the answer-sponsorship is.

LITERATURE**AGENDA ITEM F:**

“CONSIDER THE USE OF THE CIRCLE AND TRIANGLE AS AN UNOFFICIAL A.A. SERVICE MARK ON CONFERENCE-APPROVED LITERATURE.”

NO ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE: DOESN'T GO TO CONFERENCE FOR VOTE

LITERATURE**AGENDA ITEM G:**

“CONSIDER A REQUEST TO CREATE A PAMPHLET FOR ALCOHOLICS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS.”

NO ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE: DOESN'T GO TO CONFERENCE FOR VOTE

Many questions from floor about the committees basis – they say Mental Illness is covered in our literature.

LATER IN CONFERENCE A FLOOR MOTION IS MADE THAT LITERATURE WHICH FOCUSES ON “ALCOHOLICS IN RECOVERY WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES” BE DEVELOPED.

Much emotional discussion followed the floor motion. Class A Trustee spoke in favor saying he is a doctor and this pamphlet will help people he sees daily. Mentioning mental illness is not the same as a pamphlet. Why can't we print pamphlets online only as trial? Fill Single pages. Other input cited singleness of purpose conflicts or we already have literature.

INITIAL VOTE FAILS – FOLLOWED BY RECONSIDERATION PASSED

FINAL CONFERENCE VOTE : (TOTAL 128) VOTE: Yes 77 – NO 51 –MOTION FAILED

LITERATURE**AGENDA ITEM H:**

Consider a suggestion to add “Non-alcoholics are welcome to attend open meetings as observers” to the end of the Primary Purpose (blue) card (F-17). (card is intended to be used at meetings and advise group leader on a way to deal with non-alcoholic attendees)

RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE VOTE : (123 total) – Yes – 82 – no 41 – 2/3rd – MOTION PASSED

MOTION TO RECONSIDER PASSES

CONFERENCE VOTE : (115 TOTAL) - Yes 60 – No 55 – MOTION FAILS TO PASS.

This motion was confusing from the start. Chair said this was not conference approved but conference would be voting on the change. Others had concern that the conference is walking thin line creating more cards and such that appear to be conference approved on things that groups aren't aware of and will choose not to use anyway. Are we trying to use cards to inform rather than sponsoring the traditions? (one staff member said)

PUBLIC INFORMATION**AGENDA ITEM F:**

CONSIDER REVISIONS TO THE ANONYMITY CARD (F-20). (this card is the public anonymity statement read at some large events that involve the public.)

RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE VOTE : Total was 116 – yes – 55 no 61 – motion failed.

This motion was also confusing in that the Chair said this was not conference approved but conference would be voting on the change. Some wanted a two sided card for clarity. 2 sided failed as amendment. Some want Conference to be careful going in and telling groups what to do (atleast it may be perceived as that). It seems like this isn't conference to approve cards that may guide groups on how to run their meeting.

TREATMENT/SPECIAL NEEDS-ACCESSIBILITIES**AGENDA ITEM A:**

Consider proposal to revise the pamphlet "Bridging the Gap" to expand its scope to include information on related corrections service activity.

NO ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE: DOESN'T GO TO CONFERENCE FOR VOTE

The committee stated they felt this didn't have enough widespread support at this time. Someone asked if they were aware multiple committees that do both corrections and treatment submitted this proposal. They said yes but that it still didn't rise to widespread support. Principles of their decision were never mentioned. One Delegate suggested this proposal should go to Treatment committee this coming year and allow them to build this helpful pamphlet.

-xx- end of San Diego Local Pre-Conference Agenda items and Conference review status. Please go to area8aa.org if you wish to get full (not summarized) Advisory Actions/Additional Considerations/Floor Motions. Also be aware that the final conference report will be available in September through your District officers or GSRs.