

Grapevine

Committee Recommendations

The Grapevine Committee had no recommendations to the Conference.

Committee Considerations

- A. The committee discussed the spiritual value of Grapevine and La Viña in carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous and agreed that the magazines are important Twelve Step tools, noting that they serve as a beacon of hope for alcoholics in treatment centers and prisons and alcoholics all over the world. The committee recognized that Grapevine and La Viña cannot accept contributions and are self- supporting only through subscriptions and sales of books and other items.
- B. The committee reconsidered the 2010 Conference Advisory Action regarding La Viña and took no action.
- C. The committee considered the 2004 Conference Advisory Action on outside sales and suggested that the Grapevine Board create a plan for outside sales of subscriptions, books and other items and report back to the 2018 Conference Committee on Grapevine.
- D. The committee discussed A.A. Grapevine, Inc.'s continued exploration of an Instagram account and requested A.A. Grapevine, Inc. continue exploration and develop a plan to bring back to the 2018 Conference Committee on Grapevine for consideration.
- E. The committee discussed A.A. Grapevine, Inc.'s continued exploration of a Facebook page and requested AA Grapevine, Inc. continue exploration and develop a plan to bring back to the 2018 Conference Committee on Grapevine for consideration.
- F. The committee discussed A.A. Grapevine, Inc.'s continued exploration of a Google for Nonprofits account and requested A.A. Grapevine, Inc. continue exploration and develop a plan to bring back to the 2018 Conference Committee on Grapevine for consideration.
- G. The committee discussed ways groups can be kept informed about Grapevine and La Viña and suggested that all delegates consider it a part of their responsibility to inform the Fellowship about Grapevine and La Viña as tools of sobriety, either through their own efforts or by recruiting others through email and area websites.

- H. The committee agreed to forward to the A.A. Grapevine Board the suggestion that Grapevine, Inc. produce in the year 2018 or later:
1. *Stories of Recovery from Hispanic Women in AA* (working title). Previously published in LV magazine, a selection of stories written by the Hispanic women in A.A., sharing their experience.
 2. *Writing Together: Stories from LV Workshops* (working title). Hispanic A.A. members share their experience, strength and hope in stories extracted from LV magazine.
 3. *Carrying the Message to the Alcoholic Who Still Suffers* (working title). A collection of LV stories about carrying the message into institutions.
- I. The committee reviewed the 2017 Grapevine Office Report on Audio Strategy with appreciation and made the following requests: That an update status and financial report on the project, including practices, financials, metrics and a more definitive plan for the future be provided to the 2018 Conference Committee on the Grapevine.
- J. The committee reviewed the Grapevine workbook with appreciation and made the following suggestions: Review the section Links to Other Sites for additional clarity. Update A.A. Grapevine, Inc.'s location.

Post-Conference Assembly Workshop Topic Discussion

Participants are invited to share on the workshop topic selected by the 2016 General Service Conference:
“Getting the A.A. Message Out...”

The 68th General Service Conference Theme: **“A.A.-- A Solution for All Generations”**

Presentation Topics:

- a. **Today’s Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion**
- b. **Participation in All of A.A. – Is My Triangle Balanced?**
- c. **A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions**
- d. **Attraction Not Promotion: A.A.’s Relation to the World**
- e. **Group Conscience: The Guiding Force**

The following questions are intended to facilitate a full and fruitful sharing session on “Getting the A.A. Message Out...”

1. In considering **“Getting the A.A. Message Out”**, describe the ways groups/districts invite to all A.A. members to participate in service (12-Step work) beyond the home group.
2. Please review the back side of this document for a listing of all the San Diego-Imperial Area’s standing committees. With the thought in mind that the work of each of our area’s standing committees should be as well known as our (H&I) Hospital and Institutional Committees, please identify the specific standing committees on which your group members are participating.
3. In considering **“A.A.-- A Solution for All Generations”**, describe the ways groups/districts invite:
A. Young A.A. members to participate in service (12-Step work) beyond the home group; and
B. Elder A.A. members to participate in service (12-Step work) beyond the home group.
4. How is information carried to your group members about the availability of the 12-Step work or **Getting the A.A. Message Out**?
A. Does your group use a Facebook account?
B. Does your group use another form of social media? (If so, which one(s)?)
C. Does your group allow time for the GSR to inform them on what is going on in A.A. as a whole?
5. In regards to the above-listed presentation topics (a. through e.), which topic(s) do you see as having a priority of interest to your group members?

As a note for continued communication through the service structure, think about how much your group members know about the following topics. These topics are ones on which the 2016 GSC needed more information.

Safety
LGBTQ
Social Media
Young People
Membership Survey
Plain Language - Literacy
Translation of Conference Backgrounds

Area 8 Standing Committees

Accessibilities

While there are no special AA members there are many who have special needs. This committee works to ensure all have access to AA meetings, 12th Step work, or AA service regardless of a temporary or permanent physical condition.

Agenda

Assists in preparing agendas for the Area Assembly and Area Committee meetings. Reviews and recommends the presentation and discussion of Conference items. Any AA member can request an agenda item to the Area Chairperson for potential inclusion on the agenda.

Archives

Collects, organizes, preserves, stores, and displays records of AA history in San Diego and Imperial Counties, including documents, audio recordings and photographs.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

Carries the message to professionals about what AA does and what it does NOT do. This committee needs volunteers to participate on panels and give informational presentations to health fairs, county boards, religious and legal organizations.

Finance

This committee assists the Treasurer in maintaining and proposing an annual budget for the San Diego-Imperial area. They review and make committee recommendations on Area 8's financial matters and its guidelines.

Grapevine/La Viña

Displays the Grapevine and La Viña magazine, books, and other material to groups, districts and other area functions. Their ongoing work includes encouraging fellowship members to subscribe and to contribute stories of their experience to the magazine.

Hospitals and Institutions (H&I)

The H&I committee is financially independent of Area 8. H&I carries the AA message to those confined in hospitals and institutions throughout San Diego & Imperial Counties. They coordinate panels, provide literature, and assist in establishing AA groups in institutions. They also help AA members being released from institutions get to their first meetings in our local community.

Information Technologies

Maintains Area 8's website as a vital method of electronic communication and storage of resources and other information. They are highly important in maintaining our AA tradition of anonymity, the Concepts of World Service, and Area 8 Structure & Guidelines in our communications. They support and maintain the computer hardware used by the Area Committee officers.

Literature

Maintains an inventory of all Conference-approved books, pamphlets, audio and video materials. This committee displays Conference-approved literature at events such as the Area Assembly and workshops and is available for Fellowship events.

Newsletter

Publishes the minutes of Area business in English and Spanish on the area8aa.org website and in print so that they are available to the fellowship it serves. The newsletter also contains Area related articles and reports.

Policy

Following our AA Traditions and the Concepts of World Service, the Policy Committee reviews and makes recommendations concerning the Area Structure and Guidelines and General Service related literature. They

are responsible for preparing and distributing copies of the Area Structure and Guidelines, proposed changes and amendments.

Translation

Ensures that all Area documents are provided in English and Spanish so anyone can participate in AA service. The committee is continually in need of fluent English-Spanish participants.