

2018 GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE SUMMARY

AGENDA

1. 69th GSC Theme will be "Our Big Book – 80 Years, 71 Languages"
2. Presentation Topics: Yesterday's World – Our Legacies Begin, Today's World – Integrity, Anonymity and Service, Tomorrow's World – Courage to be Vigilant.
3. Workshop Topic: Clarity of Purpose – Addressing the needs of our meetings

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

1. Changes to "A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional": PASSED
2. Changes to "Members of the Clergy Ask Alcoholics Anonymous": PASSED
3. Changes to "If you are a Professional": PASSED
4. Review of trustees' report regarding LinkedIn resulted in recommendation to develop a company page on LinkedIn

CORRECTIONS

1. Create a Pamphlet for inmates who are to be released after long term incarceration: TOOK NO ACTION

FINANCE

1. Develop a method to standardize increases to the limits on individual contributions and bequests to the General Service Board: TOOK NO ACTION

GRAPEVINE

1. Consider allowing outside sales of Grapevine books and single-issue magazines: PASSED
2. Reconsider the 2014 Conference Advisory Action regarding La Viña: PASSED
3. Approve revised pamphlet "A.A. Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meeting in Print" and change title to "A.A. Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meeting in Print and Other Media": PASSED

LITERATURE

1. Approve changes to "A.A. for the Woman" and retitled "Experience, Strength and Hope: Women in A.A.": PASSED
2. Approve changes to "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic" retitled "Experience, Strength and Hope: LGBTQ Alcoholics in A.A." PASSED

3. Approve changes to "Inside AA.: Understanding the Fellowship and its Services": PASSED
4. Approve draft pamphlet "A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues – and Those Who Sponsor Them": retitled to "Experience, Strength and Hope: A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health issues – and Their Sponsors": PASSED
5. Proposed revisions to Alcoholics Anonymous-
 - a. Add appendix reflecting Library of Congress recognition: FAILED
 - b. Add the A.A. Preamble and Responsibility Statement: TOOK NO ACTION
 - c. Add endnote to Bill W.'s story acknowledging cofounder, Bob S.: TOOK NO ACTION
6. Add a section on anonymity to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship": PASSED
7. Change subtitle of pamphlet "G.S.R. General Service Representative: May be the Most Important Job in AA" to "G.S.R. General Service Representative: Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole": PASSED
8. Add removed text regarding medication to Living Sober: PASSED
9. Update the video "Your General Service Office, The Grapevine and the General Service Structure": DVD: PASSED
10. Publish with minor edits, the Britain Pamphlet "The God Word": PASSED
11. Develop a pamphlet based upon A.A.'s Three Legacies: PASSED
12. Develop a new book combining Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with Twelve Concepts for World Services: FAILED
13. Develop a pamphlet for Spanish speaking women alcoholics: PASSED

POLICY / ADMISSIONS

1. The 71st GSC be held April 25-May 1, 2021
2. Process for polling the General Service Conference between Conference meetings: PASSED
3. Develop a policy for the use of the Conference dashboard: PASSED

PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. Consider the proposed video PSA "Changes": PASSED, as amended

2. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of PSA "Changes" not to exceed \$42,000: PASSED
3. Consider a Young People's Video: PASSED
4. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" which expand content on Tradition Eleven and Twelve and adds information on safety: PASSED
5. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous" which update language, contact information and information on the prevalence and severity of alcoholism and add information related to safety in A.A.: PASSED

REPORT AND CHARTER

1. Consider changes to chapters 2, 3, and 5: TOOK NO ACTION
2. Add "Panel" to the Glossary of General Service Terms: PASSED
3. Add graphics on page S75, above the section A.A. World Services, Inc. that visually display positions on each of the 3 corporate boards: PASSED
4. Add text regarding standing committees from "The A.A. Group pamphlet": TOOK NO ACTION
5. Remove statement from the section Area Newspapers or Bulletins re: use of circle and triangle by groups and districts: TOOK NO ACTION
6. Publish Committee Additional Considerations entirely in the printed Conference Final Report and the anonymity-protected version: PASSED

TREATMENT/SPECIALNEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES

1. Title of pamphlet Accessibility for all Alcoholics be changed to "Access to AA: Members Share on Overcoming Barriers & approved with additional revisions.
2. Scope of Committee expanded to include remote communities.

TRUSTEES

1. Review proposal to censure the General Service Board: TOOK NO ACTION
2. Review proposal to reorganize A.A. World Services and General Service Boards: TOOK NO ACTION

ARCHIVES

1. Develop a policy on distribution of audio recording of General Service Conference presentations: SENT BACK TO COMM.

INT'L CONVENTIONS / REGIONAL FORUMS

1. Possible sites for 2030: Indianapolis, Indiana & St. Louis, Missouri. Cities will have site visits.

AAWS / GSO Reports

1. 2017 Contributions record of 8.4 Million, up 6% from 2016 Cost of Services—10.2 Million, up 3%, shortfall: 1.8 Million. Literature sales up 6%, covering shortfall. Reserve Fund is at 9.5 months.
2. Cost of services/member: \$7.40, group: \$152.90.
3. Grapevine subscriptions continue to decline but GV ended the year positive at \$126,000 with cost of La Viña \$126,000, vs \$152,000 in 2016.
4. In 2017 GSO: **71 Big Books** translated—more to come. **90 employees** daily respond to more than 90,000 emails. **Corrections** answers over 65,000 letters annually. **Archives** receives over 1,300 requests. **8 Million books**, pamphlets & audio materials shipped daily & receive over **73,000** contributions (received 8,000 in Dec. alone) **Big Books sold**: 905,000, eBooks - 54,790 units sold. **Website**: received over 12 million visits, 1000 visits a day for "Need Help with a Drinking Problem?"

FLOOR ACTIONS

1. #3, #5, #7 – Declined, #8 Withdrawn. (Re: ML)
2. #2 Update contact text p. 18 pamphlet "Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous": PASSED
3. #4 Areas Highlights be published in their entirety.: PASSED
4. #6 Conference affirm authority of GSB – FAILED

Want a presentation? Contact:
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