

January 2008

2008 General Service Conference Committees **Agenda Items**

I. Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2009 General Service Conference.
- B. Discuss presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2009 General Service Conference.
- C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2009 General Service Conference.
- D. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form.

II. Cooperation With the Professional Community

- A. Consider the draft Video Segments Directed to Professionals.
- B. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.

III. Corrections

- A. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.
- B. Review service piece "Corrections A.A. Group Handbook"

IV. Finance

- A. Discuss request that a Finance Kit be developed to assist group, Intergroup/central offices, district and area service workers in carrying the message of our shared responsibility for the Seventh Tradition.
- B. Consider the request to "Discuss the benefits and liabilities, both spiritual and practical, of funding the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous solely by the voluntary contributions of A.A. members and A.A. groups, that profits from literature sales will no longer be used to fund our General Service Office. Further, consider a procedure for gathering input from the Fellowship as a whole and prepare a report on these discussions for the 2009 Conference."
- C. Discuss self-support.

V. A.A. Grapevine

- A. Review contents of Workbook.
- B. Review and discuss the staff report addressing the 2007 Additional Consideration to “explore less expensive formats for the production of the Workbook.”
- C. Consider publishing two CDs of stories from La Viña on Traditions One – Twelve.
- D. Reconsider the 2007 General Service Conference Committee Advisory Action recommending that:

“The Grapevine and La Viña include a section on the medical, legal and social aspects of alcoholism, with an appropriate disclaimer.”
- E. Discuss the A.A. Grapevine’s legacy of self-support.
- F. Consider ways to increase awareness of the Grapevine and La Viña’s roles in the Fellowship today.

VI. Literature

- A. Review manuscript of revised pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”
- B. Review progress report from Publications Department on the revision of the pamphlet “The A.A. Member—Medications and Other Drugs.”
- C. Consider a request to change the title of the pamphlet “44 Questions” to “FAQ” subtitled “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”
- D. Consider a request to reinstate the pamphlet “Letter To a Woman Alcoholic.”

VII. Policy/Admissions

- A. Consider approving admission to the 2008 General Service Conference of Scott Ahlgren, alternate delegate, Area 36, Southern Minnesota, in place of Samira Anderson, the Panel 57 delegate for Area 36, who is unable to attend.
- B. Approve invitations for two observers from the General Service Board of Central Mexicana and two observers from the General Service Board and G.S.O. of Great Britain to attend the 58th General Service Conference.
- C. Review dates for the 2011 General Service Conference.
- D. Consider proposal that the current secondary Conference Archives Committee be established as a standing Conference committee.
- E. Review the current policy on international guest observers at the General Service Conference.
- F. Consider delegating to General Service Office management the responsibility for General Service Conference site selection.

VIII. Public Information

- A. Consider 2007 annual report from the trustees' Committee on Public Information regarding G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.
- B. Public Service Announcements (P.S.A.s):
 - 1. Consider approving the proposed 2008 television P.S.A. - "I Thought" - developed by the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
 - 2. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the proposed 2008 television P.S.A. - "I Thought" - at a cost not to exceed \$35,000, as an addition to the work of local Public Information committees.
 - 3. Review information on centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the 2007 television P.S.A., "A Force of Nature."
 - 4. Discuss the 2002 - 2006 General Service Conference Advisory Actions regarding replacement and production of television P.S.A.s.
 - 5. Consider updating the script and recording of Combination Radio P.S.A.s on CD, Item R-10.
- C. Review and approve final draft of the "Alcoholics Anonymous 2007 Membership Survey" pamphlet.
- D. Consider proposed text for a new section on posthumous anonymity in the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity."
- E. Review trustees' Public Information Committee's Progress Report on the A.A. Videos for Young People Project.
- F. Consider request that a wall poster with information about Alcoholics Anonymous be created for placement in school guidance counselor offices.
- G. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.

VIII. Report and Charter

- A. *The A.A. Service Manual*, 2007 - 2008 Edition:
 - 1. Consider a paragraph titled "District Information" for inclusion in Chapter Three.
 - 2. Consider a suggestion to place a glossary of terms used in the *A.A. Service Manual* and the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* after the text of the *A.A. Service Manual* and directly preceding the index.
 - 3. Review additional changes.

B. A.A. Directories (Canada, Western U.S., and Eastern U.S.):

1. Consider listing the Online Intergroup of A.A. (OIAA) in a new section titled "Online Intergroups" under the section "International Correspondence Meetings" in the A.A. Directories where "Online Meetings" appear, and include the online intergroup web site and email addresses.
2. Review additional changes.

C. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.

X Treatment Facilities

- A. Discuss progress report and sample footage of the revised video - *Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous*.
- B. Discuss the possible development of Conference-approved literature and/or service material to stimulate A.A. members' interest in Treatment Facilities Twelfth Step work.
- C. Discuss a proposal that the pamphlet, *Bridging the Gap* (BTG), be rewritten to reflect that the BTG program is used in both Treatment Facilities and Corrections service work.
- D. Review contents of Kit and Workbook.

XI. Trustees

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 1. West Central Regional Trustee
 2. Western Canada Regional Trustee
 3. Trustee-at-Large/Canada
- B. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- E. Review report from the trustees' Committee on Nominating regarding Nominating Procedure No. 9 ("Guidelines for Hiring General Manager, G.S.O.") and length of service of General Manager, G.S.O.
- F. Discuss request to revisit the 2007 General Service Conference Advisory Action to consider all eligible Class A and Class B trustees when selecting the Chairperson of the General Service Board.

G. Bylaws of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc., amended in April 2007:

1. Discuss recommendation from the General Service Board that the following language from paragraph three, page 4 of the Bylaws be amended so that it applies only to **Class B regional trustees**:

“...However, when the vacancy being filled is that of a Class B **regional** trustee, the maximum term of service of such successor member trustee shall be limited to that number of one-year terms which will result in the term of service of the successor member trustee ending at the same time as the term of the replaced member trustee would have ended if no vacancy had occurred and the replaced member trustee had served four consecutive one-year terms.”

2. Discuss recommendation from the General Service Board that the following language from paragraph two, page 4 of the Bylaws be amended so that it applies only to **Class B regional trustees**:

“In the event that any member trustee shall resign, die, retire, be removed, become disqualified, or shall be otherwise unable to serve, the trustees may, at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Trustees, elect a new member trustee to fill such vacancy, or, alternatively, permit such a vacancy to continue until the next annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board. A third alternative, with respect to Class B **regional** member trustee vacancies occasioned by resignation, death, retirement, removal or disqualification, is to permit the vacancy to remain unfilled for the remainder of the four year commitment, and to allow regional coverage to be provided by the trustee-at-large or the regional trustee from an adjacent region, unless a region decides that a new regional member trustee should be elected.”

3. Discuss recommendation from the General Service Board that the Bylaws be amended to include options for interim changes to member trustee ratio and composition in response to the 2007 Advisory Action which instituted consideration of all eligible Class A and Class B trustees when selecting the Chairperson of the General Service Board.
4. Discuss the suggestion that the General Service Board Bylaws extend the term of Class B regional trustees after filling the term of an unexpected General Service Board vacancy.

XII. Archives

- A. Review contents of Workbook.
- B. Discuss ideas for making A.A.'s archives and history more readily available to the Fellowship in the future.

XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

- A. Discuss selection of three cities to be considered as a site for the International Convention in 2020
- B. Discuss inviting up to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers to participate in the 2010 International Convention at A.A.'s expense.
- C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional and Local Forums.