

**2009 General Service Conference Committees  
Area 40 Delegate Report**

The following is a synopsis by agenda item of the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual General Service Conference. The Panel 59 Area 40 Delegate developed this document. Questions regarding this document can be directed to [delegate@aa-montana.org](mailto:delegate@aa-montana.org). The General Service Office will publish the full conference report some time in the summer of 2009

**I. Agenda**

- Review suggestions for the theme of the 2010 General Service Conference.
  - ◆ The Conference approved a recommendation that the theme for the 2010 General Service Conference be: “Practicing A.A.’s Principles – the Pathway to Unity”
- Discuss presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2010 General Service Conference.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation that the following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2010 General Service Conference
    1. Practicing These Principles in All our “Service” Affairs
      - a. What is the Difference Between General Service and Service in General?
      - b. Love and Tolerance is our Code
      - c. Setting an Example – Attraction to Service
    2. Unity Through Inventory:
      - a. Our Common Welfare Should Come First
      - b. This We Owe to A.A.’s Future
      - c. What Happens After Inventory?
    3. General Service Conference Agenda Selection Process:
      - a. How it Works
      - b. Collective Participation
      - c. Communication – The Key to an Informed Decision
- Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2010 General Service Conference.
  - ◆ The Conference approved a recommendation that the following workshop topic for the 2010 General Service Conference: “Discuss the General Service Conference Agenda Selection Process,” and that all the background provided to the 2009 Conference Agenda Committee regarding the “General Service Conference Agenda Selection Process,” be sent to the members of the 60<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference in February 2010 as background for the 2010 Conference workshop session along with any additional, related background material that may be compiled by the General Service Board, the Trustees’ Committee on the Conference, the General Service Office, or other sources.
- Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form.
  - ◆ Made no changes

**II. Cooperation With the Professional Community**

- Review video segment directed to professionals in the employment/human relations field.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the video segment directed to professionals in the employment/ Human Relations field to be streamed on G.S.O.’s A.A. website.
- Discuss possible uses of the A.A. Grapevine and LaVina in C.P.C. endeavors.

- ◆ Other Consideration: A.A. Groups, individuals or committees participate in 'Adopt a Professional' efforts and take a single issue or purchase a subscription for the professional.
- ◆ Other Consideration: "Lose a Grapevine" by leaving an issue behind in a professional's office.
- ◆ Other Consideration: Consider inviting A.A. Grapevine reps to participate in local C.P.C. presentations and exhibits.
- Review contents of Kit and Workbook.
  - ◆ The committee reviewed the current C.P.C. Kit and Workbook and suggested that appropriate references to the "A.A. Grapevine" in the C.P.C. Workbook be updated to include La Viña and La Vigne.
  - ◆ The committee requested that the staff and trustees consider creating a survey-style follow up letter to be completed by the professional after a C.P.C. contact to assess the effectiveness of the C.P.C. effort. This letter could address items such as the effectiveness of A.A. literature (including the A.A. Grapevine, La Viña and La Vigne), C.P.C. presentations and contact by A.A. members. This letter would be included in the Guide Letter Section of the C.P.C. Workbook.
- Other Considerations
  - ◆ The committee suggested that the voiceover of the text regarding anonymity and singleness of purpose in the C.P.C. video segments directed to professionals in the legal/criminal justice and medical fields currently streamed on G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site be consistent with the C.P.C. video segment directed to professionals in the employment/human relations field.
  - ◆ The committee suggested that the C.P.C. video segments directed to professionals in the legal/criminal justice, medical and employment/human relations fields be added in DVD format to the C.P.C. Kit and made available for purchase.

### **III. Corrections**

- Consider alternatives to biennial mailing to corrections professionals, focusing on those that may be more effective and fiscally prudent
  - ◆ The Committee's suggested:
    - That the automatic biennial mailing begun by additional consideration to the Conference Committee on Corrections in 1999 be suspended indefinitely
    - That the American Correctional Association Directory of Adult and Juvenile Correction Departments, Institutions, Agencies, and Probation and Parole continue to be purchased on a biennial basis and the contact information therein be sent to the relevant area corrections committee chair.
- Consider updating the pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell."
  - ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation that the Trustees' Committee on Corrections undertake a revision of the pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell" which will take into consideration:
    - More stories of recovery from alcoholism through the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous, drawn from Sharing From Behind the Walls, Box 4-5-9, or other available sources
    - Less use of outdated and directive language (such as that used in the section on H.A.L.T.
    - Including photographs that reflect current times.

and that a draft pamphlet or a progress report be brought back to the 2010 Conference Committee on Corrections.

- ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation that the photo on page 18 of the

pamphlet, "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell," which shows an inmate smoking a hand-rolled cigarette, be replaced with a photo of the current edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, in future reprints, as well as in any revision.

Note: The above items originally came out of committee as additional considerations. The Conference sent it back to committee and these became Advisory Actions.

- Discuss issues that may be involved in A.A. members' complying with the rules of correctional facilities, such as signing "sponsorship agreements: or legally binding documents."
  - ◆ The committee discussed issues that may be involved in A.A. members complying with the rules of correctional facilities, such as signing 'sponsorship agreements' or legally binding documents, and requested sharing from the A.A. Fellowship regarding this topic to be gathered by the staff member and the trustees' Committee on Corrections and that this sharing be sent to the 2010 Conference Committee on Corrections.
  
- Review the Kit and Workbook
  - ◆ The committee reviewed the contents of the Corrections Kit and Workbook and made the following suggestions:
    - That the list of contents be corrected to indicate that both the Corrections Correspondence Service flyer for the outside A.A. member (F-26) and the Corrections Correspondence request form for inmates (CCS-2) are included in the Kit.
    - That the Spanish-language and the French-language Corrections Kit contents be updated to match as closely as possible the English-language Kit. The committee heard a report from the Publications director that *A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate* will be completed in Spanish by fall of 2009, and the DVD *A.A. in Correctional Facilities* will be available in a compilation of all three languages by the end of 2009.
    - That a copy of the booklet *A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate* (in the appropriate language) be included in the Kits.
    - That the list of Corrections Kit Contents be placed on G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site in the Corrections 'bucket' with the appropriate links to each service piece, pamphlet or book, where available.

#### IV. Finance

- Review information received from the Fellowship to date in response to the 2008 Conference action:

That the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee gather input from the Fellowship on the benefits and liabilities, both spiritual and practical of fully funding G.S.O. Services to the Fellowship (G.S.O. functional expenses) by the voluntary contributions of A.A. members and groups and that this information be forwarded to the 2009 Conference Committee on Finance.

- ◆ The Conference approved a recommendation that the Trustees' Finance Committee gather input from the Fellowship on the following for review by the 2010 Conference Committee on Finance: 1) If we continue to use literature profits to fund services, should there be a limit? 2) If there is a limit how do we continue to pay for services if there is a shortfall in contributions?

(The committee requests that the statement of policy “Self-Support of the World Services of Alcoholics Anonymous” be distributed as background.)

- ◆ The Conference approved a recommendation that a discussion of additional ways to communicate with the Fellowship be included on the agenda for the Conference Committee on Finance for the 60<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference.
- Discuss request to produce a Seventh Tradition poster.
  - ◆ The Committee felt that while visual aides are helpful, it did not feel that there was a need for Conference approved Seventh Tradition poster but hoped that local areas might create visual aides that could be shared with others.
- Discuss other aspects of self-support.

## V. Grapevine

- Review contents of Workbook.
  - ◆ The committee discussed the contents of the A. A. Grapevine workbook with appreciation and noted that the new portable GvR Handbook requested by the 2008 Conference Committee on the A.A. Grapevine is scheduled for publication.
  - ◆ The committee also requested that the current A.A. Grapevine Workbook, *A Guide to the A.A. Grapevine*, continue to be posted on the A.A. Grapevine Web site as a free download. The committee suggested that the location and description of the Workbook/Guide be reviewed to improve visibility and accessibility on the Web site.
- Consider request that “the 2007 Conference Advisory Action recommending that ‘the Grapevine and La Vina include a section on the medical, legal, and social aspects of alcoholism, with an appropriate disclaimer; be rescinded.”
  - ◆ The committee considered a request that “the 2007 Conference Advisory Action recommending that ‘the A.A. Grapevine and La Viña include a section on the medical, legal, and social aspects of alcoholism, with an appropriate disclaimer’ be rescinded’ and after lengthy and thoughtful discussion took no action.
- Consider request that the following 2004 Conference Advisory Action be rescinded: “To allow the widest distribution of the A.A. Grapevine and La Vina to all purchasers, while guarding against affiliations with any outside enterprise, a) subscriptions to the A.A. Grapevine and La Vina magazines be issued only by A.A. Grapevine and La Vina servants directly; and b) the A.A. Grapevine, Inc., adopt standardized sales practices and pricing structures for all purchasers.”
  - ◆ The committee considered a request that the 2004 Conference Advisory Action—“*To allow the widest distribution of the A.A. Grapevine and La Viña to all purchasers, while guarding against affiliations with any outside enterprise, a) subscriptions to the A.A. Grapevine and La Viña magazines be issued only by A.A. Grapevine, Inc., or by A.A. trusted servants directly; and b) the A.A. Grapevine, Inc., adopt standardized sales practices and pricing structures for all purchasers. Note: This recommendation is to clarify the 1993 Advisory Action stating that the Grapevine Corporate Board not actively pursue the placement of Grapevine materials for resale in commercial (non-A.A.) outlets.*”—be rescinded and took no action. The committee noted that rescinding the 2004 Advisory Action would not have an impact on the 2009 subscription price.
- The committee supported the spirit of communication between the Grapevine Board and the Conference members, as recommended in 1987 and reaffirmed in 1988 that: “The Grapevine staff be responsible for communicating updated information to the delegates at appropriate intervals regarding editorial, circulation/fulfillment, and financial matters.

- The committee expressed concerns regarding several changes and decisions made by the A.A. Grapevine office and Board in the last year, concerning items produced by A.A. Grapevine Inc.. The committee requested that the A.A. Grapevine Board review the history of advisory actions pertaining to the relationship between the A.A. Grapevine Board, A.A. Grapevine office and the Conference Committee, on the decision –making process of matters that affect the Fellowship (i.e. pricing, redesign, name change and promotional items) and forward a report to the 60<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Committee on the A. A. Grapevine for their review.

## VI. Literature

- Review draft of revised pamphlet “The A.A. Member – Medications and Other Drugs.”
  - ◆ The revised 59<sup>th</sup> Conference pamphlet, “The A.A. Member – Medications and Other Drugs,” be returned to the trustees’ Literature Committee for additional discussion and report back to the 2010 Conference Committee on Literature.

(The recommendation to approve this pamphlet was considered twice by the Conference. Both times it was disapproved. The above is a Floor Action.)

- Review the revised draft pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”
  - ◆ The Conference approved revised draft pamphlet, “A.A. for the Native North American” (first voted down, and then reconsidered and approved.)
- Consider request that the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” be reviewed toward eliminating or revising outmoded ethnic, cultural and vocational references.
  - ◆ The Conference approved a recommended that the trustees’ Literature Committee undertake a thorough review of the pamphlet, “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship,” and eliminate or revise outmoded ethnic, cultural and vocational references.
- Consider request to develop a new Special Needs recovery pamphlet for newcomers or prospective A.A. members.
  - ◆ The Conference approved that Special Needs recovery pamphlet for newcomers or prospective members be developed and that stories be solicited from members with various special needs, for example, members who are deaf, blind, wheel-chair bound, etc. [Note: The approximate cost is \$6,850.]
- Consider request to add a sentence to the pamphlet “A Newcomer Asks” that encourages newcomers to obtain and study the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*.
  - ◆ The Conference approved adding the sentence encouraging newcomers to obtain and study the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be added to the pamphlet, “A Newcomer Asks.”
- Consider request to change the title of the pamphlet “44 Questions” to “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”
  - ◆ The Conference approved changing the title of the pamphlet to “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”
- Discuss whether there is a need to develop Conference-approved literature that focuses on the topics of spirituality, and agnostics or atheists/nonbelievers in A.A.
  - ◆ The Committed recommended that the Trustees’ Committee on Literature develop a questionnaire to gather input from the Fellowship on whether there is a need to develop Conference-approved literature that focuses on the topics of spirituality, and agnostics or atheists/nonbelievers in A.A., and that a report

which includes a summary of the results from the responses to the questionnaire be presented to the 2010 Conference Committee on Literature.

The Conference did not approve this recommendation.

- Consider request to publish a book of stories from members living in remote communities.
  - ◆ The committee considered the request to publish a book of stories from members living in remote communities and took no action. The committee noted that there was no widely expressed need.
- Consider request to develop a second volume of *Daily Reflections*.
  - ◆ The committee considered the request and took no action.
- Consider request to develop a video on the General Service Representative (G.S.R.)
  - ◆ The committee considered a request to develop a video on the General Service Representative and recommended updating the existing video/DVD, "You're a. A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine, and the General Service Structure" and adding one episode on G.S.R. and one episode on D.C.M. to the video/DVD. The committee looks forward to reviewing a progress report or a revised video/DVD at the 2010 Conference. [Note: approximate cost \$64,000]  
The Conference did not approve this recommendation

## **VII. Policy/Admissions**

- It was approved to allow Frank Z., alternate delegate, Area 12, Delaware, be seated as a Conference member at the 59<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference because Joe S., the Panel 58 delegate for Area 12, passed away.
- Approve invitations for one observer from the General Service Board of Brazil, S.A. and two observers (1) from the General Service Board and (1) from the General Service Office of Colombia, S.A.
  - ◆ Claudio from the General Service Board of Brazil, Mario from the General Service Board of Colombia and Plinio, Manager, G.S.O. Colombia, were admitted to the 59<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference as observers.
- Review dates for the 2012 General Service Conference.
  - ◆ The 62<sup>nd</sup> General Service Conference be held April 22-28, 2012 since these dates do not conflict with any significant holidays, hotel availability and Bylaws' deadlines of the General Service Board, Inc.
- Review "General Service Board Summary of Responses to Inventory Questions Pertaining to Regional Composition and Structure".
  - ◆ The committee reviewed the "General Service Board Summary of Responses to Inventory Questions Pertaining to Regional Composition and Structure" with appreciation and express their gratitude to the General Service Board for their thorough discussion of the inventory questions.
- Consider a request to formulate a procedure for filing a minority appeal directly with the General Service Conference, as described in Bill W.'s commentary on Concept V.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation that the General Service Board develop a procedure for the submission of Concept V minority appeals to the General Service Conference and bring a draft to the 2010 Conference Policy/Admissions Committee for their review.

The committee asked that the following questions from the report, "Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference Subcommittee on Forwarding Minority Reports and Presentations to the General Service Conference" be

addressed in the proposed procedure:

- a) To whom does the minority announce that it intends to present a minority report to the Conference?
  - b) What is the deadline for making such a decision?
  - c) What Conference members, if any, are given advance notice of the decision?
  - d) Who is responsible for seeing that the minority report and its documentation are in fact physically made available to the Conference?
  - e) What is the deadline for distributing the minority report and its documentation?
  - f) To whom are the minority report and its documentation given?
- Discuss proposal requesting a General Service Conference inventory.
    - ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation that the General Service Board develop a plan for the General Service Conference to conduct an inventory of itself that includes a planning committee consisting of representatives of delegates, trustees, directors, non-trustee directors, and staff, and that a progress report be presented to the 2010 Policy/Admissions Committee.

### **VIII. Public Information**

- Consider 2008 annual report from the trustees' Committee on Public Information regarding GSO's A.A. Website.
  - ◆ The committee reviewed the 2008 Annual Report from the trustees' Committee on Public Information regarding G.S.O.'s A.A. Web Site.
- Consider a request to add the text "Provide initial motivation" to the section "What A.A. does NOT do" in the pamphlet "A.A. at a Glance."
  - ◆ The Committee requested that the Trustees' Public Information Committee consider placing the full text of the section "What A.A. Does Not Do" from the service piece "Information on Alcoholics Anonymous," into the "What A.A. Does Not Do" section of the "A.A. at a Glance" flyer.
- Review a rough draft of the updated text and graphics of the pamphlet "A Message to Teenagers..." which utilizes selected text and graphics from the current "Too Young?" pamphlet.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the updated pamphlet, "A Message to Teenagers," containing selected text and graphics from the current "Too Young?" pamphlet, be approved with minor changes.
- Consider draft wall poster for young people with information about Alcoholics Anonymous.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the wall poster for young people with information about Alcoholics Anonymous be approved with minor changes.
- Consider a request "to develop a generic A.A. poster or posters for places such as hospitals, places of employment, doctors' offices, etc."
  - ◆ The committee took no action noting that there was not a widely expressed need.

#### Public Service Announcements (P.S.A.s):

- Review current television public service announcements for relevance and usefulness.
  - ◆ The committee reviewed the current television P.S.A.s and suggested that none be retired.
- Assess the need for a new television public service announcement.

- ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation that new A.A. television public service announcement (P.S.A.) be developed for review by the 2010 Conference Committee on Public Information, at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, and that full faces of actors portraying A.A. members not be shown in this P.S.A. (This was voted down and then reconsidered.)

Note: The committee suggested that older alcoholics and alcoholics with special needs be portrayed in this P.S.A.

- Review revised draft script of “Combination Radio P.S.A.s on CD,” and consider recording revised script at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation the revised script for “Combination Radio P.S.A.s on CD,” omitting P.S.A. #15, be approved with minor changes, and recorded at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.
  - ◆ The committee requested that the script be included in the packaging of the “Combination Radio P.S.A.s on CD.”
- Review information on centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the 2008 television P.S.A., “I Thought.”
  - ◆ The committee reviewed information on centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the 2008 A.A. television public service announcement “I Thought.”
- Consider draft of the “A.A. Videos for Young People Project.”
  - ◆ The Conference approved the four selected A.A. Videos for Young People be approved with minor changes.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the recommendation that the videos, “A.A. – Rap With Us” and “Young People and A.A.,” be discontinued.
  - ◆ The Committee requested that the A.A. Videos for Young People Project continue, and that video submissions be encouraged from young people in the Fellowship, especially from Spanish-speaking members.
  - ◆ The committee requested that the trustees’ Public Information Committee consider distribution options in addition to DVD for the A.A. Videos for Young People, e.g., placement on G.S.O.’s A.A. Web site.
- Consider draft 2010 Alcoholic Anonymous Membership Survey Questionnaire.
  - ◆ The Conference approved draft 2010 Membership Survey Questionnaire.
  - ◆ The Committee requested that the Trustees’ Public Information Committee consider the purpose, usefulness, frequency and methodology of the A.A. Membership Survey.
- Consider the need to clarify the importance of not breaking the anonymity of living A.A. members in memorial announcements when one of our Fellowship dies.
  - ◆ The Committee requested that the Trustees’ Public Information Committee develop test on the importance of not breaking the anonymity of living A.A. members in memorial announcements when one of our Fellowship dies. This test, intended for inclusion in the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity,” is requested to be brought back to the 2010 Conference Committee on Public Information.
- Discuss suggestion that Public Information committees “explore the use of A.A. Grapevine and LaVina in their endeavors.”
  - ◆ The Committee briefly discussed.
- Review contents of Kit and Workbook.
  - ◆ The committee reviewed the contents of the Public Information Kit and Workbook and requested that the pamphlets “Too Young?” and “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic – Never Too Late” be included.

## IX. Report and Charter

- *The A.A. Service Manual, 2009 – 2010 Edition:*
  1. Add the term of non-trustee directors to the section describing how they are selected (S75).
    - The Conference Approved that the sentence “A nontrustee director can serve up to four one-year terms” be added to the end of the section “Choosing Nontrustee Directors For A.A. World Services and The A.A. Grapevine” on page S75 of the *The A.A. Service Manual/ Twelve Concepts for World Service* so that it reads as follows:

“The remaining candidates are interviewed by the corporate board’s nominating committee which recommends a nominee to the full board. The name and resume of the nominee are then forwarded to the trustees’ Nominating Committee, for approval by the General Service Board and the General Service Conference. Per the A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine By-laws, a nontrustee director can serve up to four one-year terms.”
  2. Add “The G.S.R. Preamble” to the A.A. Service Manual. The committee received with a locally developed G.S.R. Preamble and decided not to include it in *The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service*.
    - The committee recognized that the G.S.R. Preamble is not broadly utilized within the Fellowship and the ideals expressed already exist in G.S.R. Material.
  3. All changes, including editorial changes, made to *The A.A. Service Manual Combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service* are to be approved by the General Service Conference.
    - The Conference approved that all changes to *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* be listed in the edition in which the changes appear for the first time, and organized by source of change (General Service Board, Conference Advisory Action, Conference Committee on Report & Charter, Publications Department). Conference advisory actions will be noted by vertical margin change bars in the edition in which the change appears for the first time.
    - The Conference approved that the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. Board and the A.A. Grapevine Board annually review *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* and forward necessary updates to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter.
    - Editorial responsibilities of the Publications Department of the General Service Office regarding *The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service* will be limited to the following:
      - Update financial and publication data that changes on an annual basis.
      - Revise dates that require periodic updating.
      - Correct typographical and spelling errors.
      - Maintain an accurate index and cross references.
  4. Change the title “Conference Language” (S19) to “Glossary of Conference Terms” and have the corresponding index entry (S121) reflect this change.
    - The Conference approved that the title “Conference Language” on page S19 be changed to “Glossary of General Service Terms” and that the subheading “A glossary of terms frequently used in general service activities” be removed.

5. Consider suggestion to add text regarding desirability of business or professional background for regional and trustee-at-large trustees to the section of *The A.A. Service Manual* on “Qualifications of an Effective Trustee.” On page S63.
  - The committee reviewed a request from the A.A.W.S. Board to add text regarding the desirability of business or professional background for regional and at-large trustees to the section of *The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service* on “Qualifications of an Effective Trustee” found on p. S63. The committee strongly believes that placing such limitations on those who are willing to serve might prevent the selection of the most qualified candidate.
6. Review suggested revisions to Chapters 10 and 12 regarding the A.A. Grapevine.
  - The committee reviewed suggested revisions to Chapters 10 and 12 of *The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service* submitted by the A.A. Grapevine Board. The Committee suggested that the A.A. Grapevine Board forward revisions of Chapters 10 and 12 to the 2010 Conference Committee on Report & Charter and:
    - Use the current version (2009-2010) of Chapters 10 and 12 as the basic text.
    - Include any new charts necessary to the text.
    - Provide reasons for the proposed revisions.

The committee also suggested that the A.A. Grapevine Board may wish to retain accurate historical information currently in *The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

7. Consider revised suggestion regarding the term of service Appointed Committee Members on page S70.
  - The last sentence of page S70 of the 2008-2009 edition of *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* in the section “Appointed Committee Members” be changed from “The term of service is four years, renewed on a yearly basis” to “Appointed Committee Members are appointed for one year, but the term may be extended depending on committee projects (maximum four years).”

Note: This language makes the description of the terms of service of Appointed Committee Members consistent with the language in the trustees’ Committee on Nominating Procedure No. 2, “Procedures for Selecting Appointed Committee Members for General Service Board Committees.”

8. Consider request to clarify language on page S65 regarding nominating a regional trustee candidate in the same year when nominating a trustee-at-large candidate.
  - The committee is forwarding a request to clarify language regarding nominating a regional trustee candidate in the same year when nominating a trustee-at-large candidate to the 2010 Conference Committee on Trustees, as the request includes reference to the 1985 Conference Committee on Trustees Advisory Action, “no area shall submit an individual as candidate for both regional trustee and trustee-at-large U.S./Canada in the same year.”
9. Review letter requesting an “inventory” of various items related to the General Service Conference Charter.
10. Consider suggestion to insert the page reference “(see page S63” in the section on Regional Trustees found on page S65.

- The committee considered a suggestion to insert the page reference “(see page S63)” in the section on Regional Trustees found on page S65 and decided it was not needed.
11. Consider suggestion to add cross-references to area numbers and area names.
- The Conference approved that the Area numbers be inserted next to area names in Appendix D, pages S105 and S106 of *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service*.
12. Review list of suggested additional changes
- The committee reviewed a list of proposed editorial changes to *The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service* and forwarded them to the Publications Department.
- A.A. Directories (Canada, Western U.S., and Eastern U.S.); review list of suggested changes.
    - The committee reviewed a list of proposed editorial changes to *The A.A. Directories* and forwarded them to the Publications Department.
  - Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.
    - The committee agreed to review the rough draft of the *Final Conference Report* and the tear sheets of *The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service* with careful attention to accuracy and completeness of reporting. The committee agreed to return corrections or suggestions to the G.S.O. within 21 days of receipt.

## **X. Treatment Facilities**

- Review revised video, Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous.
  - ◆ The Conference approved the revised video, Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous.
- Discuss a proposal that TF literature (A.A. in Treatment Facilities, Bridging the Gap, and the Treatment Facilities Workbook) include information that would assist area/district Treatment Facilities Committees with their effort to carry the A.A. message to treatment professionals and patients in out-patient treatment programs.
  - ◆ The committee considered a proposal to include additional information on carrying A.A.’s message to treatment facilities with out-patient programs. The committee requested that the trustees’ Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community/Treatment Facilities consider developing a section on carrying the A.A. message into out-patient treatment settings, using shared experience, for inclusion in the Treatment Facilities Workbook and the A.A. Guidelines on Treatment Facilities.
  - ◆ In addition, the committee suggested that staff continue to gather shared area experience regarding carrying the A.A. message into out-patient treatment settings and that the trustees’ Committee on Cooperation With the Professional Community/Treatment Facilities continue to explore ways to carry the A.A. message to treatment professionals and patients in out-patient settings.
- Discuss request that the Conference Committee on Treatment Committees expand its scope to include services to Special Needs Committees and that the name of the committee be changed to “Conference Committee on Treatment Facilities/Special Needs.”
  - ◆ The Conference approved the Treatment Facilities committee’s scope be expanded to include service to Special Needs/Accessibilities committees and that the name of the committee be changed to the Conference Committee on Treatment Facilities/Special Needs/Accessibilities.

- Discuss specific possible uses of the A.A. Grapevine and LaVina in Treatment endeavors.
  - ◆ The committee discussed possible uses of the A.A. Grapevine and La Viña in Treatment Facilities endeavors and suggested that the A.A. Grapevine consider developing an annual treatment facilities issue similar to its annual Corrections issue. In addition, it was suggested that if a new treatment facilities issue is published that it be placed in the Treatment Facilities Kit.
  - ◆ It was also suggested that groups be encouraged to adopt a treatment facility or center for the purpose of providing subscriptions and/or back issues of the A.A. Grapevine.
- Review contents of Kit and Workbook.
  - ◆ Upon review of the Treatment Facilities Kit and Workbook, the committee suggested that an A.A. Grapevine as well as the DVD *Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous*, be included in the kit.
  - ◆ It was also suggested that a one-page insert containing suggested uses/examples of the “Local Experiences” tab be added to the Treatment Facilities Kit.

## **XI. Trustees**

- The following Trustees were elected:
  - ◆ East Central regional trustee – Eleanor N,
  - ◆ Southeast regional trustee – Pamela R.
  - ◆ Trustee-at-Large/U.S. – Don M.
- Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
  - ◆ The following presented much discussion at the Conference. Since that time, Jeanne S. Woodford, Class A Trustee has resigned. She cited personal reasons and has only attended 1 of the 4 meetings of the Board in her year serving as Trustee. The Board has met via telephone conference without resolve of Jeanne’s replacement.
  - ◆ The following slates of trustees and officers be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. in May 2009:

### Class A Trustees

Terrance M. Bedient, FACHE  
 Frances L. Brisbane, Ph.D.  
 Corliss Burke  
 William D. Clark, M.D.  
 Ward B. Ewing, D.D.  
 The Honorable Rogelio R. Flores  
 Jeanne S. Woodford

### Class B Trustees

Kenneth B  
 Conley B.  
 Dorothy H  
 John K  
 Jo-Anne L  
 George M  
 Don M  
 Don M  
 Eleanor N.  
 Madeleine P.  
 Victor P.  
 Pamela R.

Note: The General Service Board will operate short one Class B regional trustee and

one Class B general service trustee.

On April 27, 2009 the General Service Board approved a motion that the trustees' Nominating Committee, in consultation with the A.A.W.S. Board, consider actions to fill the vacant general service trustee position and report their conclusions to the General Service Board at its summer 2009 meeting. At that time the General Service Board may choose to appoint a Class B general service trustee.

#### Officers of the General Service Board

Chairperson	Ward B. Ewing, D.D.
First vice-chairperson	Madeleine P.
Second vice-chairperson	William D. Clark, M.D.
Treasurer	Terrance M. Bedient, FACHE
Secretary	Conley B

- Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
  - ◆ Andrea G. B.      Jo-Anne L
  - Adrienne B\*      George M
  - Phyllis H.        William N.
  - John K.            Victor P.
  - Roberta L.
  
- Review slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
  - ◆ Ginger R.B.            Nancy H
  - Robin B                Dorothy H
  - Kenneth B              Don M
  - Conley B                Albin Z
  
- Discuss report from the trustees' Committee on Nominating pertaining to the 2008 Additional Committee Consideration regarding Class B regional trustee and trustee-at-large successor terms in the event of an unexpected vacancy.
  - ◆ The committee thoroughly reviewed and unanimously accepted, with one correction noted, the report from the trustees' Committee on Nominating pertaining to the 2008 Additional Committee Consideration regarding Class B regional trustee and trustee-at-large successor terms in the event of an unexpected vacancy.
  
- Discuss suggested revision to procedure for distribution of trustee election resumes at the General Service Conference.
  - ◆ The Conference approved that in light of the extensive confidential information in the trustees' election resumes, resumes of all election candidates would no longer be made available to all Conference members immediately prior to the Conference trustees' election session. Distribution of trustee resumes at the Conference would be limited to only voting delegates and members of the Conference Committee on Trustees and the trustees' Committee on Nominating. The resumes of the elected trustees would be distributed to all Conference members immediately after the election session.  
Note: The purpose of this suggested limited distribution of Conference trustee election resumes is to emphasize the General Service Board's and the Conference's commitment to protecting the confidentiality of trustee candidates' resume information.

## **XII. Archives**

- Review contents of Workbook.
  - ◆ The committee reviewed the Archives Workbook and expressed satisfaction with the contents.
- Discuss ideas to make A.A.'s archives and history more readily available to the Fellowship.
  - ◆ The Conference Committee on Archives wishes to emphasize the importance of G.S.O.'s A.A. Archives as precious to all members of our Fellowship and wishes to express concern over staffing levels at G.S.O.'s A.A. Archives.
  - ◆ The committee requested that the trustees' Archives Committee create a report to be forwarded to the 2010 Conference Archives Committee on the feasibility of developing a format (e.g., PowerPoint® presentation) for a self-guided tour of G.S.O.'s A.A. Archives to convey the experience of visiting G.S.O. and the Archives, for those who have not yet visited the General Service Office in New York.
  - ◆ The committee requested that the trustees' Archives Committee consider a suggestion to add a daily historical reference to G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site to create interest and enthusiasm for A.A.'s history and archival collection.
  - ◆ The committee received a report from the Senior Archivist on archival activities since the last Conference in response to suggestions from the 2008 Conference Committee on various ideas for creatively making A.A.'s archives and history readily available to the Fellowship.

### **XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums**

- Discuss an anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony to be taken at the 2010 International Convention.
  - ◆ An anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2010 International Convention.
- Consider a broadcast of the 2010 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony similar to the encrypted, anonymity-protected, delayed extranet broadcast of the 2005 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony.
  - ◆ An encrypted, anonymity-protected Internet broadcast of the 2010 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony be approved.
- Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional and Local Forums.
  - ◆ Be enthusiastic in announcing the Forum in advance, and reporting on it afterwards.
  - ◆ Write an article about the Forum for a local newsletter or Web site.
  - ◆ Participation is key—get people involved in the planning of the Forum, as greeters, hospitality, registration, etc.
  - ◆ Encourage all segments of the Fellowship to attend, including those who speak other languages.
  - ◆ Seek ways to prevent conflicts with other local events, such as sharing weekend A.A. event schedules through a central office or intergroup.
  - ◆ Let members know that Local Forums can be requested by any A.A. entity; the request does not need to come through the general service structure.
  - ◆ Overcome challenges of the cost of attending Forums by encouraging members to ride together and share rooms; some areas have rented buses for members to travel together.