

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

AGENDA / LITERATURE / TRUSTEES COMMITTEE

- **A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2019 General Service Conference.**

[X] Reviewed

Committee discussed the proposed themes and decided that “Attitude of Gratitude” and “Principles Before Personalities – Our Spiritual Foundation” would be good themes for the 2019 conference.

- **B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2019 General Service Conference.**

[X] Reviewed

And decided that “How we were yesterday the beginning?”, “How we are today?” and “How will it be tomorrow?” would be good Presentation/Discussion topic ideas for the 2019 General Service Conference.

- **C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2019 General Service Conference.**

[X] Discussed

Committee discussed and their first pick was “Explaining General Service to your Group” and “Our Expectations for the Future” for workshop topic ideas for the 2019 General Service Conference.

- **D. Consider request for the development of a new book combining *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* with *Twelve Concepts for World Service*.**

[X] Recommendation to develop a new book combining *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* with *Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 7 For 3 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 32 For 9 Against
Minority opinion offered, motion to reconsider
22 For 15 Against
Reconsideration
27 For 16 Against
Motion fails for lack of substantial unanimity

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

AGENDA / LITERATURE / TRUSTEES COMMITTEE (continued)

- **E. Review proposal to censure the General Service Board.**

[X] Recommendation

Committee recommends to censure the General Service Board.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 10 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 9 For 13 Against
Motion fails

- **D. Review proposal to reorganize the A.A. World Services and General Service Boards.**

[X] Recommendation

Committee recommends that reorganization of the AAWS and General Service Board be addressed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 10 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 12 For 9 Against
Minority opinion offered, motion to reconsider
21 For 2 Against
Reconsideration
19 For 8 Against
Motion carries with substantial unanimity

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

PUBLIC INFORMATION / COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

- **A. Consider revisions to the pamphlet “A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional.”**

[X] Recommendation to revise the pamphlet “A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional” as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 25 For 1 Against
Motion carries

- **B. Consider revisions to the pamphlet “Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous.”**

[X] Recommendation to revise the pamphlet “Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous” as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 5 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 24 For 0 Against
Motion carries

- **C. Consider revisions to the pamphlet “If You Are a Professional...”**

[X] Recommendation to revise the pamphlet “If You Are a Professional...” as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 24 For 0 Against
Motion carries

- **D. Review 2017 annual report from the trustees’ Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.**

[X] Reviewed – no action taken.

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

PUBLIC INFORMATION / COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE (continued)

- **E. Consider revisions to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” which expand content on Traditions Eleven and Twelve and add information related to safety in A.A.**

Other recommendation

To revise the pamphlet for pages 5 and 11 as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 7 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 24 For 1 Against
Motion carries

Other recommendation

To delete the last paragraph of Anonymity at the Public Level (page 7) and add the new section: “The spiritual significance of Anonymity.”

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 7 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 22 For 2 Against
Motion carries

- **F. 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.**

Other recommendation

The Committee recommends revision to the pamphlet “A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous on pages 10, 11 and 12 as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 8 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 21 For 2 Against
Motion carries

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

E. 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. (continued)

Other recommendation

To revise the pamphlet for page 5 as proposed

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 8 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 22 For 2 Against
Motion carries

To revise page 9 as proposed

No recommendation – no action taken.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 5 For 3 Against

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

LITERATURE / REPORT & CHARTER COMMITTEE

- **A. Consider request that A.A. (U.S./Canada) publish “The God Word” (a pamphlet currently published by the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Great Britain).**

[X] No recommendation – no action taken.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 5 For 0 Against 1 Abstain

- **B. Consider request for the development of a pamphlet for atheist and agnostic members.**

[X] Recommendation to develop a pamphlet for atheist and agnostic members.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 25 For 19 Against
Motion fails for lack of substantial unanimity

- **C. Consider request to change the subtitle of the pamphlet “G.S.R. General Service Representative: May Be the Most Important Job in A.A.”**

[X] Recommendation to change the subtitle of the pamphlet “G.S.R. General Service Representative: May Be the Most Important Job in A.A.” as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 37 For 6 Against
Motion carries

- **D. Review report and suggestions on the inclusion of language related to safety in A.A. literature.**

[X] Additional considerations.

Support and sympathy for the objective of everybody being safe. Believe the primary responsibility for safety lies with the home group. Urge restraint in making safety a part of our literature.

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

LITERATURE / REPORT & CHARTER COMMITTEE (continued)

- E. *The AA Service Manual, 2018 – 2020 Edition:*

Consider adding the word “Panel” to the Glossary of General Service Terms.

[X] Recommendation to add the word “Panel” to the Glossary of General Service Terms. as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 29 For 0 Against
Motion carries

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

TREATMENT & ACCESSIBILITIES / LITERATURE / REPORT & CHARTER COMMITTEE

- **A. Review the trustees' committee report on Cooperation with the Armed Services Exploration Strategies.**

[X] Reviewed – no action taken.

- **B. Review proposed revision to the pamphlet “Accessibility for All Alcoholics.”**

[X] Recommendation

Recommendation to accept the proposed revisions to the pamphlet.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 8 For 1 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 27 For 0 Against
Motion carries

- **C. Review summary of the Fellowship sharing on the need for additional material to support carrying the A.A. message to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing A.A. members.**

[X] Additional consideration.

Future PSAs be closed caption.

- **D. Consider request for revision to *Living Sober*.**

[X] No recommendation – no action taken.

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

TREATMENT & ACCESSIBILITIES / LITERATURE / REPORT & CHARTER COMMITTEE (continued)

- E. *The AA Service Manual, 2018 – 2020 Edition:*

Consider removing the following statement, from the section Area Newsletters or Bulletins: “Any group or district of the Fellowship is free to use the symbol of a circle and triangle on newsletters, meeting schedules or other AA material.”

[X] Other recommendation

Combine the two statements under “Area Newsletters or Bulletins” with the text to read:

“In 1993, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. announced that official use of all of the several circle/triangle trademarks and service marks was being discontinued. However, any group or district of the fellowship is free to use the symbol of a circle and triangle on newsletters, meeting schedules, or other A.A. material.”

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 8 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 33 For 5 Against
Motion carries

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

CORRECTIONS / REPORT & CHARTER / GRAPEVINE / LITERATURE COMMITTEE

- **A. Consider request to create a pamphlet for inmates who are to be released after long term incarceration.**

[X] Recommendation to create a pamphlet for inmates who are to be released after long term incarceration.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 5 For 3 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 31 For 6 Against
Motion carries

- **B. *The AA Service Manual, 2018 – 2020 Edition:* Consider adding on page S75, above the section AA World Services, Inc. charts or text boxes that visually display the member positions on each of the three corporate boards.**

[X] Recommendation to add on page S75, above the section AA World Services, Inc. charts or text boxes that visually display the member positions on each of the three corporate boards.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 33 For 3 Against
Motion carries

[X] Other recommendation

That Class A trustees are identified as non-alcoholics.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 30 For 3 Against
Motion carries

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

CORRECTIONS / REPORT & CHARTER / GRAPEVINE / LITERATURE COMMITTEE *(continued)*

- **C. Review report on 2004 Conference Advisory Action on Outside Sales.**

[X] Recommendation

That AAWS and Grapevine offer Central Offices and Intergroups the maximum discount on all purchases.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 5 For 3 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 19 For 22 Against
Motion fails

- **D. Consider list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2019 and later.**

[X] Recommendation to accept list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2019 and later as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 8 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 37 For 0 Against
Motion carries

- **E. Consider request to add a section on anonymity to the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”**

[X] Recommendation to add a section on anonymity to the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” as proposed.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 1 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 36 For 4 Against
Motion carries

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

ARCHIVES / FINANCE / POLICY & ADMISSIONS / LITERATURE COMMITTEE

- **A. Consider request from the AA Grapevine Board to post the 2017 General Service Conference presentation, “A.A. Grapevine and La Vina” on AA Grapevine’s YouTube channel.**

[X] Recommendation that the AA Grapevine Board post the 2017 General Service Conference presentation, “A.A. Grapevine and La Vina” on AA Grapevine’s YouTube channel.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 50 For 0 Against
Motion carries

- **B. Consider developing a policy on distribution of audio recordings of General Service Conference presentations.**

[X] Recommendation to develop a policy on distribution of audio recordings of General Service Conference presentations.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 47 For 0 Against
Motion carries

- **C. Consider developing a method to standardize increases to the limits on individual contributions and bequests to the General Service Board.**

[X] No recommendation – no action taken.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

ARCHIVES / FINANCE / POLICY & ADMISSIONS / LITERATURE COMMITTEE (continued)

- **D. Discuss the following question from the trustees' International Committee: “Does the US/Canada [service structure] have a role/responsibility in assisting in the development of AA structures around the world through sponsoring other countries via direct invitations to observe our General Service Conference.”**

[X] Recommendation

That US/Canada service structure has a role in assisting in the development of AA structures around the world.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 7 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 38 For 3 Against
Motion carries

- **E. Consider proposed revisions to *Alcoholics Anonymous*:**

1. Request to add an appendix reflecting recognition received from the Library of Congress.

[X] Recommendation to add an appendix reflecting recognition received from the Library of Congress.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 0 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 41 For 4 Against
Minority opinion offered, motion to reconsider
13 For 29 Against
Motion to reconsider fails
Motion carries

- **E. Consider proposed revisions to *Alcoholics Anonymous*:**

2. Request to add the A.A. Preamble and Responsibility Statement.

[X] No recommendation – no action taken.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 2 For 5 Against

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

ARCHIVES / FINANCE / POLICY & ADMISSIONS / LITERATURE COMMITTEE (continued)

- E. Consider proposed revisions to *Alcoholics Anonymous*:

3. Request to add an endnote to Bill W.'s story acknowledging co-founder, Bob S.

[X] Recommendation to add an endnote to Bill W.'s story acknowledging co-founder, Bob S.

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT: 6 For 1 Against

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 30 For 14 Against
Minority opinion offered, motion to reconsider
36 For 8 Against
Reconsideration
12 For 32 Against
Motion fails

Area 56 Mini-Conference Results

FLOOR ACTIONS

- That the Literature Committee rename the pamphlet “Many Paths to Spirituality” and to include additional shared experience from atheists and agnostics and bring it to the 2019 Conference.
(submitted by Alicia R.)

CONFERENCE VOTE COUNT: 27 For 1 Against

- Motion to repurpose the material removed from the pamphlet “It Sure Beats Sitting in A Cell,” which was written for inmates on the verge of release, for digital distribution to inmates.
(submitted by Bobbie B.)

CONFERENCE TOOK NO ACTION PENDING FOLLOW-UP AT THE AREA ASSEMBLY.