

# 67<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference

## Quick Reference

### • AAWS / GSO Reports

- **Membership** levels remain flat at appr 1.3 M (US/CAN)
- **Contributions** were \$7,934,869, a 10.91% increase over 2015, but still a \$1.9+ million shortfall in covering expenses.
- **Groups participating** was 41.5% (43.3% NFAC)
- **Literature sales** show slight increase
- **Grapevine subscriptions** continue to decline but GV ended the year 2015 positive at \$164,540 (book sales) with the LaVina shortfall at -\$152,082.
- **2017 Budget** GSB projects an expected profit of \$397,793 if nothing changes. As of 12/31/15 the Reserve Fund is at 10.3 months. The two following years are predicted to be losses if nothing changes.
- It now takes \$7.27 (currently \$1.45 shortfall) **per member** in the basket and \$149.34 **per group** (currently \$29.72 shortfall).
- **In 2016 GSO:**
  - With 73 FT employees, welcomed 2,520 visitors
  - Listed 1,020 new groups in US and Canada
  - Over 13 million visits to aa.org (4% increase)
  - Big Books sold: 954,000—up from 792,768 in 2015
  - eBook Gross Sales: \$227,611. (58,277 units sold)
  - Publishing Sales \$13 million (\$204,579 below estimate)

### • AGENDA

- 68<sup>th</sup> GSC Theme will be “A.A. – A Solution for All Generations”.
- **Presentation / Discussion Topics:**
  - Today’s Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion
  - Participation in All of A.A. – Is My Triangle Balanced?
  - A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions
  - Attraction Not Promotion: A.A.’s Relation to the World
  - Group Conscience: The Guiding Force

### • FLOOR ACTIONS

- GSO strive to provide background material in English by February 15 and Spanish and French by the first week of March, beginning with the 68<sup>th</sup> GSC.
- Pamphlet **Too Young?** be revised to reflect more current collective experiences of young alcoholics and their welcome to A.A.

- A.A. Grapevine create a Google for Non-Profits account, limiting use to YouTube Non-Profit Program, and comments not be shown on A.A. Grapevine YouTube pages.

### • COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

- The pamphlet "Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W. be retired.
- **Problems Other Than Alcohol have a footnote added:** *This pamphlet is derived from an article written by A.A. co-founder Bill W. in 1958. Therefore, some of the language may be dated, but the issues addressed are prevalent today.*
- Pamphlet **Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace?** title be changed to **Is There a Problem Drinker in the Workplace?**
- The Trustees Committee on CPC review **Members of the Clergy Ask about Alcoholics Anonymous** and develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans.
- The Trustees Committee on CPC review **A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional** and develop text to include information for professionals who come in contact with veterans.

### • CORRECTIONS

- NONE

### • FINANCE

- The suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference be increased from \$1,600 to 1,800.
- Review the suggested Area Contribution for delegates’ expenses to the Conference every other year.
- Review the Conference-approved level for bequests to the General Service Board every other year.
- Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual member every other year.

### • GRAPEVINE

- NONE

## • LITERATURE

- **Questions and Answers on Sponsorship** pamphlet be revised to remove two bullet points regarding maintaining a file of members' information.
- The revised plan for annual review of recovery literature be implemented.
- Pamphlet **Young People and A.A.** have text added: Young people's conferences are held in the United States and Canada and around the world. For information, consult your local A.A. area, intergroup office, or search online for YPAA. (*Publishing will determine best address*)
- **The A.A. Group** pamphlet, Group Inventory, Question 10, be revised to read "Are we doing all we can to provide a safe, attractive and accessible meeting place?" (*added word "safe"*)
- **The A.A. Group** pamphlet, Principles Before Personalities section, be revised to add text from the "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" service piece.
- The Trustees' Literature Committee develop language regarding safety to incorporate in recovery literature, and a plan for implementation.

## • POLICY/ ADMISSIONS

- The 2018 GSC move ahead with **electronic voting** for all voting, except for regional trustees and trustees-at-large, which are conducted by ballot.
- The trustees' Committee on the GSC develop a plan for equitable distribution of workload.
- Starting with the 67<sup>th</sup> GSC, an anonymity-protected, digital *Final Conference Report* be published in addition to the current print version.
- The **70th GSC** be held April 19-25, 2020.
- Future proposed date of GSC be considered as an additional Committee Consideration rather than requiring an Advisory Action.
- GSO Management submit a report on the site selection process for review by the 2018 General Service Conference.

## • PUBLIC INFORMATION

- A new **video public service announcement** be developed for a cost not to exceed \$40,000.
- Pamphlet **Understanding Anonymity** be rewritten to include material from GSO Tradition eleven literature.
- A.A.W.S., Inc. create a Google for Nonprofits account, limited to use of YouTube Nonprofit program, and no comments to be show on the page.

## • REPORT AND CHARTER

- Text be added to Chapter Four of **The A.A. Service Manual** regarding the use of websites by Areas.
- The by-laws of A.A. World Services and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. be included in **The A.A. Service Manual** as appendices.
- A new section on the General Service Boards' "Mission-Vision-Action Statement" be added to Chapter 9 of **The A.A. Service Manual**.
- The G.S.O Department reports which are shared at Conference be included in the *Final Conference Report*.
- Brief bios for nontrustee directors, similar to those for trustees, be included in the *Final Conference Reports*.

## • TREATMENT/SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES

- The pamphlet **A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs** be retitled **Accessibility for All Alcoholics** and suggested editorial changes approved.

## • ARCHIVES

- A draft or progress report on **Unity in Action: Bill W.s General Service Talks, 1951 – 1970** (working title) be brought back to the 2018 GSC Committee on Archives for review.