

**NOTE:** These are Advisory Actions only.  
Details are contained in full Conference  
committee reports.

### **CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS OF THE 59<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE**

The following recommendations were approved by the 59<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference and the General Service Board:

#### **Agenda**

It was recommended that:

1. The theme for the 2010 General Service Conference be: "Practicing A.A.'s Principles – the Pathway to Unity."
2. The following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2010 General Service Conference:
  - a) Practicing These Principles in All Our "Service" Affairs:
    1. What is the Difference Between General Service and Service in General?
    2. Love and Tolerance is Our Code.
    3. Setting an Example – Attraction to Service.
  - b) Unity Through Inventory:
    1. Our Common Welfare Should Come First.
    2. This We Owe to A.A.'s Future.
    3. What Happens After Inventory?
  - c) General Service Conference Agenda Selection Process:
    1. How it Works.
    2. Collective Participation.
    3. Communication – The Key to an Informed Decision.
3. The following be the workshop topic for the 2010 General Service Conference: "Discuss the General Service Conference Agenda Selection Process" and that all 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.

## **Archives**<sup>1</sup>

No recommendations.

<sup>1</sup>Members of this committee serve on this as a secondary committee assignment.

## **Cooperation With the Professional Community**

It was recommended that:

4. The video segment directed to professionals in the employment/human relations field to be streamed on G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site be approved.

## **Corrections**

It was recommended that:

5. 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 '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.

6. 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.

## **Finance**

It was recommended that:

7. The trustees' Finance Committee gather input from the Fellowship on the following for review by the 2010 Conference Committee on Finance:
  - a) If we continue to use literature profits to partially fund services, should there be a limit?
  - b) 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.)

8. A discussion of additional ways to communicate with the Fellowship about Self-Support be included on the agenda for the Conference Finance Committee for the 60<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference.

### **Grapevine**

No recommendations.

### **International Conventions/Regional Forums**<sup>1</sup>

It was recommended that:

9. An anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2010 International Convention.
10. An encrypted, anonymity-protected Internet broadcast of the 2010 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony be approved.

<sup>1</sup>Members of this committee serve on this as a secondary committee assignment.

### **Literature**

It was recommended that:

11. The revised draft pamphlet, "A.A. for the Native North American," be approved.
12. 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.
13. A 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.]
14. A sentence encouraging newcomers to obtain and study the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be added to the pamphlet, "A Newcomer Asks."
15. The title of the pamphlet, "44 Questions," be changed to "Frequently Asked Questions About A.A."

### **Policy/Admissions**

It was recommended that:

16. 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.
17. Claudio M. from the General Service Board of Brazil, Mario V. from the General Service Board of Colombia and Plinio P., Manager, G.S.O. Colombia, be admitted to the 59<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference as observers.

18. 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.
19. 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?
  - i. What is the deadline for making such a decision?
  - ii. What Conference members, if any, are given advance notice of the decision?
  - iii. Who is responsible for seeing that the minority report and its documentation are in fact physically made available to the Conference?
  - iv. What is the deadline for distributing the minority report and its documentation?
  - v. To whom are the minority report and its documentation given?
20. 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, nontrustee directors, and staff, and that a progress report be presented to the 2010 Policy/Admissions Committee.

### **Public Information**

It was recommended that:

21. The updated pamphlet, "A Message to Teenagers," containing selected text and graphics from the current "Too Young?" pamphlet, be approved with minor changes.
22. The wall poster for young people with information about Alcoholics Anonymous be approved with minor changes.
23. A 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.

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

24. 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.
25. The four selected A.A. Videos for Young People be approved with minor changes.
26. The videos, "A.A. – Rap With Us" and "Young People and A.A.," be discontinued.

27. The draft 2010 Membership Survey Questionnaire be approved.

### **Report and Charter**

It was recommended that:

28. 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 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.”

29. 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.
30. 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.
31. 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.
32. 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.”

33. 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*.

### **Treatment Facilities**

It was recommended that:

34. The revised video, *Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous*, be approved.
35. The 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.

### Trustees

It was recommended that:

36. 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 B.  
Frances B.  
Corliss B.  
William C.  
Ward E.  
Rogelio F.  
Jeanne W.

#### 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 E.
First vice-chairperson	Madeleine P.
Second vice-chairperson	William C.
Treasurer	Terrance B.
Secretary	Conley B.

37. The February 2009 appointment of the following officers by the Chair of the General Service Board be approved at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in May 2009:

Assistant Treasurer  
Assistant Secretary

Donald M.  
Adrienne B.\*

This appointment process is in accordance with the 2007 General Service Board Bylaws.

\*Will be replaced at G.S.O. Staff Rotation, Summer 2009

38. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board in May 2009:

Andrea B.  
Adrienne B.\*  
Phyllis H.  
John K.  
Roberta L.

Jo-Anne L.  
George M.  
William N.  
Victor P.

\*Will be replaced at G.S.O. Staff Rotation, Summer 2009

Note: The Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Board will operate with the Class B trustee-at-large/Canada serving as a director, replacing a Class B general service trustee director.

39. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board in May 2009:

Ginger B.  
Robin B.  
Kenneth B.  
Conley B.

Nancy H.  
Dorothy H.  
Don M.  
Albin Z.

Note: The Grapevine Corporate Board will operate short one Class A trustee director.

40. 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.

## **FLOOR ACTIONS REFERRED TO A COMMITTEE**

It was recommended that:

1. 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.

Note: This Floor Action refers to the revised *draft* pamphlet reviewed by the 2009 Conference Literature Committee - the initial Conference Literature Committee recommendation to approve this pamphlet as submitted was defeated)

2. We develop Conference-approved literature that focuses on spirituality and includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are successfully sober in Alcoholics Anonymous. (**Referred to the 2010 Conference Literature Committee**)

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