

JULY 2020

Now & Then

Newsletter of Delegate Area 74 Northern Wisconsin & Upper Peninsula of Michigan

Volume 61

www.area74.org

Number 1

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Delegate's Corner

Greetings Area 74,

I was out and about this past weekend, enjoying the weather, family and some music. Then the rain started. Mom Bailed out and we got her to her destination for pick up. After 27 years of attending this event I came to realize that I am getting to old to sit in the rain and listen to the performers. There was one act I did really want to see later in the night and had that internal debate with myself if I should venture out in the rain. I also debated this proposition with my friend who was in attendance. If God wants me to see this act, it will stop raining. Well the act started, and the hard rain had turned into a light rain. We put on our ponchos and took the walk to see this performer. We arrived and few people were in attendance and we took the liberty to find a spot next to the stage. I got to witness the courage of a young man sharing with us parts of his story. He was drinking a soda pop and told us he found out he could not drink. That the life he was living was killing him. He just wanted to be a good daddy. He got sober. Well my heart melted. I was amazed at the open and honest communication that he brought to the stage to share with a bunch of unknown people. As he played his music, I heard the struggles of his journey in the lines he composed. I have no idea if this person attended AA to get sober, yet I was proud to be part of this fellowship. Interesting enough the rain had completely stopped. I had to give credit to a higher power for this gift. The gift of hearing the message, "you don't have to live the way your living if you don't want to anymore." This gift came at a time when I was in a dark place and this young man carried the message to this old drunk like me. There is hope.

I also want to share about my friend the dyslexic who struggled to join a Zoom meeting. Rather than getting a bad attitude, he started an outdoor campfire meeting at this home. People drove for miles to be part of this meeting.

I am grateful for all the people who continue to carry the message in new ways and continue to support the old ways. Covid-19 is not going away. We need to find solutions that work for all of us.

There is information from the General Service Conference in this newsletter also. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Char V.

Panel 70 Area 74 Delegate Northern Wisconsin/UP Michigan

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Send Area 74 Contributions To: Area 74 Treasury
P.O. BOX 1191 Appleton, WI 54912-1191
Very Important!! Please include group number, group name,
and address of group location or point of contact

If there is only a group name and location, or contact address, please include this.
Thank You, Area 74 Treasurer treasurer@area74.org

*******NOTICE FROM THE NOW & THEN CO-EDITORS*******

The Now & Then newsletter is currently posting events, calendars, agendas, and fliers for events as they are scheduled to be held. There is a good chance that *many* of these dates, times, etc. will be cancelled, altered, re-scheduled or moved online.

Since there is a monthly deadline for getting the newsletter to the fellowship, we are doing our best to publish up-to-date information. Please check www.area74.org and your districts, groups, trusted servants, and fellow AA members to verify if, how, when, any meeting or event you are planning to attend to get the most current information available. We will do our best to get updated information published in this issue to you as changes are passed on to us. We apologize for any inconvenience and are grateful for your understanding the complexity and hardship the current environment has presented for us and all of our fellow AA members and communities in Area 74. PEACE, LOVE, and SOBRIETY Jeff C & Michelle Z.

PLEASE SEND ITEMS, ARTICLES, DISTRICT NEWS, STANDING COMMITTEE ARTICLES, GROUP OPINIONS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE UPCOMING ISSUES OF YOUR AREA 74 NEWSLETTER
Refer to www.area74.org for the most up to date info on AA and COVID19 ramifications

AREA CHAIR/ALTERNATE DELEGATE VACANCY

AREA 74 is currently without an Area Chair/Area Delegate. There will be an announcement forthcoming about when an election for the position will be held.

Per the Area 74 Guidelines:

Section 5.00 The Alternate Area Delegate shall serve as the Area Chairperson, and as such has the responsibility for chairing Area Service Meetings at conferences and at Assemblies. In Area 74 the Alternate Delegate shall have previously served as a DCM. The Alternate Delegate is responsible for the agenda of Service Meetings, seeing to it that requests by members of Area 74 are addressed in an organized and timely fashion. Agendas should be published in the Area newsletter prior to Service Meetings, and copies should be available the day of the meeting. The Area Chairperson will be responsible to organize, conduct, and chair the Area Committee Meetings.

The Alternate Delegate may be asked to act in the stead of the Area Delegate if the Delegate is unavailable. The Alternate Delegate may be asked to perform special duties from time to time at the discretion of the Area, as determined by the voting members of the Area Assemblies.

If any AA members in your Group or District meet the requirements for serving in this important position, please inquire and see if they would be interested in serving our fellowship. It is imperative that Area 74 have an Alternate Delegate to assist our seated Delegate. (Past Delegates are ineligible to serve another rotation as delegate.)

PLEASE FILL OUT THE AREA 74 INVENTORY

Area 74 website (www.area74.org) now has the Area 74 Inventory on the Home Page. Please take a few minutes to fill this out. Thank you so much!

**The 2020 International Convention
scheduled for July 2-5, 2020 in Detroit, Michigan,
has been cancelled.**



**SEE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM YOUR GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE
ON THE NEXT PAGE**



Coming Soon!

Dear friends,

As most of you are aware, in the spring the decision was made to cancel the 2020 International Convention due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While this was a difficult decision, and a disappointing outcome for those planning to attend, we are confident it was the most appropriate action to ensure the health and safety of our members. There is good news, however, as we now have an opportunity to bring together many of the special components that make International Conventions memorable — by utilizing a virtual platform. For this purpose, we are planning a 2020 International Convention digital site. Throughout the month of July, the 2020 International Convention will come alive online to provide a new experience that includes A.A. speakers; a digital “Carrying the Message Pavilion”; sharing from nonalcoholic friends of A.A. and special guests linked to our history; a presentation of the 40 millionth Big Book; a new Archives video on the history of A.A.; an AA Grapevine video created for the Convention, and more.

The virtual experience will also help us reaffirm the International Convention’s goals, which include rededicating ourselves to the primary purpose of A.A.; sharing the success and growth of the A.A. program around the globe; and letting the world know that A.A. is alive, flourishing and available as a community resource internationally.

We will be up and running on aa.org by July 1, 2020, to coincide as closely as possible with the original Convention date, and the site will be available throughout the entire month of July. Please stay tuned for updates on aa.org.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julio E.", is positioned below the text "In fellowship,".

Julio E., 2020 IC Coordinator.

FROM THE AREA 74 FELLOWSHIP

Articles submitted from anyone in the fellowship of Area 74 are welcomed for this section of your newsletter!

DATES TO REMEMBER 2020

7/2-5/2020	International Convention of AA	CANCELLED		
7/2- 7/31	Virtual International Convention	Visit aa.org to see the web page link and schedules for accessing the online International Convention		
8/1/2020	Area Committee Meeting -Area Inventory	Reiter Center	1858 S. Michigan St	Three Lakes, WI
9/11-9/13	Area 74 Fall Conference	Virtual Conference		Eau Claire, WI
9/12/2020	Area Assembly	Online Zoom	Virtual Assembly	9 AM CDT
9/13/2020	Area Committee Mtg	Online Zoom	Virtual Area Committee meeting	9 AM CDT
10/24/2020	Area Assembly	Reiter Center	1858 S. Michigan St	Three Lakes, WI
12/12/2020	Area Committee Mtg	Reiter Center	1858 S. Michigan St	Three Lakes, WI

****NOTE FROM THE DELEGATE:** The servants of Area 74 are excited to provide the **dates for the Area 74 Service Structure**. We are lucky to live in an area that hosts many conferences, workshops and fellowship events. As your trusted servants, we sometimes miss the chance to participate in local events because they conflict with the service events you have entrusted us to conduct. We hope that, by providing the Area 74 service structure dates in early fall; they can be considered as you plan your service and fellowship events for the coming year. We look forward to seeing you.

NOTE FROM CO-EDITORS: We have combined the general events and the Area 74 Service Structure events into one calendar.

BOLD = AREA 74 events UNBOLD = General AA events in our area

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SPOTLIGHT ON THE DISTRICTS

District 13

District 13 is located in Ashland and Bayfield Counties of North Wisconsin. We have a committee meeting is usually held on the 1st Monday of each month at 5:00 pm at the Chequamegon Serenity Club in Ashland WI. There are 32 Monday thru Sunday meetings. 1 seasonal meeting that meets in the warm season. Since March most groups and meetings are in-active and a couple groups were meeting online using zoom.com. The District maintains a hotline phone number at (715) 682-4460. There are calls about what days meetings are held, meeting times and where the meetings are located and also 12 step welfare checks. There are two County jails that has both active and inactive meetings that were convening prior to the pandemic.

The District 13 District Committee Member and Alternative District Committee Member has been actively travelling to Three Lakes WI and other localities within Area 74 AA Organizations' service area. The travelling is to attend Area 74 Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings throughout the year according to the Area 74 yearly Calendars. Also included is Area 74's Spring and Fall Conferences. District 13 has been active for a few years and has hosted Area 74 Conferences three times with the last being in May 2016. The District was on scheduled to host the Spring 2020 Area 74 Conference this past May but was cancelled because of the pandemic of the Covid-19 virus.

CHECK WITH YOUR DCMs & OTHER TRUSTED SERVANTS FOR CURRENT INFO

DISTRICT MEETINGS JULY 2020 LIST

DIST	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
1	Thursday	9 th	6:30 PM	Central Office, 1720 Main St. #102 Green Bay, WI	
2	Sunday	12 th	2:00 PM	Christus Lutheran Church 120 Main St. Appleton, WI	
3	Thursday	16 th	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave. Wisconsin Rapids, WI	
4	Thursday	2 nd	7:00 PM	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S Main St. Amherst, WI	
5	Weds	8 th	6:45 PM	Menomonie Leisure Center, 1412 6th St E Menominee, WI	
6	Thursday	16 th	7:45 PM	Club 76, 76 East Central Street Chippewa Falls, WI	
7	Sunday	19 th	5:00 PM	Alano Club 2111 S. Roddis Ave. Colby, WI	
8	Tuesday	7 th	7:00 PM	Mount View Care Center, 2400 Marshall St. Wausau, WI	
9	Sunday	12 th	2:00 PM	Faith Presbyterian Church 806 Fritzie Avenue Crivitz, WI	
10	Saturday	11 th	10:30 AM	No meeting this month Conover, WI	
11				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
12	Saturday	11 th	12:30 PM	Alano Club 10339 South Florida Avenue Hayward, WI	
13	Monday	6 th	5:00 PM	Chequamegan Bay Serenity Club 310 Stuntz Ave. Ashland, WI	
14	Sunday	12 th	5:30 PM	Amery Legion Hall Memorial Dr Amery, WI	
15				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
16				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
17	Monday	27 th	6:00 PM	105 W. Fleishiem Iron Mountain, MI	
18	Saturday			NO MEETING Marquette, MI	
19				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
20	Saturday	11 th	11:00 AM	United Methodist Church 1212 Morrison St. Germfask, MI	
21	Sunday	6 th	7:00 PM	Holy Trinity Church Hwy 41 Chassell, MI	
22	Monday	6 th	6:00 PM	Hope Church 12th Ave & Michigan St Sturgeon Bay, WI	
23	Weds	8 th	6:00 PM	Spooner Health 1280 Chandler Drive Spooner, WI	
24	Weds	8 th	8:00 PM	Ladysmith Alano Club, 411 E 2nd St. Ladysmith, WI	

DISTRICT MEETINGS AUGUST 2020 LIST

DIST	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
1	Thursday	13th	6:30 PM	Central Office, 1720 Main St. #102 Green Bay, WI	
2	Sunday	9th	2:00 PM	St. Paul's Church 410 Wallace St. Combined Locks, WI	
3	Thursday	20th	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave. Wisconsin Rapids, WI	
4	Thursday	6th	7:00 PM	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S Main St. Amherst, WI	
5	Weds	12th	6:45 PM	Menomonie Leisure Center, 1412 6th St E Menominee, WI	
6	Thursday	20th	7:45 PM	Club 76, 76 East Central Street Chippewa Falls, WI	
7	Sunday	16th	5:00 PM	First United Church of Christ 111 S. 2nd St. Colby, WI	
8	Tuesday	4th	7:00 PM	Mount View Care Center, 2400 Marshall St. Wausau, WI	
9	Sunday	9th	2:00 PM	Peace Church 208 E. Maurer Shawano, WI	
10	Saturday	8th	9:00AM	United Methodist Church Arbutus St. Rhineland, WI	
11				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
12	Saturday	8th	12:30 PM	Alano Club 10339 South Florida Avenue Hayward, WI	
13	Monday	3rd	5:00 PM	Chequamegan Bay Serenity Club 310 Stuntz Ave. Ashland, WI	
14	Sunday	9th	5:30 PM	New Richmond Alano Club 1448 N 4th Street New Richmond, WI	
15				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
16	Saturday		11:00AM	United Lutheran Church, 304 Main St. L'Anse, MI	
17	Monday	31st	6:00 PM	105 W. Fleishiem Iron Mountain, MI	
18	Saturday	8th	11:00 AM	Hope United Methodist Church 111.E. Ridge St. Marquette, MI	
19				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
20	Saturday	15th	11:00 AM	United Methodist Church 1212 Morrison St. Germfask, MI	
21	Sunday	7:00 PM	6:30 PM	Holy Trinity Church Hwy 41 Chassell, MI	
22	Monday	3rd	6:00 PM	Hope Church 12th Ave & Michigan St. Sturgeon Bay, WI	
23	Sunday	2nd	6:00 PM	Spooner Health 1280 Chandler Drive Spooner, WI	
24	Weds	5th	8:00 PM	Ladysmith Alano Club, 411 E 2nd St. Ladysmith, WI	

Delegate Report Back
70th Virtual General Service Conference
2020: A Clear Vision for You

Char V.
Pandemic Panel 70 Area 74 Delegate
Northern Wisconsin/UP Michigan

“Faith is more than our greatest gift; its sharing with others is our greatest responsibility. May we of A.A. continually seek the wisdom and the willingness by which we may well fulfill that immense trust which the Giver of all perfect gifts has placed in our hands.” (Grapevine, April 1961) Excerpt from the opening welcome by Ray M. Saskatchewan, Delegate Chair

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Many hours of pre-conference meetings, trainings and pre-recorded board reports happened prior to the official opening of the 70th General Service Conference (GSC) on Saturday May 16, 2020. The opening remarks from Michele Grinberg Chair of the General Service Board directed our thinking in asking “What is best for AA and its Literature in the future?” How to find us in a virtual or real world? Are societies changing? She reminded of Bill W’s words “Vision is, I think, the ability to make good estimates for both the immediate and for the more distant future...Vision is therefore the very essence of prudence”. The keynote address was given by Tom A. rotating West Central Regional Trustee. He continued with this year’s theme of the conference and talked about how we had four six-hour sessions to take care of AA’s essential business...a priceless lesson for AA. We are here to keep the heart of AA beating. We will scrutinize and determine what AA needs, not what we want for AA, yes needs versus wants. He continued to talk about Bill’s use of the term flying blind period and so we find ourselves in this period again. Bill clearly states that, “principles are the solution.”

In deciding how to put this report together, there were many choices. I put together a power point on the financials and was having so much fun I added the Advisory Actions and a few other items. I wish to start with the 2019 and 2020 financials. I ask that you hold your questions to the end of that portion. After Q&A we will take a short break and then we can start with the Advisory Actions, Floor Motions, And Additional Committee Considerations. I can then answer any questions you may have and talk about the Virtual experience.

The written portion of the report contains the results of the vote. Those Advisory Actions marked with an asterisk I voted in the minority and can provide the reason why. I would like to say a few words about the Additional Committee Considerations with the double asterisk.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS OF THE 70th GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE The following recommendations were approved by the 70th General Service Conference:

Agenda It was recommended that:

1. The theme for the 2021 General Service Conference be: "A.A. in a Time of Change."

Vote 135 (99%) No 1 (1%) Me: Yes

2. The following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2021 General Service Conference: Practicing A.A.'s Spiritual Principles in a Changing World: Recovery in a Changing World Unity in a Changing World Service in a Changing World

Vote: Yes 130 (98%) No 2 (2%) Me: Yes

3. The workshop topic for the 2021 General Service Conference be: Inform - Communicate Involve - Act Inspire - Attract

Vote Yes 128 (98%) No 2 (2%) Me: Yes

Archives

No recommendations.

Cooperation with the Professional Community

No recommendation

Corrections

No recommendations.

Finance

It was recommended that:

4. The draft language related to the "virtual basket" be included in the pamphlet "Self Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix." The language reads:

Q. Some members of our group wanted to pass a "virtual" basket – to collect Seventh Tradition contributions digitally. How could we do this?

A. A number of groups have utilized digital payment platforms as an adjunct to passing the basket in the conventional sense in order to provide opportunities for cashless contributions. There are different payment platforms to facilitate this service and it is up to the group to determine which one to use. Some groups have found that a smartphone app-based payment platform is the most efficient, seamless, and minimally disruptive solution for providing a digital contribution. Experience suggests that the treasurer is a likely choice to handle digital contributions, though some groups add more than one trusted servant to share the responsibilities or create a new service position to inform the group about digital payment options and assist other group members who are interested in contributing this way.

Vote Yes 130 (98%) No 2 (2%) Me: Yes

Grapevine

It was recommended that:

5. The name of the Conference Committee on Grapevine be changed to the Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña.

Vote Yes 134 (97%) No 4 (3%) Me: Yes

International Conventions/Regional Forums

No recommendations.

Literature

It was recommended that:

6. The updated draft video of "Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure" be approved.

Vote Yes 98% No 2% Me: Yes (Zoom failed-did not capture vote totals)

7. The "A.A.W.S. Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials," approved by the A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors in January 2020, be acknowledged and accepted by the General Service Conference

*Vote Yes 120 (98%) No 14 (10%) Me: No **

Policy/Admissions

It was recommended that:

8. The "Process for Approving Observers to the Conference" be approved.

*Vote Yes 124 (97%) No 4 (3%) Me: No**

9. The General Service Conference implement electronic voting for trustee elections starting in 2021.

Passed by substantial unanimity (Zoom Died-Vote not captured) Me: Yes

10. The review of Conference dates be changed to consider dates for the General Service Conference with timing and year(s) to review as requested by the general manager.

Vote 123 (94%) No 8 (6%) Me: No

Public Information

It was recommended that:

11. All A.A.W.S. video titles be adjusted for search engine optimization (SEO).

Vote Yes 131 (99%) No 1 (1%) Me: Yes

Report and Charter

It was recommended that:

12. The sentence in Article 4 of the current Conference Charter which currently reads:

It will be further understood, regardless of the legal prerogatives of the General Service Board, as a matter of tradition, that a three-quarters vote of all Conference members may bring about a reorganization of the General Service Board and the directors and staff members of its corporate services, if or when such reorganization is deemed essential.

Be amended to read: It will be further understood, regardless of the legal prerogatives of the General Service Board, as a matter of tradition, that a three-quarters vote of all Conference members participating in the vote may bring about a reorganization of the General Service Board and the directors and staff members of its corporate services, if or when such reorganization is deemed essential.

Vote Yes 122 (92%) No 11 (8%) Me: Yes

Minority Opinion Spoke

Michelle G spoke to potential problem with meeting quorum. A limited Number of people could reorganize board.

Someone wished to change Vote

Vote to reopen for debate Yes 76 No 58 Simple Majority-Passed

Motion to recommit to 71st GSC *(takes precedence over motion on floor)*

Vote Yes 46 No 87 Does not pass

The Question was Called

Vote Yes 118 (89%) No 15 (11%) 2/3 is 89

Moved to Vote on original Motion

Vote Yes 96 (74%) No 35 (26%) Me: No Original Motion Passes

Treatment and Accessibilities

It was recommended that:

13. The pamphlet "Bridging the Gap" be updated for currency and inclusion to reach a broader scope of treatment settings about temporary contact services, and that a progress report or draft be brought to the 2021 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

*Vote Yes 122 (91%) No 12 (9%) Me: No **

Trustees

It was recommended that:

14. The following slate of trustees of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in May 2020 following presentation at the 2020 General Service Conference for disapproval if any: Class A Trustees Class B Trustees Leslie Backus, B.A. Cathy Beckham Hon. Christine Carpenter Beau Bush Michele Grinberg, J.D. Jimmy Dean Peter Luongo, Ph.D., LCSW-C Josh Eggleston Nancy McCarthy Mark Everett Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA Kathi Fowler Al Mooney, M.D. Francis Gilroy Trish LaNauze Jan Lembke Mike Lewis David Noll Newton Pritchett Ginger Rhoades Bell Irma Van de Bon-Nicol

Vote Yes 130 (98%) No (3%) Me: Yes

15. The following slate of officers of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in May 2020 following presentation at the 2020 General Service Conference for disapproval if any: Chairperson Michele Grinberg, J.D. First Vice-Chairperson Hon. Christine Carpenter Second Vice-Chairperson David Noll Treasurer Leslie Backus, B.A. Secretary Mark Everett Assistant Treasurer G.S.O. Chief Financial Officer* Assistant Secretary *G.S.O. employees Mary Cumings*

Vote Yes 133 (99%) No 1(1%) Me: Yes

16. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA Grapevine Corporate Board in May 2020 following presentation at the 2020 General Service Conference for disapproval if any: Josh Eggleston Tommi Hanley Ino Fernandez Nancy McCarthy Kathi Fowler Cindy French Ginger Rhoades Bell Albin Zezula* Francis Gilroy *AA Grapevine employee

Vote Yes 125 (95%) No 6 (5%) Me: Yes

Floor Actions

The following items were moved forward to the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference:

- The Finance Committee expand item #2 that will be forwarded to the 71st Conference to include the proposal to revise the pie chart percentages, in order to emphasize more clearly that any percentages included in the pamphlet are only suggestions and examples, not recommendations.

Vote Yes 78 No 5 Me: No

- The General Service Conference consider developing a PSA about Alcoholics Anonymous geared toward minorities.

Vote Yes 81 No 52 Me: Yes

- The 70th General Service Conference approve the slate of Directors for A.A. World Services, Inc. as originally submitted: Beau Bush Mary Cumings Jimmy Dean Deborah Koltai Jan Lembke David Noll Greg Tobin Carolyn Walsh John Weis

Vote Yes 46 No 87 Me: No

- The pamphlet "A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic" be updated to include fresh stories and a new title that is respectful and inclusive.

Vote Yes 95 No 34 Me: Yes

- The slate of Directors of A.A. World Services, Inc., as submitted by the Conference Committee on Trustees, be approved.

Vote Yes 59 No 72 Me: Yes

- The launch of Google AdWords Grants by the General Service Office be halted until the 71st General Service Conference convenes and approves that launch, and that the "Ad Hoc Committee Progress Report - Google Grants and the 7th Tradition," from the trustees' Finance Committee, dated March 30, 2020, be immediately released to all members of the 70th General Service Conference.

Vote Yes 60 No 65 Me: Yes

Floor Action Declined for Consideration

- Since many agenda items from the shortened 70th Virtual General Service Conference will be forwarded to the 71st General Service Conference in 2021, the 71st General Service Conference Committee on Trustees consider the extension of the 71st General Service Conference by as many as three working days and that consideration be offered regardless of whether the 71st General Service Conference is face-to-face or held digitally

Vote Yes 26 No 103 Me: No

70TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS

Agenda

There are no committee considerations from the 2020 Conference Committee on Agenda.

Archives

- The committee considered requests to develop a book on A.A. history from 1955 through the present and following a lengthy discussion, suggested that the trustees' Archives Committee consider possible themes, content ideas and the time period such a book might cover. The committee requested a report be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Archives.

Cooperation with the Professional Community

- The committee discussed the request to discontinue the pamphlet "A.A. in Your Community" and took no action. The committee noted that this pamphlet is vital to local C.P.C. committee work to introduce A.A. to professionals and that the title defines A.A. as a community resource. The committee also noted that an update to the language and style is needed.
- The committee requested that the trustees' C.P.C./Treatment and Accessibilities Committee explore ways to update content of the pamphlet "A.A. in Your Community" with a focus on modern professional settings and consider those who consume content in various formats.

The committee suggested the following items regarding modern digital resources be considered such as:

- o The Meeting Guide app
- o A.A.W.S. and AAGV YouTube channels
- o A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page
- o Space to leave local contact information

- The committee requested that a progress report or a draft of "A.A. in Your Community" be brought to the 2021 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

Corrections

The committee heard a report from the A.A.W.S. publishing director on the efforts to provide digital distribution of A.A. literature into correctional facilities. It was reported that several viable options had been identified to make A.A. literature in digital formats available for alcoholics in correctional settings. The publishing director also provided an update on staple-free pamphlets and reported that the first phase of the plan to publish the most used A.A. pamphlets staple-free is already moving forward.

- The committee reviewed the Corrections Kit and Workbook and provided a list of suggestions. The committee requested that the pamphlet "The 'God' Word" be added to the list of contents for the Kit and suggested several changes in the Workbook to reflect current practices and resources. Finance
- The committee discussed a request to revise the pie chart percentages on page 12 of the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" and the consensus was no changes were needed and took no action as these are suggested percentages.
- The committee reviewed a report from the trustees' Finance Ad Hoc Committee on Google Grants and the Seventh Tradition. The committee strongly suggests forwarding this report to the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee and the appropriate 71st General Service Conference committee. (floor action)

Grapevine

- The committee considered a request to change the language of the first sentence of the A.A. Preamble as follows: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share..." and took no action.
- The committee also discussed making suggested changes to the A.A. Preamble for gender neutral pronouns. The committee requested that the Grapevine Board consider developing examples of generalized language options and that a progress report or draft versions be brought back to the 71st General Service Conference.
- The committee agreed to forward to the AA Grapevine Corporate Board the suggestion that Grapevine produce in the year 2021 or later:

1. Step Three - Turning It Over (working title) Previously published stories from the pages of Grapevine by A.A. members about their various experiences with Step 3.
 2. Character Defects - Steps 6 & 7 (working title) Previously published stories by A.A. members about their experience with Steps 6 and 7, from the pages of Grapevine.
- The committee agreed to forward to the AA Grapevine Corporate Board the suggestion that Grapevine produce the following La Viña books in the year 2021 or later:
 1. AA and Families in Recovery (working title) Spanish-speaking A.A. members share experiences about how drinking affects the whole family and how A.A. helps repair them, from the pages of La Viña.
 2. Old-timers Stories (working title) Long-time Spanish-speaking A.A. members share their experience, strength and hope, from the pages of La Viña.
 3. Twelve Steps (working title) Spanish-speaking A.A. members share stories of experience with A.A.'s Twelve Steps, from the pages of La Viña.
 - The committee discussed a request for AA Grapevine, Inc. to establish an Instagram account in line with the Twelve Traditions and encouraged them to continue with their planning. The committee suggested that the Grapevine Board provide additional information on implementation, anonymity, security, affiliation, outside contributions, privacy, and promotion and bring a progress report back to the 71st GSC.
 - The committee discussed ways that AA Grapevine could get feedback on which new book topics to publish. The committee suggested an annual survey in English, Spanish and French be utilized to get input from the Fellowship.

International Conventions/Regional Forums

- The committee reviewed and accepted a report from the International Convention consultants, Talley Management, outlining the steps taken prior and post cancellation of the 2020 International Convention on March 28, 2020.
- The committee discussed the use of the Lord's Prayer for closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention and had a thoughtful and wide-ranging discussion which included:
 - o The use of the Lord's Prayer in A.A. meetings can create controversy and support the perception of A.A. as a religious organization.
 - o Although the prayer is part of the history of A.A. and is widely used and supported in some areas, it could make some members feel excluded.
 - o The benefits of autonomy and keeping the newcomers in mind when selecting how to close A.A. meetings.
 - o The diversity of our Fellowship and the need for everyone to feel included.
 - o Consideration of surveying the Fellowship for a wider sharing regarding use of the Lord's Prayer.
 - o Given the international nature of the International Convention, how the Lord's Prayer is perceived in other countries.

The committee agreed that further discussion on the use of the Lord's Prayer as a closing at the Big Meetings of the International Convention would be beneficial and suggested that the 2021 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums continue discussion at the 71st General Service Conference.

- The committee discussed ways of encouraging interest in Regional and Local Forums and attracting first time attendees and suggested that the General Service Office consider:
 - o Providing options for remote attendance.
 - o Providing digital access to Regional Forum materials and presentations (including use of the Meeting Guide App or mobile app).
 - o Developing service material for host committees providing shared experience on hosting a Regional Forum and stimulating participation.
 - o Developing a "video invitation" from the G.S.B. chair. Suggestions for implementation at the local area included:
 - o Early and consistent communication about Regional Forums, including "What is a Regional Forum; no registration fee; what happens at a forum.
 - o Involve members at all levels of service; do "sponsorship road trips."
 - o Use the Regional Forum video after it is released.

Literature

- The committee reviewed the progress report regarding the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated" and requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed the progress report regarding the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" and requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2021 Conference Literature Committee.

- The committee reviewed the progress report regarding the development of the pamphlet on A.A.'s Three Legacies and requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report on the revision of the pamphlet "Too Young?" The committee looks forward to reviewing a draft revised pamphlet and/or samples of other potential formats of the pamphlet at the meeting of the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed a progress report on the revision of the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." The committee looks forward to reviewing a draft revised pamphlet and/or samples of other potential formats of the pamphlet at the meeting of the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed the progress report regarding the development of the pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in A.A. and requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee considered if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution. The committee requested that the trustees continue to explore this topic. The committee requested that the trustees' make available to the Fellowship, as soon as possible, in Spanish, English and French, the presentation "The Big Book: Researching Issues, Possible Tools and Access (70th General Service Conference 2020)" that was presented to the committee during their May 2, 2020 agenda reduction meeting. The committee noted the importance for the Fellowship to be informed about the nature of the accessibility challenges with regard to A.A. literature. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature. **
- The committee reviewed the progress report regarding safety and A.A. to be included in Living Sober and "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship." The committee requested a review of the draft language be taken with accessibility in mind as it relates to reading level. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature. **
- The committee discussed a draft update of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" and noted the accessibility of the language in terms of reading level as well the extent of work done on the current version of the update. ** The committee noted that through the process of updating this pamphlet, the final draft update is a distinct item from the original version of "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated," addressing a different audience and serving a different purpose. The committee forwarded to the trustees' Literature Committee suggestions on the draft update which the committee considered a new piece of literature on the Twelve Traditions. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature. **
- The committee discussed not retiring the existing version of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" and requested that a written description be provided by the trustees' Literature Committee explaining how an existing version of a literature item might remain in publication after a revised, updated version has been approved, and requested that a report be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Literature. **
- The committee discussed the "A.A.W.S. Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials," approved by A.A.W.S. in January 2020 and noted that concerns expressed by the 69th General Service Conference were addressed in full by the revised policy.**

Policy/Admissions

- The committee considered a proposed process for the equitable distribution of Conference committees' workload and noted that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee made significant progress on this complex challenge and further that the proposed process selected by the committee is the appropriate option. The committee agreed that the proposed process would help ensure an equitable distribution of the Conference committees' workload and noted that the Proposed Agenda Item Submission Form would bring much needed structure and clarity to the process. The committee requests that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee clarify the specifics of the proposed plan and bring back a more fully developed process for review by the 2021 General Service Conference.

The committee agreed that more specificity is needed on the following:

- o Precisely how this proposed process will impact what will happen regarding agenda items considered at the Fall and Winter trustees' committees' meetings.
- o Clarity on how the proposed process will impact or change the delegate chairs' participation in the Winter Board Weekend and on the Conference Committees' January conference call to obtain feedback on proposed agenda items. The committee noted that significant progress has been made in involving delegates in the agenda item selection process and would not want to take any steps backward.
- o Creating additional primary committees as needed: develop a sample composition, scope and procedures document for an "additional primary committee."

- o Provide examples, using sample agenda items, showing how the entire process would work. The committee looks forward to receiving a more detailed plan for this important process for review by the 2021 General Service Conference from the trustees' Committee on the GSC

Public Information

- The committee reviewed and accepted the 2019 annual report from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the G.S.O. Communications' Department report on the A.A.W.S. Meeting Guide App.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the 2019 trustees' Public Information report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube account.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the 2019 trustees' Public Information report on the current status of Google AdWords/Grants and requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Public Information.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the report of the status of the 2020 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan. The committee looks forward to reviewing the new architecture being developed and suggested that social media, video/audio content, and accessibility to the A.A. message continue to be a priority in comprehensive media plan discussions.
- The committee reviewed and accepted a draft plan to create video shorts based on A.A. pamphlets. The committee noted the important role of short video content to carry the A.A. message and looks forward to receiving a report at the 2021 meeting of the Conference Committee on Public Information.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the 2019 report on the "Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements." The committee noted the recent efforts by G.S.O. to explore editing a Conference-approved PSA to remain useful for local committees reflecting "social distancing" by A.A. groups and members.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the distribution and tracking information for the video PSA "Changes." Note: In keeping with a 2019 Advisory Action this PSA title was updated to "Sobriety in A.A.: We made changes to stop drinking" for search engine optimization (SEO).
- The committee reviewed and accepted a report regarding the new financial reporting system for PSA media valuations.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the report on the development of two PSAs. The committee also expressed that in light of the recent Coronavirus pandemic it would be helpful to include information as to the many formats in which alcoholics find and carry the A.A. message. The committee looks forward to reviewing the two draft PSAs at their 2021 meeting.
- The committee reviewed a request "to create a new form of communication" to address anonymity on social media. The committee suggested that the trustees' Public Information Committee continue to discuss this request and that preliminary information be gathered before moving forward. Information to gather:
 - o Shared experience from the Fellowship on how A.A. members adhere to anonymity Traditions on various social media platforms.
 - o Suggested safety and etiquette while using social media.
 - o Anonymity on video meeting platforms. While the committee recognizes that A.A. literature on anonymity is available ("Understanding Anonymity," A.A. Guidelines on Internet, etc.) the committee noted that the content is dated and does not accurately reflect current technology or the Fellowship's experience. Specific, updated material is needed and the consideration that a video service piece to communicate this sharing might be explored. The committee requested that the trustees' Public Information Committee continue these discussions and that a progress report or draft proposal be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Public Information.
- The committee discussed a request to develop a plan to create an A.A. podcast. The committee suggested that G.S.O. explore the development of a draft plan to create a G.S.O. podcast to be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Public Information.
- The committee suggested that information such as function, target audiences, participation, possible episode topics and an implementation plan be included.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the trustees' Public Information Committee report on the A.A. Membership Survey. The committee noted it was encouraged by some of the findings by the survey professional and asked that the trustees' Public Information Committee continue to explore this topic. The committee also suggested the exploration of a possible digital questionnaire feedback form be part of their discussions.
- The committee reviewed the contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook. The committee shared concerns on the relevancy of a print copy workbook and kit for P.I. Committees.
- The committee had the following suggestions:
 - o Explore the development of an A.A. Service Committee app.
 - o Create a new digital PDF version of the Public Information Workbook that can be easily shared, updated by G.S.O. in a timely fashion, and edited locally to better reflect local committee work.

- o Gather broader shared experience from the Fellowship.
- o Include more sharing regarding Accessibilities in P.I. work.
- o Share a more up-to-date reflection of A.A. digital assets and how they can be applied to local P.I. work. (Example: A.A.W.S. YouTube Channel, Meeting Guide app, online video/e-radio PSA placement, QR Codes, virtual A.A. meetings/events/presentations etc.)
- o Include more short content communication templates to carry the A.A. message to the public. The committee suggested that the trustees' Public Information Committee discuss this request and that a report be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Public Information on these efforts.

Report and Charter

The committee accepted a report from the Publishing department outlining the General Service Office process for timely and accurate preparation and publication of the 2020 General Service Conference Final Report.

- The committee discussed restoring the two paragraphs with the accompanying footnote in the Concept Eleven essay of The Twelve Concepts for World Service that were removed by an Advisory Action of the 66th General Service Conference and took no action. The committee agreed that the footnote noting that the two paragraphs are available upon request from the G.S.O. Archives department is adequate.
- The committee reviewed the draft of The A.A. Service Manual, 2020-2022 Edition and noted the significant progress made toward the goals agreed upon by the 2019 Conference Committee on Report and Charter. The committee requested that an updated draft be brought back to the 2021 Conference Committee on Report and Charter. The committee will forward suggestions for the next draft to the Publishing department.

Treatment & Accessibilities

- The committee suggested that the trustees' C.P.C./T.A. committee develop a Bridging the Gap Committee Workbook and provide a progress report to the 2021 General Service Conference. The committee suggested that the shared experience included in the workbook include a list of BTG temporary contacts available from G.S.O.
- The committee reviewed the progress report, "Review of Bridging the Gap Materials," and felt it met the goal of the 2019 committee consideration. The committee suggested that rather than combine Bridging the Gap related service materials, the trustees' C.P.C./T.A. committee consider updating existing service materials to reflect the suggested language updates for currency and inclusion. The committee expressed support for use of a "Question and Answer" style in the content across the range of Bridging the Gap related items. The committee also expressed support for the sample version of "A.A. Guidelines: Bridging the Gap/Temporary Contact Committees" included in the report.
- The committee reviewed the progress report on updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic." The committee noted that the submitted stories did not indicate a broad and diverse representation of A.A. experience and suggested a reopened call for stories based on the following experiences provided by trustees' C.P.C./Treatment and Accessibilities Committees:
 - o Ethnic, cultural and LGBTQ communities
 - o Lifestyle diversity
 - o Got sober later in life
 - o Veterans from the Vietnam War or later
 - o Hearing loss or mobility issues
 - o Online or telephone A.A. meetings
 - o Dementia or Alzheimer mental health issues
 - o Spiritual pathways
 The committee looks forward to a progress report or draft pamphlet to be brought to the 2021 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.
- The committee reviewed the Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook and forwarded a list of suggestions to the trustees' C.P.C./Treatment and Accessibilities Committee.
- The committee reviewed the Accessibilities Kit and Workbook and forwarded a list of suggestions to the trustees' C.P.C./Treatment and Accessibilities Committee.

Trustees

- The committee reviewed the resumes and approved as eligible for election all Class B trustee candidates for West Central and Western Canada Regional trustee.
- The 2020 Conference Committee on Trustees reviewed the slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. as well as the Summary of Events re: Appeal of Proposed A.A.W.S. Board of Directors Slate submitted by the chair of the trustees' Nominating Committee, May 1, 2020, and submitted the following suggestions to the trustees' Nominating Committee:
 1. Consider amending the BYLAWS of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. ARTICLE III, DIRECTORS to include language similar to that contained in the BYLAWS of The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. regarding proposed new member trustees.
 2. Consider clarifying Procedure No. 1 Grapevine and A.A.W.S. Boards Procedures for Nominating Corporate Board Directors, specifically point 4 "Past Delegate – not eligible until one year after rotation," to mean not eligible to apply or serve until 1 year after end of rotation as delegate. The committee requested that a report be brought to the 2021 Conference Committee on Trustees.

- The committee recommended approval of a revised slate of directors of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board, omitting the newly proposed A.A. World Services director as ineligible due to procedural issues. The committee reconvened a second time after they received communication from the general manager requesting that the committee also remove his name from the A.A. World Services Corporate Board slate. Following thorough discussion, the committee declined to change their original recommendation. **

Agenda Items forwarded to the 71st General Service Conference

V. Grapevine

- B. Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
- C. Review progress report on actions taken from the findings of the AA Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey.
- F. Consider a request to develop an AA Grapevine pamphlet on how the AA Grapevine can be utilized to carry the A.A. message.

VI. Literature

- J.2. Review proposed "A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference-approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format."
- L. Consider requests to revise the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*:
 1. Add pages 3 through 41 of the pamphlet "The A.A. Group" as an appendix in the next printing.
 2. Revise the first 164 pages.
- M. Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*:
 1. Develop a Fifth Edition.
 2. Develop a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* with updated stories and revisions to Appendices III and V.
 3. Add a proposed addendum to a Fifth Edition foreword of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* at the time it is published.
- N. Consider development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos*.
- P. Consider requests to revise the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*:
 1. To remove the phrase "opposite sex" from paragraph two on page 117 in the chapter "Step Twelve."
 2. To reconsider use of the phrase "lustful enough to rape" in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter "Step Six."
- Q. Consider request to add a subtitle to the booklet *Living Sober*.
- R. Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet "The A.A. Group."
- S. Consider request to revise text related to self-support in the pamphlet "Frequently Asked Questions About A.A."
- T. Consider revising the pamphlet "Questions & Answers on Sponsorship":
 1. Change the suggestion that sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex.
 2. Expand the section on "Service Sponsorship" and retitle the pamphlet to include service sponsorship.
- U. Consider request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet "G.S.R.: Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole."
- V. Review recovery literature matrix.

VII. Policy/Admissions

- C. Review G.S.O. general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection
- E. Consider a proposed process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss and act
- G. Review the Floor Action process.

VIII. Public Information

- K. Review "A.A. Triennial Membership Survey" report.
- L. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

IX. Report and Charter

- A. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.
- B. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S. and Western U.S.)

XII. Archives

- B. Review Archives Workbook.

Area 74 Special

Assembly Minutes Saturday, May 30th, 2020

9:00 AM CST – Welcome and Opening Prayer – **Meeting opened at 9am.**

- Housekeeping
- Roll Call
- **Area Officers:** Area Chair Alternate Delegate, Delegate, Secretary, Registrar, Treasurer
- **Committee Chairs:** Archives, CPC, Finance, Grapevine, N&T, Literature, P.I., Treatment
- **DCM's:** 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 10, 12, 3, 18, 20, 21, 23,
Past Delegates present: 56 Jeff C, 62 Marty L, 64 Mary Jo R, 66 -Derek T, 68 -Sara P,

9:10 AM CST- **Area Vote**

“Should Area 74 hold a 2020 Fall Conference, live and face-to-face in Eau Claire, WI
As originally planned”

- YES = Hold a Fall Conference face-to-face as planned in Eau Claire
- NO = Do not have a face-to-face conference in Eau Claire

Some of you referred to three suggestion/options that were provided by Brian's committee.

Option 1 Cancel and go virtual for the Assembly Cost \$124.00

Option 2 Full Steam ahead

Option 3 Limited Conference IE: only have the Assembly and Sat. night Speaker- no food banquet.

To reduce any confusion,

If your groups or districts voted for...

---Option 2 - Full Steam ahead, then your groups' or districts' vote would be YES today.

If your groups or districts voted for...

---Option 1 or Option 3, then your groups' or districts' vote would be NO today.

Question was asked about in agreement on the understanding of what the vote is today, the vote was 40 YES -7 No, in response to the question: "Does everyone agree with this voice for voting

Clarification on what the vote was for and that people who didn't understand what the vote was for should ask for clarification. No hands raised.

Question asked if there were to be discussion and if there is a no vote would the committee have full decision making on the conference.

Area Chair stated that it is up to the committee to move forward. Chair clarified that the committee can put forward what they want to do with the bid.

Poll was issued:

- YES = Hold a Fall Conference face-to-face as planned in Eau Claire
- NO = Do not have a face-to-face conference in Eau Claire

Poll results: 80.76% No(42) 19.34% Yes(10) – substantial unanimity

Minority Opinion:

The longer we stay away the easier it is to stay away and not sure the founders would want that. I also voted yes that the host district that they serve at the pleasure of the Area and although we have vague guidelines that we follow it is Area 74 as a whole that puts on the conference and that the options that were put forward didn't capture all options of having a limited conference was not an option. This is an Area 74 Conference and we should have some say in how it goes forward. We have options and we could look at many options and we should gather in person.

Another person commented that we have options to consider to meet in person. We could find larger spaces, pre-packaged food and should have fun this fall.

Another person commented that they voted yes because the way the motion was crafted was that it throws it back to the committee and that the Area guidelines have a loose committee and that the Area should work with the District's conference planning committee and that this vote gives no direction on what to do from here. Wishes to see a conference moving forward and wants to see how Area can help the district.

Another comment was that will cheerfully go along with the group consensus and that we should not have voted anyway and that the conference had been delegated to make the decision.

Question was asked if anyone in the majority wished to change their vote:

A majority member stated he wished to change his vote.

Point of order that we vote to reconsider: Point of order that we need a 2nd to reconsider.

This vote is to reconsider the vote; this is a simple majority vote: Yes - 14 (28.6%) – No - 35 (71.4%)

Area 74 Fall Conference Planning Chair spoke; he stated that he will talk to the committee on how they want to move forward and what they are capable of doing. He stated the committee would have to discuss this and report back to the area.

Member just stated that there were not other options; and what about other options should be available.

Comment that the business has been concluded and that there is a motion to close, 2nded.

Comment that we should consider other options and Al-Anon is holding their meeting.

Motion to close the meeting. Point of order that we need to vote to close the meeting;

Vote is 29 to close, 1 to not.

Meeting closed - 10:11 AM CST

Minutes

Area 74 Committee Meeting - Special Saturday June 13, 2020 7:00 am Central Via Zoom

Secretary's Note: Items that were preset on the agenda are printed in black. Day of discussion is in blue.

Opening and Welcome Remarks: Meeting called to order at 7:03am, serenity prayer. Past delegate Marty L chaired the meeting at the request of the current delegate.

Roll Call Delegate, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Corrections – MI, Treatment, CPC, N & T, Grapevine, Literature – x
DCM: 2 3 4 5 6 7 10 12 13 20 21

Motion made to table minutes, 2nded. No discussion. Approved unanimously by audio vote.

The first discussion- to include that these items to be voted on just mean a special Assembly needs to take place to act on the recommendations this Area Committee makes.

Review: A formal Assembly vote was not taken on whether we wished to hold the August 1, 2020 Inventory and proposed ACM in person at Three Lakes Wisconsin with Zoom technology for those with medical exemptions or a completely virtual meeting.

Question: Do we need to hold a formal Assembly Vote on whether we wished to hold the August 1, 2020 Inventory and proposed ACM in person at Three Lakes Wisconsin with Zoom technology for those with medical exemptions or a completely virtual meeting.

Open for Discussion, Debate and possible vote

Question about who is able to attend and participate and if there are any questions on the agenda prior to beginning. Marty stated that only members of the ACM are able to participate. Question regarding why we don't have on the agenda any discussion of the vacant chair / alternate delegate position. Discussion item on the vacant chair / alternate delegate will be added to the discussion after the scheduled items. Comment made that an open position can be voted on at any Area business meeting. Marty stated that traditionally it was done at assemblies.

Comment: Seeking clarification on what the question is. Delegate clarified a vote was never taken on the matter and this question and do we need to actually take a vote on the matter so that every voice is heard.

Comment: I do feel that the Assembly gets to vote on this.

Comment: Another comment agreed.

Comment: Clarification that Geri was working on this and asking what her input is on that. Delegate stated that she spoke with Geri Ann and has no direction from the committee.

Comment: Statement that her understanding was that the inventory was being held and that it might be in person and virtual.

Comment: Nicholas's comment

Comment: Comment that another person from the committee is present and they could shed some light.

Comment: Question that this is being driven by the state and that the decision was already informed that we are going to do it.

Comment: Member of the Area inventory committee spoke that they have not met. Believed that the chairperson had stated in past conversations that the committee is comfortable holding in completely in person.

Comment: Char stated that she spoke with Reiter center and that they have not been able to make any decisions because every group has cancelled. Char stated that Reiter center would not enforce local rules, that it would be safe and it would work.

Comment: Can there be a hybrid?

Comment: Clarification is whether we need to vote or not, not what our options are. Medical exemptions are simply those that don't want to attend.

Comment: Clarification on that the vote would need to be taken before the inventory occurs.

Comment: DCM shared a letter written by his GSR's. Statement from DCM stating that he agreed with letter and that was frustrated with the short notice of the ACM. (Attachment 1)

Comment: Was a question was any DCM's able to speak to their GSRs.

Comment: DCM completely concurred with the letter previously read. Believes calling the meeting negates the GSR's – their voice and vote. Also does not agree with the letter written in the Now & Then and is completely inappropriate.

Comment: DCM did not share with his GSRs that his meeting emergency meeting was happening and he did have an email from a GSR that paraphrased "that after Sunday's affair he was disgusted by political affair and it lasted to long and had to leave after 4.5 hours to escape to a more serene place."

Comment: Goal today to establish a well-informed group conscious and that isn't possible without GSRs. District 05 is not in accordance with holding another assembly.

Comment: District 6 is trying to get started again and one of the road blocks is getting people involved. They question about why are we (GSRs) going to get involved and if the business is going to be done without their input.

Comment: DCM stated we are having an assembly to include the GSRs. A vote should have been taken and that the last assembly was ridiculous. A lot of GSR's didn't take a vote and that this an unprecedented time. Voices have been heard and it was pretty much substantial unanimity and that she understands the wording of medical exemption could be offensive. Right of decision is

a great concept that is why we should have an inventory and we can talk about the inventory. Encouraged DCMs to hold a special meeting.

Comment: Char stated that the inventory will occur on August 1st.

Comment: Can we call to question? – Call to question.

Comment: This isn't a formal motion. Marty sought clarification.

Comment: Motion made, "To not hold a special assembly vote on the inventory prior to the August 1st, 2020 Inventory meeting."

Comment: Char asked we want to amend the motion to state that is should be virtual vs in-person. Char then asked if we needed to make a friendly motion that vote is not taken.

Comment: We need to clarify what the special assembly is for.

Comment: It states that the motion does not specifically address the concerns.

Comment: This is getting complicated. Do we need to hold a formal assembly vote prior to August 1st so the motion as amended sounds ok. Aren't we talking about a formal assembly vote? Isn't that what we are talking about.

Comment: Can one of our hosts put this in the document and share it with the voting body.

Comment: Call to question, 2nd.

Vote: Yes - 79% (15) No – 21% (4),

Comment: Clarification on voting body, 21 eligible voting members.

Comment: Invitation for minority to speak.

Comment: Minority opinion, I don't want to vote in favor of not allowing the assembly to have a voice and vote in the matter and am more than willing to go along with the majority.

Comment: No one from majority wishes to change their vote.

Motion passed to not hold special assembly vote regarding inventory.

Comment: Asking the body if in approval of not following the agenda to move to last question on agenda on regarding a formal vote in person – being that the items are so similar.

Comment: Question was when we took the vote was not the assembly included.

Comment: Char stated that she wants to hold a conversation on Delegated Authority Concept X and the Area 74 Guidelines.

Comment: GSRs were asked to get back to their groups and the assembly meeting was regarding the conference and that her recollection was that it was not discussed regarding the assembly.

Comment: No discussion on if there was a discussion on votes specifically for an assembly. An assembly needs to occur to sort out.

Review: Delegated Authority Concept X and the Area 74 Guidelines

Question: Does a conference planning committee have the authority to state what happens with the Assembly?

Open for Discussion, Debate and possible vote.

Comment: I think what I'm hearing is that does the planning committee have authority to impact or dictate the assembly. Often it is based on the facility. To rectify that you need to have that cleared ahead of time and have logistics sorted out. There needs to be some delegated authority to the conference planning committee.

Comment: Point out that Article 4 that the fall assembly is held with the conference. This committee moved forward that the Area Assembly would be moving forward on September 12 (stated by chair). The conference committee met and moved speakers around to allow that the assembly will be held on Saturday and did not want people on Zoom for 8 hours. The conference wanted to be mindful for the assembly. Also stated that because that the guidelines say that they are held in conjunction with the conference that the vote was the also the assembly would be held virtual as well.

Comment: Nicholas's comment. Delegated authority -full body "letter kills – spirit gives life"

Comment: History of who hosts conferences and what has historically been done. Discussion with our inventory and CAB reloaded will help determine what things will look like going forward. Many other areas have area committee members sit on conference planning committee to help ensure that the Area's business can be done.

Comment: GSR's got feedback and the discussion was specifically on the conference and not assembly and maybe confusion as to what the vote was on, conference vs. assembly.

Comment: Char stated that discussion was not allowed and new information could have been brought forward and that was not allowed. I stand behind that the conference is virtual. I question the guidelines about the assembly being held in conjunction with the conference. Other options were not discussed or brought forward. In conversations with the Reiter center that we can meet in person with Zoom technology but on a different weekend. I am personally uncomfortable with what has been decided. The motions go out and are vague and confusing.

Comment: I wanted to clarify that the Delegates Report back was given at the Spring Assembly in Green Bay on 2018.

Comment: Happy Birthday Sara! ☺

Comment: Clarification on what the conference would be.

Comment: Speakers will occur on Friday night and Sunday morning – Saturday is left open the Area to hold an assembly.

Comment: Nicholas's comment on spirit and letter

Comment: 2nd to previous comment. Objections could have been raised and were not.

Comment: Considering current social circumstances that we are establishing a new norm and we need to move forward and learn from our mistakes.

Comment: Marty stated what he is hearing is that the conference planning committee has left the day (Saturday) open for the assembly and perhaps the idea of delegated authority and could be left for a sharing session at an assembly.

Question: Do we need to take a formal vote on holding the Assembly in person at Three Lakes Wisconsin Saturday September 26, 2020 with Zoom technology for those with medical exemptions or a completely virtual meeting.

Open for Discussion, Debate and possible vote

Comment: Marty stated that clarification; the conference has left Saturday open for the assembly and that the Reiter center is not, so it would need to be on the 26th.

Comment: Clarification that the conference has left the day open with on programming scheduled for the day. An ASL interpreter has been arranged for the 12th for the assembly as that was what the treatment committee believed.

Comment: I am completed against changing the date to the 26th. I am not sure where that would have come from. The substantial unanimity has been to be meeting virtual. It was stated that our assembly would be happening that day and the ACM would be on the following on Sunday. We still have question regarding delegate feedback.

Comment: Motion: "Move that the assembly be held virtually in conjunction with the conference on September 12th and the ACM on the 13th"

Comment: Clarification on would this address the question?

Comment: Char asked if the current motion could be amended to state that based on previous discussion and feedback.

Motion: "The fall assembly will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2020"

Comment: It should be noted that vote is not needed because it has already been heard and not that it isn't important.

Comment: I understand where the motion is coming from and that can we say that a vote is not needed. Are we setting a bad precedent?

Comment: I would be opposed to those motion because I fully understood that we discussed having the assembly on the 12th and the ACM on the 13th. I disagree with the question being posed to us. The dates were set and we should not tell the assembly.

Comment: The dates were already set and we should just move forward with the dates that are set and we don't need this motion.

Comment: My intent with the motion was that the voice was not needed by the assembly.

Comment: I believe the assembly was involved because we held a special emergency assembly and their voice was heard.

Comment: Didn't hear an acceptance of the friendly amendment. I have not heard of the 9/26/20 date until this agenda. My take away was the assembly and ACM would be occurring virtually and although we did not take a vote that the assembly was on consensus. The motion could be withdrawn.

Comment: The 26th date was never mentioned because a hybrid meeting was not discussed and this is the date the Reiter center is available. Can a friendly amendment be offered that verbiage is added that no special assembly is needed?

Motion withdrawn

Comment: Vote: Do we need to take a formal vote on holding the Assembly in person at Three Lakes Wisconsin Saturday September 26, 2020 with Zoom technology for those with medical exemptions or a completely virtual meeting.

Vote: Yes - 19% (3) No – 81%(13),

Comment: I voted yes because of the way it is written. I was concerned that the if I voted no that we could just move forward with an assembly on the 26th and I don't want that.

Comment: Every year we vote on a calendar and now we are adding to the calendar that we are not voting on it.

Comment: A move to reconsider and open discussion, seconded.

Vote: Yes -24 % (4) No – 76%(13), **Vote is finalized**

Discussion on vacancy of Area Chair – Alternate- Delegate.

Comment: Marty brought up service guidelines which stated how to interpret them.

Comment: Brought this up that the Service Manual states the Delegate can appoint a chair and if a past delegate is appointed, they cannot serve as delegate.

Comment: In reading section 6 that the Area can describe at its discretion, please describe "area". We need to discuss this and keep that in mind.

Comment: Char stated the in speaking with people that direction was given was to hold an election at the next full assembly and is it time to look at splitting the role of Area Chair and Alternate Delegate. She has agreed to chair in September and does not wish to do so after.

Comment: If you can't find someone to step up and can we look at who was standing.

Comment: Char stated no one else stood for Delegate and Dawn stood for chair.

Comment: This is the situation our Area has created and we need to address it in September.

Comment: Trust the process. Reach out to our Area and bring nominations at our assembly in September.

Comment: Agreed that we vote in September.

Comment: Making sure we are all aware that the consequences of the decision that we could be w/o a delegate.

Comment: DCM's need to go back to their districts and gsr's to bring forward nominations.

Comment: Could we review the requirements for the position?

Comment: Section 5.00 The Alternate Area Delegate shall serve as the Area Chairperson, and as such has the responsibility for chairing Area Service Meetings at conferences and at Assemblies. In Area 74 the Alternate Delegate shall have previously served as a DCM. The Alternate Delegate is responsible for the agenda of Service Meetings, seeing to it that requests by members of Area 74 are addressed in an organized and timely fashion. Agendas should be published in the Area newsletter prior to Service Meetings, and

copies should be available the day of the meeting. The Area Chairperson will be responsible to organize, conduct, and chair the Area Committee Meetings. The Alternate Delegate may be asked to act in the stead of the Area Delegate if the Delegate is unavailable. The Alternate Delegate may be asked to perform special duties from time to time at the discretion of the Area, as determined by the voting members of the Area Assemblies.

Comment: Clarification on next Area ACM meeting and setting the agenda assembly.

Comment: Clarification on requirement for Area Chair.

Comment: This body (ACM) will move forward without and Area Chair / Alternate delegate until the September Assembly.

Comment: A current serving DCM precedent has been done and that they need to resign their position first.

Comment: Char wanted to ask about October assembly. Char is hearing a lot of people want to want to get back together in person and that we need to figure out what to do. We also need to make another ACM in December. Char cautions that Zoom is convenient. Is that what service is all about?

Comment: What are the dates for October assembly?

Comment: October assembly is 10/24/20 at 3 Lakes for the Reiter Center.

Comment: That the Delegate continues to share personal opinion and is influencing the body.

Comment: Echo comments regarding delegate.

Comment: Unless we need to make a decision sooner, we can make those decision on 9/12/2020.

Comment: Echo previous comments regarding delegate.

Comment: Echo previous comments regarding delegate. Can we stop worrying the October assembly can we talk about Delegates Report back.

Comment: Perfect example of the ACM should work. DCM's go back to their districts and get feedback.

Comment: Precedent was set that the Area Chair expressed their views and that was accepted and she should be able to share as well. In regards to the Delegate's report back. The Area chair was to set that up and sense she has stepped down that she will set that up. Waiting for more information from GSO to finalized items. The arguments about making more dates is what happens when we have a pandemic.

Comment: Appreciate patience and acknowledging the challenging times of what we are doing.

Meeting closed at 10:27am with the Responsibility Statement

Notes: Please take some time to review the Concepts with attention to Concept X, III, IV, V and the Area 74 Guidelines prior to the meeting.

This meeting will be facilitated by Past Delegate Marty L.

Zoom Operators TBD

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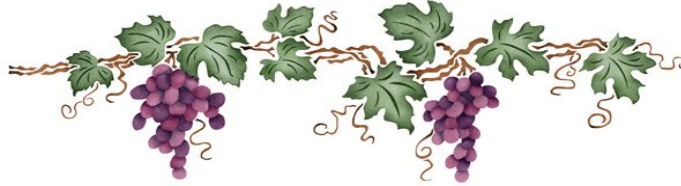
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We have some great news to share!



Hawai'i Area 17 is hosting **Two**
GRAPEVINE Workshops



Workshop #1 will be held from 9-10:30A (Hawaii Time)
Saturday, June 20, 2020

The Grapevine: Tried, True, and New for Me and You

Zoom ID 942 7932 0932

PW grapevine



Workshop #2 will be held from 9-10:30A (Hawaii Time)
Saturday, July 18, 2020

Grapevine Writing Workshop

Zoom ID 984 5212 6153

PW grapevine



Please help Victor E.
spread the word!

AA GRAPEVINE, Inc.

June 10, 2020

To: General Service Conference Delegates
Trustees of General Service Board, Past and Present
Directors of AA Grapevine, Inc., Past and Present
Directors of AA World Services, Inc., Past and Present
AA Grapevine Editorial Advisory Board Members, Past and Present
Appointed Committee Members of Trustees' Committees
Grapevine and G.S.O. Staff Members
U.S. and Canada Central Offices and Intergroups

Re: Vacancy for Nontrustee Director of AA Grapevine Board in 2021

Dear Friends:

The AA Grapevine Corporate Board will have a vacancy for the position of nontrustee Director following the General Service Conference in April 2021. The Board of Trustees has requested that the AA Grapevine Board's recommendation be presented for this position to the trustees' Nominating Committee for review at its January 2021 meeting. Since resumes need to be screened and applicants interviewed by members of our Corporate Board in a timely fashion, the process must begin well in advance.

We plan to review resumes in August so that we can schedule interviews during the early autumn of this year. We therefore ask that completed resumes be submitted by Friday, July 17, 2020.

Some of the qualities most desirable in the person who will fill this vacancy are:

1. A sound business or professional background is preferable, but not limited to the following areas – management, legal, publishing, media or e-commerce.
2. Familiarity with and ties to diverse A.A. communities and professional communities.
3. The ability to work collaboratively with others to meet shared objectives.
4. Prior service on a non-profit is helpful.
5. A minimum of seven years sobriety in the AA program.

Please direct all
communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

June 11, 2020

Opening for A.A.W.S. Nontrustee Director

A.A. World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S.) has started its search for a nontrustee director. This voluntary position will commence following the 2021 General Service Conference. Interested A.A. members are encouraged to submit a résumé.

Basic qualifications for this position are: a minimum of seven years of continuous sobriety; a sound business or professional background preferably in, but not limited to, the following areas -- finance, management, publishing, legal, or information technology; and the ability to work with others. We are also seeking strength in organizational management, change management, customer engagement or operational turnaround.

Directors must be available to attend all regular meetings of the A.A.W.S. Board (currently, up to eight per year), three weekend meetings of trustees' committees (to which corporate board directors are appointed) and the General Service Conference, for one week in April. In addition, directors may be called upon to attend subcommittee or other meetings and to represent A.A.W.S. at Regional Forums or other A.A. functions.

Note: A General Service Conference Delegate is not eligible to apply until one year after their last Conference; therefore Panel 69 delegates are not eligible to apply for this opening.

In seeking applications for all vacancies in Alcoholics Anonymous, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large applicant file of qualified persons, which reflects the inclusiveness and diversity of A.A. itself. To obtain an A.A. World Services Director Résumé Sheet please contact the A.A.W.S. Board Secretary at the General Service Office by email at aawsboardsecretary@aa.org or call 212-870-3400.

Résumés, accompanied by A.A. World Services Director Résumé Sheet, should be emailed to: aawsboardsecretary@aa.org with subject line: NTD APPLICATION, no later than July 24, 2020.

With best regards,



Jan Lembke
Chairperson
A.A.W.S. Nominating Committee