

74th General Service Conference Delegate's Questionnaire – Due By April 6, 2024

Finance (Results from the Conference)

A. Consider a request that the General Service Board develop supplemental reporting focused on the actual and evolving costs of various services provided by the GSB. *Is the General Service Board being as transparent as they can be? Would your group want to see more detail in their reports to the fellowship? Yes or No*

- The committee discussed a request that the General Service Board develop supplemental financial reporting focused on the actual costs of the various service items we provide. The committee requested that the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee produce an initial draft of the supplemental reporting and it be brought back to the Conference Committee on Finance for review at the 75th General Service Conference. →

Include reporting on the following service items:

- o Development of certain new literature titles
- o Cost of capital projects such as software, app, and website development
- o Maintenance cost of software, apps, and website
- o International services →

The frequency of reporting is suggested to be quarterly and be included in quarterly reports. →
The level of detail reported should include:

- o Revenue numbers for items we sell (and identify “no cost” items, perhaps providing separate sections for priced items vs. “no cost” items. Also, include reporting on any draws from the reserve fund for any item.

- o All long-term costs such as server fees, development costs as platforms evolve, and ongoing content creation such as podcasts, apps, Instagram accounts, etc. →

Additionally, the relevant parts of the new report(s) would be included as background information for any agenda item listed in the report(s).

C. Review progress report reflecting shared experience from the Fellowship on possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders. *(EDW Literature Item) What does your group think about possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders? Short Answer*

- The committee reviewed the progress report reflecting shared experience from the Fellowship on possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders and took no action. After thorough consideration and mindful reflection of the comments received from Founders' Writings sharing sessions, as well as the valuable input received from the Fellowship via Area Delegates, the committee agreed that current Conference procedures provide a process wherein future proposals for changes can be considered by the group conscience of each Conference, negating the need for a mandated policy.

Literature

F. Review draft manuscript of the translation of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language. *Now that the draft manuscript of the Plain Language is almost ready for review and approval, is your group in favor or against the publication of this book? Short Answer*

- The draft manuscript *Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous* be approved with minor editorial changes to include:

- Relocation of the “A.A. Steps Table” to constitute an Appendix (on the Twelve Steps) at the back of the new publication.
- Replace the references to “addiction” and “addicted” with language related to alcoholism.

K. Consider a request that the words "Donation" and "Contribution" be swapped under Warranty One in “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated” pamphlet. *What’s the difference? Are the words we use in our literature important? Yes or No*

The Committee Recommended:

- The word “donation” be utilized to state that A.A. does not accept donations from outside entities; and that the word “contributions” be utilized when referring to Seventh Tradition contributions from A.A. members, in AAWS literature as it comes up for reprint.

Policy/Admissions

E. Discuss revising procedures for electing the Delegate chairperson, Conference Committee chairpersons and their alternates. *Do you think pulling a name out of the hat is the best way to decide who will hold this important position? Yes or No*

- The Committee discussed a suggestion to revise procedures for electing the Delegate chairperson, Conference Committee chairpersons and their alternates and took no action. The committee noted that the timing of the election at the close of the final committee meeting as well as the process for electing Conference committee chairs is an effective voting procedure.

The committee also noted that while the process for electing the General Service Conference Delegate chair from the remaining delegates (not yet selected for Committee or alt chair) remains a viable procedure, a more effective, improved, communication would be useful in outlining the current roles and responsibilities.

There was consensus by the committee that all Area Delegates have been chosen by their areas as qualified and ready to serve in many capacities at the Conference. While some delegates may choose not to be included in the election, any qualifying delegate who wants to be considered be allowed to submit their name. The committee suggested that the trustees’ Conference committee develop a guideline “For the Role and Responsibilities of Delegate Chair” that could be included in the Conference manual and be read prior to the election at the delegate’s only meeting. The committee asked that the Staff secretary send a memo to the trustees’ Conference Committee with suggestions for content in the guideline.

Report and Charter

C. Discuss the reporting of Simple Majority Items. *Simple Majority Items are Recommendations that did not pass and become Advisory Actions. Should they be left out of the Final Conference Report? Yes or No*

- The committee noted that there may be policy implications associated with Simple Majority items and suggested this question be referred to the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions for further consideration.

Trustees

F. Discuss guidelines or parameters for deadlines of Conference agenda items. *The current deadline for submitting proposed agenda items is September 15th of each year. Should there be a deadline? Yes or No*

• The committee discussed the agenda item to consider guidelines and parameters regarding the deadline to submit Conference agenda items and took no action. The committee affirmed that Proposed Agenda Items (PAIs) received after the current year's deadline are processed in the following year.

From the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions:

The committee recommended that the Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) submission date deadline for the 2025 General Service Conference be moved to a date no earlier than September 30, 2024.

International Conventions/Regional Forums

A. Discuss an anonymity-protected photograph of the Flag Ceremony to be taken at the 2025 International Convention. *If a photograph is anonymity-protected, is it okay? Yes or No*

B. Discuss an encrypted, anonymity-protected, delayed Internet broadcast of the Convention Flag Ceremony for the 2025 International Convention. *If an Internet broadcast is anonymity-protected, is it okay? Yes or No*

C. Discuss a report concerning virtual programming for the 2025 International Convention. *Should the 2025 International Convention have a virtual component? Yes or No*

It was recommended that:

- An anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony be taken at the 2025 International Convention.
- An encrypted, delayed anonymity-protected Internet video of the 2025 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony be approved and that the video be placed on appropriate communication channels.
- Providing six options for closing the Big Meetings at an International Convention: The Serenity Prayer, Responsibility Statement, Declaration of Unity, the Third Step Prayer, the Seventh Step Prayer, or a Moment of Silence.
- Anonymity-protected video footage with highlights of the 2025 International Convention be produced for maintaining archival footage of the Convention, as well as for sharing the spirit and enthusiasm of the 2025 International Convention.
- That a delayed, anonymity-protected, digital access stand-alone product offering of the three Big Meetings be created.

Committee Considerations:

- The committee discussed a report concerning virtual programming for the 2025 International Convention. The committee agrees with including a two-day 8 session virtual track in the program. The committee believes that the \$35.00 (USD) per attendee fee for the programmed virtual session track is prudent and provides a desired accessibility for members who may not be able to attend the

convention in person. The committee made the following suggestions to the trustees' International Convention Regional Forums Committee related to the two-day 8 session virtual program track:

- That there be virtual hospitality suite.
 - That virtual technology support be provided.
- The committee requested that the trustees' International Convention and Regional Forums Committee explore ideas to develop a new declaration to be adopted at the 2030 International Convention. The concept is to review the history of The Responsibility Statement or the "I Am Responsible" Declaration that was introduced at the 1965 International Convention in Toronto. In addition to the history of the "Unity" declaration that was introduced at A.A.'s 35th Anniversary International Convention held in Miami Beach, Florida in July 1970. The committee looks forward to a progress report being brought back to the 2025 Conference Committee on International Convention and Regional Forums.

The Delegates Day of Sharing will be Hybrid on March 2, 2024, from 9AM-3PM. In person will be at Westchester Community College and the joining information is on the SENY calendar and Area landing page. Afterward, there will be several Virtual Delegate Sharing Sessions scheduled for the agenda items and will be posted on the "From the Delegate" webpage. Questionnaires can be submitted electronically on our website, scanned and emailed, or emailed responses. The Pre-Conference Assembly is April 6, 2024, and is the final day to submit your responses in person or electronically.

My email: Jo Ann M. delegate@aaseny.org

Mailing address: PO Box 571 New York, NY 10116 must be postmarked by 4/4/2024.

Name of GSR submitting _____

Homegroup _____