

## 2020 G.S.D. REPORT

JUNE 2020

Hello Friends my name is Kirk S. And I have the pleasure of serving Area 82 as your Panel 69 Delegate. The 70<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference was held in may by Zoom. We have tried our best with the times we are in and having to get the work of AA done. A big thank you goes out to all GSO staff for their patience with those of us who are not tech savvy. They worked long and hard days from home, to make sure we were all up to speed.

Conference began May 16<sup>th</sup> with a welcome from Michele Grinberg, chair of the General Service Board. Followed by remarks from Greg Tobin, General Manager at G.S.O. Greg then went on to roll call and review our agenda.

The committees broke into their own work space in the afternoon. We had very limited time to review items to bring to the floor. Really glad we as a group on P.I. Met ahead of conference. Each committee only had 45 minutes to present and have passed agenda items. Therefore we would be lucky to have one passed with the question and answer time on each item being part of the 45 minutes.

The following are the committees reports:

### Cooperation With The Professional Community

#### Committee Considerations

Discussed discontinuing the pamphlet "AA in Your Community" and took no action. Noting an update of the language and style is needed. Update with a focus on modern settings and various formats, such as digital resources.

### Corrections

#### Committee Considerations

Report heard from AAWS's publishing director on effects to provide digital distribution of AA literature into correctional facilities. Several options identified. Also reported Publishing plan to make most AA pamphlets staple-free. They also reviewed the Workbook and Kit and suggested adding the Pamphlet "The God Word".

### Finance

Recommended; Add draft language related to virtual basket in the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money And Spirituality Mix." PASSED

### Grapevine

Recommended: Change name to Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Vina. PASSED

#### Committee Considerations:

Request Grapevine Board consider developing gender neutral language options and bring a revised plan back to 2021 GSC.

### Literature

Recommended: Update video "Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure." PASSED

AAWS policy "Policy on Publication of Literature: update Pamphlets and other AA Materials. PASSED

Committee Considerations: Report back to the 2021 conference for the following pamphlets; The Twelve Traditions Illustrated, The Twelve Concepts Illustrated, AA's Three Legacies, Too Young, Young People in AA, Pamphlet for Spanish Speaking Women.

### Policy / Admissions

Recommended: Process for Approving Observers to the Conference be approved. PASSED  
Recommended: General Service Conference implement electronic voting for trustee elections starting in 2021. PASSED  
Recommended: Continuing review of dates for the GSC be changed to consider dates with timing and years to review as requested by the General Manager. PASSED

## Public Information

Recommended: Adjust all AAWS video titles for search engine Optimization. {SEO} PASSED  
Committee Considerations:

Reports reviewed and accepted: Annual Report regarding aa.org and aagraevine.org; GSO communications department report on the AAWS Meeting Guide App; status of Google AdWords/Grants; PI comprehensive Media Plan to create video shorts based on pamphlets; Relevance and Usefulness of Video PSAs; AA Membership survey. Report back to 2021.

Accepted report distribution and tracking information on PSA “Changes”: new financial reporting system for PSA media valuations; Report on the development of two PSAs. Draft to 2021.

Create a new form of communication: request information be gathered on Social Media before moving forward, i.e.: Suggested: Shared experiences; safety & etiquette, Anonymity. Report or draft proposal back to 2021.

AA Podcast; develop and bring back to 2021.

Committee shared concerns on the relevancy of a print copy workbook and PI kit. Suggestions included: explore developing a service committee App; Create PDF version; broader sharing; more accessibility in PI work; reflection of AA digital assets and how applied to PI work [such as You Tube, Meeting Guide App, etc] Report back to 2021.

## Report And Charter

Recommended: Amend article 4 of current conference Charter to read From: '3/4 vote of all conference members' TO: 3/4 vote of all conference members PARTICIPATING IN THE VOTE" PASSED

Committee Considerations:

Review and accepted: Report from Publishing re: timely and accurate preparation & publication of 2020 GSC Final Report.

Reviewed draft of AA Service Manual, requested update draft incorporating suggestions from the committee be brought back to 2021.

Discussed restoring two paragraphs with footnotes to Concept Eleven previously removed by 66<sup>th</sup> GSC. TOOK NO ACTION

## Treatment/Special Needs/Accessibility

Recommended: Revising the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” updating for currency and inclusion to reach broader scope of treatment settings, and that a progress report or draft be brought back to 2021. PASSED

Committee Considerations:

Suggested that the trustees' committee develop a Bridging The Gap Workbook and bring a progress report to 2021 GSC

## Trustees

Recommended: The approval of the slate of trustees and officers for General Service Board and A.A.

Grapevine, Inc. Board. PASSED

Approval of the slate of Directors for A.A.W.S.----RULED OUT OF ORDER

Approval of the slate of trustees for A.A.W.S. As presented. PASSED

Committee Considerations;

The slate of directors, summary of events re: Appeal: amend by-laws of the GSB specifically eligibility of past delegates to apply. Report to 2021

Archives

Committee Considerations:

Considered request for the development of a book on AA history from 1955 through the present.

Suggested Committee consider possible themes, content ideas and the time period such a book might cover. Report back in 2021

International Conventions/Regional Forums

Committee Considerations: Accepted report from Talley Management outlining steps taken prior and post cancellation of the 2020 International Convention.

Discussed the using of The Lord's Prayer for closing the big meetings. Wide range of discussion followed.. Also encouraged interest in Regional and Local Forums. Many suggestions offered.

AAWS/GSO REPORTS

Due to the Virus Interruption no audit was available at the time. A special Virtual meeting will be held when final figures are available.

FLOOR ACTIONS

The following floor actions FAILED a motion to decline consideration and will be forwarded to the 71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference.

1-Recommended: Proposal to revise the pie chart percentages emphasizing that any percentages included are only suggestions and examples,

2- Recommended: Due to many agenda items being forwarded to the 71<sup>st</sup> GSC. Consider extending the 71<sup>st</sup> GSC by as many as three working days, whether 71<sup>st</sup> is face to face or digital.

3- Recommended: Consider developing a PSA about AA geared toward minorities.

4- Recommended: 70<sup>th</sup> GSC approve slate of directors for AAWS as originally submitted.

5- Recommended: Pamphlet "AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic" be updated to include fresh stories & a new title.

6-Recommended: Slate of directors of AAWS as submitted be approved.

7-Recommended: Launch of Google AdWords- Grants halt until the 71<sup>st</sup> approves and the Ad Hoc Committee progress report from Finance be immediately released to all members of the 71<sup>st</sup> GSC..

Thank You

Kirk S

Panel 69

Area 82