

The meeting was opened by Barbara G. at the April Assembly held at the Sheraton North. We met from 4:30-5:30 in the El Paso Room. Grapevine Reps present were Dave C. (Kingwood Group), Lisa V. (Good News Group), and Rodney G. (LaBranch Street Group). Two guests, Deborah W. from Kingwood Group, and Cole P. (Alt. DCM for District 20) also joined us.

The Serenity Prayer and introductions were made.

Minutes were available for the March meeting. Dave P. motioned to accept with Lisa V. making the second. They were approved unanimously.

The open position for Alt. GV Chair and Secretary were considered but no one stood.

Old Business: We continued discussing the April 26 workshop for District 20's Spring Fling. Rodney G. will operate the PP presentation. A \$20 check will be sent to District 20 for rental of projector and screen charged by Houston Council. This should be a Committee expense since we asked for it. Dave C. will sit on the panel to discuss Tips for Audio Recording and provide us with a sample listening from the Grapevine website. Also on the panel will be Lisa V. discussing the Writing Guidelines and select a short story from the magazine to serve as an example. Barbara will also sit on the panel to discuss the Grapevine, Inc.

New Business: In order to send our Area Delegate informed but not instructed about the Grapevine agenda topics, three (3) subjects were selected by Barbara that seem to be of interest. The results are included below along with my reporting to Patrick C. He thanked the Committee for taking the time to view these important topics.

The next meeting will be held at the **Delta Club, 6400 Westpark, Houston 77057 at 7:30 pm. (new time)**

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

In service and appreciation for all you do,
 Barbara G.
 SETA 67 Grapevine Chair

V. GRAPEVINE

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item C

Agenda Topic	Review report from AA. Grapevine Board on feasibility of producing one book in American Sign Language (ASL).
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This topic is from the 2013 Conference GV committee as an "Additional Consideration." Resulting in a proposal to produce a video production of "The Best Of Bill" (5 essays) in American Sign Language. The video will consist of a signer signing the essays on camera in ASL, with pre-recorded narrators reading the essays. Closed captions or subtitles will be included. Total estimated costs: \$20,900 to \$23,050, price range reflects voice options and downloadable vs. DVD. With the exception of this additional consideration, Grapevine has not received any requests for ASL format over the last five years. <i>Background material can be obtained from your District Committee member.</i>
What does the Delegate need to know?	1. How does your group, district or committee feel about AA Grapevine moving forward to produce this ASL video? Is there a need for this service? Why or Why not?

Remember when spending money in AA we don't ask the question "Is the money there?" but rather "Is this necessary?"

Patrick: Did not have time to discuss this question.

Conference Committee: **Grapevine — Item E**

Agenda Topic	Reconsider publishing the “Alcoholism at Large” section of the Grapevine.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In the background material there are two letters from two Areas, Iowa Area 24 and NE Texas Area 65, requesting to <u>discontinue including the section “Alcoholism at Large” in the AA Grapevine and La Vina magazines</u>. This section in the Grapevine and La Vina magazine offers information that may further readers’ understanding of the medical, legal and social aspects of alcoholism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1974 it was recommended that: The “About Alcoholism” section in the “Gray Pages” of the Grapevine is continued, in order to report developments in the field of alcoholism, even though they may be contrary to AA philosophy.” • In 1977 it was recommended that the Grapevine “continue to publish the “About Alcoholism” section along with the disclaimer.” • As well as in 1983 it was recommended that the Grapevine continue to publish along with a disclaimer. • In 1991 it was recommended that the Grapevine discontinue publishing the “About Alcoholism” section. • In 2007, per an Advisory Action voted and approved by the Conference, a section on the medical, legal and social aspect of alcoholism with an appropriate disclaimer was developed and is currently published in each issue of the Grapevine and La Vina magazines. This section is called “<u>Alcoholism at Large</u>”. <p>The two Areas cite that this section is an outside issue, is violating traditions and Grapevines guidelines, thus causing subscriptions to decline. <i>Background material can be obtained from your District Committee member.</i></p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does your group, district or committee think the section “Alcoholism at Large” violates any of our traditions? If so, what traditions and why? 2. Does you group, district or committee think that the AA Grapevine should discontinue publishing the “Alcoholism at Large” section as a part of the Grapevine and La Vina magazines? Why or Why not?

If you attended the 2013 Grapevine Workshop at the TX State Convention, you will remember Mo who serves as Delegate for Northeast TX Area 65. Her Area along with one from Iowa submitted this conference item. Mo told us her Area has expressed their dislike of the gray pages/Alcoholism at Large to the point that some AA members have discontinued their subscriptions until the publisher discontinues this practice.

Patrick: There were only 4 members at the Area GV Committee meeting at April Assembly. This was a tie vote 2:2. Those opposed said “Take what you want. Leave the rest behind. If I don’t want to read it, I won’t”. Another member said “Since it has the disclaimer, it states this is not AA’s views.” Those against said “Should not be there. It is aligned with treatment center talk and not recovery. We should not have anything in magazine that could not be discussed at regular AA meeting. This would definitely be considered an ‘outside issue’ if brought up for discussion.” Another said “Would rather see this space better utilized with more information on AA history, concepts, service manual or printing the monthly Grapevine news. Also think it is violating Tradition 10 and adding disclaimer does not validate that error.”

Conference Committee: **Grapevine — Item F**

Agenda Topic	Consider a request "to reaffirm the Right of Decision of the AA Grapevine Board to make formatting decisions for the AA Grapevine and La Viña magazines."
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SETA 67 Grapevine Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2014

<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>At the 2010 General Service Conference an <u>Advisory Action</u> concerning the La Viña was passed, which read in part "It is recommended that: La Viña achieve spiritual parity with the A. A. Grapevine, beginning in the following manner: Publishing La Viña as a bimonthly, perfect-bound, black and white, 68 page issue...".</p> <p>At the 2013 General Conference <u>two Additional Committee Considerations</u> were accepted by the Grapevine Committee concerning the La Viña. They read:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. "The committee requested that the GV board submit a proposal to the 2014 Conference Committee on the Grapevine that would significantly reduce the La Viña deficit." <i>And</i>2. "The committee considered discontinuing the requirement for the current format of the La Viña print magazine (i.e., 68pages, perfect bound) and "Took no Action". <p>The committee felt it needed more background regarding La Viña's financial history and information regarding what a new format would be.</p> <p>The <u>Advisory Action</u> passed in 2010, is a policy decision by the Conference to require a specific format for the La Viña, and the <u>Additional Committee Consideration</u> published in the Conference Report in 2013 seem be contradictory.</p> <p>Area 29 brought forward this agenda item for consideration, and the Trustees Conference Committee forwarded this to the Conference Committee on the Grapevine for the 2014 Conference.</p> <p>This Agenda Item would reaffirm the right of the AA Grapevine Board to make the formatting decisions concerning the La Viña (which they have for the Grapevine).</p> <p><i>Note: See Grapevine Agenda Item B, for more information on La Viña.</i> <i>Background material can be obtained from your District Committee member.</i></p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Does your group, district or committee feel the AA Grapevine Board should determine the format of La Viña, or should format decisions be made by the General Service Conference? Why or Why not?

Patrick: All four voted in favor of allowing the AA Grapevine Board to determine the format of LaVina. We felt the GV Board would have better understanding of their business practices, financial challenges, and necessary changes for future publishing. General Service Conference has the Fellowship at heart where the Grapevine/LaVina is an incorporated business that must show a profit to remain in business. If this magazine is "our meeting in print" why not ask it to be self-supporting as we would any other meetings that make up a Group in AA?