

2017 General Service Conference Agenda Topic Summaries SETA Area 67

Round Table Discussion April 8, 2017

Sheraton North Houston

1:00 to 3:30 pm

Confidential

Disclosures: The materials in this document are only summaries of the background. Information presented in the summaries are carefully distilled or extracted to be concise and provide enough information so that all districts and members in SETA can fully participate. For more information on any particular item(s), please contact your DCM or MCD to obtain full background information

Please do not consider the summaries opinions of the SETA officers. Only the section on “What the delegate needs to know” is personally from our Delegate. This includes background for the 67th General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document; Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members’ full names and addresses.

Conference Theme, Presentation and Workshop Topics The theme of the 67th General Service Conference is:

“Supporting Our Future”

The Presentation/Discussion topics will include:

a. Growth:

1. Diversity – Outreach and Attraction
2. Safety – An Important Consideration
3. Communication – Today and Tomorrow

b. Participation:

1. Fellowship vs. Membership
2. Leadership: “I am Responsible...”
3. Is Your Voice Heard?

c. Contributions:

1. Spirituality and Money
2. Fully Self-Supporting Our Obligations
3. Apathy and Power of the Purse

The Workshop Topic will be:

Anonymity—The Spiritual Foundation

These are wonderful basic A.A. topics that can be talked about and discussed throughout the Fellowship, in assemblies, districts, intergroups/central office gatherings, and in groups.

Message from the Delegate

The first page gives information location, time and date for the Area's round table discussions. The round table discussion are where selective agenda topics will be discussed in breakout groups and direct feedback will be given to the Delegate. The round table discussion are similar to the committee structure used at the General Service Conference. All members of the fellowship are welcomed. On the second page of this document you will find the Theme, Presentation/Discussion and Workshop Topics for the 67th General Service Conference. These are excellent topics to be used throughout the year for discussions in groups, districts or area events. The rest of the document contains summaries of the background information for all of the items on the Agenda for the 67th General Service Conference. These summaries can be used by AA members and especially by the General Service Representatives (GSRs) who carry the group's conscience and provide the group with information needed to obtain that conscience.

The Agenda Topics are the actual agendas of each of the 13 committees of the General Service Conference. The topics will be discussed by each committee and may or may not be sent to the Conference itself. It is important that your group understand that not all topics will be resolved by or even presented to the Conference. Many Agenda Topics are procedural items for that particular committee (such as choosing a date for the 2018 Conference) and do not require our group conscience. Some topics appear each year, such as reviewing workbooks and kits used by Public Information, Corrections, etc. If your group is interested in these, ask your local committee to share their experience with the kits or request copies from your literature chair.

Each Delegate receives background material for their specific committee first, as well as background for all 13 committees in mid-February. Please note that this material is primarily intended for the Delegate's use. In order to provide context for some of the agenda topics and aid the GSRs in obtaining an informed group conscience, each DCM will be given a set of the background material by the end of February. Please treat it as AA Confidential information. While having background is important, please see it as an aid in understanding the context and discussion of the spiritual intent of the agenda topic. I will be serving on the Delegate Committee on Trustee, and I encourage you give top priority and special focus to those agenda topics as I will have the opportunity to discuss them in depth during committee meetings. Delegate response forms are available on the Delegate web page at aa-seta.org. These forms once completed can be given to your DCMs or emailed to me at delegate-67@aa-seta.org or dropped off at the round table meeting on April 8th at the Sheraton North Houston.

This is a wonderful opportunity for every member of the fellowship to be involved in the group conscience process known as the General Service Conference.

Trudging the Road,

Ron C, Panel 67 Delegate

Area 67 (South East Texas Area)

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Conference Committee: Agenda — Item A

Agenda Topic	Review suggestions for the theme of the 2018 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Each year, the current General Service Conference decides on the theme for the next year's General Service Conference. In the background material, there is a list of themes from all of the past conferences, as well as a list of 31 themes being considered for 2018. Presentations on the Conference Theme are given at the General Service Conference and printed in the final conference report. The Conference theme and presentation topics revolve around basic principles of A.A. and can spark thought-provoking discussion at Area and district meetings as well. Regions, areas and districts often incorporate discussion of these topics into workshops, assemblies, etc. This gives all A.A. members the opportunity to participate and become more informed about A.A.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Which of the suggested Themes would your group like to see for the 2018 General Service Conference?

Conference Committee: Agenda— Item B1

Agenda Topic	Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2018 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	As with the Conference Theme, each year the current General Service Conference decides on the Presentation/Discussion topics for the next year's Conference. In the background material, there is a list of all presentation/discussion topics from all of the past conferences, as well as a list of 58 topics being considered for 2018. Presentations are given at the General Service Conference and printed in the final conference report. It is an excellent opportunity for the entire fellowship to discuss a topic.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Which of the suggested presentation/discussion topics would your group like to see for the 2018 General Service Conference?

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Conference Committee: Agenda — Item B2

Agenda Topic	Consider request that for 2018, presentation/discussion topics not be placed on the Conference Week schedule.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In October 2016, the then Conference coordinator submitted a request that the Trustees Conference committee consider submitting this topic to the Conference Agenda committee that for 2018, presentation/discussion topics be selected to be used throughout the fellowship in Areas, District, and A.A. Groups, but that they not be placed on the actual Conference week schedule so that the 2 1/4 hours of time might be used for committee work and Conference-wide sharing sessions instead. At their January 2017 meeting, the Trustees agreed to forward this topic to the Agenda committee. In recent years, the Agenda committee has recommended either two or three sets of presentation/discussion topics to the Conference for the following year. The background material contains general sharing about the usefulness and number of topics from the 2016 General Service Conference Evaluation Summary.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think time for these presentation/topics should be on the Conference week schedule? Or should topics only be chosen for use by areas, districts and groups? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item B3

Agenda Topic	Consider request that the total number of presentation/discussions at the Conference be limited to no more than six.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The Conference Agenda Committee recommends presentation/discussion topics to be given at the Conference the following year. The number of presentations has varied over the years (ranging from 3 to 16). In recent years, the presentation/discussion topics have had two or three subtopics, with a speaker invited to present on each of the subtopics. The time allotted for each of these presentation/discussions has ranged from 1/2 hour to an hour. In addition to the presentation/discussion topics selected by the Conference Agenda Committee, there are several regularly scheduled presentations at the Conference. These
	include: General Service Board Report Presentation; A.A.W.S. Board Report Presentation; Grapevine Board Report Presentation; Finance

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	<p>Presentation; Grapevine Presentation; Archives Presentation (every other year); World Service Meeting and International Presentation (every other year). The background information lists the number of presentation/discussion topics selected each year since 1985 and includes a letter from Area 76 (Wyoming) with this request for the limit in the interest of time and money, citing costs to the areas for presenters and time in Regional conferences.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group think the number of presentation/discussion topics selected for the General Service Conference should be limited to no more than six? Why or why not?</p>

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item C

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item D1

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2018 General Service Conference.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>There is a workshop at the General Service Conference, in which all conference delegates break up into groups and discuss the topics. In the background material, there is a list of workshop topics from all of the past conferences, as well as a list of 53 topics being considered for 2018. Highlights from the discussion are printed in the final conference report. It is an excellent opportunity for the entire fellowship to discuss a topic.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Which of the suggested workshop topics would your group like to see for the 2018 General Service Conference?</p>
<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Review summary of the 2016 General Service Conference evaluations.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>The background includes a summary of the feedback from eighty-three members of the 2016 General Service Conference who completed an Evaluation Form. Feedback is given on materials provided pre-conference, the dashboard, all the Board reports, Conference committee reports and presentation topics given throughout the week, the trip to General Service Office/Grapevine office, the Feasibility workshops, suggestions for the 2017 General Service Conference, and more.</p>

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<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>This item is for review by the Agenda Committee to assist them in setting up the schedule/structure for the Conference week. We will not hear group consciences on this item. The background is interesting to read, however, and if you have any thoughts about it, you may share them directly with the Delegate by email or phone.</p>
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Conference Committee: Agenda — Item D2

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item E

Agenda Topic	Review General Service Conference Evaluation Form.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The General Service Conference Evaluation Form has been discussed by the Conference Committee on Agenda since at least the early 1970s. Over the years the committee has made a variety of suggestions hoping to improve the usefulness of the form and to increase participation in returning completed forms by Conference members. The background material contains an example of this year's 2017 form.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.
Agenda Topic	Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The two-page report from a subcommittee meeting on the Agenda Item Selection Process is included in the background information. This came a result of a 2016 Conference Advisory Action that "The General Service Board develop a new policy and a plan that enhances the General Service Conference agenda review and selection process, providing the area delegate members of the Conference a role in the vetting and selection of proposed agenda items through the Conference process, to be brought to the 2017 General Service Conference." The committee agrees that additional consultation with those
	members will improve communication, trust and cooperation in the process of selection Conference committee agenda items. The report also notes that, in keeping with Concept III, the trustees of the General Service Board have the Right of Decision about when they will ask the Conference for guidance on selection of agenda items. Measures have already been put into place to enhance communication, including more participation by the Delegate Conference Committee Chairs at the

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	<p>quarterly Board weekend in January and on Conference calls, and that background information be sent to them prior to the Board weekend.</p> <p>The subcommittee, in addition to noting these actions already taken to give area delegates a voice in the selection process, considered an additional role for the area delegate members of the Conference: “Before the January board weekend, the entire Conference committee could have a conference call with the trustees’ committee chair and staff secretary to review items submitted as agenda items and to talk about items still being considered by the trustees’ committee. This way, Conference committee members would get a verbal report on the disposition of items submitted to the trustees’ committee, and could share regarding those items. This would allow all Conference committee members to offer feedback on proposed Agenda items. Their feedback could be brought to the trustees’ committee meeting as background for the discussion.”</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>What does your group think about the report and the additional role delegates could play in the Agenda item selection process?</p>

Conference Committee: Agenda — Item F

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Discuss the process of posting the grid of proposed Conference agenda items on the Dashboard.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>The 2016 General Service Conference recommended that “The General Service Office post to the Conference dashboard, and regularly update information concerning the status of all proposed Conference agenda items.” A grid of proposed Conference agenda items was posted on the dashboard starting in the summer of 2016. This grid shows items that are still being reviewed by the various trustees’ committees, who may forward them to the conference or keep them at the Board level for additional background and consideration or route them to the A.A.W.S. or Grapevine Boards. The background information details more of the process (including the reasons for not posting the submission letters and accompanying documents for each item) and shows a sample of the proposed Agenda Item grid as of December 2016.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>We will not hear group consciences on this item.</p>

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Conference Committee: Agenda — Item G

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item A

Agenda Topic	Consider retiring the pamphlet “Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W.”
Historical Context; Why	This item was an agenda topic in 2015, but the committee took no action, asking the
is it on the Agenda?	trustees’ C.P.C./Treatment/Accessibilities committee continue to discuss the value of keeping this pamphlet available to Fellowship. The committee did so and recommends the pamphlet be retired noting that the language in the pamphlet is dated and not helpful to today’s communication about Alcoholics Anonymous. The committee acknowledged that “Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W.” is a part of A.A. history and noted that any retired A.A. publication remains available upon request from the G.S.O. Archives for historical purposes. The committee discussed that a future publication of service material sharing A.A.’s long history of speaking to professionals, from its origins to current times, may be a more effective reflection of presentations about A.A. In 2016, 31,469 copies of the pamphlet were distributed.
What does the Delegate need to	Does your group think Three Talks to Medical Societies by Bill W.

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know?	should be retired? Why or why not?
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**Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community —
Item B**

Agenda Topic	Consider adding a footnote to the pamphlet “Problems Other Than Alcohol.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This item is in response to 2016 Conference Advisory Action #11, that: “An introductory paragraph for professionals be added to the pamphlet ‘Problems Other Than Alcohol’ addressing the notion that while some language in the 1958 pamphlet is dated, the issues are prevalent today, and that a draft introductory paragraph be brought back to the 2017 Conference Cooperation With the Professional Community Committee for review.” Because the pamphlet is used by many different audiences, not just professionals, it is now proposed that instead of an introductory paragraph, that a footnote at the bottom of page 1 be added: “This pamphlet is derived from an article written by A.A. co-founder Bill W. in 1958. Therefore, some of the language may be dated, but the issues addressed are prevalent today.”
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think the footnote adequately deals with the issue? Why or why not?

**Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community —
Item C**

Agenda Topic	Consider development of a LinkedIn page for C.P.C. committees.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In response to the 2015 Conference Committee on Public Information’s request to “explore specific questions regarding the exploration of new avenues for presenting A.A. information,” the 2015 Subcommittee on the Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan made six recommendations, including this one relating to LinkedIn: “This is a social media site focused on work and careers. As such it could be a very useful platform to provide information to professionals who opt in to follow news and updates from an official C.P.C. page from Alcoholics Anonymous. As an example this space would allow the various articles written for About A.A. to be utilized as posts on LinkedIn. An official A.A. presence would raise our profile and increase

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	<p>the visibility of our message to professionals who come into contact with potential alcoholics.”</p> <p>A subcommittee looked into the matter and found that LinkedIn “is both feasible, and could be of great potential benefit to the C.P.C. mission and A.A. as whole.” It recommended a LinkedIn presence be created, but that the following be considered in the implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The platform would be in line with current anonymity policy • “Commenting” functions should be discussed. (It does not appear at this time that commenting functions can be prevented on the public company page) • Budget and appropriate staffing be provided in the implementation and maintenance of the page • Lack of control of advertisements may create a perception of affiliation with outside entities but this topic has been before the Conference a number of times and the fellowship may be more comfortable with this reality of most websites interfaces • Would we be able to control who follows a company page, and would that even be needed?
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group favor development of a LinkedIn page for C.P.C committees? Why or why not? What other factors might be considered in implementation?</p>

Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item D

Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item E

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Consider request that the title of the pamphlet “Is There an Alcoholic in the Workplace?” be changed to “Is There a Problem Drinker in the Workplace?”</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>Area 03 (Arizona) made the request to the trustees’ committee. The trustees’ committee agreed and noted, “that employers may be wary of distributing a pamphlet which uses language that attempts to diagnose or label an employee.” The term “problem drinkers” is found throughout A.A. literature.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>What does your group think of the proposed change? Why?</p>

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Agenda Topic	Discuss ways of improving communication about A.A. with professionals who come in contact with Armed Services veterans and men and women in the Armed Services.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The request comes from District 20 (Oklahoma City) in Area 57 (Oklahoma). The request was more focused on the special needs of veterans, but has been assigned to the C.P.C. committee for discussion. Military personnel suffering from alcoholism are limited in their ability to access help from A.A. while overseas, while on military bases in the United States and abroad, as well as within the military “subculture” even after discharge. We have a desk at GSO that serves 400 loners and internationalists, but we don't have a way to serve between 4 and 20 million veterans. The Grapevine was originally created as "our meeting in print" for our troops In World War II.
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your local C.P.C. committee serve professionals who interact with veterans? What other activities or efforts could your C.P.C. committee engage in?

Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item F

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community — Item G

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Agenda Topic	Review C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This topic is on the Agenda every year. The committee reviews the contents of the CPC Information Kit and Workbook annually. They can recommend changes to the Kit and Workbook.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If you have suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Alternate Delegate.

Conference Committee: Corrections — Item A

Agenda Topic	Discuss the Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) in the U.S. and Canada.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.) is a vitally important resource for members who are incarcerated, especially for those in facilities with no A.A. meetings or long wait lists for meetings. In 2016, 1,033 male inmates and 501 female inmates (the highest number of female inmates ever) were linked to outside members. There is a surplus of female volunteers, enabling GSO to link female inmates as soon as they reach out for help. There is a shortage of male volunteers, a perennial problem, with about 80 inmates currently waiting for linkage, and time on wait lists averaging between four and six weeks. C.C.S. is taking active steps to increase participation from members on the outside, and language-specific needs are being better met with a revised C.C.S. form. Attempts to correspond with more inmates in Canada are starting to bear fruit, with more cooperation with the Canadian government agency in charge of corrections. There are also discussions about the potential of increasing the use of email for corrections correspondence in facilities that make email available to inmates. Background documents this year:</p> <p>‘Corrections Correspondence – A Special Kind of A.A. Service’ flyer (F-26/CCS-3) ‘Dear A.A. Friend’ Letter to Inmate (F-73/CCS-2) C.C.S. ‘Before You Sit Down to Write’ (CCS-1) Sharing from members trying corrections correspondence via email</p> <p>Email exchanges documenting the recent progress with Corrections Canada</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group participate in Corrections Correspondence Service, and/or does your group have any suggestions on how the Fellowship might raise awareness of this service and encourage participation in this

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	service?
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Conference Committee: Corrections — Item B

Agenda Topic	Discuss carrying the A.A. message to incarcerated Native American/First Nations/Inuit People.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This topic began as a discussion about the challenges of carrying the message to correctional facilities on Indian reservations and other parts of the country where American tribal law enforcement agencies act as first responders. In 2014, more than 2000 inmates were in “Indian country” jails, with nearly 30 percent of people incarcerated for alcohol crimes (DWI and public intoxication). Arizona has 19 facilities, New Mexico, South Dakota and Montana have 10, and fourteen other states have at least one facility in Indian country. Similar discussions about problems reaching out to First Nations People in Canada have also been occurring. The background documents include several pages of stories of people who have had successes and struggles carrying the A.A. message to incarcerated Native American/First Nations/Inuit people, the challenges in coordinating with correctional facility staff, and successes incorporating cultural components in some of these meetings.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any experience carrying the A.A. message to incarcerated Native American/First Nations/Inuit people, and/or does your group have any suggestions on how we can improve our efforts?

Conference Committee: Corrections — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items
What does the Delegate need to	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

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Conference Committee: Corrections — Item D

Agenda Topic	Review Corrections Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The committee reviews the Corrections Kit (and the Corrections Workbook contained in the kit) yearly. Outdated information may be updated and removed by staff, who then report changes to the Trustee’s Committee on Corrections and to the Corrections Committee at the General Service Conference. Most of what is included in the Corrections Kit is available for download from the AA.org website. Any changes to the kit are discussed in the committee as Additional Committee Considerations.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Delegate directly.

Conference Committee: Finance — Item A

Agenda Topic	Consider request to change the committee's current annual review of the suggested Area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference to every other year.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the 2012 Conference, the Conference Committee on Finance, suggested as an additional consideration that a review of the delegate’s fee be a standing item on the agenda each year. This request originated in Area 29 (Maryland), where a motion passed unanimously at the Area Assembly in 2016 and was forwarded by the Panel 66 Delegate to the Conference Coordinator. During their discussion of the Additional Committee Considerations pertaining to Finance from the 66th General Service Conference, it was suggested that discussing this item in committee every year is very time consuming. The Conference might be better-served to review this item in committee every other year. Conference Area Delegate Fees (Years in which a change was voted on) 1969- \$150; 1974- \$200; 1978- \$300; 1984- \$400; 1989- \$600; 1997- \$800; 2005- \$1,200; 2012- \$1,600
What does the Delegate need to	Does your group feel that contribution for the Delegate expenses from each Area should be discussed as an item of review on the Finance Committee every other year? Why or why not?

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Conference Committee: Finance— Item B

Agenda Topic	Consider request to change the committee's current annual review of the Conference-approved level of \$5,000 for bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members to every other year.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Traditionally, a review of the maximum bequest contribution from an A.A. member to the General Service office was on the agenda every so often with no specific frequency. For 2015 and 2016 it was on the agenda as an item to discuss or review as there was not much else on the committee agenda. This suggestion to change to every other year originated in Area 29 (Maryland), where a motion passed unanimously at the Area Assembly in 2016 and was forwarded by the Panel 66 Delegate to the Conference Coordinator.</p> <p>Bequest Contribution limit (Years in which a change was voted on)</p> <p>1967- \$200; 1972- \$300; 1979- \$500; 1986- \$1,000; 1999- \$2,000; 2007- \$3,000; 2012- \$5,000</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the annual review of the Conference-approved level of \$5,000 for bequests to the General Service Board from an A.A. member be changed to every other year? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Finance — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider request to change the committee's current annual review of the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$3,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member to every other year.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Traditionally a review of the maximum contribution from an individual A.A. member to the General Service office was on the agenda every so often with no specific frequency. For 2015 and 2016 it was on the agenda as an item to discuss or review as there was not much else on the committee agenda. This request originated in Area 29 (Maryland), where a motion passed unanimously at the Area Assembly in 2016 and was forwarded by the Panel 66 Delegate to the Conference Coordinator.</p> <p>During the discussion of the Additional Committee Considerations pertaining to Finance from the 66th General Service Conference, it was</p>

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	<p>suggested that discussing this item in committee every year is very time consuming. The Conference might be better-served to review this item in committee every other year.</p> <p>Individual Contribution limit (Years in which the limit was changed)</p> <p>1967- \$200; 1972- \$300; 1979- \$500; 1986- \$1,000; 1999- \$2,000; 2007- \$3,000</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the annual review of the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$3000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member should be changed to every other year? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Finance — Item D

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” indicating there is no dollar limit to the amount a group may contribute.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>It is a recommendation from Area 08 (San Diego Imperial) that the following text be added to the Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix pamphlet (F-3):</p> <p>“Q. Is there a limit to how much money an A.A. group can contribute? A. No limits – each group is autonomous. Although contributions may vary, there is no limit on the amount that a group can contribute for the betterment of A.A. as a whole. Each group conscience may determine how much is to be spent for the betterment of the individual group.”</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the suggested text should be added to the pamphlet (F-3), “Where Money and Spirituality Mix”? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Finance — Item E

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committees’ Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures

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Agenda?	so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this time. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Finance — Item F

Agenda Topic	Review Self-Support Packet.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The packet consists of the following: A.A. pamphlets and service material: Self-Support Green Card (F-42); Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix (F-3); The A.A. Group Treasurer (F-96); A.A. Guidelines on Finance (MG-15) Services Provided by

	G.S.O./AAWS flyer; and Historical Background of Self-Support Flyer. Contents may be viewed on www.aa.org
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any suggestions regarding materials that should be added to (or deleted from) the Self-Support packet?

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item A

Agenda Topic	Discuss the spiritual value of Grapevine and La Viña in carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The A.A. Grapevine is the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous; its primary purpose is to carry the A.A. message to everyone interested in alcoholism through its magazines, website, and related items (like books). Started in 1944 by six volunteers as a newsletter for A.A. members in the New York City area, it rapidly became a tool Bill W. used to reach out to A.A. members around the world. He wrote numerous articles in the magazine between 1944 and 1971, notably publishing two sets of essays introducing the Twelve Traditions. The A.A. Preamble was first printed in the Grapevine, as were numerous stories in the back of the book. La Viña, a Spanish-

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	<p>language magazine modeled on the Grapevine, began publishing in 1996 as a request from the Fellowship to the General Service Conference. This Agenda Topic is asking groups to share about the spiritual value of the Grapevine and La Viña magazines in carrying the message.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group subscribe to the Grapevine or La Viña, use the website, or purchase its literature? How does your group use the Grapevine or La Viña to reflect their experience, strength and hope, and does your group think the magazine reflects the experience of A.A. members and the principles of the program? Does your group have any suggestions on how the Fellowship might raise awareness of the Grapevine and La Viña? Does your group have any suggestions on how the Fellowship might raise awareness of different ways to access Grapevine (online, the app, daily quote)?</p>

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item B

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Reconsider the 2010 Advisory Action regarding La Viña.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>The 2010 Advisory Action states: After thoughtful and lengthy discussion, the Committee recommended that La Viña achieve spiritual parity with the A.A. Grapevine, beginning in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Publishing La Viña as a bimonthly, perfect-bound, black-and-white, 68-page issue at an additional estimated cost of \$21,400 per year for one year beginning in 2011 followed by a year of review and assessment in 2012. The results of this review and assessment will be brought to the 2013 Conference Committee on the A.A. Grapevine. • <input type="checkbox"/> Content and substance be of primary importance. • <input type="checkbox"/> An announcement will be published in La Viña magazine beginning immediately and throughout the trial year, encouraging increased submissions and subscriptions, moving toward the goal of being self-supporting. There are two letters included in the background material, one from Area 14 and one from an individual. Both letters are supportive of the idea of spiritual parity of La Viña, but do not feel that the manner outlined in the 2010 Advisory Action achieves spiritual equality. They would like the restrictions on the material of the magazine lifted so the focus can be of spiritual, not material equality. The letter

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	<p>from Area 14 also addresses the financial losses from La Viña and hopes that removing restrictions will help ensure the future of La Viña. The 2010 Office Report included in the background material addresses the differences that were (and some that still are) present between Grapevine and La Viña and believes that the 2010 proposal would increase art and manuscript submissions as well as subscriptions. The report addresses the sentiment in the Spanish-speaking community that La Viña is treated as the “poor sister” publication and believes the re-design will help to address this.</p>
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<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group feel that these requirements show spiritual parity? Does your group think that Grapevine should have more freedom to make changes to the production of the magazine? Why or why not?</p>
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Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item C

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Reconsider the 2004 Conference Advisory Action on outside sales.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>In 2004, there was a Conference Advisory Action regarding distribution of the AA Grapevine and La Viña. This was made to clarify a previous Advisory Action which restricts placing Grapevine in non-AA outlets (this would include medical offices, treatment centers, etc.). The 2004 Advisory Action addresses a few different issues regarding the way in which the magazines are distributed, including that subscriptions are restricted to sales only by the AA Grapevine and AA trusted servants directly.</p> <p>The Grapevine, concerned about a steady decline in magazine subscriptions over the past decade, created a subcommittee to review outside sales of the Grapevine, and that subcommittee has proposed the 2004 Conference Advisory Action be reconsidered because the way this policy is written, according to the proposal, is limiting outreach opportunities including to entities who have direct contact with alcoholics (treatment centers, hospitals, etc.). In comparison, other A.A. literature (Conference-approved literature like the Big Book and pamphlets) are sold to treatment centers and hospitals in bulk and with alternative pricing structures. According to the report, the part of the 2004 Advisory Action limits how the Grapevine Board can think about the solutions that have been proposed, and limits larger outreach to alcoholics/potential alcoholics who are not yet connected with our</p>

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	service structure.
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your group think Grapevine should approach the issue of outside sales? Does your group think that there is a need to update this policy in order to reach more alcoholics? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item D

Agenda Topic	Discuss AA Grapevine, Inc.'s continued exploration of an Instagram account.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Social media can be used for sharing information with the public through official public pages. Instagram could allow Grapevine an avenue to carry the message to potential alcoholics or those looking for information about AA. Examples of the Al-Anon Instagram pages have been reviewed as a part of this discussion. These examples show general photos of quotes and images that are similar the images in the Grapevine magazine.</p> <p>About Instagram: Instagram is an online mobile photo-sharing site that allows its users to share pictures and videos either publicly or privately on the app, as well as through a variety of other social networking platforms. It is a visual in nature, allowing images to be posted with or without short announcements.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that there is a need for a public page to share information with the public? Why, or why not?

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item E

Agenda Topic	Discuss AA Grapevine, Inc.'s continued exploration of a Facebook page.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The Trustees' Public Information Committee asked for sharing from the fellowship about how they are using social media and other online tools in their region. From the feedback received, the most common use was the secret Facebook group (private, non-members cannot see any info about the group, including who its members are). These are used as points of fellowship and sharing, exchanging information about recovery and/or service. A public page could be used for sharing public information, announcements, and updates. This could provide Grapevine

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	<p>a platform for sharing information with potential alcoholics and friends of AA.</p> <p>A secret page could be used for alcoholics to engage with each other without breaking</p>
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	<p>one another's anonymity. About Social Media: Social media can be used for sharing information with the public through official public pages. Separately, there are types of private Facebook groups that are currently being used by groups and service committees. About Facebook: Facebook is a widely used social media site which has variety of options for organizations. A Facebook page can be used by an organization to help users remain informed and aware of current information. These types of pages allow the organization to choose whether or not they allow users to comment directly on their page. This is different from a page used for an individual person or an advertisement.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group feel that there is a need for a public page to share information with the public? Why or why not? Separately, does your group feel that there is a need for an AA members only group for AA members to interact with each other? Why or why not?</p>

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item F

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Discuss AA Grapevine, Inc.'s continued exploration of a Google for Non-Profits account.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>Google for Non-Profits has several potential uses that are being explored for use by Grapevine. YouTube Nonprofit Program Create YouTube channels for Grapevine and La Viña. Broadcast the GV/LV stories, offer "how to videos" and announcements through videos on YouTube.</p> <p>Google Ad Grants With this program Grapevine and La Viña may receive AdWords at no charge to assist visitors in locating the aagrapevine.org website on google.com through keyword targeting. G Suite for Nonprofits G Suite is a collection of cloud computing, productivity and collaboration tools, software and products developed by Google. Nonprofit organizations such as AA Grapevine, Inc. may be able to qualify for one of Google's special editions of G Suite at no charge. Google Analytics This solution is used by AA Grapevine, Inc. now. It</p>

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	<p>offers free and enterprise analytics tools to measure website, app, digital and offline activity data for a deeper understanding of the customer experience. Google Analytics features could help AA Grapevine, Inc. further improve its engagement across aagrapevine.org and apps. Data management with Google Analytics provides a single, comprehensive view of the visitor activity that can be customized to specific needs and shared across the whole organization. Google Earth Outreach Grapevine and La Viña may bring the stories to life with custom maps and global location data such as within Regional pages online.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group these types of resources are helpful? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item G

Agenda Topic	Discuss ways groups can be kept informed about Grapevine and La Viña when they don't have a GVR or RLV.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>Grapevine Representatives (GVRs) and La Viña Representatives (RLVs) are the link between the group and the AA Grapevine. There are many resources available such as the Grapevine Workbook. There have been many Agenda Items over the years relating to connecting the groups with AA Grapevine. Many groups do not have a GVR or RLV. As of February 2017 the following number of representatives are registered with the Grapevine office:</p> <p>93 Area Grapevine Chairs 5,421 Group GVRs</p>

	1,078 District GVRs 519 Group RLVs 21 District RLVs
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group have any suggestions on how groups who don't have a GVR/RLV can stay informed about Grapevine and La Viña? How does your group share information about Grapevine and/or La Viña?

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item H

Agenda Topic	Consider list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2018 or later.
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<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>From 2002 Advisory Action:</p> <p>It was unanimously recommended that the Conference Committee on the Grapevine annually review a list of proposed related items at least one year in advance of possible production, so that the Conference might provide guidance, recognizing that the committee may request more than one year to review some proposed items.</p> <p>From 1992 Advisory Action:</p> <p>The committee recommended acceptance of the following proposal from the Grapevine Corporate Board: AGV items are published for several reasons: first, to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous stories from members and friends of the Fellowship; and second, the Fellowship requests and appreciates this format and third, to help to continue to work towards self-support. Furthermore, GV items provide a service to the Fellowship by making GV and LV articles available in a wide range of formats: print, audio and digital. They also introduce both magazine titles through these anthologies to those who are unfamiliar with them; and help deepen member's interest and understanding of the Steps, Traditions, and history of Alcoholics Anonymous.</p> <p>Suggested Book Topics:</p> <p>1. Stories of Recovery from Hispanic Women in AA (working title) Previously published in LV magazine, a selection of stories written by the Hispanic women in AA, sharing their experience in AA. Softcover: Approx. 120-180 pps</p> <p>Projected unit cost (includes printing and design) \$2.50 per book (10,000 piece print run) Price: \$11.50 eBook Estimated project cost: \$2,000. Price: \$10.50</p> <p>2. Writing Together: Stories from LV Workshops (working title) Hispanic AA members share their experience, strength and hope in this stories extracted from LV magazine. Softcover: Approx. 100-180 pps Projected unit cost (includes printing and design) \$2.50 per book (10,000 piece print run) Price: \$11.50 eBook Estimated project cost: \$2,000. Price: \$10.50</p> <p>3. Carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers (working title) A collection of LV stories about carrying the message to institutions. Softcover: Approx. 120-180 pps Projected unit cost (includes printing and design) \$2.50 per book (10,000 piece print run)</p>
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	Price: \$11.50 eBook Estimated project cost: \$2,000. Price: \$10.50
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group feel about publishing books on these themes? Why?

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item I

Agenda Topic	Review Audio Strategy status update.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The Grapevine will be reviewing progress on the Audio Strategy. This has been an ongoing process. The following is the most recent report on the progress: In the spirit of being self-supporting while also protecting our Traditions of attraction, anonymity, and non-affiliation, A.A. Grapevine be permitted to utilize digital channels and current (commissionable) support and distribution technologies, such as, but not limited to, smart phones, tablets, e-readers, applications and commissioned online stores for the sale and distribution of magazines, books and products. The committee requests that the Board ensure that all contracts protect our Traditions, with the option to discontinue any and all contracts at any time. Grapevine began collecting audio story submissions from the Fellowship in January 2013. As of January 20, 2017 Grapevine has collected 269 audio stories through the "Simple Voice Center" dial-in telephone service. In addition, approximately 370 plus Grapevine and La Vina audio stories have been collected at various events. Stories have been submitted by individuals who have recorded on their own as well as from individuals who recorded their story at "Record Your Story" workshops. For example, at ICYPAA events there have been audio get-togethers for members to gather and record. There have been minimal expenses to date in launching and maintaining the Audio Project. The dial-in phone service costs \$11.99 per month and the subscription to audio editing software is \$20 per month. This software permits editing to be performed in house by GV and LV editorial staff. As with written story submissions, each audio submission is listened to by 3 AA members. Grapevine Editorial Advisory Board members have participated in the listening segment of the manuscript process. Occasionally, freelancers help to categorize and archive the audio stories. If they are members, they may also participate in the listening process. Present submission volumes have not necessitated outside editorial support to edit the audio stories. The Audio Project landing page on www.aagrapevine.org was created and is updated by our</p>

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	<p>web coordinator. Two free stories have been published on the website in 2016 and are available as examples for others who wish to record. The Grapevine board is discussing various approaches including plans to offer audio stories through the GV app, or on the site as free content or for sale through third party vendors by topic at price points similar to other on-line audio offerings. Currently, that is about \$1.30 - \$1.75 for single tracks and \$9.99 for compilations. Grapevine is in the process of collecting, expanding, evaluating and cataloging the collection of audio stories in the growing audio archive including those from the audio magazine published since June 2006 and all stories from the CDs in order to eventually produce compilations for sale.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>We will not hear group consciences on this item. If your group has input, please share it directly with the delegate.</p>

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item J

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.</p>

Conference Committee: Grapevine — Item K

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Review Grapevine Workbook.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>The Grapevine Workbook is available on aagrapevine.org and is used primarily by Grapevine Representatives, but also contains information on a range of topics. The workbook is reviewed every year.</p>

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What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If your group has any input, including suggestions for the workbook, please share it directly with the Delegate.
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Conference Committee: Literature — Item A

Agenda Topic	Consider request for revisions to the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2016, the Trustees’ Literature Committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2017 Conference on Literature a request for revision to the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.” A request for revisions came from Area 10, and suggested that two bullet points on page 24 of the pamphlet be removed. The two bullet points are about procedures a group can set up to sponsor new members, and the makers of the motion state that the bullet points in the pamphlet are contrary in spirit to other A.A. literature. The two bullet points in question are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘A file of names, addresses, and phone numbers of newcomers (who wish to volunteer the information), with notations showing sponsor or sponsor each one.’ • ‘Review of newcomers list by steering committee (or Twelfth Step or sponsorship committee) – with follow up activity where it seems needed.’
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group believe that these two bullet points should be removed from the pamphlet? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Literature— Item B

Agenda Topic	Consider request to retire the pamphlet “Too Young.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2016, the Trustees’ Literature Committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2017 Conference Committee on Literature a request to retire the pamphlet “Too Young.” The original request came from Area 08 (San Diego/Imperial), and requested the pamphlet be discontinued because there have been some questions recently as to the effectiveness of this pamphlet in carrying the message of A.A. to young alcoholics.

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	<p>The pamphlet is in comic book form and was originally printed in 1977 (and then updated later, but retaining the comic book format to appeal to young people). However, at a presentation at Area 08’s Post-Conference Assembly in 2016, one member’s talk about the pamphlet led to the area voting unanimously to retire the pamphlet. In his talk, which is included in the background materials, the member writes about how the pamphlet “is kind of insulting” and that the “characters are very stereotypical.” Very few of the young people contacted by this member had anything positive to say about it, and, in most cases, they thought it needed to be updated or retired. Another already-produced pamphlet, “Young People in A.A.,” is more widely used (approximately 30,000 more printed copies were distributed last year and 85,000 more copies were downloaded).</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group believe that the pamphlet “Too Young” should be retired? Why or why not?</p>

Conference Committee: Literature— Item C

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Discuss proposed plan for the annual review of recovery literature.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>In a 2016 meeting, the Trustees’ Literature Committee chair appointed a subcommittee to begin work on developing a plan to systemically review recovery literature items. This subcommittee was formed due to a 2016 Conference recommendation, met twice, and has returned with a recommended matrix and a suggestion that the publishing department at G.S.O. review literature every year and submit a review of all recovery literature,</p>

	<p>evaluating its content, relevance and usefulness annually. The report will also identify items that have not been reviewed for the past 15 to 20 years, along with any other items that have proposed updates or revisions. In background materials, the items on the matrix that would guide the review consist of the “Big Book,” the “Twelve and Twelve,” “Came to Believe,” “Living Sober,” “Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers,” “Pass It On,” “Experience, Strength and Hope,” and 19 pamphlets.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>What dos your group think about the proposed plan to have the Publishing Department at G.S.O. to review all A.A. recovery literature annually? Why?</p>

Conference Committee: Literature— Item D1

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Agenda Topic	Pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” - Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2016, the General Service Conference requested that the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” be revised to better reflect the experiences of young people in A.A. today. After a call for story submissions, the fellowship responded with 92 submissions, which are now being reviewed. The progress report this year states that stories and the current pamphlet are still being reviewed, and that next steps will be discussed as the project is ongoing.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.; this is a work in progress.

Conference Committee: Literature— Item D2

Agenda Topic	Pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” - Review draft language about young people’s conferences, for inclusion in the pamphlet.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2016, the General Service Conference requested that language be drafted to include in the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” referencing young people’s conferences. The suggested text that would be included if this agenda topic is approved would state: “Young people’s conferences are held in the United States and Canada and around the world. For information, consult your local A.A. area or intergroup office.”
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group believe the proposed text highlighting young people’s conferences should be included in the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Literature— Item E

Agenda Topic	Review revised draft pamphlet “A.A. for the Woman.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the	In 2015, the General Service Conference requested that the pamphlet “A.A. for the Woman” be revised. A draft of what could be the revised

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Agenda?	pamphlet will be made available at the conference to members of the Conference Committee on Literature. They will review the draft, checking that “everything in such literature is in accord with A.A. principles,” before determining whether the pamphlet will be approved (with a recommendation that the entire Conference approve the pamphlet) or they could send the pamphlet back to the Trustees’ Literature Committee for further revisions. Until a pamphlet is Conference-approved, it is confidential and for committee eyes only to ensure that the message that reaches the A.A. Fellowship is a reflection of A.A. as a whole.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.; this is a work in progress.

Conference Committee: Literature— Item F

Agenda Topic	Review revised draft pamphlet “Finding Acceptance: A.A. for the LGBTQ Alcoholic” (formerly titled “A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic”).
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2015, the General Service Conference requested that the pamphlet “A.A. for the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic” be revised, with a specific mandate to include a wider range of

	A.A. recovery experience from members who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and gender nonconforming, especially regarding being a newcomer and sponsorship. A draft of what could be the revised pamphlet, now re-titled “Finding Acceptance: A.A. for the LGBTQ Alcoholic,” will be made available at the conference to members of the Conference Committee on Literature. They will review the draft (which has 12 new stories), checking that “everything in such literature is in accord with A.A. principles,” before determining whether the pamphlet will be approved (with a recommendation that the entire Conference approve the pamphlet) or they could send the pamphlet back to the Trustees’ Literature Committee for further revisions. Until a pamphlet is Conference- approved, it is confidential and for committee eyes only to ensure that the message that reaches the A.A. Fellowship is a reflection of A.A. as a whole.
What does the Delegate need to	We will not hear group consciences on this item; this is a work in

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know?	progress.
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Conference Committee: Literature— Item G

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the development of literature for alcoholics with sponsor them.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2015, the General Service Conference requested that literature for the alcoholics be developed. The committee requested that a wide range of A.A. recovery experience with mental health issues (and from those who sponsor such members) for inclusion in the progress report this year states that this literature will likely be in a pamphlet format with stories (as opposed to snippets). The subcommittee working on this project will provide an introduction to the pamphlet from a medical perspective (similar to ‘The Doctor’s Story’ included, and that the pamphlet be reviewed by medical professionals. 23 stories were forwarded to the Publishing Department, and a draft manuscript will be submitted to the Literature Committee by this spring, with the goal of having a draft of the final manuscript for the 2018 Conference Committee on Literature.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item; this is a work in progress.

Conference Committee: Literature— Item H

Agenda Topic	Review draft sample illustrations and corresponding revised text for the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2016, the General Service Conference requested that a comprehensive revision of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” with modernized presentation of both text and illustrations reflecting contemporary A.A. experience be undertaken. Background information includes an estimated project costs analysis and the current “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” pamphlet. At the conference, members of the committee will see drafts of the sample text for Traditions One, Two, and Three, and sample illustrations for Traditions Two, Three and Nine.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item; this is a work in progress.

Conference Committee: Literature— Item I

Agenda Topic	Review progress report on the revision to “Inside A.A.: Understanding
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	the Fellowship and its Services.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2015, the General Service Conference requested that the pamphlet “Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services” be revised to better reflect the full range of A.A. services. In 2016, specific suggestions for further revisions were made, and another progress report was requested for this year. The progress report this year states
	that a final draft with revised text and artwork is not yet available, with the goal of having a meaningful draft to present to the trustees’ Literature Committee in July 2017. The remaining inventory of the current pamphlet is approximately 10 months’ supply.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item; this is a work in progress.

Conference Committee: Literature— Item J

Agenda Topic	Consider requests for literature and/or language regarding safety.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Since 2014, numerous requests for new literature regarding safety and suggestions revising existing literature regarding safety have been received by the Trustee’s Literature Committee. Several groups and one district around Tacoma, WA, as well as Area 58 (Oregon), Area 05 (Southern California), and Area 03 (Arizona) all have submitted requests for literature regarding safety. In the 140 pages of background material, several comments reference comparable literature developed by the A.A. General Service Conferences of Great Britain and Australia, a set of articles from the A.A. Grapevine’s September 2013 issue, and two articles in Box 4-5-9 published in Fall 2010. Requests for revisions of current literature to include language regarding safety were submitted by Area 51 (North Carolina), Area 43 (New Hampshire), and an A.A. member from Washington, D.C. Revision requests focused on adding language to “The A.A. Group” pamphlet encouraging groups to recognize their role in creating a safe A.A. meeting and potentially offering guidance and suggestions. Currently, G.S.O provides service material published in January 2017 (available on the AA.org website under “Service Material from the G.S.O.”) that offers accumulated group experiences on dealing with disruptions and on the development of group

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	guidelines that can help keep meetings safe. Several suggestions included in this new service piece include talking about issues of safety before issues arise, emphasizing the importance of sponsorship, and including safety and the A.A. Meeting Environment as topics for a group inventory.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Is the service piece that AAWS created sufficiently responding to the need for shared experience? Should additional information be added to existing AAWS literature, and if so, how and what? Or should new literature be developed? Why?

Conference Committee: Literature— Item K

Agenda Topic	Discuss request for a revision to the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A district encompassing a few communities west of Vancouver, Canada, has requested that a section addressing why A.A. groups and members should respect the rental requirements of their landlords be added to “The A.A. Group” pamphlet. Currently, G.S.O. provides no materials on this topic. Background materials suggest that this section being proposed could address the importance of respecting landlord requirements (such as not allowing animals other than service animals and requesting that cigarette butts, coffee cups and other garbage be discarded).
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group believe that a section addressing why A.A. groups and members should respect the rental requirements of their landlords should be added to “The A.A. Group” pamphlet? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Literature— Item L

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to

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	conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item A

Agenda Topic	Review final report on electronic voting at Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2014, the General Service Conference recommended that an electronic voting trial take place at the 2015 & 2016 Conferences on nonelection votes, and that a report be presented to the 2017 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions for consideration. Evaluation forms were submitted by 98 Conference members in 2015 and 73 members in 2016. The Report of the Subcommittee on Electronic Voting at the Conference noted that voting—either electronically or by hand—is a spiritual element and critical part of the Conference process. It was found that there were two contrasting views in responses: Some respondents felt that voting by hand allowed them to own their vote, and that being visibly counted provided an element of accountability to voting. Conversely, the majority felt that electronic voting provides anonymity and allows people to vote their conscience without worrying what others think about their vote.</p> <p>Overall, respondents felt that electronic voting saves time and benefits the fellowship by allowing more time for discussion on important issues and improved functioning to the Conference. Estimated costs for equipment and labor would be less than \$2,500 and is not viewed by the subcommittee as being prohibitive. The subcommittee concludes that the response to electronic voting has been overwhelmingly positive. The subcommittee recommended that the 2018 General Service Conference move ahead with electronic voting to be used for all Conference voting, with the exception of elections for regional trustees and trustees-at-large, which are conducted by ballot.</p>
What does the	Given the spiritual nature of A.A., does your group have any thoughts on electronic voting at the Conference?

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Delegate need to know?	
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Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item B

Agenda Topic	Review final report on the translation of Conference background.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>In 2015 an Advisory Action recommended that the Trustees Committee create a plan to translate all Conference material to French and Spanish. A 2016 Advisory Action recommended the continuation of Phase 1 of the Conference Translation Project to translate pre-Conference and Conference material into Spanish and French, with an estimated cost of \$50,000-\$100,000.</p> <p>The 2016 Policy/Admissions committee reviewed the progress report from the trustees' Committee on the Conference of plans for French and Spanish translation of all Conference background and took no action. The committee recommended that background material continue to be provided in English because it is not feasible at this time to move forward with the translations. This recommendation failed.</p> <p>The committee made an additional Committee Consideration that GSO and the trustees' Conference Committee explore ways to provide local translation committees with information and encourage coordinated translation of background amongst local committees. A 2016 Floor Action resulted in an Advisory Action recommending that the trustees' Conference Committee create a plan to translate all background material, considering all possible methods, with a progress report to be forwarded to the 2017 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions describing the process and costs.</p> <p>On January 29, 2017, two plans for translation were reported by the Subcommittee on the Translation of Conference Background:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both plans call for each Conference committee to be responsible for the translation of its corresponding background in both French and Spanish. Both plans also rely
	primarily on volunteer translators coordinated by the Conference committee chair. It was also indicated that for these plans to be effective, the deadline for submission of Conference Agenda Items would be

moved up from December 15 to September 15.

- Option 1 consists of 3 phases. 1) Committee Chairs ascertain the local available translation resources of each member of their Conference Committee. If there is difficulty, the Chair will draw on their Regional Trustee for assistance in identifying resources. If none are found, the committee chair notifies the Conference Coordinator and the translation responsibility will be reverted to GSO. 2) After each quarterly meeting, Conference committee secretaries would assemble appropriate background, so that translation could take place throughout the year, easing time pressure. 3) The majority of translation should be done by January 15. Any additional items will be expected no later than March 15, and will be made available on the as they are complete.

- Option 2 calls for the establishment of a translation team, made up of AA members throughout the US and Canada, to serve 3 year terms on a rotational basis. Calculations of translation time, average pages of background material, and consideration of the speed and availability of non-professionals indicate that any estimation will necessarily be adjusted based on experience and review. Translation would need to occur throughout the year and an estimated 17 translators would be needed for each French and Spanish. A glossary of common terms would be compiled for quality control and consistency. This option would have translation deadlines of January 15 and March 15. Four plans were previously reviewed by the 2016 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

- All four plans use professional translators. A, B, C would move up the proposal deadline to September, while D would move it up to December.

- Estimated Costs: A-\$331,000, B- \$207,000, C- \$45,680, D- \$45,680

- Plan A&B will post translation to the Dashboard in January, C in November, D in February.

- Plan C&D require a more streamlined background material content, with less detail and documents, estimated at 120 pages of background.

- All four plans call for the same background to be

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	distributed in all 3 languages. It was noted that even if no translation plan is adopted, the General Service Office will see operating expenses increase by \$350,000 each year, or roughly \$1 million every three years, and the office does not have guaranteed income sources to cover that.
What does the Delegate need to know?	How does your group feel about the use of volunteers vs. professionals? Which plan, if any, does your group feel the Conference should approve for translation of background material? Why?

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider request to create a plan for the equitable distribution of the workload of Conference committees by combining and/or creating committees.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The trustees' Conference Committee formed a subcommittee in August 2016 to examine the composition of Conference committees from the perspective of a more equitable distribution of work among all committees. The committee reviewed ten years of Conference committee data in consideration of each committee's average workload and time taken to handle its agenda. The subcommittee also reviewed a recent General Service Conference Final Report from Great Britain in order to draw on experience from another service structure. In the subcommittee's final report, the recommendation was made that the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference create a plan for a more balanced distribution of the workload of Conference committees by combining and/or creating committees.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.

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67th General Service Conference Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item D

Agenda Topic	Consider request that an anonymity-protected, digital Final Conference
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	Report be published, starting with the 67th General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	At the October 2016 meeting, the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference recommended to the General Service Board that the Final Conference Report be published in an anonymity-protected digital format beginning in 2017, in addition to hard copy. This was further discussed by the AAWS Publishing Committee, which noted that while digital formats fell within the scope of AAWS, producing an anonymity-protected Report would be a policy issue, placing it within the scope of the General Service Board. It was reported to this committee that the trustees' Conference Committee intends to move forward with the suggestion that the current version (not anonymity protected) of the Conference Report be provided in a digital format. The Publishing Committee expressed concerns that a digitized report would be open to the public and potentially posted to websites. It was agreed that this is an issue that should be discussed by the General Service Conference.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the Conference Report should be made available in a digital format? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item E

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item F

Agenda Topic	Review dates for the 2020 General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Each year, the dates for the General Service Conference 3 years from now must be selected. This committee reviews and recommends the dates to the Conference members for approval, with holidays and other relevant dates under consideration. The suggested dates for the 2020 Conference are April 19-25, 2020.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.
Agenda Topic	Consider proposing the dates of future General Service Conferences as committee considerations rather than requiring that the dates be

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	considered as Advisory Actions.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Upon review of a recent report from GSO management regarding the 2018 Conference dates and venue, the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference agreed to forward this consideration to the Conference Policy and Admissions Committee. This would allow General Service Conference dates to be put forth as Committee Considerations, rather than as Advisory Actions (as is currently required).
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item G

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item H

Agenda Topic	Consider a request that the General Service Conference be held in New York City every other year.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A request was made by a Panel 66 Delegate to clarify existing policy on where the General Service Conference is held. Over the past decade, the Conference has been held in New York City at least every other year, and occasionally in consecutive years.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that it is necessary to hold the Conference in New York City more than once every two years? Why or why not?
Agenda Topic	Consider a request to allow regional service committees to bid to host the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A request was made by a Panel 66 Delegate to consider allowing regions to bid to host the General Service Conference on the years that it is not held in New York City. When
	the Conference has been held in Rye, NY in recent years, it decreases Conference costs by approximately \$200,000, in comparison to holding it in Midtown Manhattan. The proposal notes that this could be an opportunity for other cities around the United States and Canada to host, with the stipulation that any qualifying bid must save the General Service Office at least as much money as would be saved by holding the conference in Rye. It is also proposed that Regional Trustees would be

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	responsible for assisting their region in preparing bids and forming local host committees.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that the General Service Conference should rotate locations through a bidding process? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item I

Agenda Topic	Consider a request that the Advisory Action delegating site selection for the General Service Conference to G.S.O. management be rescinded.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>A 2008 Advisory Action by the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions recommended that the responsibility for General Service Conference site selection be delegated to General Service Office management, subject to approval of the General Service Board.</p> <p>This stemmed from a request by the Chief Financial Officer in December 2007 to consider widening GSO's options for the Conference meeting locations to include the Tri-State Area of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, in order to explore potential cost-saving options and to meet rising costs. In 2013 The Conference Committee on Finance had an Additional Committee Consideration that suggested reconsideration of the 2008 policy on site selection, and that Conference members consider the spiritual and financial aspects. A member of the 2013 committee acknowledged in correspondence that the 2008 Advisory Action may have occurred in part to allow expediency, as bids are not always received in time to be considered by the conference. The committee was interested in the Conference making the decision on potential sites in consideration of the current financial situation. In December 2016, the Conference Coordinator received a request to rescind the 2008 Advisory Action, giving the General Service Conference a more active role in the responsibility of Conference site selection. The request indicates that the Conference Charter calls for the Conference to meet yearly in New York City, unless otherwise agreed upon, and that they feel that either the Charter should be changed to reflect current practices, or that any non-New York site be agreed upon on a Conference by Conference basis.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that there is a need to rescind this Advisory Action? Why or why not?

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Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item J

Conference Committee: Policy/Admissions — Item K

Agenda Topic	Consider a request to add a “YPAA Subcommittee” to the service structure.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The Conference Coordinator received a request from Area 08 (San Diego-Imperial) proposing to add a YPAA subcommittee to one of the General Service Conference Committees. The intent is to inform the General Service Conference of the YPAA perspective and to activate more YPAA GSRs at the group level.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group feel that there should be a YPAA subcommittee in the service structure? Why or why not?
Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service
	Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item A

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item B1

Agenda Topic	Review 2016 annual report from the trustees’ Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org
Historical Context;	This is an annual agenda item, the committee reviewing the report of

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<p>Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>changes made to aa.org and aagrapevine.org, requests received and updates in the pipeline. A redesign is on the horizon.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>We will not hear group consciences on this item. Does your group know that there is an online website feedback form? Does your group know that group, personal and birthday contributions can be made online?</p>
<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan: Review the trustees' Public Information Committee report on the Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>Feedback from the fellowship is sought on the following suggestions to carry the message online and in social media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Creating a tabletop display item covering anonymity in A.A. • <input type="checkbox"/> Wallet card or bookmark containing the same information as the tabletop display or the information contained in the Anonymity Statement given at the 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous. • <input type="checkbox"/> Use of QR codes • <input type="checkbox"/> Cartoons - short, pointed animated videos providing Tradition-focused guidance to carrying the message • <input type="checkbox"/> Create a video on Anonymity and the Internet, requesting the fellowship to create and submit videos addressing this topic • <input type="checkbox"/> Texting the "Tradition of the Day" • <input type="checkbox"/> Create a one-page FAQ about Anonymity • <input type="checkbox"/> Create a short pamphlet addressing in detail both the benefits and items of caution when carrying the message to the public using online resources and/or social media. In addition the committee is making some suggestions regarding service materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> A.A. Guidelines – Internet (various updates) • <input type="checkbox"/> Consider discontinuing "Anonymity Online"

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently Asked Questions About A.A. Websites (various updates) • <input type="checkbox"/> Including language from the 2015 Comprehensive Media Plan (CMP) background as an example of recommended ideas
What does the Delegate need to know?	What are the pros and cons of these suggestions? Could they be more efficient if combined with other methods? Do they support or undermine any of A.A.'s Twelve Traditions?

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item B2

Agenda Topic	Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan: Review 2017 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This year's update of the Comprehensive Media Plan (CMP) focused on addressing the 2016 plan's action items while awaiting the 2017 Conference's review of previously forwarded items regarding Google for Non-Profits, Twitter, LinkedIn and Flickr before
	undertaking further exploration of how the Fellowship might utilize existing and emerging social media and networks to make A.A. information available to the public.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If your group has input please speak with the Alternate Delegate.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item B3

Agenda Topic	Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan: Discuss suggestion to update the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity."
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Arising out of the CMP is a suggestion to update the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" to consolidate the items covering Tradition Eleven and to more thoroughly include the Tradition Twelve principles of humility as they relate to anonymity. No specific wording is being proposed, but an earlier report from the trustees' committee notes: Individual members can take clear steps to safeguard their anonymity. For example, they may create anonymous social media accounts that are entirely anonymous, without use of their full names and faces and for sharing about recovery only. Both the letter and the spirit of the 11th Tradition are clear guideposts for our fellowship in this respect. When it

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	comes to the 12th Tradition, we can repurpose the questions we typically ask ourselves to ensure that our sharing adheres to this tradition, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Am I carrying the A.A. message in the hopes of helping someone else, or simply “shouting to the rooftops”? • Am I taking my story and affiliating it with political causes? • Am I being extra cautious about not identifying other members as A.A. members in photographs or statements? • Am I avoiding the temptation to incite controversy with caustic argument or bully others who disagree with me? • Am I providing helpful links to my local A.A. website, aa.org, or the aagrapevine.org? • Is my posting about the message or the messenger?
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” should be updated? Why or why not? What does your group think of the suggested 12 th Tradition questions? Do they have others?

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item C

Agenda Topic	Review the distribution and tracking information for the video P.S.A. “I Have Hope.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In response to a 2016 General Service Conference Action, the video P.S.A. “I Have Hope” is being centrally distributed and tracked. As a result of the United States Federal Election, airtime on TV, locally and nationally, was very limited through December 2016. As a result, with agreement of the trustees’ Committee on Public Information, the distribution of “I Have Hope” was delayed until mid-February 2017. The latest monthly tracking and distribution reports will be included in the Conference Committee’s background at the Conference.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item D

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Agenda Topic	Review 2016 report from the trustees’ Public Information Committee on the Usefulness and Relevance of Public Service Announcements.
Historical Context; Why is it on the	The Conference Committee on Public Information annually reviews current television public service announcements for relevance and usefulness, retiring a P.S.A. only when it is no longer relevant and/or

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Agenda?	useful to the Fellowship. An appointed subcommittee has determined that all three current video P.S.A.s (Doors, My World, and Tengo Esperanza) remain relevant. In assessing the need for a new video P.S.A., the committee did not see the need for one at this time. To view our current video P.S.A.s, click on the “Videos and Audios” link on the home
	page at aa.org. Then, scroll down and open the “Public Service Announcements (P.S.A.s)” section and select the P.S.A. you wish to view.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group agree with the committee’s assessment that our current P.S.A’s remain relevant and that no new P.S.A. is needed at this time? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item E

Agenda Topic	Review report from the trustees’ Public Information Committee on the Implementation of a Google for Nonprofits account.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The 2016 Conference decided that a proposal for implementing a Google for Nonprofits account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public be developed and brought back to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for review. While there are many tools available via Google, the committee recommends two for immediate focus over the next three years: YouTube for Nonprofit Program and Google Ad Grant. This will allow A.A. to share video content more broadly and improve search engine optimization (SEO). Because Google Ad Grant warrants more discussion within the fellowship, it is being proposed to proceed only with the YouTube for Nonprofit program at this time.</p> <p>Unlike standard accounts a Google YouTube for Nonprofit account provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Access to assistance from Google staff for guidance in set-up and best practices. • <input type="checkbox"/> A channel to play our video content on YouTube, and the ability to tag this channel with keywords users are likely to use to search for AA content or to stop drinking. • <input type="checkbox"/> Use of YouTube’s production studio in NYC to shoot or edit videos when the channel reaches 1,000 subscribers. A

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	professional studio offers us higher production values at no additional cost.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think of the focus on YouTube? Do you think A.A. should proceed in this way? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item F

Agenda Topic	Review report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on the Implementation of a Twitter account.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The 2016 Conference decided that a proposal for the implementation of a Twitter account for carrying the message of A.A. to the public be developed and brought back to the 2017 Conference Public Information Committee for review. The committee appointed a sub- committee to come up with a plan and its report states:</p> <p>“Who are we trying to reach? In keeping with our mission, our tweets will be directed the general public, still suffering alcoholic and caring professionals who can be instrumental in helping us to reach alcoholics. What do we want to say? Our audience is diverse and in recognition of this diversity, we will want to inform the public, in as many different ways as possible, what A.A. is, what A.A. is not, how A.A. can help the problem drinker and how to find A.A.</p> <p>How do we say it? A.A’s simple, direct, and honest storytelling lends itself perfectly to Twitter’s direct and informal voice. Above all, we will need to make sure that our voice does not come across as robotic or formal. How often do we say it? As with all communications, it is important to strike a balance between too little and too much information. Industry best practices recommend planning for between 5 – 7 tweets per day.</p> <p>What is the desired outcome of this communication? The primary outcome of these communications would be to inform the public of what A.A. is, what A.A. is not, how A.A. can help the problem drinker and how to find A.A. and to introduce them to aa.org where they can discover more detailed information and tools.”</p> <p>The report sets out a detailed schedule for implementation with tweeting commencing in July for a trial month. Based on the response, the plan envisions a rolling program of tweets and analysis by staff with quarterly</p>

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	reporting to the trustees' committee.
	The initial launch, operations, and monitoring of a Twitter account for 4-6 months will cost an estimated \$30,000 for personnel plus a minimum of \$25,000 in equipment, overhead and miscellaneous expenses. A member of the sub-committee has filed a minority report that identifies, in the opinion of the writer, issues with the Twitter Implementation Plan (TIP), that “rise to the level of pausing the process to critically review the issue and to either resolve it within A.A. principles or to abort the TIP.” These issues include ambiguity relating to purpose, “pushing” information, use of trademark, the retweet function being used by others for affiliation with A.A., and problems with oversight and review of tweets.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What does your group think of the implementation plan? Should we proceed? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item G

Agenda Topic	Review report from the trustees' Public Information Committee on the 2017 A.A. Membership Survey.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The committee has been asked to review a report from a sub-committee of the trustees committee. The sub-committee is recommending no changes from 2014, but that a professional survey consultant be hired to review the current A.A. Membership Survey methodology, possible methods for surveying the membership electronically, any reasonable hybrid of the two methods, and to request a report for the July 2017 trustees' Committee on Public Information meeting.</p> <p>In addition, requests to add questions regarding belief in a higher power, service beyond the home group, and primary language were rejected, as was a request to reword the question regarding gender from “male” and “female” to, for example, “gender: _____”</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that online surveying should be added? Why or why not? What does your group think about the gender option?

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item H

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item I

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Agenda Topic	Review revised text for inclusion in the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Arises from a 2016 Additional Consideration from the C.P.C. Committee, that suggested changes to pamphlets in the C.P.C. Kit not under the purview of the C.P.C. committee be referred to those other committees. Suggested changes to “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings” refer to p16—to cite the source of the information i.e., the A.A. Membership Survey—and that URLs for AI-Anon and A.A. online store be added to p18.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group agree with these revisions? Why or why not?
Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.

Conference Committee: Public Information — Item J

Agenda Topic	Review P.I. Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks for C.P.C., Corrections, Public Information, Treatment Committee, and Special Needs/Accessibilities are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Between Conferences, ideas for changes to a Workbook or to the contents of a Kit may be received. These may be reviewed by the appropriate trustees’ Committee and implemented. Alternatively, the trustees’ Committee may choose to forward an idea to the Conference Committee for review. Members of the Conference Committee then have

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	an opportunity to review proposed changes to a Workbook or Kit during the next General Service Conference. P.I. Kit contents can be found at: http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/f-65w_PI_Kit.pdf .
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If your group has suggestions regarding materials that should be added or deleted, please share them with the Alternate Delegate.

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item A

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the Report & Charter Committee's Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee's procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item B1

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item B2

Agenda Topic	The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2018-2020 Edition: Review list of editorial updates.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	From 2009 Conference Advisory Action: The General Service Board, the AAW.S. Board and the AA Grapevine Board annually review The AA Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service and forward necessary updates to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter. The background document was mailed to committee members only.
	We will not hear group consciences on this item.

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<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	
<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2018-2020 Edition: Consider request to add text regarding area websites to Chapter Four of The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>At their January 28, 2017 meeting, the Trustees' Committee on Literature reviewed a request to consider adding text regarding Area Websites to Chapter Four of The A.A. Service Manual, "The Area Assembly and Activities," right after the section on "Area Newsletters or Bulletins," and agreed to forward this request to the 2017 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.</p> <p>Proposed draft text:</p> <p>Area Websites</p> <p>Many AA entities now use websites as a way to communicate meeting and service information within the Fellowship. An AA website can serve as a public information tool, providing information about AA to the public as well. As with newsletters, it has been found prudent for a committee (rather than one or two individuals) to be responsible for the format, planning, and content of the website.</p>
	<p>As anonymity is the "spiritual foundation of all our Traditions," we practice anonymity on AA websites at all times. An AA website is a public medium, which has the potential for reaching the broadest possible audience and, therefore, requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio and film. Some areas have included password protected sections of the website, which can limit access to members only, and where full names may be used.</p> <p>Not all AA websites need to contain the same information. For instance, in places where an active intergroup or central office provides meeting information, general service websites may not need to duplicate this effort, and may link to them instead.</p> <p>A.A. websites may feature brief excerpts from AA literature using the same guidelines as newsletters. If a site wishes to include items that are currently available on the G.S.O. or Grapevine websites, they may link to</p>

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	<p>the appropriate pages of those sites. Area websites may copy a thumbnail of a pamphlet, book or video from these sites and use it on the site as a link to the material on the G.S.O. or AA Grapevine site. Because public service announcements are intended to be widely shared, they may be posted directly on local AA sites.</p> <p>For more information, see the "FAQ on A.A. Websites" and the A.A. Guidelines on the Internet.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Should this proposed text regarding Area Websites be added to Chapter Four of The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service? Why or why not?</p>

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item B3

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2018-2020 Edition: Review request to add the Bylaws of A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc. as appendices.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>This request came from a Panel 65 Delegate who noted that the Bylaws for Alcoholics Anonymous World Service (AAWS) Inc. and the Grapevine Inc. are not readily available to the Fellowship. The letter in the background includes the following reasoning behind the request: “To gain a fuller understanding of the obligations of the General Service Board, the Bylaws of the GSB are provided in Appendix E of the Service Manual. These Bylaws spell out in detail the obligations and functioning of the General Service Board.... The Bylaws of the GSB do not contain any information relating to the relationship between the General Service Board and its two Service Corporations. Both AAWS Inc. and the Grapevine Inc. have their own Bylaws which spell out their details for membership, functioning and voting. There is important and vital information in these Bylaws which would help the Fellowship understand exactly how these two Service corporations relate to the General Service Board and exactly how they operate including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trustees of the General Service Board are automatically Members of both Service corporations. • The Directors of both Service corporations are elected by the Members of the corporation (i.e. Trustees of the General Service Board) at the Annual meeting. • The Bylaws of each Corporation requires that the Annual meeting must be held "in the State of New York on the day immediately following the scheduled close of the General Service Conference". • The Bylaws of these Service corporations specify the number and type of Directors of the Board and

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	the Officers who will manage and control each Corporation. • In each Corporation, at least 4 Directors must be Members of the Corporation, two of which must be Class B Trustees. • The specifics and timings of how Regular meetings and Special meetings are called is provided • The Bylaws of these Service corporations specify the number and type of Directors of the Board and the Officers who will manage and control each Corporation.
	• In each Corporation, at least 4 Directors must be Members of the Corporation, two of which must be Class B Trustees. • The specifics and timings of how Regular meetings and Special meetings are called is provided.”
What does the Delegate need to know?	Should the Bylaws of A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc. be added as appendices to The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2018-2020 Edition? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item B4

Agenda Topic	The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2018-2020 Edition: Review request to add a footnote to Concept VIII to accurately reflect the current ownership of the service corporations.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	After discussion at the October 2016 meeting of the Trustees’ Committee on Literature, the Committee agreed to forward this request to the 2017 Conference Committee on Report and Charter. The suggested revision is as follows: “The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.”
What does the Delegate need to know?	Should a footnote be added to Concept VIII to accurately reflect the current ownership of the Service Corporations? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item C

	Consider request that changes to The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve
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Agenda Topic	Concepts for World Service be made available to the Fellowship in years that a revised edition is not published.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Area 28 (Maine) at its Fall Assembly unanimously passed a motion to forward this request for consideration on the 67th General Service Conference Agenda. The sentiment driving this request is that because numerous changes to The A.A. Service Manual are often a result of Conference action(s), that it would be beneficial if a simple list of the changes was put together and made available to the Fellowship that could be printed for inclusion with The A.A. Service Manual for quick reference rather than referring back to the Final Conference Report. Distribution could be made through the aa.org website or other electronic means and inserted in manuals being distributed.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Should changes to The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service be made available to the Fellowship in years that a revised edition is not published? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item D

Conference Committee: Report & Charter — Item E

Agenda Topic	Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S. and Western U.S.)
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This is an annual item for the committee to discuss. Eastern, Western, and Canadian Directories have been mailed to committee members only.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item.
Agenda Topic	Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	This is an annual item for the committee to discuss. Every year starting from the first General Service Conference in 1951 until the present time, the General Service Conference has published a Final Conference Report that details what took place at the General Service Conference for that year.
What does the Delegate need to	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If you have thoughts on how GSRs use this report to inform their groups or how it can be

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know?	improved, please share them directly with the Delegate.
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Conference Committee: Treatment & Accessibilities — Item A

Agenda Topic	Review the revised draft pamphlet “A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs.”
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	There are several changes that are being proposed for this pamphlet, including individual words, phrases, sentences, and the opening, introductory paragraphs. 37 changes to this pamphlet are being requested in total, occurring throughout the entire pamphlet. If your Group would like to gather a Group Conscience on this Agenda Item, it is suggested that you request from your DCM/DCMC the full content of this 24 pg. draft pamphlet, which is available in the background.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Should these proposed changes highlighted in the review draft pamphlet for “A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs” be made? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Treatment & Accessibilities — Item B

Agenda Topic	Discuss the accessibility of the A.A. message for Armed Services veterans.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	<p>The 2016 Trustee’s Committee on the General Service Conference took no action on a request to consider the development of an Armed Services Conference Committee (with establishment of corresponding Armed Services General Services Board Committee and General Service Office Armed Services staff position). However, the Trustees’ Committee noted “great interest in this subject,” requesting that, “the General Service Office explore this issue in depth and report back to us.” It should also be noted the General Service Office is in the process of exploring strategies to be more effective in its service to alcoholic veterans and active members of the Armed Services.</p> <p>It is suggested that you review and make available to all Group Members background material ‘Item B - Doc. 1’ before taking any Group Conscience on this item. This document can be requested through your DCM/DCMC.</p>
What does the Delegate need to know?	How can the General Service Office be more effective in its service to alcoholic veterans and active members of the Armed Services?

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Conference Committee: Treatment & Accessibilities — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the Treatment/Special Needs - Accessibilities Conference Committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Treatment & Accessibilities — Item D

Agenda Topic	Review Treatment Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Kits and Workbooks are reviewed by the appropriate Conference Committees during each General Service Conference. Several changes are being requested to the Treatment Kit and Workbook, including: an addition to the Kit of the pamphlet, “Is A.A. For You,” and to revise the language regarding apathy on p.6 in the Treatment Workbook. The

	content list of the Treatment Committee Kit is available on G.S.O.’s website, AA.org, with hyperlinks to most items listed.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think the proposed changes should be made to the Treatment Kit and Workbook? Why or why not?

Conference Committee: Treatment & Accessibilities — Item E

Agenda Topic	Review Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
Historical Context;	Kits and Workbooks are reviewed by the appropriate Conference

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<p>Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>Committees during each General Service Conference. The content list of the Accessibilities Committee Kit is available on G.S.O.'s website, aa.org, with hyperlinks to most items listed. It is also in the background material, along with a list of changes to the Accessibilities Kit and Workbook that have already been implemented since the 66th General Service Conference. The draft of the revised Workbook will only be available to the Conference Committee, but below are some notes that were provided to the Publishing Department by the trustees' committee prior to the revisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New Section: Rewrite introductory paragraph with an emphasis on inclusion. Accessibility issues apply to all members who have difficulties in participating in A.A., whether those difficulties be physical, mental, emotional, geographic, cultural, ethnic, spiritual, etc. 2. Change Special Needs-Accessibilities to Accessibilities where ever possible. 3. Always suggest that people with challenges are included on Accessibilities Committees throughout the workbook. 4. The term "Deaf" should be capitalized when it is used as a shortened reference to being a member of the Deaf Community. 5. The term "Hard of Hearing" should be capitalized when it is used as a shortened reference to being a member of the Hard of Hearing Community. 6. The committee requested that the section on working with the Elder community be amplified. Possibly sharing from an Elder member. 7. Add local list of meetings that are accessible for people in wheelchairs, ASL interpreted and that provide babysitting in the section, Suggested Activities for Accessibilities Committees in the workbook. 8. Provide information in formats that allow people with challenges to engage in carrying the message. If the Accessibilities committee has people with challenges as members it will be the first step in expanding the awareness of these challenges within the committee. 9. New Section: Suggestions for Single Parents: phone meetings, internet, list of child care meetings, approaches for child care meetings, workshop on child care at AA meetings, legal issues about childcare at meetings. 10. New Section: Inclusiveness, make the AA message accessible to underserved communities: Remote communities/geographic, cultural/ethnic, spiritual, creative meeting technologies, CPC/PI teamwork to access leaders in underserved communities, communication vehicles to these communities i.e. radio, television programming, etc. 11. Never say a "disabled person" or "the disabled." Say a person "with disabilities." 12. The word "accommodating" is also seen as derogatory.
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>What does your group think about the proposed changes to the Accessibilities Kit and Workbook? Are there any other changes that are important to your group?</p>

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Conference Committee: Trustees — Item A1

Agenda Topic	Review resumes of candidates for: East Central Regional Trustee
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Candidates have already been interviewed and will be elected by conference delegates according to the procedures laid out in Chapter 9 of the A.A. Service Manual.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

67th General Service Conference Conference Committee: Trustees — Item A2

Conference Committee: Trustees — Item A3

Conference Committee: Trustees— Item B

Conference Committee: Trustees — Item C

Conference Committee: Trustees — Item D

Conference Committee: Trustees — Item E

Agenda Topic	Review resumes of candidates for: Southeast Central Regional Trustee
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Candidates have already been interviewed and will be elected by conference delegates according to the procedures laid out in Chapter 9 of the A.A. Service Manual.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.
Agenda Topic	Review resumes of candidates for: Trustee-at-large/U.S.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Candidates have already been interviewed and will be elected by conference delegates according to the procedures laid out in Chapter 9 of the A.A. Service Manual.
What does the Delegate need to	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference

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know?	Committee members.
Agenda Topic	Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board has been reviewed and recommended. The entire slate will be presented to the General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.
Agenda Topic	Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc. has been reviewed and recommended. The entire slate will be presented to the General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.
Agenda Topic	Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The slate of directors of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. has been reviewed and recommended. The entire slate will be presented to the General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members
Agenda Topic	Discuss voting procedures for electing Trustee-at-large/U.S.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A past delegate from Montana (Area 40) requested in 2015 that the General Service Conference discuss voting procedures for electing Trustees, particularly Trustee-At- Large (U.S.). Background information, including a letter and proposal form submitted by the Panel 65 delegate from Montana, suggests the discussion could center on whether there are disadvantages in the current voting procedures for Trustee elections, particularly to regions with fewer areas. The background information provided by the person who suggested this Agenda Topic states that

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	regions with fewer areas are unlikely to be able to field successful candidates for Trustee-At-Large positions. Since 1970, the Southeast Region has fielded three Trustees-at-Large, four have come from the Northeast Region, three have come from the Southwest, one has come from the Pacific Region, and one has come from the East Central Region. No Trustees-at-Large have come from the West Central Region, which is also the smallest region in the United States. Background
	information also includes a history of attempted and actual changes to voting procedures and eligibility requirements to be nominated and to be elected.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Does your group think that the voting procedures for electing the Trustee-at-Large (U.S.) should be re-examined? What possible changes does your group endorse, keeping in mind selecting the best candidates for the job (Concept IX)?

Conference Committee: Trustees — Item F

Agenda Topic	Consider request regarding the number of regions and number of regional trustees serving on the General Service Board.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	A 2016 memo from a current General Service Trustee states that the General Service Conference Inventory Report Compendium (2013 to 2015) questions the size of the regions of A.A., and hints at the possibility that it may be difficult for regional trustees to be effective for their entire region. The memo further explains that the number of areas in each region varies dramatically, from 18 in the Northeast Region to four in the Western Canada Region. The memo states that this could cause problems, such as the ability for Regional Trustees to visit each area in his or her region. The proposal has no firm suggestions, instead requesting a discussion and a potential increase in the number of regions and possible changes to the number and types of trustees serving on the General Service Board.
What does the Delegate need to know?	What changes, if any, would your group like to see made in the regional structure of A.A. in North America? Does your group think that increasing the number of regions or the number of regional trustees serving on the General Service Board could help regional trustees be more effective for their entire region? Does your group support balancing the number of Areas within a Region to ease the Trustee’s responsibilities? Why or why not?

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Conference Committee: Trustees — Item G

Agenda Topic	Review revisions to the General Service Board bylaws.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In 2016, the Trustees Committee on Nominating reviewed a 2016 Conference Advisory Action regarding the unexpected vacancy of Regional Trustees and the means of filling any vacancy by electing a new Regional Trustee to serve for up to a six-year term. However, early language drafted by an Ad Hoc committee on Bylaws did not conform with New York Law because non-profit corporation law prohibits directors being appointed to terms of more than five years. New draft language (which re-drafts the amendment in terms of one-year increments) preserves the intention of last year's advisory action and conforms to New York statutes. A few other edits were made for the purpose of making the document easier to navigate and internally consistent, and some edits removed or updated historical references. The General Service Board forwarded these revisions to the General Service Conference for disapproval, if any.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If your group has any concerns about the revisions to the GSB bylaws, please share directly with the Delegate.

Conference Committee: Trustees — Item H

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee's Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee's procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

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Conference Committee: Archives — Item A

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Consider proposal for a new publication, Unity in Action: Bill W.’s General Service Conference Talks, 1951 – 1970 (working title).</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>From A.A.W.S. Publishing Committee report, June 17, 2016: The collection of General Service Conference talks of Bill W. would provide more information on the history of Alcoholics Anonymous and give access to more of Bill’s writing. The talks include details of A.A.’s early history and the development of the General Service structure. Most of his talks, as well as some key talks by important Class A trustees for historical context and perspective, would be included in this collection – the first time in printed form. Discussion at the General Service Board and G.S.O. levels have led the G.S.O. Archives and Publishing Department to explore ideas for new book publications based on making archival materials available to the Fellowship. A proposed agenda item sent in for the 2016 General Service Conference suggested the possibility of selecting some past Conference presentations for publication. The A.A.W.S. board reviewed and agreed to forward to the trustees Archives Committee for consideration a proposal for a new A.A.W.S. book entitled Unity in Action: Bill W.’s General Service Conference Talks 1951-1970 (working title). The was then forwarded to the 2017 Conference Committee on Archives for consideration.</p>
<p>What does the Delegate need to know?</p>	<p>Does your group think that AAWS should publish this literature? Why or why not?</p>

Conference Committee: Archives — Item B

<p>Agenda Topic</p>	<p>Consider request to add text to the committee’s Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.</p>
<p>Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?</p>	<p>To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee’s procedures so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting</p>

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	discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.

Conference Committee: Archives — Item C

Conference Committee: Int’l Conventions/Regional Forums — Item A

Agenda Topic	Review Archives Workbook.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	The Archives Workbook is available on aa.org and through the AAWS Literature Catalog and is used primarily by archivists and archives chairs. The workbook is reviewed every year.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If your group has any input, including suggestions for the workbook, please share it directly with the Delegate.
Agenda Topic	Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	Regional forums began in 1975, and are weekend sharing and informational sessions designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc., the Grapevine Corporate Board, Grapevine staff and the G.S.O. staff stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants, and newcomers to service throughout the A.A. service structure. Each year, the committee discusses suggestions on ways to encourage interest in regional forums, and all suggestions (dating back to 2007) are listed in the background. In 2016,

	suggested ways to encourage interest and attract first-time attendees included providing more information about what happens at Regional Forums, including event details of Regional Forums on local area websites, and encouraging ‘bring a buddy’ and ‘get on the bus’ approaches. The next Regional Forum in the Pacific Region will be in San Jose, CA, in 2018. A calendar of other forums around the United
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	States and Canada is available at the AA.org website.
What does the Delegate need to know?	Do your members know about Regional Forums? If not, what are the reasons why? What are your group's suggestions on how to attract members who have not had a forum experience? How can we inform members of these events? Would members of your group be interested in attending the Regional Forum in our area next year? (Forum will be held in San Jose in September 2018) And how do we attract newcomers to service, A.A. members not involved in General Service, and first-time attendees?

Conference Committee: Int'l Conventions/Regional Forums — Item B

Agenda Topic	Review 2030 International Convention Site-Selection Procedures.
Historical Context; Why is it on the Agenda?	In August of 2017, the process of selecting the site of the 2030 A.A. International Convention (held July 4-7, 2030) will begin when delegates from all 93 areas will receive invitations to bid on the International Convention. The background material details the goal and objectives of the site selection procedure, and explains that any host city must have a covered stadium (or suitable facility) with a minimum seating capacity of 65,000 or an open stadium with a proven statistically-minimal possibility of rain, a convention center with a minimum of 600,000 gross square feet in exhibit and meeting spaces, at least 12,000 committable hotel rooms within 20 miles of the convention center, and proven area experience with large events. The background goes into further detail of the requirements, the bidding process, and a summary timeline of the site selection process.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. If you or your group would be interested in the area preparing a bid for the 2030 A.A. International Convention and have suggestions on stadiums and convention centers that would meet the minimum criteria, please share them with the Delegate and/or Area Chair personally.

Conference Committee: Int'l Conventions/Regional Forums — Item C

Agenda Topic	Consider request to add text to the committee's Composition, Scope and Procedure regarding the option to meet by conference call prior to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.
Historical Context; Why is it on the	To better handle workload, each 2017 Conference committee is being forwarded this request about adding text to the committee's procedures

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Agenda?	so that each committee would have the option of meeting by conference call in the 60 days prior to the General Service Conference. These conference calls could be used to make decisions about how to conduct business, determining how voting would be conducted, potentially re-ordering items on the agenda, and holding preliminary non-voting discussions on what the committee considered priority items.
What does the Delegate need to know?	We will not hear group consciences on this item. For Conference Committee members.