

Show GSO Video from Nikki Area 28 Maine

- I thank you all for having the faith and confidence in me to represent Area 31 at the 2021 General Service Conference. I am extremely grateful to have been given this tremendous opportunity.
- There is a lot of information to cover today so I will not be covering every single agenda item, but you can contact me for additional info.
- If you want a document with all the results, please e-mail me (Delegate@area31aa.org) or Alt Delegate Altdelegate@area31aa.org
- **The final report will also be available both hard copy and electronic soon.**

Area 31 Delegate Report Back
2021 Virtual GSO Conference
Saturday April 17 –
Sunday (2:15AM) April 25, 2021

Thoughts and feelings related to virtual conf.

- I really liked the ability to see each person that was speaking and thinking if we were in a room with 130 people there are many people I may never have seen.
- I was very comfortable in my shorts and slippers (With a shirt and tie in the picture) throughout the conference.
- It was nice to have access to my very large double desk to spread everything out neatly.
- I also liked having easy access to going for a well needed walk in between sessions.

Thoughts and feelings related to virtual conf.

- It was a wonderful group of people that I had the pleasure to serve with and even virtual I felt a true connection.
- I attended three of the morning A.A. meetings and the format was just a 2–3-minute share so I felt like I got to know a little bit about a lot of people.

2009-2021 Agenda Items per Conference Committee

	Average	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Agenda	5.7	10	7	5	6	10	4	6	4	3	5	6	4	4
Archives	2.2	2	2	2	4	3	2	1	2	4	2	1	2	2
C.P.C.	3.9	4	4	3	5	7	5	1	3	4	4	7	1	3
Corrections	3.4	3	1	3	2	4	3	3	3	5	4	3	6	4
Finance	4.8	9	4	4	2	9	5	5	2	3	6	5	6	3
Grapevine and La Viña	6.1	6	8	4	7	11	3	9	8	4	5	7	4	3
I.C./Regional Forums	2.7	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	4	2	2	3	3
Literature	13.8	37	26	16	21	13	9	7	9	6	7	9	9	10
Policy/Admissions	6.9	10	7	7	7	13	5	4	6	7	4	9	5	6
Public Information	11.2	10	15	11	11	12	9	11	11	9	11	9	13	14
Report and Charter	8.9	5	5	3	9	8	9	11	9	11	10	10	12	14
Treatment/Acc	4.6	4	5	7	6	5	3	2	3	6	4	5	5	5
Trustees	7.0	8	6	7	8	10	7	7	5	7	6	6	6	8
Average Items Per Committee	6.25	8.46	7.15	5.77	7.00	8.31	5.08	5.31	5.23	5.62	5.38	6.08	5.85	6.08
Total Agenda Items*		110	93	75	91	108	66	69	68	73	70	79	76	79

Pages of background material 2018-2021

- 2018 – 650 pages
- 2019 – 644 pages
- 2020 – 1,072 pages
- 2021 – 1,487 pages

Hours participating in Conference 87.5 hrs. w/breaks

# Days	Day	Start Time	End Time	Planned Hours in Session - must remove 1 hour A.A. meeting a.	Add-On Hours To Get Work Completed	Total Hours in Session
1	Saturday	11 a.m.	8:30 p.m.	7.75		7.75
2	Sunday	Noon	9 p.m.	6.5		6.5
3	Monday	9:45 a.m.	10:30 p.m.	10.75		10.75
4	Tuesday	Noon	9:15 p.m.	7.25		7.25
5	Wednesday	1:30 p.m.	9:30 p.m.	6.75		6.75
6	Thursday	Noon	9:30 p.m.	6.75	0.5	7.25
7	Friday	Noon	11:10 p.m.	8.75	0.5	9.25
8	Saturday	11 a.m.	Midnite	7.5	4.5	12
9	Sunday	Midnite	2:15 a.m.	0	2.25	2.25
	Total			62	7.75	69.75

a.

71st General Service Conference - Break Time

Day	Planned Hours on Break	Ad-On Break Time	Total hours on Break
Saturday	1.75		1.75
Sunday	2.5		2.5
Monday	2		2
Tuesday	2		2
Wednesday	3		3
Thursday	2.25	1	3.25
Friday	1.75		1.75
Saturday	1	0.5	1.5
	16.25		17.75

71st General Service Conference	
1 Agenda	10
2 CPC	4
3 Corrections	3
4 Finance	9
5 Grapvine and La Viña	6
6 Literature	37
7 Policy/Admissions	10
8 Public Information	10
9 Report and Charter	5
10 Treatment and Accessibilities	4
11 Trustees	8
12 Archives	2
13 ICRF	2
Total Final Agenda Items	110

71st General Service Conference	
1 Agenda	3
2 CPC	3
3 Corrections	1
4 Finance	2
5 Grapvine and La Viña	1
6 Literature	15
7 Policy/Admissions*	7
8 Public Information	7
9 Report and Charter	4
10 Treatment and Accessibilities	1
11 Trustees	5
12 Archives	0
13 ICRF	0
Total Committee Recommendations	49

71st General Service Conference	
1 Floor Action	1
2 Floor Action	1
3 Floor Action	1
4 Floor Action	1
5 Floor Action	1
6 Floor Action	1
Total Submitted Floor Actions	6

71st General Service Conference	
Total pages of Conference Background	1487

*Including two pre-Conference items.

71st General Service Conference	
1 Agenda	3
2 CPC	3
3 Corrections	1
4 Finance	2
5 Grapvine and La Viña	1
6 Literature	14
7 Policy/Admissions	5
8 Public Information	7
9 Report and Charter	4
10 Treatment and Accessibilities	1
11 Trustees	4
12 Archives	0
13 ICRF	0
14 Floor Actions	4
Total Advisory Actions	49

71st General Service Conference	
1 Agenda	6
2 CPC	1
3 Corrections	4
4 Finance	10
5 Grapvine and La Viña	6
6 Literature	26
7 Policy/Admissions	7
8 Public Information	9
9 Report and Charter	3
10 Treatment and Accessibilities	8
11 Trustees	5
12 Archives	2
13 ICRF	2
Total Committee Considerations	89

71st General Service Conference	
1 Agenda	0
2 CPC	0
3 Corrections	0
4 Finance	0
5 Grapvine and La Viña	0
6 Literature	1
7 Policy/Admissions	2
8 Public Information	0
9 Report and Charter	0
10 Treatment and Accessibilities	0
11 Trustees	1
12 Archives	0
13 ICRF	0
14 Floor Actions	2
Total Recommendations and Floor Actions Not Resulting in Advisory Actions	6

Tx & Accessibilities Item A. Progress report on the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic”:

The committee reviewed the progress report on the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic” and requested that a draft pamphlet or progress report be brought to the 2022 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

Tx & Accessibilities Item B. Progress report on Audio interviews with members who are in the Armed Forces”

1 Of 4 comments I made on these video clips.

John C.- He talks about being in Vietnam at age in 1967 at age 20 and becoming a combat medic and talks about experiencing PTSD (**This may help other war time vets and others with trauma, to identify with his situation**). He also talks about much more trauma in his work as a Police Officer. After drinking for many more years, he got to the point where he was passing out and blacking out from his drinking and was becoming suicidal. Somehow when **he got a drunk driving offense and his police department sent him to treatment**, he was open to the help. He loved the program and going to A.A. (**His message that he learned from people in A.A. was that they help others because it helps them to stay sober themselves**). He said we do better when we think of others and not ourselves.

Treatment and Accessibilities

Committee Considerations:

- **The committee reviewed the progress report on audio interviews with A.A. members who are in the Armed Forces and made the following suggestions:**

Move forward with the production of audio files ensuring appropriate sound quality for distribution on digital platforms

Gather more audio military interviews from as broad a cross-section of A.A. members in active military duty as possible, including members of the Canadian Armed Forces and native Spanish- and French-speaking members

Develop a questionnaire to be used for future audio military interviews that include topics such as Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), injuries, and barriers that sober alcoholics on active military duty face in getting sober.

Utilize higher quality equipment professional services to record and oversee the production of the audio military interviews to improve sound and visual design quality

Treatment and Accessibilities continued:

- The committee reviewed the Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook and forwarded a list of suggestions to the trustees' C.P.C./Treatment and Accessibilities Committee.
- The committee reviewed the Accessibilities Committee Kit and Workbook and forwarded a list of suggestions to the trustees' C.P.C./Treatment and Accessibilities Committee.
- The committee agreed to the concept of developing digital versions of workbooks and other service material and suggested having an opt-in choice to receive electronic versus print versions.
- The committee suggested updating the A.A. Guidelines on Accessibilities to include references to intellectual disabilities and learning difficulties.
- The committee requested ongoing reviews and revision of materials to replace the term "special needs" with "accessibilities" across all A.A. literature, including service material.
- The committee was provided an update on the Remote Communities guidelines and look forward to a draft version.

Tx & Accessibilities Item C. Doc 1.

Discussion about workbook and Service Kits

My comments:

I also have concerns about the relevancy of a print copy workbook and kit and believe that the goal of developing an app and or a digital PDF version is what we need to do to keep up with the times. I also believe that we should make some accommodations for people that do not have access to the technology and or ability to access them in that manner. So would recommend keeping a print option for now including having GSO have a hard copy available to those that need it. I believe the self-print copy of material is an excellent idea but still think there would be some people who would not have access to print their own.

I believe an app and or a digital PDF version would be a tremendous help in keeping the material relevant and updated.

TX & Access Item C. Doc 1. Discussion about workbook and Service Kits Cont.

It was good that the DVD “A.A. for the alcoholic with special needs ASL version was included, but many people are now saying the term “special needs” is outdated. I recommend we change this.

This just came up from a quick google search of “special needs” “Thus, federal laws do not use **special needs** as a euphemism for **disability**. ... 23) warns that “the **word special** in relationship to **those with disabilities** is now widely considered **offensive** because it euphemistically stigmatizes” **persons with disabilities**. Dec 19, 2016”

The committee requested ongoing reviews and revision of materials to replace the term “special needs” with “accessibilities” across all A.A. literature, including service material.

Accessibility committee workbook review comments:

Under the section “Literature for Accessibilities Committees:

I think we should explore the relevancy of Braille literature. It is my understanding that Braille is exceedingly difficult to learn, and it was much more relevant many years ago when deaf children went to special schools to learn it. I think its great we have it even if it only helps 1 person, but I do wonder how relevant it is. If it is still being requested, I do think we would need to make sure that what we are providing it is being updated.

Under the section “Suggested Activities for Accessibilities Committees:

I believe there were many particularly good suggestions, but **I would recommend we remove the item “Provide list of local meetings that offer babysitting ... “I think having groups provide and publicize that they offer babysitting could be problematic taking into account things like the situations that lead us to publish our “Safety Card for AA Groups”**

These are my suggestions of the stories that could be replaced with newer and or more relevant articles:

1. **“Shared Experience from an A.A. member on childcare at meetings”** (see notes above) and it also talks about passing out crayons, other toys as well as cookies and kisses” and it states, “If things get too loud or crazy during the meeting someone takes the offending party for a walk, a hug, a visit to the powder room.” **it is also from 1987.** (I have experience effective childcare at meetings over the years but mostly related to very well-known members of a group helping a parent in need and this can be effective. I just think it would be difficult to put this safely in writing in our workbook.
2. **“Shared Experience from an A.A. member on Working with Remote Communities”.** (AA Grapevine February 2002) Although this article may still have some relevance, I think **being from 2002 it could use an update to include reference to newer technology. For example, update the reference to “telephone buddies” and “old speaker tapes” (both of these could be still relevant but maybe add something about virtual meetings)**

Stories that could be replaced with newer and or more relevant articles: Continued

3. “Shared Experience from an A.A. member on Working with Remote Communities”. (AA Grapevine September (2006) Although this article also may still have some relevance, I think being from 2006 it could use an update to include reference to newer technology and maybe look at the writing around Reservation groups and meetings need support from A.A.s from outside the reservation”

Has there been any progress since 2006 relating to this?

These are suggestions for stories that could replace the older or outdated articles:

The articles below are all recent AA Grapevine articles:

1. **“We keep in touch” January 2021/** Oldtimers/From pay phones to cassette tapes to virtual meetings, she’s still happily doing whatever it takes.
2. **“People like me” August 2019/** A delegate of the challenges she faced and encouraged us to keep reaching out to the African-American alcoholic.
3. **“Silver Lining” April 2021/** As Covid-19 completely alters the way we meet, one member looks for ways to embrace the change.
4. **“A mother's lifeline” October 2019/** Thanks to her online home group, neither an injury nor a need for childcare can keep her from AA.
5. **“No Meetings in sight December 2020”/** What to do when a large section of the state you’re in has no AA meetings? One woman was about to find out.

These are suggestions for stories that could replace the older or outdated articles **Continued**

The articles below are all recent Box 459 articles:

1. **“This is Our Fellowship, Too”** Winter 2019/ “For Spanish-speaking women to recover from alcoholism in A.A. there are obstacles that may not be widely known, but they are slowly—and surely—being overcome.
2. **“The Hands of A.A.”** Spring 2019/ For members of A.A. who are deaf and hard-of-hearing the language of the heart is often communicated through American sign language (ASL) and A.A. members across the U.S. and Canada are trying to ensure the A.A. message is carried to those alcoholics who may not be able to “hear” in the same way that others do.

Below is a story that might be good for the Accessibility committee workbook that would address aversion to virtual meetings. (We never got to this item, but I submitted my notes, and it may be reviewed by the Trustee Committee)

A longtime member of A.A. from Area 31 recently moved out of State to an assisted living facility. He is about a 90-minute drive from his original home. He has been sober well over 30 years and always attended several meetings a week when he was able to. Shortly after moving the pandemic hit and he has not been able to attend and A.A. meetings for the past year.

Early on the staff at the facility where he now lives was able to help him get access to virtual meetings in his room but it took us a month or so to really understand that he became more agitated and upset while attending virtual meetings and could not fully explain why.

After doing some research on this topic and having further discussions with him he just said it bothers him to attend a virtual meeting and he gets more agitated when he attends them. At this same time there were many National newspapers and magazines that were publishing stories about people have an aversion to virtual meetings and this appeared to be what was happening with him.

As I was discussing this with a friend. I was thinking that maybe he would like hearing CDs of AA speakers. It was amazing to me that my friend said he had a ton of AA CDS from various conventions over the years and he send me 25 CDS. I purchased a small CD player and sent the CD player and CDS to the person in the assisted living facility. This has worked very well, and he can now listen to a speaker whenever he wants. We may need to get him some new CDS in the future, but this has helped him immensely.

Agenda Committee:

• A. 73rd GSC Theme will be “*A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service.*”

B. Presentation Topics:

1. How do A.A.s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify, and Serve?
2. Going Beyond Fear
3. *How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere*

C. : Workshop Topic

Inform – The Warrantees – Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World.

Conference Committee on Trustees

D. Review the Statement of Concern and motion to censure the General Service Board

The committee recommended that the General Service Conference charge the General Service Board with the setup of quarterly virtual meetings of Conference Members, to begin following the October 2021 General Service Board Weekend. These meetings would follow several weeks after each Quarterly Board Meeting, to allow Conference Members the opportunity to request additional information, ask clarifying questions, and to secure a greater sense of transparency.

The committee agreed that the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most important treasure we have as a Fellowship. The committee also agreed that A.A.'s service structure is equally valuable.

Conference Committee on Trustees cont.

The committee appreciated the extensive additional input provided by the interim general manager of G.S.O. and the chair of the A.A.W.S. Board. The committee noted that the General Service Board and A.A.W.S. board have a good understanding on finances and organizational strategy and expressed appreciation for the progress being made related to bringing modern communication formats and financial reporting to the General Service Office.

The committee also discussed the authority delegated to the General Service Board and legal responsibilities involving communication, financial prudence, and transparency. The committee noted that several major decisions previously made by the General Service Board and corporate affiliate, A.A.W.S. Inc., were not fully or promptly reported out to the Fellowship. The committee recognized that the lack of providing clear, comprehensible answers in a timely manner has caused many in the Fellowship to have strong feelings on all sides of this issue.

The recommendation did **not** pass with substantial unanimity (the vote was 68-62). As such, it was dropped from the list of Advisory Actions that passed. It appears that the concerns were heard and will be considered going forward.

From Policy/Admissions re: Online Groups

D. The committee recommended that the U.S./Canada General Service Structure recognize online groups and encourage their participation, listing those groups who ask to be listed within the group's preferred district and area, with the default option being the location of the group's primary contact. This supersedes the 1997 Advisory Action that designated online groups as "International Correspondence Meetings."

PASSED

*E. The committee recommended that the General Service Board form a committee to explore future possibilities for the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada General Service structure. **PASSED***

Finance Report(2020): (There will be more details pending release of “Around The Picnic Table”, should be soon)

7th Tradition of Self-support-\$10.26 million set another record, up 15.8% from \$8.86 million in 2019

Cost of Services- \$10.81 million down 14.9% from 12.7 million in 2019

Self-Support-covered 94.9% of cost of services compared to 69.8% in 2019.

AAWS publishing gross profits- \$6.58 million down 29.7% from 9.36 million in 2019. Used \$550K to cover shortfall between 7th Tradition Contributions and **update this sentence**

Agenda Items from Area our Mini Conference

Agenda Committee (Item J) Discuss a request to provide additional avenues for AA members to share input on General Service Conference Agenda items.

The committee considered a proposal suggesting the inclusion of additional avenues for A.A. members to share input into GSC agenda items and took no action but did state **“The committee would like to challenge all area delegates to consider innovative ways to encourage local members to participate in the Conference process.”**

Agenda Items from our Mini Conference cont.

Corrections Committee (Item B)

Discuss innovative ways of carrying the message to alcoholics in correctional facilities/programs

The committee recognized the Correction assignment's ongoing efforts to collect shared experience from members who participate in Corrections work – currently available upon request. The committee requested that the trustees' Corrections Committee actively pursue the exploration of thread-based forums and new communication models that would allow members and committees carrying the message behind the walls to access and provide shared experience.

The committee requests that a progress report be brought to the 2022 Conference Committee on Corrections.

Additional Corrections agenda item

- Recommended:
- Revisions to A.A.W.S. literature directed to members behind the walls and to replace the terms “inmate and “offender” with persons in custody

I was one of three who gave a minority opinion and talked about working in three different correction programs in Hampden county for 30 years (WMSAPA, Pre-release and Day Reporting) and we never called anyone in these programs' inmates. It was also stated that the State of Oregon will not allow literature with the word inmate into their facilities. *PASSED*

(The first vote failed with a vote of 48 yes and 83 no and the second vote was 90 yes and 41 no)

Agenda Items from our Mini Conference cont.

Finance Committee (Item D) Discuss Concept XII, Warranty two and the practice of “selling of our books at cost or less”

The committee discussed this and took no action.

The committee shared experience on the varying practices within the fellowship regarding literature sales and agreed that a change to Concept 12, Warranty Two was not necessary.

Agenda Items from our Mini Conference cont.

Literature Committee (Item M) The Twelve Traditions Illustrate pamphlet

The committee recommended that the draft update of the pamphlet, “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated,” **be approved with the title, “Experience Has Taught Us: Our Twelve Traditions Illustrated.” PASSED**

The committee recommended not to retire the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.” **PASSED**

Agenda Items from our Mini Conference cont.

Literature Committee (Item U) Video presentation by GSO of a plain language big book.

Item O. The committee recommended that a draft version of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)*, be translated into plain and simple language and be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide of an audience as possible and that **a progress report or draft be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. PASSED**

Agenda Items from our Mini Conference cont.

Literature Committee (Item X.) Consider revising the pamphlet, “The AA Group”, to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the long form of Tradition 5.

The committee considered the request to revise the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group...Where It All Begins,” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five. The committee noted its extensive agenda load resulting in part from the pandemic-affected 2020 General Service Conference.

Rather than rush through agenda items, the committee agreed to request that discussion on this item continue with the trustees’ Literature Committee and that consideration be made to forward the item to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature.

Agenda Items from our Mini Conference cont.

Policy/Admissions Committee (Item F)

Consider revising the process for polling the General Service Conference between annual meetings to make use of virtual meeting technologies.

The committee requested that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee consider revising the "Process for Approving Observers to the Conference" to enable the Policy and Admissions Committee to approve routine requests for admission from General Service structures outside the U.S. and Canada without requiring a Conference Advisory Action.

Agenda Items from our Mini Conference cont.

Policy/Admissions Committee (Item H)

Discuss the proposed process for equitable distribution of workload.

The equitable distribution of workload process, as detailed in the Report from the 2020 trustees GSO Conf Committee, be implemented for the 72nd GSO Conference on a three-year trial basis, with a progress report to be brought to the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions after each year of the trial.

Corrections

- Recommended:

Revisions to A.A.W.S. Literature directed to members behind the walls and to replace the terms, "inmate" and "offender" with "persons in custody" **PASSED**

The first vote failed to pass and was 48 yes and 83 no. After minority opinion from 3 people (including me) the motion passed and was 93 yes and 31 no. (The State of Oregon banned any literature using the word inmate).

Literature *(There was a lot of passion demonstrated by many Delegate's relating to many literature items related to making A.A. accessible to all)*

- A. The committee recommended that the “A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference-approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format,” approved by the A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors in January 2020, be acknowledged and accepted by the General Service Conference. **PASSED**
- B. The committee recommended that a Fifth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that: “The first 164 pages of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Dr. Bob’s Nightmare,’ and the Appendices remain as is,” and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. **PASSED**

The committee recommended that, pending its development, the draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new foreword, an updated preface and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V. **PASSED**

Literature Continued

The committee recommended a revision to page 117 in the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, replacing the phrase “opposite sex” with the word “partner” as follows, and that a footnote be added to provide context to the change as it relates to inclusivity:

The text on page 117 which currently reads:

"Nearly every sound human being experiences, at some time in life, a compelling desire to find a mate of the opposite sex with whom the fullest possible union can be made – spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical. This mighty urge is the root of great human accomplishments, a creative energy that deeply influences our lives. God fashioned us that way. ..."

Be revised to read:

"Nearly every sound human being experiences, at some time in life, a compelling desire to find a partner with whom the fullest possible union can be made – spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical. This mighty urge is the root of great human accomplishments, a creative energy that deeply influences our lives. God fashioned us that way. ..." **PASSED**

Literature Continued

E. The committee recommended that the sentence which includes the phrase “lustful enough to rape” in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter “Step Six” of the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, be revised to refer to the Seven Deadly Sins without specific mention of examples that are severe in nature as follows, and that a footnote be added to provide context as to the basis for the change. PASSED

F. The committee recommended that the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group.. Where it All Begins,” be revised to omit the line on page 13, “Non alcoholics may attend open meetings as observers,” FAILED

G. The committee recommended that the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic” be updated to include fresh stories and a new title that is respectful and inclusive and that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. PASSED

H. The committee recommended that the draft update of the pamphlet, “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated,” be approved with the title, “Experience Has Taught Us: Our Twelve Traditions Illustrated.” PASSED

Literature Continued

I. The committee recommended not to retire the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.” **PASSED**

J. The committee recommended that the Long Form of each Tradition be included at the end of each essay for that Tradition in the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, and that the complete set of Traditions at the back of the book be retained as is. **PASSED**

K. The committee recommended that a Fourth Edition of the book, *Alcohólicos Anónimos*, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. **PASSED**

Literature Continued

L. The committee recommended that the pamphlet, “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.” be revised on by omitting the text on page 17 “...including coffee, sandwiches, cakes or whatever else may be served,” as follows: *The line on page 17 currently reads: “...to defray the cost of renting a meeting place and other meeting expenses, including coffee, sandwiches, cakes or whatever else may be served.”*

Be revised to read: “...to defray the cost of renting a meeting place and other meeting expenses.” PASSED

M. The committee recommended that the paragraph containing the suggestion that sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex on page 12 in the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” be revised as follows:

The paragraph on page 12 currently reads: In most instances, A.A. custom does suggest one limitation, already noted on page 10: If the group is large enough to allow a choice, sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex. The reasons are the same from both viewpoints; we A.A. members, no matter how long we have been sober, remain thoroughly human, subject to emotions that might divert us from “our primary purpose.”

Be revised to read: A.A. custom does suggest one limitation: sponsorship should be avoided whenever a romantic entanglement might arise between sponsor and sponsee. We A.A. members, no matter how long we have been sober, remain thoroughly human, subject to emotions that might divert us from “our primary purpose.” PASSED

Literature Continued

N. The committee recommended that the draft pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in A.A. be approved. **PASSED**

O. The committee recommended that a draft version of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)*, be translated into plain and simple language and be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide of an audience as possible and **that a progress report or draft be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature. PASSED**

Report and Charter:

The new 2021-2023 Service Manual combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service **was approved** (130 yes and 0 no). It will be available in a digital format. It got excellent reviews from the Delegates (We all received a copy to review prior to the conference)

Items moved to 2022 Conference

- **None!!!!**

Floor Action Updates

#1: It was recommended that:

The Original “Ad Hoc Committee Progress Report - Google Grants and the 7th Tradition,” from the trustees’ Finance Committee, dated March 30, 2020, be immediately released to all members of the 71st General Service Conference. We feel strongly that this information is indispensable for the purposes of looking at the Google Grants through the lens of our AA Principles.

Passed

Floor Actions Continued

#2: It was recommended that:

The A.A. Preamble be changed from:

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

- ***In Alcoholics Anonymous we share our experience, strength and hope with each other that we may solve our common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. Passed***
- This was not the one that was approved. (it was a bit complicated)

Floor Actions Continued

- **#3:** It was recommended that: The first sentence of the A.A. Preamble be revised with gender-neutral language by replacing the words “men and women” with the word “people” to read: “Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.”
- **Revision: The first sentence of the A.A. Preamble as it currently reads:**
- “Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.”
- **Be revised to read:**
- “Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.” **Passed**
- After a thorough discussion, the AA Grapevine Board will be debuting the new Preamble in the July 2021 issue of the Grapevine as well as the July/August issue of La Viña, as follows:
 - *“Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not*
 - *allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.”*

Floor Actions Continued

#4: WITHDRAWN

#5: It was recommended that:

That the pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American" be updated to include language that is both respectful and inclusive of all Indigenous peoples as well as add fresh stories and updating inaccuracies contained in the current pamphlet and that a draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature.

Passed

#6: It was recommended that:

*The Preamble revision described in the third-floor action of the 71st GSC as the new revised A.A Preamble be presented to the General Service Board for approval. **Passed (as seen on the previous slide)***

Time for questions

- We only have ½ hour for questions today, but you can send me any other questions you have to my e-mail at Delegate@area31aa.org and if I don't know the answer to your question from today (I will not guess), I will find the correct answer and get back to you.

Thanks to everyone for attending today

- **Reminder:**
- If want a document with all the results from the 2021 conference you e-mail me (Delegate@area31aa.org) or Alt Delegate Delegate@area31aa.org
- There is a 7-page simple summary of all the results that I received from a fellow Delegate and/or the Conference final report will be out soon with a very detailed explanation of each item discussed at the conference. (These will be available in both an electronic version and a hard copy)