April 2025

NOTE: These are Advisory Actions only. Details are contained in full Conference committee reports.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS OF THE 75th GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The following recommendations were approved by the 75th General Service Conference:

FLOOR ACTIONS

It was recommended that:

- Begin a study to explore the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book. This study will include identifying specific needs within the Spanish-speaking community to determine whether a plain language translation of the Big Book is an appropriate tool or if other accessible materials would be more effective to support Spanish-speaking members who face barriers related to literacy or comprehension.

AGENDA

It was recommended that:

- The following theme for the 2026 General Service Conference: “Humility in Action.”

- The following presentation theme and topics for the 2026 General Service Conference:

    - “Restoration and Discovering Grace, Unity and Fellowship”
    - “Gossip vs Facts: Examining the Health of Our Own Communications”
    - “Finding Common Ground”

- The following workshop topic for the 2026 General Service Conference: “Keeping Our Own House in Order.”

- A Conference Inventory Implementation Committee with a composition similar to the makeup of the General Service Conference (delegates, trustees, nontrustee directors, and staff members from the General Service Office and AA Grapevine) be established by the General Service Board to identify and implement actionable items, based on the inventory report back sessions held at the 2025 General Service Conference. The committee requested that an implementation committee report be brought back to the 2026 General Service Conference.

- On a quarterly basis, the General Service Office provide a grid of proposed agenda items and their disposition status to reaffirm the 2016 Advisory Action, “The General Service Office post to the Conference dashboard, and regularly update information concerning the status of the proposed Conference agenda items.”

ARCHIVES*

No recommendations.

*Members serve on this committee as a secondary committee assignment.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

It was recommended that:

- The project for the development of an outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals be redirected, utilizing existing content in the current draft and reformatted in a quad-fold layout. The committee requests that a draft pamphlet or progress report be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

- On a one-year trial basis, AAWS subscribe to a LinkedIn premium business account at a cost not to exceed $1,000 per year, and to bring back a report on the effectiveness of the upgraded account to the 2026 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

CORRECTIONS

No recommendations.

FINANCE

It was recommended that:

- The phrase "A group may also decline to hear reports from a GSR at all." be removed from page 10 of *The A.A. Service Manual*.

- The Conference-approved level of $10,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members be raised to $12,500.

- The General Service Board Quarterly Financial Report include supplemental reporting on current capital projects and current and estimated maintenance costs.

GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA

It was recommended that:

- The five-year plans for both Grapevine and La Viña be reviewed annually by the Conference Committee on the AA Grapevine and La Viña. The background materials for both plans should include at least five years of financial history and any relevant historical and/ or strategic narrative that supports their projections.

- The pamphlet "Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meetings in Print" (P-52) be revised to clarify the text and accurately reflect changes in Grapevine operations.

- The Grapevine Board obtain feedback from the Fellowship by conducting a survey of the membership to identify relevance, usefulness and financial viability of products and services provided by Grapevine, such as the magazines, books (print, digital, and audio), podcast and social media (Instagram and YouTube), with a progress report to be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on AA Grapevine and La Viña, and a final report be provided to the 2027 committee. The committee will provide a memo to the Board with suggestions for the content of the survey within 60 days.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS*

It was recommended that:

- The following language to the IC/RF Composition, Scope, and Procedure under the Composition section be added:

  "The new chairperson and alternate chairperson are elected by written ballot at the final committee meeting during the Conference session from the first-year panel members and take office immediately following the Conference."

*Members serve on this committee as a secondary committee assignment.

LITERATURE

It was recommended that:

- The trustees' Literature Committee update the language and content of the book *Living Sober* with a progress report or draft manuscript to be delivered to the 2026 Conference Committee on Literature.

- The proposals to rescind or revise the *Plain Language Big Book* be collected and deferred until the 77th General Service Conference to allow for a wider Fellowship experience.

- The development of a process within the trustees' Literature Committee for receiving, assessing and forwarding proposed changes to the *Plain Language Big Book* to the Conference Committee on Literature.

- The developed video animation of the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" be approved with minor edits.

- The revised pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated" be approved.

- The revised pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American" (Retitled "Indigenous People in A.A.") be approved.

- The revisions to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" be approved with minor editorial changes and formatting standards.

POLICY/ADMISSIONS

It was recommended that:

- Rescinding the 1986 Advisory Action on simple majority items which reads as follows:

  "If a committee recommendation does not receive the two-thirds vote required to become a Conference Advisory Action, but has a majority of votes, it automatically becomes a suggestion and be duly noted in the Conference Report." (Report and Charter)

  And that it be replaced with the following clarifying language:

  "Recommendations achieving simple majority, but not substantial unanimity, are not suggestions to the General Service Board to take action but should be memorialized in the Conference Final Report to be informational and to provide historical context."

- Following the General Service Conference that the temporary replacement area delegate may maintain access to the Onboard platform at the discretion of the sitting Area delegate, through the end of that year.

Committee recommendations approved by videoconference April 13, 2025, at the Pre-General Service Conference meeting:

- Anne B., who currently serves as the Area 82 alternate delegate, who has been selected by the area, to temporarily replace Dwayne M., as a 2025 Conference member.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

It was recommended that:

- The trustees' PI Committee review of video Public Service Announcements (PSAs) be changed to a review cadence of five years from the release date of each video. The review of audio PSAs should follow a similar cadence.

- Three videos produced by the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia ("Are you risking your job?" "Are you a danger to your family?" "Cham-pain") be adapted by AAWS for use on media platforms in the U.S. and Canada.

- The pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" (P-47) be revised to address anonymity and social media and looks forward to a draft or an update report to be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

- The trustees' Public Information Committee develop a plan for a 2026 A.A. Membership Survey utilizing random sampling methodology. The committee requested that the plan for the 2026 Membership Survey be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

- The video "A Group of People Just Like Me" be discontinued.

- The video "On the Beach" be discontinued.

- The young people video "Alcoholics Anonymous" be discontinued.

- The video "25 and Under" be discontinued.

- The video "Young and Sober in AA from Drinking to Recovery" be discontinued.

- Efforts to collect user-generated young people videos be discontinued.

REPORT AND CHARTER

It was recommended that:

- The word "woman" be removed from the Concept Four essay, so that:

  "New volunteer corporate directors will ask why any paid **woman** staff member should also be a corporate director and thereby have a vote as good as their own."

Be changed to:

"New volunteer corporate directors will ask why any paid staff member should also be a corporate director and thereby have a vote as good as their own."

- The General Service Board classify all AAWS and AA Grapevine literature written prior to 1971 as Recovery, Service, or Archival/Historical; review existing policies and consider proposing additional policies as appropriate for updating each classification, and that a progress report be provided to the 2026 General Service Conference.

TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES

It was recommended that:

- The update to the flyer "Where do I go from here?" (F-4) to be approved with the following change:

  The sentence which currently reads:

  "This mutual understanding gave them the strength each desperately needed to pass up the first drink that had always paved the way to disaster."

  Be replaced with the following sentence:

  "This mutual understanding and **program of recovery** gave them the strength each desperately needed to pass up the first drink that had always paved the way to disaster."

TRUSTEES

It was recommended that:

- The following slate of trustees of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board on May 3, 2025, following presentation at the 2025 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Class A Trustees[+]	Class B Trustees
Tom Ivester, MD, MPH	Teddy B.
Dawn Klug	Jennifer B.
Hon. Kerry Meyer	Charles H.
Molly Oliver	Scott H.
Kelly Parsley	Teresa J.

Veronica Ramirez	Reilly K.
	Robert L.
[+]Nonalcoholic	Gail P.
	Joyce S.
	Cheryl S.
	David S.
	Ken T.
	Susan V.
	Carolyn W.
	John W.

- The following slate of officers of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board on May 3, 2025, following presentation at the 2025 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Chairperson:	Scott H.
First Vice-Chairperson: (**)	Hon. Kerry Meyer+
Second Vice-Chairperson: (**)	Teresa J.
Treasurer:	Terrance Bedient, FACHE, Trustee Emeriti[+]
Secretary (**)	Carolyn W.
Assistant Treasurer:	Paul Konigstein[*+]
Assistant Secretary:	Racy J.*

*GSO employee
[+]Nonalcoholic

(**) Elected by Third Legacy procedure

- The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board on May 3, 2025, following presentation at the 2025 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Julie C.	Ken T.
Charles H.	Carolyn W.
Matthew K.	John W.
Racy J.*	Bob W.*
Clinton M.	

*GSO employee

- The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA Grapevine Corporate Board on May 3, 2025, following presentation at the 2025 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Teddy B.	Nikki O.
Chris C.*	Gail P.

Teresa J.
Fredy M.
Molly Oliver.+
Joyce S.
David S.

*AA Grapevine employee

+Nonalcoholic

Recommendations that achieved Simple Majority – These items did not receive the two-thirds majority required to pass as a Conference Advisory Action.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

- The committee recommended that the trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee replace the three existing videos — "A.A. Video for Healthcare Professionals," "A.A. Video for Legal and Corrections Professionals," and "A.A. Video for Employment/Human Resources Professionals" — with a new video, in English, Spanish, and French. The video should be developed with a format and message that can reach all professionals with multipurpose applications which can be delivered across multiple platforms. The committee requests that a progress report or draft video be brought to the 2026 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.

LITERATURE

- The committee recommended that the current publication *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* be expanded to include the Twelve Concepts for World Service and essays on the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- The committee recommended that a new Service Card, postcard sized or smaller, aimed at young people, be created and that it be made available digitally and for purchase and for inclusion in the PI Service Kit.

- The committee recommended that the General Service Board, keeping in mind A.A.'s Twelve Traditions, develop a strategy and vision for digital communications including social media and increase resources for these tools to enhance efforts to carry the message.

Recommendations Not Resulting in Conference Action

These recommendations were presented but did not receive the two-thirds vote necessary to become a Conference Advisory Action.

FINANCE

- The committee recommended that the suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference be removed and that the full estimated amount be provided so that each area can determine what amount they can contribute.

- The committee recommended pausing the retrofit of the General Service Office until the Trustees Finance & Budgetary Committee develops a plan to replenish the reserve fund to a minimum of nine months and bring back a progress report to the 76th General Service Conference.

GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA:

- The committee recommended that the Grapevine Board develop a revised La Viña five-year plan covering years 2026-2030 to be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on the AA Grapevine and La Viña. The revised plan should reflect a focus on actionable, realistic and achievable goals, and the background materials should include at least five years of financial history that substantiates its projections.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- The committee recommended that the A.A. World Services social media policy currently under review be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information for approval prior to implementation.

- The committee recommended that the trustees' Public Information Committee develop a plan to accept user-generated content from members under the age of 18, with the understanding that questions of legal responsibility or liability may need to be explored. The committee requested that an update report or draft plan be brought back to the 2026 Conference Committee on Public Information.

- The committee recommended that in addition to the Membership Survey conducted using random sampling, the trustee's Public Information Committee conduct a Convenience Sample Membership Survey in 2026.

- The committee recommended that the General Service Conference add an agenda item to the 2026 agenda for the Policy and Admissions Committee to explore creation of a

new conference committee to which some of the Public Information agenda could be assigned.

TRUSTEES

- The committee recommended the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?" be retired.

Floor Actions Not Resulting in Conference Advisory Actions

The 75th General Service Conference issues a censure, expressing formal disapproval for past behavior of the General Service Board for the following reasons:

- Contributing to an environment that lead to the resignation of experienced and trusted Board members;
- Ineffective, inconsistent, and non-transparent communication to the Conference;
- Unacceptable behavior by trustees including harassment, intimidation, and bullying;
- Undermining the spiritual handshake with the Conference, as described in Concept VI, by not following a Conference Advisory Action.

Accordingly, the Conference directs the General Service Board to:

- Continue to take its inventory, with specific focus on improving accountability to the Conference;
- Report to the Conference on inventory findings and the specific actions taken to address these concerns. (**Not Approved)**

- Change the election procedure of the GSC Delegate Chair to the following: Each Conference Committee will nominate a willing and eligible candidate to stand for Delegate Chair after their election of Conference Committee Chair and Alternate Chair on their last committee meeting day of the General Service Conference. The nominee will be determined by each individual Conference Committee. The newly elected Conference Committee Chair will not be an eligible candidate for Delegate Chair. The Alternate Conference Committee Chair will be an eligible candidate. After the Trustee elections a the GSC each nominee will have a 1–2-minute opportunity to give a brief history and qualification. The Delegate Chair will then be elected by Third Legacy Procedure of the voting Area Delegates. Only the voting Area Delegates will be able to vote for their Delegate Chair. The Policy & Admissions Committee will be tasked to create a scope for the Delegate Chair Position based on what the committee determines are the needs of the Area Delegates of the GSC and for that to be brought to the 76th GSC. The Delegate with the most votes will be the newly elected Delegate Chair, the runner up will be the GSC Mail Administrator. The Delegates with the third

and fourth most votes will be the alternates, if the need to serve arises. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- The GSB Revisit the Advisory Actions of the 71st General Service conference regarding the A.A. Preamble and approve the following as the only conference approved A.A. Preamble.

  "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. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- The GSB, by and through its Trustees Committees, reduce the number of standing agenda items at each GS Conference to allow more room for PAI's submitted by the Fellowship. That workbooks, service material and guidance type pamphlets, for example, be reviewed every three to five years instead of annually or biennially, and that they be alternated so that each conference committee has no more than one or two standing agenda items each year. Status updates and progress reports on continuing agenda items be discussed during joint committee meetings instead and reported to the conference through the Trustee committee conference reports. Themes, discussion topics, book titles, and the like be polled to the delegates electronically using survey methodology. Etc. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- That the current code of conduct be repealed. The Steps, Traditions, and Concepts (with the warranties) serve as complete set of principles, codified for all in A.A. to resolve all questions of proper conduct; in other words, a comprehensive code of conduct. The Charter and Bylaws provide the mechanism connecting us to the outside world, and the Bylaws require adherence to these 3 sets of principles. The Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage & conduct world service affairs (Concept VII). ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- The GSO begin the process of adding QR codes (linked to aa.org) to all new and reprinted literature. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- The Conference hereby allow the Conference Agenda Committee the right of decision over the Conference theme, presentation(s) and workshops, allowing the Conference to focus on the more important matters facing the Fellowship today. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- That in order to assist in the improvement of the prudent reserve, the GSB set a policy which does not allow the budgeted income from all streams including, but not limited to, contributions, sale of literature, including Grapevine and La Viña subscriptions and book sales, for any given year to exceed the amounts of the immediately preceding year. Further, and consistent with such policy, that outward expenses be adjusted, with necessary cost cutting measures, so that all expenses, obligations or support does not exceed budgeted income. This to be in effect until the prudent reserve reaches the Board's policy of 9-12 months and thereafter as the Board may deem fit pursuant to its Reserve Fund Policy. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- That a joint subcommittee comprised of representatives from the General Service Board, A.A. World Services Board, AA Grapevine Board, the General Manager, and the Grapevine Publisher be formed to:

  Reevaluate the viability and timing of the 11th floor construction project, with an estimated cost of up to $2 million, with the intent to cut our losses.

  - Determine whether to retain or release the 8th floor at 475 Riverside Drive.

  - Delay any further construction or long-term occupancy decisions until a future relocation process — fully informed by the evolving needs of the Fellowship — can appropriately assess and determine space requirements. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

- The GSB explore reorganizing the GSC Committee system; that it should consider a topic neutral system and submit a progress report to the appropriate 2026 GSC Committee. ***(Conference declined to consider)***

Recommendations recommit to conference committees

TRUSTEES

- The committee recommended that motions to censure or reorganize the General Service Board be sent directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees, for committee eyes only.

FINANCE

- The committee recommended that an FAQ addressing, “What happens if a group decides not to hear a GSR report?” be added to Chapter 1 FAQs section on page 12 in the next revision of *The A.A. Service Manual*.

Recommendations recommit to trustees’ committees

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY/TREATMENT AND ACCESSIBILITIES

- That the pamphlet A.A. in Treatment Settings (p-27) [SP-27 in Spanish], in the section that says, "Alcoholics Anonymous does not:”, be amended as follows:

  [A.A. does not] “provide detoxification or nursing services, hospitalization, drugs or any medical and psychiatric treatment,”

  should read:

  [A.A. does not] “provide or directly engage in detoxification services, nursing, hospitalization, medicine or any medical, psychiatric, psychological or therapeutic treatment.”