

May 2020

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

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS OF THE 70th GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

The following recommendations were approved by the 70th General Service Conference:

Agenda

It was recommended that:

1. The theme for the 2021 General Service Conference be: "A.A. in a Time of Change."
2. The following be presentation/discussion topics for the 2021 General Service Conference:

Practicing A.A.'s Spiritual Principles in a Changing World:

Recovery in a Changing World
Unity in a Changing World
Service in a Changing World

3. The workshop topic for the 2021 General Service Conference be:

Inform - Communicate
Involve - Act
Inspire - Attract

Archives*

No recommendations.

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

Cooperation with the Professional Community

No recommendations.

Corrections

No recommendations.

Finance

It was recommended that:

4. The draft language related to the “virtual basket” be included in the pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.” The language reads:

Q. Some members of our group wanted to pass a “virtual” basket – to collect Seventh Tradition contributions digitally. How could we do this?

A. A number of groups have utilized digital payment platforms as an adjunct to passing the basket in the conventional sense in order to provide opportunities for cashless contributions. There are different payment platforms to facilitate this service and it is up to the group to determine which one to use. Some groups have found that a smartphone app-based payment platform is the most efficient, seamless, and minimally disruptive solution for providing a digital contribution. Experience suggests that the treasurer is a likely choice to handle digital contributions, though some groups add more than one trusted servant to share the responsibilities or create a new service position to inform the group about digital payment options and assist other group members who are interested in contributing this way.

Grapevine

It was recommended that:

5. The name of the Conference Committee on Grapevine be changed to the Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña.

International Conventions/Regional Forums*

No recommendations.

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

Literature

It was recommended that:

6. The updated draft video of “Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure” be approved.
7. The “A.A.W.S. Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials,” approved by the A.A. World Services, Inc. Board of Directors in January 2020, be acknowledged and accepted by the General Service Conference.

Policy/Admissions

It was recommended that:

8. The “Process for Approving Observers to the Conference” be approved.
9. The General Service Conference implement electronic voting for trustee elections starting in 2021.
10. The review of Conference dates be changed to consider dates for the General Service Conference with timing and year(s) to review as requested by the general manager.

Public Information

It was recommended that:

11. All A.A.W.S. video titles be adjusted for search engine optimization (SEO).

Report and Charter

It was recommended that:

12. The sentence in Article 4 of the current Conference Charter which currently reads:

It will be further understood, regardless of the legal prerogatives of the General Service Board, as a matter of tradition, that a three-quarters vote of all Conference members may bring about a reorganization of the General Service Board and the directors and staff members of its corporate services, if or when such reorganization is deemed essential.

Be amended to read:

It will be further understood, regardless of the legal prerogatives of the General Service Board, as a matter of tradition, that a three-quarters vote of all Conference members participating in the vote may bring about a reorganization of the General Service Board and the directors and staff members of its corporate services, if or when such reorganization is deemed essential.

Treatment and Accessibilities

It was recommended that:

13. The pamphlet “Bridging the Gap” be updated for currency and inclusion to reach a broader scope of treatment settings about temporary contact services, and that a progress report or draft be brought to the 2021 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

Trustees

It was recommended that:

14. The following slate of trustees of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in May 2020 following presentation at the 2020 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Class A Trustees

Leslie Backus, B.A.
Hon. Christine Carpenter
Michele Grinberg, J.D.
Peter Luongo, Ph.D., LCSW-C
Nancy McCarthy
Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA
Al Mooney, M.D.

Class B Trustees

Cathy Beckham
Beau Bush
Jimmy Dean
Josh Eggleston
Mark Everett
Kathi Fowler
Francis Gilroy
Trish LaNauze
Jan Lembke
Mike Lewis
David Noll
Newton Pritchett
Ginger Rhoades Bell
Irma Van de Bon-Nicol

15. The following slate of officers of the General Service Board be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the General Service Board in May 2020 following presentation at the 2020 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Chairperson	Michele Grinberg, J.D.
First Vice-Chairperson	Hon. Christine Carpenter
Second Vice-Chairperson	David Noll
Treasurer	Leslie Backus, B.A.
Secretary	Mark Everett
Assistant Treasurer	G.S.O. Chief Financial Officer*
Assistant Secretary	Mary Cumings*

**G.S.O. employees*

16. The following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA Grapevine Corporate Board in May 2020 following presentation at the 2020 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Josh Eggleston	Tommi Hanley
Ino Fernandez	Nancy McCarthy
Kathi Fowler	Ginger Rhoades Bell
Cindy French	Albin Zezula*
Francis Gilroy	

**AA Grapevine employee*