

August ACM

Begin where you are, step out in faith, do what you can, gracefully, and expect God to help!

My calendar!

08/18 CCF Picnic See you there!

08/24 D47 Exeter If you are interested in going with me, let me know soon. I have 4 seats available.

08/25 D15 Chico Report back

09/05-10 BTGWW Missoula, MT.

09/11 D24 Mid Town Sacramento Report Back

09/15 D22 Report back

09/21 ACM

10/04 NCCAA

10/11-13 CNIA Mini-PRAASA

11/08 CNCA Elections

11/16 ACM

12/14 ACM Planning Meeting

We just returned last night from a few days over at the ocean. This was our annual camping trip. 5 days to relax and unwind. Gave me the time I needed to unplug and do a bunch of nothing. Ended up sitting on the beach most days. Did make a speaker meeting in Mendocino Wednesday evening with a member from D19. I had the honor in meeting Fort Bragg Bill! Was a great time. I hope everyone is taking time out to enjoy his or her summer as well.

My reports are going well. I made it to Sonora D33 and on August 3rd a carload of us traveled up to D11 in Red Bluff. It was a great turnout of GSR's and local members to hear the delegate report. I really thought everything went well. My hope is that after hearing the delegates report back about what's going on in AA, the better informed our members are.

I have responded to several emails again this month with members from our Area that are confused about the PLBB and what they are reading on social media and listening to on podcasts about how this change to our Big Book is going to ruin AA.? I kindly let them know that the PLBB is a translation of the Big Book and it is Not Going to Replace Anything! That the social media sites where they are getting their information IS the real problem. Please remember that if you are visiting these websites and gathering your information from them, you maybe only hearing from people that are not fully informed. I'm asking for your help, if you would be willing to help those members that are still confused about our PLBB that would be great. There is a PLBB Faq sheet on the delegates page at CNIA.ORG to help give good information. There are new items also being posted every week. As soon as I receive new information I post it under "What's New". Check it out!

I have also received several phone calls from trusted servants letting me know that they are feeling lost. Not sure what they are doing? Struggling with their position or just lost their mojo? My first question is always: what does your service sponsor say about that? Are you

working with other Trusted servants from our Area? Have you reached out to other DCM's and found out what's working for them? We have a service manual and an Area Handbook that is a great resource for all of us to be looking at in our spare time. I want to reassure you that it's ok to have these feeling of not measuring up. I feel that way as your Delegate all the time. Ugh! Reading the email thread that goes around the Pacific Region Delegates can make your head spin. Makes me feel like I'm not doing enough. These are just feelings. They are not the Truth. I continue to show up and participate. That's the best part. Embrace those feelings and know your all doing the best you can! I know I am.

If you have not found a service sponsor that's ok. It's time. Look around the room. There are several past Delegates here. They are your best resource to help guide you on your service journey. Remember to begin where you are. Step out in faith, do what you can gracefully. Expect God to help.

I'm excited today to hear what our Finance Committee has put together on next years spending plan. As an area we have been living large these past few years. Now that our extra funds have been spent, its time that we all take an educated approach on what we would like to do next year. There will be cuts to how much we are able to do. I know that the pandemic has had an affect. At GSO as well as the Area, Districts, and even our meetings. Let's not shoot the messenger! Our Treasurer has been doing a great job keeping us all

informed about our finances. Remember that its not what we get done, it how we get things done, together.

Now for my report

I have notes from the Board Meeting that was held the last weekend in July.

Grapevine / LaVinia Reports Share Screen!

Update from the July General Service Board weekend regarding Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous

Posted Jul 30, 2024 1:28 PM PDT

The General Service Board (GSB) reviewed correspondence received since the 74th General Service Conference (GSC) pertaining to Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous which included letters of concern, appeals, process concerns, and letters of support. Each person who submitted correspondence will receive a personal response. Related floor actions that were proposed but then forwarded to the applicable board/committee by group conscience of the GSC were also reviewed and will also be receiving individual responses. The discussion of these matters resulted in the General Service Board affirming its desire and responsibility to implement Advisory Actions of the General Service Conference that carry by substantial unanimity and expressing agreement with the work of the Trustees Literature Committee. The Trustees Literature Committee (TLC) reviewed the 2024

Conference Committee on Literature (CCL) memo to A.A.W.S. Publishing regarding 10 additional "minor editorial changes," which were intended by the CCL to be included as part of those given as examples in the Advisory Action. In past Conferences, when minor formatting, grammar, or style changes have been suggested, the editorial notes have been sent directly to Publishing without being included in Advisory Actions. The memo to Publishing also included an additional 36 suggestions for which the Conference Committee had not formed a group conscience and about which they were asking the Publishing Department to use its discretion to determine whether and how to implement. After careful consideration, the TLC agreed to proceed with Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous based on what was stated in the Advisory Action from the 74th GSC plus the first 10 "minor editorial changes" from the Publishing memo. The Advisory Action stated: The draft manuscript Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous be approved with minor editorial changes to include:

- Relocation of the "A.A. Steps Table" to constitute an Appendix (on the Twelve Steps) at the back of the new publication.
- Replace the references to "addiction" and "addicted" with language related to alcoholism.

The AAWS Board has been discussing pricing, format and print dates, and began preparations pending the outcome of the discussions at the July General Service Board meeting. An announcement from AAWS Publishing Department will be widely distributed in the coming weeks once some formatting matters are finalized. It is

expected that the Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous will be available in November 2024. The AAWS Board approved a list price of \$11.00.

Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission Form is up on our Area Website.

Posted Jul 30, 2024 10:17 AM PDT

Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission Form for the General Service Conference * All submissions should be received on or before September 30, 2024, 11:59 pm. Submissions that are received after this deadline will be considered for the 2026 General Service Conference.

Did you receive your BOX 459?

You ask what is BOX 459 and why is it important? This is the latest news coming out of GSO. They used to mail it to all Area Trusted Servants, Now you have to subscribe. Go to AA.org and sign up. I have posted it on the Delegates page for you. It's a great read. Meet our new GSB Chair Scott H. Also the two new Regional Trustees.

Information about the International Convention

Remember Registration costs and deadlines: September 10th. Opening Day for registration. Go to AA.org to register for the event, then you will be provided information about lodging. First come first serve!

Advance registration fees (prior to April 15, 2025): \$160 USD or \$220 CAD (Canadian residents only if paying by CAD check or money order).

Registration after April 15, 2025, will be \$185 USD

First-Ever Virtual

International Convention Experience Understanding that not everyone who wants to attend IC 2025 will be able to do so for various reasons, we are offering for the first time a virtual Convention program track. Registration for the virtual program will be \$35 USD or \$50 CAD.

In addition, we will be offering a delayed, anonymity-protected digital streaming video of the three Big Meetings at the 2025 International Convention. This will be offered as a stand-alone product for viewing after the Convention and will be available to pre-order by attendees through the Convention registration process. The streaming video will also be for sale in the AAWS store after the Convention. The price of the product will be \$60 USD or \$82.50 CAD.

Questions?

Check out our IC 2025 [FAQs](#), which are regularly updated with information on Convention-related topics, including a recent update on volunteering at the Convention.

Trustees' Archives Committee

Archives report: The report included updates of projects undertaken by GSO Archives staff as presented. A final report of the Archives Inventory Project was also included in the report. The Archivist verbally shared that the Archives Department will observe its 50th anniversary in November 2025 and is considering producing one to two souvenir items to commemorate this momentous anniversary. The committee looks forward to a progress report at the November 2024 meeting.

The committee discussed the 2024 Conference Committee on Archives Committee Consideration

concerning the suggestions to "add appropriate images to enhance the contents, where applicable, as determined by the GSO Archives Department" to the Archives Workbook. In the section "What to Collect?" add "reference to digital materials in the suggested list of materials local archives might consider collecting." GSO Publishing Director informed the committee that the Publishing Department is examining format, number of pages and printing costs across all committee workbooks, in light of increasing print production cost of goods.

Trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment/Accessibilities

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
Staff report: Staff reported on inquiries received from professionals, including many requests from the faith community, offering space for local A.A groups to meet and the ongoing need to explore ways to connect the Fellowship with these opportunities. The committee requested the Staff secretary begin to compile information on a list of professionals who can speak on behalf of A.A to include class A trustees. The Staff secretary will provide an update report at the November 2024 meeting.

2024 General Service Conference Committee

Considerations: The committee noted that the suggestions on the topic of the "unhoused" or "homeless" alcoholics and the neurodivergent community need to be

further explored and asked the Staff secretary to collect shared experience from the Fellowship on this subject to better inform this discussion. The committee looks forward to an update at the November 2024 meeting.

Pamphlet for Mental Health Professionals: The committee received a written report from Publishing on the progress of the pamphlet for mental health professionals and discussed the general direction including length of the pamphlet (approximately 40 pages) and the Question and Answer (Q&A) format based on the interviews conducted with mental health professionals. This will be followed by an FAQ page and the pamphlet will contain relevant information from other Conference Approved pamphlets that address how we inform professionals about our recovery program. Committee members with related professional experience discussed ways in which the pamphlet can be most effective from their perspective. The committee looks forward to a progress report or draft pamphlet at the November 2024 meeting.

CPC videos on aa.org: The committee noted that the project is on hold while the recently hired Multimedia Production Coordinator is onboard. The committee looks forward to a progress report at the November 2024 meeting.

Effectiveness of CPC exhibits: Staff provided a brief update on the plans to exhibit and present at the American Correctional Association Congress on

Corrections, with two class A trustees. The committee looks forward to an update at the November 2024 meeting.

Treatment

74th GSC Advisory Actions and Committee Considerations: The committee reviewed a report reflecting Advisory Actions and committee considerations of the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook: The committee reviewed the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities suggestions to the Treatment kit and workbook and made no further changes.

Review flyer "Where Do I Go From Here?" (F-4): The committee reviewed a draft of the revised flyer "Where Do I Go From Here?" (F-4) and provided the Staff secretary with a list of suggestions. The committee looks forward to a draft flyer or progress report at the November 2024 meeting.

Accessibilities

74th GSC Committee Considerations: The committee reviewed a report of the committee considerations of the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities.

Military Outreach Project: The committee reviewed and accepted the progress report on the military outreach project and the action plan drafted by the two appointed committee members. The committee provided the Staff

secretary with suggestions to continue the Military Outreach project including expanding the project to interviews with veterans and looks forward to a progress report from the subcommittee at the November 2024 meeting.

Accessibilities inventory: The committee reviewed the Accessibilities inventory revised by the 2024 Conference Committee on Treatment and Accessibilities and requested that Staff secretary (1) run an accessibility check on the inventory and (2) make the inventory available to the Fellowship and professionals.

Shared experience from neurodivergent alcoholics: The committee requested the staff secretary update the flyer "Serving All Alcoholics - Making the A.A. Message Accessible (F-107)" with highlights from the shared experience. The committee looks forward to an updated service piece or progress report at the November 2024 meeting.

Trustees' Corrections Committee

The Staff secretary reported that a survey is being developed to address the committee consideration from the Conference Committee on Corrections to gather shared experience on how local corrections committees encourage and engage members in corrections service. The committee looks forward to a progress report at the November 2024 meeting.

Shared Experience on Virtual Meetings: The committee reviewed the draft service piece, "Facilitating Online

Meetings in Correctional Facilities" and asked the Staff secretary to work with Publishing to add this service piece to the Corrections workbook and kit.

Warning! Please note that this report will be posted on the Delegates page as soon as it is translated! Please give me the benefit here, I'm doing the best I can to read the report.

Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee

AAWS/GSB 2023 Preliminary Financial Report: GSO unaudited financial results for June 30, 2024.

For the six months ended June 30, 2024, total operating revenue is \$9,708,502 which is 5% more than the year to date (YTD) budget of \$9,254,313. Total operating expenses before depreciation are \$9,179,004, which is 5% less than the YTD budget of \$9,642,506. Operating surplus before depreciation is \$529,497 compared to a budgeted YTD deficit of \$388,192. Literature accounts receivable is \$443,902, of which 44.9% is current, 20.4% is less than 60 days past due, and 34.7% is more than 60 days past due. The reserve fund is at 6.33 months of 2024 operating expenses versus a target range of 9 to 12 months.

Comparative Balance Sheet Notes

Cash increased \$155K year-over-year due to increased contributions.

Accounts receivable, including the receivable from Grapevine, decreased \$541 K year-over-year due to more

effective collection of literature receivables and more prompt payment by Grapevine of shared services receivables. Accounts payable and accrued expenses decreased \$1.016M year over year as increased contributions and the January 2024 Reserve Fund draw have enabled more timely payments to vendors.

Income Statement Notes Revenue -- Contributions were greater than the budget. Gross literature sales and gross margin were both less than budget. However, gross margin as a percentage of gross literature sales improved relative to budget. Cost of goods sold is less than budget. Expense -- Overall, operating expenses before depreciation were below budget. Except for employee benefits and payroll taxes, all expense categories were less than budget. In employee benefits, medical and dental insurance, health reimbursement account expenses, and 403b plan employer match are over budget. In payroll taxes, our NYS unemployment insurance tax rate has increased.

Other Notable Items

As of June 30, 2024, operating cash on hand was \$474K versus accounts payable of \$710K (a short-term deficit of \$236K, a significant improvement from the \$1.126M deficiency on December 31, 2023). In comparison, as of June 30, 2023, operating cash on hand was \$457K versus accounts payable of \$1.768M (a short-term deficiency of \$1.311 M).

2024 Budget Reforecast:

Total operating revenue is \$19,656,359. Operating expense before depreciation is \$18,973,513, and GSB support of La Vina remains \$569,512 for a bottom line after La Vina support (but before depreciation) of \$113,334. This is an improvement of \$64,901 from the original budget (6.1). The improvement is due to a savings of \$148,644 in personnel expenses resulting from position vacancies and a revenue increase of \$14,000 offset by an increase of \$97,744 in non-personnel expenses.

The budget for gross literature sales is unchanged at \$16.817 million. This budget is based on unit sales remaining the same as in 2023. While unit sales through May 31 are 9% greater than the year to date (YTD) original budget, gross dollar sales of \$6.133 million are 5% less than the YTD budget of \$6.475M. The budget for cost of goods sold is unchanged at 50% of gross sales. YTD, cost of goods is 47.4% of gross sales. The YTD gross margin is \$3.136 million, which is 4% less than the YTD original budget of \$3.270 million.

The budget for contributions remains \$10.5 million. YTD contributions are \$4.819 million, which is 18% greater than the YTD original budget of \$4.095 million.

Sales of the Plain Language Big Book (PLBB) may begin before the end of 2024 but are not included in the reforecast budget. However, the cost of the first print run in the quantity proposed by the Publishing department is included.

The net cash flow projection for the year is an inflow of \$1,999,831, including the \$500,000 reserve fund draw approved by the GSB in January. However, in the first quarter, actual cash flow was \$858,637 less than projected. The cash flow projection includes International Convention prepaid expenses (outflow) which will be repaid beginning Q4 2024. The International Convention has a separate budget and financials where revenue and expenses are reported. The prepaid expenses are only for those expenses that must be paid prior to the registration opening and are repaid to AAWS after the convention starts generating revenue through registration. The trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the re-forecast budget version 1.1.

Review 2023 Reserve Fund: As of June 30, 2024, the Reserve Fund Assets totaled \$12.261 million consisting of cash and certificates of deposit. Less the liability for unfulfilled Grapevine subscriptions of \$540K, the Reserve Fund Balance was \$11.721 million. (The subscription liability was reduced to \$540K in January.)

Based on the expense budgets for GSO, Grapevine and LaVina (total \$22.212M) the reserve fund balance is equal to 6.33 months of operating expenses versus 7.11 months as of June 30, 2023. The goal range is coverage of 9 to 12 months. Note that the calculation is influenced equally by the size of the Reserve Fund balance and the level of GSO, Grapevine and La Vina expenses.

Grapevine 2024 Financial Report including LaVina:

Subscription Revenue: The average number of subscriptions remained similar to last month. Total circulation for Grapevine is about 2% below 2024 budget but 11% above last year at this same time. We continue to see gains in LaVira as well. June 2024 total circulation is almost 15% above last year at this same time and income is 18% above budget.

"Complete" income is a highlight with stronger than budgeted income, particularly for Grapevine. Income from the App has had a slower start than expected but has been seeing solid growth the last several months.

Overall subscription income for both Grapevine and LaVira is improving nicely compared to the prior year. During the initial budget process, we erred on the price increase -- it was rolled out later than planned and due to the required notice period and the increase only initially impacts new subscriptions. Subscription revenue is expected to improve throughout the year as the price increase impacts on new subscriptions and renewals.

Our fulfillment house completed a cleanup of very old and stale accounts which was a recommendation by the audit firm, BOO. During this process it was discovered that the fulfillment house had billing errors during 2023 that needed to be corrected. This entire process resulted in one-time adjustments for both Grapevine and LaVina. This was a positive increase of \$87,772 to Grapevine and a charge of \$6, 177 to LaVina. Both are reflected in

subscription income. Expenses for subscriptions are lower than budget as would be expected with lower circulation numbers.

Expenses: Overall, expenses are generally on target for the midpoint of the year. Some highlights:

- The editorial staff have significantly lowered costs for outsourced help
- The App development costs, and the Website expense are \$48k and \$30k over budget as of June 30th. However, some of these costs are considered investments and will be capitalized during July and then depreciated over 3 years. This will significantly reduce the total amount over budget.
- We are reviewing office supplies expense and Meetings and Conference costs to improve these significantly by the end of the year.

Grapevine and LaVina 2024 Budget Reforecast;

Grapevine: Average circulation for the magazine, online and complete is projected to be 3,360 higher than the original budget. Complete subscriptions are running particularly above budget, which is terrific as this has a higher gross margin than the magazine. However, overall subscription revenue has been reduced because the price increase was rolled out slower than expected and will take longer than originally projected due to existing subscriptions continuing at the lower price.

The new App had a slower start in subscribers, but in recent months the number of subscribers and revenue is growing nicely. However, the annual 2024 subscriber

average is expected to be 4,216 less than the original 2024 Budget and income reforecast is down \$130,053. Overall, subscription revenue has a reforecast reduction of \$218,046 for 2024. The direct cost has a corresponding reduction of \$74,178, therefore the gross margin reduction for 2024 subscriptions is \$143,868.

The Content Revenue and expenses reforecast are slightly lower than the original budget, however the net change is an increase of \$2017. The calculation of COGS for our books and other content will be reevaluated and this may result in adjustments.

The reforecast Total Gross Margin for Grapevine has a projected decrease of \$141,851 for 2024, however this is an increase of \$532,664 compared to 2023 audited figures. Expenses for Grapevine are reforecast to be lower by \$51,975

Reduction in salaries due to a hire that has been postponed. Added \$4,000 for a new audit fee for the retirement plan.

depreciated over 3 years.

- The finance office will be working with a Canadian tax firm to assist with filing Canadian tax forms for refund of certain sales taxes paid.

The reforecast net loss for Grapevine is expected to increase from the original budget of (\$582,572) to (\$672,449). This is a \$184,867 improvement compared to the 2023 Grapevine results.

A portion of the App and Website costs are being capitalized as investments and will be LaVina: Total

circulation has also been reforecast down by 449, but this is also related to the App. However, LaVina subscription income is reforecast to be higher than original budget even with the Prior Year Revenue Adjustment of (\$6,177). Direct Cost are reforecast to be higher and the overall gross margin reduction of (\$3.135). This is offset by the Content Revenue which is having an outstanding year for LaVina and expected to add \$3,359 to Gross Margin. As stated above, the Cost of Goods Sold for books will be reviewed and could have a positive outcome to this expense. Total LaVina expenses are reforecast to be \$2,339 over original budget. The LaVira bottom line will have a loss increase of \$2,115. This is an improvement of \$184,23 from the 2023 audit final numbers.

Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference

Composition, Scope and Procedure: The committee reviewed its Composition, Scope and Procedure (CSP), noting the completion of the three-year Equitable Distribution of Workload pilot. The committee also noted an Equitable Distribution of Workload process will be implemented this year based on the 2024 Advisory Action, and subsequent changes to the committees' CSP may be needed.

- The 71st GSC Advisory Action that the Equitable Distribution of Workload process be implemented for the 72nd GSC on a three-year trial basis. The committee will provide a progress report to the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions each year during the three-year trial period.
- Special Forum Request: The committee reviewed the Special Forum Request submitted by Area 58 Oregon. The

committee made the following recommendation:
The committee recommended to the General Service Board that a one-day on-line Special Forum for A.A. members who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing be held after the 2025 International Convention in December 2025 or the beginning of 2026.

Trustees' Literature Committee

Review Composition, Scope and Procedure:

The committee requested that new language be drafted to replace the word "teleconference" with an updated term within the Procedure section that better reflects current technology practices.

The committee also noted that a trustees' Literature subcommittee is currently reviewing the Scope section addressing "the annual updates and/or revisions to The A.A. Service Manual-Twelve Concepts for World Service. The committee looks forward to a revised Composition, Scope and Procedure document or a progress report at their November meeting.

Subcommittee on the Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous: The committee received verbal updates from the subcommittee considering the content elements of the 2024 Conference Committee on Literature's memo. The subcommittee discussed moving forward only with the stated content of the Conference Advisory Action. It was also noted that a separate review of the memo content will follow collective discussion by the General Service Board.

The committee discussed the 2024 Conference Advisory Action requesting the development of a pamphlet for Asian and Asian American alcoholics. The committee considered elements of workload and finance, noting the benefits which AC Ms have brought to recent literature projects through the involvement of

members of the intended audience. The trustees' Literature Committee agreed to forward a memo to the trustees' Nominating committee requesting an ACM from the Asian American community.

Development of a pamphlet for the Transgender Alcoholic: The committee discussed the 2024 Conference Advisory Action requesting the development of a pamphlet for the Transgender Alcoholic. The committee considered elements of workload and finance, noting the benefits which ACMs have brought to recent literature projects through the involvement of members of the intended audience. The trustees' Literature Committee agreed to forward a memo to the trustees' Nominating committee requesting an ACM from the transgender community.

Review progress report regarding revision to the pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American": The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the pamphlet "A .A. for the Native North American." The subcommittee is in the final story selection phase and will be asking several authors to make minor editorial changes.

There has not been discussion about translation beyond French and Spanish languages, but potential future translations into indigenous dialects was introduced. The committee looks forward to the projected conclusion of the revision and to receiving a progress report or draft at the November 2024 meeting.

Review progress report regarding the development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book *Alcoholicos Anonimos*- Spanish: The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the development of a Fourth Edition of the book *Alcoholicos Anonimos* which detailed the story review process and evaluation of new translations through Chapter 7.

Development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholicos Anonimos*: The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the development of a Fifth Edition of the book

Alcoholics Anonymous. The subcommittee has met twice since the General Service Conference towards the goal of presenting a draft edition to the trustees' Literature Committee prior to the 75th General Service Conference.

The subcommittee has developed a timeline for the tasks needed to conclude this project. Story submissions have been narrowed from approximately 2,500 to 159. Selected stories are receiving additional review to identify approximately 50 stories for presentation to the trustees' Literature Committee.

Revision to the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?": A subcommittee revising the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different" has been convened to continue the revision process. There are 13 stories within the current version of the pamphlet. 39 submissions were received by the April 30, 2024, story submission deadline, but only 29 of those stories have completed Assignment of Copyright forms.

Revision to the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated": The committee reviewed the 2024 Additional Committee Consideration on the revision to the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated," noting the emphasis placed upon a new or partial draft.

Sample illustrations were provided by the Publishing Department. The illustrations were received with excitement and a few suggestions for improvement. The committee looks forward to a progress report or draft at the November meeting 2024.

Development of the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" in video animation format: The committee reviewed the progress on developing the video animation of "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated." Wording is being completed with new narration in American English. Narration voiceover and visual text will be presented in French and Spanish.

"Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" - Discuss request for inclusion of language related to sponsorship of persons in custody: The committee discussed the 2023 Additional Committee Consideration from the Conference Committee on Corrections to add language with the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" related to the sponsorship of members in custody. The subcommittee engaged with revising this pamphlet will consider whether the committee consideration fits within the established purview and scope. If the change is adopted during revision, it was noted that including a page reference for the Corrections Workbook would be beneficial. Revision to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship": The committee discussed the 2024 Additional Committee Consideration requesting that revisions to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" reflect the request to add language related to neurodivergent alcoholics and alcoholics with intellectual and information processing challenges. A subcommittee has been convened to continue the revision process with an initial meeting forthcoming.

Trustees Nominating Committee

Staff report: The report was discussed at length. The Staff secretary reported that announcements to the Fellowship about two vacancies for a Class A trustee were made in June by email, Meeting Guide app, and aa.org. A suggestion was made that Grapevine channels be included in the future. The committee asked that the Staff secretary promptly send a friendly reminder about the August 31, 2024, deadline. Information will include how to submit resumes and note that current Class A trustees are available for conversation with potential candidates. The committee requested a review of all available tools/platforms used to attract and inform potential Class A candidates to be placed on the November agenda.

Trustees' Public Information Committee

Composition, Scope, and Procedure: The committee reviewed their Composition, Scope and Procedure and made no changes.

2024 GSC Advisory Actions and PI Committee Considerations: The committee reviewed the list of the 2024 GSC Advisory Actions related to Public Information and the 2024 Public Information committee considerations.

Public Information media platforms: The committee accepted all Media Platform reports.

Development of a GSO podcast: The Communication Services Director reported that a new multimedia production coordinator had been hired and that work on the podcast and other current and future media projects can now be implemented more efficiently.

The committee accepted a report on the GSO podcast and asked for clarification about whether employees hosting the podcast are required to be members of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Staff secretary will bring this discussion back to GSO and report back to the committee at the November board meeting.

AAWS YouTube Channel report: The committee reviewed and discussed the 2024 Public Information committee considerations related to AAWS YouTube channel. The committee noted that the Communication Services Department has been doing excellent work to reorganize the AAWS YouTube channel as well as work to improve Search Engine Optimization. The committee acknowledged that some ongoing challenges with Search Engine Optimization are to be expected given A.A.W.S. policies and GSO practices (for instance, not allowing commenting) that impact search rankings.

Google Ads report: The committee reviewed and discussed 2024 Public Information committee considerations related to Google Ads.

The committee also discussed the current status of our participation in the Google Ads for nonprofits program and noted that while there are challenges, we continue to experience significant benefits from participation in the program.

The committee looks forward to a progress report at the November 2024 meeting. AAWS Meeting Guide App report: The committee reviewed the 1^o quarter Meeting Guide app report. The committee also reviewed and discussed the 2024 Public Information committee considerations related to the Meeting Guide app.

The committee observed that requests for functionality improvements from the Fellowship (i.e., to add a new feature to the Meeting Guide app or aa.org) can be best handled when they are

submitted as user requests to the Communication Services Department. Requests received through these channels are tracked, evaluated and prioritized based on expressed need from the Fellowship.

The digital strategist in the Communication Services Department reported on ongoing work on the Meeting Guide app that will lead to additional options for finding online meetings.

The committee also reviewed and discussed the 2024 Public Information committee considerations related to GSO's A.A. Website. The committee looks forward to a progress report at the November 2024 board meeting.

AAGV/La Vina Website, Marketing, Podcast and App report: The committee discussed the AA Grapevine/ La Vina Website, Marketing, Podcast and App reports, noting with appreciation the recent growth of subscriptions, downloads, web traffic and listeners which indicate the real impact of AA Grapevine/ La Vina efforts to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous as expressed by our members.

Membership Survey Working Group: the scope of the subcommittee is to review research related to the Membership Survey Pilot and develop a plan for the next Membership Survey. The committee asked the Staff secretary to forward reporting on the Membership Survey Convenience Sample Pilot to the Membership Survey Subcommittee.

Trustees' International Committee

Review Composition, Scope and Procedure: The committee reviewed its Composition, Scope and Procedure and made no changes.

International Assignment Budget Reforecast: The committee reviewed the International mid-year reforecast of the trustees' International Committee 2024 Budget and agreed to forward it to the trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee.

The Trustees-at-Large for the US and Canada shared about their experiences at General Service Conferences in Mexico and Paraguay noting that structures worldwide are addressing local issues guided by our shared A.A. principles:

Scheduled International Events: The committee reviewed the following list of tentative international travel for 2024-2025.

August 16-18, 2024: AA Poland 50th Anniversary, Poznan, Poland

The Staff secretary shared that we have accepted invitations to attend the A.A. Bolivia

Convention in November 2024 and Japan's 50th AA Convention in 2025.