

76th General Service Conference Advisory Actions Quick Reference Guide

AGENDA

- The following theme for the 2027 General Service Conference: “Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future.”
- The following presentation topics for the 2027 General Service Conference:
 - “The Spirit of Rotation: Cultivating Leadership.”
 - “Anonymity, Our Spiritual Compass.”
 - “Innovation Meets Tradition.”
- The following workshop topic for the 2027 General Service Conference: “Unexpected Spiritual Lessons.”

CORRECTIONS

- An update to the pamphlet “The A.A. Member — Medications and Other Drugs” (Item P-11) and that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2027 General Service Conference.

FINANCE

- “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix” (Item F-3) be updated with the following change:
The question and answer on a group making financial contributions to AA Grapevine on page 12, which reads:
Q: Can our group make financial contributions to AA Grapevine?
A: No. AA Grapevine, Inc. is not set up to take contributions from groups or individuals. Groups and individual members support the Grapevine by purchasing Grapevine and La Viña subscriptions and other Grapevine publications and using them in their Twelfth Step work.
Be replaced with:
Q: How can our group support AA Grapevine / La Viña?
A: AA Grapevine, Inc. does not accept contributions from groups or individuals. Groups and individual members support the Grapevine by purchasing Grapevine and La Viña subscriptions and other Grapevine publications and using them in their Twelfth Step work. When your group is discussing how your funds should be used, you may consider purchasing subscriptions, gift certificates, books and other materials, or supporting the Carry the Message project to ensure that Grapevine and La Viña continue to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. For further information, visit aagrapevine.org.

LITERATURE

- The following language be added to the Conference Committee on Literature Composition, Scope, and Procedure under the Procedure section:

“To have the Conference Committee chairperson maintain consistent contact with the chairperson of the trustees’ Literature Committee throughout the year.”

- The Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be approved with minor editorial changes.
- The word “Eskimo” be removed from “Chapter 7: Working With Others” and replaced with a neutral, non-racial term.

The committee acknowledged the 1995 Conference Advisory Action which recommended that the first 164 pages of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, The Doctor’s Opinion, Dr. Bob’s Nightmare and the Appendices remain as is. However, the committee agreed that use of pejorative words is not appropriate for our basic text.

The committee noted that in accordance with the 2021 Conference Advisory Action authorizing development of the Fifth Edition *Alcoholics Anonymous*, which reads in part “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”: “Appendix III — The Medical View on A.A.” and “Appendix V — The Religious View on A.A.” have been revised in keeping with the 2021 Conference Advisory Action

The committee noted that although the 1995 Conference Advisory Action recommended keeping the Appendices “as is,” the following changes have been made for the Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*:

- “Appendix IV — The Lasker Award” was revised to include a footnote to direct readers to the awards page on aa.org.
- “Appendix VI — How to Get in Touch with A.A.” was revised to reflect more current best practices.

In keeping with the “A.A. World Services, Inc. Policy on Publication: Keeping A.A. Literature Current,” which was accepted by the General Service Conference Advisory Action in 2020, and subsequently revised by the AAWS Board in 2022, the committee noted that the Publishing Department of the General Service Office will maintain editorial responsibilities for the Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, including:

- Editorial “fine tuning” such as footnotes, punctuation, capitalization, spelling, page numbers, headings and subheadings
- Finalizing the titles and order of personal stories
- Editorial review of the title page, jacket copy and table of contents

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- Coordinating the flow of work between the book designer, typesetters, copyeditors, proofreaders and the printers
- Designing the book cover and jacket
- Listing other A.A. literature in the final pages of the book
- Determining the potential inclusion of QR codes based upon current best practices as identified by AAWS, Inc.

POLICY/ADMISSIONS

- Following the 78th General Service Conference that the Equitable Distribution Workload (EDW) process be discontinued

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- Conducting a pilot 2026 Membership Survey, with a budgeted cost not to exceed \$10,000, to explore how to include groups not listed by the General Service Office in a future full membership survey. The committee requested a progress report or pilot survey results be brought back to the 2027 Conference Committee on Public Information.
- The revised pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” (Item P-47) with the new title “Anonymity – Our Spiritual Foundation” be approved.

REPORT & CHARTER

- The question “What happens if a group decides not to hear a GSR report?” be added to Chapter 1 FAQs section in the 2026-2028 Edition of The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service and that the question and answer be included as follows:
What Happens if Our Group Decides Not to Hear my GSR Report?
If a group decides not to hear a GSR report during a meeting, the information can still be shared in other ways. This may include a written report with printed copies, email, group messaging, a shared online document, or posting the report on a bulletin or noticeboard. When utilizing these methods, it is important to respect Tradition Eleven and protect anonymity; so that members’ names are not publicly available.
Hearing the GSR report is important because it helps keep the group connected to A.A. as a whole. As co-founder Bill W. explained, A.A. groups hold the ultimate responsibility for A.A. world services. The GSR serves as the communication link between the group and the larger Fellowship by sharing the group conscience with the Conference and bringing Conference actions back to the group. This two-way communication allows the group to have a voice in A.A., strengthens unity, and provides spiritual benefits by helping

members stay informed, involved, and connected to the Fellowship beyond the home group.

- That a draft of a new “Amendment” section be approved for inclusion at the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service Section of The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service.

TRUSTEES

- The General Service Board form an ad hoc committee with a composition similar to the makeup of the General Service Conference (e.g., delegates, trustees, nontrustee directors and Staff members) to review and document the processes by which motions to censure or reorganize may be received, considered and forwarded, and to develop proposals for workflow processes that would support the unity of the Fellowship. The committee requested that a report, including these processes and proposals, be brought back to the 2027 Conference Committee on Trustees.
- The trustees Literature Committee produce an animated video based on the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated” (Item P-55). The committee requested that a progress report or draft video be brought back to the 2027 General Service Conference.
- The trustees Literature Committee explore producing an animated video based on the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” (Item P-43). The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2027 General Service Conference.
- Slate of trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. (names removed)
- Slate of officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. (names removed)
- Slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc. (names removed)
- Slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc. (names removed)

FLOOR ACTIONS

- The suggested area contribution for delegate expense to attend the Conference be increased from \$2,200 to \$3,000.
- AAWS offer a print version of the 2026 FCR to be available for purchase. If production costs of the project are not covered by sales, the FCR print version will end for the 2027 General Service Conference.
- The word “Eskimo” be removed from the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, chapter essay on “Tradition Eight” and replaced with a neutral, non-racial term.

Please contact your delegate for details, failed recommendations, committee considerations & finances