

# Panel 72 GSC Report 2022



# Data on Area Delegates

Average Age . . . . .	57
Oldest . . . . .	80
Youngest . . . . .	35
Average Length of Sobriety . . . . .	22
Longest Sobriety . . . . .	43
Shortest Sobriety . . . . .	8
Average Length of Service . . . . .	17
Longest Service . . . . .	37
Shortest Service . . . . .	6

I was surprised that 3/5 of the people attending the conference were women.

\$\$ A Little on Financials \$\$

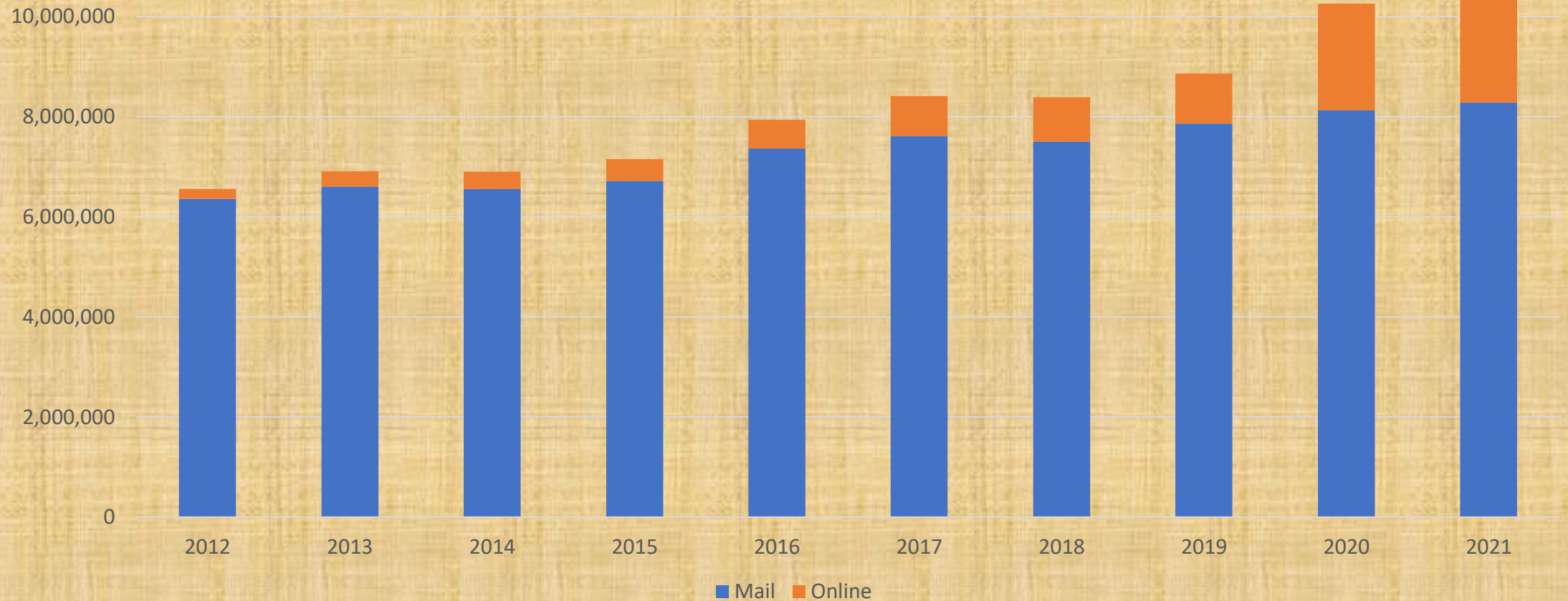
# 2021 GSO FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ❑ 7th Tradition of Self-Support – **\$10.78 million** (set another record up 5.07% from \$10.26 million in 2020)
- ❑ Operating Expense - **\$15.28 million** (down)
  - Program Service Expense - **\$7.59 million** (down)
  - Supporting Services Expense - **\$7.70 million** (down)
- ❑ Self-Support - covered **70.5% of operating expense** and **142.0% of program service expenses**
- ❑ AAWS publishing gross profits - **\$6.30 million** (down)
- ❑ **Operating surplus of \$1,697,141** (but operating cash increase of only \$53,177)

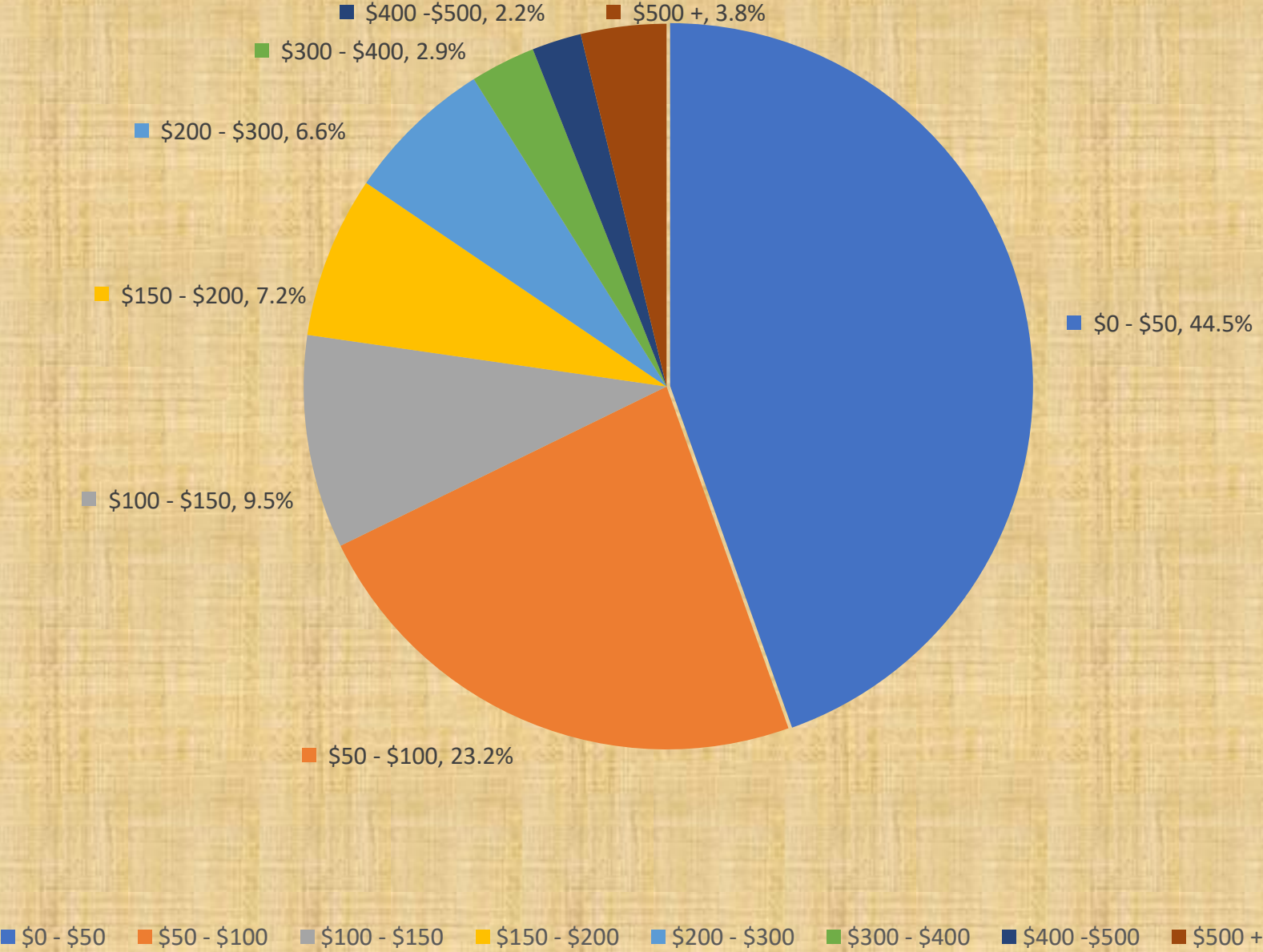


# GROWTH OF ON-LINE CONTRIBUTIONS

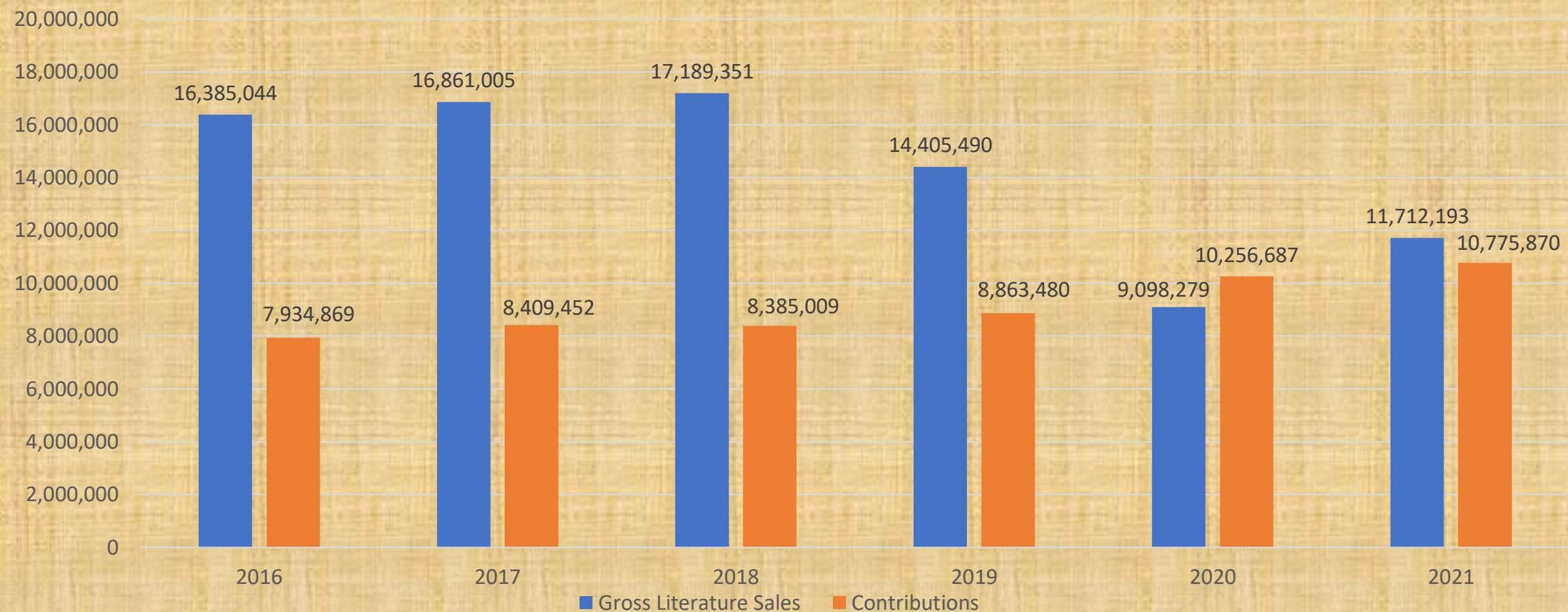
## 2012 – 2021



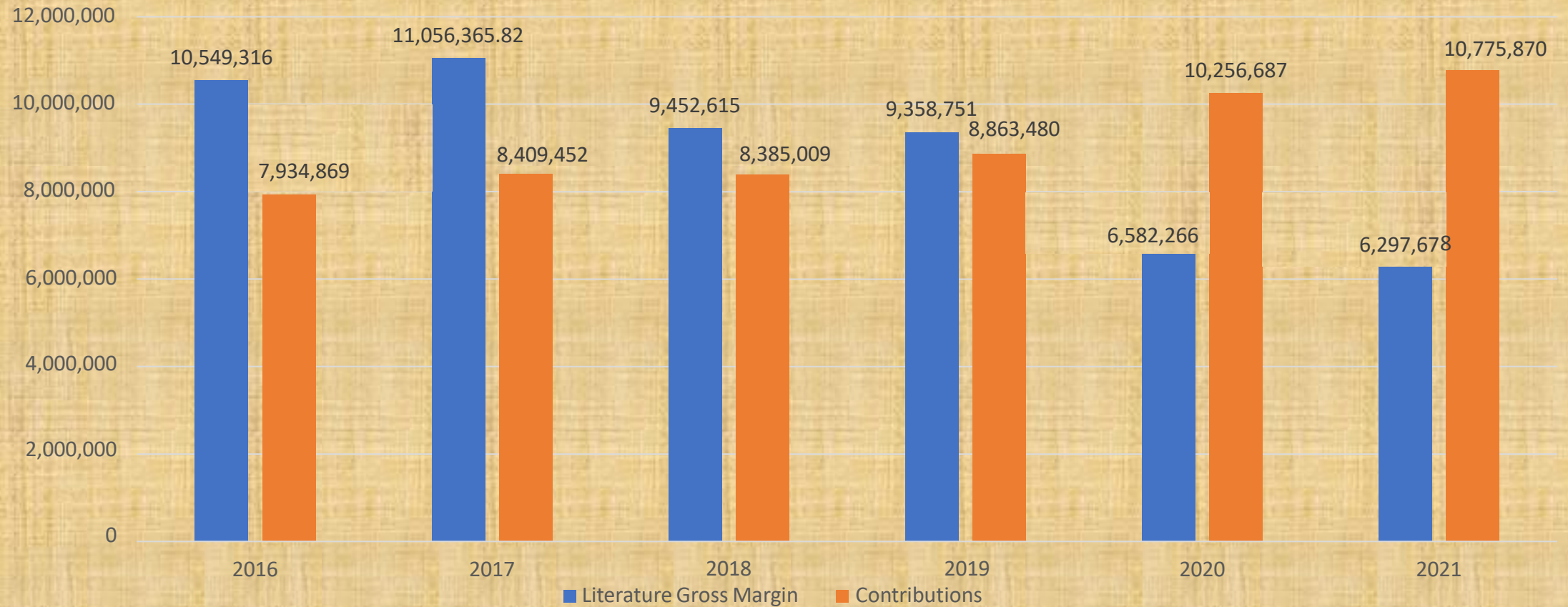
# 2021 Contributions by Dollar Value



# IMPACT OF PANDEMIC ON GSO REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

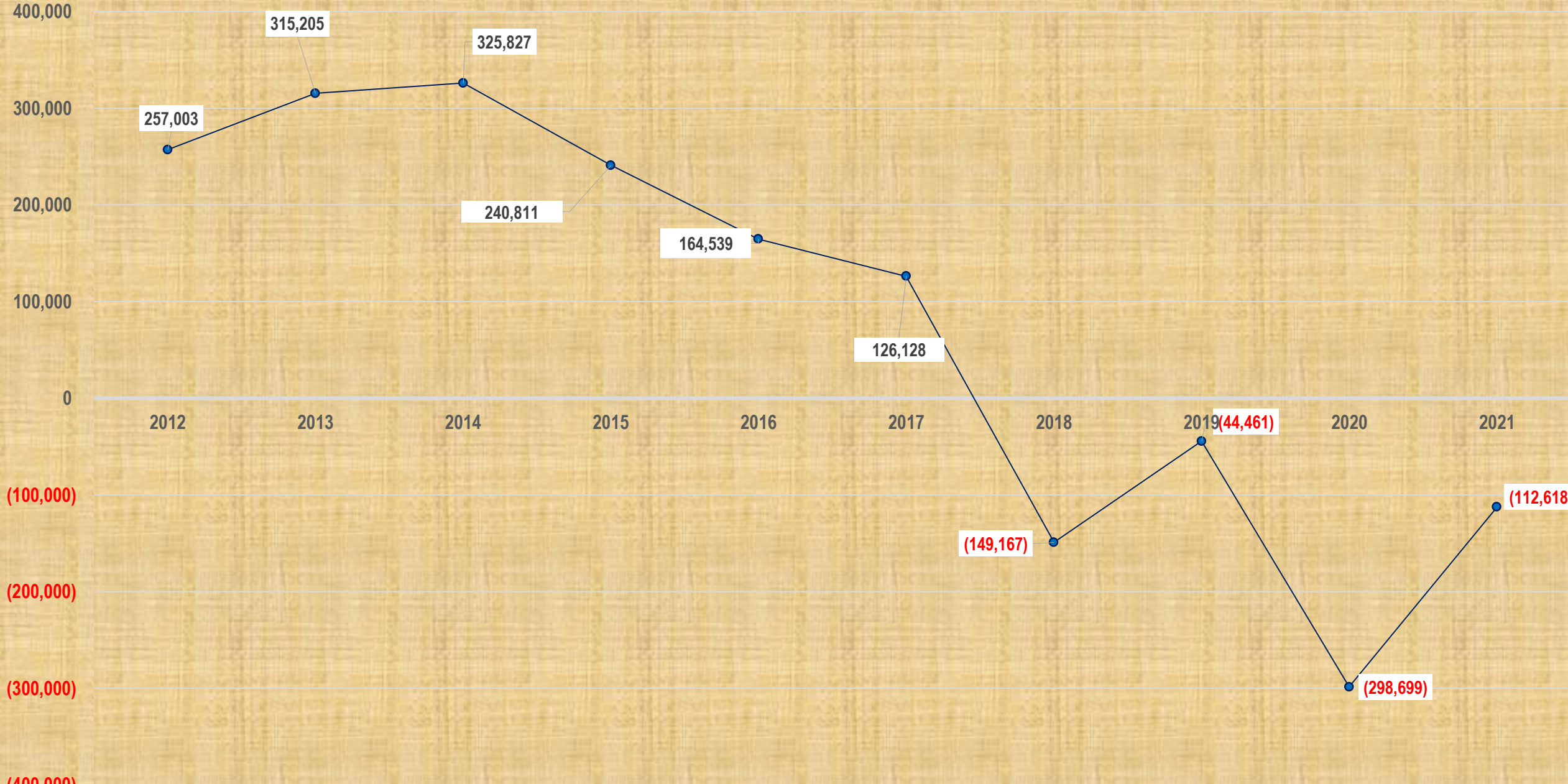


# IMPACT OF PANDEMIC ON GSO REVENUE DISTRIBUTION



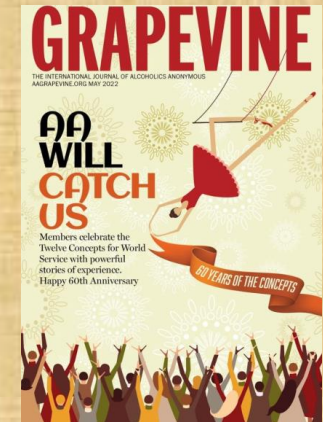
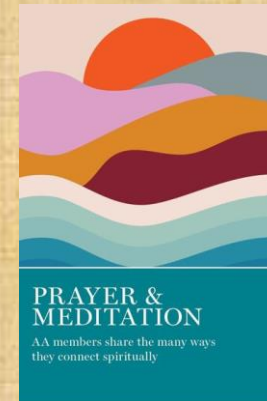
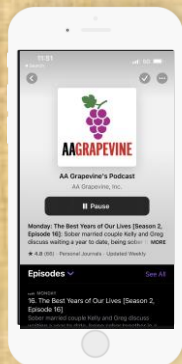


# GRAPEVINE OPERATING RESULTS – 2012 – 2021





**Podcast / Instagram / Website / Books / Print Magazine**



# **2022 GRAPEVINE BUDGET**

- ❖ Print magazine circulation to increase to 62,000 from 56,081 in 2021.
- ❖ Online and e-Pub circulation to decrease to 8,842 from 8,972 in 2021.
- ❖ Gross profit on subscriptions \$1,236,434 compared to \$1,091,404 in 2021.
- ❖ Grapevine net operating surplus of \$19,234 compared to \$112,618 deficit in 2021.
- ❖ La Viña magazine circulation to increase to 7,500 compared to 6,312 in 2021.
- ❖ General Fund La Viña support of \$402,067 compared to \$388,646 in 2021.

# Info update on Corrections

# Tablets for Correctional Institutions

- ☐ Is there a cost?
- ☐ Who pays the cost?
- ☐ 1000s of inmates reading our literature **RIGHT NOW**
- ☐ 248 institutions across the US have access to our literature for free.
- ☐ Working on getting them in more places.




- ☐ Picnic Table PP
- ☐ Participation of Online Groups in the US/Canada Service Structure PP
- ☐ Remote Communities PP
- ☐ Grapevine Chairs PP
- ☐ Board Reports
- ☐ GSO & Grapevine Reports
- ☐ Signed Financial Statements
- ☐ Conference Presentations

**Reports and  
Presentations**

Conference Info

# Composition of the General Service Board

GSB has 21 total Trustees

-  7 Class A – Non-Alcoholic
  - Proven track records in their own field, prior AA experience.

- 14 Class B – Alcoholics

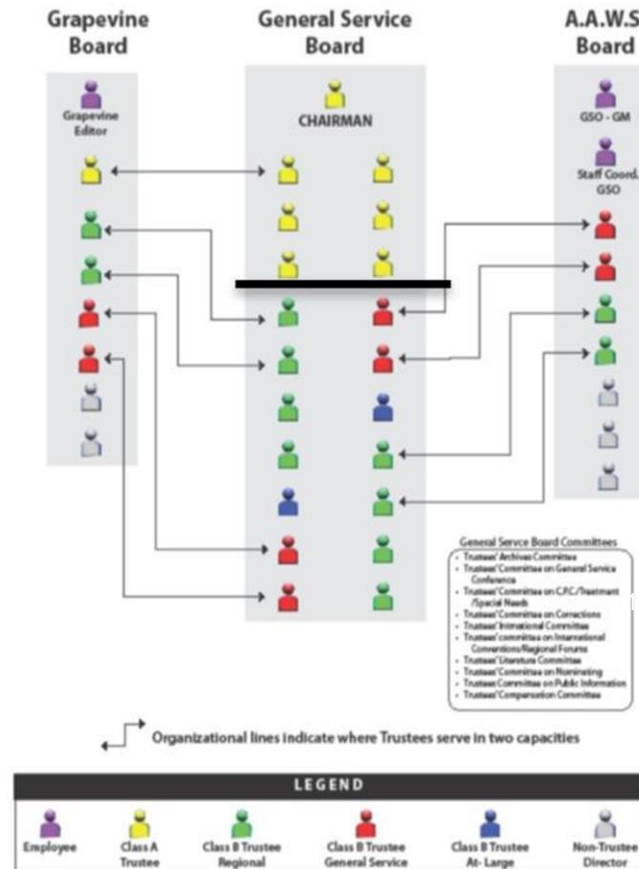
-  8 Regional Trustees

-  4 General Service Trustees

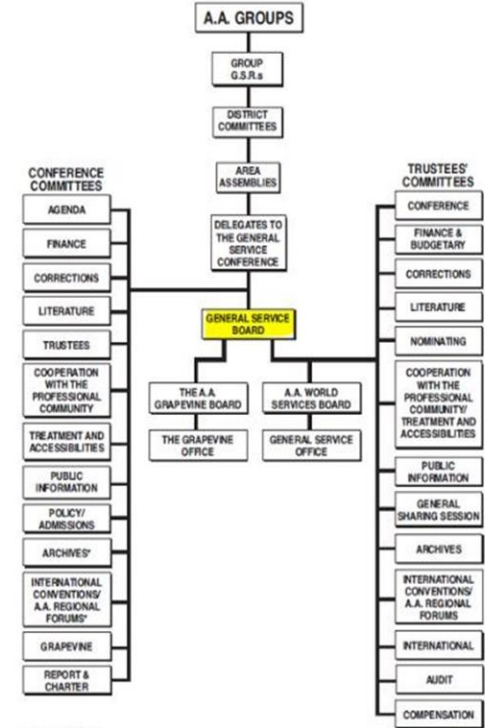
(More professional in nature, generally deal with business affairs of the two boards, chosen from current or past Non -Trustee directors, 2 each per board)

-  2 Trustee's at Large (US & Can) – (World service meeting and “Meeting of the America's” delegates)

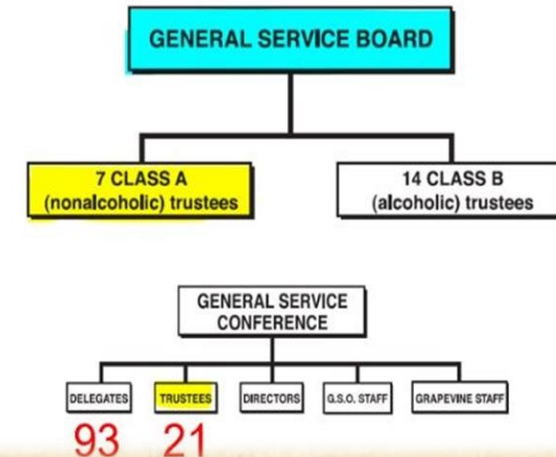
## Current Board Structure



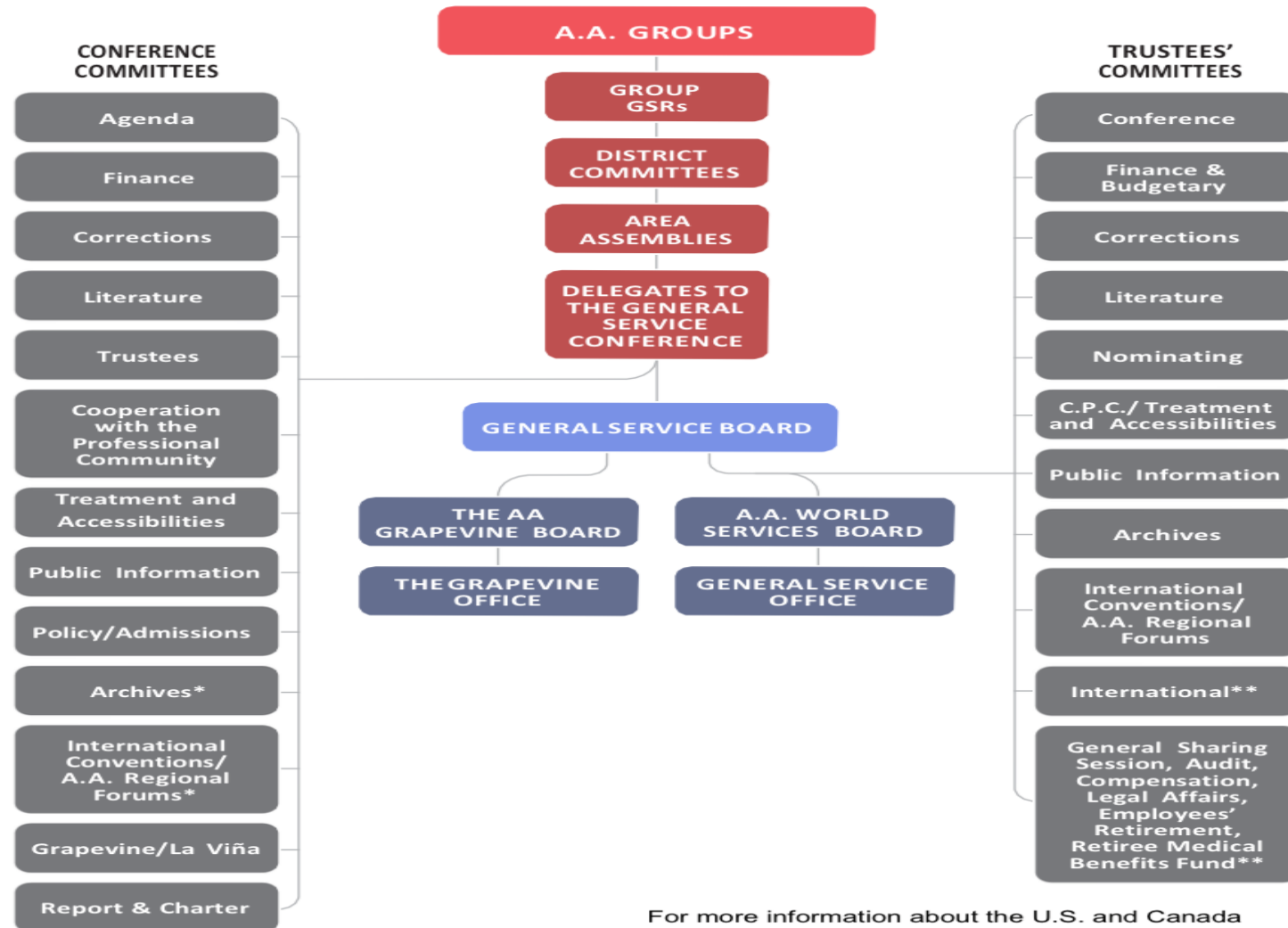
## The General Service Conference Structure (U.S. and Canada)



\*Secondary committees  
S18



THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE STRUCTURE *U.S. and Canada*



\* Secondary committee  
 \*\* No corresponding Conference committee.

For more information about the U.S. and Canada General Service Conference Structure please see [The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service \(BM-31\)](#).



- ☐ Discussed Others ways of communication (QR codes)
- ☐ Trust the process
- ☐ In a hurry
- ☐ Passing the buck

Literature  
Committee



# Can You Speak General Service Conference?

- Committee Recommendations - Automatic motions that have been made and seconded. They are discussed and voted on by the Conference.
- Floor Actions – Need approval by the whole Conference body with substantial unanimity ( $\frac{2}{3}$  vote) to be discussed.
- Conference Advisory Actions - Recommendations of Conference Committees, or floor actions, that have been approved by the whole Conference body with substantial unanimity ( $\frac{2}{3}$  vote).
- Committee Considerations – Actions Committees took that didn't make to the whole Conference floor for consideration.

# Advisory Actions - 2022 GSC

- Committee Recommendations – 32
- Committee Considerations – 76
- Floor Actions – 9
- Passed Advisory Actions - 35

# Conference Business is done through Motions and Discussion

**Committee Recommendation** - Presented in the committee report.

Automatically Seconded    Is Debatable? YES    Vote Required for Approval Two-thirds    Minority Voice Heard? YES

**Amending a Motion** - A motion on the floor is owned by the entire Conference body, no longer by the Committee which recommended it. The committee is not asked to vote on the motion to amend; any motion to amend a main motion depends on the approval of the Conference.

Requires a Second YES    Is Debatable? YES    Vote Required for Approval Two-thirds    Minority Voice Heard? YES

**Tabling a Motion** - Tabling a motion postpones discussion to a later time during the same Conference.

Made without comment.

Requires a Second YES    Is Debatable? NO    Vote Required for Approval Simple Majority    Minority Voice Heard? NO.

**Moving to Recommit** - The motion to recommit returns a motion or proposal to the respective trustees' committee or appropriate corporate board for further consideration.

Made without comment.

Requires a Second YES    Is Debatable? YES    Vote Required for Approval Two-thirds    Minority Voice Heard? NO



**Calling the Question** - Calling the question brings debate to a halt while Conference members decide whether to proceed directly to a vote (the question) or go on with the debate.

Made without comment.

Requires a Second YES    Is Debatable? NO    Vote Required for Approval Two-thirds    Minority Voice Heard? NO

**Reconsidering a Vote** -A motion to reconsider a vote may be made only by a member who voted with the prevailing side, but it can be seconded by anyone. If the majority votes to reconsider, full debate, pro and cons, is resumed.

No action may be reconsidered twice.

Requires a Second YES    Is Debatable? NO    Vote Required for Approval Simple Majority    Minority Voice Heard? NO

**Making a Floor Action** - Made without comment. Introduced any time during the Conference except at the Sharing Sessions. Is submitted in writing by the maker to the Conference secretary.

Requires a Second YES    Is Debatable? YES    Vote Required for Approval Two-thirds    Minority Voice Heard? YES

**Declining to Consider a Floor Action** - Made without comment.

May be made after the maker of a floor action is provided time to state the rationale for it.

Requires a Second YES    Is Debatable? NO    Vote Required for Approval Two-thirds    Minority Voice Heard? NO

**Minority Opinion** - After each vote on a matter of policy, the side which did not prevail will always be given an opportunity to speak to their position. If the motion passes with two-thirds vote, the minority may speak. If the motion receives a majority vote, but fails to pass for lack of a two-thirds vote, the majority may speak.

# ROLE CALL

93 Delegates

14 GSO Staff

6 A.A.W.S. & GV Directors

21 Trustees

133 Voting Members



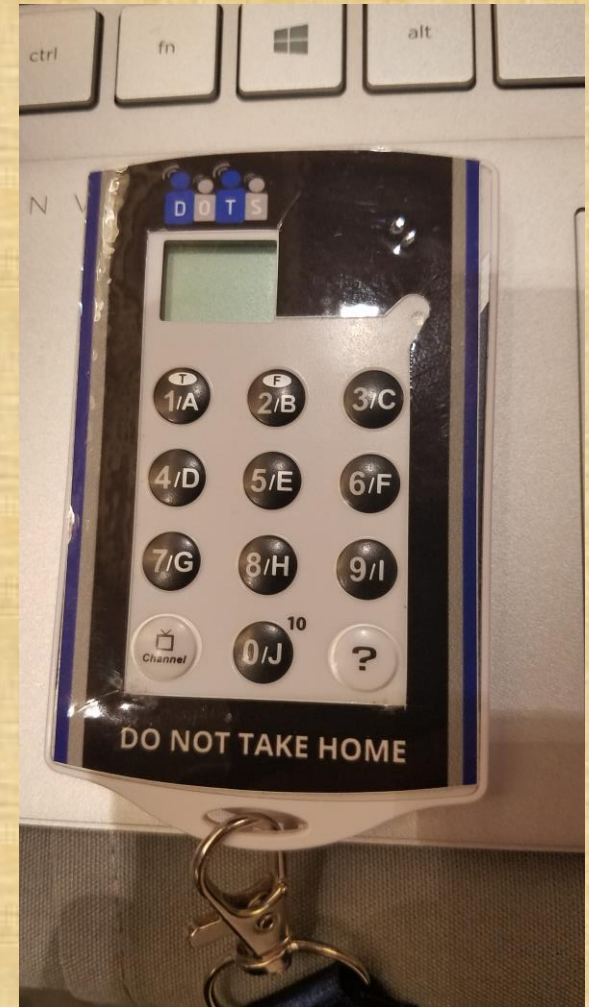
72<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL  
General Service Conference

Welcome  
Bienvenidos  
Bienvenue

72nd General  
Service  
Conference







# Committee Recommendations

# I. Agenda Committee

- A. The committee recommended the following theme for the 2023 General Service Conference:

“A.A.’s Three Legacies – Our Common Solution.”

Vote 129 Yes 0 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

- B. Review presentation The committee recommended the following presentation theme and topics for the 2023 General Service Conference:

Presentation Theme: “General Service – Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm”

Presentation Topics:

1. “Our Common Perils and Common Solution”
2. “Using A.A.’s Literature in Carrying the Message”
3. “Fostering a Thriving Three Legacy Culture”

Vote 122 Yes 3 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes



C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2023 General Service Conference.

The committee recommended the following workshop topic for the 2023 General Service Conference: “Practicing Our Twelve Traditions Across All Group Settings”

Vote 125 Yes 1 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

New business:

The committee recommended that the General Service Board develop a status report on the progress and outcomes from the 2013-2015 Conference inventory and include a draft plan for another Conference inventory with considerations of its value, timeline and approach to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Agenda.

Vote 120 Yes 11 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes



## II. CPC Committee

The committee accepted the report of the trustees' committee and made no recommendations to the whole Conference.

Six Committee Considerations were made.

# III. Literature Committee

A. Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in *Living Sober* and the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."

The committee recommended that the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" be revised to add the following text regarding safety and A.A.:

1. In the section "For the person wanting to be a sponsor" (p. 14) under the heading "What does a sponsor do and not do?":

Stresses the importance of A.A. being a safe place for all members and encourages members to become familiar with service material available from the General Service Office such as "Safety in A.A. – Our Common Welfare."

2. In the section "For groups planning sponsorship activity" (p. 23), under the heading "How does sponsorship help a group?" add a fourth paragraph:

Sponsorship can also help a group to create a welcoming and secure environment. Safety is an issue affecting all members and it is important for groups to remain accessible to all who are seeking recovery. Sponsorship can help keep the group focused on the common welfare.

First Vote	Vote	105 Yes	24 No	Passed with Substantial Unanimity	I Voted No
Reconsider	Vote	68 Yes	64 No	Passed with Simple Majority	I Voted Yes
Amendment 1	Including material about safety in AA				
	Vote	36 Yes	96 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
Recommit to the TLC	Vote	60 Yes	67 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted Yes
Amendment 2	Mention Service Material on Safety is Available From the GSO				
	Vote	46 Yes	84 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
Second Vote	Vote	101 Yes	28 No	Passed with Substantial Unanimity	I Voted No



The committee recommended that the booklet *Living Sober* be revised to add the following paragraph regarding safety and A.A. in chapter 29, page 76:

“Of course, A.A. is a reflection of the larger society around us and problems found in the outside world can also make their way into the rooms of A.A. But by keeping the focus on our common welfare and primary purpose, groups can help provide a safe and secure environment for all their members.”

Vote 114 Yes 6 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted No

B. Review draft pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”

The committee recommended that the draft pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated” be approved with minor editorial revisions.

Vote 40 Yes 92 No Failed no 2/3 votes I Voted No



C. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated.”

The committee recommended that the video animation of the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" (currently published by the General Service Board of A.A., Great Britain) be adapted and produced by the Publishing department.

Vote 121 Yes 10 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

D. Review draft of the revised pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”

The committee recommended that the draft of the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” be approved.

Recommit to the TLC Vote 29 Yes 96 No Failed no 2/3 votes I Voted Yes

Vote Vote 111 Yes 17 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

E. Discuss the existing version of the pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”

The committee recommended that the pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated” be updated with non-offensive, contemporary text and illustrations.

Amendment That a draft be brought back to the CCL for review in 2023

Vote 120 Yes 9 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

Vote Vote 101 Yes 31 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

F. Discuss G.S.O. Publishing updates per the A.A.W.S. print policy:

1. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Is A.A. for You?”

The committee recommended that the updated pamphlet “Is A.A. for You?” be approved.

Vote 122 Yes 6 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

## 2. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?”

The committee recommended that the updated pamphlet “Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?” be approved.

Vote 122 Yes 6 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

## 3. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”

The committee recommended that the updated pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.” be approved.

Vote 120 Yes 6 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

## 4. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “This Is A.A.”

The committee recommended that the updated pamphlet “This Is A.A.” be approved.

Vote 125 Yes 5 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes



G. Consider an update of the book *Experience, Strength and Hope*.

The committee recommended that a second volume of the book *Experience, Strength and Hope* be developed with the stories dropped from the Fourth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, and that a progress report be brought to the Conference Committee on Literature once development of the publication is in progress.

Vote 14 Yes

114 No

Failed no 2/3 votes

I Voted Yes

## IV. Finance Committee

The committee accepted the report of the trustees' committee and made no recommendations to the whole Conference.

Four Committee Considerations were made.



# V. Public Information Committee

A. Review suggested revisions to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity.” The committee recommended the following revisions to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity.” The question and answer that currently reads:

*Anonymity in the digital age*

Q. I maintain an Internet website and a personal page on a social media site. I also belong to an online meeting. At what level should I protect my anonymity on the Internet?

A. Publicly accessible aspects of the Internet such as websites featuring text, graphics, audio, and video can be considered the same as publishing or broadcasting. Unless password-protected, a website requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio, and film. Simply put, this means that A.A.s do not identify themselves as A.A. members using their full names and/or full-face photos.

Be changed to:

*Anonymity in the digital age*

Q. I maintain a website and social media pages. At what level should I protect my anonymity on the Internet?

A. Publicly accessible aspects of the Internet such as websites featuring text, graphics, audio, and video can be considered the same as publishing or broadcasting. Unless password-protected, a website requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio, and film/video. Simply put, this means that A.A.s do not identify themselves as A.A. members using their full names and/or full-face photos. It is suggested that when A.A.s gather as A.A.s or as an A.A. group on social media pages and other similar platforms that these pages are set to “private” rather than “public.”

Vote 122 Yes

1 No

Passed with Substantial Unanimity

I Voted Yes

B. Review suggested text addition to the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity.”  
The committee recommended the following text addition to the pamphlet  
“Understanding Anonymity.”

Q. Are virtual A.A. meetings considered “Public”?

A. These online gatherings are not streamed to the general public; however, information about the meeting is provided to A.A. members, potential members, and the general public similar to in-person meetings. Many members feel comfortable using their full names and making their faces visible to fellow members and those new to A.A. However, some members/attendees have felt more comfortable having their camera off and just listening or using first name and last initial only. For safety purposes, some groups have provided helpful reminders in their group format that picture taking, or screen shots are not in keeping with anonymity principles.

Amend to: While some members feel comfortable using their full names and faces, other members feel comfortable using their first name and last initial or turning their video off.



First Vote                      Vote   89 Yes      36 No      Passed with Substantial Unanimity                      I Voted No

Recommit to the TPIC                      Vote   71Yes      57 No                      Failed no 2/3 votes                      I Voted No

Amendment      While some members feel comfortable using their full names and faces, other members feel comfortable using their first name and last initial or turning their video off.

Vote   96 Yes      27 No      Passed with Substantial Unanimity                      I Voted No

Question                      Vote   104 Yes      17 No                      Passed with Simple Majority                      I Voted No

Reconsider                      Vote   96 Yes      26 No                      Passed with Substantial Unanimity                      I Voted No

C. Consider request to retire and replace the “A.A. Fact File.”

The committee recommended that the outdated “A.A. Fact File” be retired.

Vote   120 Yes      03 No                      Passed with Substantial Unanimity                      I Voted Yes

**MEDIA KIT REPLACEMENT**



## D. Discuss 2022 Analysis Report on the A.A. Membership Survey.

The committee recommended that format changes, two new questions and six changed questions on a 2022 membership survey questionnaire, be approved.

### New questions

12. Have you attended an A.A. meeting virtually (online or by phone)? (if yes, answer question 12b)

12b. Do you prefer virtual meetings or in-person meetings?

☐ In-person

☐ Virtual

☐ Both equally

13. What attributes do you prefer or need in meetings you attend?

☐ accessibility (such as no stairs, or served by public transportation)

☐ held in a particular language (please list language)

☐ other members similar to me (please describe how)

☐ additional characteristics (please describe)

## Changed questions:

14. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_years

15. Which of these best describes you:

\_\_\_Male

\_\_\_Female

\_\_\_Prefer to describe

16. Relationship status:

\_\_\_Single, never married

\_\_\_Married or Life Partner

\_\_\_Divorced

\_\_\_Separated

\_\_\_Widowed

\_\_\_Prefer to describe\_\_\_\_\_

17. Racial and ethnic background (Check **all that apply**)

- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black, or African American
- ☐ Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- ☐ Native American, Alaska Native, First Nations, or Indigenous
- ☐ Pacific Islander or Hawaiian Native
- ☐ White, Caucasian, or European American
- ☐ Prefer to describe \_\_\_\_\_

18. What is your employment status now? (Check **one** only)

- ☐ Employed full time
- ☐ Employed part time
- ☐ Unemployed and looking for work
- ☐ Unemployed, not currently looking for work
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Homemaker

19. If you are employed, what is your job? \_\_\_\_\_

Vote 120 Yes 06 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted No

Canada Constitution Indigenous Covers First Nation

E. After a thorough review of the professional survey methodologist report detailing actions to perform a sound membership survey, the committee recommended that a 2022 A.A. Membership Survey be conducted with a budgeted cost not to exceed \$20,000. The process will include mailing, digital back-end response and analysis, creation of message and distribution, including a “How to video” for groups/members.

Vote 115 Yes 05 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes



## VI. Trustees Committee

- A. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

The committee 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 April 30, 2022, following presentation at the 2022 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Vote 120 Yes 03 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

The committee recommended that 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 April 30, 2022, following presentation at the 2022 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Vote 118 Yes 02 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

## B. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.

The committee recommended that the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the A.A. World Services Corporate Board on April 30, 2022, following presentation at the 2022 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Vote 120 Yes 01 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

## C. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.

The committee recommended that the following slate of directors be elected at the annual meeting of the members of the AA Grapevine Corporate Board on April 30, 2022, following presentation at the 2022 General Service Conference for disapproval if any:

Vote 114 Yes 03 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

D. Discuss the revised “Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General

Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or AA Grapevine Boards.”

The committee recommended that the “Suggested Procedure to Reorganize the General Service Board and the boards of A.A.W.S., Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc.” be approved as one acceptable pathway to a whole or partial reorganization of the Boards, understanding that, as provided by the Conference Charter, the final process will be determined by whichever General Service Conference might be considering reorganization.

Vote 111 Yes 16 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

E. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You're Different?” to include stories reflecting greater diversity.

The committee recommended that the trustees’ Literature Committee revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You're Different?” to update the stories to represent greater diversity and bring back a draft pamphlet or progress report to the 2023 General Service Conference.

Vote 110 Yes 13 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes



## VII. Grapevine/La Viña

The committee accepted the report of the trustees' committee and made no recommendations to the whole Conference.

Five Committee Considerations were made.



# VIII. Policy/Admissions Committee

A. Discuss the procedure: “Process for Approving Observers to the Conference.”

The committee recommended that the “Process for Approving Observers to the Conference” be changed. The revised process would allow the Policy/Admissions committee to approve routine admissions from structures outside the U.S. and Canada without having to poll the full Conference. As with the current process, the trustees’ Committee on the General Service Conference and then the General Service Board would first need to approve the request before it would be forwarded to the Policy/Admissions committee for their action.

Vote 119 Yes 06 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

The committee recommended that the Scope of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions which currently reads:

Admissions function: Is responsible for reviewing all requests for admissions to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.

1. To approve routine requests from qualified representatives of other A.A. service structures to observe the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.

Be revised to read:

Admissions function: Is responsible for reviewing all requests for admissions to the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference; and for approving routine requests for admissions from A.A. service structures outside of the U.S./Canada service structure to observe the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.

And that the following be added to the Procedure of the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions:

## Procedure

1. To approve routine requests from qualified representatives of other A.A. service structures to observe the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference.

Vote 117 Yes 06 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

B. Consider request to restore a paragraph in the story “Freedom from Bondage” in the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

The committee recommended that the paragraph in the story “Freedom from Bondage” which was removed due to pagination issues from the fourth edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* be restored in all future printings and publications in which the story is included.

Vote 35 Yes 93 No Failed no 2/3 votes I Voted No

4th Edition Next printing, cascading effect



## C. Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload process.

The committee recommended that the compilation of all conference committee background be made available annually on or before February 15 in English, French, and Spanish.

Amendment	Simultaneously be added without a date					
	Vote	95 Yes	29 No	Passed with Substantial Unanimity		I Voted No
Question on Amendment	Vote	111 Yes	11 No	Passed with Simple Majority		I Voted Yes
Reconsider	Vote	36 Yes	87 No	Failed Passed with Simple Majority		I Voted Yes
Recommit to the TP/AC	Vote	47 Yes	80 No	Failed no 2/3 votes		I Voted No
Question to Recommit	Vote	101 Yes	21 No	Passed with Simple Majority		I Voted No
Vote with Amendment	Vote	90 Yes	30 No	Passed with Substantial Unanimity		I Voted Yes

Affects to be discussed at the June ACM



# IX. Report & Charter Committee

A. Review *The A.A. Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service*, 2021-2023 edition.

The committee recommended that chapters 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of *The A.A. Service Manual* be revised to correct inaccuracies and to provide clarity and consistency on the roles, responsibilities and relationships between the General Service Office, AA Grapevine, and A.A. World Services, Inc.

Note: Because 2023 is a printing year these changes would be reviewed by the A.A.W.S. Board, AA Grapevine Board, and the General Service Board prior to being brought to the Conference Committee on Report and Charter. This process is in keeping with the 2018 advisory action regarding review of *The A.A. Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

First Vote

Vote 77 Yes 42 No Failed no 2/3 votes I Voted Yes

Reconsider

Vote 105 Yes 13 No Passed with Simple Majority I Voted Yes

2<sup>nd</sup> Vote

Vote 110 Yes 07 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes



## B. Discuss Conference Committee on Report and Charter Composition, Scope and Procedure.

The committee recommended that items 5 and 6 that relate to Regional Directories be removed from the Scope of the Report and Charter Composition, Scope and Procedure.

Vote 114 Yes 08 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

(Note: Regional Directories are no longer being produced.)



## X. Treatment & Accessibilities Committee

- A. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five.

The committee recommended that the Long Form of Tradition Five be added to the pamphlet, *The A.A. Group* on page twelve in the section “What is an A.A. Group?” at its next printing.

Vote 117 Yes 03 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes

## XI. Corrections Committee

The committee accepted the report of the trustees’ committee and made no recommendations to the whole Conference.

Four Committee Considerations were made.



## XII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

The committee accepted the report of the trustees' committee and made no recommendations to the whole Conference.

Two Committee Considerations were made.

## XIII. Archives Committee

The committee accepted the report of the trustees' committee and made no recommendations to the whole Conference.

One Committee Considerations were made.

# Committee Considerations

# I. Agenda Committee Considerations

- ❑ The committee expressed appreciation for the special Board presentation related to the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada service structure at the 72nd General Service Conference.
- ❑ The committee agreed that a sharing session with more time for a broader range of perspectives from among Conference members would be helpful. The committee requested that the General Service Board conduct an interactive sharing session at the 73rd General Service Conference on the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada service structure and include the following question within the framework of the sharing session:
  - What are the successes and challenges at the group, district and area levels with respect to this topic?

## II. CPC Committee Considerations

- ❑ The committee reviewed a progress report on the LinkedIn page implementation and an update from the senior digital communications analyst. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on C.P.C. and suggested that it include the following content:
  - An additional cadence strategy that increases the number of posts per month developed over the year.
  - A strategy of posting often, to increase the search result ranking.
  - Posts targeted to professionals on topics such as A.A. anonymity, Self-Support, cooperation without affiliation, and our public relations policy.
- ❑ The committee reviewed a progress report on the development of an outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals and expressed their appreciation. The committee noted that utilizing a focus group was a useful approach to explore and identify the needs of mental health professionals when they are addressing the suffering alcoholic. The committee asked that the staff secretary forward a memo with additional suggestions to the trustees' C.P.C./T.A. committee. The committee requested that a progress report or draft pamphlet be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community.



# III. Literature Committee Considerations

- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the translation of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language. The committee requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.
- The committee reviewed the Subcommittee Report on Tools to Access the Big Book (TABB) and several requests for development of study guides from the Fellowship. The committee also reviewed the minutes of the discussions on this item by the trustees' Literature Committee. The committee noted that additional information would be needed in order to provide direction on these requests. The committee requested that the trustees' Literature Committee provide further information regarding the purpose of the proposals and examples of what Big Book or *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* study guides would look like.

- The committee discussed the changes to the text of the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* resulting from advisory actions of the 71st General Service Conference and took no action. The committee noted that there does not appear to be a consensus on the changes among A.A. members at the local level.
- The committee reviewed a progress report regarding development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The committee requested that a progress report or draft manuscript be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature.

## IV. Finance Committee Considerations

- The committee discussed the agenda item “Consider request to add a historical disclaimer to the front of the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*” and took no action. The committee agreed that the current introduction in the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* already addresses concerns regarding the language in the book.
- The committee discussed the agenda item “Consider request that all proposed changes to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* be handled in footnotes” and took no action. The committee agreed that they did not want to mandate a specific format for possible changes to a future Conference. The committee noted that future proposals for changes should be considered by the group conscience of each Conference.



# V. Public Information Committee

The committee reviewed and accepted the 2022 trustees' Public Information Committee report on the Google Ads performance. The committee encouraged G.S.O. to develop an annual project calendar relating to Google Ads. The committee noted that the office should continuously optimize the Google Ads campaigns based on standard best practices in keeping with A.A. Traditions focusing on target

audiences utilizing A.A. literature we currently have and that may be developed. The committee offered the following suggestions and looks forward to the report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information:

The G.S.O. Communications Department in cooperation with the staff secretary should make the following updates to the campaigns to ensure improved campaign performance.

- ☐ Evaluate and experiment with ad targeting
- ☐ Creation of more and diverse content
- ☐ A/B test ad copy and design
- ☐ Add/remove keywords and negative keywords
- ☐ Change keyword match type
- ☐ Test multiple landing page options
- ☐ Approve/deny basic campaign suggestions provided by Google Ads
- ☐ Review analytics on messaging to ensure it is reaching the target audience
- ☐ Include keyword testing of AA Google Ads searches to ensure they are being made available to those seeking help with a drinking problem.

- The committee reviewed and accepted the G.S.O. Communications Services Department report on the A.A.W.S. Meeting Guide App. The committee looks forward to a report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information. The committee suggested that the Meeting Guide App keep its focus on providing information on locating A.A. meetings.
- The committee reviewed and accepted the 2022 trustees' Public Information Committee feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms and requested that further research be conducted. The committee offered the following suggestions and looks forward to a report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information.
  - ❑ Committee members would like to see additional research comparing paid versus donated media value ads and the effectiveness of these different approaches.
  - ❑ Include research on Canadian streaming platforms to better understand PSA regulations and the specific streaming platforms found within Canada.
  - ❑ Focus on obtaining A.A. member feedback from various age groups on the desire from the Fellowship to embark on A.A. paid placement ads on streaming platforms.



- The committee reviewed the progress report and G.S.O. Podcast Plan and considered all the proposals, and the work completed this past year. The committee met with the Grapevine publisher, Communication Services staff, and Publishing staff who responded to key questions. The committee suggested that the trustees' Public Information Committee, G.S.O. Communication Services Department, and A.A.W.S. Publishing Department in cooperation with the staff secretary, focus on proposal one, to consider moving in the direction of creating a G.S.O. Podcast using the AA Grapevine podcast experience.

The committee shared that the focus described in the 2021 Advisory Action, "Podcasts providing sharing within the Fellowship and information about A.A. to the public be produced and distributed by G.S.O. in cooperation with the Grapevine Office," is on target and that G.S.O. can create episodes on many service-related discussion topics. The committee feels that the different topic focus will help avoid competing with the Grapevine Podcast. To support the successful continued development of the G.S.O. Podcast the committee offers the following suggestions and looks forward to a progress report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information.

- Entrust G.S.O. to manage the podcast's creation and adherence to A.A. principles to allow the seamless production of a regular series of episodes.
- Ask the trustees' Public Information Committee to research the best methods for future podcast episodes to be completed in Spanish and French.
- Develop the methodology to invite participants in recorded sessions based on topics to include our trustees, staffs, and members in the episodes.
- Establish internal and external resources to support the production of the G.S.O. Podcast. It may be helpful to engage freelance support that brings experience on creative Podcast development and formatting.
- Implement analytics as described in the G.S.O. Podcast Plan to report annually to the Conference Committee on Public Information.



## VII. Grapevine/La Viña Considerations

- The committee discussed the wide-ranging impact the AA Preamble change has had on the Fellowship. The committee felt that after careful consideration of Fellowship feedback, it would be premature to quantify the impact when many A.A. members are still either uninformed or ambivalent about the change. The committee emphasized that at every level of our Conference process there is a reciprocal responsibility of all A.A. members and trusted servants, of participation and communication, to embrace the guiding principles of trust and transparency.

# IX. Report & Charter Committee Considerations

- The committee reviewed the progress report from A.A.W.S. Publishing on a new section to be added at the end of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* titled “Amendments.” Bill W. references an Amendments section in the introduction to the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* and the committee wanted to reaffirm the 2021 advisory action that: “A new section be added at the end of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* titled ‘Amendments,’ and that it contain an updated version of the Concept XI essay that incorporates the information in the current footnotes and endnotes, along with comprehensive descriptions of the current General Service Board committees.” The committee requested that the staff secretary work with A.A.W.S. Publishing on a draft update of the section to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Report and Charter.

# XI. Corrections Committee Considerations

- The committee discussed the request to limit changes to the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* and took no action. While the committee discussed the concerns expressed by the Fellowship, the committee noted that we operate on a system of trust and checks and balances, and agreed that A.A.'s Twelve Concepts adequately provide guidance to our trusted servants to make decisions that reflect the informed group conscience of the Fellowship as a whole.
- The committee suggested that during the development of the 5th Edition Big Book the trustees' Literature Committee consider including a reference in the section of Appendices III and IV that additional information is available on [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).



# Floor Actions

## **Floor Action #1:**

It was recommended that:

With the translation of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language, that the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts, not be translated into plain language in any way: that these remain in the existing form in English as in previous editions of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Submitted on April 28, 2022 by  
Steve Lere  
Panel 72 A35 Northern Minnesota

Motion to decline Floor Action

Vote 82 Yes 37 No

Failed no 2/3 votes

I Voted No

## **Floor Action #2:**

It was recommended that:

The trustees' Committee on Literature continue to make edits to the draft pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated" with a new draft or progress report to be brought back to the 2023 Conference Committee on Literature, keeping in mind: color, diverse expressions of spirituality and accessible interpretation of meaning in the illustrations.

Submitted April 28, 2022 by:

Jenn Daly

Panel 72, Area 07 California Northern Interior

Vote 108 Yes 11 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes



### **Floor Action #3:**

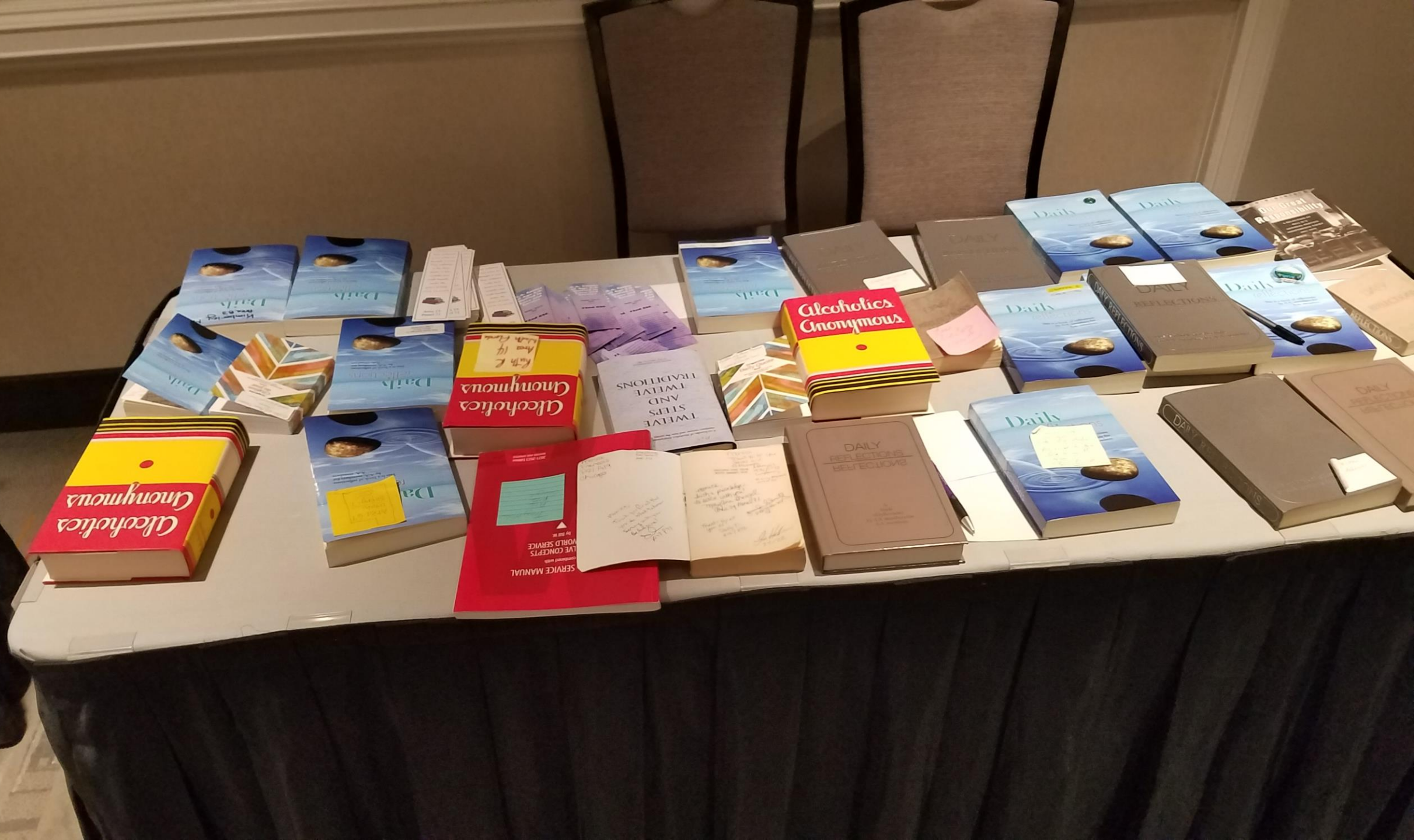
It was recommended that:

The 2022 Membership Survey questionnaire receive final editorial review by the trustees' Public Information Committee after consulting with our professional survey methodologist, to address concerns raised by the 72nd General Service Conference related to the survey questions about Racial and Ethnic Background, and Employment Status.

Submitted April 28, 2022 by:

Trish LaNauze  
Trustee-at-Large Canada

Vote 107 Yes 09 No Passed with Substantial Unanimity I Voted Yes





## **Floor Action #4:**

It was recommended that:

The General Service Conference impose a one-year moratorium on any new agenda item received through September 15, 2022, with new agenda items held to be placed on the agenda for the 74th General Service Conference, allowing the General Service Board and its corporate affiliates time to adjust and align their processes to accommodate the 2022 Policy and Admissions recommendation to provide simultaneous translation of all background material.

Submitted by

Pam Kosewick

Panel 71 A39 Western Missouri

Motion to decline Floor Action

Vote 80 Yes 38 No

Passed with 2/3 votes

I Voted No



**Floor Action #5:**

It was recommended that:

The trustees' Ad Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups develop a plan to create one or more non-geographic Areas for online and telephone groups in the U.S./Canada General Service Conference structure, with a progress report on the plan to be presented to the 73rd General Service Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions.

Submitted by  
Matt Konowe,  
Panel 71 Area 11 (Connecticut)

It was recommended that:

Motion to decline Floor Action	Vote	48 Yes	68 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
First Vote	Vote	51 Yes	65 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted Yes
Reconsider	Vote	73 Yes	45 No	Passed with Simple Majority	I Voted Yes
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vote	Vote	48 Yes	68 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted Yes

**Floor Action #6**

It was recommended that:

That the following GSR Preamble be added to the pamphlet “Your Group’s Link to A.A. as a Whole.

**The GSR Preamble**

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A.

We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as he may express Himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship.

Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole.

Submitted by,

Gordon Neel  
Panel 71 Area 21 Southern Illinois

# Floor Action #7

It was recommended that:

The trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference evaluate the current process of developing Conference background material and bring back to the 2023 General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions a plan that describes the process of developing background material, keeping in mind the Conference desire for background material to be targeted, balanced and with relevant historical content.

Submitted on April 29, 2022 by  
Monica Francois, Area 19 Chicago

Motion to decline Floor Action	Vote	27 Yes	92 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
Amendment	Vote	50 Yes	69 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
targeted, balanced and with relevent historical content					
Question on Amendment	Vote	108 Yes	10 No	Passed with Simple Majority	I Voted Yes
Reconsider	Vote	47 Yes	71 No	Failed Passed with Simple Majority	I Voted Yes



## **Floor Action #8:**

It was recommended that:

The Advisory Actions from Panel 71:

Advisory Action 18 for changes to page 117 phrase “opposite sex” with the word “partner”

Advisory Action 19 changes to page 66, "No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health. No one wants to commit the deadly sins of anger, lust or gluttony.”

in the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, be returned to the original text.

Submitted on April 28, 2022 by

Steve Lere

Panel 72 A35 Northern Minnesota

Motion to decline Floor Action

Vote 86 Yes 31 No

Passed with 2/3 votes

I Voted Yes

**Floor Action #9:**

It was recommended that:

The 1995 Conference Advisory Action be reaffirmed that the first 164 pages of the Big Book, the Forewords, “The Doctor’s Opinion,” “Doctor Bob’s Nightmare” and the Appendices remain as is.

Submitted on April 29, 2022 by  
Panel 71 Donna Keen, Area 53 Central SE Ohio

Motion to decline Floor Action		Vote	75 Yes	43 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
First Amendment	appendices for as is	Vote	51 Yes	64 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
Reconsider		Vote	76 Yes	40 No	Passed with Simple Majority	I Voted Yes
2nd Amendment	add preface	Vote	61 Yes	50 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No
Vote original motion		Vote	38 Yes	75 No	Failed no 2/3 votes	I Voted No

# Trustee Elections for Eastern Canada Region & Pacific Region

## Covid During the Conference

THURSDAY: 2 PEOPLE In the morning

FRIDAY: 11 PEOPLE in the morning

SEVERAL others TESTED POSITIVE once they returned home.

GSO has temporarily CLOSED THE DOORS due to several staff having COVID.



# WHAT IS THE GRAPEVINE?

- Podcast
- Instagram
- Website
- Books
- Print Magazine



**What do we do to support the Grapevine?**

**Grapevine workshops?**

**What do you want to see in the Grapevine?**

**Do you have a subscription?**

**How can my group support the Grapevine?**

# The Serenity Group

**7:30 a.m. – Monday through Friday**

Thank you for the privilege and  
opportunity to serve you.

Steven D. L.  
Panel 72 Delegate  
Area 35  
[delegate@area35.org](mailto:delegate@area35.org)  
218 780 0905



