

**Final Copy**  
**2013 Statewide Mock Conference Minutes**  
**Mt. Pleasant, MI**

Fred C. opened the meeting @ 1pm, with the Serenity Prayer. He gave a brief description and then introduced the Conference Chairperson, Jack W. Votes today will require a 2/3 vote from the body.

**~~2013 Michigan Mock Conference Committees~~**

**I. Agenda**

A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2014 General Service Conference.

The committee recommends that the Theme for the 2014 General Service Conference be "Our Legacy: Unity, Service, & Recovery." The body passed this.

B. Discuss presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2014 General Service Conference.

The committee recommends the following presentation/discussion topics for the 2014 General Service Conference:

- 1) The Traditions – The Way to Unity.
- 2) The Triangle – More Than Just a Shape.
- 3) Unity Through Love & Service

The body passed this.

C. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form.

The committee recommends that the Trustees Conference Committee incorporate and/or change the Conference Evaluation form, as suggested by the 2012 Conference agenda Committee for the 2014 General Service Conference. The body passed this.

**II. Cooperation with the Professional Community**

A. Discuss suggestion to revise text in the section Referrals From Court and Treatment Facilities in the pamphlet "If You Are a Professional..." to reflect current A.A. experience.

The committee unanimously recommends that the CPC pamphlet "If You Are a Professional..." be changed: From "Some groups, with the consent of the prospective member, have the A.A. group secretary sign or initial a slip that has been furnished by the court together with a self-addressed court envelope. The referred person supplies identification and mails the slip back to the court as proof of attendance."

To: "Each group is autonomous. Some groups at the request of the prospective member have the A.A. group secretary sign or initial a slip that has been

furnished by the court. The referred person supplies the slip and reports back to the court as proof of attendance.”

And reword the second paragraph under the section titled How to Make Referrals to A.A. From: “Or, you can contact the General Service Office of Alcoholics

Anonymous for help and information. Write:

P.O. Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163  
Or phone (212) 870-3400

To: You can contact the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous for help and information at.

P.O. Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163  
(212) 870-3400  
aa.org

The body passed this.

B. Discuss how local C.P.C. Committees are utilizing new technologies to provide information about Alcoholics Anonymous to professionals.

The committee discussed this and asks delegates to bring this up as a topic for discussion and encourage use of available resources from the GSO with new technology throughout their areas, but makes no formal recommendation.

Meeting with professionals

Have information at central offices, talk to professionals when they come in

Work with professionals in rural governments

SKYPE with sign language during meetings

C. Discuss ways of stimulating interest in C.P.C. service work.

The Committee discussed this and discussed ways of stimulating interest in C.P.C. service work including dividing the work into manageable, attainable tasks, projects and services and action plans that are smaller commitments for the new, reluctant, or uninvolved member. The Committee makes no formal recommendations.

Project/task specific

Manageable, attainable, projects and service

Action plans

Workshops (statewide) collaborating with CPC, PI, Corrections, Website, Special Needs.

### **III. Corrections**

C. Discuss how we engage A.A. members in corrections service.

The committee discussed this agenda item, and came up with the following 9 suggestions:

- 1) Bring more awareness at District workshops.
- 2) Use Intergroup as your return address.
- 3) Encourage local corrections Committees to make it more aware of this service.
- 4) A pamphlet consisting of people's stories of correspondence.
- 5) Create a poster about corresponding with inmates.
- 6) Encourage a group to take on this responsibility.
- 7) Just do it!
- 8) Encourage ex-inmates to get involved with corrections on the outside.
- 9) Use "Sharing From Behind the Walls."

D. Discuss how we use available resources in support of local corrections Twelfth Step work.

The committee discussed this agenda item, and came up with the following 9 suggestions:

- 1) Are we using past "Box 459" for old ideas?
- 2) Are we using attraction instead of mandate?
- 3) Sending articles to the Grapevine.
- 4) Using local AA Newsletters.
- 5) Having the resources we have available.
- 6) Encourage Intergroup offices to have correctional items available.
- 7) Use available used literature.
- 8) Do we know where the donations are going?
- 9) One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic.

## **VI. Literature**

D. Consider a suggestion to add "Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers" to the end of the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose (blue) card.

The committee voted unanimously to take no action.

E. Consider a request to add an index to the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous.

The committee unanimously voted to request the Trustees Literature Committee review the feasibility of creating a separate publication with specific consideration given to cost & content.

F. Consider a request to add the subtitle 'None Left Behind' to the newly revised "A.A. and the Armed Services" pamphlet.

The committee voted unanimously to take no action.

## **VIII. Public Information**

A. Review 2012 annual report from the trustees' P.I. Committee regarding G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.

The committee voted unanimously to take no action.

C. Discuss Fellowship sharing on the effectiveness of the language of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven.

The committee voted unanimously to take no action.

E. Consider a request from A.A.W.S. for permission to use commissioned online stores to sell and distribute digital A.A. literature.

The committee recommends that A.A.W.S. have permission to use commissioned online stores to sell and distribute digital AA literature.  
The body passed this.

## **IX. Report and Charter**

A. The A.A. Service Manual, 2013-2014 Edition:

5. Consider suggested text from Publishing Department on the “spirit of rotation.”

The committee recommends that the proposed text, and added to page S23, after the section entitled “stimulating Interest in General Service.” The body passed this.

8. Consider request to update information about suggested qualifications for Area Registrars on page S45.

The committee recommends forwarding suggestions to the Publications Dept. with the request that revised draft text be brought back for consideration by the 2014 Conference Committee on Report & Charter.

## **X. Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities**

B. Review report on the pamphlet “A.A. For the Alcoholic with Special Needs” formatted for alcoholics who are blind, deaf or learning challenged.

As of today, these projects are in the final stages of editing. Since these projects are format changes to existing material, they do not need General Service Conference approval.

E. Discuss how Special Needs-Accessibilities Committees can communicate the various ways to make meeting places accessible to all alcoholics.

The committee discussed and makes the following suggestions:

- 1) Have local Special Needs committee members audit meetings in their Districts/Areas to assure accessibility. Are meetings barrier free, bathrooms accessible, etc.
- 2) Accessibility starts at the District level with correct meeting directory information.
- 3) Home bound meetings can be accessed/organized through Intergroup hotlines, Area Special needs committees and through Home Groups.
- 4) One group is listed in directory as “No dogs allowed, including service dogs” due to a member’s phobia of dogs.

F. Discuss ways that Special Needs committees might help groups prepare in advance for the arrival of deaf/hard of hearing alcoholics.

The committee discussed and makes the following suggestions:

- 1) Suggest people speak into the microphone if sound system is available.
- 2) Some groups are able to absorb the costs of a sign language interpreter.
- 3) Groups should develop a plan of action for the eventuality that a deaf/hearing impaired person may show up. Purchase Big Book in ASL and/or on DVD.
- 4) Develop plan to give open talk workshops @ schools for the deaf to reach out to these groups.

### **XI. Trustees**

E. Review the General Service Board's proposed plan regarding the slate of directors for the A.A.W.S. Board and the A.A. Grapevine Board.

The committee unanimously recommends that the General Service Board's proposal to revise the by-laws of the two subsidiary Corporations to allow all the Directors to serve as Directors on both Corporate Boards as interlocking Directorate be approved. The body passed this.

### **XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums**

C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

The committee discussed and makes the following suggestions:

- 1) Have the Host region be encouraged to provide a free luncheon on Saturday.
- 2) Encourage Districts & areas to provide scholarships to first time attendees.
- 3) Generate flyers/promotional information specifically targeted toward CYPAA groups.

### **XII. Archives**

A. Consider a proposal to revise the video "Markings on the Journey."

The committee recommends the video be revised in its entirety with the recommended edits. The body passed this.

B. Consider a proposal to publish a commemorative "75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition" of the First Edition, First Printing of Alcoholics Anonymous in April 2014.

The committee recommends that 200,000 Commemorative "75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition" of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition, 1<sup>st</sup> printing of Alcoholics anonymous be published in 2014. The body passed this.

C. Consider a request to post selected archival audio recordings on G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site.

The committee recommends returning this request for further information, with the recommendation that the Trustee's Archive Chairperson attend the 2013 National AA workshop, for the purpose of soliciting possible audio selections from the Area Archivists and Archives Committee Chairpersons.

**Floor Action:**

- 1) AA produce a set of guidelines, compiled from the shared experiences of AA members, in various service areas. The Grapevine Committee would like to see, as a possible additional consideration, a set of guidelines created for Grapevine Area Committees, using Chapter 7 of the current Grapevine workbook as a guide. 2<sup>nd</sup> and the body passed this.

The 3 Area Delegates who were present today gave a brief presentation.

Area 32; Pauline N.

Area 33: Dennis M.

Area 34: Kenny K.

Art M. closed the meeting @ 3:15pm with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda B.

Recording Secretary