

DCM Report for 02/07/2019

The Spring Assembly will be held March 23rd at Westridge Community Church (3300 Encounter Lane) Elgin, IL. Doors open at 8:00 am and the Assembly starts at 9:00 am. There are three motions that will be voted on at the Assembly. Please bring these motions back to your group in the next month so we can discuss at our March district meeting and you can bring your group's voice to the Assembly on March 23rd.

The final list of agenda items for the General Service Conference in May have been sent out and are also available on the Area website. The background has not been made available yet but start looking over the agenda items to see which ones you and your group want to go over for thorough discussion if you are not able to go through all of them.

The following is from an email sent regarding the Meeting Guide App that A.A.W.S. has now licensed. If you want more information in order to participate in any of the future conference calls, please reach out to me or the webmaster (email addresses are provided on the district 11 website):

- "As many of you have no doubt heard, A.A. World Services is going to be taking over the Meeting Guide app soon. I have heard from a few organizations that this raises questions for them, and they want to be more "in the loop" regarding the changes. To that end, I'm starting a series of monthly conference calls with participating groups where I can:
 - Provide updates
 - Answer questions
 - Gather feedback
 - Brainstorm improvements

The calls are open to all trusted servants of organizations currently participating in Meeting Guide. They'll be held on the second Saturday of the month at 12pm ET/9am PT. I will be posting anonymity-protected minutes at <https://meetingguide.aa.org/monthly-calls> and if you can't make the call but want to contribute a question or concern, please email it to me and I will bring it up and make it part of the record. The next call will be held on Feb 9, 2019. It's a video conference, but you're welcome just to dial in. As it's a conference call, please be ready to mute your device when you're not speaking."

Information passed on regarding the recent activities of the General Service Board and Grapevine board:

- The AA Grapevine Board is delighted to announce the appointment of Albin Z. to the position of Grapevine Publisher, effective February 19, 2019. Albin previously served as Director of Administration and Services at A.A.W.S., Inc. Prior to that Albin's work experience included the senior executive positions of Associate Publisher of Hegedorn Communications and Director of Communications at Riverbay Corporation. He holds a B.S. in education from St. Thomas Aquinas College and possesses a wealth of service experience as a trustee and director of the General Service and AA Grapevine boards. We are sure that the dedication to his job, colleagues, board members and the A.A. fellowship that Albin brings with him along with his wealth of experience will help ensure the continued success of AA Grapevine Inc.
- GV Board Actions - Board Actions:

The Board took the following actions at its meetings on December 7 and 8, 2018:

 - Approved the translation of the GV Daily Quote Book into Spanish and French.

The Board took the following actions at its quarterly meeting on January 25, 2018:

 - Approved and agreed to forward the 2019 Grapevine and La Vina budget to trustees' Finance and Budgetary committee.
 - Agreed to notify the Trustees' Finance Committee (and hence the General Service Board) that AA Grapevine, Inc. will be requesting an additional draw down from the Reserve Fund during 2019, amending the capital project to build the new La Vina Archive from \$28,000 to \$33,000.
 - Approved the AA Grapevine, Inc. Travel policy.

Highlights of the activities of A.A.W.S and the different service committees from October 2018 to January 2019

- Accessibilities: Staff is reviewing requested sharing from the Fellowship regarding Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing technology, ways to lower access barriers for A.A. members who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing, and activities in underrepresented or remote communities.
- Communication Services: Three major projects continue to be the focus of this assignment: website design, You Tube development, and the A.A.W.S. app, which includes the Meeting Guide platform. Analytics are also being developed to measure the effectiveness of the [Youtube] channel.
- Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment: The assignment has recently heard from professionals sharing how effective A.A. has been in their practices, with one neurologist noting that in the past few months he has handed out 60-70 copies of the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?" which he finds has been very effective for some of his patients.

The C.P.C. assignment has begun to contact local committees about their availability to staff the traveling A.A. exhibits at national professional conferences in their area; 35 exhibit locations are scheduled in 2019

- Group Services: the office will no longer be selling literature onsite due to a change in the building's policies restricting sale or pick-up of any materials on building premises. Normal shipping operations will continue
- International: The 25th World Service Meeting took place in Durban, South Africa, October 7-11. The 25th WSM Final Report is underway in print form
- International convention: Preparation is ongoing for informational flyers and Convention registration forms for a Summer 2019 mailing. A 2020 International Convention video/flyer is in final editing and will soon be available for download through G.S.O.'s website. Registration and housing will open in September and, as in the past, members will be able to register online.
- Literature: Forty-six submissions were received for the pamphlet on AA.'s Three Legacies and 59 submissions were received for the pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in AA.
- Nominating: Resumes have been received for Class B regional trustees (Northeast and Southwest) and trustee-at-large/Canada in preparation for elections that will take place at the 2019 General Service Conference.
- Public Information: The P.I. desk has been reviewing all Public Information service pieces in order to update language and focus. The new PSA "Changes" has been added to aa.org.
- Archives: In 2018, Archives staff responded to approximately 1,600 requests for information and research and accessioned over 375 new items. Projects for 2019 include digitizing Bill W. 's personal collection of unpublished correspondence; scanning past trustee correspondence and conference committee background; organizing, filing and digitizing historical materials from the 1950s and 1960s, originally set aside by Nell Wing. There is also a plan to add new content to the Archives section of the G.S.O. AA website, including new digital exhibits, excerpts of audio recordings and the Timeline.
- Finance: For the year ended December 31, 2018 revenues were 2.16% higher than budgeted and .37% higher than the year ended December 31, 2017. Operating expenses were 2.50% greater than budgeted and 8.56% more than last year. Actual contributions for the year ended December 31, 2018 were \$8,384,721, 2.25% higher than budget and 0.29% lower than 2017. The Board approved the following recommendation - That a Seventh Tradition summary communication that illustrates the link between membership contributions and efforts to carry the A.A. message be developed and shared quarterly or annually.
- Publishing: December gross sales are under budget with actual gross sales at \$967,043, which is a \$20,642 or 2.09% negative variance against budget of \$987,685. Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W. 's General Service Conference Talks, 1951-1971: Estimated availability of finished books in English, French and Spanish is on track for mid-April 2019. The committee reviewed and discussed a verbal update on digital distribution including considerations related to vendor negotiations and the availability of digital-based literature for correctional settings.
- Technology/Communication/Services: The staff member on the Group Services assignment reported on a new linguistic Intergroup comprised of Deaf members in central Texas and a request from the Secular AA. organization to be listed as a Special International Contact. the New York Intergroup Steering Committee where concerns were expressed that adding meeting finder technology to aa.org as part of the proposed redesign may diminish their online literature sales and contributions. It was noted that development of the app would be prioritized over website development.

Yours in service,

Kelly B