

AREA 60 OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL SERVICE, INC.

www.wpaarea60.org

PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

April 7, 2013

COMFORT INN – PENN HILLS, PA.

A.A.'s Declaration of Unity

"This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; To keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives; And the lives of those to come."

1. The Assembly opened at 10:15 AM when Chair John K. read Anonymity Statement then led Serenity Prayer.
2. Reading from the AA Service Manual "AA Service" District 19 DCM Eric K.
3. We are not going to have the Alternate Chairpersons report. I regret to tell you that Diana G. had to resign from her position and we hope she finds her way back to Area Service. John K.
4. Reading of Voting Procedures John K.
5. Roll Call Richard C.

ROLL CALL

Elected Officers Present:

Delegate – Yvette N., Alt Delegate – George K., Chairperson – John K.,
Treasurer – Barb D., Acting Secretary – Richard C.

Appointed Officers Present:

Recording Secretary – Richard C., Registrar – Teresa K., Archivist – Al C., Alt. Treasurer – Jean M.

Coordinators / Alternate Coordinators Present:

Literature – Otto S., Grapevine- Ted G., Newsletter – Barb G., Website – Mario D.,
Alt. Website – Hubert H., Corrections – Eddie P., Archives – Dennis M.,
Alt. Archives – Dick C., T/SNA- Chris G., CPC/PI – Mack M.,

Past Delegates Present:

Panel 51 – Vaughn H., Panel 55 – Chuck H., Panel 57- Janet H., Panel – 61 Jean M.

District Committee Members Present:

(District #: DCM, Alt. DCM, GSRs, Others):

**#2: 0,0,1,0 #3: 1,1,1,0 #6: 1,1,0,0 #7: 0,0,0,1 # 8: 1,1,1,0 #11: 1,1,2,2 #12: 0,0,1,0, #14: 1,1,2,3 #15: 1,1,4,0
#16: 0,1,0,0 #17: 1,0,1,0 #19: 1,1,4,2 #22: 1,0,0,0 #23: 0,1,4,0 #24: 1,0,2,1, #25: 1,0,2,2 #27: 1,1,3,0
#28: 0,1,6,2 #29: 1,1,0,0 #40:1,0,1,3 #41: 1,0,1,2 #61:1,0,1,0 #65: 1,0,0,0 #71: 0,0,0,1**

24 of 45 districts represented: 5 elected officers, 3 appointed officers, 4 past delegates, 11 coordinators and alternates. 17 DCMs, 11 Alt DCMs, 37 GSRs, and 19 Other AA members. Total attendance: 106. Total voting members: 78

5. **Chairpersons Report:** John K. - As always the GAW was a wonderful experience for me. This is a charge or a recharge for me. I get the opportunity to see people I haven't seen in awhile, and I also get to hear some very good information. It kinda helps me to get going for the rest of the year. I look forward to attending the Days of Sharing. I must say this, this job is quite a learning experience and I appreciate everyone's patience. It's a lot of fun, sometimes not, but most of the time it is. This weekend shows that we are here to carry the message of recovery to the alcoholic that still suffers, we are dealing with something serious that can end in death. It is a lonely way to die and I don't want that to happen to anyone including myself. I want to take a minute to thank Richard C. He's been doing double duty as the Recording Secretary and as the acting Secretary. That entails an awful lot of work and he's been putting a lot of effort into doing it. And now I'm going to ask him to give the acting Secretary's report.

6. **Acting Secretary's Report:** Richard C. - I went to NERAASA also and participated in the District / Area Secretary round-tables. It gave me a chance to get to know some of the people in our area who attended NERAASA and talk to other area secretaries about how we do our jobs differently. In some areas their Secretary is also the Registrar and some

like our Recording Secretary. I attended most panels but did get the recording for the whole NERAASA so if anyone wants a CD of any of the panels or lead or the whole thing just get in contact with me and I send you what I have. It was a good weekend. It's been a few years since I attended NERAASA and it was good to go again. Some of the same people are still in service like me from way back when. Some of this report has to do with the first Quarterly minutes. I didn't get the 1st Quarterly Minutes out in a timely manner because I had to re-format the entire document and it was a frustrating job which I had to walk away from time to time. There are a couple of mistakes believe it or not. One, after I had distributed them I realized there was no Chairperson's report. I apologize for that but will get one later. Two, a couple of the DOS's are wrong; District 23 I reported as accepted but in fact it was not because of conflict. District 27 I reported as tentatively accepted but need flyer. It was tabled until flyer was presented. The Chair reports that he has now seen the flyer. I am not going to sit here and read these minutes but will go over what we did for Old Business and New Business. (went over those items). Once done I mailed 23 to those who had self-addressed envelopes and emailed 437. I did mail 312 Pre-Conference Agendas and emailed 437 Agendas. Are there any additions or deletions to the 1st Quarterly Minutes. Hearing none, that is my report. Chairperson John K. asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Chris G. made the motion, was seconded and the vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as presented.

John K. – I was told that in my newness I forgot something on the agenda and before we hear the Treasurer's report I'd like to invite Traci from GSO to say a few Words, and my apologies for not having that on the agenda.

7. Words from **Traci GSO Corrections Chair**. Sometimes when we give a report we tell what is happening with each desk but I was not prepared for that. I will say what these weekends mean for us; this is really great for me and it gives the Office a chance hear what is going on and what's on your mind. Like in the sharing session last night, there were four different topics and actually I'd heard them at the Office with discussions and answering the phone. What I heard last night was the solutions to the challenges you face. And what I can do is pass that along to other Areas and groups that call in. The topics were group problems, raffles, and dark districts and there was great sharing on what your solutions were and I can pass that on, and that is how this works. Also as a reporting member of the Conference besides reporting on the things I get from letters from those who are incarcerated to the Corrections Committee, we staff members (who each take about 6 trips a year) report on what we hear during those trips. We gather the experience from each Area and listen to their problems and solutions. So what I have heard here in Western PA will be a part of my sharing as well as your delegate who carries your conscience with her to the Conference. The main focus in the Office right now is preparing for the General Service Conference, then when that is finished we will turn our attention to the International Convention which will be in Atlanta. We have two new staff people so now I am now a sophomore. Clay Rittenhouse past Delegate from Eastern PA is now on the CPC desk. Adrian who was on that desk has moved to Nominating where Warren Stafford was (Warren retired in November), and we welcomed Steve Smith from Minneapolis, who was in the Intergroup Office, to the Treatment/Special Needs desk. Mary who was on that desk has rotated to Literature, and Gail who was Literature has just retired. That's the update on staffing, we have changed the Publishing Director to Greg Kovin who is capable to bring AAWS into computer age. He's a former Trustee who was wonderful at that position. That is a management change. As you've heard GSO is going thru an inventory process and the GSC will do their own inventory this year. We are already seeing the effects of the Board's inventory on the staff's strategic thinking for example; the Corrections Secretary is taking a stepping back approach rather than a direct hands on supervision. There are a couple of discussion items coming up for the GSC on Corrections that will affect communications maybe for the upcoming years. I think that's all I have to report for right now I mean there are all kinds of things trying to get out of my head but I think that is enough for you guys right now. If you have any comment or questions I'll be around the rest of the day. Thank you for inviting me to your GAW and Pre-Conference.

Treasure's Report: Barb D. - What I have to say today is we have a professional working on our taxes and we will have an update at the 2nd Quarterly on that, and the quarterly report will be ready for the 2nd Quarterly. Anybody who unfortunately missed the presentation Friday night on "Finances" I do have 7th Tradition Packets in case you need them. I am also working with the professional on our tax exempt status to insure we do not lose it again and that will be reported at the 2nd Quarterly too. Any questions I'll be here all day. That's all I have.

Delegates Report : Yvette N. – I'm going to make this as brief as possible. I spent quite a bit of time studying and I attended NERAASA in February. I want to thank Area 60 for giving me the opportunity to attend. I will try to share the information with you as we go thru the year. There were 969 in attendance and that's fantastic. Area 60 was first at the mike to bid on NERAASA 2016 and I was astounded by the number of people that were hot on my tail. It came to my attention while talking with other Delegates that there were 2 Areas that had never hosted NERAASA, so after discussion with other officers it was decided to withdraw our intention for the benefit of those Areas not having hosted in the past. I am so overwhelmed at the fact that I can attend NERAASA and maybe you can understand why I have a hard time

expressing that in words. I have copies of the AAWS Newsletter. I wasn't sure there would be enough on the table but if there are not I have some more here and will have someone put them outside. A few things to note: Sales of the Big Book came in at a little over 380,000 below budget, about 3%; Literature Distribution came in at \$115,000 over for profit; There has been a proposal to publish a 76th Commemorative Edition of the 1st Edition of the Big Book to be available during the International Convention in Atlanta it an exciting proposition, I like that idea. About Finances – it is my assignment for this GSC and it is our duty to help Areas find the means for financial support of GSO. In Area 60 we went from 41.9 % of groups contributing to 41.18 %. It is a proof of a 30 year trend in declining group support for GSO. The delegate read a excerpt from “Language of the Heart” page 139, about support and not relying on outside help as well as without group support to provide adequate services AA cannot function. We shouldn't skimp in the basket, when we are generous in the hat we show our commitment to share and ensure AA's future. I am reading the Conference actions for my area from 1951 – present and one of the suggested actions was changing some wording on the green card, so I will ask you what do you feel is right? Give until it hurts or give until it feels good. It is interesting that I am on Finances because whenever I got a report in the past I used to sorta glaze over. It shows complacency I guess and whenever I get complacent in my recovery I have to redouble my efforts. She announced new groups which were hard for the recorder to hear. But she did announce our first Spanish speaking group in the Pittsburgh area. That means that the Spanish GSC copies she ordered will be put to good use. The delegate asked for help in a group change in Mercer. I have a couple of flyers if anyone needs one. One is NERF the one place to go to learn more about the General Service Office. It is in Cromwell, Conn. June 17th. NERAASA 2014 in Rhode Island Feb 21-23, NERAASA 2015 Area 44 Feb 20-22. National Archives Conference 2014 will be in Valley Forge in June. Finally, I am so excited, I can't explain it and I am very seldom at a loss for words. The GSC is 2 weeks from now and I want you to know that I not only carry your conscience on these agenda items with me, but I also carry a little piece of you with me in my heart and I will never be alone. Thank you for the privilege of letting me serve you.

John K. corrects something about voting procedure – He read all members can vote when he should have read Voting members include GSRs, DCMs, Alt DCMs if the DCM is not there, Officers, Coordinators, Alt Coordinators if Coordinator is not there, Past Delegates.

Old Business: Getaway Week End Report – George K. – I'm the Alternate Delegate and have the privilege to serve as your GAW Chair. Thank you all for being here on this early Sunday morning it's really good to see you. For the weekend we had 134, 105 for the banquet, again thanks to everybody who showed up. Special thanks to you Traci for being here this weekend, it was very much appreciated. I would like to thank all who helped put this thing together, the Treasurer and the Registration Desk, District 3 for the Hospitality room did a great job, the Coordinators with displays and presentations, the Program Coordinator Jean M., and a special thanks to the panel of past Delegates Carol K. and the H's Vaughn H., Chuck H., and Jan H. who did the presentation for “The Plan”. We all owe thanks to all those who worked behind the scenes the greeters, mtg chairs, hospitality room workers, all of them – give them a hand. A while ago when this began I suffered a little self doubt having never done this before. That faded away quickly when I realized I was surrounded by experienced, caring people who helped tremendously, and I began using my service sponsor finally. On Friday there was anxiety and nervousness but it began to go away when you attendees began showing up. It dawned on me that we could have the Coordinators put up their displays and do their presentations and all of the activities that go on here but if you guys don't show up none of it matters. It occurs to me that you folks are the Get Away Weekend. And lastly I want to thank you folks for the GAW you gave me.

Chairperson John K. takes a moment to state that at the 2nd Quarterly/Post Conference Assembly that we will have another Special Election. We are having one today for the position of Secretary and at the Post Conference Assembly we will have one for the position of Alternate Chairperson. I ask everyone to consider that position generally it calls for 3-5 years sobriety, think about that because AA needs you.

Review of Area Calendar: April 14, .Sunday there is an Officers Coordinators meeting, followed by the 19th – 27 the GSC which Yvette will attend, the 19th of May is the 2nd Quarterly/Post Conference Assembly, Sunday June 23rd is the Officers Coordinators / GAW wrap up meeting, Aug 2-4 State Convention, August 18th 3rd Area 60 Quarterly meeting, and Sept 15 another Officers Coordinators meeting, October 20 Fall Assembly, and lastly October 27th is an Officers coordinators meeting.

New Business: Election for Secretary; John K. Opens the floor for those who wish to stand. Richard C. stands. Says a few words and is wished a happy birthday. Sense of the Meeting – Unanimous for Richard C. as Secretary.

Conference Committee Report: Yvette N. – Opens with talk of tokens she is taking to the GSC and offers some to whomever wishes to have some. Then turns this portion of meeting over to Jean M. immediate Past Delegate. Jean

reminds everyone that the envelopes on the table are to be used by people who want the minutes of this meeting mailed to them. Fill in your address and leave on table. I'd like to thank Traci for being here. One of the reasons we ask a member of GSO to come is so that the General service Office becomes a little more real to us. I think Traci accomplished that. I'd like to thank everyone involved in the Get Away Weekend, again, thank you very much. In order to give our Delegate an informed group conscience of Area 60 we will be discussing some of those issues. Our panel will consist of 4 speakers who will address the items we will discuss. A speaker will read the agenda item, and summarize the background info on a chosen item. Following each agenda item the microphone in the center of the room will be open for comments or questions. Please speak into the mike waiting till you're acknowledged by the moderator, that would be me. Comments from the floor will be timed and limited to 2 minutes each after you introduce yourself. The discussion time for each item will be 15 minutes. At the end of each agenda item we will take an up or down vote. Bob S. introduces himself as the timer. The 4 panel presenters are: Ted G., from the Area Grapevine, Mack M. Area CPC/PI Coordinator, Mario D. Area Website Coordinator, Vaughn H. Past Delegate Panel 51.

2013 Agenda Items For Pre-Conference Assembly

VI. Literature

Agenda Item C. Consider a request to replace language in the second paragraph of the dust jacket of the 4th Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Background Information: The Trustees Committee on Literature has forwarded a request that text from the dust jacket of the Third Edition of the Big Book be added to the dust jacket of the Fourth Edition of the Big Book.

The second paragraph in the inside flap of the dust jacket of the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* currently reads: "At the time of the Third Edition, in March 1976, the worldwide membership of A.A. was estimated at 1,000,000 or more. Copies of "*Alcoholics Anonymous*" in circulation exceeded 1,450,000. In 1995, the General Service Conference approved the recommendation: "The first 164 pages of the Big Book, 'Alcoholics Anonymous', the Preface, the Forewords, 'The Doctor's Opinion', 'Doctor Bob's Nightmare' and the Appendices remains as is.

The request is to replace it with the following text from the dust jacket of the Third Edition, which states: "At the time of the third edition, in March 1976, the worldwide membership of A.A. was estimated at 1,000,000 or more. Copies of "*Alcoholics Anonymous*" in circulation exceeded 1,450,000. The basic text (pages 1 through 164) remains unchanged. This is the A.A. message, just as it was introduced in the 1939 edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the book that gave the young fellowship its name.

This was an agenda item in 2012, the committee was not able to reach substantial unanimity on any particular resolution and no action was taken. A second request was made to have it placed on the agenda for the 2013 Conference.

Conference Advisory Actions in 1999 and 2001 specified that the GSO editors were to prepare and coordinate new Big Book 4 material and changes such as "jacket copy". The publications department at GSO has expressed the opinion that "General Service has no business making a statement in published literature about what part of the book deals with recovery."

Do you support making this change to the dust jacket of the 4th Edition of the Big Book?
Area 60 voted: **No** Unanimous.

Agenda Item D: Consider a suggestion to add "Non-alcoholics may attend open meetings as observers" to the end of the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose (blue) card F-17.

Background Information: a group has suggested that the phrase "Non-alcoholics may attend open meetings as observers" to the end of the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose card, so that changes will be uniform in AA literature. This sentence has been added over time to the pamphlets "The AA Group" and 6 CPC pamphlets. This card currently reads:

**THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

This is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are glad you are all here — especially newcomers. In keeping with our singleness of purpose and our Third Tradition which states that "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking," we ask that all who participate confine their discussion to their problems with alcohol. (*The 1987 General Service Conference made this statement available as an A.A. service piece for those groups who wish to use it.*)

The new card would read:

**THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

This is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are glad you are all here — especially newcomers. In keeping with our singleness of purpose and our Third Tradition which states that “The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking,” we ask that all who participate confine their discussion to their problems with alcohol. Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers.”

(The 1987 General Service Conference made this statement available as an A.A. service piece for those groups who wish to use it.)

Are you in favor of making this change to the Primary Purpose Card?
Area 60 voted **No** with Substantial Unanimity.

Agenda Item E: Consider a request to add an index to the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Background Information: An Area has made this request in the interest of making it easier to study our basic text. The index could include key phrases, prayers, where to find the steps, etc. The purpose is not to facilitate a quick fix, but to make the study of, and reference to, our basic text more user friendly. Most textbooks include an index, and some of our books, such as *AA Comes of Age* and *As Bill Sees It*, already include an index, which proves to be a very helpful tool for finding topics quickly.

In the early 1970's, an individual distributed an index that was reviewed by AAWS to determine if there was a need for a document of this type. The Board, after review, stated that it “is reluctant to publish any document which might tend to lend authoritarian force or rigidity to the AA program”. There are a variety of reference books available from outside sources now, including the Area 60 web site.

There was an Additional Committee Consideration in 1999 that stated, “the committee strongly suggested that no index be included in the Fourth Edition Big Book”, in the discussions of that proposed volume.

Do you agree that the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, should contain an index?
Area 60 voted **No** with substantial Unanimity.

VIII. Public Information

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

Background Information: 2012 Conference Committee on Public Information additional committee consideration: Following lengthy and thoughtful discussion related to adding language referring to current media to Tradition Eleven, the committee concluded that the spirit and principle of anonymity at the public level is conveyed adequately in the Long Form of Tradition Eleven. Recognizing that suggested changes to Tradition Eleven have come to the Conference several times, the committee requested the trustees' Public Information Committee gather Area sharing on the effectiveness of the language of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven in addressing the needs of the Fellowship today and report back to the 2013 Conference Committee on Public Information.

A total of 1201 requests were sent to Delegates, Conference members, Area, District and Intergroup PI chairs; an additional 107 new PI committee chairs were also sent the request with their welcome packet. Responses were received from 22 Areas, 17 districts, one intergroup, 37 groups and 29 individuals.

Any attempt to categorize the responses requires a degree of interpretation and speculation that may not accurately capture the broad expanse of sharing. While it is safe to say that no clear direction emerged from this sharing, it does affirm the respondent's commitment to our Tradition of Anonymity at the public level.

While the Conference has opted not to change the wording of the Tradition itself, the literature (books, pamphlets & guidelines) that describes the Tradition was written (or edited) to designate current broadcasting methods. Once TV began to be a major media source, it began to be included in discussion of Tradition Eleven in our literature.

Given the vast amount of time and money that would be involved, do you support changing the Short Form of Tradition Eleven to reflect the current technology?
Area 60 voted **No** with substantial unanimity.

Agenda Item D. Review report from trustees' P.I. Committee on establishing a Public Information Social Media Page.

Background Information: From the 2012 Conference Committee on Public Information additional committee consideration—the committee considered the suggestion that AA establish a presence on Facebook for the purpose of providing information about AA to the public. The General Service Board appointed a 3-person committee to explore all aspects of this social media page; the committee consulted with an AA member with professional expertise with online communications including Facebook and other social media/networking sites. The committee's conclusion was: “While it remains imperative, today perhaps more than ever, that AA utilize every appropriate media platform to carry our message

to the still suffering alcoholic and share accurate information about Alcoholics Anonymous, AA's Traditions continue to guide the Fellowship's Public Information endeavors. The subcommittee is unanimous in its belief that AA World Services, the General Service Office, and the AA Grapevine and La Vina cannot establish a presence on Facebook in accordance with AA Traditions." Additionally, "Unless password-protected and designated for AA members' use only, a Web site or social media/networking page is a public medium, and, therefore, requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio and film. Experience suggests that it is in keeping with the Eleventh Tradition not to disclose AA membership on social networking Web sites as well as on any other Web site, blog, electronic bulletin board, etc. that is not composed solely of AA members.

Do you agree that establishing a presence on Social Media sites on the Internet would be a violation of AA Tradition?
Area 60 voted **Yes** with substantial Unanimity.

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

Background Information: the 61st General Service Conference (2011) approved the use of digital channels and current (commissionable) support and distribution technologies by the AA Grapevine for the sale and distribution of magazines, books and products.

AAWS had a somewhat disastrous experience with Amazon (Kindle) selling the Fourth Edition Big Book in 2009 and the contract was terminated. Subsequently, AAWS undertook to create its own digital applications, eliminating the need for a third-party vendor. This venture has proven to be much costlier than originally projected and the investment will not be recouped by sales of eBooks, and would drain other GSO resources. However, the online store that has been created was designed to be expanded as a platform for selling bound books and other materials.

AAWS determined that in order to make digital versions of AA literature available to the widest number of AA members and others interested, that selling through third-party vendors would be required. In coming to this conclusion, the AAWS Board agreed that selling through third-party vendors using currently standard practices in the publishing industry was not contrary to AA Traditions, and would maintain the digital rights management necessary to protect copyrights. They understand that on their sales sites, third-party vendors may let customers know what other people who bought an AA book also purchased, and may include reader comments about the book on the page. It was also understood that pricing for each third-party vendor may vary according to that vendor's contract.

Do you agree that AAWS should use commissioned online stores to sell and distribute digital AA literature.
Area 60 voted **No** by a simple majority (No—34, Yes—26, Abstain—8)

IX. Report and Charter

Agenda Item A.8: Consider request to update information about suggested qualifications for area registrars on page S45 of The AA Service Manual, 2013-2014 Edition.

Background Information: the Manager of Support Services for the General Service Office has requested that a suggested list of basic skills needed to successfully perform the functions of an Area Registrar be added to the AA Service Manual. These include:

- **Computer Skills** (proficiency in working with electronic files such as handling mail merges and creating mailing labels; creating PDFs; creating, editing and exporting spreadsheets);
- **Informational Background and Communication Skills** (Ability to answer questions about 30-day pending period, the 6th Tradition as it applies to naming a new group, status codes, group service numbers and automatic mailing of service kits, Ability to maintain a working relationship with both local AA and the Records department at GSO, with a clear understanding of what tasks can be done by the Registrar, and what must be handled by GSO, Knowledge of the local AA structure, AA acronyms, and how the Twelve Traditions relate to information stored within the FNV.);
- **Time Management** (Ability to schedule time to process updates, meeting GSO and locally established timelines);
- **Access to Necessary Resources** (Computer with proper software, Internet connection, Printer).

The Area 60 Registrar is an Appointed Officer, serving a two-year term, and is compensated for his/her investment in supplies necessary to perform the tasks expected (printing, copying, etc.) and for travel expenses to required Area 60 events. The Registrar accesses the software base used by GSO for record-keeping (Fellowship New Vision or FNV) via the Internet.

Should the General Service Office suggest specific qualifications to perform this position?
Area 60 voted **Yes** with substantial unanimity.

XI. Trustees

Agenda Item C: 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.

Background Information: For at least the past twenty years, problems of communication, finance, cooperation, and election of Directors have resulted in conflicts and inefficiencies that have affected the functioning of the General Service Board. The consistent and pervasive character of these problems suggests they may be structural in nature. The General Service Board concluded that we needed to examine the structure as well as current practices to address the concerns.

The Proposed Plan has two components: Changes in current practices which were approved by the GSB at its February, 2013 meeting and a change in the composition of the corporate boards. We recognize that overall implementation of these proposals will require time, adjustments, and fine tuning before smooth functioning is achieved. However, because the proposal does not create legal changes in our corporate structure, if they do not work out as planned, current practices may easily be restored.

The proposed plan (A) does not change the current corporate structure; (B) it does provide for improved communication and cooperation by electing the same people to serve on both the Board of Directors of AAWS Inc. and the Board of Directors of AAGV Inc. This will provide a unified board (legally known as an "interlocking directorate") that will focus on the operations of both subsidiary corporations and will allow the General Service Board to focus on strategy and policy. The corporations remain as distinct, independent corporate operations. The composition of this united operations group will include the General Manager of GSO and the Executive Editor/Publisher of the AA Grapevine. The independent Editorial Board of the Grapevine will continue.

Are you in favor of implementing this Plan to address the problems that concern the General Service Board? Area 60 voted **Yes** with substantial unanimity.

Thank you everyone for allowing me to stay within a time frame that allowed this to end by 1:30 PM.

Open Microphone: Nancy a rep from Dist 71 would like help from the Area to aid in combining Dist 7 & Dist 71 or resurrecting both Districts, that are currently dark. We do not have a leader in either District that is willing to spearhead this. We have ample reserves but no leadership, so I am formally asking the Area for help in this. Answer from John K. was we will discuss this in next weeks Off/Coord meeting.

Rick G. Alt DCM Dist 16 – We would like to bid for a DOS, June 22. Tentatively listed.

Bill W. Alt DCM Dist 11 – April 27th last meeting temporarily of Beech View Group, till they find new home.

Tyrone B. GSR Dist 24 Bear Paw Group – First time at GAW want to thank everyone, I really enjoyed myself.

Area Chair – John K. - If there are no further comments we will close the meeting with the responsibility statement.

*I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,
I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.*

PANEL 63: 2013-2014

ELECTED OFFICERS

<u>Delegate</u> Yvette N. delegate@wpaarea60.org	<u>Chairperson</u> John K. chairperson@wpaarea60.org	<u>Secretary</u> Richard C. secretary@wpaarea60.org
<u>Alternate Delegate</u> George K. altdelegate@wpaarea60.org	<u>Alternate Chairperson</u> altchairperson@wpaarea60.org	<u>Treasurer</u> Barb D. treasurer@wpaarea60.org

APPOINTED OFFICERS

<u>Recording Secretary</u> recsec@wpaarea60.org	<u>Registrar</u> Teresa K. registrar@wpaarea60.org	<u>Alternate Treasurer</u> Jean M. treasurer@wpaarea60.org
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<u>Archivist</u> Al C. archivist@wpaarea60.org		
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SERVICE COORDINATORS

<u>Archives</u> Denis M. archives@wpaarea60.org	<u>Alternate Archives</u> Dick C. altarchives@wpaarea60.org	<u>Grapevine</u> Ted G. grapevine@wpaarea60.org
<u>Alternate Grapevine</u> Joe L. altgrapevine@wpaarea60.org	<u>Newsletter</u> Barb G. newsletter@wpaarea60.org	<u>CPC / PI</u> Mack M. pi@wpaarea60.org
<u>Alternate CPC / PI</u>	<u>Treatment/Special Needs Accessibilities (T/SNA)</u> Chris G. treatment@wpaarea60.org	<u>Corrections</u> Eddie P. corrections@wpaarea60.org
<u>Alternate Corrections</u>	<u>Literature</u> literature@wpaarea60.org	<u>Alternate Literature</u>
<u>Website</u> Mario D. website@wpaarea60.org	<u>Webmaster</u> Bill M. webmaster@wpaarea60.org	<u>Alternate Website</u> Hubert H. website@wpaarea60.org
<u>Alternate T/SNA</u> Steve W. alltreatment@wpaarea60.org	<u>Alternate Newsletter</u>	

PAST DELEGATES

Panel 15 Ray M.	Panel 23 Francis F.	Panel 31 Bud T.
Panel 33 Carol K	Panel 45 *Matt H.*	Panel 49 Arlene H.
Panel 51 Vaughn H	Panel 53 John W	Panel 55 Chuck H

Panel 57 Janet H	Panel 59 Bonnie S	Panel 61 Jean M.
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* May you rest in Peace

ANSWERING SERVICES FOR WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA, AREA 60

<u>District</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Location</u>
01 & 65	724-679-5647	Butler, Ford City, Kittanning
15	800-400-2346	Dubois
16	800-227-2421	Oil City
17	888-202-9042	Altoona
17	814-946-9002	Bedford
18 & 52	866-309-1090	Grove City, Slippery Rock, Mercer, Sharon
19	866-839-3401	Warren
23	724-836-1404	Greensburg, Latrobe, Irwin, Jeannette
40	814-885-6302	McKean, Potter, Elk, Cameron
41, 43 & 44	814-533-5907	Johnstown
45	724-489-0740	Mid Mon Valley
51	814-337-4019	Meadville
62	724-935-7238	South Butler Co: Cranberry Wexford, Warrendale, Mars

Central Office-----Laurel Highlands----- (814) 533-5907 (Johnstown)
 Central Office-----Pittsburgh Vicinity-- (412) 471-7472
 Central Office-----Erie----- (814) 452-2675 (Erie General Service)

DIRECTIONS TO THE COMFORT INN, 699 RODI ROAD, PITTSBURGH, PA. 15236 PHONE NUMBER: 412-244-1600

From the PA. Turnpike: Take Exit 57 and follow I-376 W to Exit 11, Rodi Road (app. 4 miles). The Comfort Inn is about ¼ mile on the right. Follow signs to the hotel at the top of the hill.

From the Pittsburgh Parkway: I-376 e., Exit 11, Rodi Road. The Comfort Inn is about ¼ mile on the right. Follow signs to the hotel at the top of the hill.

From Business Route 22 West to 791 N., Rodi Road. The Comfort Inn is about ¼ mile on the right. Follow signs to the hotel at the top of the hill.

