

Pre Conference Assembly Report > Spring 2016

Um... so, what exactly is a pre-conference assembly?

The Pre-Conference Assembly is held to which all members of the A.A. Fellowship are invited to participate. This Pre-Conference Assembly's primary purpose is to discuss the agenda items of the current General Service Conference (which is usually held in April in New York City) and inform the delegate of the Area's group conscience, thoughts and experience on the Agenda items that will be before the Conference Delegates at that year's conference.

Motions we (YOU) voted on

Motion to help Canada's prisons with their correction correspondence service. There is MORE than enough people in the US, literally, so the motion was to allow those willing in the US to correspond with Canadian inmates. For more info, read pamphlet F-26, including a signup form, available online. Motion passed. We voted 2 votes of YES, no opposed.

Motion to allow the GSO trustees to ask for more money per Area for the General Service Conference. Currently our area is asked for \$1,600, but it costs ~\$8,000 for our delegate to attend the weeklong conference. We as an area have donated \$2,400 in the past. The idea is to allow GSO to request more money per delegate from Area's that can help pay their own way, that way the money that GSO puts out can go more towards delegates that have area's without enough money to send them. Motion passed. We voted 2 votes of YES, there were 3 opposed out of 110.

Motion to allow people to bequest \$10k per person, up from the current \$5k. This is the maximum amount allowed to be given to AA when an AA member dies. Motion passed. We voted 2 votes of YES, no opposed.

Motion to increase personal donation amount from \$3000 to \$6000 per year. Motion passed. We voted 2 votes of YES, there was 1 opposed out of 110.

Motion to approve 4 new titles for potential printing via the Grapevine (Books): *"Young and Sober II"*, *"Atheist and Agnostic Stories"*, *"Steps 4+5"*, and *"Beginners II"*. Motion passed and then failed after re-vote. We voted 2 votes of YES originally, then after hearing minority discussion from Yvette N. about how there are already tons of unsold books from the Grapevine and we should let groups know about those before we print new ones, we voted 2 votes of no.

Motion to discontinue the pamphlet entitled "5 Talks to Medical Societies". It's the 7th least ordered and one of the most expensive to produce. Motion passed. We voted 2 votes of YES, there was 1 opposed out of 110.

Motion to consider adding text referring to the pamphlet on drugs and medications to the pamphlet to the medical community Motion passed. We voted 2 votes of YES, there were 3 opposed out of 110.

Other Notes that are amazing probably

If a group has no actively informing GSR, the DCM can come to the group and help inform them of the purpose of the GSR and being involved in the district.

The area archives have almost nothing on Johnstown. Oldtimers – get group histories written or recorded and we can have them added to the archives.

People who do not have cash, but do have EBT cards, or food stamps, can still contribute supplies to the meeting. This is how Altoona and many other districts help newcomers to feel a part of when they have no cash.

Encourage everyone to donate a few bucks a month to GSO via the direct-debit.

PA Convention: will be alternating between Eastern and Western PA every other year. The committee meetings can be attended via Skype if you want to get involved even as just a spectator to watch.

GSR Job: Part of a GSR's job is to go to the annual assemblies and vote if you are able to.

Need an Area Corrections Officer, PI/CPC Coordinator, and we just got a new Newsletter Editor.

Takeaway Thought:

The 7th Tradition basket money – huge misunderstanding of purpose. This money is meant to pay for the groups expenses, a prudent reserve to cover 2-3 months of expenses, and the rest is meant to be split up between District, Area, and the General Service Office. Groups are hoarding the money and as a result AA as a whole is not self-supporting.

Quotes and Fun Tidbits

“You can pretend to care, but you can't pretend to show up.” – George K., Area 60 Delegate

Modified: “You can pretend to care, but you can't pretend to contribute financially.”

“Like herding cats” – Trying to get a bunch of alcoholics to follow directions