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Group Conscience meeting 2026: 3/29/26

Finance — Item C

Consider a request to create a Twelve Step study guide or workbook.

Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda? This Proposed Agenda Item (PAI-70) asks GSO to develop a “structured learning tool” in the form of a study guide or workbook for taking the Twelve Steps, with the goal of helping those in restricted living environments, such as incarceration, where sponsorship may be difficult to access. The proposal acknowledges that while *The Plain Language Big Book* is meeting an important need, proponents note that there is no dedicated Conference-approved guide focused solely on step work. The request originated in Area 58 after incarcerated women shared challenges in finding sponsorship and detailed step guidance. The motion was tabled for group discussion and ultimately passed at the September 2025 Assembly. Supporters state that such a guide would provide practical structure, enhance accessibility, and assist

What does the Delegate need to know? Does your group think there is a need for a Conference-approved Twelve Step study guide or workbook? Why or why not?

Grapevine/La Viña — Item F

Consider that the AA Grapevine, Inc, accept contributions.

Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?

This Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) originated from the AA Grapevine Board. The Board discussed the 2025 Conference Committee on Grapevine/La Viña's expressed interest in exploring various funding models. The Board agreed to send to the 2025 Conference a PAI that AA Grapevine, Inc. accepts contributions, which departs from the longstanding practice that AA Grapevine strives to be self-supporting only through the sale of subscriptions and books. Grapevine now provides a growing range of services that directly support A.A.'s primary purpose but do not generate revenue, such as the YouTube Channel, Podcast, Instagram accounts, free to download Apps, and Daily Quote. These services extend the A.A. message to alcoholics who may never encounter a print magazine or be able to purchase books, such as the free prison tablet program or the American Sign Language (ASL) Playlist on the Grapevine YouTube account. They all require ongoing financial investment to produce and maintain. While Grapevine's five-year plan includes measured price increases for subscriptions and books, those increases are intended to sustain core publishing operations while retaining customers. They may not cover the full cost of these expanding, Fellowship-wide services. The

What does the Delegate need to know?

Does your group think AA Grapevine, Inc. should accept contributions? Why or why

PI — Item I

Review proposed plan for 2026 Membership Survey.

Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?

A.A. Triennial Membership Surveys serve an important public information purpose: they provide those considering A.A. with a sense that the program has helped people like them, offer professionals data to support recommending A.A. to clients, and present A.A. as the roomy, inclusive, and welcoming program it is. At the 75th General Service Conference, the trustees' PI Committee was asked to develop a plan for a 2026 A.A. Membership Survey utilizing random sampling methodology and to bring this plan to the 2026 Conference PI Committee for review. A Membership Survey Methodology Subcommittee was formed, including a non-alcoholic survey methodologist, who prepared a preliminary report. The report is included in the background material, along with draft survey questions. The subcommittee discussed at length the potential benefits and challenges of including non-registered meetings in the survey, noting that focusing only on registered groups may overlook parts of the Fellowship. While using Meeting Guide app data for sampling was explored, AAWS's digital strategist advised that duplication and data overload would create issues, recommending instead a small pilot with two or three entities whose data feeds into Meeting Guide. The methodologist's recommendations include conducting a pilot to explore incorporating meetings listed with other entities in addition to groups registered with GSO, and implementing the following improvements to minimize non-response: early communication with areas, including reminders to clean up group records and a sharing session with delegates; selection of a better survey platform; production of a how-to video, FAQ, and other resources; and asking data collectors to complete a cover sheet providing additional context about the meetings

What does the Delegate need to know?

How does your group feel about including meetings as well as groups in the Membership survey? Are there any additional questions you would find valuable to assess if a meeting should be included?

Literature — Item I

Consider publishing the personal stories from the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* not included in the draft Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

The 2022 Conference Literature Committee recommended that a second

Historical Context: Why is it on the Agenda?

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 Literature Committee once development of the publication is in progress. *Experience, Strength and Hope* (B-20) is a Conference-approved book published by AAWS containing stories retired from previous editions of the Big Book. The trustees' Literature Committee agreed to forward a suggestion to the 2026 Conference Literature Committee that consideration be given to the publication of the 30 stories not retained from the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* in the final manuscript of the Fifth Edition going before the Conference this year. For a complete list of which stories are being proposed for retirement, refer to the final report for Literature Item D in the background materials.

What does the Delegate need to know?

Does your group feel that there is a need to publish a second volume of the book *Experience, Strength, and Hope* that includes stories from the Fourth Edition of the Big Book that will not be included in the Fifth Edition? Why or why not?