

NORTHERN AREA GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE BUSINESS and AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

March 18th, 2023

Location: Granite Hills Baptist Church 10350 Red Rock Road Reno, NV 89506

Chairperson Paul E brought meeting to order at 1:05 opening with serenity prayer. Paul began an explanation of the meeting agenda and the Agenda Roundtables

Secretary Mike L asked for approval of December 3, 2022 meeting Motion and seconded motion accepted without discussion

NAGSC Treasurer and Alternate Area Treasurer Rich B gave his report that NAGSC treasury in process of being transferred and combined with the Area Treasury. As of today the total Area Treasury is \$116,754.39 with \$106,639.63 in checking and \$10,114.76 in savings. The NAGSC treasury is in the process closing with \$20,978.74 check to be deposited into the Area Treasury. Rich stated he didn't have checks that all mileage reimbursements will be mailed. Rich also reminded everyone to share rides and hotel to the assembly See attached documents of status of Area Treasury as of 1-31-2023 doesn't include SAGSC and NAGSC Treasury.

Ad-Hoc Committee Chair Don D gave his report of the Effectiveness of NAGSC Standing Committees:

Hi Amazing NAGSC Service Folks,

My name is Don D and I am an alcoholic. I am grateful to be the Chair for the Ad Hoc Committee on Effectiveness of NAGSC Standing Committees. We met last on January 15th and I am glad to announce we are continuing to gather information through a survey put out to different areas by our Past Delegate Julie C. The questions in that survey really spoke to the core of the issues that helped bring this committee into being. All the committee members were also asked to interview 3 trusted servants in our area to find varied thoughts about what we can do to be more effective. PRAASA gave me a great opportunity to talk with people from all over the Pacific Region about what their committees do in regard to the scope of what we have been asking ourselves. Obviously, with the business of the Spring and the committee members helping in various capacities with agenda items we will be reconvening during the summer. At that time I hope to consolidate all the information we have gathered and then produce recommendations to be presented at the Fall Assembly. As always, I am grateful for how these experiences allow my mind to be opened to so many perspectives of how we don't let good be the enemy of the best. Yours in Grateful Service
Don D

NAGSC PI Chair.

Phil W read the second reading of proposal to make NAGSC guideline change to create La Viña Committee and La Viña Chair:

The La Viña Ad Hoc Committee proposes the creation of two (2) La Viña committees complete with Chair positions, one in the North and one in the South. The purpose of this proposal is to bring La Viña into parity with NAGSC and SAGSC Grapevine committees. The La Viña committee chairs' duties would be the same as the Grapevine chairs and will be to represent La Viña at Area, SAGSC and NAGSC events. The La Viña Chairs should be fully funded, voting members of the area committee. The newly formed NAGSC and SAGSC La Viña committees should be included in the Area budget process.

As our Area grows and matures it is time to recognize the value, passion and efforts of those who have been carrying the La Viña message and give them parity with the Grapevine committees efforts. The area Ad Hoc committee is tasked with recommending ways to create parity. To achieve this, we are proposing to both NAGSC and SAGSC to create La Viña committees complete with Chair positions and that the Area 42, NAGSC and SAGSC guidelines recognize the chair positions. Finally, that the new La Viña Committees and Chairs are financially supported by appropriate budgets.

History:

For several years dedicated individuals have been carrying the La Viña message to Area 42 with no support from the Area. They have put together story writing workshops. They have been bringing La Viña publications displays to our assemblies. And in general, carrying the La Viña message to the Area and beyond as they have also been active in promoting La Viña to the Pacific Region.

Motion was made to make the guideline change and was seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Paul announced he is appointing Teresa B as the La Viña chair from District 22. Paul asked for approval from the body; the body approved unanimously

Submitted Reports:

NAGSC Chair Report
Paul E

Good afternoon, I'm Paul, alcoholic and your NAGSC chair. Welcome, to the Northern Area General Service Committee (NAGSC) roundtable meeting, I'm glad to see everyone. Are there any new GSRs here or anyone else that this is their first NAGSC meeting? First we are going to take care of a little business and then we will get to the agenda item presentations. After each presenter is done we then have time to ask questions or give comments, you will have 2 minutes to share so be

direct and to the point. You will not be able to share twice until everyone else has had a chance to share and yes you have to come up to the microphone so the people that are attending virtually can hear you. Jake our Delegate has flown in from Las Vegas and he will have some time at the end of the meeting to wrap things up. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Paul

Debbie O
District 2 DCM Reports

Good afternoon. My name is Debbie and I'm an alcoholic. I'm also the incoming DCM for District 2. Thank you to Billy O. for being a great example and setting the stage for me. I'm excited to see how our brilliant and attractive GSRs are going to serve our District in 2023. We currently have 14 active GSRs, 4 being first-timers and one on the Policy and Admissions Area Conference Committee. We meet on the second Thursday of every month at the Central Office, and the first month I didn't lock the door properly. I say we are off to a really good start.

Our first task will be hosting drinks and coffee at the Spring Assembly in a few weeks. Why not? We don't know any better. We still have that new DCM/GSR smell.

At our monthly meeting, we go over a Concept each month. I want to help my District and others interested in AA to know more about the Service Structure. I hope to bring some light to Dark Meetings in the District. I want people to be excited about service and know all the opportunities that are available.

We are looking forward to hosting Workshops and participating in other Districts' events. We want to get people excited and involved in Service. Most likely with food, since that has proven to be the best tactic. I'm hoping to include Archives and the Grapevine and La Vina in what we do. I'm also really big on the Holidays, so maybe we'll do a cookie decorating party or something - maybe with District 22. "Que piensas, compadres?"

Thank you for the opportunity to serve AA. I am grateful.

DeScott A

District 4 DCM Report

I am grateful to be serving as the District 4 DCM for Panel 73. There has been a lot to learn and I am happy to say that the support from my service sponsor and other members of my district has made this a fun learning experience.

Participation in our district meetings feels like it is down a bit, but we are going to start up our Dark Meeting Committee again to try to inspire support for general service in our district again. I am looking forward to attending as many meetings as I can in this effort and I will be sure to update as we move along.

I was able to attend PRAASA and had a very informative and exciting experience there. It was my first in person PRAASA and I was blown away at the number of sober alcoholics that care about our fellowship so much. I am looking forward to attending next year as well.

Our Ad-Hoc Workshop Committee held another fantastic workshop on sponsorship this time. The turnout was fantastic at about 60 people. We had great speakers and great feedback from the

audience. This was our first workshop that was fully self supporting and I look forward to what this committee will come up with next.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

Bigg J
Corrections Chair

Hello Bigg Alcoholic serving as NAGSC Corrections Chair Panel 73

Here is my report My first order of business was to reach out to Joe who was rotating out and have a brief conversation with him to get my bearings set straight.

Also reached out to intergroup corrections person but have been unable to actually talk to her.

I attended the gathering in Reno where we all introduced ourselves.

Also attended PRAASA where I participated in various discussions and enjoyed that experience immensely. I also attended the NAGSC/ and partial SAGSC roundtables where I also did a presentation on Corrections Item C. I have had brief discussions on improving state prisons Bridging the Gap service with a few members. And look to further those discussions. Have had limited contact with DCMs to inquire if the jails/prisons are having meetings but my intentions after assembly will be to contact and see where we can be of assistance.

I look forward to assembly and I look forward to building relationships with all of you.

Thanks for letting me serve as your Northern area corrections chair.

Bigg

Lonnie M Treatment & Sunshine Chair

I want to set up a meeting with the Treatment & Sunshine committee chairs from intergroup to discuss how we can work together. I've been in communication with Brad E., the SAGSC chair for bridging the gap. He sent me a couple of people that were just getting ready to get out of prison. I left them both messages and have not heard from them at this time. I was invited to attend the district 16 business meeting. We talked about how the number of treatment centers in their area that are still operational. We also discussed maybe setting up a committee for Bridging the Gap in northern area. I'm also planning to meet with Big, (the new corrections chair) hopefully this weekend to talk about how we can work together. I want to thank ED L., the outgoing chair for Treatment and Bridging the Gap for all this help. He got me going in the right direction. Thank You Lonnie M.

NNIG Liaison Report Ed L

Hi Everyone my name is Ed and I am an alcoholic and present NAGS Intergroup liaison . I am enjoying this position a great deal. Not only have I made a number of new friends, I have been able to get communications opened up between both NAGS and Intergroup. Paul and I worked right at the beginning making our Central Office had information for all of our officers and GSR's. Don D did a great job and made it an easy transition into this position. The men and women in intergroup are making great strides in carrying the message. What I am able to bring to the table is names and numbers of contacts needed. If you have a Sponsee in need of a commitment there are plenty to choose from. There is a new meeting set up at a homeless

shelter in Reno. It does require fingerprints and vaccinations and a background check. There is one meeting going right now but the facility is willing to have more. This is but one local commitment available. I am on the board of directors for Rural Nevada Counseling our executive director asked about BTG presentations at our recovery houses. He met with the intergroup chair and they have agreed on a day and time. If you know of anyone willing to take this type of commitment talk to Lonnie. There is a need for presenters at the houses in Dayton and Silver Springs and New Frontier in Fallon. These are a by monthly commitment. Presenters will be trained before going in.

Thank You For Allowing Me To Be Of Service

Ed L

CPC Committee Terri M

Hello everyone. My name is Terri and I am an alcoholic and your CPC (Cooperation with the professional community) northern area 42 Chair. Since Jan 1st I have been just learning my new position like most of us. I recently had the honor of going to Los Angeles to our Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA). What an amazing experience and I was able to understand what my job is now in AA. I am the link to the professionals such as, doctors, lawyers, therapists, social workers, nurses and clergy folk. I was able to attend roundtable discussions that were just CPC related. There were well over 1000 people all coming together to make sure AA continues to grow and not self-destruct. I found out that I have resources I can give professional people to help them connect their clients/patients to AA if they have a drinking problem. Thank you all for allowing me to be of service. I am truly grateful for the experience.

Terri

NAGSC Agenda Items Presentations:

Jake explained what is Sense of assembly is sense all AA members here present at assembly and on zoom

III. Corrections – C. Discuss service piece, “Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare” (SMF-209) and its revisions.

Bigg J

My name is Bigg currently serving as area 42 Correction chair for the North. I have been asked to present on Corrections Item C “Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare” “Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare” is a service piece first developed in 2017 that arose from several safety-related discussions that were happening at all levels of A.A. Many of these original discussions included conversation about literature updates, guidelines, or policy statements related to safety. The General Service Office had also been receiving reports from members regarding unsafe conditions and behaviors within A.A., and the media also published stories about safety issues in A.A. and were inquiring

to GSO about the Fellowship's safety policies. Staff at the office had no written material to share in relation to internal or public queries related to safety. This service piece was originally written by a GSO Staff ad hoc committee and approved by the AAWS board in February 2017. A Yellow Safety Card was approved in July 2017, which was criticized by some members of A.A., prompting the Board to review, possibly revise, or discontinue the card. But there were no changes to the Safety Card or to "Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare." After the publication of "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" Yellow Safety Card, the topic of safety remained a common workshop theme throughout the fellowship. This helped broaden and inform discussions, so an update of "Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare" was made to incorporate this latest information. Additionally, a Safety Flyer was also explored. While the revision was initially prompted by concerns about the safety card, it was informed by sharing at multiple events (such as Regional Forums), where the conversation focused on predatory/illegal actions, misconceptions about anonymity, dealing with health emergencies, racism in A.A., and the impact of sharing gender identity/pronouns. All this sharing prompted revisions to the safety pieces in April 2021. After these revisions, between 40 to 60 groups and individuals provided feedback; some feedback was accepting of new material, while others were concerned it could be perceived to be inconsistent with our Traditions and our scope. Another revision was undertaken, this time reviewed by legal counsel and distributed in March 2022. This revision resulted in more feedback, much of it upset about the removal of specific language addressing diversity and inclusion, prompting this agenda topic. The background includes letters from the board to groups voicing concern both for change and against. And the procedure the board took to make the change. The background contains four proposed agenda items from members and groups that another revision to "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" be made to revisit changes made between 2021 and 2022. These proposed agenda items focused on

the removal of language regarding diversity and inclusion – which stated that "racism in A.A. is a safety issue" and acknowledged that "we all operate within some unearned privilege." Also removed were passages about gender pronouns and "special interest" groups, like groups for women, the LGBTQ+ community, young people, Black and indigenous people of color (BIPOC), and certain professions like lawyers and doctors. The background has all three (2017, 2021, and 2022) versions of the safety service piece. The background includes a report on how service material is developed and updated and what purpose it serves. Service material dates to the 1960s. In the 1970s, material included information about A.A.'s relationship with Al-Anon, guidelines for tapers, and the introduction of service kits. In the 1980s and 1990s, service material expanded to include information about cooperation with the courts, finances, conventions, intergroups, our primary purpose, and anonymity. Historically, some material (like the preamble and the Responsibility Declaration) were initially service material that have become part of the Conference's scope of influence or concern, and some service material has been added to Conference-approved literature. This will conclude this presentation on Correction Item C; "Safety and AA": Our Common Welfare. I thank you for letting me serve as your area 42 Northern Correction Chair.

Feedback:

the new 2022 Safety in AA flyer F-211 is less inclusive of the LGBTQ community than the 2021 F-209 flyer.

AA is not safe for some communities and need to look at the broader AA membership not just what your home looks like

VI. Literature – O. Discuss cost effective media options that welcome young people to A.A. as an alternative to revising the 'Too Young?' pamphlet.

Libby G presentation:

Hello, my name is Libby and I'm an alcoholic. I am currently the Alternate Area Secretary/SAGSC Secretary and the co-chair for the Conference Agenda Items Literature committee. The item I am presenting today is for Literature, Item O: Discuss request to revise the pamphlet "Too Young".

Summarized Item O:

In 2017, the pamphlet "Too Young" was slated to be revised to be more current. Since then, discussions have led to the consideration of having paper and video formatting as well as input by the YPAA.

Background information:

The revision of the pamphlet "Too Young" was brought up as a floor action in 2017. It was assigned to the Trustee's Literature committee.

In 2018 the agenda item was only about the updating of the pamphlet and the Conference requested a progress report. It was later during 2018 that there was discussion about the possibility of producing an animated video format along with the pamphlet.

In 2019 the Conference Literature committee reviewed the draft of the pamphlet and requested samples of other potential formats. That same year conversations started to mention the Young People Conferences as a good place to find what is important and relatable to our young people. It was also mentioned that they have

locally produced literature items that could help shape the pamphlet. The committee expressed support to explore ways to integrate pamphlet art and podcasts versions of pamphlets. An appointed committee member held roundtables with the ICYPAA participants and received constructive and actionable feedback. The appointed committee member provided a detailed report of her findings from the ICYPAA (International), YSCYPAA (Virginia State), ACYPAA (All California) and PRAASA (Pacific Region). Some of the suggestions were it needed a more modern overall design; consider a cover design contest; make it flow in a logical order; consider quiz questions; and consider a new title. There were also suggestions to use QR codes and have people go directly to AA.org to view the pamphlet instead of a physical paper pamphlet. In 2020, the Trustee literature committee requested the Publishing Department provide progress including estimated costs and projected resource requirements. It was recommended that the project be deferred to 2021 because of challenges posed by the pandemic. In 2021 there was continued discussion about a 2022 budgeted print to video project. The committee was looking for an update on the script for the video format.

In 2022, the animation of "Too Young" was on the deferred project list and an estimated cost of \$100,000.

Excerpt from the January 28, 2023, trustees' Literature Committee report: "The committee discussed the 2017 Conference Floor action that "The pamphlet "Too Young?" be revised to reflect more current collective experiences of young alcoholics and their welcome to A.A." The committee discussed the new formats proposed and the high estimated costs (by using outside vendors). In view of the high-cost estimates, the committee suggested exploring other options, such as utilizing existing young people's videos developed by the International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (ICYPAA) or other possible alternatives to carry the message to young newcomers in A.A." In closing revising the pamphlet is still in process and the Literature committee is looking into ways to make the pamphlet for appealing and relevant to young people and looking into less expensive ways to provide on-line versions.

Feedback:

Young people aren't reading books or pamphlets AA needs get with the times how it shares the AA program.

Suggestions to use different platforms such as Tik-Tok and apps

AA message could be watered down by the proliferation of non AA apps

VIII. Public Information – L. Discuss feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms.

Daniel B VIII. Public Information – L. Presentation:

My name is Daniel B currently serving as GSR for the Minden Gardnerville Group in District 6. I have been asked to present on Public Information Item L "Discuss feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms."

The 2021 Public Information Advisory Action is as follows, that a feasibility study on paid placement of public service announcement videos on streaming platforms including, but not limited to, Netflix, Hulu, and YouTube be conducted and that a report on the research be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information.

From the January 29, 2022, trustees' Public Information Committee report is as follows, the committee discussed the study on paid placement ads on streaming platforms. The committee agreed to forward the 2022 Conference Committee on Public Information the research conducted by GSO regarding the study. The trustees' discussed if this was the direction they wanted to go. From the January 28, 2023, Meeting of the trustees' Public Information Committee is as follows, the committee discussed the updated feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms and agreed that it includes sufficient information. The committee agreed to forward the 2023 Conference Committee on Public Information the research conducted by GSO to consider an approach or testing paid placement PSA

What are Passive and Active placement of ads? Passive ads attract your services in seemingly small, subtle, more native ways that don't inconvenience or overwhelm people. It involves efforts that reach people whether they know it or not, such as placing ads in locations where they are looking anyway. An example would be to display an ad in the margin of a website, or in between website content, is a passive form of advertising.

Since visitors have the option of looking at the ad or other content nearby, passive advertising doesn't feel forced or annoying, but rather optional and expected from customers. It makes content and opportunity available to online users through smart positioning—but then waits for consumers to view the content on their own. Active placement ads generally involve invading people's space or time in larger, more aggressive and direct ways. These efforts are more obvious and intrusive, so people know right away they are seeing ads. Pop-up ads are the most obvious example of an Active placement ad. The person wasn't looking for the pop-up or expecting it, but it was put in front of them regardless. Once they see it, there's no question they're being targeted, and they must take action to remove it from their view. Either click through to see the ad or close the window. The research did not find anything in the Public Information Committee's History & Action documents or our department files stating we cannot do paid advertising. In fact, we already partake in unsolicited paid email marketing and advertising for communication distribution via Campaign Monitor. Therefore, the Communication Services Project Coordinator was recommending moving forward with broadcast, which we are performing with Connect 360 and paid online distribution (which we have no plans to do at this time) for "Wall and "Party"; Which are PSAs found on AA.org. The PI Coordinator has framed this research to share first what we do today to develop, produce, distribute, and track the successful outreach of any new TV Public Service Announcements (PSA) approved by a General Service Conference. The hope is this research will prove helpful as everyone contemplates if paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms is a potentially new and effective media channel service to use with our self-supporting contributions from the Fellowship. Our current process is outlined in detail in our 2023 Comprehensive Media Plan. Here are a few excerpted sections to consider within the context of this research. The GSO Staff on the P.I. Assignment leads any project to produce new PSAs, whether they are for broadcast television or radio placement, as well as to edit any existing PSAs. Questions to consider as you review research, could we use Tradition Seven self-supporting contributions to continue distribution of our produced, relevant, and useful PSAs as a General Service Office service, beyond the one-year after new PSAs are produced? Is paid placement an avenue for this type of additional distribution of airing our message on streaming platforms? Will this allow us to be seen through channels that the general public, professionals and potential alcoholics are using?

The Digital Landscape Decades ago, the main media to work with included television, radio, and print. Today, nonprofits can't ignore the shift in habits in terms of where people get their news, information, or entertainment. Television audiences are moving away from broadcast TV and moving to Hulu, Netflix. Radio stations are losing listeners to Pandora, iHeart radio or music on mobile devices. Newspapers and magazines have either gone out of business or are struggling as people get their news for free online from any number of websites. The world of communications has shifted.

To capture the attention of online audiences, many nonprofits are gravitating to an "integrated approach" -- maintaining traditional media but expanding to online platform in-order to widen their audience reach, especially younger audiences. While these nonprofits continue to take advantage of donated media space as available through broadcast PSAs, they also supplement with paid social media campaigns and digital placements. Donated versus Paid in Digital and social media In the world of digital and social media, there was a time when websites would place banners for nonprofits at no cost and bloggers would happily write about nonprofit causes. Today that has completely changed because there are so many advertisers willing to pay, the platforms sell out their space. Remember that TV stations air PSAs to be

good corporate citizens which helps during license renewal periods with the FCC. They also have a need for PSA to fill unsold advertising space because they simply can't sell all slots. But in the case of digital and social media, there is no overreach government agency or license renewal that forces a platform to be altruistic, for these it's really more about shareholders and profits. The most that can be hoped for is that the platforms offer a reduced rate for nonprofit messages, called nonprofit rates or "low bono" rates. For any organization wanting to have messaging on digital and social media platforms, it must be on a paid basis as there really are no "donated" options. Yes, other nonprofits who want to be online do pay. If you are searching online and you see a banner come up for a nonprofit organization, that organization is paying to have that banner appear. Is it then considered a commercial if the placement is paid? There really is no expert ruling that defines what is considered a commercial. It can be looked at two ways. If the definition rests on whether the time was bought or donated, then one could say it's a "PSA" when airing in donated space but is a "commercial" if the time is purchased. However, if it's a function of the message, then a "commercial" can be a for-profit entity selling a product or service, while a PSA continues to be a public service if the message is in the public's interest, regardless of if the airtime was purchased or not. It's just a paid public service campaign. Ultimately this is a gray area and because it can be argued both ways, A.A. will need to properly evaluate to determine its comfort level related to this matter. According to a feasibility study from and provided by connect360. While I recognize A.A. is not about raising funds, the point is this – as an organization, you need to continually reach new audiences with your message. To find them, newer strategies need to be adapted. Much like the fundraisers continue with older methods but have had to expanded to newer technologies.

Feedback:

FCC does not require that broadcasters provide free PSA time anymore
Use of paid PSA's is no different than spending money on pamphlets, books, video, and audio recordings
Get with the times
PSAs can be geared to social media outlets
Paid PSA can be more targeted such as what media outlets are used, frequencies and time slots

IX. Report and Charter – A (2). The A.A. Service Manual, 2023-2025 Edition:
2. Consider the request to rescind the 2018 Advisory Action concerning a footnote in the resolution concerning "registered" and "Groups".

This agenda item is very lengthy but the main reason for this discussion is a clarification. In 1955 Bill W wrote in the section "AS IT IS UNDERSTOOD" That neither the twelve traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous nor the warranties of article 12 of the conference charter shall ever be changed if and when the time comes. Except by a vote of 3/4s of the registered groups worldwide. There would be at least a six-month time frame for the groups to respond. The main focus of this resolution was to discern between listed and registered groups. A footnote was to be added the AAWs only list groups solely for purpose of accurate communications.

What all of really comes down to is that a meeting on the meeting app are just that a meeting and are not necessarily registered. So who can vote on a very important issue? Whose votes would be counted listed or registered or both?

The proposal in this item is to remove the footnote and to have further discussion on the subject as to what votes would count. Bear in mind Bill wrote registered groups in the original draft in 1955. Much discussion needs to be made as to how do we allow every AA member a vote. Like many agenda items this topic will be around for quite a while. Right now the question is to remove the footnote and discuss a different wording as it somewhat confusing.

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Feedback:

The feedback more about questions than comments

Confused what is the difference between registered and listed group or groups that aren't active

Is agenda item more about semantics.

We need to discuss this more and ask more question

X Treatment & Accessibilities – F. Discuss carrying the message to alcoholics with intellectual or information processing challenges, communication challenges and diverse neurological abilities.

Joan: Presentation

In the fall of 2022, the Trustees Committee on Treatment & Accessibilities considered developing a pamphlet “directed to the alcoholic with learning disabilities, social disorders, developmental disabilities, and cognitive disorders and took no action. Instead, they suggested the Conference Committee “discuss the best methods for the Fellowship to reach the alcoholic with learning disabilities, social disorders, developmental disabilities, and cognitive disorders.”

Currently, AA World Services has two pamphlets that address challenges members with cognitive issues and learning disabilities face. “Serving All Alcoholics: Making the AA Message Accessible” includes a section on “Easy To Read Literature” section. The other one, “Access to AA: Members Share on Overcoming Barriers: contains several stories from members who have experienced traumatic brain injury or stroke and how they participated in their recovery including general service, and the assistance they received from members of their groups.

Their group members helped in various ways, from taking dictation so they could share their story in the pamphlet, to reading to them when they could not speak, to providing a special place for their wheelchair and their Dynavox assistive speech equipment.

In addition to these service pamphlets, AAWS has published easy to read pamphlets that include illustrations, such as “ The Twelve Steps Illustrated” or in comic book format, such as “Too Young” and “It Happened to Alice” and “What

Happened to Jim”.

In previous years, the Trustees Committee has recommended adding more language to the Accessibilities Workbook and Guidelines “to include references to intellectual disabilities and learning difficulties.” It also expanded the scope of the Treatment and Accessibilities Service Committee “to coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in a wide variety of treatment settings, and to set up means of ‘bridging the gap’ from the treatment setting to the A.A. Fellowship. In addition, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups serving those who experience barriers to accessing the A.A. message and participating in A.A.’s Three Legacies — Recovery, Unity, and Service. Finally, the committee supports the work of individual A.A. members and groups striving to ensure that A.A. members who live in under-served or remote communities — communities difficult to reach because of geography, language, or culture — have access to the A.A. message.” Please share your experiences on this topic, any suggestions you may have for members with learning or information processing disorders or their sponsors.

Feedback:

Need literature that addresses members with learning disabilities
sponsor a gentleman on audio all literature needs

End of agenda presentations

Paul announced NAGSC will need a host District for the next NAGSC meeting
Joe H volunteered his district !0A in Battle Mountain as the host district.

Jake Area Delegate:

implored the GSR’s “Go do your Job” bring what you learned today to the groups. Thanked everyone for coming. He got more information questions to bring to the general service conference.

Caroline SAGSC Chair:

Thanked everyone and very grateful for her first NAGSC meeting invited to the SAGSC Roundtables meeting tomorrow where hear 5 more presentations at the Las Vegas central office

Paul adjourned the meeting with no objections about 3:20 with the responsibility statement