

## **SECTION 4**

### **2015 CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS SECTION**

## **GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2016 ADVISORY ACTIONS**

The group conscience of the Fellowship of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in Australia was expressed in the following Advisory Actions to the General Service Board, based upon the recommendations from the Conference Committees, as indicated in the headings. The background to these Advisory Actions and the submissions from the Groups, individual members or from the General Service Board in the form of Topics which led to them were presented in full detail to all Areas prior to Conference.

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### **CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES**

Advisory Action #005/2016

Conference recognised the position of Trustee Emeritus as an invaluable, ongoing resource for the Fellowship and resolved that this position should be continued.

Voting: For: 30; Against: 1; Abstentions: 0

Carried

Advisory Action #023/2016

Conference noted that the Trustee Emeritus is not a Board member and does not have full participation rights at the General Service Board or at the General Service Conference as stated in Topic 023. Conference resolved not to change the role of Trustee Emeritus. The position provides a readily available and constant source of knowledge pertaining to issues Conference members may be unaware of and it was felt that this was worthy of a seat at the General Service Conference.

Voting: For: 29; Against: 2; Abstentions: 0

### **CONFERENCE REPORT CHARTER & SERVICE MANUAL COMMITTEE**

Advisory Action #003/2016

Conference resolved that the following wording be added to Guidelines 14 and 15 and in the appropriate section of the AA Group Handbook:

*Groups and Districts should be careful not to neglect their  
Group/District/Area/CSO and GSO financial donations in order to support  
Conventions.*

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #012/2016

Conference resolved that, should an Area or District invite a trustee (other than Regional trustee), GSO staff member/s, World Service Delegate or National Co-ordinator to attend an Area or District event (excluding Regional/National Forums and approved special events), the costs for travel, accommodation, meals and registration of the guest/s should be covered by that Area or District. This paragraph should be inserted in Guideline 14 and in Section 5, part 2 of the Service Manual "Area Activities".

Voting: For: 31; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0

Advisory Action #020/2016

Conference resolved that the questions and answers of the 'Ask It Basket' at Conference be minuted in the Conference Report.

For: 17; Against: 13; Abstentions: 1  
Carried

Advisory Action #048/2016

Conference resolved that Guideline GL-35 Remote Communities be accepted.

Voting: For: 31; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0  
Carried

Advisory Action #054/2016

Conference resolved to accept the submitted text to replace the existing text in the Service Manual under the heading 'Regional Trustees and Representation, with the following amendments:

1. Under "Chairing AA event Planning Committees" : first line to read "Regional Trustees encourage and assist...."
2. Last paragraph, under Relationships with Central Service Office" to read on line 3, "Service Offices. With some, due to the overlap of local services, They may have a courtesy non-voting position.....".

Voting: For: 30; Against: 0; Abstentions: 1  
Carried

## **CONFERENCE POLICIES & ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE**

Advisory Action #056/2016

Conference resolved that the Trustees' Literature Committee should be requested to review the Area Delegate section of the Service Manual (as per Advisory Action #012/2015) and bring back their recommendations to Conference 2017.

Voting: For: 29; Against: 1; Abstentions: 0  
Carried

Advisory Action #057/2016

Conference resolved that Advisory Action #001/2010 be rescinded and that a form be designed and sent to all delegates, asking them what personal contact details (address, phone, email,) they wish to be included in the folder. If the completed form is not sent back to the General Service Office, the email address only will be published.

Voting: For: 28; Against: 2; Abstentions: 1  
Carried

Advisory Action #027/2013

Conference resolved to accept this topic, which requested greater effort be focussed on the indigenous Australian. However, specific requirements need specific requests and it is the responsibility of Groups, Districts and Areas to respond.

Voting: For: 31; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0  
Carried

Advisory Action #058/2016

Conference resolved that the plan submitted by the Structure Review Committee be updated by the Structure Review Committee and circulated as a 2017 Conference Topic

by the Conference Agenda Committee as soon as possible following Conference to give the members and groups adequate time to discuss and provide feedback to their delegates.

Voting: For: 28; Against: 1; Abstentions: 2  
Carried

Advisory Action #059/2016

The Conference Policies & Admissions Committee recommends to Conference that the Conference Agenda Committee set up at special four hour session at the beginning of Conference 2017 to discuss the Structure Review Plan.

Voting: For: 30; Against: 0; Abstentions: 1  
Carried

#### **CONFERENCE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

Advisory Action #060/2016

Conference resolved that the CD ROM produced as a result of Advisory Action #005/2012 should be approved as a service item, but requested that the heading be removed.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

#### **CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE**

Advisory Action #008/2016

Conference resolved to recommend that the General Service Conference and members throughout Australia continue to support carrying the message in Fiji and support organised and regular initiative to carry the message to countries in our zone, where there is little or no AA. The International Sponsorship fund is available for this purpose. However, if proposed expenditure exceeds \$5,000, approval should be sought from the Conference International Committee on behalf of Conference, as per Advisory Action #011/2010.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #044/2016

Conference resolved to reject the topic as written. Conference resolved that, in the event that there is not a bid for a National Convention, the Fellowship be asked to consider the following options:

- a) Bring forward the Convention scheduled for the following year.
- b) Hold an event in a country within the Asia/Oceania zone, if we are invited.
- c) Do nothing.
- d) Submit their own ideas.

Voting: For: 23; Against: 8; Abstentions: 0  
Carried

#### **CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Advisory Action #061/2016

Conference resolved to accept the the audited accounts for year ended 30 June 2015.

Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #001/2016

Conference resolved that a one or two page financial summary be published in the December edition of AA Around Australia with directions to the Service Website and other options for more detailed information.

Voting: For: 29; Against: ; 2; Abstentions: 0  
Carried

Advisory Action #007/2016

Conference resolved that the costs of Conference (flights, accommodation, meals, venue hire (including equipment) be published in AA Around Australia and on the Service Website. Conference further resolved that an article about their experience and the value of Conference be written by delegates and published in AA Around Australia and in the Conference Report.

Voting: For: 30; Against: 1; Absetentions: 1  
Carried

Advisory Action #017/2016

Conference resolved that the General Service Board be requested to publish costs of travel/accommodation/air fares at PI&CPC Forums/Events in Australia on the Service Website.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #019/2016

Conference resolved that the costs of General Service Board (GSB) meetings be met from AA general revenue funds, and that collected Conference levies need only to go towards the cost of the General Service Conference.

Voting: For: 28; Against: 2; Abstentions: 0  
Carried

## CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

### Advisory Action #062/2016

Conference resolved to accept the General Service Board's recommendations re National Alcoholics Anonymous Australia E-Magazine, which resulted from Advisory Action #002/2015.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

### Advisory Action #004/2016

Conference resolved that the Twelve Step banners should be printed with the same punctuation and emphasis as those used in the Big Book. Specifically:

- 1) Use of an m-dash in Step One (an m-dash is a large dash)
- 2) Emphasis on the words 'as we understood Him' by italic font (or underline) in Steps Three and Eleven.
- 3) Use a comma in Step Eleven, not a dash.
- 4) Place a comma after the word 'steps' in Step Twelve.
- 5) Use of lower case to be used for the banners, this then shows the emphasis, by use of a capital letter, in the words 'Power', 'God' and 'Him'.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

### Advisory Action #024/2016

Conference resolved to make the page layout and paragraphs of the chapter The Doctor's Opinion compatible with the US/UK versions and the pocket version of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

### Advisory Action #036/2016

Conference resolved that the submitted corrections to be made to the Australian Edition Big Book before the next printing. There is no need for a recall of existing books.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

### Advisory Action #038/2016

Conference resolved that a special committee consisting of indigenous members should be set up to discuss the production of a booklet/pamphlet on the Twelve Steps for indigenous Australians. On completion, a draft to be brought back to Conference for approval.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

### Advisory Action #039/2016

Conference resolved that the DVD 'The 12 Steps and What They Mean to Us' be changed but that the submitter of the topic be asked to provide specific details on collaboration with the General Service Office. The Conveners of the National Indigenous Convention should also be consulted.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #045/2016

Conference resolved that the submitted document on the General Service Conference process be produced and made available on the AA Service Website, with the following amendments:

Text on right hand side to be removed

References to Area be removed

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

#### **CONFERENCE REMOTE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

Advisory Action #040-3/2016

Conference resolved to request that the General Service Board produces a workbook offering suggestions on how to carry the message to members/groups and professionals in a remote setting. It is requested that this be brought back to Conference 2017 for approval.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

#### **CONFERENCE AGENDA COMMITTEE**

Advisory Action#029/2016

Conference resolved to accept the revised Conference Topic form submitted by the Conference Agenda Committee.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #063/2016

Conference resolved that Conferenced 2017 be held at the Novotel Hotel Brighton Le Sands, NSW from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #064/2016

Conference resolved that the Conference Agenda Committee should meet by teleconference in 2017 on Saturday 17th June at 11.30am EST to formulate agendas and on Saturday 12th August at 11.30am EST to allocate topics to Conference.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #065/2016

Conference resolved that the deadline for receipt of Conference 2017 Topics should be 4pm (EST) Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #066/2016

Conference resolved that the theme for the General Service Conference 2017 should be 'A Vision For You'.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

## **BIDS**

Advisory Action #067/2016

Conference resolved to accept the bid by Area A, Eastern Region, to host the 2018 Treatment & Correctional Facilities Forum.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #068/2016

Conference resolved to accept tentative bids to host the 2020 National Convention by Area C, North Eastern Region and Area F, Southern Region.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

Advisory Action #069/2016

Conference resolved to accept the bid by Area C, Eastern Region to host the Eastern Regional Forum in 2017.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands

## **FLOOR ACTIONS**

Advisory Action #070/2016

Conference resolved to request the General Service Board to consider forming a specific committee to deal with indigenous matters.

Voting: Carried by a show of hands