

2017 ABM/C • Boston, MA • Delegate Report
By Mark M

Monday, July 24th, 4 p.m. – Registration
8 p.m. – Getting Current meeting

Tuesday, July 25th, Delegate orientation (Agenda for the week)

- General Assembly
- Getting to know the Board of Trustees – 3 year terms
 - All nine seats are filled. There was one empty seat and the one person on the ballot was voted in. Each board member introduced themselves.
- Concepts presentation
- Tuesday evening: New England Intergroup provided a bus to the Newton, MA Founders meeting. Over 100 members attended!!

Wednesday – Friday, July 26th-28th

- Every morning at 8 a.m. – General Assembly
- Every afternoon – Motions and Items for discussion were presented and voted on... See attachment.

Wednesday Evening – The raffle raised \$2,420.00 to go toward FWS expenses for the conference.

Conference Sub Committees (in part):

- Anorexia
- By Laws
- Charter
- Sponsorship
- Healthy Relationships
- Steps, Traditions and Concepts
- Translation (19 different languages from our literature)

Motions and Items for Discussion – 52 Voters

Motions

Motion: To approve the “Step Questions Workbook” as Conference Approved Literature (CAL)
Outcome: Motion did not pass (2/3 needed to pass)

Motion: To approve the Companion to Chapter Four of the Basic Text of S.L.A.A. as CAL
Outcome: Motion passed

Motion: To approve the text of “Health Relationships Pamphlet” as CAL
Outcome: Motion passed

Motion: To amend the By-Laws, Article V
Outcome: Motion passed (unanimous)

Motion: To approve the “Anorexia Recovery Tools” text as CAL
Outcome: Motion did not pass

Motion: To amend the By-Laws, Articles III and VI
Outcome: Motion passed (unanimous)

Motion: The Annual Business Meeting shall be conducted as a “CLOSED” meeting
Outcome: Motion did not pass / tabled

Motion: To make the S.L.A.A. Basic Text available as a audiobook in electronic format
Outcome: Motion did not pass

Items for Discussion

- Integrating anorexia stories and concepts into literature
- Developing an S.L.A.A. book of meditations
- Publishing the 50th Anniversary Edition of the Basic Text of S.L.A.A. in the year 2026
- Feedback with discussion about renaming the use and name of “Lone” Group

The Twelve Concepts for World Service of S.L.A.A.*

1. Ultimate responsibility and authority for S.L.A.A. world services always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
2. The Annual Business Conference, by delegation, is the voice and conscience for our world services and of S.L.A.A. as a whole.
3. To insure effective leadership, each element of S.L.A.A. - the Conference, the Board of Trustees, staff, and committees - all possess the "Right of Decision."
4. The "Right of Participation" is maintained by allowing members the opportunity to cast one vote up to the level at which they are trusted servants.
5. The "Right of Appeal" prevails so that minority opinion is heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.
6. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the Board of Trustees.
7. The Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the Fellowship are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. Although the Conference Charter is a legal document; it also relies on tradition and the power of the S.L.A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
8. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, including their ability to hire staff.
9. Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership must be assumed by the Board of Trustees.
10. Every service responsibility is matched by equal service authority – the scope of this authority is always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and by-laws.
11. The trustees need the best possible committees, staff, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, systems of rotation; and rights and duties are always matters of serious concern.
12. The Conference observes the spirit of S.L.A.A. Tradition,
 - a. taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power;
 - b. that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle;
 - c. that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others;
 - d. that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
 - e. that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy;
 - f. that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Fellowship it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

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A.A. Twelve Concepts (short form)

1. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship. 2. The General Service conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs. 3. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.-the Conference, the General Service Board its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives-with a traditional "Right of Decision." 4. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge. 5. Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration. 6. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board. 7. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness. 8. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities. 9. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees. 10. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined. 11. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern. 12. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.