

## **What happens with Proposed Agenda Items when they are received?**

What ever its origin, any agenda item follows the same path to the Conference agenda: The A.A. staff studies it in the light of previous Conference actions, then passes it on to the trustees' Conference Committee or the appropriate Conference committee. Usually, the trustees' committee determines the most appropriate way of programming it-as a workshop or presentation subject, a proposal, or a committee concern.

*(From the A.A. Service Manual BM-31, Page 42)*

# Roles and delegated responsibilities

## RECEIPT

The Conference Coordinator receives all submissions and ensures they are tracked through the process from receipt to disposition to trustees committee decision to EDW and with the needed communications to all Conference Members along the way.

## DISPOSITION

The Conference Coordinator works with the Director of Staff Services (or GM) and the Chair of the TCGSC to review and ensure PAIs are disposed to the correct trustees committee or board for consideration.

## TRUSTEES COMMITTEES

Considers the PAI for possible inclusion on the agenda or other type of programming for the GSC (sharing session, presentation topic)

Note: some PAIs may be forwarded to AAWS, AAGV or the GSB instead of a Trustees Committee

# From the Conference Charter (related excerpts)

**Article 10: The General Service Board: Composition, Jurisdiction, Responsibilities:** The General Service Board is the chief service arm of the Conference and is essentially custodial in its character. Excepting for decisions upon matters of policy, finance, or A.A. Tradition, liable to seriously affect A.A. as a whole, the General Service Board has entire freedom of action in the routine conduct of the policy and business affairs of the A.A. service corporations and may name suitable committees and elect directors to its subsidiary corporate service entities in pursuance of this purpose.

**Article 11. The General Service Conference, Its General Procedures:** The Conference will hear the financial and policy reports of the General Service Board and its related corporate services. The Conference will advise with the trustees, directors, and staff members upon all matters presented as affecting A.A. as a whole, engage in debate, appoint necessary committees, and pass suitable resolutions for the advice or direction of the General Service Board and its related services.

# How do Trustees Committees or Boards decide which items are forward to the GSC as Agenda Items?

Discussion includes:

- Is this a matter for the GSC?
- Can/should it be routed elsewhere (Trustees Committee, AAWS, AAGV, addressed by Staff, sharing session topic)?
- Input from the Conference Committee, do they feel this matter should be brought before the GSC?
- Input from the GSO Staff on the related assignment(s), is this subject coming up on the assignment, is there a widely expressed need, has it been recently discussed at conference, relevant info or history available?
- Does it relate to work already in progress in a board, committee or office?

# How do Trustees Committees or Boards decide which items are forward to the GSC as Agenda Items?

How is the decision made?

No one or two considerations “make the decision”. The Trustees Committee considers the factors I mentioned, and any others that may apply.

As with any group conscience each person might feel some factors are more important than others. Together we form a conscience that is better than the opinion of any one participant.

Decisions are made by discussion, vote, and substantial unanimity; and then reported to the full GSB.

## What happens next?

- Trustees Committees/Boards report to the full GSB the disposition of their assigned PAIs (Oct GSB meeting)
- The GSB discusses and determines disposition of any items assigned to the GSB (October GSB meeting)
- Agenda Items going forward to the GSC are compiled and provided to the EDW subcommittee for distribution (after October GSB meeting)
- Submitters whose proposals were not forwarded to the GSC receive a personal response advising of the outcome and providing some of the rationale for the decision
- The EDW distribution is forwarded by the subcommittee, to TCGSC, to the GSB for review and adoption (January GSB meeting)

# Communication with Conference Members

## September/October

- Preliminary agenda is compiled, and this includes standing items and items carried over from the prior conference. Remember there are items on the agenda for the GSC before new PAIs are added.
- Conference Committee on Trustees agenda is updated to reflect any elections occurring at that GSC.

## November/December

- The initial list of Agenda Items forwarded to the GSC is provided to Conference Members.

## After January Board Weekend

- Final list of Agenda Items, including any items that were not decided until the January Board weekend, is provided to Conference Members (this list includes the outcome of EDW distribution).
- Summary of items not forwarded to the GSC is provided to Conference Members.

**Thank you.**