

- I. Topics Covered (\*Items will be voted on at the Spring Assembly-PLEASE come to the Assembly so your groups voice can be heard through your vote!)
  - A. **AGENDA ITEM #1 To select the candidate for Area 51 Archivist for the 2018-2023 term.**
    - 1) **BACKGROUND:** Every six years, Area 51 elects an Archivist. The Archivist is elected by the Area Committee using Third Legacy Procedure. This candidate is then presented to the Assembly for approval. The Assembly approval in spring of 2017 will allow sufficient time for the transition of duties, the relocation of the Archives Repository and to enable the new Area Archivist to begin serving in January of 2018.
    - 2) A candidate was selected- Keith Mathews (Formerly a NYPA)
  - B. **AGENDA ITEM #2 That beginning in 2017, Area 51 reimburse the expenses for lodging, meals, transportation and registration for the Area 51 Archivist to attend the annual National A.A. Archives Workshop.**
    - 1) **BACKGROUND:** The National Alcoholics Anonymous Archives Workshop (“NAAAW”) began in 1996 with a Workshop held in Akron, Ohio at the Mayflower Hotel. The 21st annual NAAAW will be hosted by Area 80 on September 28 – October 1, 2017 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. It is an open, service-oriented, educational Workshop hosted by a Host Committee chosen through an open bidding process. The Guidelines, agendas and overall direction of the Workshop are determined by a Board of Trustees and Officers of the NAAAW. The individual workshops are conducted in an A.A. forum, with a specific focus on the open sharing of the experience, strength and hope of Archivists, attendees and members of the NAAAW. Consistent with A.A.’s primary purpose, each annual Workshop attempts to share information, methods, procedures, ethics and enthusiasm in order to help the still-suffering alcoholic by preserving the integrity of the A.A. message and the history of the Fellowship for current and future members. Typical recent Workshop formats have run from Thursday evening through Sunday morning with concurrent sessions regarding archives preservation and A.A. history designed for beginner, intermediate and advanced levels of experience. Presentations and workshops are generally given by the G.S.O. Archivist; Area, District and Intergroup Archivists; Past and Present Trustees; Past and Present Delegates; and alcoholic and nonalcoholic professional archivists and historians. In addition to the sharing of experience with fellow A.A. archivists, the rotating nature of the Workshop allows participants some time to explore the A.A. history of the host Area and how that is being preserved.  
In 2017, a new Archivist-elect will be selected at the Winter Committee Meeting and approved at the Spring Assembly to serve a term of 2018-2023. Since the training and exposure provided by the Workshop are vital to that new person, this motion contemplates reimbursement of that person’s expenses to attend beginning in 2017.
    - 2) **BUDGET IMPACT:** During his term, the current Archivist has attended 6 Workshops in Macon, GA; Cocoa Beach, FL; Springfield, IL; King of Prussia, PA; Independence, OH; and Concord, CA, each at some personal expense since the cost of attending each workshop has exceeded the \$375.00 allowance the Area began budgeting in 2005. It currently covers about 1/3 of the cost, so the estimated budget impact would be approximately \$750.00 above the currently budgeted \$375.00, with a one-time increase in the prudent reserve of \$375.00. This motion is brought forward by the Area 51 Archivist.
  - C. **AGENDA ITEM # 3-Ratify the Practice, Policy, and Procedures manual as an ongoing reference for Area 51 members to reflect current practices of Area 51 operations.** (Called P3 manual-passed with only one vote against it.)
  - D. **AGENDA ITEM # 4-Add to the duties of the Area 51 Archivist with Area committee oversight to maintain the P3 manual as a living document, to maintain it as an ongoing reflection of Area 51 procedures.** (Passed unanimously)
- II. **What else we done- Broke out into mock conference workshops and discuss items of interest. There were several items on the agenda to be discussed. I participated in the following topics;**
    - A. **Review suggestions for the theme of the 2018 General Service Conference.**
      - 1) The workgroup narrowed their selection down to three “Theme” choices of the listed themes. A review was done of the previous themes used. The majority choice was #21 “Keeping A.A. Safe through the Steps Traditions, and Concepts.” The basic sense of the topic was that it is an ongoing discussion currently running through the A.A. structure. The second and third choices were #19 “A.A. Technology: Where Innovation meets Tradition” and #29 “Pathways to Unity: Practicing A.A.’s Principles.” Several group members expressed the need for technology as we

advance in the technology world, as well as the need for A.A. to grow using technology. "Pathways to Unity: Practicing A.A.'s principles" was also a very well received and discussed within the group.

**B. Discuss voting procedures for electing trustee-at-large/U.S. and to Consider request regarding the number of regions and number of regional trustees serving on the General Service Board.**

- 1) We discussed the voting procedures for electing trustee-at-large/US and considered not only the request for "regarding the number of regions and number of regional trustees serving on the general service board", but also the interest of the linguistic community also being included in this process in the future. We had two different basic ideas as to what would serve to help voting procedures and taking considerations on the "regions and number of trustees serving on the General Service board."
  - a. The first idea was to "rezone" or to "re-draw" the map recreating regional boundaries so that each has the same amount of areas and same number of regions. The downfall to this would be that Area's would then need to reconstruct all their current procedures, locations, etc. in regards to the changes. We also noted that West Central has never had a trustee at large. This topic needs more discussion and further research.
  - b. The second idea was to limit the number of votes per region and to give every region an equal number of votes. Again, we felt that this needs to be discussed and researched further before any real suggestions can be made.

**C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.**

- 1) We had several good ideas concerning encouraging interest in the Regional Forums these included but were not limited to:
  - a. Get the word out- notify DCM's and encourage them of the upcoming event in advance asking that they encourage GSR's to attend and share the experience to promote attendance.
  - b. Have experienced Area rep.'s take their experience into districts through local events, and large gatherings of the fellowship.
  - c. Offer a hospitality and or transportation system to assist or compliment the event.
  - d. We also discussed accessibility of location and frequency of the event.
  - e. It was suggested that the event be every (4) years rather than its regular schedule to allow for planning of attendance making it more accessible.
  - f. Links and/or fliers could be attached to our Area website to promote attendance.

**D. Workshop for workgroup #6**

- 1) Topic's- Wrap up this three (3) year ongoing workshop by addressing Restructuring the Assemblies to something more functional.
  - a. Our solution and suggestion will be formed into a motion at the summer committee meeting to reflect the following: We will suggest that the Sunday morning speaker be moved to Saturday night allowing decompression time for committee members. Possibility of moving workshops and or meetings to Sunday and/or adjusting the schedule to make the speaker time cohesive to the altered structure. This will allow more time on Saturday and Sunday.

**III. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING AREA 51 EVENTS** All Area 51 events below will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh Midtown, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC unless otherwise indicated 2017 Area 51: Freedom from Bondage XXIX Hampton Inn & Suites Aberdeen March 10-12, 2017

Eastern Preconference, Wilmington April 1, 2017 - Spanish Preconference April 2, 2017

→ **Central Preconference, Burlington April 8, 2017** ←

Western Preconference - Charlotte April 9, 2017

Spring Committee Meeting - May 19, 2017 Spring Assembly May 20-21, 2017

70th North Carolina State Convention - July 13-16, 2017

Summer Committee Meeting - August 26-27, 2017-Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons 3121 West Gate City Boulevard, Greensboro

Fall Committee Meeting Fall Assembly - November 3, 2017 November 4-5, 2017

OTHER UPCOMING GENERAL SERVICE EVENTS - 67th General Service Conference New York (Attendance restricted to Conference members) April 23-29, 2017 SSAASA IV Sheraton Atlanta Airport 1900 Sullivan Road, Atlanta GA, 30337