

Message to the 70th General Service Conference

Dear Conference members,

The General Service Board met on Friday, April 3 to reach a group conscience on the date range and conduct of the 70th General Service Conference via virtual platform. The Board tasked the office with determining the most feasible execution of its vision for the Conference and directed that the Area delegates be surveyed for their input on availability to participate fully in the Conference, as proposed.

Over the previous weekend, the Regional trustees caucused with their Area delegates and reported the results of their survey to the General Service Conference coordinator. This information was analyzed and informed the office's development of a schedule for the 70th General Service Conference.

Schedule Outline for the 70th General Service Conference

The 70th General Service Conference is to convene beginning Saturday, May 16 and be in session through Tuesday, May 19, 2020 to perform essential business: A total of four days with a maximum of six hours of Conference sessions, with breaks, each day.

An internal virtual conference project working group has developed a plan to prepare for and hold the Conference. The plan includes:

1. Pre-Conference work – Monday, April 6, through Friday, May 15, 2020
2. Pre-Conference sessions – Wednesday, April 29 to Wednesday, May 13, 2020
 - a. Training sessions
 - b. Joint Trustee and Conference Committee meetings
 - c. Conference Committee meetings on reduction of agenda items
 - d. A Delegate orientation session by Region
3. Conference "Week" Schedule – Saturday, May 16-Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Essential business is defined as the voting, by substantial unanimity for the completed slates of members of the General Service Board and the directors of the two corporate boards, A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc.

In addition, the Conference will hold the trustee elections, review board and finance reports and receive the reports of the Conference committees. The schedule will also include a general sharing session, an area delegates only meeting and member connection activities.

The Conference Committees will be meeting in pre-Conference sessions to make decisions on reducing agenda workload using guidelines that will be developed by the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference. These sessions will be scheduled by the Conference Committee secretaries.

The General Service Board shall hold its annual meeting and the meetings of members of the corporate boards at some time after the Conference to implement the actions of the 70th General Service Conference.

A Final Report of the 70th General Service Conference shall be prepared and published after the Conference has met in general session to conduct its essential business and the General Service Board has met to accept the actions of the 2020 Conference, as described above.

Thank you all very much for your patience and attention over the past few weeks as we have worked together to move forward with the planning process, to get us to this point.

Yours sincerely, in fellowship,

Greg

G. Gregory Tobin

General Manager

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