

To: SETA Chairperson

From: SETA Literature Committee

RE: PAI to provide Final Conference Agenda to AA Fellowship by Feb 1

The SETA Literature Committee would like submit the following Proposed Agenda Item for approval (or disapproval) at the July 2024 SETA Assembly;

*“Make Final Conference Agenda Items, and background material available to the entire Fellowship no later than February 1.”*

In reviewing the Equitable Distribution of Workload, this past 74<sup>th</sup> GSC did amend the submission date for PAI’s to after September 30 which is helpful. However, this does not address the issue of a compressed timeline to review the Final Conference Agenda Items after the list is made available to the Fellowship. This PAI is to allow the A.A. Fellowship more time to review the annual Conference Agenda Items and develop a fully informed group conscience.

Allowing individuals, groups, districts, and areas time to review, discuss, and inform trusted servants of the fully informed conscience of the Fellowship is a crucial and vital part of the process approving Advisory Actions. These discussions need to take place at group consciences, then be passed on to District Committees, and be discussed at Area Assemblies prior to the General Service Conference. By having the Final Agenda items available prior to Feb. 1, the Fellowship would have 2 months to review and discuss the Final Agenda Items.

Below is the Proposed Agenda Item the SETA Literature Committee is submitting for consideration by the July 2024 SETA Assembly.

Thank you for your time and efforts

In Love and Service,  
Jim Mahon  
SETA Literature Committee Alt. Chair

**General Service Conference (G.S.C.)  
Proposed Agenda Item Submission Form**

**Annual deadline for submissions for a General Service Conference is **September 15\***.**

What types of proposals, suggestions or ideas rise to the level of needing a General Service Conference "action" or "decision"?

Proposals that are important to the future of Alcoholics Anonymous, policy decisions or request for changes to Conference-approved literature and items that might require the collective conscience of the Fellowship. The trustees, corporate directors and staff bring together years of experience in A.A. service in making decisions about the appropriate process or disposition of proposed Conference agenda items. Warrantly six reminds us "that though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government..." *The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* page 72.

*The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service* states on page S57 that:

The final agenda for any Conference consists of items suggested by individual A.A. members, groups, delegates, trustees, area assemblies, area committee members, and directors and staff members of A.A.W.S. and the Grapevine. The Conference considers matters of policy for A.A. as a whole, and there are tried-and-true procedures for placing an item on the agenda in the most effective way — or, when the suggestion does not concern overall policy, for routing it to the most appropriate part of the service structure.

If a G.S.R. has an idea for an agenda item, chances are that he or she will want to discuss it first with the group, then at a district or area meeting, which can then forward it to the staff member at G.S.O. currently serving as Conference coordinator. An A.A. who is not part of the general service structure can give the idea to the group's G.S.R. or write directly to the Conference coordinator.

The following is from a process overview document "FAQs on Group Conscience Consideration for Proposed Conference Agenda Items."

- Q. What happens when a proposed Conference agenda item arrives at the Conference Coordinator's desk?
- A. The Conference Coordinator acknowledges receipt of the proposed agenda item and lets the sender know which of the following options is most appropriate and, if necessary, an explanation of why and how the proposed agenda item is being directed. Some of the possible routes are:
1. Forwarding to a Trustees' Committee via a G.S.O. Staff Member or Department Head.
  2. Forwarding to G.S.O.'s Publications Director or Group Services Staff person.
  3. Forwarding to A.A. World Services, Inc.
  4. Forwarding to Chair of the General Service Board.
  5. Forwarding to the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board/AA Grapevine Publisher.
- Q. What happens when it is unclear what committee should address a proposed item or where an item should be routed?
- A. When it is unclear where a proposed item belongs, it is most frequently forwarded to the trustees' Committee on the Conference for direction.

If a proposed agenda item does not rise to the level of a Conference action the topic could be programmed during Conference in a different way like a presentation/discussion or workshop.

This overview is general and includes many but not necessarily all the possible routes a proposed agenda item follows in the trustee, G.S.O. and Grapevine review process. There is no "one size fits all" procedure and, on a case-by-case basis over time, there may occasionally be inconsistencies.

**(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.**

Make Final Conference Agenda Items, and background material available to the entire Fellowship no later than February 1

**(2) What problem does this proposed item address?**

Allow entire Fellowship time to review Final Conference Agenda at group, district, and area levels so that a fully informed group conscience can be developed. The Equitable Distribution Workload has helped our trusted servants, but created a shorter period for the Fellowship to discuss the Agenda.

**(3) What level of group conscience, if any, discussed the proposed agenda item? Make it clear who is submitting the item (an individual, group, district, area, etc.).**

*Note: While all items are received equally, experience has shown that ideas greatly benefit from the value of a broader group conscience. Consider if and with whom you would like to have a group conscience discussion on the proposed agenda item prior to submitting.*

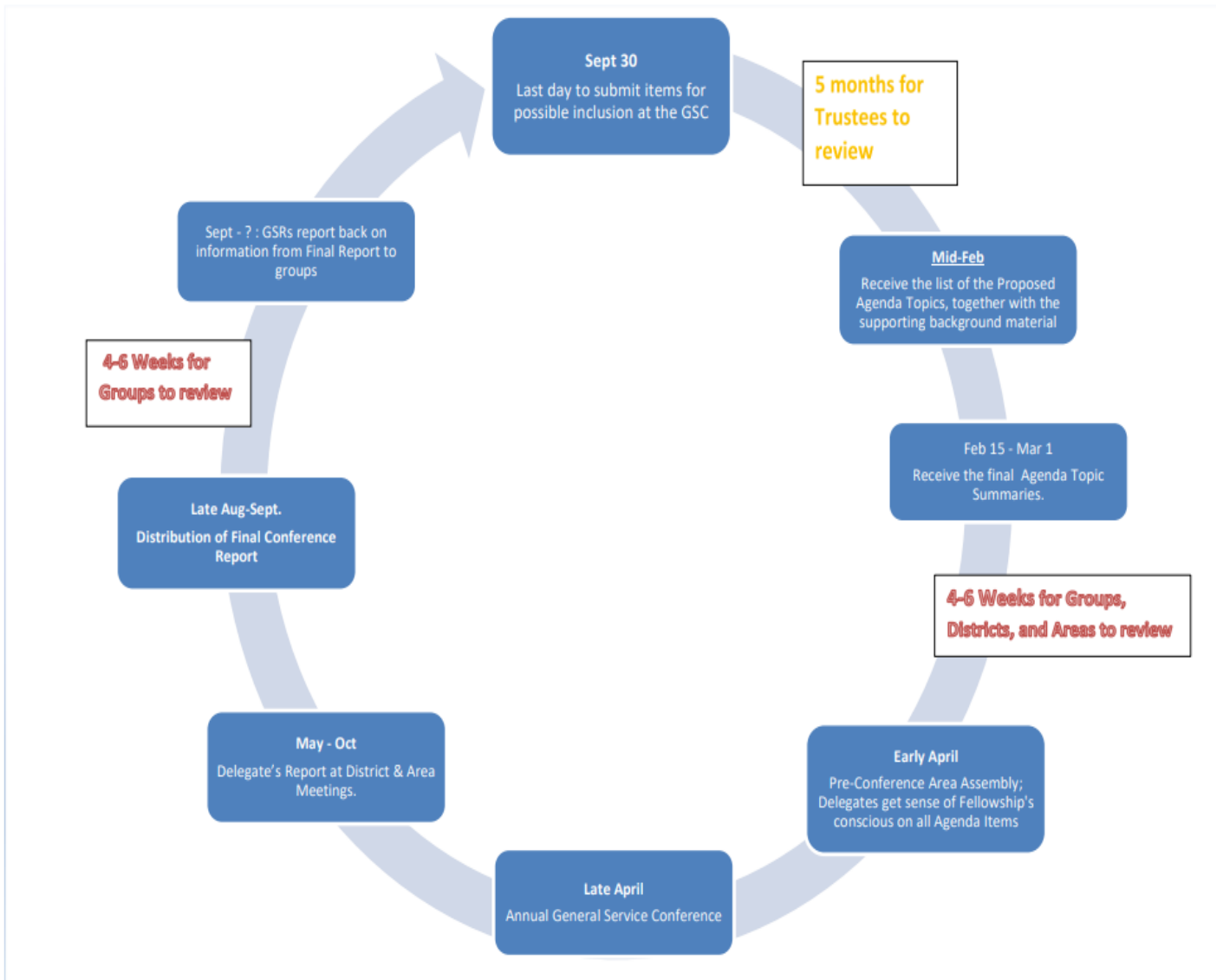
South East Texas Area 67 Assembly

**(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:**

**Concept 1 – The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A. A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.**

Refer to attached diagrams for current and revised timeline for PAI's.

## Current PAI Timeline



## PAI Timeline - Proposed

