

2023 Pre-Conference Assembly
CMI Liaison Report

Central Mountain Intergroup was assigned to the Treatment and Accessibilities Panel. We met on Saturday morning. There were 18 or 19 people there (one left). We were assigned five panel topics:

Topic IV: Discuss new proposed agenda items regarding the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. What the Delegate needs: What should the policy be regarding future literature changes? For example: write a footnote, never change, change if two consecutive conferences pass the agenda item, etc.

The comments from the GSR's included: never change at all; undo the changes already made; put changes in footnotes; pass future changes at A.A.'s snail pace of change; add to but not change any of Bill's writings. Most groups wanted no changes and to undo the changes already made.

Our panel chair had a vote. The question was 'Shall we change our literature or not?' (This question did not really address the question in the agenda item....but whatever. We did the best we could). The vote was 14 no and 4 yes. Our panel voted to not continue changing Bill's writings. I voted no as I think that Bill's writings should be left alone. We might need 'supplements', and if so, we can write those, but the 12x12 and the Big Book should be left as originally written by Bill.

Topic VI: Discuss new proposed agenda items related to the Plain Language Big Book Translation. Background notes: The trustee's Literature Committee agreed to forward to the 2023 Conference Literature committee all new proposed agenda items related to the Plain Language Big Book as one grouped item. What the Delegate needs to know: Do we continue to move forward with the Plain Language translation or not?

CMI was split right down the middle on this one. When we had a vote, 3 were yes, continue with the translation and 3 were no, stop the process.

The yes comments from the GSR's were: the new book will help people who can't read well; it will help young people who can't relate to the Big Book's language; and more people will be able to access our message.

The no comments from the GSR's were: a second Big Book in the same language will lead to disunity in our fellowship; it's worked for 80+ years it'll keep working; if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Our panel chair posed the question: Do we continue to move forward with the Plain Language translation of the Big Book or not? Our panel voted 14 no (don't move forward), 3 yes, and 1 abstain. Like CMI, I was/am split right down the middle on this one. Yes, the book can be hard to understand, but I also think that an easier read might help more people. I voted no on this one. I feel that the damage to the unity of the fellowship would be greater than the suffering of the people who struggle to understand the book. Tough choice.

Topic X: Consider request to do an Accessibilities Inventory of Alcoholics Anonymous throughout its services and structure. What the Delegate needs to know: What are our accessibility challenges now? Could technology and education present accessibility challenges? How could the inventory help carry the message?

The panel breezed through this one. All felt that inventories are good. We voted 18 yes, do an inventory and 0 no. We did not really address the 'What the Delegate needs to know' question.

Topic X: Treatment and Accessibilities F. Discuss carrying the message to alcoholics with intellectual or information processing challenges, communication challenges, and diverse neurological abilities. What the Delegate needs to know: How can we communicate our message?

The discussion centered on the ability of A.A.'s to help other alcoholics only with their alcoholism and not their outside issues- we have no opinion on outside issues. We felt that if AAWS were going to produce new literature, that it should be geared toward the sober A.A.'s who work with these people and not toward these people alone. If they have processing and neurological challenges, how can they use our literature to heal? They need educated sponsors to help

them. Message to Delegate: We felt that the current pamphlets were ok. We need to keep up on the Grapevine podcasts and other electronic media type stuff. The doctors of these people can be used as a resource for A.A.'s trying to help.

The panel chair posed the question: Is A.A. currently set up to help these people?

The vote was 10 yes and 8 no. I voted yes.

Topic X: Treatment and Accessibilities G. Review progress report on Bridging the Gap Workbook and other service materials. What service material are needed to effectively do the work of Bridging the Gap across the fellowship? Discuss the present relevance of Bridging the Gap service to the Fellowship and comment on its future direction.

The panel chair posed the question: Is Bridging the Gap still relevant? The panel was a unanimous 18/18 that BTG is still relevant.

Linda Chezem, our General Service Board Chair, has resigned. This was at the request of all of the other Trustees. There were no details given about this, but Kathy (our Delegate) has attended 3 Zoom meetings with all the other Delegates and Trustees and assured us that the Board is cohesive and in working order. She said that she saw nothing in these meetings but people doing what they knew they had to do. Not to worry.

Area03's Treasurer, John Nieves, passed away recently. Tina M was voted by the Administrative Committee to replace him. This decision was confirmed by the Assembly. Her commitment is thru the end of this rotation. For 2022, Area 03 had \$159,947.76 in income and \$152,044.96 in expenses. Cash on hand as of December 31, 2022 was \$95,593.18.

Phoenix is in the top 4 contenders for hosting the 2035 CENTENNIAL International Convention. The other cities include Indianapolis, New Orleans, and Toronto.

GSO 2022 contributions were \$10,557,295. This is 96% of the \$11,000,000 budget and is \$218,576 LESS than last year. Over the last 10 years, contributions have increased in seven of those ten years.

There were +/- 221 people in attendance: 171 in person and 50 online. Of the 221 present, 172 were voting members and 49 were non-voting members.

Upcoming Events: (more info available at area03.org)

Post-Conference Assembly is in Lake Havasu City June 17 (oh dear!!! HOT).

The August Assembly is in Flagstaff the 11th thru the 13th at the Twin Arrows Resort.

The November Assembly is in Phoenix and the Sheraton Crescent. We will be electing a new Delegate and Area Officers at this Assembly.

The Area 03 Convention is September 1-3 at the Wigwam Resort in Litchfield Park.

District 14-141 is planning on bidding to host the Post-Conference Assembly in April of 2024. Go us!!!!

What I saw, heard, and felt:

- Good leaders must be good servants.
- We serve- we don't instruct.
- Story:

There was a jar full of red and black ants living in harmony. Someone shook the jar and they all started fighting with each other. The question is not what's wrong with the ants, the question is who shook the jar!

- Keep your triangle well rounded! Recovery, Unity and Service.
- Everyone on the panel really was trying to get it right. All had an opportunity to speak their group's conscience.

Thank you for sending me to this Assembly. It was an honor and privilege to represent District 14-141.

Yours in service- Emily Conway

Listen like I have no opinion.

Discuss like I respect other people's opinions.

Vote like I trust a loving God.

-Final Report (1986) p. 6