

IV.

FINANCE

CONFIDENTIAL: 68th General Service Conference Background

AGENDA

Conference Committee on Finance

Monday, April 23, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Room: 504

Chairperson: Elliott B.

Secretary: Bob Slotterback

Conference Committee Members

Panel 67

Elliott B.
Tom F.
Joann L.
Ted S.

Panel 68

Jay B.
Henry C.
Vera F.
Eric P.
Rose S.

- ◆ Discussion and acceptance of trustees' committee report.
- A. Consider developing a method to standardize increases to the limits on individual contributions and bequests to the General Service Board.
- B. Review Self-Support Packet.

Note: 1989 Conference Advisory Action

Each Conference Committee carefully consider their Agenda items and strive to make their recommendations for Advisory Actions to the Conference at the policy level. To be more financially responsible, when a Conference Committee recommendation involves a substantial expenditure of money, an estimate of cost and its impact on the budget be part of that recommendation.

2018 Conference Committee on Finance

AGENDA ITEM A: Consider developing a method to standardize increases to the limits on individual contributions and bequests to the General Service Board.

Background note:

Traditionally, a review of the maximum bequest and maximum contribution from an A.A. member to the General Service office was on the agenda of the Conference Committee on Finance every so often with no specific frequency.

In 2017 the following Advisory Action recommendations were passed:

- Review of the Conference-approved level for bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members be every other year. The new review will take place in 2019.
- Review of the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member be every other year. The next review will take place in 2019.

While the Conference has set a schedule for regular review of bequests and contribution limits. There is no standard method of setting limits.

Background:

1. Letter from Area 71 requesting agenda item
2. History of Contribution Limits

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Virginia Area Committee of Alcoholics Anonymous Area 71

November 17, 2017

Rick [REDACTED], Conference Coordinator
General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
New York, NY 10163

Dear Rick,

As the Panel 67 Delegate for Area 71 (VA), I am forwarding you the following motion approved by the Area 71 Assembly on October 14, 2017, as a suggested Conference Finance Committee agenda item for the 68th General Service Conference:

“Have General Service Conference consider a method to standardize increases in individual and bequest contribution limits.”

Background Information

This item originated at Area 71’s Spring Assembly during the Finance and Budget Committee’s discussion of 67th General Service Conference background items below:

- 1) Consider request to change the committee’s current annual review of the Conference approved level of \$5,000 for bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members to every other year.
- 2) Consider request to change the committee’s current annual review of the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$3,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member to every other year.

It was a sense of the Area 71 Finance and Budget Committee that the Conference Committee on Finance might be better served by reviewing contribution limits less frequently. One suggestion was to tie contribution limits to some standard annual adjustment, such as the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). Tying contribution limits

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to standard increases may allow for more committee discussion time for other items, while ensuring that contribution limits kept pace with inflation. Area 71 set its mileage reimbursement rate at 2/3rds the IRS mileage rate a number of years ago as it has worked quite well.

There was a minority in the Area Finance and Budget Committee that felt the Conference Committee on Finance should be free to discuss any item it chooses.

This motion was discussed at length during the Area Finance and Budget Committee at the Fall Assembly. Ultimately the committee passed the motion unanimously. The motion was then discussed and passed with substantial unanimity on the Assembly floor Saturday October 14, 2017.

Please contact me with any questions that you may have on this potential Agenda item.

Sincerely,
Elliott B [REDACTED], Delegate
Panel 67, Area 71 - Virginia
Conference Finance Chair
[REDACTED]
delegate@aavirginia.org

cc: David H [REDACTED], Area 71 Finance and Budget Committee Chair
John P [REDACTED], Area 71 Treasurer
Barb D [REDACTED], Area 71 Alternate Delegate
David Morris, Chair Trustees' Committee on Finance
Cathy B [REDACTED], South East Regional Trustee

History of Contribution Limits

**Finance
Item A
Doc. 2**

Individual Contribution limit		
1967	\$100	\$200
1972	\$200	\$300
1979	\$300	\$500
1986	\$500	\$1,000
1999	\$1,000	\$2,000
2007	\$2,000	\$3,000
2017	\$3,000	\$5,000

Bequest Contribution limit		
1967	\$100	\$200
1972	\$200	\$300
1979	\$300	\$500
1986	\$500	\$1,000
1999	\$1,000	\$2,000
2007	\$2,000	\$3,000
2012	\$3,000	\$5,000

2018 Conference Committee on Finance

AGENDA ITEM B: Review Self-Support Packet.

Background:

1. Contents of Self-Support Packet

Self-Support Packet Contents

<u>Self-Support Card</u>	F-42
<u>Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix</u>	F-3
<u>The A.A. Group Treasurer</u>	F-96
<u>A.A. Guidelines on Finance</u>	MG-15
<u>Services Provided by GSO/AAWS Flyer</u>	SMF-176
<u>Historical Background of Self-Support Flyer</u>	
<u>Your Seventh Tradition Contributions Flyer</u>	F-203