Cliff P, Area Chair

All right, everyone. Let's find our seat. Let's open this meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the declaration of unity. Thank you. For those who know it, please join me in saying the AA Declaration of Unity. This we owe to AA's future: to place our common welfare first, to keep our fellowship united. For on AA unity depends our lives and the lives of those to come. All right, we are in our business meeting now. We are working our way through the agenda. Thank you, everybody, so much for your participation. We're going to start off with the reading of our statement of purpose from our alternate chair, Tori C.

Tori C Alt. Area Chair

I'm Tori. I'm an alcoholic. Area 39 of Western Missouri Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous is a service body. It protects and respects the autonomy as well as the privilege of dissent of any or all AA groups in the area and of any voting members of the area assembly. In the course of its deliberations and discussions, the assembly will be ever mindful of the ideals expressed in the 12 steps, the 12 traditions, the 12 concepts, and the AA Service Manual, it shall strive to be the true voice and group conscience of AA Unity in the Western Area of Missouri. Service will be the primary purpose of the Assembly. It will encourage all AA groups to participate in the business conducted at the Assembly and to support in its efforts to cooperate with the General Service Office, AA World Services, the AA Grapevine Inc. and the AA General Service Conference. The Assembly is specifically charged with the duty of electing a delegate to the General Service Conference and to provide the delegate with the support to assist in the duties to this office. The Assembly is further charged with electing such other officers as it deems necessary to conduct the business of the Assembly. There are no ruling bodies in Alcoholics Anonymous, only trusted servants. It should therefore be recognized that the suggestions set forth here are guidelines for the Assembly, the Area Committee, standing committees, and district committees. These guidelines have been ratified by a two-thirds majority of the Western Area of Missouri Assembly. These guidelines are, to the best of our knowledge, compatible with the 12 steps, the 12 traditions and the 12 concepts and the AA service manual.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Excellent, thank you, Tori. Next, we'll have a reading of our minutes from our secretary, Trinity C.

Trinity C, Secretary

I'm Trinity, and I am your Area 39 secretary. These are the short form minutes from the March Assembly, Cliff P. Area 39 Chair opened the meeting with a declaration of unity. Tori C. Area 39 Alternate Chair presented the Area 39 Statement of Purpose. Trinity C. Area 39 Secretary presented the that should say January minutes with an amendment. Motion seconded and approved. Barb S. Area 39 Alt Secretary presented them. These all say March. Sorry, guys. It all says March. January 2026. Oh no, that would have been right. March 2026 attendance report. There was 139 in attendance. The total number of years of sobriety was 1,860.5 years. Josie Area 39 Treasurer presented third-quarter financial

report. Total income: $10,054. No, sorry, $10,543.16. Total expenses of $14,620.18 for a negative $4,077.02. Bank balance $13,483.74 in checking $20,088.87 in the prudent reserve. $100 in the buffer account. Trendy C Area 39 Secretary presented the voting guidelines. Clippy Area 39 Chair presented the microphone protocol. Old business Technology Committee guidelines were approved in committee. Motion to approve, second, and approved unanimously. Motion to purchase the first edition big book, page M. After a lengthy and passionate conversation, motion to end discussion was passed unanimously. All funds were raised on the area floor to purchase the book. No vote was taken. Motion for all area. Communications be distributed by Area Secretary John M. Friendly amendment was made so that only officers can use the member's only email. Was accepted. Vote was passed. Motion for $1,500 seed money for Southwest Regional Forum. Second and approved unanimously. New business 2026-2027 budget presented by Josie motions motion and seconded minority opinion change votes revote 40 in favor 15 opposed motion passed new committee chairs and alternates were approved grapevine alternate chair Eric H public information chair Steve B, Public Information Alternate Chair Rod O, all were approved. Budget requests CPC requested $80 for literature, Technology Committee 62 six for equipment, literature $43.75 for literature, all were approved. For discussion in June, submitting a PAI to remove suggested contribution percentiles and pie chart from page 13 in the f3 pamphlet. Motion to close.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Excellent, thank you, Trinity. All right. As it was read, I heard just a couple amendments changing the marches to January. Do I have a motion to approve as amended? Do I have a second? I have a second. All those in favor, please show of hands. Thank you. Anyone opposed? All right. That unanimously passes. Thank you, Trinity. All right. We have next our attendance report, and in Barb S's absence, Trinity will be giving that report.

Trinity C, Secretary

All right. So we've got 127 total in attendance, with 1,764.45 years. District one has three. District two has seven. District three has 15. District four has three. District Five zero, district 617, district seven eight, district eight four, district 911, district 10 five, district 11 four, district 12 four, district 13 four, district 1413, district 1510 district 1616 district district seven three. There were 19 DCMs and alternates, 14 chairs and alternates, eight officers, five past delegates. Longest term of sobriety was 45 years. Shortest was 1.2 months.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Excellent, thank you, Trinity. Next is our financial report by our treasurer Joe C.

Joe C, Treasurer

Joe Carver, your Area 39 Treasurer. Two different reports for you since the end of the fiscal year. I have the fourth quarter report, and then I have the end of the year financial report. So we'll start off with the fourth quarter financials. The total income was $7,116.18. Total expenses was 7600 $7,607, with a difference of a negative 490 82, there was $13,072.92 in the checking, $20,091.39 prudent reserve, $100 in the buffer, with a total of 33,264 31. So at this time, I would like to point anyone that has one of these in front of them to the second page at the very end of it's actually says page two anyway. It's under profit and loss at the very bottom, right before a total of area expenses. There's a line item 25700 called Area Assembly Activities, and you will see a total there for $99.07. So I pay a lot of stuff on my computer for the area, and the area has a U.S. bank. Card and Joe Carver has a U.S. Bank card. So on June 1st, whenever I got the reconciliation, and I was looking at the reconciliation, and I was like, "Who stole our card? And where's that charge to? And then I went, "Oh, that's mine. So I have a piece of paper here on June 1st, where I put the $99.7 back into the checking account, so I brought that to show you guys that you guys didn't buy my vapes. But it doesn't show up on this report since it was after June 1st. So I have your paper showing you that I put back in the $99.7. Does anybody have any questions about any of the expenses or incomes on the fourth quarter financial report?

Tori C Alt. Area Chair

My name is Tony. I'm an alcoholic. Sorry about that. I recorded $432 in PayPal registrations for the institution's forum, but the both reports list $16.

Joe C, Treasurer

So we had a little PayPal snafu.

Tori C Alt. Area Chair

Oh, okay.

Joe C, Treasurer

That wouldn't let us in to transfer, and so whenever we do get in to transfer. We have to transfer it from the PayPal to the buffer account, and then it has to clear from the buffer account to be able to be transferred into the regular account. So I do have that transferred. It'll show up on the next quarter's report or PayPal report, yeah. Great question. Okay, now we're going to go to the end of the year financial reports. We had a total income 39,004 1589, and a total expense of $45,004.82. As it difference of a negative 5588 93, and the totals in your accounts are the exact same totals as the end of the fourth quarter. So, have the profit and loss from last year when we per our budgets. if you remember the beginning, in March of 25, for the June through May, we passed a budget to lose $5,690, and we lost $5,588. So we almost did exactly what we said we were going to do. So please remember that we just passed another $5,000 negative budget. So nothing changes. Nothing changes, as my sponsor told me.

Does anybody have any questions about the expenditures or the income on the end of the year financial report?

Cliff P, Area Chair

With no questions, do we have a motion to approve? Do we have a second? All those in favor of approving the report, raise their hands. Thank you. Anyone opposed? No one in the room. Do we have any on Zoom? We have one opposed on Zoom. No. One in favor. Thank you. Unanimously passes. Thank you, Joe. All right. Yes. Thank you. All right. Next, we have who is a voting member from our secretary, Trinity C.

Trinity C, Secretary

I get a lot of microphone time today. Trinity Carver, area secretary. Where am I? Oh, there it is. Voting members of the assembly will be the delegate, alternate delegate, chairperson, alternate chairperson, secretary, alternate secretary, treasurer, alternate treasurer. All standing. Oh, sorry. All area standing committee chairpersons, all DCMs, and the GSRs of all registered groups in Western Area of Missouri. Alternate Standing Committee chairpersons, alternate DCMs, and alternate GSRs may vote for voting members if the voting members are not present. Additional voting members are all former Western Area of Missouri delegates, any trustee elected from Western Area of Missouri, and the Western Area archivist. No one person shall have more than one vote. It is recommended that no one person hold more than one voting position at Western Area Assembly.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Excellent. Thank you, Trinity. And now our microphone protocol. Although only certain people are allowed to vote, anyone is allowed to participate in discussion. When sharing from the microphone, please give your home group and your position, if you have one. These sessions are recorded and transcribed, so the secretary needs to know who is speaking when they go back and listen to the recordings, also don't ask questions or make comments from your seat without going to the mic. During discussion, limit your comments to no more than two minutes. If you've been to the microphone twice already, please wait till everyone else has had a chance to share at least once before going for a third time. An exception to this is if the person making the motion is asked a direct question, and then of course they can answer those direct questions. If somebody's already expressed your opinion, don't just get up and say, "I agree with him or her, or repeat what's already been shared. Excellent, thank you, everybody. We are now in our business session. We are don't have any old business to discuss, so we're going to roll directly into new business, and our first item for discussion is discussion of the Finance Committee guidelines and a possible motion to submit to change the frequency of the internal review of financial records and the report relating this review to be removed to be moved to annually rather than quarterly, and we have Jake M. presenting this motion or discussion.

Jake M Finance Chair

Hello, my name is Jake McCain. I'm the Finance Committee Chair. First of all, yeah, this is just a discussion to see if it would even be worth moving forward with a motion. I just kind of want to put forth what the guidelines says, how it's been followed thus far, and just see what see what all of you think about it. I'd really like to hear from people who are former finance committee chairs or liaisons, and anybody else with experience in that. For reference, in the guidelines under Section 2.3, non-standing committees, Section A, non-standing committees, it discusses the Finance Committee, and then under Subsection C for roles and responsibilities, it is the fourth bullet, Roman numeral IV, completion of an internal review of the area financial records at the conclusion of each quarter, with findings to be reported at the regular at the next regular assembly following completion of the review. The reason this was brought up as a discussion in our committee is because we have not been doing it quarterly, a big reason for that was I was the only member of the finance committee for my first year as the chair of this. Now that we have a full committee, it would be more viable to do it. However, in my experience, I don't know that there's been a thorough review done quarterly. Some members have brought up that it's been kind of a look at it, give a rubber stamp, so to say, and move along. What I'm going to do in between this assembly and the next, Joe has sent me a lot of our financial records. I'm going to do a thorough review. I'll also say I'm kind of neutral on this because I have not completed one yet. So again, that's why I would like to hear from some people with experience, and I have spoken to some of you individually, and would love to hear some of what I've already heard from the mic, just to get some opinion-not necessarily you, but just some opinions, Questions or comments? Go ahead.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Jake. Yes, please. Let's have discussion.

Brian H, GSR 24/7

Brian Harriman, alcoholic, GSR Brookside 24/7, past finance committee chair. I wrote those guidelines.

Tricia

The the reason for it

Brian H, GSR 24/7

was simply that we thought that

Steve P Past Delegate

four quarterly reviews would be

Brian H, GSR 24/7

easier to handle than one great big one at the end of the year. We specifically chose the word review rather than audit because the word audit has some very specific technical and legal meanings that we didn't want to get into, but anybody can look over the books. Joe is presumably doing like a reconciliation of the checking account. Compare that to the bank statements. You know, make sure that everything is is kind of lined up. It was just basically one more form of spot checking. We were just in the process of really getting QuickBooks set up and. And running well, and we finally had the ability to actually do that. So for the first time, we could give a treasurer's report that we knew was pretty accurate. When I started coming here, every committee had their own checking account, and we didn't really know how much money the area had, or what it had been spent on. We've got a lot tighter control on that than we used to, and yeah, if you were doing this all by yourself with just just a chair and no committee, that's not adequate. It's too big a job for one person because you got to coordinate with all the different committees and everything. My suggestion would be, if you've got a committee, go ahead and try it on a quarterly basis. If annually works better than quarterly, I mean, you know, yeah, I wrote those guidelines. If it works better to do it once a year, that's fine. But that was the that was the thinking behind it. That that's why we did it the way we did it. If experience is showing that maybe we need to do something else, that's okay. I don't really have a dog in this fight, but but yeah, the the finance chair definitely needs a committee to to be doing all this. And it's just like I say, just to kind of look things over. It's not a huge formal, you know, detailed report like an audit report would be from a professional accountant or anything like that. Just okay, yeah, we've looked things over and we think the books are reasonably accurate. Thanks.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Excellent. Thank you, Brian. Tiffany.

Tiffany W., DCM Dist 14

Tiffany, alcoholic, District 14, DCM, past finance, area finance chair. I've been really quiet this weekend, but I feel since I held the spot, I should come up here and say something. Otherwise, someone was probably going to point to me and make me come up here and say something. So anyway, I was part when I was finance chair was when we actually had the ad hoc committee where we went over all the stuff going on with the finance committee. So that was a big portion of the job that we did, and we left that in there because there are when we were doing that ad hoc committee, or when I was teamed up with Tony, we found a lot of discrepancies in past transactions and things that were in the book. Like as you flip through, I mean, I know it's tedious, and there's a lot of checks, and there's a lot of things to go through. I would think doing that yearly would be horrendous. I don't know. I wouldn't want to do that. So quarterly, it seems like it would be better because if there was a mistake that you could catch, then it would be easier to fix rather than waiting a whole year later to try to rectify anything that was just data entry errors or you know assigned to the wrong thing or on the wrong line item or whatever. Those types of things are a lot easier to rectify closer to when the error occurred than a whole entire year later

when it might have compiled into other issues at that point or other errors on top of errors. You know, if you've been in finance at all, you understand. You want to catch those those things earlier rather than later. So, if there's not the manpower to do it, that's fine. But it should-I think it should still be left in there the way that it is. And if it's possible to do it quarterly, then it should be done. And if it's not possible because you're a one-man job or a one-man team, then you know you just don't do it. But it's better to have it on there in case you do have the manpower to do it quarterly.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Tiffany. Greg.

Greg G, Delegate

Hey, everybody. Greg Grisollano, two-time past Area 39 Finance Committee Chair. And my experience when I first joined the Finance Committee was we did the we were doing the annual review model, and so myself and the alternate treasurer, the treasurer, and I believe the the chair, the area chair at the time, all met at a Panera Bread in Harrisonville because that was the central point that we could meet on a different weekend that was not an area assembly weekend, and we sat there in Panera for several hours and just looked at the books, just all there in Panera, just reviewing the check register and all that stuff like that. And so the original intent of moving to the quarterly review and trying to do it at the area assembly was to save everybody the the travel and the logistical coordination of having to do a separate a separate event. Obviously, a lot happened over the last several years. You know, at one point in time, when our hybrid when our assembly was hybrid and high COVID, people weren't coming to the assembly as often. It was much more difficult for us to get together in person, you know, I'm I'm agnostic about whether or not this needs to change. I mostly just wanted to bring that that historical experience and that context because when we when we made that change to quarterly, it was possible for us to the finance committee chair and. Somebody else could get together with the treasurer and the alternate treasurer here at Assembly and review the the quarterly transactions. And some quarters are going to be busier than others, and some quarters less so. But it it create sort of it created a time where we were all together anyway to do that and cut down on having to schedule another meeting, obviously different people, different different committee people want to do things differently. That's fine. We have we have new and different tools too to facilitate meetings that we didn't have in 2016 and 2017. But just mostly just bringing that that perspective as a former finance committee chair. Thanks. Thank you, Greg.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Joe,

Joe C, Treasurer

my sponsor is trying to button line on me again, so I was back there fighting. Joe Carver Design for Living Group in Buffalo is my home group. There's some word in there that, as the treasurer, that I don't care for. I know that if I ask somebody in any of my businesses if Cliff would you like to review my books for me, I don't get to sit in on that and have an input in that. I don't think the treasurer or the alternate treasurer should be involved in reviewing the the books, I think they should give that to somebody that doesn't have anything to do with that to read the books. That's just kind of how I feel on that. I know that it's doing the job as the treasurer. There's a lot of reviews that go on. If you don't get the check in on time, somebody's telling you and asking you why that is not on the sheet. And my group sent you money, and how come it's not on there? There's a lot of reviews. The reviews that I see that need to be done is whenever I put it into Sworza instead of Sword Duh, and the line items on where the things need to be. Now I understand from my hearing that these guidelines were written when we were doing the treasure stuff with a quill pen and ink. And we have technology, and we have Zoom, and I have already sent him all of the stuff that was in all of my in my Google Drive, everything that's saved. I'm not sure that taking up that extra time quarterly at ARE Assembly when we're so busy would be the way to go. I also know that we treat guidelines like it is the the Holy Grail, and we have to do it exactly how it says. So right now, while people are going, well, do that if you can, but if you can't, it's okay. And I've never experienced anybody having that attitude with guidelines here before. If it says it in the guidelines, by golly, that's how it's done. Period. Dot. I would suggest an annual review with more, if possible, put in the guidelines to leave that open a little bit, so that if the finance committee at that time wants to gather that digital information and review it. They can, but it doesn't say in our holy grail that we have to every quarter. By gosh, and to let it open a little bit. Thank you, Joe. Dave. Dave Pid, Derek, 39, panel 65, past. W. I wasn't trying to button line. He lied. He maybe we should check his work more often. I served on the. I don't know if anybody else was here. The original ad hoc committee. When Brian's right, the area

Dave F, Panel 65 Past Delegate

had no idea how many people, how much money anybody had. As a matter of fact, there was a time when I think the treatment and corrections committee checkbooks were bigger than the area checkbooks. To be quite honest with you, but when we put this together and we formed the original, we didn't do guidelines. We made a suggestion to the area and think, and Brian did a really good job of writing guidelines. I can tell you from the original intent, the discussion that we had in that room when we were putting this together in the forum was, we were bringing everybody's money into one place all of a sudden, and nobody knew what was going on. But it was the pure reason for the finance committee in the first place, the only reason for the finance committee was so we could have some direction in there on that, so we could not stop not allowing people's committee reports to be accepted because we didn't like their finances, and that it really was what it was. But we were voting them down, and we weren't approving. Minutes, you can't really do that, but we did. So we created a finance committee, but we left way too many loopholes because we didn't we didn't know where we where we were going. The intent on this was the conversation that was had was if we if we do regular tent steps in our lives, we don't have to do major fourth steps in our lives again over and over and over and over. If we do a really good daily inventory on a regular basis, that helps. So we thought that it would be better suggested. We suggested to the area. We didn't write the guidelines that Brian wrote that, but we suggested to the area that just like a tent step regularly might make it simpler, but we didn't know. So

that was we suggested this, but not really knowing which way this was going to go because we hadn't had one before. So maybe two a year would be work would be better idea. I don't know, but it's hard to do when you don't have volunteers and service people helping Jake or whoever the chair is.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Dave. Pam.

Pam K, Past Delegate

Hi, everybody. Pam, alcoholic. I was one of the people on the original financial committee, and at the beginning, we were kind of writing things as we went. We weren't sure what we were doing. I believe wasn't Kathy the chair, Cheri? Kathy

Marsha S Archives Chair

was on it. Dave was on it.

Pam K, Past Delegate

Yeah. So, like I say in the very beginning, it was decided that when we decided to go to a one, you know, instead of everybody having their own treasurer, to go ahead and go to a one treasurer system instead of 15 treasuries, and as a result of that, yeah, in the beginning, it was kind of learn as you go, and we wrote a few things down for the committee, and then the assembly had to yay or nay each time. So this is still a work in progress.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Pam. Patty,

Patty G

I'm going to be nice, Joe. My name is Patty, and I'm an alcoholic. Just for clarification, the Finance Committee is just going to look at your budget. Well, like line items, like whatever checks you wrote, verify that those were the proper checks, et cetera, et cetera. Okay, that's all I want to

Cliff P, Area Chair

know. Thank you, Patti. Any other discussion on this item? Jake,

Jake M Finance Chair

Jake, I'm alcoholic. Yeah, thank you. That was exactly what I needed. After going through this one into the next assembly, I will hopefully have some more experience to share with the incoming finance committee chair, and we'll go from there.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Perfect. Thank you, Jake, and thank you everyone who contributed to the discussion. All right. Our next item on new business is the discussion of a PAI to remove the question suggested contribution percentiles and pie chart from page 13 in F3, self-support where money and spirituality mix pamphlet, and see attachment. But I believe that attachment was modified after a committee meeting yesterday. Franklin has this agenda item. I'm going to let him talk about. Please, thank you, Franklin.

Franklin D6 DCM

Thanks, Cliff. Hi, everybody. My name is Franklin. I'm an alcoholic. Unity on the plaza is my home group, and I'm the DCM for District Six. So I'm submitting a PAI. The real short version of it is there's a section of a Q&A in this pamphlet that I would like to have removed because I think it's redundant and confusing. So what I'd like to do, if it's okay with the body here, is I'm going to read the relevant pages from the pamphlet, which are pages seven and 13, I have the pamphlet on the Everything AA app. If you want to find it, it's called "Where Money and Spirituality Mix, and then I will read from my PAI. So, page seven asks how groups can participate. Says to help support AA's essential services, the General Service Conference suggests that individual groups, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific contribution plan tailored to meet the group's financial situation. Once the basic group expenses have been taken care of, for example, rents, refreshments, AA literature, grapevine literature. Local meeting lists GSR travel expenses to attend service functions, and a prudent reserve has been set aside to cover any emergency contingencies that might arise. The group may decide to further carry the message by sending money to the following AA service entities. Then goes on to list the district, the area committee, the local intergroup or central office and the service board, and to give a description of what those entities do. After the description of those four entities, there's a concluding paragraph that reads, "Please note that not all areas, districts, intergroups, and central offices follow these divisions of service for institutions' work, cooperation with the professional community, public information, etc. Therefore, prior to making contributions in your area, please find out which entity is providing these services and allocate your contributions accordingly. That's all found on page seven. I read almost all of page seven. Now, when I go to page 13, there's a question and answer section, and on 13, one of the questions is this: After group expenses for rent, prudent reserve, etc. what is your informed group conscience for distribution of excess funds? The answer says sample distribution plans follow. Then there are three pie charts. The first pie chart is blank. Well, it says to be determined by your group, and then there's percentages you can fill in with the entities if you'd like. Then there's or, and there's a pie chart that is filled in that says 10% to district, 10% to area committee, 30% to general service board, 50% to intergroup or central office. And there's a third pie chart. If you have no intergroup central office, 40% to

district, 30% to area, 30% to GSB. There's a little paragraph at the bottom of those pie charts that says, "Duties of the entities notated above are described on page seven of this pamphlet. Performance of these service duties vary from area to area. Please be sure to inquire which services these entities provide in your area and contribute accordingly. Okay, so that's everything from the pamphlet, and then here is the PAI. I have made some, as Cliff said, some changes to it since the one that was sent out based on the feedback I received from the literature committee's meeting yesterday, and I thank them for that feedback. So, here is my proposal and the PAI. I propose pamphlet F3 self-support where money and spirituality mix remove the question on page 13 after group expenses for rent, prudent reserve, etc. What is your informed group conscience for distribution of group funds and the answer, including the pie charts that follows? So I'd like to take out that question and answer on page 13. What problem does it address? Our fourth tradition states that each group is autonomous, but the answers provided to the question may invite groups to simply follow the pie chart's suggestions to distribute their contributions to entities, as opposed to honoring the pamphlet's earlier suggestion to donate to the entities that are providing services for still suffering alcoholics in their area. Additionally, the information provided on page seven of the pamphlet, which offers a thorough breakdown of the service entities and the work they may perform, concludes with this. Please note that not all areas, districts, intergroups, and central offices follow these divisions of service for various works. Therefore, prior to making contributions in your area, please find out which entity is providing these services and allocate your contributions accordingly. The question and answer on page 13 is redundant and potentially confusing for groups. What are the intended and expected outcomes if this is approved? I believe this will encourage groups to embrace their autonomy and engage more fully in the service structure by taking the suggestion on page seven to allocate their contributions accordingly to the entities in their area providing services such as PI, institutions work, CPC treatment work, etc. Groups may also feel more invested in developing an authentic and organic group conscience regarding their contributions, instead of following a suggestion that may not accurately reflect the service work made possible by entities in their district and area. So, that's what I've written, and I'd like to hear what the area thinks of that, and potentially if the area wants to support this PAI when I submit it to be considered at the next conference.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Franklin. All right. Discussion, please, at the microphone.

Dave D15

I'm going to Alcala Commander. Dave, hi, Dave. DCM District 15. This whole pamphlet is very troubling because it is such a tool for us to use. Severely outdated. I did a presentation in March to the district and was kind of offended at the percentile of the charts on the back. And I handed out the pamphlets, but I made my own PowerPoint point presentation with what our group was doing, and then left the second one blank for them to fill out. But it's-I see it very biased towards world service, you know, with the suggested donations on there. So, thanks.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thanks, Dave. More discussion, Trinity.

Trinity C, Secretary

Trinity Carver, my home group is a design for living in Buffalo. We have utilized these pie charts because, for somebody like me, I can. It's a visual. I can see this, but when we have new people who are attending our business meetings and we start to talk about what are we going to do with our extra funds, I can sit down with them and say, "So this is, you know, this is an example of how we can split this money? Typically, we split ours 3030, 3030, At our last business meeting, we took half and sent it to central office, and we took half and sent it to general service office. That's just because of some discussion that we had had in our groups. We didn't send any to area. We didn't send any to our district, so this is just an example. And some people are not word people; we're visual people, and it's just a great way to show what you can do.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Trinity. Tricia.

Tricia

Tricia, alcoholic. d3 Liberty Group is my home group. I appreciate you bringing this forward, Franklin. Page two of the finance guidelines mirrors this same language with the identical pie charts. I do think that emphasis on what your group does and where your contributions go is important. Other than that,

Cliff P, Area Chair

excellent. Thank you, Tricia. John,

Jon M, Atl Delegate

John Mangum, Hillcrest in District 14 is my home group. On an only slightly tangential note, I noticed that at least on the AA.org version of this pamphlet, the word "group" is misspelled. We do not need a PAI to address that. I informed our delegate, and he informed the General Service Office. So hopefully, in the future, that one mistake at least will be addressed. So, at the very least, this PAI suggestion did accomplish something.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, John. More discussion, please. Come to the microphone.

Sara GSR

Sarah Alcoholic. Hi, sir. GSR for Unity on the Plaza. To Tricia's point, the the same pie charts are in the AA guidelines on finance, and so I'm curious how this PAI would address. Like, is the issue simply the confusion in the that having two separate sections in the pamphlet would create confusion, or is it the pie charts themselves? And so we would need another proposed agenda item to remove the pie charts from the AA guidelines on finance as well, since it has it in both places,

Cliff P, Area Chair

Franklin?

Franklin D6 DCM

That's a great question, Sarah. Thank you. That was pointed out at the literature committee, and I don't really know. I know that there are other questions and answers. That that pamphlet is heavily excerpted in the finance guidelines, so I don't know what the process would be. To be totally honest, thank you for re-raising that point, though. Thank

Cliff P, Area Chair

you, Franklin. Abby,

Abby K. DCM D 3

I feel very short. Abby, alcoholic, DCM for District Three. Just, I, I don't have an opinion one way or the other. I'm just not sure what like the fellowship holistically might think about whether this pamphlet is too prescriptive or dictatorial in the way that it's it's reading, or if it does seem suggestive in the language. I would suggest just to throw it out there. Like, is there some way that we could pull? Even within just our area, like, do you have a feeling? Yes, no, or indifferent? Just throwing that out there. Thank you.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Abby. Tory.

Tori C Alt. Area Chair

Sorry, that was a long walk. Tori, alcoholic. Liberty Group in District Three is my home group. While I understand what we're saying about like the prescriptorial nature of what that can look like in a pamphlet coming from AA World Services, would taking out these maybe suggestions not just invite

more calls to the General Service Office to say, I know that you said it's up to me, but like what have other groups done, or you know just spending more time in GSR reports, being like we're starting and we don't know what to do, and while that could invite more discussion, if there is at least some kind of guidance in some literature of this is just what groups have done. So I don't know if maybe the changing of the wording or what the pie charts look like is more necessary than completely removing them and not providing a historical context for what many groups have done in the past.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Tori. More discussion. Steve. Steve.

Steve P Past Delegate

Steve Price, alcoholic. Hi, Steve. Panel 61, past delegate. I would suggest before we move too far along on this is that every year at conference and every every one of our committees that we have at the conference, and I'm going to assume you're going to address this to the literature committee. Okay, every year our committees up there they review everything, they review every piece of literature that we have. So at this last conference, the literature committee reviewed that pamphlet, and we review that pamphlet every year. The literature committee does, and any other pamphlets that they may that they may have, and so does the public information committee. The the pamphlets and the literature that pertain to the public information committee, the CPC Committee does the same thing. The treatment, the corrections, and they all they all review this stuff, you know. So if if we want to move forward on this, the first thing I'd recommend is this that this should take all of next year for us to look at, we just don't need to make this decision today or in January, and then vote on it in March. It needs to take a lot longer than that to do because we need to study this and see what what is going on because none of us know, you know. And also, what I would also recommend is that we go back into past conferences and see what the literature committee did in reference to this pamphlet, and if they'd taken any actions towards what Franklin is presenting here, because they may have already taken action on this stuff two years ago or three years ago or four years ago, and whether or not it it needs a proposed agenda item-that's what PAI or whatever it is. I've lost it now, but anyways, whether or not it needs that proposed agenda item, or maybe just an update on the pamphlet, you know, maybe maybe they've already looked at that. Maybe we need to maybe look back in in in the records with the trustees committee on literature to see if they've taken any action on this and stuff, and maybe dig up some background on this so we can be a little bit more informed on what we're doing and what we're wanting and what we're saying. Just a suggestion.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Steve. Is there any other discussion on this topic? All right. Please come to the microphone.

TOM

I'm Tom, and I'm still an alcoholic. So with us passing the $5,000 finance thing two years in a row, my mind goes to I wonder if there's other areas across the country that are struggling the same way, and maybe this could be looked at on a grander scale so that there could be some allocation, some writings going forward in this pamphlet that allocates money to those areas that might be falling short, and directing it away from other places so that it would be like in a thing for everybody, you know. Because I don't know, I'm sure somebody up there on that table knows if there are other areas that are running negative consistently. So, thank you.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you,

Ken

Ken. Yeah, Ken, alcoholic. My home group is Dry Dock DCM District Eight. I was thinking about this, and I support Franklin's motion because don't don't forget we're not voting to have this to go to the final step, we're simply asking that it be a proposed agenda item where it gets full consideration. So, you know, if we do if if if we do nothing, nothing happens. Franklin's just asking for it to be moved to the next stage, and I think that's a good idea. So I support his motion.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Ken.

Ken

You want me to motion, Franklin? How are you? I'd move that Franklin. I think Franklin wants me to make a motion, so I'll do that. I'll move that this be put on the next agenda for for vote. Franklin's proposal be put on the next agenda for vote. Would that be the motion, Cliff,

Cliff P, Area Chair

for January.

Ken

Yeah, sure. Yeah, it would make more sense for January because of the elections next time. So I'm prepared to make that motion.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Okay, so that would then be a motion. Do we have a second? We have a second. All right, discussion on the motion.

Dave F, Panel 65 Past Delegate

State PI area 39 panel 65 passed earlier. This is really a bad idea. If you understand how the whole process works, if he wants to do this, happened years ago. We tried to rush through and do a PI, send a PIA in for the agnostic. If you remember the pamphlet for an agnostic group in Kansas City, and we couldn't get it in in time before the the deadline. So by same it happened in June, and wasn't going to hit till September or January because we don't do business in September. We need to slow down. They sent it in. They wrote it themselves. I helped them write it. It was transferring a pamphlet from London to here to use, and it worked. Steve, I hate to say this from a microphone in front of witnesses, but that was one of the best things I've ever heard him say, "We've got to stop doing things without talking to our membership in a rush and find out if there's background material. If this has been gone over and over and over and over and over, if they want to send the PIA in, and they they don't need us, they can still go through. We've already done it before, in this area, recently when I was not too long ago. It didn't take very long. It was voted on in the next conference, and it was approved. If you want to rush, go ahead. But as a body, I think it sets a bad example of how we run this process. We either get the triangle right side up and remember who we work for, and quit making decisions for our groups without talking to them, or we don't. But it's kind of like the old saying. You know, a guy ran running the stoplight, and the cop holds him over, and he said, "I'm gonna write you a ticket for round to stop. He said, "I slowed down. Cop grabs that club and starts beating him. You want me to stop or you want me to slow down? We've got to stop rushing through this stuff without get and get this triangle back where it belongs.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you. As thank you, Dave. As a point of clarification, real quick, I'd like to make note that the motion, which has been seconded, is for this to be added to the agenda in January, which means that there would not be a vote on this today. So I want-I don't want to stifle discussion. We're going to continue discussion until we get a motion to end discussion.

Marsha S Archives Chair

To that point, we will be voting in January. That gives us six months to discuss with the two people in my 200-plus active member home group, Blue Springs A, who have even a marginal interest in this, to see what they think. I think in six months I can get there. There was some sarcasm there. I apologize. I'm working on it, but I don't have the bubbles out of that contact paper yet. Six months should give us enough time to talk with our groups. I see no harm in setting this for a vote in January.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Marcia. Tricia, Tricia, alcoholic. I strongly believe that giving us that year for review

Tricia

would strengthen this PAI to be able to formulate it in a way that has some accurate historical information.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Tricia. Steve.

Steve P Past Delegate

Steve Price, alcoholic. Just a couple of clarifications here. When I said this should take a year, I mean all year. And then, if we want to do a proposed agenda item, then it'll be on the following conference. That's two conferences away is, and it's going should take at least that long. But I also think on another clarification up here, and correct me if I'm wrong, but you two are not talking about the same PIA or PAI, whatever it is, the the proposed agenda item. You're proposing that we move this to next assembly for discussion and a vote. He's he's making the point of where we're doing a proposed agenda item for the general service conference, and I'm assuming next year for the conference. You guys are talking about two different proposed agenda items. You know, you're asking to put this on the agenda at the assembly. He's talking about putting it on the agenda at the conference. That's two different things. You know, there's some confusion going on here. I think. You know. Thank you,

Cliff P, Area Chair

Steve. Abby.

Abby K. DCM D 3

Abby, alcoholic, DCM for District Three. When I mentioned yesterday about the informed God consciousness that taught me a lot about Alcoholics Anonymous and service, something happened at an area assembly in Texas when I was serving as a GSR for the first time. That is very relevant to what's happening right here. Someone tried to put something forward, and had not done a lot of historical review, data, and analysis. And in that moment, as we were going to go to vote, right, the discussion started. Somebody comes up with their thing, and they're like, "Per, and I don't even remember what it was, but per this right here, we cannot do that because the language, the way it's written right now, cannot be done. And because of that, I had to inform God consciousness, change my group's vote, go back and tell them what happened, and they're like, "Yeah, that makes sense. Right? It's understanding like why we didn't move it forward at that point. Reason why I use that story here is I would not want to rush something through to the General Service Conference without providing them with enough context

and content by which to make an informed decision, or at least help them with that process, so that it doesn't just become a took no action situation. And if we're asking for the area to back a PAI, then I think the more thoughtful, detailed approach, organized approach, gets the entire area to back it with you know a consensus, as opposed to kind of what I'm hearing here, which is a little bit more disorganized. Again, I don't think one way or the other very strongly about this, but I think if we're trying to get this on for this upcoming general service conference, which, if I'm not mistaken, that PAI submission is pretty soon, I don't think it's ready. And I think putting this on a January meeting to vote on it doesn't fit to to the point that was just made. So my biggest point is, if we want to do something as an area as a PAI, and I'll also throw in, I threw in a discussion in literature myself. The reason why I think that we need to have these discussions is so that we can take the time to research, analyze, understand what the consensus of the area is to get an area to authorize a PAI, not try to rush that process. That's all I have.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you, Abby. Franklin, would you like to contribute?

Franklin D6 DCM

Just gratitude for the great discussion. Thanks, everybody.

Cliff P, Area Chair

All right. Well, we'll end discussion then. As it stands, we we have a motion and a second that would be added to the agenda. We do not have to take action on that in January, but there will be additional discussion. We may choose to vote on it, but we may also choose not to vote on it in January. So, if we need to take more time to look. At this, form an ad hoc committee, or or whatever it may need be. We can discuss that further in January as to what steps we should take as an area versus just the presenter Franklin. So thank you for the discussion. Thank you for your contribution to the group conscious. We're going to go ahead and move on in the agenda now, and we're going to have the approval of any new Area 39 committee chairs, alternate at this time.

Greg G, Delegate

Steve.

Steve P Past Delegate

Steve Price, alcoholic.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Hi, Steve.

Steve P Past Delegate

Maybe a point of order, maybe. Oh, thank you. There's a motion and a second on the floor. It deserves a vote. The

Cliff P, Area Chair

motion was to add it to the. Oh, so you want to just? Oh, thank you. Okay, I understand. So the motion on the floor is: Should we add it to the January assembly? The second was to that point, and so we, as a body, then should vote as to whether or not we're not voting whether or not we want to support this PAI. We are voting as to whether or not we want to discuss it in January. So, please, all of those in the room in favor of that, raise your hands. You know what? Let's stand and count off. That this may be closer. So we'll start here with Patty. Back up. we have 27 in the room. I assume we're running a Zoom poll now. We're going to go ahead and count off the room for those not in favor of discussing this in January.

Tim C.

We'll start here with John.

Trinity C, Secretary

1717,

Cliff P, Area Chair

Yeah. 1920.

Abby K. DCM D 3

2122. 2025.

Pam K, Past Delegate

28.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Wow, and we have one yes. All right, the vote is 28 to 28. So that does not achieve a simple majority. Okay. Well, thank you for the point of order. It does not. I'm sorry. What? It does not pass. I am a. I suppose that anybody is able to bring new business 45 days before the next assembly if people feel like there is more discussion to be had on this, with potentially a new discussion, a revised proposal, and possibly a different motion. So, wow, that's the first draw I think I've ever witnessed at Area 39. Oh, thank you for that point of order. We it would have to be a different motion, and in January it would be a different motion, but yes, thank you for the clarification. All right. Well, now we will move on to the approval of the Area 39 committee chairs and alternate. Do we have any to approve as a body? I know we've got a couple.

Clarissa

I'm Clarissa Alcoholic. We are passing on institutions to District 15, so I'd like to nominate Dave for. The committee chair.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Since that's a non-voting position, I don't believe we need to vote on that as a body. I think the committee has the ability to approve and pass that on.

Tim C.

Thank you. I'm Tim. I'm the past treatment chairperson. Anyway, I'm stepping down from my my duties at that point. Jenna, back here, has been the alternate chair for since I've been here. So, anyway, she's agreed to step up, and so I don't know if we need to approve with that. We did elect a an alternate Megan. I can't remember what Megan's last initial is, but as the alternate chair. So,

Cliff P, Area Chair

thank you. And to clarify for those in the room, Jenna has been the alternate chair and has already been approved for that role. And per our guidelines, would automatically rotate into that position should our chair be unable to fulfill their term. So we are now going to hear qualifications from the proposed alternate chair.

Tim C.

She even here. Jen, are you? Excuse me. Megan, are you in the room? She may get or on

Dave F, Panel 65 Past Delegate

Zoom.

Tim C.

She seemed really nice. Is that what you meant? She said yes.

Cliff P, Area Chair

I thank you and the committee for your work. Thank you. With without her presence and her able to present her qualifications, we'll be unable to vote on that. But I think we can. I mean, we're approaching elections, and we have one assembly left in the rotation. You know, we probably we won't cover that in September, really. But I encourage her to continue to serve the committee in whatever way that she can. Do we have anyone else, any other committees presenting new alternates or chairs for approval? No. Okay, hearing none. We're going to go ahead and move on now. If we have any requests from the Finance Committee for costs, expenses.

Jake M Finance Chair

Jake McCann, I'm the Finance Committee Chair. We got two requests. One is for Tricia with the Literature Committee, $60.55 for a literature rack. They just didn't have a line item for supplies.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Great, thank you. Does everybody hear that? Everybody understand? Remember from the report for the rack that was given away at institutions forum? All of those in the room that are in favor, Jake. Can you clarify? Was it $60.55?

Jake M Finance Chair

55 cents.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Please raise your hand. Thank you. All of those. Anyone in the room opposed? Seeing none. Do we have a count on Zoom? Two yeses. It's unanimous. Thank you, Jake, and thank you, Tricia. The next request.

Jake M Finance Chair

Last one is for treatment for Tim, he drove to institutions for him. It was a little further than his budget supported, or the budget allocated to him. It was $53.60 additional.

Cliff P, Area Chair

$53.60.

Jake M Finance Chair

Yes.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Thank you. For the treatment chair to reimburse for mileage to institutions forum, all of those in the room in favor, please raise your hand. Thank you. Is there anyone in the room opposed? Seeing none, do we have a count on Zoom? One yes, that's unanimous as well. Thank you, Jake, and thank you, Tim. Excellent. No other requests. I'll open the floor up to any other applicable new business.

Brian H, GSR 24/7

Brian Harriman, I'll call it.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Hi, Brian.

Brian H, GSR 24/7

Just a quick reminder: as we prepare for our election assembly, we have a handy-dandy service manual study every other Thursday night. Send an email to thirdlegacyservice@outlook.com to get onto the mailing list. Thank you very much. Thank. It's also on the calendar, so check the check the calendar on the website. Send us an email. We just wrapped up with 12 concepts. We're going back to the beginning and starting all over again. So hope to see you there. Thank you, Brian. Marcia,

Marsha S Archives Chair

on behalf of Archives Committee, as partially discussed earlier, we do have new committee guidelines that we have reviewed, revised, and approved, and we will be presenting them. We will be having them posted well in advance of the January assembly, and at that point, we'll have a discussion of those

guidelines. The basic purpose of which is to support the area guidelines changes that were made earlier, like last year. Thank you.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Perfect. Thank you, Marsha, and thank you for the work of your committee. Abby.

Abby K. DCM D 3

Abby, alcoholic. I am your co-chair for the Many Faces of Grapevine. This is my last Many Faces of Grapevine announcement. I have two different types of flyers back there. One of them will go to PayPal. It's got a QR code on it. I've got one that's a mail-in. If somebody needs to do cash or Venmo and you're in the Northland, please get with me. I'm happy to help you get that done. The reason why I'm going to do one last announcement here is it's $10 until June 30th. As of July 1st, it's $15. So if you would like a discount, please come and see me back here at this table. And if you have any questions, just use the District 3 WAMO email. I'm happy to help. Thank you.

Jake GSR

Great. Thank you, Abby. Jake, I'm Jake, alcoholic, Kansas City Young People's Group, GSR. I don't know if I even have to say that. Hello. So during the Missouri State Convention subcommittee meeting, we discussed the a piece of the guidelines that didn't seem to apply super well to the committee, and we ultimately, if I understood the request, were asked to bring this to the mic to ask to discuss in January some potential changes to 2.1 section section 2.1. Point B standing committees. Point D. It says all standing committees, with with the exception of the state convention committee, will consist of chairperson and alternate chairperson. All district committee representatives elected by the districts by their districts to serve on that particular committee, and any AA member wishing to serve on that committee, so it's something where they don't have suggested wording yet, but we felt that a lot of committees are not necessarily correctly represented by that statement. So we'd like to discuss that in January.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Excellent, thank you, Jake.

TOM

Hello, it's me again. It's Tom again, and I don't know if this is the right thing or whatever. I think it is, but I'm just thinking of being a part of something that's running in the red two years in a row, and my mind is a numbers kind of mind. 127 people. I think they said was the number of people that was here this

week. If you take that by $15 per convention, and each person donates that to the area, we would be $1,000 in the black for the year, and we wouldn't have to pass that minus $5,000 budget. Thank you.

Cliff P, Area Chair

Excellent. Thank you. Is that just an announcement, or do you have an item for discussion at a future assembly? Just

TOM

FYI, that that somebody you know that is higher up, that's smart, that runs things, they can you know use that to whatever benefit, and you know.

Cliff P, Area Chair

I appreciate it. All right. Is there any other new business? We have a motion to adjourn and a second. Prior to that, I just like to make two quick announcements. We do have Missouri State Convention coming up before the next assembly. Please register. Please buy scholarships. Okay, help out the Missouri State Convention. And also in September, during our Saturday night dinner, we will have a workshop. It will be on the agenda. We'll be having a Concept Nine workshop downstairs. You can grab your dinner. You can go into the downstairs conference room and attend a Concept Nine workshop prior to voting on Sunday. So we have a motion to adjourn. We have a second. All of those in favor? Is there anyone opposed?

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