

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM A.A.W.S.

OCTOBER 30, 2015

The A.A. World Services Board met on Friday, October 30, 2015, at the Hilton Westchester Hotel in Rye Brook, New York. Chair of the A.A.W.S. Board, Chet P. opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

## Manager's Report

In his first report to the Board, General Manager Greg T. indicated that the first three phases of construction of the Co-location project have been completed; and demolition for Phase 4 officially began Monday, October 19, 2015. An updated notice with respect to restricted access to G.S.O. offices, including Archives, has been posted to the aa.org website.

*Informational Technology* – G.S.O. IT Manager Cynthia Garippa has created an intranet for internal use within G.S.O. A demo will be provided to the A.A.W.S. board when it is further developed.

*Archives* – Archives Manager Michelle Mirza, along with Senior Archivist April Hegner recently attended the 19th annual A.A. Archives Workshop in Independence, Ohio; highlights of the trip included a reunion with Sister Judith Karam from the Sisters of Charity, St. Augustine.

*Records* – Final files for regional directories have been completed and are now in the warehouse. Preliminary work is being done on the 2016 editions of the international Intergroup/Central Office directory, domestic Intergroup/Central Office directory and the International directory.

*G.S.O.* – The annual all-employee meeting was held on October 6, 2015, which included an in-depth “ask-it-basket” session. A follow up all-employee “brown bag lunch” is scheduled for November 17, 2015.

## Staff

While the Conference desk has been very busy gearing up for the 66th General Service Conference, other staff highlights include:

*Cooperation with the Professional Community* – We had an exhibit table staffed by local C.P.C. committee members at the National Recovery Month’s “United to Face Addiction” rally on the National Mall in Washington, DC on October 4, 2015.

*Corrections* – A new service piece will be added to the new Corrections service kits: “Engaging A.A. Members in Corrections Work”; the holiday issue of *Sharing From Behind the Walls* is in production; and development of the new Corrections video continues on schedule.

*Public Information* – The staff member on the P.I. assignment was approached by the *Saturday Evening Post* regarding a feature story on the 75th anniversary of the original Jack Alexander article. P.I. is working with Archives to send archival information to the *Saturday Evening Post*.

## Technology/Communication/Services

The Board approved the following three **recommendations** brought forward by the Technology/Communication/Services (TCS) Committee:

1. That the following language addressing mobile apps be added to the A.A.W.S. Fair Use Policy:

**Can we include brief excerpts from A.A. material in a mobile app?**

Permission to reprint A.A. material must be obtained by contacting the Publishing Department at [ippolicy@aa.org](mailto:ippolicy@aa.org). Additionally A.A. material should represent only a small segment of material in the entire mobile app.

**Can we obtain a license from A.A. to include an entire publication in a mobile app?**

No, A.A.W.S. does not issue licenses to reproduce its copyrighted material on mobile apps, etc.

2. That the report from the Subcommittee on the In-House Audiovisual Service Material Production Process be approved.
3. That the A.A.W.S. Board forward the 2015 Third Quarter Report on G.S.O.'s Website Activities to the trustees' Committee on Public Information as presented, along with the July to September 2015 Website Analytics Report.

**Publishing**

The Board approved the following **recommendation** brought forward by the Publishing Committee:

“That the A.A.W.S. Board forward the pagination request with background and examples to the Conference Literature committee.”

**Finance**

The unaudited G.S.O. financial update for the 7 months ended September 30, 2015 showed:

Net sales	\$ 9,459,000
Gross Profit (Literature)	\$ 6,226,000
Contributions	\$ 4,886,000
Total operating expenses	\$11,396,000

**Other**

Under New Business, the following motion was passed unanimously:

That A.A.W.S. forward a letter to the trustees' International Committee, in time for the January 2016 meeting, requesting that they develop a self-support strategy for the World Service Meeting. (Note: Financial background to be prepared including costs of World Service Meetings.)

###