

## **Timeline and suggested activities for Standing Committee Chairs, DCMs and GSRs pertaining to the 71th General Service Conference (GSC) Agenda Items and background material.**

**On or about February 15, 2021** (confirmation of the exact date will be released ASAP).

South Florida Area 15 Panel 71 Delegate Tom W. begins releasing Conference Agenda background material to District Chairpersons and Area 15 Standing Committee Chairpersons.

District Chairpersons, including District 1 Chairperson Mary Kathryn C., will begin distributing background material to District 1 Standing Committee Chairpersons (Accessibilities, Archives, Corrections, Current Practice, Finance, Grapevine, Literature, Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment and Website).

District 1 Standing Committee Chairpersons will begin reviewing the background material and discussing it with their committee members with three goals in mind:

- Familiarizing themselves with the main points so they can present a summary of the items to our district body, particularly GSRs, at the March 16, 2021 District 1 General Service Business Meeting.
- Readyng themselves for the workshop pertaining to their Standing Committee at the South Florida Area 15 General Service Assembly April 9-11, 2021. This is to ensure that they carry their District 1 Standing Committee's group conscience the respective Area 15 Standing Committee Chairperson who conveys that group conscience to the Area 15 Delegate, who will take it to the Conference in New York.
- Enabling them, where appropriate, to "come to the mic" at the Conference Agenda Review sessions at the Area 15 Assembly in April. This enables them to carry the group conscience of their committee members on specific agenda items that committee members feel particularly strong about.

***In District 1, the Chairperson will assign the background material to the Standing Committee Chairpersons and DCMs if the Conference Committee does not have a counterpart at the district level.***

### **Tuesday March 16, 2021**

The District 1 General Service Business Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 16, 2021 will begin at 6:15 PM (EST) and will be dedicated to explaining key points of the background material. This will be the opportunity for District 1 GSRs to hear what they should share with their Home Groups for the purpose of securing a group conscience so they'll know how to vote at the April Area 15 Assembly.

DCMs should make copious notes of what is shared at the District 1 General Service Business Meeting, so that between March 16th and the April South Florida Area 15 Assembly, they will be able to:

1. Review the information with the GSRs in their Sub-Districts and present it to those who were unable to attend the District 1 General Service Business Meeting.
2. Encourage GSRs to share the material with their Home Group members and attempt to ascertain a group conscience on each item in the very brief period prior to the April Area 15 Assembly.
3. Determine which GSRs will not be able to attend the April Area 15 Assembly and make sure they know the group conscience of those GSRs' groups, so they can carry it to the Area 15 Assembly on their behalf.

This means that as soon as possible after the March 16th District 1 General Service Business Meeting, DCMs should meet with their GSRs to give the GSRs as much time as possible to share the background with their Home Groups. Additionally, it means that DCMs should communicate with their GSRs again, preferably in the week prior to the Area 15 assembly, to ascertain the group conscience for GSRs who will be unable to attend the Area 15 assembly.

#### **Friday-Sunday, April 9-11, 2021**

Attend the South Florida Area 15 Assembly. District 1 Standing Committee Chairpersons, DCMs and GSRs are encouraged to "go to the mic" at the Conference Agenda Review sessions to carry the group conscience of those they represent (NOT their own opinion) on Conference Agenda items.

#### **What standing committee chairs and DCMs who are reviewing background material can do NOW to prepare:**

- Begin reviewing the background material for your committee as soon as you receive it from the District 1 Chairperson.
- Plan to review the background material pertaining to your Standing Committee with your committee members as soon as possible and ascertain the committee's group conscience on each of the items.
- Keep in mind that you will be presenting a 3- to 5-minute report at the March 16<sup>th</sup> District 1 General Service Business Meeting outlining key points of background material and stating your committee's group conscience on each item.

#### **What DCMs can do NOW to prepare:**

- Reach out to the GSRs in your Sub-Districts and help them understand the Conference procedure – why it exists, why it's important, and their role in it.
- Share with GSRs the final list of General Service Conference Agenda items and explain that background on these items will be presented at the District 1 General Service Business Meeting on Tuesday, March 16th.

- Encourage them to determine which items they think may be of most interest to their Home Group members.
- Encourage them strongly to attend the March 16th District 1 Business Meeting.
- Schedule time to meet with GSRs, either individually or in a group, as soon as possible after the March 16th District 1 Business Meeting to make sure they have and understand the background material on the Conference Agenda items so they can begin sharing it with their Home Groups and guide the members toward a group conscience. Encourage them to have these conversations with their home group members, either at a regularly scheduled business meeting or at a specially called business meeting, prior to the April Area 15 Assembly.
- Plan to touch base with GSRs the week of March 29th to remind them that time is growing short for them to carry out these responsibilities.
- Plan to touch base with GSRs the week of April 5th to learn the group conscience for GSRs who will be unable to attend the South Florida Area 15 General Service Assembly.

#### **GSC April 18-24, 2021- After the Conference**

After each annual Conference, the G.S.R. is responsible for making sure that group members are informed about what went on at the Conference and made aware of the full range of Advisory Actions.

Plan to touch base with the GSRs after the GSC to answer questions and if necessary, formulate a summarized report for their Home Group.