



With

UNITY, COURAGE, AND PERSEVERANCE

Delegates Report
August 21-22, 2021

Slide 4

- Following the 2021 Conference decision to recognize electronic meetings as AI-Anon Family Groups:
You may be wondering....
- What does this mean to our Area?
- What do we need to do next?
- How soon do we need to answer these questions?
- How will our Area accept groups which meet only electronically?
- How will our Service Structure define Area policies and procedures if appropriate?
- Slide 5
- Spiritual Principles to Remember:
"The guiding principles for a business meeting are the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Service".
SM., p. 49"
- "Three Obstacles to Success in AI-Anon: Discussion of religion, gossip, and dominance; " All AI-Anon discussions should be constructive, helpful, loving and understanding.", (sm., pg.,22)
- "PRESUME GOOD WILL: An AI-Anon saying that became more commonly accepted at the WSC (2003) and throughout the fellowship whenever there is a disagreement"
- SM P,330," Many Voices one Journey"
- Side 5
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- **Three Obstacles to Success in AI-Anon: Discussion of religion, gossip, and dominance; “ All AI-Anon discussions should be constructive, helpful, loving and understanding.”, (SM, pg., 22**
- **“PRESUME GOOD WILL: An AI-Anon saying that became more commonly accepted at the WSC (2003) and throughout the fellowship whenever there is a disagreement”**
- **SM P,330,” Many Voices one Journey”**
- **Slide6**
- **Relevant Traditions**
- **1: Tradition One, “Our Common Welfare should come 1st.**
- **2: Tradition Two, “Our group purpose there is but one authority... as he may express himself in our group conscience.”**
- **Tradition 3: “Our Membership”.**
- **Tradition 4: “Autonomous, except in matters affecting another groups of AI-Anon or AA as a whole”.**
- **Tradition 5, “Our primary purpose”.**
- **Slide 7**
- **Tradition 7: “Fully self-supporting”.**
- **Tradition 8: “May create committee's directly responsible”**
- **Tradition 11:” Attraction rather than promotion”.**
- **Tradition 12 “Anonymity and principles above personalities” .(sm., pg.,15)**
- **Slide 8**
- [Relevant Concepts of Service](#)
- **Concept 4: “Participation is the key to harmony”.**
- **Concept 5:” Ensuring minority voices are heard”.**
- **Concept 9: “Good personal leadership at all levels”.**
- **Concept 10: “Double headed management is avoided”. (sm., pg., 17)**
- **Slide 9**
- [General Warranties of the Conference](#)
- **Warrant 1: “sufficient operating funds, including an ample reserve”.**
- **Warranty 2: “no member be placed in unqualified authority over other members”**
- **Warranty 3: “All decisions be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible by unanimity”. (sm. pg., 18)**
- **Slide 10**
- **Terms being used**
- **Group Business Meetings: “are held to share information and to include all groups members in the activities and concerns of the group. Decisions a group make determined by informed groups conscience”. (sm., p., 49-51)**
- **Slide 11**
- **Groups Conscience:**

- “Is the result of the groups' business meeting discussions. The group conscience is the will of the groups. “It is by taking the time necessary to hear from all members who want to participate that a group conscience evolves” (sm., pg., 51)
- **Substantial Unanimity, Warranty Three**
- “That all important decisions be reached by discussion vote and whenever possible by substantial unanimity.”
- The group decides what “substantial “is, “whether two-thirds, three-quarters or even greater majority.” (sm., pg., 215-216)
- **Slide 12**
- [Knowledge-Based-Decision- Making](#)
- **Research, information-gathering and substantial discussion before a decision is made.**
- **(la-al-anon.org) on members website “KBDM”**
- **Slide 13**
- **Open communication between leadership and membership.**
- **Dialogue before deliberation.**
- **All those involved in the decision will have full access to all information.**
- **We have confidence in the competency of our partners—we presume good will.**
- **We exist in a culture of trust.**
- **Slide 14**
- **KBDM Questions:**
- What do we know about our membership’s needs ,wants and preferences, that are relevant to the discussion?
What do we know about our resources that is relevant to this discussion?
What do we know about our environment that is relevant to the discussion?
What are the ethical implication of our choices? (Pros-cons)
What do we wish we knew but don’t?
- **Slide 15**
- [Outside Issues:](#)
- **COVID 2020-21**
- **All Face-t-Face Meetings shut down**
- **WSC 1st virtual.**
- **JUNE 2021 CDC RESTRICTIONS BEGIN TO BE LIFTED**
- **DELTA VARIANT IS ON THE RISE**
- **COVID VACCINATION.**
- **SOCIAL DISTANCING, CLEANING, INSURANCE, LIABILITY WAIVERS (HOLD HARMLESS) WEARING MASKS.**
- **WHAT ARE THE FACILITY RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS?**
- **Slide16**
- + **Remaining a Temporary Electronic Meeting (TEM)**

- + **REMINDER: The TEM was created to replace a pre-COVID registered Face-to-Face (FTF) meeting.**
- + **Is the virtual platform working for our groups?**
- + **How long can we remain TEM?**
- + **Slide 17**
- + **Remaining a Temporary Electronic Meeting (TEM)**
- +
- + **Same as for FTF Meetings.**
- + **Conduct business meetings.**
- + **All voices heard.**
- + **Who Has voice and vote?**
- + **What is your substantial unanimity for a Group Conscience?**
- + **How are we handling rotation of leadership?**
- + **Who can be the Group Representative (GR)? -- (resides in Louisiana?)**
- + **Who can be the Current Mailing Address (CMA)? – (resides in Louisiana?)**
- + **Slide 18**
- + **Sharing of Cal on the Screen, what can be shared and not shared.**
- + **AI-Anon members who are also members of A.A. may **not** serve as GR**
- + **Slide 19**
- + **What don't we know about TEMs?**
 - **How much longer can our groups remain a Temporary Electronic Meeting. (TEM)?**
 - **Will our TEM have to become a Permanent Electronic Meeting eventually? (PEM)**
 - **If our TEM becomes a PEM, will they be able to stay with the Area?**
 - **Is the Area ready to form a workgroup to study the possibility and process of incorporating Electronic Meetings into our Area Structure?**
 - **Slide 20**
 - **Groups can now register with an electronic component known as "Hybrid" without violating policy, but WSO has limitations, the current application doesn't allow capturing of both physical address and electronic platform for the moment, this is being worked out, more will be revealed as we Move Forward on this journey**
 - **Slide 21**
 - **Keeping up with Group Registration Changes**
 - **Please Make changes to your Groups Registration.**
 - **Group Records Coordinator (GRC)**
 - **Go to la-al-anon.org.**
 - **Members.**
 - **Meeting updater form.**
 - **Slide 22**
 - **Once there is an Area, accepted by the WSC, that supports electronic groups, and Louisiana Area has made the decision to accept AI-Anon Groups that meet**

electronically, the electronic group can request to become a part of the Louisiana Area. This process is already outlined in the World Service Handbook.

- + As of this moment, any new permanent electronic group will
 - become part of the non-panel, non-geographic Area
 - slide 23
 - How will Louisiana determine what District will the electronic meeting will belong?
 - The Area discussion that is necessary to take place, is to decide whether to accept groups, which may want to register only on electronic platforms, or groups that can support a hybrid option, in addition to, groups that register Face-t-Face. Based on the location of the group, the district is assigned.
 - Slide 24
 - [Can our Area start accepting AFG's that want to remain electronic that are currently already attached to District or our Area?](#)
 - How would incorporating electronic groups into our geographic area affect Intergroup (AIS)?
 - If the groups want to remain connected to Louisiana, it may be best to remain in the current status TEM they are in at the moment. This will allow the Area time to create processes to recognize groups that Meet F-t-F, Hybrid, or purely electronically
 - Slide 25
 - If A group meets today and decides they want only to meet electronically and will never return to the physical location, they **must** register as a permanent electronic meeting, and will become part of the non-panel non-geographic Area. Its necessary for the group to register as a new electronic AFG and disband the old F-t-F meeting. This new meeting will not be part of Louisiana for the moment.
 - Reminder there is no time frame for a groups to temporarily remain online as we are still in the midst of the pandemic.
 - Slide 26
 - Once the non-panel non-geographic Area is accepted into the WSC structure, and the AREA has Created a process to accept AI-Anon groups which meet electronically.
 - Groups that area currently temporarily meeting online can decide to remain permanently online, once all of these things are in place, the group may simply have their meeting information updated in the Online Group Records database in the location instructions.
 - Slide 27
 - What is the Current service structure for PEMs? (Permanent electronic meetings)
 - A PEM in not connected with a geographic Area, there for they are not part of a District, and do not have a Group Representative(GR),.
 - They are connected to WSO by way of a group member who is their Current Mailing Address (CMA).

- The CMA's meet Quartey with a WSO staff Member, This staff member helps carry their "voice" to the WSC Conference.

Slide 29

- + **MOTION #6 -- CARRIED** To amend the text throughout the "World Service Handbook" section of the 2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) version two (2) as identified in the track changes document provided.
- + **MOTION #7 -- CARRIED** To amend pages 88-89 of the "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies" section of the 2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) version two (2) to remove the portion titled "Electronic Meetings," including its text entirely.
- + **Slide 30**
- + [Can a Permanent Electronic Meeting join a geographic Area?](#)
- + **NOT YET!**
- + **PEMs are now starting the process to form their own Permanent Electronic Meeting Area. There will only be one "Electronic " (Virtual) Area. This Area will have Districts, and Groups will elect, GR,s. They will elect an Area Delegate. The new Electronic Area will petition World Service Conference to be added as a new Area at the April 2022 WSC**
- + **Slide 31**
- + [2021 World Service Conference \(AWSC\)](#)
- + **What's our next piece of the puzzle?**
- + **Each Geographic Area can decide if they want Electronic Meeting to have the choice to join a Geographic Area instead of staying with the Electronic Meeting Group.**
- + **Slide 32**
- + [Using KBDM process to gather information:](#)
- + **Create criteria for a PEM to be registered that reside in our geographic area.**
- + **Create a process for the PEM to join our AREA and District.**
- + **Begin a process for the PEM to join our Area and a district.**
- + **Is Our Louisiana AWSC Forming a Work Group, or Thought force?**
- + **To explore the possibility of adding PEMs into our geographic Area? (next Year)**
- + **Do we want to explore this?**
- + **Do we create a virtual District?**
- + **Slide 34**
- + [Sequence of events to happen](#)
- + [Slide 35](#)

- + **First things First:**
No decision is immediately necessary
We have till March 2022
- + **Area discuss and decide whether and how they might accept a PEM,**
- + **Which meet only electronically in their service structure—define Area Policy and Procedures.**
- + **WSO supports groups which meet only electronically in the non-Panel Area to elect GR., and a temporary chairperson, and a Delegate.**
- + **WSO makes changes to groups forms, database systems, and the online Groups Records, to enable geographic Areas to welcome these new groups and maintain group records.**
- + Slide 36
- + April 2022

WSC members consider admitting the new Area to the WSC (if the non-panel Area has completed its preparation process).

- + **May 2022**
- + **Groups intending to remain geographical local, and having the desire to participate in the local service structure, may petition a Geographic Area for Admission, ie., permission to move to one Area to another.**
- + Slide 37
- + [What do we know?](#)
- + **Groups which meet electronically often attract members, and have trusted servants who do not reside within the boundaries of one geographic Area.**
- + **Some groups wish to participate in the local service structure—their trusted servants usually live within the boundaries of the local service structure.**
- + **Hybrid District and Area business meeting can be challenging to host as they require strong Wi-Fi at the physical location**
- + **Dedicated trusted servants to ensure members attending electronically area able to hear and participate fully.**
- + Slide 38
- + [What do we need to know?](#)
- + **What are the potential benefits of welcoming non-geographically based groups into our geographically based Area?**
- + **What are the potential risks?**
- + **Are there any options for overcoming the risks?**
- + **What impact might this have on our District and Area service structure?**
- + **What impact might this have on how our Area service responsibilities area fulfilled?**
- + **How would the Area determine in which District these groups would participate?**
- + Slide 39

- + Because PEM were not a part of any service structure, some of their member may not have participated in District and Area meeting.
- +
- + **How might Areas Assemblies and District meeting need to change to accommodate trusted servants living within and outside the Area?**
- + **Would the Area need new service role to support groups which meet electronically?**
- + **Why or why not? Are our groups willing to financially support additional Area Service Roles and /or Technology?**
- + **Are members willing to organize service workshop**
- + **Are members willing to act as Service Sponsors?**
- + **What other kinds of support could our members provide?**
- + **Are there any kinds of support which is would be wise for us **NOT** to provide?**
- +

Slide 42 Pause

- + Postpone
- + Action
- + Until
- + Solution
- + Emerges