

## 2020 Winter Assembly Agenda - *preliminary*

December 12, 2020

Virtual meeting via Zoom

This anonymity protected agenda is posted on the NIA website. However, we do encourage the use of full names when speaking at the “virtual” microphone. This meeting will be recorded, as usual, for reference and use by our recording secretary.

[Use this link to pre-register for the meeting](#). Once registered, you will receive meeting access details.

Time	Item
8:00am	<b>Meeting room opens for fellowship</b>
9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to order</li> <li>• Quiet time</li> <li>• Serenity Prayer</li> <li>• Announcements for today (Carmela R)</li> <li>• First time attendees</li> <li>• Anniversaries since September 19<sup>th</sup> Fall Assembly</li> <li>• Service manual excerpt and lead - TBD</li> <li>• Approval of minutes from Fall Assembly. These were e-mailed to the Area Committee on xx/xx/2020.</li> </ul>
9:15	<b>Delegate report (Marilyn F)</b>
9:45	<b>Treasury report (Dawn B, Allen J)</b>
10:00	<b>Finance Committee Report (Karen F)</b>
10:10	<b>Officer Q&amp;A (3 minutes each) (reports submitted in advance)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternate Delegate – Chris D</li> <li>• Chair – Carmela R</li> <li>• Alternate Chair – Erik L</li> <li>• Registrar – Carol H</li> <li>• Alternate Registrar – Rob M</li> <li>• Secretary – Christy B</li> </ul>
10:30	<b>Conference report (10-minute limit)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Big Book Conference (Karen F, Kevin A)</li> </ul>
Until noon	<b><u>Committee Breakout Sessions</u></b>
12-12:30	<b>Lunch</b>

12:30	<p><b>Old Business</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Open positions elections</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area Treasurer – Alternate (officer)</li> <li>Answering Service Comm Area Chair - Alternate</li> <li>Archives Comm Area Chair - Alternate</li> <li>BTG Comm Area Chair</li> <li>BTG Comm Area Chair – Alternate</li> <li>Grapevine Area Chair – Alternate</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Bids for 2021 Big Book Conference</b> - <i>The bid should be prepared and submitted one (1) year prior to the conference at the NIA Summer Assembly. The bid shall include a detailed budget and other details concerning the Conference location or facility. - <a href="#">Planning Procedures, pg.15</a>. We will accept bids at the upcoming Winter Assembly.</i></li> <li><b>Bids for 2022 Spring Assembly Conference</b> – <i>All bid presentations will be limited to a period of 10 minutes and shall include all pertinent written confirmations: Location, dates, hotel proposals, budget. Detailed bid requirements are in our <a href="#">Planning Procedures, starting on pg. 23</a>. Normally bids are only accepted at Fall Assembly.</i></li> <li><b>Bids for 2022 Illinois State Conference</b> – <i>NIA 20 is set to host this event in 2022, according to the rotation established with Areas 19 and 20.</i></li> </ol>																								
1:00	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Approval of proposed 2021 Primary Purpose Register</b></li> <li><b>Approval of proposed 2021 Area Events Calendar</b></li> <li><b>Motion by the NIA Archivist to amend Duties &amp; Responsibilities of Archivist and Secretary</b></li> <li><b>Floor motion by the NIA Registrars - motion to request that the Area Delegate forward a letter to the Conference Coordinator at the General Service Office prior to the December 15, 2020 deadline, with a request to allow Online Groups to register under their respective district and area instead of the Online Intergroup “<a href="https://aa-intergroup.org/">https://aa-intergroup.org/</a>”.</b></li> </ol>																								
2:00	<p><b>Sharing session: What are districts and groups doing to carry the message during this pandemic?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How are groups, districts, area staying active and united?</li> <li>What could/should we do differently in the Area?</li> </ul>																								
2:30	<p><b>Committee Q&amp;A (3 minutes each) (reports submitted in advance)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Service committees</b> <table border="0"> <tr><td>• Accessibilities</td><td>Dwayne G, Rachel B</td></tr> <tr><td>• Answering Service</td><td>Tracy F</td></tr> <tr><td>• Archives</td><td>Jeff K</td></tr> <tr><td>• Concepts</td><td>Jessica R</td></tr> <tr><td>• Cooperation w/ the Professional Community</td><td>Jeff L</td></tr> <tr><td>• Corrections</td><td>Scott M, Mark H</td></tr> <tr><td>• Grapevine</td><td>Susan H</td></tr> <tr><td>• Literature</td><td>Kimberly T</td></tr> <tr><td>• Public Information</td><td>Rich S, Ed M</td></tr> <tr><td>• Treatment Facilities</td><td>Lisa S, Rich H</td></tr> </table> </li> <li><b>Administrative committees / roles</b> <table border="0"> <tr><td>• Adhoc committee: Back to Area meetings and events in 2021</td><td>Erik L</td></tr> <tr><td>• Archivist</td><td>Cheryl V</td></tr> </table> </li> </ol>	• Accessibilities	Dwayne G, Rachel B	• Answering Service	Tracy F	• Archives	Jeff K	• Concepts	Jessica R	• Cooperation w/ the Professional Community	Jeff L	• Corrections	Scott M, Mark H	• Grapevine	Susan H	• Literature	Kimberly T	• Public Information	Rich S, Ed M	• Treatment Facilities	Lisa S, Rich H	• Adhoc committee: Back to Area meetings and events in 2021	Erik L	• Archivist	Cheryl V
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conference Advisory</li><li>• Electronic Equipment</li><li>• Operating</li><li>• Report &amp; Charter</li><li>• Service Manual Custodian</li><li>• Technology Committee</li><li>• Webmasters</li></ul>	Committee chair Joe B Committee chair Committee chair Cheryl V Committee chair Earl H, Erik B
3:30	<b>Open microphone (one-minute limit)</b> This is your chance to go raise your hand and share about things like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Something going on in your local community you want to invite us to.</li><li>• Something about your group, district, or committee work.</li><li>• Recognize or thank someone for their service.</li><li>• Any other AA or NIA 20 related announcements.</li></ul>	
	<b>Let's adjourn! 😊</b>  <b><i>Responsibility Statement</i></b> <i>I am responsible...</i> <i>When anyone, anywhere,</i> <i>reaches out for help, I want</i> <i>the hand of A.A. always to be there.</i> <i>And for that: I am responsible.</i>	
<b><i>The principal function of Northern Illinois service area 20 is to be a forum for effective communication between the Groups and the General Service Conference through its Delegate. NIA assists its Districts, Groups, and members to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers by conducting workshops, sharing sessions and seminars in all fields of general service along with other service activities.</i></b>		

Primary Purpose Register - PROPOSED for 2021

Primary Purpose Basic

Activity Number*	Service activity	Expectations per Guidelines	Allowable expenses	Reimbursed Authority	Amount through 9/30/2020	2020 Expected Amount		2021 Expected
B01	General Service Conference	The Area Committee is expected to participate in and report on the General Service Conference per the AA Service Manual, NIA Guidelines, and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Facility rental for pre-GSC workshop</li> </ul>	Delegate and Alternate Delegate	\$ 14.99	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 14.99
B02	General Service Conference Contribution	The Area Committee is expected to make a contribution for the General Service Conference per the AA Service Manual, NIA Guidelines, and historical practice.	Year-end contribution to GSB for NIA participation in GSC	Delegate reports to the Treasurer the current expenses per the General Service Board	\$ 8,300.00	\$ 8,300.00	\$ -	\$2,500.00
B03	Area Assemblies	The Area Committee is expected to support hosting districts to host four assembly meetings each year per the AA Service Manual, area guidelines, and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Spanish Interpreter</li> <li>• Facility rental</li> </ul>	• Groups I, II and III	\$ 267.94	\$ 4,000.00		\$2,000
B04	Area Committee Meetings	The Area Committee is expected to host four committee meetings each year per the AA Service Manual, area guidelines, and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Facility rental</li> </ul>	• Groups I, II and III	\$ 890.01	\$ 2,200.00		\$1,100
B05	Service Orientation Workshops	The Area Committee is encouraged to host roughly eight Service Orientation workshops around NIA per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Facility rental</li> </ul>	• Alternate Delegate	\$ -	\$ 1,600.00		\$800.00

Primary Purpose Register - PROPOSED for 2021

Activity Number*	Service activity	Expectations per Guidelines	Allowable expenses	Reimbursed Authority	Amount through 9/30/2020	2020 Expected Amount		2021 Expected
B06	Administrative Committee Meetings	Committees are encouraged to hold roughly ten meetings each year to perform their respective functions per area guidelines and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Conference calls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance committee</li> <li>• Operating Committee</li> <li>• Report and Charter Committee</li> <li>• Conference Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Electronic Equipment Committee</li> </ul>	\$ -	\$ 250.00		\$125.00
B07	Concepts Newsletter	The Concepts Editor is expected to produce the NIA Concepts Newsletter per area guidelines and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mailing services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concepts Editor</li> <li>• Concepts Co-Editor</li> </ul>	\$6,407.02	\$ 13,000.00		\$2,500.00
B08	Area Committee participation in District Committee functions	When invited, Area trusted servants are expected to attend and participate in District service functions including District meetings, workshops, service events, etc., per area guidelines and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Spanish Interpreter</li> <li>• Facility rental</li> </ul>	• This relates to expenses incurred when the District is hosting.	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00		\$1,000.00
B09	ECR Conference of Delegates Past and Present	Attend the East Central Regional Conference of Delegates Past and Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delegate</li> <li>• Alternate Delegate</li> <li>• NIA Chairperson</li> <li>• Immediate Past Delegate</li> </ul>	\$ 1,586.42	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ -

Primary Purpose Register - PROPOSED for 2021

Activity Number*	Service activity	Expectations per Guidelines	Allowable expenses	Reimbursed Authority	Amount through 9/30/2020	2020 Expected Amount		2021 Expected
B10	Area Operations	Area trusted servants are expected to operate NIA basic services per area guidelines and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mileage, postage, mailing services, NIA contribution envelopes, office supplies, post office and postage, printing or copying, insurance, Quick Books Online. coffee pots, annual reports, bank fees, Archives repository, GSR Handbooks, canceled check charges, website expenses, electronic equipment maintenance and upgrades</li> </ul>	• Groups I, II and III	\$4,436.87	\$ 12,000.00		\$8,000.00
B11	Illinois State Conference, Area Committee participation	In years in which the IL State Conference is hosted by NIA, thirty-six trusted servants, as detailed in the Duties and Responsibilities document, are expected to attend and participate. In non-hosting years, the Delegate, Area Chairperson, and Archivist are expected to attend and participate. In non-hosting years service committee chairpersons who are requested by the NIA Delegate and the Conference planning committee are also expected to attend and participate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delegate every year.</li> <li>• Group I, II and III when it is held in N.I.A. and in other years when Delegate requests participation for Area 19 or 21 State Conference Host Committees.</li> </ul>	\$ -		\$ -	\$3,500.00

Primary Purpose Register - PROPOSED for 2021

Activity Number*	Service activity	Expectations per Guidelines	Allowable expenses	Reimbursed Authority	Amount through 9/30/2020	2020 Expected Amount		2021 Expected
B12	Spring Conference, Area Committee participation	Thirty-six Area trusted servants, as detailed in the Duties and Responsibilities document, are expected to attend and participate in the NIA Spring Conference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> </ul>	• Groups I, II and III	\$ -	\$ 11,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
B13	Big Book Conference, hosting	The Area Committee is expected to support the hosting district to host the Big Book Conference per the NIA Big Book Conference guidelines and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Name tags</li> <li>• Facility</li> <li>• Seed money</li> </ul>	Host Planning Committee	\$2,500.00			\$3,000.00
B14	Spring Conference, hosting	The Area Committee is expected to support the Spring Conference Committee to host the NIA Spring Conference per the NIA Spring Conference Guidelines and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Name tags</li> <li>• Facility</li> <li>• Seed money</li> <li>• Hotel deposit</li> </ul>	Host Planning Committee	\$109.07			\$ -
B15	East Central Regional Forum	The Area Delegate and Alternate Delegate are expected to attend the East Central Regional Forum (held every two years.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Delegate</li> <li>• Alternate Delegate</li> </ul>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
B16	East Central Regional Conference	The Area Delegate and Alt. Delegate are expected to attend the East Central Regional Conference every year (held every year except those with International Conferences.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Delegate</li> <li>• Alternate Delegate</li> </ul>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Primary Purpose Register - PROPOSED for 2021

Activity Number*	Service activity	Expectations per Guidelines	Allowable expenses	Reimbursed Authority	Amount through 9/30/2020	2020 Expected Amount		2021 Expected
B17	Service Committee Workshops	Area service committee chairpersons are expected to host workshops focused on carrying the A.A. message within the scope of one or more service committees. The workshops should be geographically distributed throughout NIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Spanish Interpreter (if needed)</li> <li>• Facility rental</li> </ul>	• This relates to expenses incurred when the Area is hosting.	\$ -	\$ 4,500.00	\$ -	\$2,200.00
B18	Annual Bridge the Gap Weekend Workshop	The Bridging the Gap (BTG) Committee Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson or their replacements, as appointed by the BTG Chairperson, shall attend the Annual BTG Weekend Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> <li>• Mailing and supplies</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BTG Chair</li> <li>• BTG Alternate Chair</li> </ul>	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$2,100.00
B19	IL State Conference, hosting	The Area Committee is expected to support the State Conference Committee to host the IL State Conference per our guidelines and historical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Printing or copying</li> <li>• Name tags</li> <li>• Facility</li> <li>• Seed money</li> <li>• Hotel deposit</li> </ul>	Host Planning Committee	\$ -	\$ 750.00		\$ -
B20	National AA Technology Workshop	Either the Website Administrator or the Alternate is expected to attend the annual National AA Technology Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website Administrator or</li> <li>• Alternate Website Administrator</li> </ul>	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$1,100.00
B21	National AA Corrections Conference	The Corrections Chairperson and Alternate Corrections Chairperson shall attend the Annual Corrections Conference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodging</li> <li>• Meals</li> <li>• Mileage</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Banquet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corrections Chair</li> <li>• Alternate Corrections Chair</li> </ul>	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$2,100.00
Primary Purpose Basic Totals:					\$ 24,512.32	\$ 69,100.00	\$ -	\$ 32,039.99
Group I:		Group III:		Group II:				



Primary Purpose Register - PROPOSED for 2021

Activity Number*	Service activity	Expectations per Guidelines	Allowable expenses	Reimbursed Authority	Amount through 9/30/2020	2020 Expected Amount		2021 Expected
<b>Officers and Alternates</b>		<b>Administrative Committees</b>		<b>Service Committee Chairs and Alternates</b>				
• Delegate		• Operating		• Answering Services		• Corrections		
• Chairperson		• Finance		• Archives		• Grapevine		
• Treasurer		• Report and Charter		• Accessibilities		• Literature		
• Secretary		• Electronic Equipment		• Bridging the Gap		• Public Information		
• Registrar		• Conference Advisory		• Concepts Service Letter		• Webmaster		
				• Cooperation With The Professional Community				

\* Please use the appropriate Service Activity Number when submitting a request for reimbursement.

### Primary Purpose Motion

Activity Number*	Motion		Notes relating to Open (O) or Closed (C)	Amount through 09/30/2020		2020 Remaining Expected Expense	2021 Expected Expense*
M074	Literature for Treatments		O	\$ -		\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00
Primary Purpose Motion Totals:							
Primary Purpose Registry and Motions Total:							

- The Primary Purpose Basic (PPB) covers expenses that occur every year. These include all costs for things like Area Assemblies and Committee meetings, printing of minutes and the newsletter Concepts, insurance, orientations, conferences, etc.
- The first section of the register, The Primary Purpose Basic (PPB) section, lists and funds and facilitates service activities that are described in the Duties and Responsibilities section of these guidelines.
- The PPB provides funding for all the activities listed in the Duties and Responsibilities section of this handbook.
- The second section, the Primary Purpose Motion (PPM) section, lists and funds. additional service activities, resulting from motions delegated approved by the Assembly to its trusted servants. PPM activities may be proposed by any member of the Fellowship but most often originate within a service committee. Ideally, all proposals are considered by a service or administrative committee prior to presentation to the Area Committee .

PPMs are approved by a substantially unanimous (2/3 majority) vote of the Assembly. Upon PPM approval by the Assembly, the Treasurer or Alternate Treasurer adds the PPM to the Primary Purpose Register, the responsible trusted servant performs the service activity, and the Area Treasurer is authorized to reimburse associated expenses.

In the primary purpose finance model, activities need not have a time frame and so may continue from one year to the next or even from one rotation to the next, thus providing continuity for service committees. As such, the primary purpose finance model is not a budget in the traditional sense. No individual or committee at the Area level has a line item budget they are free to spend. Instead, the basic register provides for activities that trusted servants are expected to participate in (see the Duties and Responsibilities document) and the motions section of the register provides for activities pursued by service committees in their effort to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

### Summary

Consistently using the Primary Purpose Register as the financial communication vehicle defocuses the Assembly on money by focusing more transparently on service. It improves quantity and quality of communication between the Assembly and its trusted servants. The Treasurer is individually responsible only for the treasurer role – to manage cash and to pay the bills. The Finance Committee has responsibility for the controller role – to plan and manage the treasury and the time-sequence for service activities on the Assembly’s behalf. Detailed guidelines for each service activity provide common direction to trusted servants responsible for service activities and to the committee responsible for paying the expenses for those activities. Annual budgeting, mid-year budget increases, and the “new service activity” process, are simplified. The annual budget rollercoaster that was common previously is gone: we endure no more quibbling over contributions to the General Service Office or scrambling to do something at the end of a year to spend area contributions “at home”. Clearer delegation of these financial responsibilities by the Assembly has shifted the area’s focus from money to service.

**Northern IL Area, Ltd.**  
**Pink Can Fund Transaction Report**

[illegible]

\* Distribution of literature reported by Corrections Chair

# Northern IL Area, Ltd. Green Can Fund Transaction Report

Date	Transaction Type	Name*	Income	Expense	Balance
Beginning Balance					
Total Income and Expense			\$ -	\$ -	
Balance Green Can Fund					

\* Distribution of literature reported by Treatment Chair

## NIA 20 Events Calendar for 2021

Event	2021 date(s)	Host / Location	Notes
<b>Winter Committee Meeting*</b>	January 9	District(s) Lord of Life Church? Virtual?	Interested in virtual only committee meetings?
<b>Conference of Delegates Past &amp; Present**</b>	February?	<b>East Central Region</b> Virtual?	In-person event postponed until 2022 – will there be a virtual offering?
<b>Spring Assembly + Board Meeting*</b>	March 13	District(s)	
<b>Pre-General Service Conference Workshop*</b>	March 27	District(s)	Easter weekend is April 3-4. Need time before GSC, consider another virtual event?
<b>70th General Service Conference**</b>	April 18-24	Brooklyn, NY	
<b>Spring Committee Meeting*</b>	May 1	District(s) Lord of Life Church? Virtual?	May 9 - Mother's Day
<b>Summer Assembly + Board Meeting*</b>	June 26	District(s)	June 20 - Father's Day
<b>Summer Committee Meeting*</b>	August 14?	District(s) Lord of Life Church? Virtual?	Awaiting IL State Conference dates
<b>OH State Convention and East Central Regional Conference**</b>	August 20-22	<b>OH Area 55</b> Virtual?	In-person event postponed until 2022 – will there be a virtual offering?
<b>48th Annual Illinois State Conference**</b>	??	<b>Area 21</b>	Asked Area 21 Chair for dates
<b>Fall Election Assembly + Board Meeting*</b>	September 18	District(s)	
<b>Fall Committee Meeting*</b>	October 16	District(s) Lord of Life Church? Virtual?	
<b>Annual Big Book Conference</b>	TBD	District(s)	No bids placed yet for hosting this event Usually held later in October, 10/30 is an option
<b>East Central Regional Forum**</b>	November 19-21	<b>OH Area 53</b> Independence, OH	<a href="https://aa.org/pages/en_US/regional-and-local-forums">https://aa.org/pages/en_US/regional-and-local-forums</a>
<b>Winter Assembly + Board Meeting*</b>	December 11	District(s)	

\*Dates will be sent to Lord of Life Church to confirm availability before Winter Assembly. For Assemblies, church serves only as a backup. Ideal is for Assemblies to be held in hosting districts.

\*\*Events not hosted in or by NIA20 though some trusted servants, as outlined in our Duties and Responsibilities, are expected to attend, and may be reimbursed.

## **Motion by the NIA Archivist to amend Duties & Responsibilities of Archivist and Secretary**

### **Motion**

It is moved by the NIA Archivist to amend the Duties of the Secretary and Archivist by moving the bullet point shown below from the Duties & Responsibilities of the Secretary to that of the Archivist.

Bulleted point:

- Maintain the database of N.I.A. Voted Actions, including both approved and failed Motions. Prepare an anonymity-protected version for posting on the N.I.A. website.

### **Background material:**

The current list of responsibilities for Secretary is lengthy, and this item was missed in the past. The work was picked up in past years by various Area Chairs, and more recently has been kept up by the Archivist. Since this effort aligns with keeping the historic data of the Area, it would seem to best lie within the effort of the Archivist role.

**Motion:** The Area 20 Registrar and Alternate Registrar motion to request that the Area Delegate forward a letter to the Conference Coordinator at the General Service Office prior to the December 15, 2020 deadline, with a request to allow Online Groups to register under their respective district and area instead of the Online Intergroup “<https://aa-intergroup.org/>”.

**Background Material:**

The Area 20 Registrar contacted the Records Department at the General Service Office to determine what process is used to register virtual meetings. The following response was received:

“As you are aware, our structure encompasses the U.S. and Canada. Because online groups and meetings are by nature international, they are not listed as regular groups in G.S.O.s records. Whether an bunch of alcoholics meeting online consider themselves a group is up to them, as laid out in the Third Tradition (any two or three alcoholics...).

In keeping with a 2006 General Service Conference Advisory Action, G.S.O. provides contact information for online groups and meetings that request us to have this information:

Online meetings listed in A.A. directories under “ONLINE MEETINGS” continue to be listed with an e-mail contact address only, in keeping with the 1997 General Service Conference recommendation that: On-line A.A. meetings that request to be listed in A.A. directories be added to the “International Correspondence Meetings” in A.A. directories, that each listing include the internet address of the on-line meeting, and that each on-line meeting requesting to be listed in our directories furnish G.S.O. with the name and physical address of a member willing to serve as “mail” contact.”

This information is provided in the A.A. Directories in a special section titled “Online Meetings/Online Groups.” The Online A.A. Intergroup is also listed in our records and in the A.A. Directories.

Area 95 is sort of a catchall area in our records system. It was created for any individual or entity which has a record in our system, but that isn’t part of the U.S./Canada general service structure. It includes international G.S.O.s, World Service Meeting delegates, intergroup/central offices, online and phone meetings, etc.

G.S.O.’s listing of online groups and meetings is not comprehensive. A much more complete list can be found through the Online A.A. Intergroup: [www.aa-intergroup.org](http://www.aa-intergroup.org). An online group or meeting can be listed with either or both entities.”

When a New Group Form from an online meeting in District 28 was received, it was forwarded to the records department at GSO requesting that they process the new group form and that although this group is only meeting virtually right now we would like to register it under Area 20 and not an online meeting. We received the following response from the Group Services coordinator.

“The Records Department forwarded your email to me. It would be helpful for us to know more about this. First off, has District 28 discussed this and approved having this group participate in the district? And likewise, has Area 20 discussed this and approved having this group participate in the area?”



**As many groups were forced to go virtual, new online groups were formed. We feel that each group should have the option of continuing to be a part of the service structure in the district and area that they reside.**

**The AA Group:**

1. The AA Group registers with the General Service Office (GSO) and assigned a group number.
2. The AA Group receives a complimentary handbook and a small supply of literature at no charge when it registers with the GSO.
3. The AA Group provides a strong bond between the AA member and the Fellowship.
4. The AA Group has a General Service Representative (GSR) and Alternate that is the group's link with the General Service Conference via the district and area.
5. The AA Group is the shared experience and voice of AA's collective conscience.

**The Online Intergroup:**

1. The Online Intergroup is a service entity.
2. The Online Intergroup operates outside of the service structure and does not have representation at the General Service Conference.
3. The online Intergroup maintains their own online meeting information.
4. The Online Intergroup identify members as voting or non-voting members of the online intergroup.
5. The Online Intergroup is self-supporting through voluntary contributions of its members.

**As it says in Concept I:**

The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

The A.A. Group — the Final Voice of the Fellowship

"Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside down organization because "the ultimate responsibility and final authority for world services resides with the groups — rather than with the trustees, the General Service Board or the General Service Office in New York."

"Twelve Concepts For World Service Illustrated"

**Advisory Actions relating to Online Groups**

**2005 Advisory Action recommended that:**

Online meetings in languages in addition to English, French and Spanish be listed in A.A. directories under "ONLINE MEETINGS" with the meeting language indicated next to the listing and in accordance with the 1997 Conference Advisory Action that:

On-line A.A. meetings that request to be listed in A.A. directories be added to the "International Correspondence Meetings" in A.A. directories, that each listing include the internet address of the on-line meeting, and that each on-line meeting requesting to be listed in our directories furnish G.S.O. with the name and physical address of a member willing to serve as "mail" contact.

Online meetings listed in A.A. directories under "ONLINE MEETINGS" continue to be listed with an e-mail contact address only, in keeping with the 1997 General Service Conference recommendation that:

On-line A.A. meetings that request to be listed in A.A. directories be added to the "International Correspondence Meetings" in A.A. directories, that each listing include the internet address of the on-line meeting, and that each on-line meeting requesting to be listed in our directories furnish G.S.O. with the name and physical address of a member willing to serve as "mail" contact.

**2008 Advisory Action recommended that:**

The Online Intergroup of A.A. (OIAA) be listed in a new section titled "Online Intergroups" under the section "International Correspondence Meetings" in the A.A. Directories above where "Online Meetings" appear; the listing will include the online intergroup Web site and e-mail addresses.

The statement "This Directory is not to be used as a mailing list or for any form of solicitation or commercial venture" that appears on the cover of A.A. Directories be made significantly more prominent, e.g. use borders, larger type face, etc. (Rescinded by Floor Action)

The Advisory Action of the Conference Committee on Report and Charter, Item B2, which recommended that the statement: "This directory is not to be used as a mailing list or for any form of solicitation or commercial venture" that appears on the cover of A.A. Directories be made significantly more prominent, e.g. use borders, larger type face, etc., be rescinded. (Floor Action)

**2016 Advisory Action recommended that:**

The category title "Online Meetings" be changed to "Online Meetings/Online Groups" on page vi and vii in the A.A. Directories.

Respectfully submitted,

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