

Policy Committee Update

Marianne B., Chairperson

July 2020

Policy statements are interpretations of our basic guides: The Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service. They help clarify how a Tradition or Concept might apply to a new or confusing situation that arises in Al-Anon or Alateen. Changes and additions to the Policy Digest are made only as our circumstances and growth require, since anticipating and including every specific situation would be impossible.

The purpose of the update sent each quarter by the Policy Committee Chairperson is to report progress and provide information on the following:

- Topics that are generated by the fellowship and discussed by the Policy Committee regarding issues or concerns that need clarification or interpretation in light of the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service
- Progress of work being completed by Policy Committee work groups, task and thought forces
- Policy motions to be presented to the World Service Conference (WSC)
- Policy motions passed by the WSC.

The Policy Committee met virtually for two and a half hours. The following topics were discussed or presented:

A PowerPoint was given to highlight the process of Policy motions moving from origination to the floor of the WSC. There are four Task Forces, due to the virtualization of the 2020 WSC that rolled over and will present at the 2021 WSC. Three of these (Interim Housekeeping Actions, Local Services, and Membership & Group/Conventions) received comments from WSC members on AFG Connects prior to the WSC. Since many previous Task Force members are no longer serving in their prior capacity, new assignments have been made to these three Task Forces. They will review the comments and feedback from the WSC Members community and report back any suggested revisions to the October Policy Committee meeting.

The Conference Approved Literature & Service Tools/Materials Policy Digest Review Task Force presented recommendations for text they discussed since the April 2020 Policy Committee meeting. The Task Force continues to make progress. They plan to continue discussion electronically with the Policy Committee between now and the October 2020 Policy Committee meeting.

A new Thought Force, National and International Public Outreach Concerning Social Media, was discussed and will soon be assigned. We look forward to this group bringing back to the October Policy Committee meeting an interesting and thought-provoking conversation.

The Electronic Meeting Work Group shepherded an insightful discussion around the topic of electronic meetings and their service structure. The Policy Committee continues to discuss the many nuances surrounding electronic meetings.

Thank you to all the members of these Task and Thought Forces, Work Groups, and Staff who worked so tirelessly to bring this work to the Policy Committee.

As always, the Policy Committee welcomes all questions and suggestions from any Al-Anon and Alateen member, meeting, group, or Area regarding issues that might need further clarification or interpretation in light of our Legacies.