

Policy Committee Update

Jeri W., Chairperson

January 2023

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 consideration of the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service
- Progress of work being completed by Policy Committee work groups and task and thought forces
- Policy motions to be presented to the World Service Conference (WSC)
- Policy motions passed by the WSC

The Policy Committee meeting occurs quarterly prior to the Board of Trustees meeting. The Policy Committee met virtually on January 31, 2023.

The Registering Multiple Meetings Thought Force continued their work this quarter. They brought to the Policy Committee applicable Traditions, Concepts of Service, and spiritual principles as they relate to registering multiple meetings. The discussion gained more momentum the longer these insights were brought to the forefront. Due to the complexities of these issues, the Policy Committee agreed once again that further deliberation is needed to acknowledge which Policy statements represent an appropriate interpretation of our basic guides as they relate to Al-Anon Family Groups registering multiple meetings.

The Local Services Task Force made minor edits to the “Information Services (Intergroups)” section of the “Digest of Al-Anon/Alateen Policies” under Local Services. The Policy Committee made comments and changes to clarify this section. In April 2023, this Task Force will present another aspect of their charge.

The meeting concluded with the Policy Secretary’s report as well as the Consent Agenda approval.

Reflecting on the Policy Committee Thought and Task Force discussions, they continue to exemplify the thoughtfulness, open-mindedness, humility, and courage that each member expresses to make the “Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies” clear and concise. As always, I thank Staff, the Board of Trustees, and the Executive Committee for their time, talents, and gifts to the fellowship, but most of all, for the diligence in using spiritual principles they bring to the table.

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.