

Chairperson's Report – March 10, 2019

Area Chairperson Folder:

1. Area Service Calendar. This is a list of events of interest to Area 59 for 2019.
 - a. Detailed announcements of events will be posted on our website www.area59aa.org. Districts and Groups are encouraged to add their events to the Calendar. Please review our website for information such as the Calendar along with “We...” newsletter, Area Officer reports, Subcommittee reports, Minutes to Area meetings, calendars and flyers.
 - b. Thanks to District 65 for hosting the DCM orientation & Mini-Assembly/DCR Planning events. Attendance and participation were excellent.
 - c. Thanks to all Districts who are hosting Area Events this year. Please let me know of your progress and any need for assistance if you are hosting an event.
2. Guest Observer. The Area Committee will select a Guest Observer for our November convention at Lancaster. There is a notice and explanation in your packet. Please bring a brief biographic resume (60 copies) with current contact information for your District's nominee to our June meeting. The selection(s) will be made at that meeting. Please feel free to contact me with questions.
3. Pre-Conference Sharing Session. Please review the Pre-Conference Sharing Session flyer and letter to members posted on our web site: www.area59aa.org. This is an important Area function and vital to helping our Delegate form a sense of the Area Conscience on 2019 General Service Conference topics. Help us build attendance and participation to our May 4 event. DCM leadership is vital to our success.
4. How the Conference Operates. The decision-making process is very important to the Unity of Alcoholics Anonymous. The General Service Conference has successfully used a modified version of Robert's Rules of Order for many years. “How the Conference Operates” summarizes how the Conference uses Robert's Rules of Order. Please become familiar with this as we will use it for our deliberations in upcoming meetings.
 - a. Area 59 uses the committee system for most of its work. Major proposals (motions) should be reviewed by the appropriate Subcommittee before being brought before the full Area Committee (48 DCMs and 6 Area Officers). The ultimate goal is to have an informed group conscience. Please ask the Chairperson if you have any questions about how to go about putting a motion before the Area.
 - b. The Chairperson of the business meeting will remain neutral and impartial in conduct. I will refrain from voting unless there is a tie. In some cases that may mean putting a vote over the 2/3 level needed for substantial unanimity.
 - c. Only one person is recognized at a time. Usually you must go to microphone to be recognized. Only DCMs, or people representing their District, and Area officers may participate in the discussion. All questions and discussion should be directed to the Chairman. Say if you are for or against a motion and give reasons. Please limit the discussion to what is being voted on and do not make comments to or about other members during discussion or debate.
 - d. If you disagree with a parliamentary decision made by the Chairperson, or need clarification to understand what is going on, call for a “point of order”. You do not have to go to the microphone or be recognized to do this. This would be done to either challenge a decision or ask for clarification of it. Right or wrong, the Chairperson's decision is followed, unless the entire Area Committee votes to

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overturn it.

- e. In the interest of everyone's time and clear decision making:
 - i. Don't wait for minority opinion to make your point.
 - ii. Don't use minority opinion to repeat discussion that has already been made.
 - iii. Be brief and avoid brainstorming at the microphone. Make your point in two minutes or less.
 - iv. The Chairperson does not have to recognize you once you have spoken unless all Committee Members who want to, have spoken. We do not use filibuster.
- f. Most proposals will not be emergencies. If the Chairperson gets the sense that the members of the Area Committee would like to take it back to their Districts for discussion, he may call for a motion to schedule the proposal to a future date.

Please keep in mind that once a democratic decision has been made, our Unity depends upon our actions and service for the spiritual power to be effective. Let's try to work together to do what is best for AA.

Travel Log

12/14/18	District 68 Workshop	Ambler, PA
12/15/18	Philadelphia Grapevine Committee Workshop	Philadelphia, PA
01/06/19	SEPIA Share-A-Day Planning Meeting	Philadelphia, PA
01/06/19	CPC Conference Call	Glenolden, PA
01/13/19	DCM Sharing	Lebanon, PA
02/05/19	SEPIA Share-A-Day Facility Walk Through	Philadelphia, PA
02/10/19	SEPIA Share-A-Day	Philadelphia, PA
02/17/19	Pre-Area Meeting	Hershey, PA
02/20/19	Literature Conference Call	Glenolden, PA
02/21/19	District 28 Meeting	Philadelphia, PA
2/22-2/24/19	NERAASA	Hunt Valley, MD
03/02/19	District 29, 30, 31 Workshop	King of Prussia, PA
03/03/19	District 47 Workshop	Sellersville, PA
03/10/19	Area Meeting	Philadelphia, PA

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service!

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve S
Area 59, Panel 69 Chairperson