

Chairperson's Report – June 14, 2020

Area Chairperson:

1. Agenda. A copy of the Agenda with the handouts for this meeting has been sent to the Area 59 DCMs and ADCMs via Email.
2. Area Subcommittees.
 - a. I'd like to thank everyone for all of the work that has been done under challenging circumstances. It seems like we've done as much, or possibly even more, than we would have if we didn't have the "stay at home" situation.
3. Guest Observer. We will choose our Guest Observer for our Convention in November as a part of New Business.
4. Area Forums. We have tentatively scheduled an Area Forum for October 11, 2020. It will be a digital meeting that will be available to anyone. More details will follow.
5. 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. **For our meeting today, you will need to raise your virtual hand 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 would like to make an amendment or you disagree with a parliamentary decision made by the Chairperson, or need clarification to understand what is going on, send a chat message to "POINT OF ORDER Clair B". You do not have to raise your virtual hand 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 overturn it.

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- e. In the interest of everyone's time and clear decision making:
 - i. **Limit your discussion to 90 seconds.**
 - ii. Don't wait for minority opinion to make your point.
 - iii. Don't use minority opinion to repeat discussion that has already been made.
 - iv. Be brief and avoid brainstorming at the microphone. Make your point in two minutes or less.
 - v. 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

03/12/20	Planning Meeting for Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Teleconference
03/16/20	Planning Meeting for Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Digital Meeting
03/19/20	Oakland, CA PI/CPC Workshop	Digital Meeting
03/26/20	Planning Meeting for Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Digital Meeting
03/31/20	Planning Meeting for Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Digital Meeting
04/01/20	District 32 Meeting	Digital Meeting
04/02/20	Cooperation with the Professional Community Meeting	Digital Meeting
04/09/20	Planning Meeting for Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Digital Meeting
04/10/20	Area 13 (Washington, DC) Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Digital Meeting
04/10/20	Area 12 (Delaware) Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Digital Meeting
04/11/20	Russian Workshop	Digital Meeting
04/09/20	Planning Meeting for Pre-Conference Sharing Session	Digital Meeting
04/14/20	Pre-Conference Sharing Session II	Digital Meeting
04/18/20	Planning Meeting for Finance / Public Information Workshop	Digital Meeting
04/25/20	Planning Meeting for Finance / Public Information Workshop	Digital Meeting
04/22/20	Area 19 (Northern Illinois) Area Chair Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/01/20	District 40 Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/01/20	Planning Meeting for Finance / Public Information Workshop	Digital Meeting
05/02/20	Finance / Public Information Workshop	Digital Meeting
05/03/20	Area 58 Grapevine Workshop	Digital Meeting
05/05/20	Planning Meeting with VEDAT	Digital Meeting
05/05/20	District 25 Meeting	Digital Meeting

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05/06/20	District 24 Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/06/20	Austin bid for ICYPAA Hospitals and Institutions Workshop	Digital Meeting
05/07/20	Planning Meeting with VEDAT	Digital Meeting
05/13/20	Area 19 (Northern Illinois) Area Chair Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/14/20	District 58 Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/17/20	Literature Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/19/20	Test Run for Area Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/21/20	Planning Meeting with VEDAT	Digital Meeting
05/23/20	Planning Meeting for Test Run for Area Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/26/20	Three-Legged Stool Workshop	Digital Meeting
05/31/20	Literature Meeting	Digital Meeting
05/30/20	Area 19 (Northern Illinois) Assembly	Digital Meeting
06/01/20	Cooperation with the Professional Community Meeting	Digital Meeting
06/03/20	Delegate Conference Report Practice Run	Digital Meeting
06/04/20	Area 48 (Northeast New York) Reopening Meetings Workshop	Digital Meeting
06/06/20	Area 29 (Maryland) Delegate Conference Report	Digital Meeting
06/07/20	Delegate Conference Report	Digital Meeting
06/08/20	District 36 Meeting	Digital Meeting
06/10/20	Planning Meeting with VEDAT	Digital Meeting
06/10/20	Area 19 (Northern Illinois) Area Chair Meeting	Digital Meeting
06/13/20	Area 12 (Delaware) Delegate Conference Report	Digital Meeting
06/14/20	Area Meeting	Digital Meeting

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service!

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve S
Area 59, Panel 69 Chairperson