

ETAAA POSSIBLE TOPICS – MAY 18, 2024 Longview, Texas

Here are a few of the Area initiatives under way:

1. A committee is considering electronic payment options for the Area to make it easier for all members to make 7th Tradition contributions (It will be so nice to forego getting ATM withdrawals for cash contributions!)
2. The Beacon has become a very serious publication in our Area. A committee is reconsidering its place in the functioning of our Area and thinking of fun ways to lighten it up.
3. A separate committee is considering how and to whom the Beacon is distributed electronically now that it is no longer printed. – How do we get it out there?
4. The Area uses spreadsheets to do its accounting now. A committee is considering converting the accounting to a software application like QuickBooks, so the Area's books are permanent.
5. Currently, the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meets four times a year. Two of those meetings occur on weekends that are not during Assembly weekend. To reduce travel costs for the Area and to increase attendance, a committee is considering how we might offer a hybrid option at the stand-alone AWSC meetings.
6. A policy is actively being developed by another committee to deal with situations when Al-Anon groups in our Area are painting way too far outside of the lines (aka egregiously not following Al-Anon Traditions). This policy will only affect whether a group is listed in the World Service's (WSO's) online meeting list search. Using the policy will not be required; it will only be a tool.
7. Another committee is coming up with ways to help GRs and other members prepare for the Area Assembly so they feel more comfortable participating in discussions and can make more informed decisions. Workshops and podcasts are being considered for this.
8. TEA AC and POSSE are Alateen initiatives. A committee comprised of Alateen sponsors is considering how these initiatives function, how they report and who the signees on their checking accounts will be.

9. Due to the stringent qualification requirements for Texas East Area Officers, we had very few candidates available to fill the 5 positions during elections at the Fall Area Assembly. A committee is considering how we might open things up a bit.*
10. The idea of “Putting a dollar in the basket” as a 7th Tradition contribution has essentially become part of the Al-Anon culture even though this is often preventing groups, districts and our Area from being financially self-supporting. One dollar in 1951 at Al-Anon’s inception is equivalent to about \$12 today. A committee has been formed to consider ways this culture might be changed.

***From the ETAAA Policies and Procedures**

5. **Eligibility for Delegate, Alternate Delegate, and Officers:**
 - a. Any person that has served three years as a District Representative or as an Area Officer in the world-wide Fellowship of Al-Anon/Alateen.
 - b. Has remained active in the East Texas Area 53 by not missing more than two (2) assemblies during the current panel term. Current District Representatives must also not have missed more than four (4) Area World Service Committee Meetings during the current panel term.
 - c. Regularly attends Al-Anon meetings.
 - d. Is not also a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. (May 21, 2011)
6. Nominations can be taken from the floor on the day of the election.