

# PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE AREA ASSEMBLY STRUCTURE AND GUIDELINES

## Name of Motion: Change to Committee Membership

**Motion:** To change the Structure and Guidelines at address the membership of the Area Standing Committees

**Current Text:** See attachment 1

**Proposed Text:** See Attachment 1

### Background:

7/21/2017	1. Submitted to the Area Chairperson and Policy/Agenda Committee's.(This is a good time to send the motion to translation.)
9/21/2017	2. Reviewed by the Area Committee
11/4/2017	3. Presented to the Area Assembly
	4. Area Assembly votes—majority vote required to distribute for group consideration
	5. GSRs review with Groups—Group Consciences taken
	6. Final vote by Area Assembly—two thirds majority vote required for adoption

NOTES:	a. All proposed new text is presented with <u>underline</u> .
	b. All proposed deletions are presented with <del>striketrough</del> .
	c. Explanations of changes are presented in [brackets].
	d. Page number refers to the current location of text in the A.A.S.&G.
	e. If the proposal is new and does not alter or amend the existing text, the page number indicates the intended location in the A.A.S.&G., if adopted.

Financial Impact to the Area Assembly			
Direct Costs (-) Savings (+) (Actual \$ spent by the Area Assembly to produce or secure change.)		Indirect Costs (-) or Savings (+) possible related costs to sub-committees, support costs or maintenance.)	
\$	Description	\$	Description
0	None		

Concepts and Traditions that apply	
Concept or Tradition	How it applies
Traditions 4 & 9	Will allow the Committees to determine the proper membership to perform their duties.

Attachment 1: Proposed Motion to amend the Structure and Guidelines on Committee Membership.  
Composition of Standing Committees Section VIII, PART B, Paragraphs 2, 5, and 8

Current Text: Section VIII part B  
Paragraphs 2, 5, & 8

2. Voting members, other than the Committee Chairperson and Alternate, and assigned Area Officers, will be selected at the January Area Assembly meeting in a method determined by the Area Committee, annually, at the December Area Committee meeting.
5. Standing Committees will be composed of up to nine (9) voting members, each of whom will be members of the San Diego-Imperial Area Assembly. Except for the Chairperson, a member's term of service on a Standing Committee shall coincide with his/her term of service as a GSR or a DCM
8. Standing Committees may include Volunteer Committee Members as deemed necessary by each committee. The volunteer shall be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. The volunteer shall not have a vote in the committee on any matter affecting the Area or A.A. as a whole.

Proposed New Text to the Structure and guidelines

2. New committee members other than the Committee Chairperson, Alternate, and assigned Area Officers, will be selected at each Area Assembly in a manner determined by the Area Committee.
5. Standing Committees will be comprised of voting members and volunteers. Committee Members will be made up from the group members of Alcoholics Anonymous of the San Diego-Imperial Area. Voting members of all Committees will be selected in accordance with the Structure and Guidelines of the Standing Committee they are selected to. Voting membership on a Standing Committee means that they have voting rights pertaining to Committee business on the committee they serve. A members' term of service shall not be greater than two years on any one committee. All other members of any committee are considered volunteers.
8. Standing Committees may include Volunteer Committee members as deemed necessary by each Committee. The volunteer shall be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. The volunteer shall not have a vote on any matter affecting the Area as a whole

Background:

The Current Structure and Guidelines were set up to mirror the AA structure for the annual meeting of the delegates and it seems to serve them well. We here at Area 8 host over 800 meetings a week in San Diego proper which does not include the North county and the Imperial Valley. In order for us to do the committee business and to carry the message that falls in specific committee work the limits of nine members per committee hamstring us to carry out the work we need to do. We in the literature committee are leaving a lot of necessary work that could be done off the table for the lack of membership on our committee. Our current Structure and guidelines limit us to 9 members and then volunteers. As we look at a number of important tasks that we would like to do and the size of our area we are quickly overwhelmed. For us it is a matter of square miles for other committees it is a question for sheer volume of work. We have a unique opportunity in the literature committee to tap into a resource in every meeting, namely the literature person who is responsible for the literature rack at each meeting. For one thing the majority of people who do this job have no idea of what is

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available to them and we would like to make sure the word of Alcoholics Anonymous stays true to our purpose. As we all know Alcoholics will give expert advice on topics they no absolutely nothing about. In reality there are just as many “normal” folks for lack of a better word who will do the same. In AA we have a vast wealth of approved information that is not reaching the recovering or practicing alcoholic and there are many challenges to reach these folks in a new age of the internet and we would like to have the membership to address these challenges.

We are not the only Standing Committee with this challenge the translation committee is the first to come to mind. We happen to have a ready pool to draw on and want to expand our membership to meet our challenges. Unfortunately our current Structure and Guidelines are preventing us to do so.

Respectfully submitted

John L. Swingle  
Alt Chair  
Literature Committee