

Policy Committee Update

Jeri W., Chairperson

October 2022

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, task forces, 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 October 21, 2022.

The Local Services Task Force continued their charge of revising the “Information Services (Intergroups)” section of the “Digest of AlAnon and Alateen Policies” in the *2022-2025 AlAnon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) v2*. The Task Force met in September to focus on words that reflect policy instead of procedure and to incorporate Literature Distribution Centers into the section for clarity. There was a robust discussion by the Policy Committee and further discussion will follow in January 2023.

The newly formed “Choosing a Group Name” Thought Force brought a generative discussion to the Policy Committee. Their charge was to make a recommendation whether or not the “Choosing a Group’s Name” section (pages 85-86) of the Policy Digest needed to be updated or rewritten. There was a consensus to form a Task Force to update the section to reflect the results of the April 2022 Open Policy Committee meeting.

The new “Registering Multiple Meetings” Thought Force completed a KBDM, and that information was used to guide the Policy Committee discussion. Following the conversation, the Policy Committee agreed that further clarification of the policy was needed before Policy Digest edits began.

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

I would like to thank the Policy Committee members (Staff, Trustees, and At-Large members of the Executive Committee) for their time and knowledge. Once again, through patience and unity, a minority voice was heard, and the focus of our discussions were changed. This is an example of how this group works diligently to follow the spiritual principles that are evident in our Traditions and Concepts.

As always, the Policy Committee welcomes all questions and suggestions from any

AlAnon and Alateen member, meeting, group, or Area regarding issues that might need further clarification or interpretation in light of our Legacies.