

Thought Force on Assembly Format

The thought force met four times on Zoom to define and determine whether improvements can be made to the assembly format. We considered five areas that might be improved: Connecting groups and group representatives, bringing in new assembly members, training on the Twelve Traditions and Concepts, training officers and coordinators, training district representatives. We determined that these tasks can be addressed outside the area assembly as the definition below from the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021 stipulates the purpose of the area assembly.

“The Area Assembly is the business meeting where the groups send their representatives to express a voice and vote on behalf of the group. During an Assembly, the Delegate reports the activities of the World Service Conference. An Assembly can meet at least one or two times a year, or a minimum of once every three years. Many meet more often.” (Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021 page 69)

One possible change that could be followed up with a task force: continue holding virtual assemblies where assembly members can participate from anywhere without travel and lodging expenses and plan a face to face convention for the NY North Area for those who would like to upgrade their recovery in a group setting.