Preliminary Area MLLP Review Guide

Overview

Meeting List Publishing Policy support and acceptance by the WSO is not like Area Alateen Safety & Behavior Requirements (ASBRs). The WSO must approve ASBRs before the Area can use the Alateen name. However, WSO support and acceptance of the Area MLPP is *not* required before the Area can implement their MLPP. Area can address a group concern using their MLPP process, gain the Area groups' approval, and stop displaying the group's meeting(s) on its Area meeting list. WSO support and acceptance only becomes necessary *if* the Area asks the WSO to remove the group from its al-anon.org listings.

In reviewing Area MLPPs, WSO Staff seek to adhere to the guidance shared by the Policy Committee Thought Force at the 2012 World Service Conference.

Key Steps Needed in the MLPP to Gain WSO Support*

- Definition of what represents grave violation of Al-Anon's Traditions
- A review task force or committee (Review Task Force) including several trusted servants, preferably both Area and District representatives, to research any reported group concern
- Defined process for the Review Task Force to collaborate with trusted servants and members from the group being researched to ensure no principle-based resolution can be achieved
- Final decisions regarding publishing a group rest with groups at Assembly rather than Area Officers, Review Task Force, or even Area World Service Committee (AWSC):
  - Results of Review Task Force research and collaboration presented to Area groups at Assembly
  - Requirement to gain Area groups' approval at Assembly before group meeting(s) are removed from Area meeting lists
- Process for notifying the group of the Area decision, informing the group of its right to continue to participate at the Area level with voice and vote, and providing the group with the process and assurance of the opportunity for future reconsideration of their Do Not Publish status.

* These steps are not the only steps necessary, but they are key ones.

Key Considerations

- The MLPP process supports broad, patient conversation amongst Area Officers, the review task force or committee, and the Area AWSC and Assembly as well as with the group trusted servants and members themselves.
- In keeping with Concept One, decision-making regarding removing a group from the Area meeting list does not rest with any authority except the Area's groups themselves.
- The process emphasizes a thoughtful and thorough spiritual, principle-based, and effective process rather than efficiency. This approach avoids dominance and maintains authority and responsibility where our Legacies tell us they belong.