

DISTRICT 9

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GUIDELINES

Notes from May 5, 2024 Meeting

Attending: Charles, Chair, Kari I., Secretary, Gene A. Chris

The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Charles called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. Roll call was taken.

The first item was to discuss how to send reminders and prepare agendas for future meetings. Charles reminded the group that the purpose of the meeting as stated in the minutes of the April meeting, is to methodically review the current guidelines, to determine whether we are following them, and if so, is that working for us, and if not, why not. It was also acknowledged that District 9 is a nonprofit organization and that the Guidelines are its By-laws.

Charles had made copies of the sample Guidelines used in Maryland shared by Janet S. and the previous draft of revised Guidelines prepared in 2023. The current guidelines are on the District 9 website which was projected onto the screen for all to read.

The first two paragraphs about timing and frequency of meetings were reviewed without much comment. District 9 is following these guidelines. There was comment that perhaps not everyone was familiar with the built-in alternate to the 2nd Sunday of the month for regular meetings which is the 4th Sunday of the month.

The group then discussed the 3rd paragraph which states that only GSRs can vote. Kari I. is in favor of expanding that to GSRs and officers of District 9 even if they are not GSRs. She said as an officer of a nonprofit organization, might she be responsible for actions approved by the District 9 board about which she had no vote. Gene emphasized that everyone at the District 9 meeting has voice even if no vote. He also reviewed District 18's way of dealing with this, which was to distinguish between those matters which affect the Area and greater AA and those which affect only the local District. GSRs would vote on the former while all officers could vote on the latter. One of the differences is that matters affecting the greater AA should be due to group conscience votes. Group conscience votes would still be invited on District level matters of course. More discussion followed without any conclusion, recognizing that this is a key issue raised at the November 2023 Inventory about which the entire committee should weigh in.

Gene noted that the service manual that is online is dated 2018 but has been updated since then. The current service manual is not on the website.

The next meeting is Sunday June 2nd at 6:30 pm at SonBridge.

- Kari I.
Secretary