

Area 56 Area Assembly and AWSC Guidelines for Relationship to Convention

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to define the responsibilities of the Area 56 Assembly and the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) as they relate to the Area 56 Convention. Communication, collaboration, and transparency are important to the success of the relationship between the Convention and the Assembly and the Area (56) World Service Committee.

Assembly Responsibilities:

The Vermont Convention is sponsored by the Area 56 (Vermont) Assembly, as stated in the mission statement for the Vermont Convention. As such, at its Spring and Fall business meetings (attended by Representatives from the Groups and the Districts, as well as Area Officers and Coordinators) the Assembly undertakes the following responsibilities related to the Convention:

- Keep announcing the need for Convention participation, using the Links of Service.
- Keep the election conversation of Convention Chair and/or Co-Chair on the Agenda.
- Conduct election of Convention Chair and/or Co-Chair, as necessary.
- Confirm Go/No Go vote by Assembly based on Convention Chair report (by Fall Assembly for the following year's Convention).
- Symbolically, seed money will be listed on the income and expense side of the Area budget, though funds are held in the separate Convention account.
- The Assembly advocates for Convention success and may be consulted for help and guidance.

Area World Service Committee Responsibilities:

The Area World Service Committee (AWSC) acts as the agent of the Assembly to carry out the business of Area 56 Al-Anon Family Groups (AFG) in between Assemblies. As such, the AWSC, which meets monthly (and is comprised of elected Area Officers, Coordinators, and District Representatives) undertakes the following responsibilities related to the Convention:

- Keep announcing the need for Convention participation, using the Links of Service.
- Keep Convention as agenda item on AWSC meetings.
- The Convention Chair is designated as a voting member of the AWSC.

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- If Convention Committee does not meet its communication commitment with the Area for two consecutive months, the Area Chair will take action to inquire status with Convention Chair and Convention Treasurer. If the Area Chair discovers issues of concern, the AWSC will discuss next steps.
- The Area Treasurer will review the bank statement monthly and bring forward questions. The Area Treasurer will hold the Convention checkbook during no-convention years.
- Between Assemblies, the AWSC (Area) advocates for Convention success and may be consulted for help and guidance.

Assembly and AWSC Advocacy in the spirit of Al-Anon's Legacies:

The Area's advocacy of the Convention, on the part of the Assembly and the AWSC, is understood to be ongoing and in the spirit of Al-Anon's Legacies: the Steps, Traditions, Concepts. These legacies are the founding inspiration for the development of the Convention Mission Statement and Guidelines and in turn the Legacies serve as guides for the Area's responsibilities to the Convention. In the event of any financial or logistical or volunteer resource matters that arise in the course of Convention planning or in the wrap-up of a Convention, and that look to additional help and guidance from the Area, the legacies are guideposts for solutions through group conscience in the spirit of Al-Anon's principles of unity and service.