

December 12, 2021

**Notes from Joint Accessibilities/Technology/CEC Committee Meeting
MSCA Area 09 Area Service Committee (ASC)**

Present: Andrea C. Area 09 Accessibilities Chair, Justin V. Area 09 Technology Chair, Jerry S. Area 09 CEC Chair, John (Jack) B. District 8-11 GSR, Sharon S. Area 09 CEC Secretary

Discussion:

1. Justin shared he is exploring tech options to better connect to GSO. Ex. "air table" a spreadsheet on steroids! He is assisting in the hybrid meeting format and Don with the Registrar's responsibilities. Technology committee welcomes support and new members!
2. Andrea shared she will be stepping aside as Accessibilities Chair as her term is fulfilled. She is bringing information to District meetings and with her local intergroup. Accessibilities committee welcomes support and new members!
3. Sharon shared CEC is finishing up some mailings to Nursing Homes and Senior Centers- approximately 165 total, at this point. Mailings will follow up virtual contacts with hard copy pamphlets of interest to the elder alcoholic.
4. Jerry shared his term as CEC Chair is fulfilled as well, and he is the incoming DCMC for District 11. He thinks Grant T. may stand for the CEC Chair position for Panel 72. He also shared that Area 09 CEC has been asked to share a presentation with the "All Accessibilities" meeting on Monday, 12/13/21 at 4:00PM, and included a link in the chat box. He, along with Michael M. and Grant T., will be presenting. CEC committee welcomes support and new members!
5. There was much discussion as to the ongoing virtual meeting options and formats (past and present) and the value in carrying the message of sobriety and meetings for AA members. Some members voice the importance of Zoom- virtual meetings and some have voiced a preference for the in-person meeting with real hugs!
6. Jack shared some comments he has heard from members stating, "Zoom meetings are not real AA". He was wondering if GSO had any direction or validation of the virtual meeting format. Justin shared some links from GSO (aa.org) in the chat, addressing this subject, and will also email these to Jack.
7. Justin also discussed the validity of Zoom meetings, citing the valid election process of Area 09 Officers as an example. Another example is the GS Conference the last couple of years, held on the Zoom platform. Also, in the private sector Zoom is used for court proceedings, etc. and considered valid.
8. Jack also expressed the importance of assisting elders and other members who may be intimidated or not have access to technology. Committee reviewed the tutorials and volunteers available for 1:1 assistance as requested. Jack is willing and will be added to the "volunteer" list that Jerry has for those requesting assistance.

Thanks to everyone for their service!

Yours in Grateful Service- Thank you,

Sharon S.