

RE-OPENING IN REGARD TO THE PANDEMIC OUR GROUP CONSCIENCE—TRADITION TWO SHOULD BE OUR NORTH STAR

Many groups place the group conscience in two categories: A. The Group Conscience business meeting...i.e. do we need more coffee, have the bills been paid. And B) The Group Conscience as a spiritual meeting. i.e. begins and ends with prayer. We spiritually consider donations to service entities, spiritual rotation issues, and our group 12 step work, and during this time perhaps the group will add opening during or after a pandemic to the list.

REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

- Members may want to ask themselves in meditation before the group conscience:
- Have I informed myself about the issue?
- Am I willing to listen to other members with an open mind and really try to understand their point of view? (Tradition 1)
- Am I voting for what is best for AA as whole, not just what is best for me, or even my group? (Tradition 1)
- Am I voting out of pride and/or ego?
- If so, is our group operating out of pride and ego because we won't consider a different way or we think we know what is best?

CDC AND GOVERNMENT MANDATES

- Do we fully understand the CDC Guidelines and any mandates or our state and municipalities?
- Are we setting ourselves above the law?
(Area 60 has been lucky. Groups meeting during the pandemic in much of the NE and on the West Coast have been cited, required to pay fines and showcased in the newspaper. Delegates are getting calls from the press.— Traditions 4 and 10)
- If masks continue to be required will we provide them?
- Can we social distance at 6 feet apart?
- If more than 25 people show up, what is the contingency (Tradition 3)
- Will we keep lists of names, addresses, and phone numbers for contact tracing. (Traditions 11 and 12)
- Are there any legal liabilities we should be concerned with?

HEALTH CONCERNS

- Will we continue coffee and cookie service?
- Will we provide hand sanitizer?
- Who will clean and sanitize?
- If a regular attendee at our group contracts Covid-19 have we discussed how this will affect other groups and AA as a whole? (Tradition 4)

- If one of our members get COVID19 will we all voluntarily quarantine and close the meeting?
- Who do we inform? i.e. Dept of Health, other members, etc. (Tradition 12)

12 STEP ISSUES

- How many meetings that are still physically meeting (or have met during quarantine) have first- timers walking in on their own?
- Most members are referred to AA through rehabs, 12 step calls, or contacting an AA number. Should our group investigate if those services such as 12-step phone lines, are still pairing new callers with sober members?
- Are those members referring newcomers to online meetings, or to the physical meetings still operating? (Step 12)
- Are newcomers finding AA online? (Tradition1)

SEVENTH TRADITION

- How will we handle the 7th Tradition?
- Is a homegroup member willing to handle cash?
- Should we get a PayPal or Venmo account and how does that work?

LANDLORD OR CHURCH QUESTIONS

- Have we discussed the pandemic with our landlord and their expectations of us when we decide to reopen?
- Does our Landlord/Church have any restrictions above and beyond CDC and our local state and local municipalities?
- What will we do if members decide to flout mandated regulations by either the State and local municipalities or the church? (Tradition 3)
- Do we have permission to meet outside on church property to handle overflow?
- Do we have permission to use additional rooms in the church to handle overflow?
- Do we have any legal liabilities or responsibilities in regard to the meeting space?
- Does our landlord/church expect us to sanitize after the meeting?
 - If so, what does that mean?
 - Do we buy the supplies, etc.
 - Are there guidelines on how that should be done? (One medical professional related that the bathroom must be sanitized after each use.)
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IN REGARD TO ALL THESE ISSUES, WHAT HAVE WE FORGOTTEN?