

2021 Fall Assembly Motion from the Conference Advisory Committee Motion to impose a deadline for hosting the Spring Assembly Conference

Motion:

The Area 20 Conference Advisory Committee (CAC) moves that if no group, or district completes the bidding process in accordance with the “*Formal Preparation & Presentation of Conference Bid*” guidelines in the current and approved Planning Procedures document, by the Winter Assembly, fifteen months prior to its scheduled event date, then the Spring Assembly Conference will be officially canceled by the Area Officers for the intended year.

Background

The Spring Assembly Conference (SAC) is a weekend long event that requires the host committee to “Secure a location for the Conference and make all necessary arrangements with the facility staff”. “Experience shows that successful conferences finalize contracts at least one year in advance.” This has been an increasingly difficult situation and if not secured within this reasonable amount of time, the pricing for hotel selection is significantly impacted.

The number of people suggested per our guidelines for planning this conference is thirty-six including chairs and alternates with additional members needed for each committee. In the past, two or more districts have partnered to provide the work force needed and even then, fell short in many years. If there are not enough members committed to take on this responsibility and allow for the inclusion of both seasoned and inexperienced participants, it may be difficult for the true spiritual nature of this “Area sponsored conference” to be met. This is evidenced by the cancellation of two of the past three years conferences when no one stepped up to host.

Our guidelines suggest and are written with the expectation that “bids for the N.I.A. Spring Assembly Conferences are awarded approximately one and one-half years preceding the event” A set cutoff date could help us focus on the current voice of the fellowship when the bidding process deadline has passed.

References:

- http://aa-nia.org/wp-content/pdf/guide/2018/Planning_Procedures_2018.pdf
- <http://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/NIA-20-Service-Manual-web-201901.pdf>

Follow Up Actions Required

- Update the Area 20 Planning Procedures
- Updating Northern Illinois Area 20 Service Manual

Respectively submitted,

Conference Advisory Committee

- Erik L., Area Alternate Chair
- Susan Hl., Area Grapevine Chair
- Dawn B., Area Treasurer
- Kevin A., Area Bridging the Gap (BTG) Chair
- Carol H., Area Registrar