



December 9, 2021

2021 Winter Assembly Cover Letter

I'll admit it – I procrastinated writing my final cover letter as your Area Chair. I still like to push off when anything good comes to an end 😞. More than anything, I'm grateful for how NIA 20 adapted and worked tougher to change in the best ways we know how to ensure the still suffering have access to our amazing fellowship and program. While the last two years brought both external and internal challenges, I am humbled by our ever-present commitment to serving the fellowship in NIA 20. Thank you to each one of you who stepped out of the norms to try new things and make new ways. Sitting in a meeting with someone touched by the services our Area provides, say they got sober "in the squares" or got involved in service "in the squares" warms my heart every time. Thank you for your commitment to our 36 principles to guide us through the beautiful whirlwind of the last two years.

We are still working to help encourage participation in these areas:

- **Our Area is very much in need for folks to serve on our Technology Committee in the coming rotation.** Members can be appointed from anywhere inside our NIA 20 fellowship. Ideally, not from our already established elected committee – the role of this committee is ever-growing.
 - o Zoom Acct meeting and calendar management – done by Area Chair w/support
 - o Zoom meeting and events production support
 - o Partnership with Electronics committee to ensure we have and maintain what we need
 - o Ongoing research to help us stay connected to tech trends in AA
 - o Offers recommendations to the Area to make changes, upgrades, purchases, etc.
- **I am VERY excited to see how our planning and preparation for hybrid events comes together.** You will hear an update today about how the Area Officers for Panel 70 and 72 are coming together to set up and test.
- **I AM THRILLED that we see a formal bid for our 2023 Spring Assembly Conference** at today's Winter Assembly. Thank you Districts 22 and 23 for this. WOOHOO!
- **We still need a formal bid for our 2022 Big Book Conference.** Please consider preparing a full bid for the 2022 event to present at our Spring Assembly.
- **We also have several open Panel 72 service positions to fill on our committee.** Please encourage others to learn more and to get involved, if there is something here that speaks to them.

There is a motion on today's agenda to formalize a video conferencing element be added to our area business meetings. This will be an important discussion and vote as it affects how we do business going forward. I am excited to hear the discussion and see how our collective conscience speaks on this topic. **GSRs – please come and express your group conscience!**

Thank you all for your dedicated service to the fellowship in NIA 20. I will be seeing you both in the rooms and "in the squares" in the days and weeks to come.

In loving service,

Carmela R, Area Chair Panel 70