# Motion to provide video conferencing capabilities at NIA Area Meetings

## Motion

The Area officers move to provide video conferencing capabilities at NIA Assemblies, Committee Meetings and the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop.

| Item # | Activity | Description, expected outcome and execution guidelines | Example expenses | Reimbursement Guidelines | Projected cost |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PPMxx | Provide video conferencing capabilities at NIA Area meetings. | In an effort to address those with Accessibilities concerns, provide video conferencing capabilities at the above named NIA meetings. | Cost of video conference accounts and necessary transmission equipment including cameras, microphones, mobile hotspot equipment and other items deemed necessary to set up and execute the plan. | Reimbursement authority: Area Treasurer Appeal body: Operating Committee | $5000.00 Based on Initial projections of startup costs. |

As a supplemental action to this motion, the NIA planning procedures documents and Service Guidelines will be updated to make the necessary additions to allow for video conferencing at all Assemblies, Committee meetings and the Pre General Service Conference Workshop.  Area officers will still be encouraged to attend in person (when permitted) but participants (especially those with Accessibilities concerns) will have the option to attend "virtually".

The projected costs shown above are for the projected start-up costs only.  Ongoing administrative costs will be covered under a PPB line item.

## Background material:

As the Covid-19 pandemic took hold in 2020, NIA 20 (and Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole) was forced to implement virtual strategies to continue to meet its objective of continuing to hold Area wide service meetings including Assemblies, Committee meetings and the Pre-General Service Conference workshop.  As we plan on returning to in-person meetings in the future there exists no mechanism to allow for the continued use of video conferencing capabilities at these events. Passage of this motion would serve as the Assembly's authority to purchase the necessary equipment to continue to utilize virtual conferencing technology when we return to in-person Area meetings.  Sharing sessions at the past two assemblies have shown a desire to provide hybrid capabilities at NIA meetings in order to improve accessibility to NIA meetings. These types of in-person meetings, which also allow for attendees to participate via video conferencing are becoming more and more prevalent in AA and are collectively referred to as Hybrid events.