



September 18, 2021

## **2021 Fall Assembly Cover Letter**

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the final quarter of our Panel 70 rotation. We are doing so well together, during constant change, uncertainty, and challenges, on many fronts. It is a privilege to serve with you.

It will be wonderful to see how our Panel 72 slate of trusted servants comes together today. Elections are always a special and nervous time, I know! I pray each of us answers our calls inside in whatever direction they head us. NIA20 will stay always in good hands, thanks to our collective knowing and loving Higher Power.

Thank you to Robert S and Mark E for working with us to prepare and execute our election procedures for today. We are grateful for the examples of other areas and the experiences of those here to guide us through our first ever virtual Election Assembly. Please review the procedures document in today's packet to get a feel for how things will run on Saturday for the Elections portion of our Assembly.

During our Summer Assembly and subsequent Summer Committee meeting, we discussed quite a lot about two key areas: the future of our meetings, whether they be in person, virtual or some combination therein, and a motion around our Spring Assembly Conference. Here are some concerns and thoughts about each:

- **Our Area is very much in need for folks to serve on our Technology Committee, both now and 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 and for it to be collateral duty for seated trusted servants is a lot to ask. I am concerned that without an established group of folks dedicated to the below items, we will not be fully prepared to support virtual accessibility for future area events.
  - o Zoom Acct meeting and calendar management
  - o Zoom meeting and events production support
  - o Partnership with Electronics committee to ensure we have 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.
- **We will call for formal bids for our 2023 Spring Assembly Conference starting today.** Not simply for interest, for actual prepared bids. Please consider preparing a full bid for the 2023 Spring Assembly Conference to present at our Winter Assembly, if not today. This could provide ample time for folks to come together and prepare a proper bid. As always, our Conference Advisory Committee is here to help.
- **A motion by the Conference Advisory committee to update our planning procedures for our Spring Assembly Conference.** Following our Summer Committee meeting, the final motion was sent to the Area Committee to allow for extra time to review and to inform our groups in advance of today. Today, we will hear and vote our collective group conscience. Please come with your questions and concerns.

We also have full docket of reports on today's agenda – all our officers, standing committees, administrative committees, adhoc committees and appointed positions are being asked to make



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reports. Please prepare to speak at the mic for 2 and submit a report in writing to be posted on our website.

I look forward to our time together in service, as always.

Thank you all for your dedicated service to the fellowship.

All the best,

Carmela R, Area Chair