



October 16, 2021

## **2021 Fall Committee Cover Letter**

Can you BELIEVE this is our final Panel 70 Committee meeting? While we look to usher and transition in our next panel of trusted servants, we still have quite a few irons in our Panel 70 fire 😊.

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, 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.
  - Zoom Acct meeting and calendar management – done by Area Chair w/support
  - Zoom meeting and events production support
  - Partnership with Electronics committee to ensure we have and maintain what we need
  - Ongoing research to help us stay connected to tech trends in AA
  - Offers recommendations to the Area to make changes, upgrades, purchases, etc.
- **We will call for formal bids for our 2023 Spring Assembly Conference at our Winter Assembly. If no formal bid has been prepared and approved, the 2023 Spring Assembly will be a standalone event and the weekend Conference portion will be cancelled.** Please consider preparing a full bid for the 2023 Spring Assembly Conference to present at our Winter Assembly.
- **We will also call for formal bids for our 2022 Big Book Conference.** Please consider preparing a full bid for the 2022 event to present at our Winter Assembly.
- **We also have MANY 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 still time for folks to come together and prepare proper bids for either of the conferences mentioned above. As always, our Conference Advisory Committee is here to help.

**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 as it affects how we do business going forward. I am excited for our conversation and looking forward to getting the motion in front of groups for consideration at Winter Assembly.

Our Back-to meeting crew and the area document management and archival adhoc committee work will stop at the end of this calendar year unless our chair-elect chooses something different. These committees are appointed though you are welcome to collaborate and be part of work happening in our area. These are two areas that require our active time and ongoing attention to keep us relevant and responsive to our fellowship. Thank you to all who have been serving. Please continue to spread the word to our fellowship about our technology expertise needs.

Thank you all for your dedicated service to the fellowship in NIA 20.

All the best, Carmela R, Area Chair

## 2021 Fall Committee Meeting agenda *(final)*

October 16, 2021

Virtual meeting via Zoom

This anonymity protected agenda is posted on the NIA website. However, we do encourage the use of full names when speaking at the "virtual" microphone. This meeting will be recorded, as usual, for reference and use by our recording secretary.

[Use this link to pre-register for the meeting.](#) Once registered, you will receive meeting access details.

Time	Item
8:00am	Meeting room opens for fellowship
9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to order</li> <li>• Quiet time</li> <li>• Serenity Prayer</li> <li>• Announcements for today (Carmela R)</li> <li>• First time attendees</li> <li>• Anniversaries since September Fall Assembly</li> <li>• Approval of minutes from Summer Committee Meeting. These were e-mailed to the Area Committee on September 22, 2021.</li> </ul>
9:15	Delegate report (Marilyn F)
9:30	Treasury reports (Dawn B, Allen J)
9:45	Finance Committee Report (Karen F)
9:55	<b>Officer reports (five-minute limit)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternate Delegate – Chris D</li> <li>• Chair – Carmela R</li> <li>• Alternate Chair – Erik L</li> <li>• Registrar – Carol H</li> <li>• Alternate Registrar – Rob M</li> <li>• Secretary – Christy B</li> <li>• Alternate Secretary- Karen F</li> </ul>
10:25	<b>Conference reports (10 minutes each)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 Big Book Conference (Rich H, Georgene R)</li> <li>• 2022 East Central Regional and IL State Conference (Michael L, Charles H)</li> </ul>
10:45	<b><u>Old Business</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open elected positions review               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Accessibilities – Alternate</li> <li>b. Answering Service – Chair and Alternate</li> <li>c. Archives – Chair and Alternate</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>d. Bridge the Gap – Alternate</p> <p>e. CPC – Chair and Alternate</p> <p>f. Grapevine – Chair and Alternate</p> <p>g. Literature – Chair and Alternate</p> <p>h. Treatment – Chair and Alternate</p> <p><b>2. Bids for 2022 Big Book Conference</b> - <i>The bid should be prepared and submitted one (1) year prior to the conference at the NIA Summer Assembly. The bid shall include a detailed budget and other details concerning the Conference location or facility. - <a href="#">Planning Procedures, pg.15</a>. We will accept bids at the upcoming Winter Assembly.</i></p> <p><b>3. Bids for 2023 Spring Assembly Conference</b> - <i>The bid shall include a detailed budget and other details concerning the Conference location or facility. - <a href="#">Planning Procedures, pg.22</a>. We will accept bids at the upcoming Winter Assembly.</i></p>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>15-minute break</b>
<b>11:15</b>	<p><b><u>New Business</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Motion by the NIA Alternate Delegate to include video conferencing capabilities at NIA Assemblies, Committee Meetings, and the Pre-General Service Workshop.</li> <li>2. Proposed 2022 Primary Purpose Register review.</li> <li>3. Proposed 2022 Area Events Calendar review (early draft).</li> </ol>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>DCM Reports – 26 Districts (three-minute limit)</b>
<b>12:30</b>	<p><b>Open microphone (one-minute limit)</b></p> <p>This is your chance to go raise your hand and share about things like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Something going on in your local community you want to invite us to.</li> <li>• Something about your group, district, or committee work.</li> <li>• Recognize or thank someone for their service.</li> <li>• Any other AA or NIA related announcements.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Let's adjourn! 😊</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility Statement</b></p> <p><i>I am responsible...</i></p> <p><i>When anyone, anywhere,</i></p> <p><i>reaches out for help, I want</i></p> <p><i>the hand of A.A. always to be there.</i></p> <p><i>And for that: I am responsible.</i></p>
<p><b><i>The principal function of Northern Illinois service area 20 is to be a forum for effective communication between the Groups and the General Service Conference through its Delegate. NIA assists its Districts, Groups, and members to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers by conducting workshops, sharing sessions and seminars in all fields of general service along with other service activities.</i></b></p>	

## Motion to include video conferencing at NIA events

### Motion

Move to include video conferencing capabilities at NIA Assemblies, Committee Meetings, and the Pre-General Service Workshop.

Item #	Activity	Description, expected outcome and execution guidelines	Example expenses	Reimbursement Guidelines	Projected cost
PPBxx	Include video conferencing at NIA events	To accommodate those with Accessibilities concerns, provide video conferencing capabilities at the above-named NIA events.	Cost of video conference accounts and necessary transmission equipment including cameras, microphones, mobile hotspots, and other items deemed necessary to execute the plan.	Reimbursement authority: Area Treasurer Appeal body: Operating Committee	\$3000.00 Based on initial projections of upfront 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 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".

### 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 continue to utilize the virtual conferencing technology while we return to in-person 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.

# NIA 20 Events Calendar for 2022

Event	2022 date(s)	Host / Location	Notes
Winter Committee Meeting*	January 8	Districts(s)	
Conference of Delegates Past & Present**	February (?)	East Central Region	
Spring Assembly + Board Meeting*	March 12	Districts(s)	
Pre-General Service Conference Workshop*	March 26 (?)	Districts(s)	
72 <sup>nd</sup> General Service Conference**	April (?)		
Spring Committee Meeting*	May 14	Districts(s)	
Summer Assembly + Board Meeting*	June 11	Districts(s)	
Summer Committee Meeting*	August 6	Districts(s)	
49th Annual Illinois State and East Central Regional Conference	August 12-14	Districts 10 & 42 (NIA 20) Sheraton Lisle Naperville Hotel	To volunteer or for more information, please contact: Charles H. 331-202-8876 or Mike L. 312-505-1894 aaisc2022@gmail.com
Fall Election Assembly + Board Meeting*	September 10	Districts(s)	
Fall Committee Meeting*	October 8	Districts(s)	
Annual Big Book Conference	October (?)	Districts(s)	
Winter Assembly + Board Meeting*	December 10	Districts(s)	

\*Dates will be sent to Lord of Life Church to confirm possible in-person availability in the new year. For Assemblies, church serves only as a backup. Ideal is for Assemblies to be held in hosting districts.

\*\*Events not hosted in or by NIA20 though some trusted servants, as outlined in our Duties and Responsibilities, are expected to attend, and may be reimbursed.

## Report of the Area Chair

October 16, 2021

NIA 20 Fall Committee Meeting

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Panel 70 Area Committee,

Thank you so much to the Area Committee for participation in the IL State Conference last month – it was great to see and hear many of you share your experience strength and hope.

Some things I've been up to:

- Host meetings of the Area Officers – carries on monthly. Next meeting is set for 11/3.
- Continue to support requests for our NIA20 Zoom account – by districts and various committees, to set up and help produce their events, as needed.
- Fall Assembly meeting prep will be underway to prepare preliminary agenda within a week following today's event.

What's coming up:

- Focus on key areas:
  - Active committees – using our Zoom account(s) to meet + build area calendar
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> account has been dedicated for use by our conference committees
    - Main account reserved for Area events and conferences
- Participation
  - 2021 Big Book Conference opening remarks
- Start to transition
  - As our Panel 72 Trusted Servants are elected, it's time to begin to pass along our experiences from Panel 70 to 72. Our Chair-elect, Rob M and I will meet in the coming weeks to do that very thing!

### Expenses to date: \$631.70

2/23/2020 report total = \$631.70

- PPB04 Winter committee meeting \$30.24
- PPB09 CDPP \$601.40

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmela R

Area Chair, [chairperson@aa-nia.org](mailto:chairperson@aa-nia.org)