

# **Motion to provide for translation of all Area documents and to provide a language interpreter at all Area functions**

## **Motion**

The Area Registrar, along with the D.C.M.s for the Spanish linguistic Districts, moves to amend the Northern Illinois Service Manual in the following ways, to provide for translation of all documents in N.I.A. and to provide a language interpreter at all Area functions:

*\*all page numbers reference the "NIA 20 Service Manual, web version 09/2022."*

1. The following paragraphs shall be added to Northern Illinois Service Manual at the end of the *Introduction* paragraph of SERVICE GUIDELINES, before *The Area Assembly* on p. 17 :

All agendas, motions, minutes, presentations, reports, and other documents produced at the Area level in N.I.A. are to be translated into any language requested by the fellowship. All documents shall be made available concurrently and in the same format as English documents; whether printed and provided at an Area function, emailed to the Area or its various committees, posted on the website, or made available in other ways. Translation of documents may be done by a third party vendor.

Area trusted servants are strongly encouraged to use web-based translation or another translation method to translate their reports and email communications into other languages before sending them out.

Language interpreters and sufficient equipment for live translation shall be provided by the Area at all Area functions, such as Assemblies, Committee Meetings, conferences, and the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop.

2. The following bullet point in the *Responsibilities* of Area Alternate Chairperson on page 32, "Assist in obtaining Spanish interpreter for Assemblies and Pre-General Conference Service Workshop," shall be replaced with this new bullet point:

Assist in obtaining language interpreters and additional equipment when needed, for all Area functions, such as Assemblies, Committee Meetings, conferences, and the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop.

3. The bullet point "Report on recent activities at Area Committee Meetings. Submit a written report at Assemblies and," which is erroneously placed at the bottom of page 44 in the list of appointed positions, shall be removed.

## **Background**

The current practices of N.I.A. fall short of adequately addressing the language barrier to full participation in the Area. We do not provide a Spanish interpreter at Area Committee Meetings. These are the meetings where motions that will go before the Assembly are explained, questions can be asked, and information can be gathered to take back to the Districts to share with the G.S.R.s, so that they can in turn take it to their groups to get an informed group decision. The motions and background materials have only recently been made available in both English and Spanish, and we would like this practice to continue and be expanded. More and more reports from officers and committee chairs are being translated, but not all. The Northern Illinois Service Manual has not been printed in Spanish since 2020. Steps have been taken in the right direction, and we want the practice of translating to continue on a permanent basis.

## **References**

<http://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/NIA-20-Service-Manual-web-202209.pdf>

## **Respectfully submitted**

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