Northern Illinois Area 20

Unity - Service - Recovery

NIA 2024 Spring Assembly

March 2, 2024

Cover Letter

Hello NIA,

I hope everyone are settling into their new jobs in the Area.

For the next two years, I would like our concentration to be "What information do you need and what do you need the Area to do to give that to you?". I would like to see GSRs and District Committee Chairs, especially, getting a full understanding of what their jobs entail, and the support that NIA can give them.

For this Assembly, we will have a different agenda than normal, since we need to be out of the ballroom for the Spring Conference program to continue, as panels begin at 1, and some Committee Chairs have panels at that time. I have asked Erik and Lisa to give a short talk about the week preceding the Pre General Service Conference Workshop, how the online breakouts will work, and the importance of attending any and all breakouts of interest.

Lunch at noon will be picked up at the Starbucks in the main hallway, and then Committee breakouts will happen over lunch. Since this will be the first meeting for some committees, it will be a good chance to meet each other and to meet their Area counterparts. It will also be a chance for the Area Service Committee chairs to reiterate the importance of both the Pre GSC breakouts and the Pre GSC itself. They will have an hour, and I would ask each Area Committee Chair to please submit a report on that, and I would also request the Webmaster to make them available online once submitted.

The Officers will send their reports the prior week, and submit to the website, so that will be cut from the Agenda to make time for other business.

In Service,

Dawn Brandeis

NIA 20 Panel 74

Chair

2024 Spring Assembly Final Agenda
March 2, 2024

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 and for our archives.

To register for Zoom; https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIvf-uvpz8oH9FsUDWiy-OkMj--UsnQetAz

You will receive a confirmation email after registering.

Time	Item
8:00	**Meeting room open Ballroom of Hyatt. Breakfast will be in the ballroom. Coffee in hospitality**
9:00	• Call to order • Quiet time • Serenity Prayer • Announcements • New attendees • Anniversaries since Winter Assembly, December 9th
9:10	**Approval of minutes** - Winter Assembly, December 9th
9:15	**Treasury** Reports (Dave F., Mike H.)
9:30	**Delegates Report** (Erik L.) **Review Pre-General Service Conference Workshop Plan** (Erik L, Lisa S)
10:00	**Conference Reports** • **2023 Big Book Conference** • **2024 Spring Conference** • **2024 Big Book Conference** • **2025 State Conference**
10:20	**Old Business** Election of open positions: • Accessibilites-Alternate • Answering Service-Alternate • Archives-Chair and Alternate • CPC-Chair and Alternate • Literature-Alternate • PI-Chair and Alternate

10:30	**New Business**
	1. Hosting for open 2024 Summer Committee Meeting
	2. Motion to Create an Appointee Position for Linguistic Translation Coordinator(s) (attached in English and Spanish)
	3. Motion to amend voting procedures for Area Elections (attached in English and Spanish)
	4. Motion to amend list of Area Committee and Assembly (attached in English and Spanish
	5. Finance Committee Motion for Contribution to the General Service Board

11:20	1. **Service committee reports (three-minute limit)**	
	• Accessibilities	Chris E.
	• Answering Service	Dave T.
	• Archives	Open
	• Bridging the Gap	Jim T, Joey B.
	• Concepts	Susan H.
	• Cooperation w/ the Professional Community	Open
	• Corrections	George P, Jennifer G.
	• Grapevine	Raul S., Terry M.
	• Literature	Jan S.
	• Public Information	Open
	• Treatment	Kevin A, Jeff L.
	• Web Master	Earl H

1200	**2. Administrative reports (three-minute limit)**	
	• Archivist	Cheryl V.
	• Conference Advisory	Committee Chair
	• Electronic Equipment	Rob M.
	• Finance	Bonnie P
	• Operating	Committee chair
	• Report & Charter	Committee chair
	• Service Manual Custodian	Chervl V
	• Technology Committee	Brvan D.
	• Inventory Committee	Lorrie F.
12:30	**Officer reports (three-minute limit)** • Alternate Delegate – Lisa S. • Chair – Dawn B. • Alternate Chair – Aaron V • Registrar – Rob M • Alternate Registrar – Kim D • Secretary – Susan M. • Alternate Secretary – Rachel M. • **DUE TO TIME RESTRAINTS OFFICERS REPORTS WILL BE SUBMITTED ONLINE**	
12:30 to 1:00	**Breakouts/Lunch** • **DCM** • **GSR** • **Secretaries & Registrars** • **Accessibilities** • **Answering Service and Web** • **Archives** **Concepts** • **Corrections & Treatment & BTG** • **Grapevine** • **Literature** **DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS, PLEASE MEET WITH YOUR COMMITTEE AND SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT TO THE AREA AND WEBMASTER. SOME COMMITTEE CHAIRS HAVE PANELS AT 1, BUT IF YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIR DOES NOT, YOU CAN STAY IN THE BALLROOM LATER THAN 1PM FOR YOUR MEETING.**	

Let's adjourn!

Responsibility Statement
I am responsible…
When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help, I want
the hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND ANY OF THE PANELS OR SPEAKERS TODAY OR TOMORROW, YOU MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE CONFERENCE. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS IN THE MAIN HALLWAY. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION BADGE SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES.

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.

Motion to Create an Appointee Position for Linguistic Translation Coordinator(s)

The NIA Accessibilities Chair and Panel 64 Past Delegate move to create an Appointee position for Linguistic Translation Coordinator(s). The following information will be placed in the NIA Service Guidelines:

Linguistic Translation Coordinator(s) Responsibilities

Whenever possible, Northern Illinois Area 20 strives to be inclusive in communicating with members of the NIA fellowship in their own language, through translation of agendas, motions, minutes, presentations, reports, and other documents produced at the Area level. Because of the magnitude of documents created, it is not always possible for trusted servants to self-manage translation into a language other than their own. To this end, Linguistic Translation Coordinator(s) will be appointed to aid in the coordination of document translation.

Qualifications

- Bi-lingual in English and the required language of translation (such as English and Spanish).
- Sufficient service experience to be familiar with common AA terms.
- Experience with translation tools or services, including web-based tools.
- Sufficient time available to prepare documents to hand over to the Area Chair, or other relevant Area trusted servants, so that they can be made available concurrently and in the same format as English documents.

Responsibilities

- Perform all duties as outlined in the Responsibilities of Appointees section of this document.
- Be available to aid Area Committee members in the translation of documents.
- Review translated documents for accuracy and ensure that linguistic nuances align with the spirit of AA.
- Coordinate the translation of documents by third party vendor if necessary.

In addition, the below information should be inserted in the NIA Service Manual on page 17 (web version) under the Service Guidelines, Introduction heading as a new 4th paragraph:

NIA has a Linguistic Translation Coordinator to aid in these efforts. While it is not the responsibility of this Appointee to translate documents and reports directly, they are available to assist Area trusted servants by coordinating with third party vendors and/or reviewing translated materials.

Background

At the 2023 Winter Assembly a motion was passed to provide translation of all Area Documents. To help facilitate this effort, a coordinator position would provide support to trusted servants with their efforts to translate documents into other languages. It is not the intent of this position to do complete translation of all documents for all members of the Area Committee. The intent is to provide support with reviewing documents for

accuracy, coordination with third party vendors, and aid Area trusted servants with the use of web-based translation sites.

Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

<u>Motion</u>

The Panel 72 Report & Charter Committee moves to amend the voting procedures for Area elections in the Northern Illinois Area 20 Service Manual (pages 23-25 of web version 12/2023, pages 32-34 of the printed version 09/2022), for clarification and easier reading, as follows:

- Additions are underlined and bolded, deletions are struck through.
- The Third Legacy Procedure and diagram should be copied from the current A.A. Service Manual to be certain it is accurate
- The paragraph on page 25 should be removed entirely.
- Move the following sentence from the end of paragraph three to the Delegate qualifications on page 30 of the web version: "The elected Delegate shall have only one term of service and shall never again be a candidate for the position."

all page numbers reference the NIA 20 Service Manual, web version 12/2023.

Area Elections

Area officers, **service** ~~standing~~ committee chairpersons, and all their alternates are elected to two-year terms of service that begin in even numbered years. Elections are held during the Fall Assembly of odd numbered years, immediately preceding the end of the current service rotation.

The **Area** Chairperson shall read the portion of The A.A. Service Manual that is applicable to balloting before balloting begins. The rest of the election proceedings are to be facilitated by the most recent past Delegate. **The past Delegate should review the qualifications for each position before the nomination procedure and election for that position.**

Election of officers, namely the Delegate, Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, and their Alternates~~, except as noted below,~~ shall be in accordance with the Third Legacy procedure as described in The A.A. Service Manual. The order of elections shall be: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Registrar, and then Alternate Registrar. ~~Those eligible to stand for Delegate are: Area Officers (except Delegate), Chairpersons of standing service committees, and D.C.M.s. The elected Delegate shall have only one term of service and shall never again be a candidate for the position.~~

~~• Candidates who are eligible and willing to stand are asked to identify themselves.~~
~~• Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are accepted.~~
~~• Candidates present two minutes service histories.~~

Following officer elections, ~~standing~~ service committee **c**hairpersons and their **a**lternates **shall be** ~~are~~ elected **by a modified** ~~, either by the~~ Third Legacy procedure, **using show of hands instead of written ballots and simple majority instead of 2/3 majority.** ~~or by any other means chosen by the Assembly during the election proceedings. Nominations from the floor shall be accepted.~~

If there is only one candidate for any position, a vote of YES or NO should occur. Voting for an officer would still be by written ballot and require a 2/3 majority of YES votes. Voting for a service committee chairperson or alternate would still be by show of hands and require a simple majority of YES votes.

Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

Nomination Procedure
- **Candidates who are eligible and willing to stand for a position are asked to identify themselves.**
- **Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are also accepted.**
- **The names of all candidates are posted on a board.**
- **Candidates present two-minute service histories.**
- **After everyone has given their service histories, voting will commence.**
- **Candidates are asked to leave the room when voting is not by written ballot.**

The Third Legacy Election Procedure
Nomination Procedure
- ~~All members of the Area Committee are eligible to become Delegate.~~
- ~~The chairperson asks those eligible to stand up giving everyone in attendance an opportunity to see eligible candidates.~~
- ~~Then the chairperson asks that anyone standing who is unable or unwilling to serve as Delegate be seated.~~
- ~~The remaining names are posted on a blackboard.~~
- ~~The chairperson then asks for nominations from the floor.~~

Voting Procedure
1. The names of eligible candidates are posted on a board. All voting members of the Area Assembly cast written ballots, one choice to a ballot. The tally for each candidate is posted on the board.
- The first candidate to receive TWO-THIRDS of the total vote is elected.

2. Withdrawals start after the second ballot. If any candidate has less than *one-fifth* of the total vote, his or her name is automatically withdrawn — except that the top two candidates must remain. (In case of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)

3. After the third ballot, candidates with less than *one-third* of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically, except the two top candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)

4. After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds of the total vote, the candidate with the *smallest* total is automatically withdrawn, except that the top two candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied second-place candidates remain.)
- At this point, the chairperson asks for a motion, second, and a simple majority of hands on conducting a fifth and final ballot.
- If this motion is defeated, balloting is over and the choice is made by lot — "going to the hat" — immediately.
- If the motion carries, a fifth and final ballot is conducted.

5. If after the fifth ballot no election occurs, the chairperson announces that the choice will be made by lot (from the hat). At this point, the top two candidates remain. In case there are ties for first place, all tied first place candidates remain. In case there are no ties for first place, the top candidate and any tied second-place candidates remain.

6. Lots are then drawn by the teller, and the first one "out of the hat" is the delegate (or other officer).

Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

<u>Background</u>

1. Clarify in paragraph one and four that "standing committee chairpersons" is "service committee chairpersons." In our Service Manual, standing committees include both service committees and administrative committees, the latter of which are appointed not elected.

2. Clarify at the start of the second paragraph that "Chairperson" is "Area Chairperson."

3. Add a sentence to the end of the second paragraph reading: "The past Delegate should review the qualifications for each position before the nomination procedure and election for that position."

4. The words "except as noted below" should be removed from paragraph three, where it states that "election of officers […], *except as noted below*, shall be in accordance with the Third Legacy procedure…" On page 25, after the third legacy voting diagram, there is a paragraph that finally lists the exception: "for election of officers and alternates, […] voting is by Third Legacy **but by a show of hands**." The Third Legacy Procedure from the current A.A. Service Manual calls for **written ballots**. The election of all officers should be by Third Legacy procedure <u>without exception</u>, that is, by written ballot.

5. Paragraph four covers the elections of service committee chairs, being "either by the Third Legacy procedure or by any other means chosen by the Assembly…" There is another procedure for committee chairs listed in the paragraph on page 25. It states that "the procedure for committee chairs and alternates is the same except voting is simple majority," and the phrase "is the same" refers to "Third Legacy but by a show of hands" prior in the paragraph.

   > We should use the intended method from page 25 by specifying in paragraph four that "elections shall be by a modified Third Legacy procedure, using show of hands instead of written ballots and simple majority instead of 2/3 majority."

   Other minor changes are shown in the body of the motion.

6. Currently, there is no procedure covering what to do when there is only one candidate. This became an issue at the Fall 2023 elections. We propose adding the following: "If there is only one candidate for any position, a vote of YES or NO should occur. Voting for an officer would still be by written ballot and require a 2/3 majority of YES votes. Voting for a service committee chairperson or alternate would still be by show of hands and require a simple majority of YES votes."

7. There are two statements regarding those eligible to stand for Delegate. One says "Area Officers (except Delegate), Chairpersons of standing service committees, and D.C.M.s." and the other says, "All members of the Area Committee are eligible to become Delegate." The second statement would include service committee chair alternates, appointed committee chairs, and alternate DCMs. There are also two different nominating procedures lists. One list says, "Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are accepted," and the other list says that "all eligible able, and willing candidates are to be considered."

Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

The nomination procedure for all other positions is not clearly stated. Some of it has to be inferred from the procedures for Delegate, and some of it is spelled out in that paragraph on page 25 that gets lost.

We should combine all statements regarding nominations and eligibility for all positions into the following, making one clear set of guidelines for all positions:

Nomination Procedure
- Candidates who are eligible and willing to stand for a position are asked to identify themselves.
- Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are also accepted.
- The names of all candidates are posted on a board.
- Candidates present two-minute service histories.
- After everyone has given their service histories, voting will commence.
- Candidates are asked to leave the room when voting is not by written ballot.

8. The *Third Legacy Election Procedure* and diagram would be copied from page 119 of the current A.A. Service Manual to ensure that it is accurate.

9. The paragraph on page 25 should be removed entirely, as it has been incorporated elsewhere.

References
NIA 20 Service Manual
https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/NIA-20-Service-Manual-web-202312.pdf, pages 23-25
(pages 32-34 of the printed version 09/2022)

The A.A. Service Manual
https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/en_bm-31_3.pdf, page 119 (page 110 in print)

Follow Up Action Required
Update the NIA 20 Service Manual with the approved changes on the pages referenced.

Respectfully submitted
Chris E (Chairperson), Sarah B, Hugo S, and Kelly L
Report & Charter Committee
registrar@aa-nia.org

Motion to amend the list of the Area Assembly and Area Committee

Motion

The Panel 72 Report & Charter Committee moves to amend the list of voting members of the Area Assembly on pages 17 of the Northern Illinois Service Manual and the list of members of the Area Committee on page 26 for clarification and consistent ordering.

This is not adding anyone new as a voting member of the Assembly, only adding detail and clarity to the list of members.

all page numbers reference the NIA 20 Service Manual, web version 12/2023.

The Area Committee (Add more detail, clarify, and reorder by number)
1 • All current D.C.M.s and all current Alternate D.C.M.s
2 • The Area Delegate and ~~the~~ Alternate **Delegate**
3 • The Area Chairperson and ~~the~~ Alternate **Chairperson**
4 • The Area Treasurer and ~~the~~ Alternate **Treasurer**
5 • The Area Secretary and ~~the~~ Alternate **Secretary**
6 • The Area Registrar and ~~the~~ Alternate **Registrar**
7 • All **Elected** Area **Service** ~~Standing~~ Committee Chairpersons and their Alternates
13 • All Past **Area** Delegates
8 • **The Area Archivist**
9 • **The Concepts Editor and Co-Editor**
10 • **The Area Web Administrator and Alternate Web Administrator**
11 • **The N.I.A. Service Manual Custodian**
12 • **All Area Administrative Committee Chairpersons**

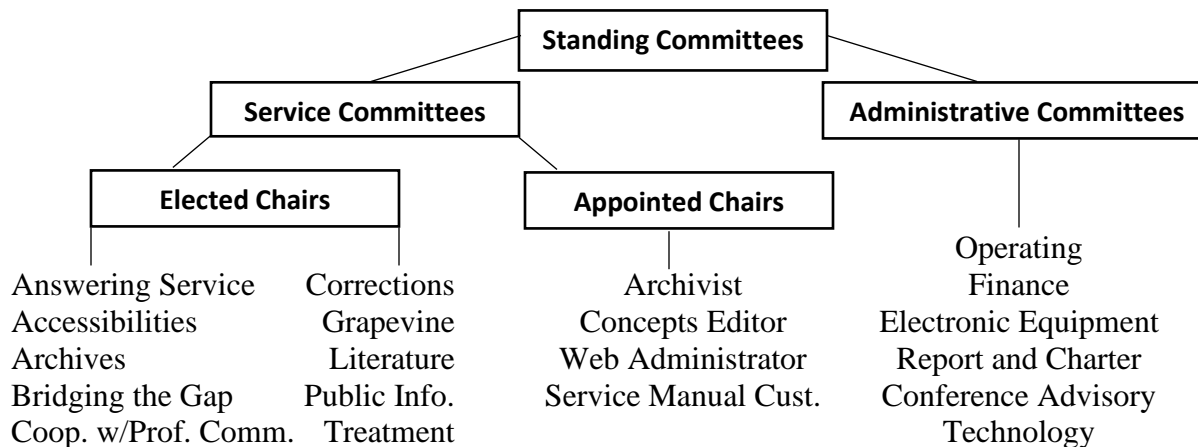**The Area Assembly Voting Members** (Add more detail, clarify, and reorder by number)
1 • All current G.S.R.s or Alternate, when G.S.R. is absent
2 • All current D.C.M.s or Alternate, when D.C.M. is absent
4 • The Area Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson
3 • The Area Delegate and Alternate Delegate
7 • The Area Registrar and Alternate Registrar
14 • All Past Area Delegates
6 • The Area Secretary and Alternate Secretary
8 • All **Elected** Area **Service** ~~Standing~~ Committee Chairpersons or Alternate, when Chairperson is absent
5 • The Area Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer
9 • The Area Archivist
10 • The Concepts Editor or **C**o-Editor, when Editor is absent
11 • The **Area** Web Administrator or Alternate ~~Web Administrator~~**,** when Web Administrator is absent

Motion to amend the list of the Area Assembly and Area Committee

Background

It is hard for new G.S.R.'s and other new trusted servants to understand everything they need to know about service. We often say that you learn your service position by the time you rotate out to your next position. Keeping our documents consistent and clear will help all trusted servants to understand better, feel less overwhelmed, and have a better grasp of the service structure. Not being confused goes a long way towards wanting to take on a next position.

We have noticed the phrases *Standing Committee* and *Service Committee* used interchangeably in the N.I.A. Service Manual and in discussion at Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies. The terms are not interchangeable, and it should be clarified. On page 39 of the NIA Service Manual, it says, "N.I.A. has two types of *standing* committees. Service Committees and Administrative Committees." The sections goes on to define the service committee chairs, appointed service committees positions, and administrative committees. We feel it is best to only use the term Standing Committee as a section header in the Service Manual on page 39 and replace/clarify its meaning elsewhere.

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                    ┌─────────────────────┐
                    │ Standing Committees  │
                    └─────────────────────┘
            ┌──────────────┴──────────────┐
  ┌──────────────────┐          ┌──────────────────────────┐
  │ Service Committees│          │ Administrative Committees │
  └──────────────────┘          └──────────────────────────┘
    ┌────┴────┐                               │
┌──────────────┐   ┌──────────────────┐
│Elected Chairs│   │ Appointed Chairs │
└──────────────┘   └──────────────────┘
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Elected Chairs		Appointed Chairs	Administrative
			Operating
Answering Service	Corrections	Archivist	Finance
Accessibilities	Grapevine	Concepts Editor	Electronic Equipment
Archives	Literature	Web Administrator	Report and Charter
Bridging the Gap	Public Info.	Service Manual Cust.	Conference Advisory
Coop. w/Prof. Comm.	Treatment		Technology

The membership of the Area Assembly currently includes "All Area Standing Committee Chairpersons…" which historically has been understood to mean the elected service committee chairpersons. We should change the term to match the historical practice. Then, both lists for the Area Assembly and Area Committee should match in their level of detail. Reordering the positions in both locations will allow them to match the order that officers and standing committee positions are listed throughout the N.I.A. Service Manual.

References

NIA 20 Service Manual
https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/NIA-20-Service-Manual-web-202312.pdf

Follow Up Action Required

Update the NIA 20 Service Manual with the approved changes.

Motion to amend the list of the Area Assembly and Area Committee

Cleaned up lists as they will appear if the motion passes:

The Area Assembly Voting Members page 17:
• All current G.S.R.s or Alternate, when G.S.R. is absent
• All current D.C.M.s or Alternate, when D.C.M. is absent
• The Area Delegate and Alternate Delegate
• The Area Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson
• The Area Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer
• The Area Secretary and Alternate Secretary
• The Area Registrar and Alternate Registrar
• All Elected Area Service Committee Chairpersons or Alternate, when Chairperson is absent
• The Area Archivist
• The Concepts Editor or Co-Editor, when Editor is absent
• The Area Web Administrator or Alternate, when Web Administrator is absent
• All Past Area Delegates

The Area Committee page 26:
• All current D.C.M.s and all current Alternate D.C.M.s
• The Area Delegate and Alternate Delegate
• The Area Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson
• The Area Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer
• The Area Secretary and Alternate Secretary
• The Area Registrar and Alternate Registrar
• All Elected Area Service Committee Chairpersons and their Alternates
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• The N.I.A. Service Manual Custodian
• All Area Administrative Committee Chairpersons
• All Past Area Delegates

Respectfully submitted

Chris E (Chairperson), Sarah B, Hugo S, and Kelly L
Report & Charter Committee
registrar@aa-nia.org

Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

Motion

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Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

Nomination Procedure
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Voting Procedure

1. The names of eligible candidates are posted on a board. All voting members of the Area Assembly cast written ballots, one choice to a ballot. The tally for each candidate is posted on the board.
- The first candidate to receive TWO-THIRDS of the total vote is elected.

2. Withdrawals start after the second ballot. If any candidate has less than *one-fifth* of the total vote, his or her name is automatically withdrawn — except that the top two candidates must remain. (In case of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)

3. After the third ballot, candidates with less than *one-third* of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically, except the two top candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)

4. After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds of the total vote, the candidate with the *smallest* total is automatically withdrawn, except that the top two candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied second-place candidates remain.)
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Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

Background

1. Clarify in paragraph one and four that "standing committee chairpersons" is "service committee chairpersons." In our Service Manual, standing committees include both service committees and administrative committees, the latter of which are appointed not elected.

2. Clarify at the start of the second paragraph that "Chairperson" is "Area Chairperson."

3. Add a sentence to the end of the second paragraph reading: "The past Delegate should review the qualifications for each position before the nomination procedure and election for that position."

4. The words "except as noted below" should be removed from paragraph three, where it states that "election of officers […], *except as noted below*, shall be in accordance with the Third Legacy procedure…" On page 25, after the third legacy voting diagram, there is a paragraph that finally lists the exception: "for election of officers and alternates, […] voting is by Third Legacy **but by a show of hands**." The Third Legacy Procedure from the current A.A. Service Manual calls for **written ballots**. The election of all officers should be by Third Legacy procedure <u>without exception</u>, that is, by written ballot.

5. Paragraph four covers the elections of service committee chairs, being "either by the Third Legacy procedure or by any other means chosen by the Assembly…" There is another procedure for committee chairs listed in the paragraph on page 25. It states that "the procedure for committee chairs and alternates is the same except voting is simple majority," and the phrase "is the same" refers to "Third Legacy but by a show of hands" prior in the paragraph.

   > We should use the intended method from page 25 by specifying in paragraph four that "elections shall be by a modified Third Legacy procedure, using show of hands instead of written ballots and simple majority instead of 2/3 majority."

   Other minor changes are shown in the body of the motion.

6. Currently, there is no procedure covering what to do when there is only one candidate. This became an issue at the Fall 2023 elections. We propose adding the following: "If there is only one candidate for any position, a vote of YES or NO should occur. Voting for an officer would still be by written ballot and require a 2/3 majority of YES votes. Voting for a service committee chairperson or alternate would still be by show of hands and require a simple majority of YES votes."

7. There are two statements regarding those eligible to stand for Delegate. One says "Area Officers (except Delegate), Chairpersons of standing service committees, and D.C.M.s." and the other says, "All members of the Area Committee are eligible to become Delegate." The second statement would include service committee chair alternates, appointed committee chairs, and alternate DCMs. There are also two different nominating procedures lists. One list says, "Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are accepted," and the other list says that "all eligible able, and willing candidates are to be considered."

Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections

The nomination procedure for all other positions is not clearly stated. Some of it has to be inferred from the procedures for Delegate, and some of it is spelled out in that paragraph on page 25 that gets lost.

We should combine all statements regarding nominations and eligibility for all positions into the following, making one clear set of guidelines for all positions:

Nomination Procedure
- Candidates who are eligible and willing to stand for a position are asked to identify themselves.
- Nominations of eligible and willing candidates are also accepted.
- The names of all candidates are posted on a board.
- Candidates present two-minute service histories.
- After everyone has given their service histories, voting will commence.
- Candidates are asked to leave the room when voting is not by written ballot.

8. The *Third Legacy Election Procedure* and diagram would be copied from page 119 of the current A.A. Service Manual to ensure that it is accurate.

9. The paragraph on page 25 should be removed entirely, as it has been incorporated elsewhere.

References
NIA 20 Service Manual
https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/NIA-20-Service-Manual-web-202312.pdf, pages 23-25
(pages 32-34 of the printed version 09/2022)

The A.A. Service Manual
https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/en_bm-31_3.pdf, page 119 (page 110 in print)

Follow Up Action Required
Update the NIA 20 Service Manual with the approved changes on the pages referenced.

Respectfully submitted
Chris E (Chairperson), Sarah B, Hugo S, and Kelly L
Report & Charter Committee
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MOTION FOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

- The Finance Committee moves to send $15,000.00 to the GSB
  - In 2023, NIA 20 had revenue in excess of $20,000
  - We did not contribute to the GSB the second half of 2023 due to the East Central Regional Forum Motion for reimbursement to Area & District representation.
  - After reimbursement for the ECRF, we have money to contribute down the triangle.
  - The General Service Board can always use the money, especially now because of the shortfall in contributions and literature sales.