**KNOWLEDGE BASED DECISION MAKING –**

**QUESTIONS TO AID GROUP DECISIONS RELATED TO COVID-19**

1. What do we know?
* State/local guidelines for in person gatherings are -
* Our meeting location requirements are –
1. What do we know about what our members or prospective members need and want?
* Have we conducted a group conscience to determine if the group wants to discuss making a change?
* Have we formed a Thought Force to gather information to assist in informed decision making?
* Have newcomers found our meeting and continue to participate?
* Do we have “forgotten” members who are unable or unwilling to participate electronically and don’t have a voice in the group decision? How can we encourage their participation in a group conscience?
1. What do we know about the resources and our vision for organization that is relevant to the discussion?
* WSO currently considers meetings either “in person” or “electronic”. There isn’t an electronic meeting option where the group remains part of an Area service structure. They are requesting groups that decide to stay electronic on a permanent basis be registered as an electronic group. Are we willing to lose our connection to the District and Area links of service?
* WSO is investing in resources to determine how best to attract more diversity in our membership (age, race, etc.) Does our decision support that goal?
* Area 11 provides free access to Google Meet platform that can be used free of charge by groups. Do we want to consider moving to Google platform?
* Groups and Districts may currently have expense for Zoom subscriptions. Can our group afford to maintain our Zoom account?
* Does our meeting location have enough space to accommodate social distancing requirements? Are there other meeting space options we may need to consider?
* If we are ready to go back to our meeting location, do we have the resources necessary to ensure a clean environment before start of meeting and to leave meeting area clean at end of meeting?
* Do we need additional service positions for in-person meetings and do we have enough members willing to fill those positions?
1. What do we know about the current realities (membership, culture, etc,) and our fellowship’s environment (technology, spiritual principles, our Steps, Traditions, and Concepts) that is relevant to this topic? What are the Pros and Cons?
* Are we making decisions via group conscience, protecting minority voices, without dominance? (Traditions 2&4, Concepts 4&5, Warranty 3)
* Does the group decision affect another group, Al-Anon or AA as a whole? (Tradition 4)
* Does the decision serve our primary purpose of helping families of alcoholics? (Tradition 5)
* How will we conduct opening/closing of meetings where we have shared folders or literature we pass around for reading?
* If we choose to conduct both in person and electronic meetings or a “hybrid” meeting, are enough members willing to step in to service roles to support (cleaning, room arranging, etc) and electronic meetings (chairing and “hosting”)?(Concept 4)
* Have we considered the need for signage that specifies any group guidelines regarding social distancing, masks, etc?
* If our group meets it’s “maximum number of attendees”, how will we handle overflow? Are members willing to give up a seat for a newcomer? (Tradition 5)
* How will we handle situations where members do not comply with group requirements regarding masks, social distancing, etc? (Concepts 3&4, Warranty 2)
* What technology will be needed if we choose to become a “hybrid” meeting where some are meeting in person and others are joining the same meeting electronically?
* Do we have members who are capable and willing to support technology needs for a “hybrid” meeting?
* Is anonymity protected if we choose to meet at an outdoor location?(Tradition 12)
* If we choose to meet only electronically or as “hybrid”, do we have ability to collect donations from members? (7th Tradition)
1. What do we wish we knew, but don’t? (What else do we need to know before moving forward?)