

Task Force Topic: Resolution of the Legacy as a Newsletter for Area 9

Task Force Members: Tina M., Chair, Diane M., Theresa R., Elsa C., Cindy J.

Background/Historical Info: The Legacy Task Force from Panel 55 was inconclusive as to whether Area 9 should continue with the Legacy Newsletter in some form. Therefore, it needs to be addressed in Panel 58.

Thought Force references (if any): Attached is the Panel 55 Task Force Result as a reference.

Charge: Determine what type, if any, area newsletter should Area 9 consider. Determine what format it should take. Consider technology; could it become part of another presentation, consider website availability.

Task Force Timeline: Report Progress or Recommendation at August AWSC.

Please meet (via Conference Call and/or Google Hangout) and use whatever technology works for all of you.

Focus on the Charge. Complete the task as best you can, and submit this form as your Task Force Report. You can do this by sending it to the Technology Coordinator who will post it on the website.

Create a proposal that can be discussed at our next AWSC meeting. Submit that to the Technology Coordinator as your Task Force Proposal.

If your Task Force needs more time, note it on this form and submit it as your report. No proposal is required if you are in process.

KBDM Questions from Thought Force:

*The previous panel showed a 50/50 split on keeping The Legacy but also something like 80% did not ever read it.

*There was no consensus on what to do.

*We are tasked with creating a proposal on The Legacy

* Can we use our Website as the Legacy?

*If we do, can we ask some current member of the AWSC panel to create a one page summary of a meeting that could be easily printed for those who don't use a computer?

Summary of Task Force Sharings:

- I think we have changed with technology and our website is so informative that this particular Coordinator position is not as necessary as it once was. I do think we could accommodate members who don't use a computer and ask the Delegate and Alternate Delegate to collaborate on creating a one-page

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summary after each Area meeting that could easily be printed and taken to a meeting as well as shared with non-computer-using members.

- There is no need to have a legacy newsletter with all the technology at everyone's hand.
- The need for a Legacy Coordinator has been replaced with the technology today. Our website is so welcoming and open that anything needed to be shared and/or looked up is at our fingertips.
- I found the Legacy Newsletter to be redundant in light of the district reports. Since those are archived, we still have our legacy preserved. As long as we can provide some document in paper form to folks who do not want to get their information via the web, then I think we can do without it.
- I used to see the Legacy in the announcement book being passed around at meetings, but really didn't know what it was about and had never read it. I agree with the comments above, that the website is a wealth of information and a newsletter is no longer needed. My question is, is this now going to be added as a "Delegate" responsibility for future panels?
- That could easily be added to Job Descriptions. It's not a problem really, as the Delegate has to keep track of information for World Service Conference anyway. For Sharing Area Highlights. Adding it to the Alternate Delegate Job Description really just goes along with the cooperation between the two positions.
- One question has arisen regarding what other Areas do with their Newsletter Coordinator position. I would think the Delegate could be our link to other Areas if we need that information.
- KBDM for the Task Force: About half the Areas have a Newsletter of sorts. Most are moving away from printed newsletters except small Areas such as Delaware, Rhode Island, etc.

The WSO has gone fully digital. See "In The Loop" and also AFG Connects.

Different Areas have different Coordinators - some have two PO (one for professionals and one for others); some have Liaison Coordinators (helping with meetings and events). Areas create Coordinators and AWSC Panels based on their own individual needs.

- We may be past the point of looking to other Areas about what to do about The Legacy. We have had two Thought Forces and Two Task Forces that have spanned across two Panels. This Task Force seems to have a recommendation to AWSC. Perhaps we can put that on the Agenda and move forward. If the Area wants more study then the AWSC can vote down the Recommendation and ask for another Thought or Task Force.
- There is no rush or pushing of any agenda here. If anyone has further questions or concerns we can address them here in the Task Force, and of course in the conversation at AWSC.

Task Force Summary / Findings:

The Task Force has looked at the previous Panels' KBDM for Thought and Task Forces regarding our Area's current structure of The Legacy newsletter.

Our findings:

- Technology has improved and lowered the cost of sharing detailed information
- Our website is geared toward those in Service, and is flexible and able to provide information needed and wanted by Al-Anon members in our Area.
- Creating a separate newsletter based on the reports given at our Area meetings is redundant and currently causes extra work for DRs and the Coordinators.

Task Force Proposed Recommendation:

Based on our Charge we recommend the following:

1. We recommend discontinuing The Legacy newsletter as currently structured. We do not need a Coordinator position to create this. Our website covers all reports and business information from our Area meetings.
2. We recommend that the Delegate and Alternate Delegate collaborate on creating a summary of Area meetings (we can call it The Legacy) that can be easily printed and shared with members who do not use the computer. It will be posted on the Area Website for anyone to access and will be archived.