

Questions / Remarks	
A. If the number who can attend is limited, what are the determining factor(s)?	
1	Distance and number attending
2	Space, square footage, 6-foot rule
3	Government regulations - CDC, WHO, Governor, Mayor
4	Landlord regulations
5	Safety
6	First to arrive get the seats
7	Newcomers given priority to attend
8	Group conscience decision
9	Punctuality (that's my personal solution to any gathering)
10	That is a major point of contention, the majority votes at group conscience to just lock the doors when the limit is reached. WHAT?????? offer outside meetings when the limit is reached, offer to keep breaking off into small groups as more and more people come ZERO PEOPLE should be ever turned away. I would be DEAD right now if 3 years ago i mustered the courage to go try AA and the doors were locked but I heard a meeting going on inside... "the only requirement is a desire to stop drinking ***unless the room is full, then you should go elsewhere***" IS THAT THE SIGN WE PROPOSE PUTTING ON THE DOORS?

B. What changes do you anticipate in how face-to-face meetings are conducted?	
1	Social distancing, masks, no personal contact [hand-holding or hugging]
2	None
3	Sanitizing touch points
4	Bring your own beverage
5	Will need Daily sanitation of chairs and all surfaces touched. Not passing basket or candy. Chairs placed six feet apart. Members will need to take responsibility for cleaning, opening and losing meeting room. Wear masks to protect others. Follow all Open Texas Guidelines as listed by Governor Abbott for Texas. If member has any Covid symptoms as listed in open Texas guidelines, they are asked to stay home to protect other members.
6	Physical distancing, wearing masks, gloves, using disposable cups, disinfecting chairs, bringing individual books, not providing reading materials to be shared, alternate 7th tradition methods
7	No personal contact, sanitation, eliminate food, no passing the basket (keep in fixed location), locations sans elevators, no gathering in room before/after meeting, if you sneeze-leave
8	Lots of sterilizing, furniture rearrangements, changes in refreshment offerings, adding Zoom on phone for those who do not wish to meet, or having smaller meetings, more Zoom participants
9	Probably none other than keeping one or two empty chairs between attendees.

Questions / Remarks	
B. What changes do you anticipate in how face-to-face meetings are conducted?	
10	Maybe move our meetings outside, or at the overflow once the room limit is reached
11	Keep tables folded. Chairs only
12	None. The format has worked for 100 years almost, and worked, there have been 5 pandemics during this same time and we survived.... https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/1918-commemoration/pdfs/1918-pandemic-webinar.pdf if we continue to bury our heads, I will stop AA altogether and go find something not so scared of the planet around us, mutations of the flu virus will never stop, just like alcoholic deaths. AA started to help with curbing those deaths, but i'm actually ashamed at the response of our members. the thorn in my side is "no, i'm good, the newcomers will be ok on zoom" NO. NO THEY WILL NOT BE. I fought HARD during the group conscience to keep the meeting open, and the ones that were afraid could just stay home and one or two of us would remain in the rooms to welcome the newcomers.... it was decided to do a full shut down because some members had compromised immune systems. DON'T COME TO A MEETING IF A) YOU WILL BE OK ON A ZOOM CALL B)YOU NO LONGER HAVE THE CRAVING FOR ALCOHOL C) YOU HAVE A COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEM D) YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR FELLOW ALCOHOLICS. i fought and fought against the entire group..... AA has lost sight of why it started and is now full of the personalities rather than principles. I got called after that meeting and cussed out by a member who accused me of trying to kill his wife..... IF YOU DON'T COME TO A MEETING THIS WONT AFFECT YOU.
13	bury. head..... in sand..... and the alcoholics go away. right? thats how AA works?

C. Please list your concerns about face-to-face meetings:	
1	People won't wear face masks, People won't maintain social distance.
2	Safety - peronal and for others
3	Feeling obligated to attend my home group while still putting my family at risk.
4	Now that there are Zoom options I don't see myself attending meetings in person much anymore.
5	Having enough space to separate, people complying with recommendations for masks, gloves, washing hands, providing coffee
6	Different strokes for different folks, hard to know how careful a group is about sanitation, sick people will still attend, other sick people will not be able to attend
7	Social distancing, hand hygiene, and people not wearing a mask
8	What to do if someone doesn't follow guidelines like wearing mask or keeping 6 ft away
9	I am not sure if the pandemic is over enough to return to normal activity. Habits are hard to break, such as the things we touch....and people we hug
10	Our group is divided on this issue.We have a group conscience scheduled to discuss.
11	Will the meeting be safe and welcoming

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C. Please list your concerns about face-to-face meetings:	
12	Many of our leaders are 65 years or older
13	Don't be premature and endanger health of others
14	I live in an area that houses vulnerable population
15	Too soon [3], Zoom meeting seem to be working well
16	The 2-week incubation period of the virus and asymptomatic carriers make safety assessments difficult. The relative safety of any start date will not be clear for at least 2 weeks.
17	People trying to Zoom during a real meeting
18	Do not trust individuals to wash hands or social distance themselves. / Alcoholics are defiant.
19	My home group has no immediate plans to resume in-person meetings. We are waiting to find out what the guidelines will be as the situation unfolds. Our group is unusual in that it is a very large group (400-600 people) that meets once per month for a speaker. We traditionally serve a pot-luck dinner prior to the speaker meeting, and continue coffee service and dessert during the meeting. How we will handle a return to in-person meetings has yet to be determined.
20	I'm am concerned if my homegroup decides not to have face to face meetings and i promise, there are other options besides AA that will be around for the next 100 years when AA dies this slow death by taking the stance of burying its head in the sand.. (not sure if you can tell, i'm slightly bitter that we left people out there to die)
21	if attendance will be limited who gets to decide who is in and who is out, and what are we to do about people who are homeless who come in to meetings regularly to get off the street, to get A/C or heat, coffee, use the bathroom, rest/sleep etc. what if there are many and they are first in line? I would not want to be the one who decides who is in or out

D. What needs to happen for you to feel comfortable about attending face-to-face meetings?	
1	Better understanding of Covid-19, testing and treatments
2	1) Established rules and cleaning/safety protocol; 2) Clear guidelines in our group how to handle things
3	Following precautionary guidelines. I have pre-existing conditions re immune system
4	Time
5	The virus 1) has to be contained, 2) infection count is going down (substantially), 3) be gone
6	Have a vaccine for COVID or adequate anti-viral medications
7	Complete compliance to the mask/ face covering rule
8	My group is small - I believe those feeling sick would take that into consideration.
9	I am physically unable to attend face-to-face meetings.
10	See the spread go down in our county - I work in healthcare, will be ultra-conservative for sake of my patients
11	Make sure of sanitizing methods
12	Open the door!

Questions / Remarks	
D.	What needs to happen for you to feel comfortable about attending face-to-face meetings?
13	A cure
14	Church has to open
15	We already hold in person meetings without a problem
16	All open Texas guidelines followed
17	Willingness
18	Safety
19	A comprehensive list of issues to be discussed and agreed upon by GC in doing the most we can to stay safe; church needs to approve
20	That county restrictions/mandates are lifted for non-essential business entities
21	Virus needs to slow way down, better information throughout AA groups, clean track record for locale and groups, reassuring messages (when warranted) from GSO, Intergroup, and Area
22	Some kind of assurance that our members are not in danger of spreading or catching the infection
23	An act of God
24	Personally for me I will need to know that the virus isn't spreading anymore. Or that it is no longer in my area. Or at least see cases drop dramatically. I have family members whose health I must be concerned with as well as my own. I will need to feel confident that my group is following all the guidelines to keep everyone safe.
25	A comprehensive list of issues to be discussed and agreed upon by GC in doing the most we can to stay safe; church needs to approve
26	[We currently use] Zoom, however we are seeing a high rate of relapse with no face to face... if people are more scared of dying an alcoholic death than of COVID-19...we need to have that FACE TO FACE option available, it's unconscionable to live in fear of covid-19 when we KNOW that we are preventing very vulnerable individuals from the help AA touts. If we continue to hide... the end of AA will come. zoom meetings do not suffice for the newest members, they need the human face to face accountability, and we are denying them that through mass panic and fear. Its like AA all at once said "well, the people here with the longest sobriety don't fear alcohol anymore, but we do fear covid, so you are on your own newcomer..." THAT'S NOT RIGHT.

E.	How do we comply with government regulations and stay true to our Traditions at the same time?
1	First come, first seated? [Replies = 2]
2	That would not help us stay true to the traditions. As long as we are being limited, we need to stay with electronic meetings
3	I feel the most difficult is the 7th tradition. Online people do not think to contribute even though we suggest doing so.
4	Have small groups meet some inside maybe some outside

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5	Don't know [Replies = 8]
6	Limit meeting attendance. Require masks.
7	At our location, 6 ft rule will not be a problem
8	We can use a lottery like rotation
9	The principle of the safety of our membership must be kept in consideration of whatever actions are taken.
10	Have persons assigned to handle any overflow (i.e. alternative locations just outside the meeting space), simultaneously connect virtually
11	Spacing, not zooming during the face-to-face
12	Laws of the land supersede traditions. Period.
13	Limiting attendance
14	Follow Government Recommendations
15	Consider outside meetings with circled up chairs of no more than 10 in each circle
16	Knowing our Traditions, discussion, staying current with gov't regulations, common sense, we always find a way.
17	Change is a good thing and we need to embrace it at this time
18	Our organization can't be above the law. It will simply have to be understood that Social distancing (for example) comes first. If someone has to be turned away because of restrictions, they could be directed to another meeting, hopefully, or online
19	I agree with the example given. Concerns about 7th tradition
20	Through fully informed group conscience decisions making
21	This has been a interesting conversation for my group. While some of us felt that it was not in the best interest of the group to hold face to face meetings, others felt it was fine as long as they had the churches permission and only allowed 10 at a time. Those with more sobriety would leave the meeting if someone with less sobriety showed up when there were already 10. I think it basically came down to as long as those who were attending face to face meetings where abiding by the laws then there wasn't anything that could be done. I know my concern was for the safety of AA as a whole and protecting our anonymity. While I could also see the other side of the discussion as being our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics. My personal choice has been to stay home and use alternative methods for the time being. My main concern for face to face meeting was could it affect the anonymity of the members if someone got sick or if the law was called because there could appear there was a large gathering.
22	Tough one
23	Have persons assigned to handle any overflow (i.e. alternative locations just outside the meeting space), simultaneously connect virtually

Questions / Remarks	
E. How do we comply with government regulations and stay true to our Traditions at the same time?	
24	It's like following fire codes or occupancy codes. The Traditions are not a shield against obeying the law (and health regulations/occupancy regulations should be considered laws.)
25	We stay true to the tradition that groups are autonomous except in matters affecting A.A. as a whole. If a group does not comply with government standards during social distancing requirements, then that affects A.A. as a whole because it's placing members at risk and would be irresponsible. The group has a responsibility to maintain a standard that will not undermine the integrity of A.A.
26	We are hard-headed and stubborn, several partners are feeling entitled to "their meeting" as they were pre-covid, regardless consequences - hopefully they will all come round to possible dangers of acting irresponsibly, but it has yet to effect the old-timers. many refuse to zoom on principle that it "isn't the way they have AA" - which hurts our community and endangers themselves at the same time.
27	We must be very careful to weigh each decision we make in light of our Traditions. Praying and meditating on any issue, asking guidance from our HP, is imperative at this time.

F. Considering Tradition 2, is there a spiritual downside to online only assemblies?	
1	Yes [Repsonses = 14]
2	No [Repsonses = 11]
3	Don't know [Responses = 13]
4	Yes, limited responses, less personal connection
5	Absolutely, we don't get that same personal experience of helping out, and comeraderie
6	We know that we have no control over the virus and we have to rely on our higher power.
7	It's difficult to truly connect with a newcomer. Ive only seen experienced group members participate in ZOOM meetings
8	I dont think so because if we are spiritually fit then why would it be?
9	Yes, I think so. There really isn't anything like connection in person.
10	It is easier to attempt multi-tasking during on-line meetings. Therefore the mindfulness needed to really consider the issues might be more difficult.
11	Possible impact to the 'fully informed' group conscience (i.e. some of the group conscience develops/evolves during the conversations between events during a F2F meeting, especially my experience when I was newer to assemblies)
12	Many are not able to attend due to technology
13	No. We still have a trusted God no matter what.
14	Yes if it limits participation
15	Face to face adds a human quality and need for interaction

Questions / Remarks	
F. Considering Tradition 2, is there a spiritual downside to online only assemblies?	
16	That has not been an issue in our online meetings, much emphasis is given to maintaining respect for traditional methods of beginning and ending meetings with prayer; our HP cannot be constrained by distance or separation
17	The spirit in my heart and soul is not confined by a building
18	No, if we believe that our Higher Power is present whenever 2 or more people are in a group, physically or virtual.
19	No. Our trusted servants make the best decisions possible to help us stay connected on all levels.
20	Not for me
21	From our group conscience experience. We had our first online group conscience meeting in an emergency sense. Some of the other members had a separate group conscience to make there own decisions. To protect the group as a whole we scheduled a second online group conscience to better notify the members of the group and made a more informed decision on whether the group should meet face to face or not. So from this experience its possible.
22	Tradition 3
23	Possible impact to the 'fully informed' group conscience (i.e. some of the group conscience develops/evolves during the conversations between events during a F2F meeting, especially my experience when I was newer to assemblies)
24	Not everyone has internet
25	I don't see a "spiritual downside" to online-only assemblies. Our leaders are trusted servants who will make decisions about when and how a group can meet, when to open the group to face-to-face meetings. That decision must be based on government guidelines first, and the the desires of the group as a whole.
26	Very minor
27	That has not been an issue in our online meetings, much emphasis is given to maintaining respect for traditional methods of beginning and ending meetings with prayer; our HP cannot be constrained by distance or separation
28	I don't think so at all.Our "Ultimate authority" is present whether we meet face to face or not. Some leader who govern may be upset but I do not believe that online only detracts from our spiritual condition.
29	Not sure everyone would get a chance to speak at an on-line assembly if it were a voting assembly and there were minority opinions and that Leadership could limit how many people can share.
30	I think it allows more people to have their voice be heard rather than select few
31	es. I think online meetings do not capture the dynamics that come with alcoholics discussing their ES&H with each other. They say that most communication is non-verbal. I would be anxious if it was announced that the current restrictions must continue for 3-4 more months! Yikes!
32	I don't see a connection between online only assemblies and Tradition 2

Questions / Remarks	
G.	What suggestions / cautions do you have for increasing use of technology for general service entities?
1	Loss of interaction
2	We have to make sure the people voting are one vote per group.
3	Be aware of privacy settings
4	As long as we can do that without losing anonymity I think moving forward with technology is a good thing.
5	Anonymity & 7th tradition
6	Loosing the personal, one-on-one touch
7	Perhaps meet face-to-face on a quarterly basis if using monthly online meetings.
8	Must consider that not all members have access to internet, computer, smart phones; must consider translation needs
9	Go slow. when in doubt... do without
10	I believe that committees can do a lot of their work through technology. They would be able to meet more frequently so there would be a larger bank of sharing and ideas.
11	Just our anonymity
12	I am in all the way
13	Security
14	Don't do it
15	Not personal
16	Zoom
17	Attention to anonymity, 7th tradition issues
18	Standing committee chairs-what a gift! Workshops can serve multiple locations at the same time. Not everyone is capable/comfortable with video conferencing, screen fatigue, supplement but do not replace
19	Again, these are extraordinary times and we need to be willing to change for the good of all AA
20	Have a format for reducing distractions and to allow everyone to be heard
21	Personally, I need more training and practicing in using technology. Just getting used to Zoom to attend as many meetings I can
22	Being too informal, allowing distractions, people showing up in bathrobes, utilizing skills of those familiar with technological means of meeting, strong organization and protocols, expectations clearly defined, back up plans., security measures
23	My only concerns are, is our anonymity truly protected and can aa as a whole be damaged through technology? I think the best that can be done is by taking every precaution possible. Investige and research for the best and safest online apps used. My personal experience is the zoom meetings can be hacked and facebook is not a totally secure social media portal. I do believe it is becoming more and more neccessary as I have discovered recently I just think we need to be cautious about it.

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24	I believe that committees can do a lot of their work through technology. They would be able to meet more frequently so there would be a larger bank of sharing and ideas.
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26	Technology has kept my group together through all this. I think there is an increased need for more education on privacy, security, and basic computer skills.
27	Making sure that one on one interactions are encouraged(phone, video chat apps, email). Training for participants on all aspects of how to use the technology. Making sure there are still plenty of opportunities for participants to attend live, face to face groups, discussions.
28	Lots of attention to details, changes to policies, explanation to members in "simple language" rather than "Technical Language", more understanding of technology issues
29	My only concerns are, is our anonymity truly protected and can aa as a whole be damaged through technology? I think the best that can be done is by taking every precaution possible. Investige and research for the best and safest online apps used. My personal experience is the zoom meetings can be hacked and facebook is not a totally secure social media portal. I do believe it is becoming more and more neccessary as I have discovered recently I just think we need to be cautious about it.
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33	Personally, I need more training and practicing in using technology. Just getting used to Zoom to attend as many meetings I can
34	Don't create too many surveys, or positions, or committees, or sub-committes, etc
35	Don't know [<i>if Area policies & procedures allow online assemblies</i>] but think that it ought to be considered and would be personally disposed to favor the development of applicable policies and procedures for both online only and mixed (face-to-face and online combined) assemblies, voting and elections.

Questions / Remarks	
H.	Concerning COVID-19, should we be concerned with any legal liability issues? If so, what?
1	No [Responses = 3] >>> There are none; NO; not that I'm aware of
2	Don't know [Responses = 3]
3	Possibly [Responses = 3]
4	Absolutely, if we have a large gathering, we are responsible for providing necessary protection such as hand cleaner, etc.
5	I think that should be a concern
6	Yes. Alcoholics who claim they acquired COVID while at an AA meeting at a church and then sue the church
7	Depends if we start meeting and a lot of people get sick? I believe we need to consider others and ourselves before reopening and putting ourselves in danger
8	Yes, seek legal counsel
9	Always something to consider, however our main concern is being there for someone who seeks sobriety.
10	The quick answer is yes. Not sure how to expand on the quick answer.
11	Not sure, but any legal liability concern whether 'guilty or not' will cost us money
12	Written and spoken group covid guidelines announced and made public to attendees
13	Follow their guidelines. Small businesses are opening.
14	Not following county, state or nations wide guidelines.
15	We definitely need to stay within state & government requirements to limit potential liability. Beyond that, people don't need a valid reason to sue.
16	Safety
17	We are responsible to consider the current environment regarding the conditions at the time of any planned gatherings and ensuring attendees are aware of any level of anticipated danger. individual decision has to come into play at that point; it's up to me if I want to take a considered risk in face-to-face meetings
18	Yes - medical liability
19	Increased insurance premiums, lawsuits due to negligence. Who could be held responsible for proven case of illness contracted at an AA meeting? Group, Central Office, General Service Board? All, none?
20	Even though we are autonomous, we still need to follow social distancing guidelines
21	If we have face to face meeting and someone gets sick is the group responsible
22	Stupidity and selfishness
23	Always something to consider, however our main concern is being there for someone who seeks sobriety.
24	Legal liability questions should be directed to an attorney with expertise in the issues in question.
25	Possibly. If someone contracts COVID-19 and it can be traced directly to an A.A. sponsored gathering, perhaps the group sponsoring the activity could be held liable. This could especially be true if the gathering did not comply with guidelines in place at the time of the gathering.

Questions / Remarks	
26	Asking legal or medical advice from an alcoholic is dangerous
27	No more that at any other time. People come and go on their own will and we have no leaders and we never tell anyone what to do. Just as no smoking is allowed, we might suggest masks and not allow touching for now, maybe even take temperatures and have some kind of health risk statement to obtect our group members and attendees.