

NEW BUSINESS: Bylaws and Policies & Procedures Revision



MOTION:

Move to create the following policy:

Revisions of the current Bylaws and Policies and Procedure documents take place annually, at the regular December OA Foot Steps virtual intergroup business meeting, or a Special Meeting designated for this purpose. The bylaws committee shall determine what revisions are required annually, and present them at this meeting, unless it is deemed an emergency motion.

OA Foot Steps committees, including the board, may request revisions or submit motions, affecting daily operations of the intergroup as required, to support the ongoing activities of the intergroup, which shall be incorporated into the Bylaws or Policies and Procedures documents, once approved, at any time throughout the year.

The bylaws committee can be asked to assist the OA Foot Steps committees, including the board, to write motions, as needed, for regular operations throughout the year.

SUBMITTED BY:

OA Foot Steps Board
board@oafootsteps.com

DATE: February 22,2023

INTENT: To ensure that our monthly virtual intergroup meetings are able to meet the monthly business needs of our members, our groups and our service bodies to ensure we are addressing current business as it arises, and to set aside an annual meeting for any other bylaw, policy or procedural revisions that are deemed essential.

COST: n/a

IMPLEMENTATION: If adopted, this policy would be sent to our bylaws committee to incorporate into our Policies and Procedures manual.

RATIONALE: Our monthly virtual intergroup business meetings are essential to work on any ongoing business that might arise during the course of the year. This should remain the primary focus of our monthly meetings to ensure that we are working in the best interests of our intergroup.

Any motions brought forward by our committees that are entirely relevant to the work they need to do should be brought to the floor during the course of the year, and be dealt with within a reasonable length of time. This is not possible if there are numerous bylaw committee submitted motions, suggesting ongoing revisions to our documents. Any motions that are suggested by the Bylaws committee, unless pertaining directly to the request of one of our committees or the board, or are not deemed to be an emergency, should not be allowed to overwhelm our monthly meetings or impede our monthly business operations.

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Looking to the footsteps of those who have gone before us, as cited in our primary mission statement, we can look to Virtual Region and the World Service Business Conference, both of whom reserve these kinds of motions for an annual, or in the case of Virtual Region a bi-annual, review. As an intergroup, we do not require monthly revisions of bylaws and policies and procedures any more than these other larger service bodies.

This motion is requesting time for our intergroup, our committees and our board to familiarize themselves with the newly adopted bylaws, policies and procedures so that they might determine for themselves what changes might be best implemented **based upon our ongoing needs**.

PRIMARY PURPOSE:

Concept Nine: Able, trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.

Concept Ten: Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore, duplication of efforts is avoided.

Concept Eleven: Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staffs and consultants.

Concept Twelve: The spiritual foundation for OA service ensures that:

- a. No OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power;
- b. Sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA's prudent financial principle;
- c. No OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority;
- d. All important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
- e. No service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and
- f. No OA service committee or service board shall ever perform any acts of government, and each shall always remain democratic in thought and action.

HISTORY: Following the adoption of our original bylaws and policies and procedures on June 28, 2020, these documents were left relatively untouched, Only four minor revisions took place during that entire time, which were entirely based upon the current and ongoing needs of our committees or the intergroup, as a whole. The precedent was established that no revisions were requested by the bylaws committee for this entire period. While our bylaws, policy & procedure manual wasn't perfect, there was certainly progress made during that time, as we established procedures that helped us in the revision of our bylaws, policies and procedures in 2022.

OA FOOT STEPS VIRTUAL INTERGROUP (OAFSVIG) BYLAWS COMMITTEE COMMENTS {if any}: