

Task Force Topic: Hospitality Guidelines

Members: Cindy J. (Chairperson and Task Force Chair), Roger D. (Technology Coord.), Cindy B. (DR 12), Terry Anne A. (AISL 13), Kathy S. (DR 7), Elizabeth W. (AISL 7)

Background/Historical Info: Using the February 2015 AWSC Thought Force results (as posted on the Area 9 Website) and in consultation with Districts who have participated as Hospitality hosts in recent years, this Task Force is going to be looking at what the membership wants and needs regarding Hospitality at Assembly, and trying to come up with a balanced approach to this historical service that has been provided by the Area.

In recent years the cost and burden to the Districts has sometimes been overwhelming. There is also much confusion between the Convention Hospitality and Assembly Hospitality. There has grown up a kind of competition that puts an added strain on the Districts and on the GIPs.

Thought Force references (if any): The entire AWSC panel participated in a thorough Thought Force on Hospitality and all the results are collated and published on the Area website. Further study and research was done by the Task Force and specific issues were researched regarding hotel requirements and Area budgeting.

Charge: Create Area Guidelines for Hospitality based on the Thought Force Results and a trial run at May Assembly using a new approach. Please garner feedback from the membership, report on your results and create a proposal for the August 2015 AWSC to discuss.

KBDM Questions from Thought Force:

What were the needs that the Membership want Hospitality to fill? *accessible space for fellowship; light snacks and drinks; fair and defined financial commitment for Districts hosting Hospitality*

What were the needs that the Membership felt could best be filled by an individual? *members with particular dietary requirements will be best served by taking care of this themselves; to meet a number of needs, members can "brown-bag" from home*

How can the Area best balance the financial and human obligations of Hospitality to fill the needs and also be prudent in our service work? *clearly define those obligations with a budget and who pays for what; provide Hospitality that is needed rather than possibly enabling and trying to meet unreasonable expectations; shift the cost of the Hospitality food/serving items to the Area and the costs of the GIPs to the hosting Districts (in the same way as the costs of GIPs for Registration, Raffle, Sgt. At Arms are handled)*

Task Force Timeline:

Create a trial set of Guidelines to be used at May Assembly 2015. Include Evaluations and feedback.

After Assembly synthesize the information and tweak the trial Guidelines.

Fill out the Summary below (and the KBDM questions above) and submit this form as your Task Force Report to the August 2015 AWSC .

Create new Proposed Guidelines for Hospitality that can be discussed at AWSC in August 2015.

P55 Task Force Charge/Report –April 2015/ June 2015

Complete all reports and proposals by July 15, 2015 and submit to the Technology Coordinator.

Task Force Summary / Findings:

Task Force Process Summary:

1. Using the February 2015 AWSC Panel-wide Thought Force results, the Task Force members chose the most important/most often shared thoughts which were then thoroughly discussed among the Task Force members.
2. The Thought Force results clearly led the way for the Task Force to delve into what we want from Hospitality and how we go about providing it responsibly and fairly.
3. We worked together on “shared documents” and “shared spreadsheets” sharing our viewpoints and ideas and in discussion, which led to creating a “Temporary Guidelines for Hospitality for Assembly May 1-3, 2015” document and also a “Suggested Items for Spring Assembly 2015 Hospitality Budget” spreadsheet.
4. The two Districts assigned with Hospitality for Spring 2015 Assembly utilized the Temporary Guidelines and the Suggested Items spreadsheet. The Assembly members were asked to provide feedback about their Hospitality experience by means of print and electronic surveys.
5. The surveys, information from the GIPs who served Hospitality, the previous Hospitality Guidelines, the Temporary Guidelines and Suggested Items spreadsheet were all utilized to provide “Proposed Guidelines for Hospitality - Assembly” and “Suggested Hospitality Items - Assembly.”

Task Force Findings:

- Unanimously, we want Hospitality at Assemblies, no Hospitality at AWSC.
- We appreciate a space for fellowship; an accessible place to rest and recharge
- We want specific information about what needs to be done
- The menu need be no more than light snacks, coffee, tea and water
- A budget with a list of suggested items is desired
- Storage of leftover food and serving items is undesirable

Task Force Recommendation:

- New proposed Hospitality Guidelines for Assemblies
- Suggested Items list to help hosting Districts coordinate the purchasing of Hospitality food/serving items
- Revised financial obligations between Area and Districts