

Policy Committee Update

July 2016

Judy K., Chair

Donna E., Co-Chair

The purpose of the update sent each quarter by the Chairperson of the Policy Committee is to provide information and to report progress on the following:

- Topics discussed by the Policy Committee that are generated by the fellowship and need clarification or interpretation in light of the Traditions and Concepts
- Policy motions presented to the World Service Conference (WSC)
- Policy motions passed by the WSC

The Policy Committee continues its work on incorporating spiritual principles into the text portion of the 'Financial Matters' section of the "Policy Digest," as well as revising the text of 'Convention and Other Events' formerly title 'Conventions,' pages 85 and 86, of the *2014 -2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27)*. The 'Conventions and Other Events' policy was presented in a motion to the 2016 World Service Conference (WSC); however, a consensus affirmed that the language be re-worked and brought back in 2017.

The Policy Committee continued its discussion of the terms "open" and "closed" meetings using KBDM, and considered strategies that might eliminate any confusion these terms cause for the public and even for Al-Anon members. At the Open Policy Meeting in April, the Policy Committee first discussed this topic in light of Tradition Five, the principle of being welcoming, and Tradition Twelve, maintaining anonymity of members.

More than one Al-Anon member has asked the Policy Committee whether or not the WSO accepts money from a program in which individuals can sign up to support their favorite non-profit organization. The Policy Committee unanimously agreed that Al-Anon does not accept contributions from any program like this because it is impossible to know whether or not the donations (percentage of the amount spent by the consumer) come from Al-Anon members. In addition, the proceeds donated are from outside entities, e.g., the charitable foundation of a business. Accepting any contributions of this type violates our Traditions.

The WSO Policy Committee appreciates members inquiring about matters that affect Al-Anon as a whole. We welcome all inquiries and suggestions from Al-Anon and Alateen members regarding issues that need clarification or interpretation in light of our Traditions and Concepts.