Discussion Topic #1 – Area Third Legacy Standing Committee

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Lisa S., Alternate Chairperson, facilitated the discussion: explained that, although Robert's Rules would normally require the motion to be removed from the table before discussion, the presentation had been heard first to provide context. The Alt Chairperson further clarified that the vote was only to resume discussion at the July Quarterly and not to place the proposal on the Assembly agenda. If the motion remained tabled, it would next be eligible for consideration at the January Quarterly.

Motion on the Table: Area Third Legacy Standing Committee
Move that Area 72 create a Third Legacy Standing Committee to support the District Third Legacy Chairs. The committee shall function like other standing committees at the Area level except that its Quarterlies would be held online and chaired by the Alternate Delegate or a Past Delegate, if available, or an experienced member of the Third Legacy Committee.

Paul A., Third Legacy Chair, District 36, presenting on behalf of Patti S., Third Legacy Chair, District 25, presented:

My name is Paul A, Third Legacy Chair for District 36.
I'm presenting this on behalf of Patty S, Third Legacy Chair for District 25, undergoing a medical procedure. We wish her the best and speedy recovery.

1. What is a District 3LC such as myself? We go out to so-called "dark" groups and encourage their participation in General Service. We handhold GSRs to better understand and participate in Area and Conference business. We educate about the importance of our general service structure and how it runs.
2. Coming in to D36, I believe we hadn't utilized the 3LC position very well so coming into this position I saw the following [Slide please]: only 50% of our groups had GSRs. About 25% of groups regularly attended District meetings, 17% of our groups were at last year's Assembly, and 8% at this year's Pre-Conference. 5 of 10 committee positions are unfilled. We are working to improve participation and sense of responsibility toward AA.
3. [Next Slide] For example, Next Saturday, July 18, D35, D36, and ESIG are jointly holding a "Eastside Service Fair & Barbecue" in Issaquah to explain how the groups run AA and advertise open positions. If you in the Eastside area, please come join us. As 3LCs, Cheyanne and myself doing this outreach and education while our two DCMs are helping but primarily focused on Area business and this quarterly. So it's a team effort.
4. Your district may not have or want a 3LC and that is your decision. However, 17 Districts have 3LCs, 3 have been added since discussion began at the October Assembly. That's almost 40% of our Districts!
5. We are asking to have an Area Standing Committee. At the April Quarterly a motion was made for a vote at the upcoming Assembly. However, the motion was nebulous about how this Committee would be chaired and was tabled.
6. After the April Quarterly, our 3LC Roundtable committee agreed we need a standard committee with an appointed chair just like our other area standing committees. So we will next be asking this Committee to amend that motion, the amendment is in your background packet, and then ask for a vote to put this on the Assembly Agenda.

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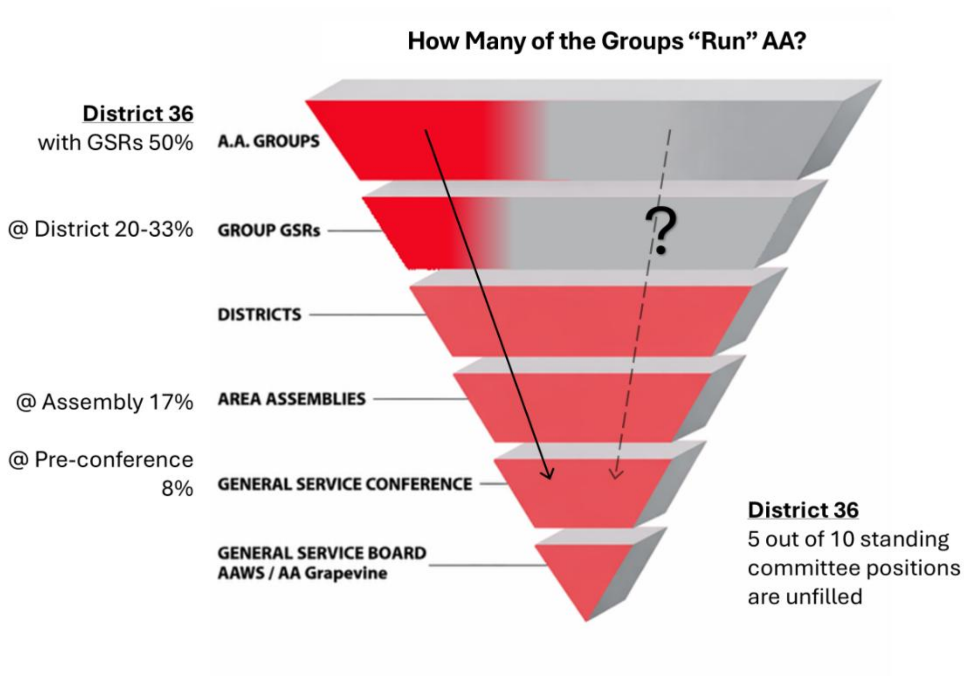
7. [Next Slide] Here are the proposed Duties and Responsibilities if the Appointed Third Legacy Standing Committee Chair: Conducting Quarterlies and Roundtables between us District 3LCs is their most important function. For example, we will be able to report on the results of “Service Fair” event and make suggestions for other districts and central offices.
8. [Next Slide] Here is the estimated annual budget put together by our chair and past Area Treasurer Derek. It is based on the 2026 Budget and the expense allocations for other appointed servants. This new position will cost $2,750 per year.
9. As mentioned in previous quarterly discussion, a similar motion was proposed and failed at the 2018 Assembly. Now it has been vetted at one assembly and three successive quarterlies. Feedback from D36 groups says they want to consider the motion at the Assembly and participate in their Right to Decision. If the groups are running AA, then let’s include them in this decision and pass it to the Assembly agenda. Thank you.
10. John DCM D35 has written on this in the Area Newsletter and will give you his case for this motion. John …

The presentation slides are included in these minutes as part of the Discussion Topic #3 background materials.



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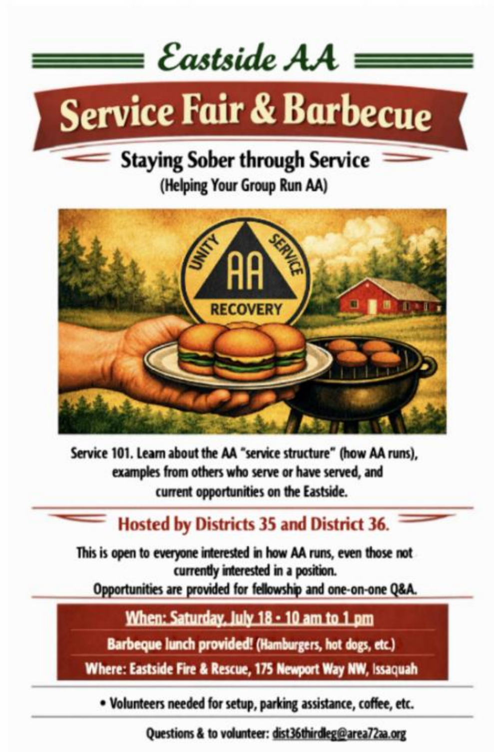

Proposed Duties & Responsibilities

Area Third Legacy Chair

- Facilitate Area Third Legacy Standing Committee Quarterlies to improve communication between District Third Legacy Chairs and provide summaries of these meetings to the Area Committee.
- Communicate with the Area Committee the needs of the districts and groups regarding service opportunities for new members.
- Help coordinate service workshops and roundtables at the District level as requested.
- Attend all Area Business Quarterlies and Area Assembly.
- Give written and verbal reports at Area Business Quarterlies and the Area Assembly.
- Submit monthly newsletter articles.

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Budget

Area Third Legacy Chair

Expenses/reimbursement same as/equal to other appointed committee officers.

- Quarterly Travel, Meals, Lodging: $ 1,060
- Assembly Travel, Meals, Lodging: $ 700
- Standing Committee Quarterly Travel: $ 400
- Standing Committee Chair Discretionary: $ 200
- Printing: $ 150
- Zoom Account: $ 240
- **Total Annual** **$2,750**

Based on 2026 budget allocation per Appointed Trusted Servant

John K., DCM, District 35 Presented:

The Case for a Standing 3rd Legacy Committee at the Area Level

Service is A.A.'s Third Legacy — and it is how our message travels to the alcoholic who still suffers. The work of a 3rd Legacy Committee is straightforward: encourage members to try service at the group level and help grow that participation into district and area service over time. It is the work of building and sustaining the service pipeline that makes everything else in A.A. possible.

That pipeline needs tending. Filling service positions at the group and district level is more challenging than ever. Members are busy. Life is full. And for many — including newer district members — the concept of 3rd Legacy work is often unfamiliar. You cannot fill a role people have never heard of. Awareness has to come first, and awareness requires dedicated, focused effort.

At the district level, that effort is already underway. 3rd Legacy Chairs across our Area are doing meaningful work — and doing it well. This is not a case built on failure. It is a case built on possibility.

Today, 3rd Legacy Chairs are active in roughly 40% of our Area's districts — a number that has grown organically, district by district, over time. Our goal is to reach all of them. But the challenge is two-fold: first, establishing awareness of the role itself, and then finding someone to step into it.

With Area-level standing, we gain greater visibility and legitimacy across the full body — the kind that helps a district DCM say with confidence: "this matters, and here's someone who can help you get started."   A recognized committee, formally stood up by this body, carries greater weight than ad hoc effort alone. A Standing Area-level committee is how we accelerate both.

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We also gain representation — greater access to the Area's collective knowledge, experience, and historical context — and a connection to the broader service conversation, and the ability to work deliberately and consistently across district lines.

We are not here because we are struggling. We are here because we believe in this work, and we want to do more of it — with your support behind us.

We ask that this body recognize a Standing 3rd Legacy Committee at the Area Level. We are ready to serve.

Motion to take from the Table: John K., DCM, District 35

Second by Jim M., DCM, District 28.

Vote: The Motion to take from the Table passed (simple majority)**.**

Discussion on the Motion opened:

Jack J., Area Grapevine/Lit Chairperson: Moved to amend the motion to read:

Move that Area 72 create an appointed Third Legacy ~~Standing Committee~~ Chair position to support the District Third Legacy Chairs. The Committee chair will be selected using the established process for appointed officers. The committee shall function like other standing committees at the Area level. ~~except that its Quarteries would be held online and chaired by the Alternate Delegate, a Past Delegate, or if unavailable, an experienced member on the Third Legacy Committee.~~

Seconded by Mike D., DCM, District 10.

Lisa S., Alternate Chair: opened discussion on the amendment to the Motion, clarifying that discussion was limited to the proposed amendment rather than the underlying motion.

Discussion on the Amendment:

Charley P., Area Language Chairperson: spoke in support of the amendment, stating that appointed committee chairs should select the members of their own committees rather than having the Area designate the committee membership. No additional discussion was offered.

Lisa S., Alternate Chair, Called for the Vote on the Amendment:

Vote Results: By unanimous vote, the body adopted the amendment to the motion. Due to technical difficulties experienced with the electronic voting system earlier in the session, the Committee conducted the vote by raised placards in the room, with online members' votes added to the final count.

Discussion on the Motion as Amended:

Jo G., DCM, District 25: spoke in support of the proposal, sharing her experience of relying on past delegates and experienced trusted servants for guidance while serving as DCM. He suggested an Area Third Legacy Chair could provide a dedicated resource for DCMs, GSRs, and others seeking service sponsorship and mentorship.

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Mike L., DCM, District 36: expressed strong support on behalf of his district, stating that strengthening participation in General Service directly supports carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. He encouraged allowing the General Service Representatives to consider the proposal at the October Assembly.

Jim M., DCM, District 28: described the benefits his district has experienced through an active Third Legacy Chair, noting the position provides guidance to DCMs, committee chairs, and newer trusted servants, particularly in rural districts where service resources may be limited.

Pete P., DCM, District 22: shared that his district did not support creating either a district or Area Third Legacy Chair. He stated the district believed existing district officers should fulfill those responsibilities and questioned whether enough districts currently participate to justify an Area committee.

Lisa J., DCM, District 24: expressed concerns regarding the proposed expense and questioned whether creating an Area position was necessary, suggesting that existing sponsorship and service structures should be fully utilized before establishing an additional committee.

Teri H., DCM, District 42: supported the proposal, explaining that while her district has an active Third Legacy Chair, additional Area-level coordination would provide consistent messaging, shared resources, and guidance for district Third Legacy Chairs throughout Area 72.

Jim B., DCM, District 43: described how participating in the Third Legacy Roundtables led his district to establish a Third Legacy Chair position. He stated that the role would help mentor incoming trusted servants and reduce the burden on future DCMs.

Fred J., DCM, District 29: shared that his district's newly established Third Legacy Chair had been effective in educating groups about the General Service structure. He noted that many A.A. members have limited knowledge of General Service and believed the position provides valuable education in addition to recruitment into service.

Mary W., Alternate DCM, District 45: supported forwarding the Motion to the Assembly for broader discussion, stating that members throughout the Area have differing levels of access to service sponsorship and resources. She believed the General Service Representatives should have the opportunity to consider the proposal at the Assembly.

Charley P., Area Language Chairperson: compared the proposal to the creation of the Area Language Committee, noting that establishing a dedicated committee had improved the quality and focus of language interpretation services. He believed a dedicated Third Legacy Chair could similarly strengthen service education throughout the Area.

Courtney S., Area Delegate: expressed appreciation for the work already occurring within the districts but felt creating an Area committee chair was premature. She encouraged continued organic growth of district Third Legacy Chairs while utilizing the experience of past delegates, past trusted servants, and service sponsors before establishing an additional Area committee.

<u>Motion by Dan H., DCM, District 3 to return the Motion as amended to a Discussion Topic</u>: stating that, although he found the discussion valuable, he was uncertain whether the amended motion reflected what groups across the Area would ultimately want. He moved that the Motion be forwarded

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to the Assembly Agenda as a Discussion Topic, allowing the General Service Representatives to discuss the concept and determine whether a future motion should be developed.

Second by Lisa J., DCM, District 24.

Vote: The motion to place the proposal on the Assembly agenda as a Discussion Topic passed by a two-thirds majority (substantial unanimity).

The recorded vote was 41 in favor and 17 opposed (70.6%).

Minority Opinion:

Scott O., DCM, District 16: spoke in support of retaining the proposal as a motion. He emphasized that changing social conditions have reduced members' familiarity with civic and service organizations, making focused education and encouragement about General Service increasingly important to the future of A.A.'s service structure. He believed a dedicated Third Legacy position would help ensure the continued strength of the General Service structure for future generations.

Derek S., Area Chairperson: questioned the procedure used to convert a motion already on the floor into a discussion topic, stating he had not previously encountered that process. He also expressed support for the proposal itself, explaining that Third Legacy Chairs complement rather than replace service sponsorship by helping members understand the service structure and connect with service sponsors. He referenced the creation of the Area Young People's Committee as a similar proposal that was ultimately approved by the Assembly.

David J., DCM, District 14: stated that District 14 supported forwarding the proposal as a motion. He expressed concern that the committee had invested considerable effort in developing the proposal and believed the General Service Representatives should have the opportunity to consider and vote on the completed motion rather than discussing the concept without a formal proposal.

Jim B., DCM, District 43: cited Robert's Rules of Order, a motion should not become a discussion topic.

Lisa S., Alternate Chair: Called for members who wanted to change their vote.

Motion to Reconsider:

Mary W., Alt. DCM, District 45, wanted to change her vote (Motion to Reconsider):

Second by more than two voting members.

Procedural Discussion on the Motion to Reconsider.

Following the minority opinion, several members indicated they wished to change their vote. **Lisa S., Area Alternate Chairperson** explained that, before the previous action could be reconsidered, the body would first determine whether to reopen discussion concerning the decision to convert the motion into a Discussion Topic. The ensuing discussion focused on parliamentary procedure and clarification of the reconsideration process rather than on the merits of the Third Legacy proposal itself.

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- **Lupita YM., Area Alternate Delegate:** expressed support for Lisa, the Area 72 Alt Chairperson and clarified that we are currently going to vote on whether to reopen discussion [on whether to convert to making this a discussion topic (a Yes vote) or vote to not reopen discussion and have this remain a discussion topic (a No vote).
- **Point of Order by Paul O., Alternate DCM, District 7:** raised a point of order questioning whether a motion already before the body could properly be converted into a Discussion Topic under Robert's Rules of Order and asked the Chair to consider whether the previous action was procedurally in order.
- **Alan F., Past Delegate (Panel 69):** explained to the Committee that Robert's Rules of Order are intended to assist in reaching an informed group conscience rather than to govern every procedural action. He observed that Area 72 has historically used Robert's Rules as a guide while allowing flexibility when necessary to better facilitate the group's conscience.
- **Mike L., DCM, District 36:** requested additional clarification regarding the effect of the vote, asking specifically what a yes vote meant.
- **Derek, Area Chairperson,** explained that the immediate question before the body was the motion to reconsider. He clarified that a "yes" vote would reopen discussion on whether the proposal should remain a motion or become a Discussion Topic, while a "no" vote would leave the previous decision in place and conclude the matter.
- **Crystal J., Past Delegate, Panel 73,** further clarified that the body was considering two separate actions. The first vote would determine only whether to reopen discussion concerning the previous procedural decision. If reconsideration passed, the body would then resume discussion and take a subsequent vote regarding whether the proposal should remain a motion or become a Discussion Topic. She emphasized that the immediate vote was **not** on the merits of the Third Legacy proposal itself.
- **Kelly R., Alternate DCM, District 14:** sought further clarification. that the reconsideration vote resulted from members indicating they wished to change their votes after hearing the minority opinion.
- **Sansannah, Alternate DCM, District 3:** Sought further clarification.

Lisa S., Alternate Chair: Called for Vote on the Motion to Reconsider.

<u>Vote</u>: The Motion to Reconsider Failed by a vote of **30 opposed** and **23 in favor** (simple majority), so the original vote to turn the Motion on the Third Legacy Standing Committee back to a Discussion Topic at the October Assembly was sustained.