

R&C Agenda October 10, 2026

- Open
- Welcome! Introductions if needed
- R&C Secretary report
- Newsletter Report
- Registrar Report
- Review Scope of R&C
- Review Resolution of Agenda Items
- Read a Step or Tradition
- Discuss Agenda items for addition to Past Actions
 - Report from Mark
 - Take no action items that were missed.
 - Further work needed? Okay to add?
 - July items
 - Review. Approve?
 - Anything missing?
- Discuss subscription for newsletters with the committee
 - I believe this falls under the Secretary's scope, but I would like to have the committee's feedback to avoid any potential missteps.
- Old Business
 - **2022-04-02 005 (j) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc:** Report and Charter: All documents distributed at or by Area 41 should have a revision date on them. **BACKGROUND:** *Frequently, documents get updated or are out of date and no one is ever sure when they were last updated. This would allow for a general idea of accuracy of information, and to help denote what may need to be updated.*
 - Work on rewriting the item
 - **Agenda Item 2026-05-22 004 (Report & Charter):** Allow for the option to vote electronically with virtual platforms during all area voting. *Background: Promotes accurate counting and autonomous voting. It also would help expedite the counting process.*
 - Are we happy with this?
 - <https://www.thirdlegacyvote.com/>
 - Coordinate with:
 - Finance (later if we decide to move forward and have specifics).
 - Coordinate with Area Chair
 - Some form of a trial or workshop?

- If we want this out in time for elections, we need this out of committee by April.
- **2022-04-02 005 (n) Agenda Item FUNction Ad Hoc: Report and Charter:** That Area 41 make District Committee Member (DCM) reports available on the Area 41 website rather than printing them in the Newsletter.

BACKGROUND: *Have you ever read anyone's report that wasn't yours? Have you read another District's report? Many members have expressed a desire for continued access to DCM reports. By moving these reports to the website, we can maintain open access for all while reducing printing and mailing costs. This change supports better financial stewardship, expands accessibility for members who prefer digital formats, and keeps the newsletter focused on timely highlights and fellowship news. By posting DCM reports on the Area website instead of printing them in the newsletter, we can keep all information publicly available, archive it for future reference, and make it easier for members to find at any time. This also allows us to use our limited funds more effectively for outreach, translation, and other vital services. The intent is simply to modernize how we share information, while continuing to honor transparency, participation, and unity in Area 41.*

 - Update on where we are at
 - Discuss next steps
 - Need to hear back from the Finance Committee
 - The cost will be a little higher. We forgot to factor in printing and mailing DCM Reports for those that want it
 - Next steps:
 - Consult Website Chair to find where DCM reports will land and expected turnaround on having them posted (i.e. will they be posted by the time the print ones are received?).
 - Time ran out in the joint committee meeting to discuss this. Zach emailed the webmaster to follow up on this.
 - Amend item
 - Anything else?
- **Agenda Item 2026-04-11 006 (Report & Charter and consult Technology & Communications):** Review recent changes to Area 41 service material and documentation posted on www.area41.org without requiring logging into Member Services, and create a policy for what requires logging in vs being publicly available. **Background:** *Recent changes to Area41.org have included posting information (Area Newsletters, reports, etc.) that previously required a member to log in to Member Services to access. There was no group conscience of Area 41 to change this practice.*

- Now that we have met with the Tech committee, how do we want to proceed?
- **New Business**
 - **Agenda Item 2026-10-10 001 (Report & Charter): Establish as policy that substantial unanimity (two-thirds vote) be required for proposals that would alter the voting membership of the Area Assembly.**
Background: The Area 41 Handbook identifies the voting membership of the Area Assembly but does not currently specify the vote required for proposals that would alter the Assembly's voting membership.
 - **Agenda Item 2026-10-10 006 (Report & Charter): That the book The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service (BM-31), hereafter referred to as the “Service Manual,” be included in the General Service Representative (G.S.R.) Kit and the District Committee Member (D.C.M.) Kit at no cost.**
Background:
“The Third Legacy Manual” published in 1955 (renamed “The AA Service Manual” in 1969) has been provided free of charge to new General Service Representatives (G.S.R.s) as part of a service kit sent by the General Service Office (G.S.O.) when the group registers. Concept I of The Twelve Concepts for World Service: “The A.A. groups today hold ultimate responsibility and final authority for our world services.” The role of the GSR and DCM is essential to ensuring that groups and districts can fulfill that responsibility. Only when a G.S.R. keeps the group informed and communicates the group conscience can the Conference truly act for A.A. as a whole.
The Service Manual was removed post-pandemic from the physical kits for budget reasons, also related to paper shortage/availability. This proposal gets the Service Manual back into the hands of the new G.S.R. and D.C.M. with no financial burden to the newly elected trusted servant, group, or their district. Some G.S.R.s get to area assemblies and have never heard of the Service Manual. Another problem this proposes to address is asking someone to do a service position with a composition and scope for their job, and by ending the two-class system of GSRs - those who can afford to purchase a manual and those who cannot.
- Set date for when to meet again.
- Close. Thank you for your service!

Minutes

Report and Charter Zoom Meeting joint with Tech Committee 16 Aug. 2026

- Opened at 1135 cst with six in attendance, a moment of silence and the serenity prayer.
- Introductions
- The minutes were read for the Website agenda item 2026-04-11 006 (Report & Charter and consult Technology & Communications): Review recent changes to Area 41 service

material and documentation posted on www.area41.org without requiring logging into Member Services, and create a policy for what requires logging in vs being publicly available.

- Opened the discussion with Sarah describing the process of transitioning of the website to the current version and the discussions and decisions
 - Originally the newsletter was not password protected.
 - The Tech committee had a workshop discussing what should be put where
 - This along with committee discussion, reviews of the policies and guidelines that were already in place drove the decisions
 - Past webmasters mentioned guidance was hard to get
 - A letter was wrote to the Area committee that led the decision to move the Agenda and newsletter behind a password.
 - This was reported in the Sept. 2027 newsletter
 - Comments on this item included:
 - Having the newsletter password protected might protect false impressions by the public
 - Newsletters should be password protected
 - Anonymity scrubs needs to be better
 - This might not belong in R&C
 - Having our Finances publicly available might not be a good idea
 - R&C does policy and procedure; however, committees have autonomy, so there is overlap.
 - Website has very little empowerment to change reports and newsletters for anonymity
 - The Newsletter Chair has very little editing ability.
 - A nuanced approach might be necessary (pulling parts to protect)
 - The process for pulling names from flyers was asked and answered
 - AI scrapping is a real issue.
 - Having it codified by area vote is important
 - An important question is what is the right amount of access?
 - It is looking like the requirement for providing addresses might be changing at the GSO level for Registrars.
- Zach will reach out to the Archivist and share access to the Google Drive for this agenda item.
- The meeting closed at 1140 CST.

Report and Charter meeting minutes 20th September 2026

There were problems with Zoom, and had to use an alternate account.

The meeting opened a little late at 2:40pm with three in attendance and the Responsibility Statement.

Reports:

- The R&C Secretary reports for the last two meetings were read and approved.

- The Registrar reported that there was a new DCM for District 4, but some details need confirmed, a groups information was fixed, and the cleanup project continues.
- No Newsletter report.

Some quality control issues reported by the webmaster were discussed relating to the newsletter, specifically the Spanish version. This will be discussed in greater detail in the next meeting.

Next discussed was the display for the upcoming assembly.

- Requirements were discussed.
- A trifold display and supplies will be purchased by Zach.
- Mark volunteered to print a larger map (11x14).
- The covers of the Handbook and Past Actions will be printed by Mark. Along with this, a description of what they are and where to find them will be included.
- The scope will be listed.
- All items will be in English and Spanish.
- We will meet Friday night prior to the assembly to put the display together.

Agenda Item 2026-05-22 004 (Report & Charter): Allow for the option to vote electronically with virtual platforms during all area voting. Background: Promotes accurate counting and autonomous voting. It also would help expedite the counting process was discussed next.

- Mark reported back on testing electronic voting options.
- The Third Legacy voting site was the best of what he looked at.
- The commercially offered options would probably cost money for Area 41 to use.
- Zach reported back on his conversation with A/V, and he felt bandwidth would not be an issue.

The chair updated the committee on the new items assigned.

Finally, the past actions were discussed.

- The Take No Action/Failed items still need approved.
- April and July still need approved.
- What to look at and how to find the in the newsletters was reviewed.

The next meeting will be at Area. Meeting closed at 3:40pm.