

VOTING ISSUE

Spring 2019 Virginia Area Assembly May 4, 2019

Establishment of Area Alternate Secretary and Area Alternate Treasurer positions

MOTION:

That the Virginia Area Assembly establish separate Area Alternate Secretary and Area Alternate Treasurer positions to replace the current Area Alternate Secretary/Treasurer position. The Area Alternate Treasurer will assume Convention Treasurer responsibilities after the August 2019 Virginia Area Convention.

Background: Currently the VA Area Assembly has the duties of the Alternate Secretary and Alternate Treasurer combined in one position and one member has been elected to hold this position. Changing financial needs within the Area have been discussed first among the Area Officers and then at the March 2, 2019, VAWSC meeting. The consensus was that this motion of October 24th, 2015 to combine the Alternate Secretary and Alternate treasurer positions into one position be reexamined in light of our Area's increasing financial reporting requirements.

Questions:

1. What do we know about the Fellowship's needs, wants or preferences that is relevant to this topic?
 - The Area's financial reporting requirements have increased due to the changed status of being a Virginia registered non-profit corporation.
 - The Area now must file monthly sales tax data due to the sale of Convention merchandise by the Convention Committee and file annual nonprofit tax returns to Virginia and to the Federal government.
 - The Area Treasurer is a signee on the Convention bank account and receives regular updates from the current Convention Treasurer.

2. What do we know about the ability of the Area to support this change?
 - We have officers who are willing and able to offer training and support to a new officer.
 - We have sufficient funds to carry the expense of another officer position.

3. What do we know about current and future items or trends that is relevant to this discussion?
 - Our finances have become more complicated and require more work by the Area Treasurer because of our status as a Virginia registered nonprofit corporation.
 - It is likely that this trend will only increase with time.
 - Integrating the finances of all Area activities requires an Area Alternate Treasurer able to step in to do the work of the Area Treasurer from time to time in the event the Area Treasurer were to become unavailable or unable to perform his or her duties.

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4. What are the implications of our choices?

Pros:

- An additional financial officer will improve continuity of service if the current one is unavailable.
- It will be a chance to train a member to hold a future Treasurer job.
- It will further integrate Convention finances with Area financial reporting.
- It will lighten the responsibilities of the next Convention Coordinator by having a Convention Treasurer already in place.

Cons:

- There will be an additional cost to the Area for another officer's expenses.
- A member with a specific skill set and the willingness to serve will need to be identified.

5. What do we wish we knew, but don't?

- Are there Assembly members willing and able to stand for election and assume the duties of the Area Alternate Treasurer?
- How much more will this new Area Alternate Treasurer position cost?

VAWSC RECOMMENDATION:

The VAWSC recommends that the Assembly approve this motion.