

One possibility

Motion:

The Princeville/Hanalei Group of District 6 moves that Hawaii Area 17 use Internet Based Video Conferencing Technology. The first step of this proposal is to hold at least one Area Committee Meeting in order to explore the process. Area 17 as a whole would be responsible to provide infrastructure to host the meeting and equipment to allow the chair to participate. Each district, or group of districts by island, would be responsible for equipment and space to allow the representatives from their district or island, including standing committee chairs residing there, to participate.

Problem:

Currently the Area meets as a body for Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings several times a year by flying to whichever island has been chosen to host that event. This has led to a situation in which the single largest item in any budget at the Area level is airfare. In addition, the cost to individual groups to send their GSRs to Area Assemblies can be prohibitive forcing them to send their representative only to events on their own island or forgo participation completely at the Area level.

Proposal:

Internet based Video Conferencing technology has advanced far enough that online group meetings are commonplace. We propose that each island or district, as determined locally, provide a location with amenities such as are currently provided (coffee, meals, snacks, etc.) at the district or island level, as well as the technology necessary to connect to the meeting. This would include, but not be limited to a high-speed internet connection capable of carrying video and a computer equipped with a web camera and microphone. It is not the intention of this proposal to determine how this equipment is provided, that should be determined by each district. It is expected that initially this equipment would belong to a member residing locally rather than purchased.

Conclusion:

While it seems obvious that "one alcoholic talking to another" is the best means of maintaining unity and carrying our message, it is clear that it isn't the only way. Our founders wrote a book for those they could not meet face-to-face. They also wrote pamphlets and spoke on the phone with those in distant lands. This request for technological change is not a plan on remaining quite insular and disconnected from A.A. as a whole, it is a different method in bringing ourselves closer together.