KBDM: Task Force Quorum Determination for AFG Ohio, Inc. Bylaws

Charge: To change the current definition of a quorum in the AFG Ohio, Inc. Bylaws to apply to current and future needs

Framing: Our Ohio Bylaws stipulate a quorum requirement of 50 Group representatives being present to make changes in the Bylaws, page 8

Article IX -B. Proposed amendments will also require the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at the Assembly at which the proposals are presented and at which a quorum of fifty (50) Group Representatives is present. *(motion 1992/10 - # 10)* ~~*(motion 2025/10 - # 3 which lists the Handbook Motion p5 Handbook, Section 111, Article A #3)*~~

Commented [tm1]: Not sure why Motion 2025/10-#3 ever needed to be done since Bylaws Section A-Policy #3 states

In all proceedings, the latest edition of the Al-Anon / Alateen Service Manual will be followed except for deviations found in the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures For Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.

Background information: During the COVID pandemic of 2020, attendeance at the Ohio Area decreased and motions were unable to be voted upon because we were unable to reach the quorum of 50 GR's needed.

Using Bylaws Article III, Section A-Policy #3, page 2 *(In all proceedings, the latest edition of the Al-Anon / Alateen Service Manual will be followed except for deviations found in the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures For Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.*)
the October 2021 Fall Assembly passed a 5 year trial to end in October 2026

Page 5 Handbook, Section III – Amendment Procedures, Article A #3
On a five (5) year trial basis, a quorum shall be the number of voting members registered and present at the beginning of each Area Assembly meeting. Effective Immediately. *(motion 2021/10 - # 3)*

What do we know about our member's or prospective member's wants, needs, and preferences that are relevant to this discussion?

We believe our members want to be able to participate in both discussion and vote, and that those who do attend want to participate fully.

What do we know about the capacity and strategic position of the organization relative to this issue?

Conference Procedures at the WSC:

e. A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the members registered at the Conference. (online Service Manual, page 232.)

In seeking ESH from other Areas, quorum requirements varied greatly:

- There were Areas with no quorum requirement.
- Others defined quorum as "a majority of members", " one quarter of the registered meetings", "10% of the registered groups", and "2/3 of the voting members present at the beginning of each meeting".

What do we know about the current realities and evolving dynamics that are relevant to this discussion?

While we are hopeful that Assembly participation will again grow to the level in the early 2000's (60-75), we cannot at this time predict there will be at least 50 GR's present at Assembly. Without being able to make Bylaws changes, we are unable to move forward with changes to keep our Area current.

What are the ethical implications of our choices (pro and cons)? This includes consideration of how the Legacies apply. Identify both pros and cons:

If we do nothing, the trial expires, and we return to the 50 GR requirement. This puts constraints on our organization moving forward.
We could extend the trial, again hoping for increased participation. This does not rectify of Bylaws requirement of 50 GR's, which still stands.
We could adopt the current Handbook motion as a permanent Bylaws motion.
We could, if 50 GR's are present, or under the Handbook trial, amend the Bylaws to a quorum definition that more closely matches our reality. Keeping in mind that Ohio currently has roughly 300 registered groups.

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

We wish we could predict future attendance at Assembly meetings.
We wish we knew how to increase participation at Assemblies.

Need for a motion:
Remove as sytle and edit ***"will require Substantial Unanimity Vote"*** *from heading if Bylaws motion below passes*

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

For Bylaws
Delete on page 8 of Bylaws Section IX B and replace with:
Proposed ammendments will require the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the number of voting members present at the start of the each Assembly day at which the poposals are presented**.**

For Handbook
Delete on page 5 B #1 and replace with
B. Bylaws Amendments
1.Proposed ammendments will require the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the number of voting members present at the start of the Assembly at which the poposals are presented**.**