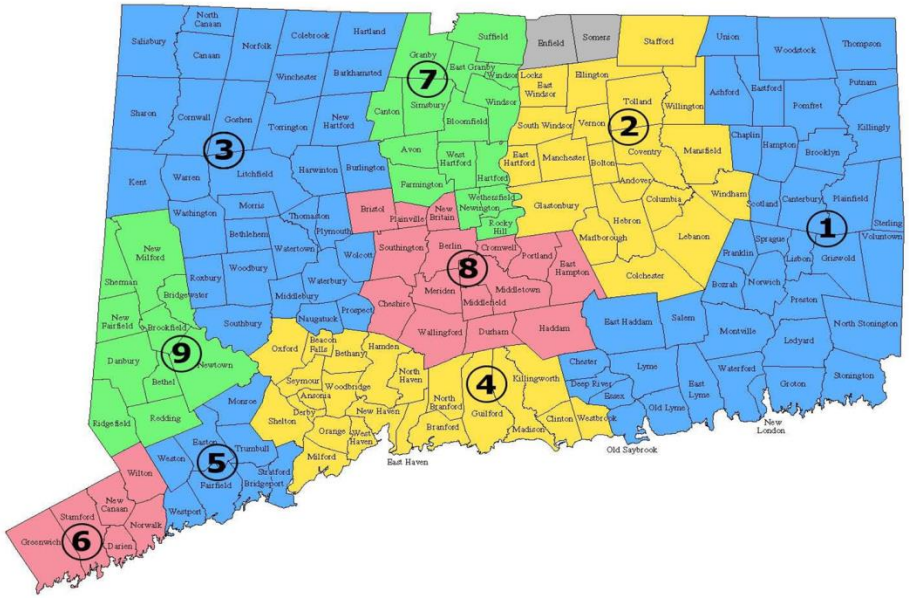
Area 11 Redistricting Ad-Hoc Committee



AREA 11 Redistricting Ad-Hoc Committee

March 8th 2017 a motion was made and passed to create a redistricting ad-hoc committee.

"to create a redistricting ad-hoc committee with a representative from each district interested in redistricting in Area 11"

The purpose of this committee is to gather information and provide a report of its findings

We had representations from (1, 2, 4, 7, 8, and 9 (9 via phone and face to face updates with Carl our ex-officio-9-rep never came to meeting)

Main Objective

Review and evaluate options for the Area 11 districts that are interested in re-districting, including but not limited to.

- **Splitting into two or more districts**
- **Remaining intact districts, but creating one or new sub-districts**
- **Redrawing one or more existing sub-district boundaries within current district**
- **Redrawing one or more districts boundaries in cooperation with other districts**
- **A combination of the above**
- **Other configurations not yet mentioned**
- **Taking no action**

In Support of this Objective

- Consult the AA Service Manual as a resource
- Cooperate with any Ad-Hoc committee that may be or have been created by any of the districts
- Consult with trusted servants outside Area 11 who have experience with re-districting if and as needed
- Review current Area 11 guidelines and recommend any changes that may need to be made to accommodate or support the districts' decision
- Carry out its duties by if not before January 10, 2018 Area 11 General Service Committee Meeting
- Present its final report to the Area 11 body at the 2018 Spring Assembly

- We reviewed guidelines
- Other than District 7 there were no other active ad-hoc or committees at district level to consult with regarding this matter.
- Polled all the NorthEast region panel 66 and 67 delegates
- Reviewed service manual
- Attend NERAASA panel on redistricting, spoke with delegates and members of areas that had redistricted

Additional Responsibilities

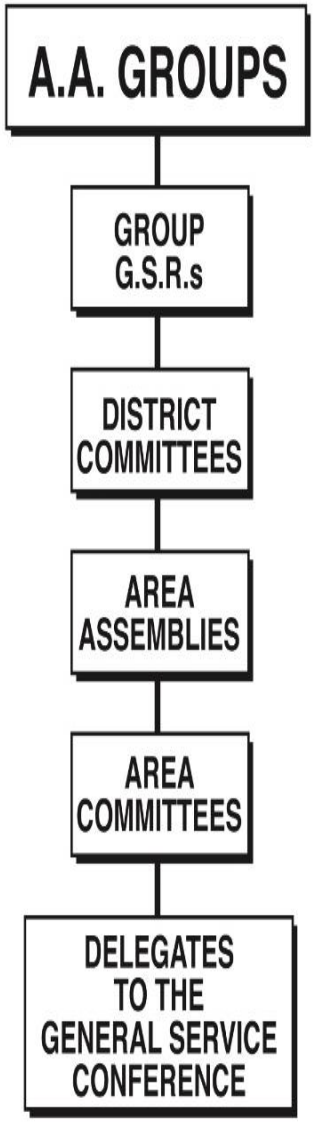
- Elect a chair and secretary and consider a budget if deemed necessary
  - (Chair is Deanna B, Chair District 8)
- Submit receipts for the expenses incurred to the Area 11 Treasurer for reimbursement
  - (minimal mileage expenses)
- Provide monthly reports at Area 11 General Service Committee meetings and at the Fall Assembly on November 12, 2017

Area Structure

Area 11 Service structure consists of:

- 1457 GSRs
- 90 DCM's of which *30 are alternate DCM's*
- 1 Recording Secretary
- 1 Registrar
- 1 Treasurer
- 1 Alternate Treasure
- 1 Area Chair
- 1 Alternate Delegate
- 1 Delegate

- 1 Immediate Past Delegate
- 8 living Past Delegates (non voting)



GSR " May be the most important job in AA" "by choosing its most qualified man or women as G.S.R., a group helps secure its own future-and the future of A.A. as a whole"

(AA.org, G.S.R. General Service Representative)

"The DCM is the essential link between the group General Service Representative (GSR) and the area Delegate".

(AA.org, the District Committee Member)

The Delegate is voting member of conference, bringing experience and viewpoints from their area. They take that experience and viewpoint and after hearing all points of view vote what is best for AA as a whole .

(AA Service Manual)

Area 11 Current Service Structure

- Area 11 is broken down into districts (10)
- Each District can send up to 6 D.C.M.s (or alternate D.C.M.s) to be active VOTING members of the Area 11 Service Committee.
- Each district is autonomous and can organize themselves as their group consciences wishes.
- Each district currently has :
  - Chair Person (D-9 has DCMC), Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Committee Chair people, event representatives.
  - Three Sub-Districts
  - Each Sub-District has 2 D.C.M's elected in alternate years for two year term
  - One Alternate D.C.M. per Sub-District serving a one/two year(s) term, the Alternate D.C.M votes only in the absence of the D.C.M.

Definitions

Redistricting

Divide (an area) into new districts

Basically, changing boundaries or borders

Restructuring

Reorganizing to achieve greater efficiency, within its boundaries or borders

Merriam -Webster Dictionary , US Government

Definition of Group and Meeting

"Is There a Difference Between a Meeting and a Group?

Group

Most A.A. members meet in A.A. groups as defined by the long form of our Third Tradition.

The main difference between meetings and groups is that A.A. groups generally continue to exist outside the prescribed meeting hours, ready to provide Twelfth Step help when needed.

A.A. groups are encouraged to register with G.S.O., as well as with their local offices: area, district, intergroup or central office.

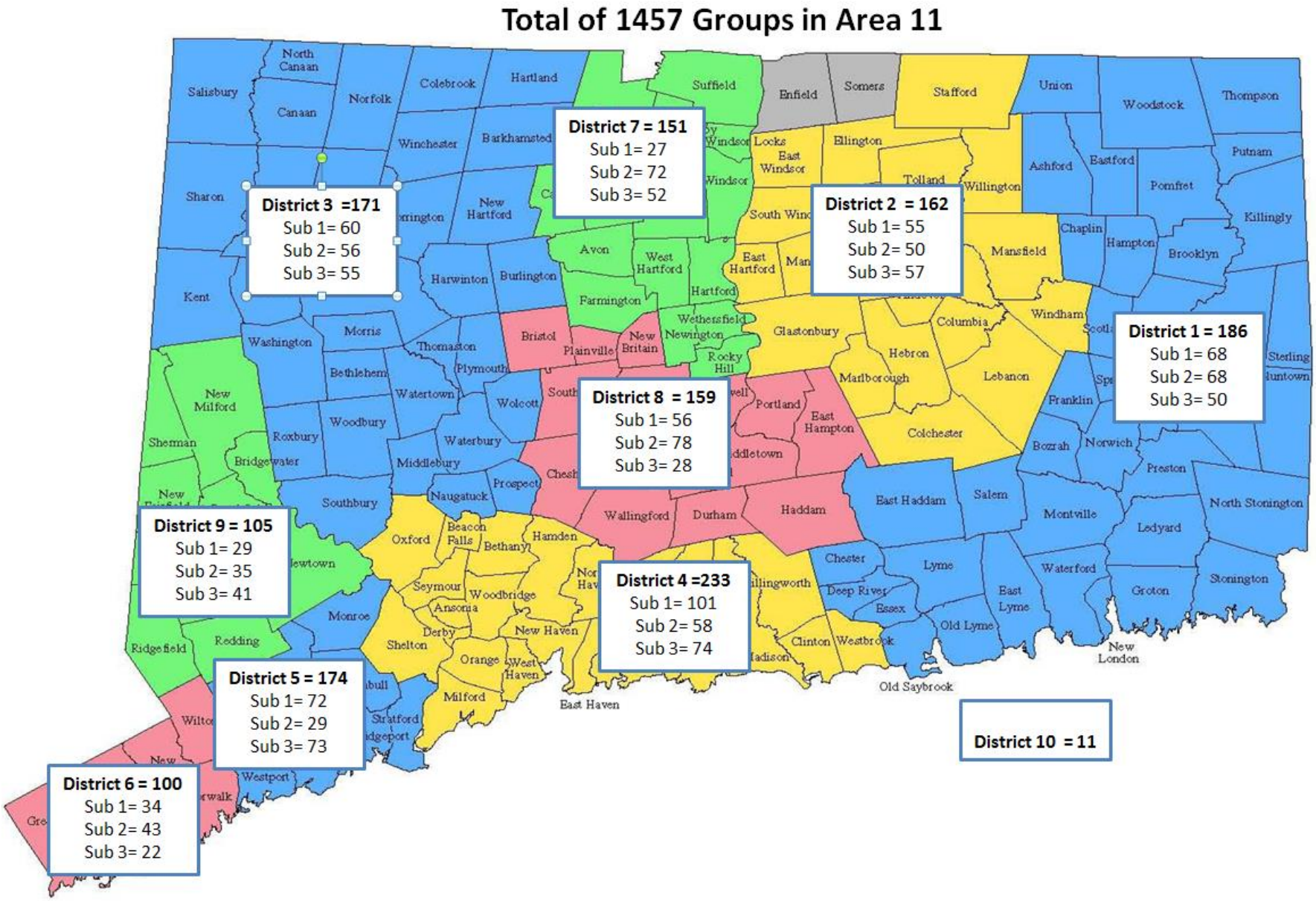
Meeting

However, some A.A. members hold A.A. meetings that differ from the common understanding of a group. These members simply gather at a set time and place for a meeting, perhaps for convenience or other special situations.

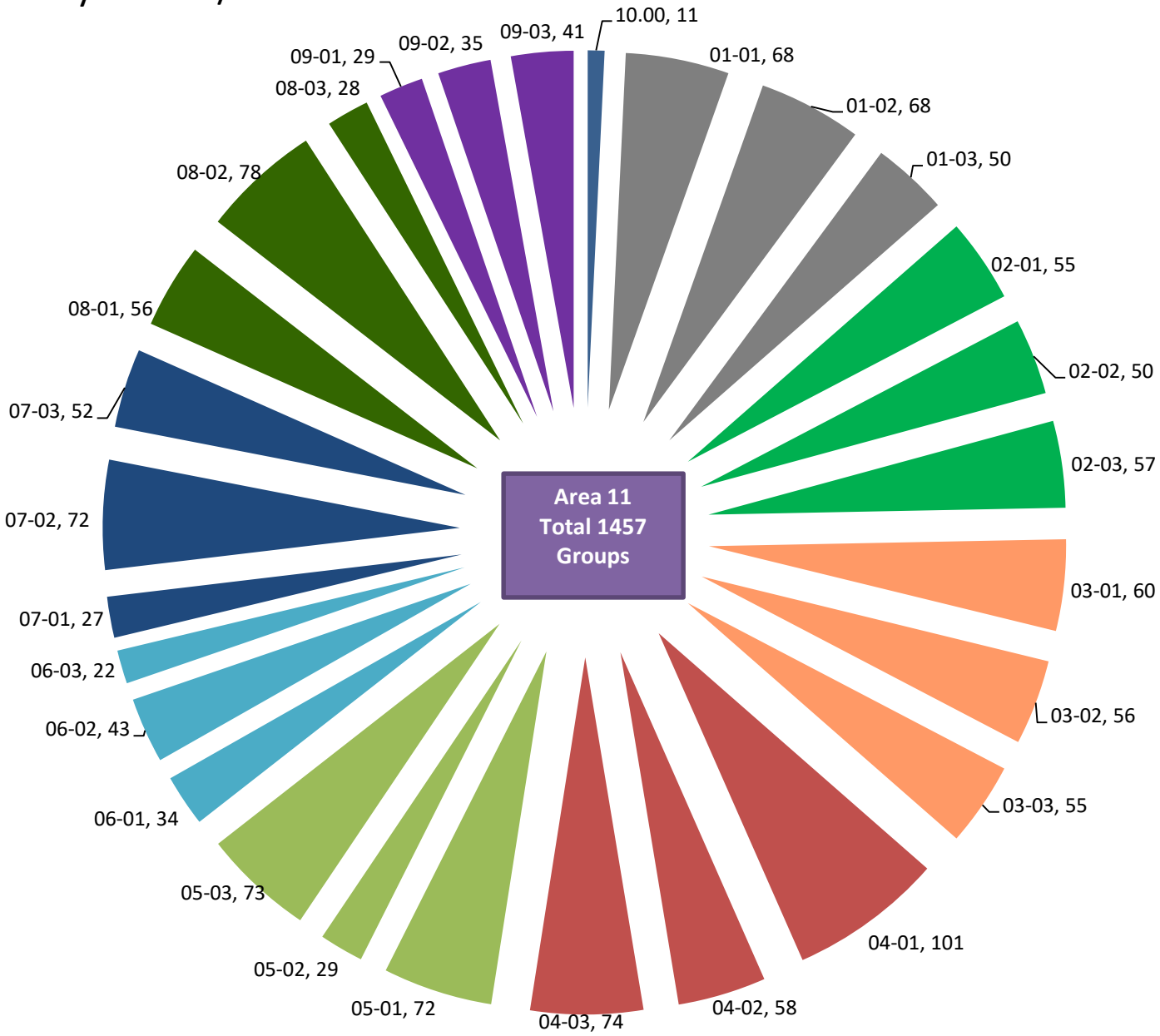
A.A. meetings can be listed in local meeting lists."

The A.A. Group....Where It All Begins" on pages 12-13

Area Groups Map by District



Area 11 by District/Sub-district



Redistricting Questions and Answers to Panel 66 and 67 NERD

Q: Are we looking to redistrict to have smaller districts and closer relations with our GSR's to help create more interest in service?

A: *Some districts/areas found this to be a positive while others districts have lost interest. Some areas are now redistricting again to create bigger districts.*

Q: Are we looking to redistrict to fill unfilled service positions.

A: *Redistricting that creates more district(s)-More districts would result in creation of more Service Positions: Chair Person, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Service chair and DCMs. Some districts were merged due to small group participation, eliminating some service positions.*

Redistricting Questions and Answers

Q: Have other areas redistricted?

A: *Yes*

Q: How is their service structures supported Intergroup/ no intergroup?

A: *Those that have redistricted are supported by intergroup, some supported by several intergroup within their area with intergroup doing the majority of the service committees work.*

Q: Did an individual district redistrict or did they redistrict as an area?

A: *Some Area's are so rural that some individual districts did redistrict, they actually merged with other districts because of lack of participation and financial issues, making larger districts. DC and Maryland areas redistricted (and told districts what new districts would be).*

Q: How did redistricting effect their area?

A: *Redistricting has made one Area more efficient, others have several dark districts with no participation, others grew districts, others have redistricted again to create larger districts*

Survey Monkey

(was sent to all district chairs asked to share with their districts)

Q1

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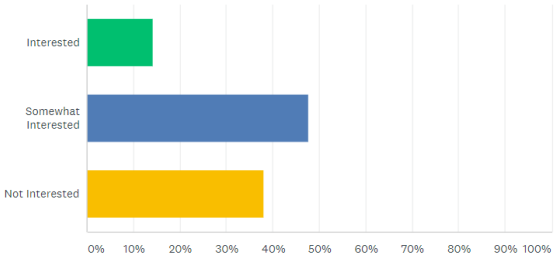
What is the position, as a district on the subject of redistricting/reorganizing i.e. are you looking at changing your district?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES

Q2

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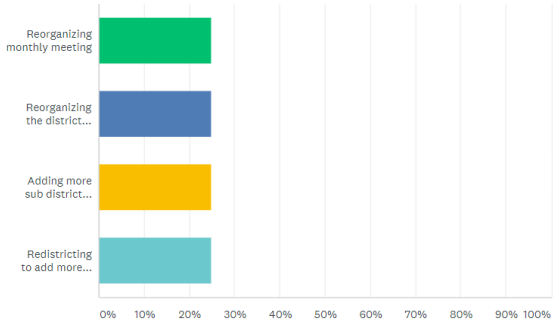
If interested in redistricting, what types of changes are you looking to make?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 9



Q4

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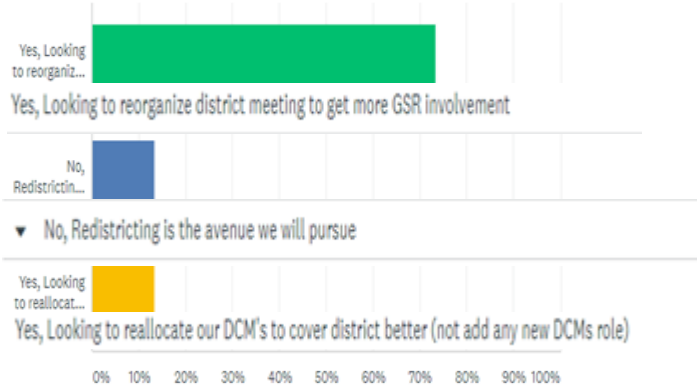
If you are looking at redistricting are you also looking at other options?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 6



Q5

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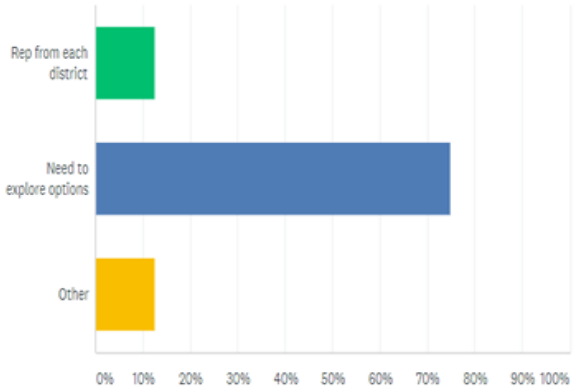
If redistricting- how will service committees be supported by new districts?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 5



Survey Results

Q7

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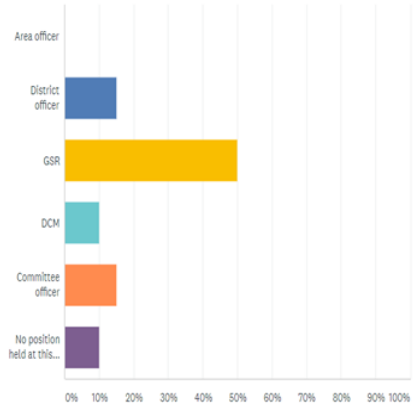
Do you hold a group, district or area office, if so which one?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 1



Q8

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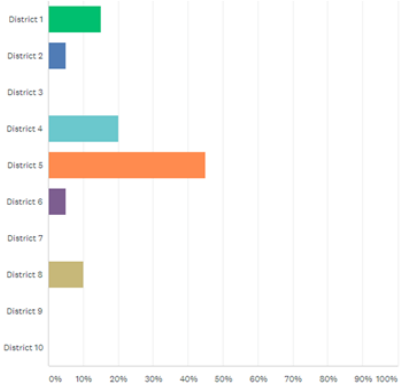
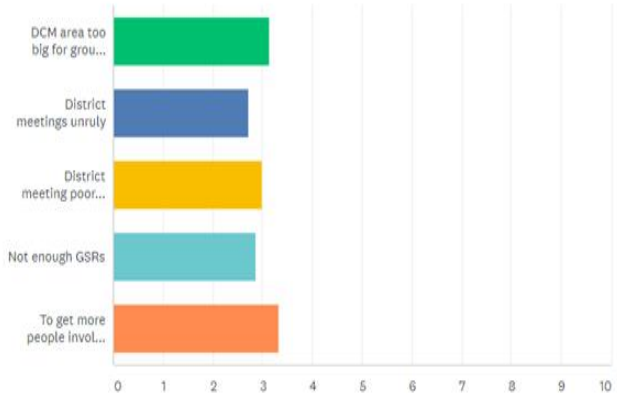
What District are you from?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 1



What are the main reasons for redistricting/reorganizing? (1 =highest interest-5 = lowest interest)

Answered: 16 Skipped: 5



Survey Results, cont.

Too many open positions no one volunteer to participate

My district can't fill all the positions now, years ago more people where doing more district positions

Most people don't have a clue

DCMs should use email and text to communicate-Delegate should stop going to district meetings

Maybe DCMs should use tools like email to keep groups informed. No need to go to every meeting

District 4 needs to be smaller. We could serve more people if smaller or split.

How will districts convey re-districting to the body of Area 11

Area and district need to use email to communicate

We have made NO decisions in our district, just had into info session

We need more representation-breaking down into further groups will help. The area we support is too large for the amount of people involved in the current state.

We have made NO decisions in our district, just had into info session

Area 11 History for Redistricting

How a District Could Redistrict

- District has motion made to form ad hoc redistricting committee
- Motion is passed by district (next steps)
- If not passed no further action required

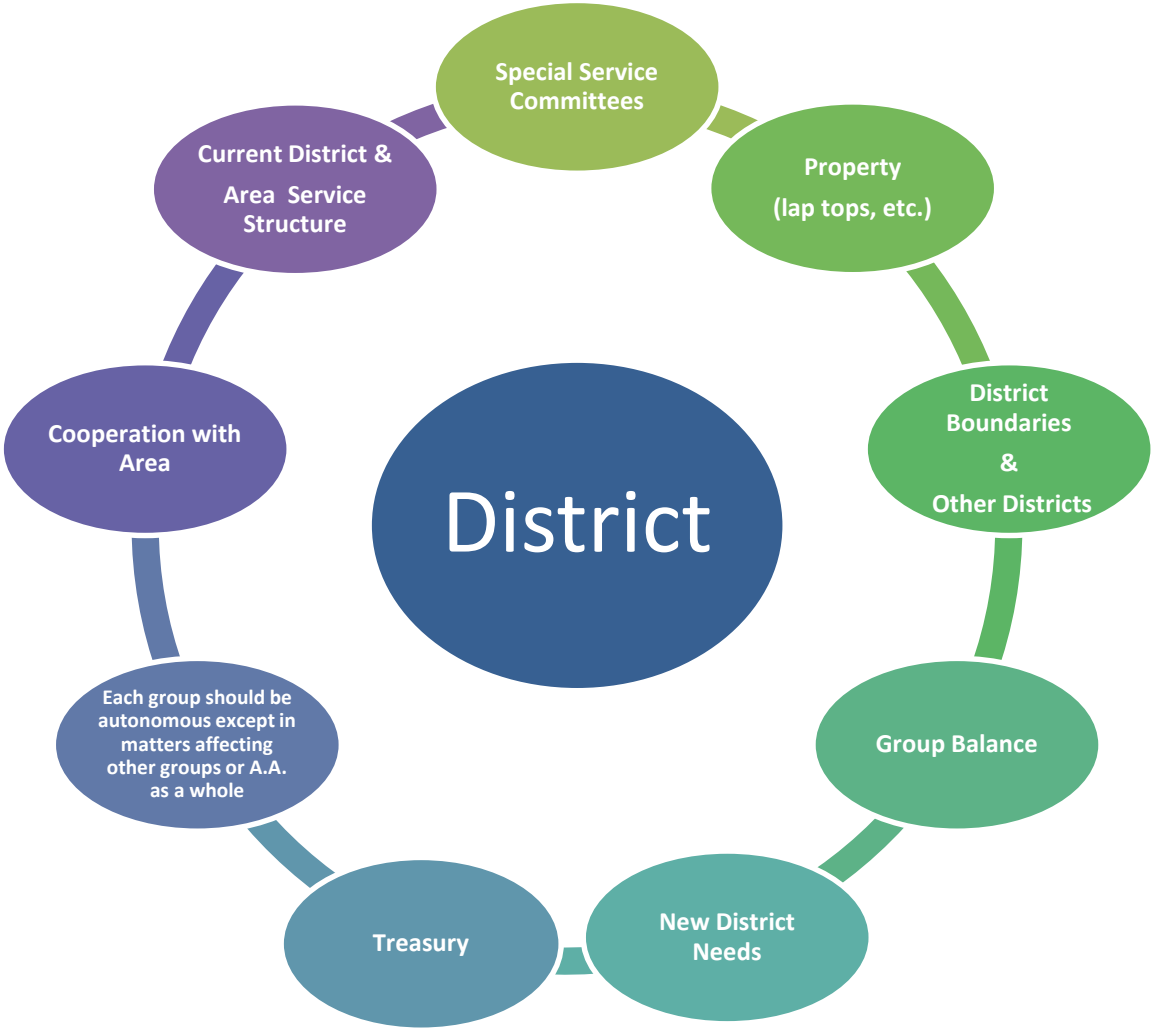
- District ad hoc committee does the district's diligence work
- Presents to district their findings

- District accepts committees final report
- District decides if any ad hoc committee recommendations will be made into motions.

(if necessary)

- District committee works on redistricting to best meet the needs of their district(s)
- Informs area of new district(s)
- Requests changes in schedule book, area 11 service book, etc.

Suggested Items to Consider When Redistricting



Questions to Consider

Q: What are we doing now to attract people to service?

Q: Are we taking the time to have new people introduce themselves and us to them?

Q: It the room comfortable at all levels of service, including assemblies?

Q: Are we going to the mic several times even after someone else made point just to emphasis our opinion?

Q: Are we being inclusive in all our dealings at all service levels?

Q: Are we electing GSRs, DCMs, Committee Chairs, District and Area officers that are qualified and able to serve?

Q: Have we considered adding breakout sessions to our current district meetings?

Ad Hoc Committee Findings

Redistricting ad hoc committee be created at area service committee, if a district votes to redistrict

Create standing or ad hoc committee at Area 11 service committee, consisting of a representative from each service committee, one DCM from each district in Area 11, and an ex-officio. Chair should set meeting agendas, be main liaison between area -district, attend district redistricting committee meetings, attend district committee meetings (when possible), not currently holding area or district vote. To provided “good communication and cooperation among groups, district and area is important when redistricting or other changes in district structure are undertaken” (aa service manual, pg s34)

- Duties of this committee:
  - Liaison from area to district
  - Provide support to redistricting district
  - Offer feedback of how redistricting may affect each service committee, area and other districts
  - Provide information for each service committee and area in order to best support new district(s), keeping in mind the current districts.
  - Informs new district (s) or district redistricting committee what the area and service committee are able/not able to support.
  - DCMs on committee, should inform their districts of any needs new district might have and how their district could be affected or supportive.