

Telephone Meeting Conference Call Committee Report June 2016

The committee continues to hold the Wednesday night meeting that begins at 9:00 PM ET. This is the only BOT approved telephone meeting that is eligible for listing on the ISO and Trustee websites. A number of other telephone meetings that do not conform to the BOT Guidelines, and that have refused to conform, are now putting their phone numbers on flyers and social media, inferring that these other meetings are on par with the BOT approved meeting platform. This isn't a violation, but it is a bit disingenuous.

The Wednesday meeting has taken great steps to protect the anonymity of others on the call. One of the more sensitive areas is connecting members with those who request to have support between telephone meetings. It should be said that a great percentage of the member 50+ roster each week, do not have easy access to physical meetings. We had a situation of a chronic 'relapser' who contacted a specific member and created a situation that was uncomfortable for the other person. The committee was made aware of this situation. That person will no longer be able to request access to other members. Our primary concern is to maintain a safe environment for all callers and issues of harassment are not tolerated. If that same person persists with this behavior, then that person will be prevented from speaking.

The question keeps arising about when the committee is going to start another meeting. That is not up to the committee. It will be up to a group of 5 qualified GA members who wish to do that. The members will be trained and supervised in the deployment of another meeting. However, no one has stepped forward to get that ball rolling. We expect that the move to the ISO website of all things related to the Telephone Meeting Conference Call platform, will enhance awareness of more people who may choose to start another meeting. There are currently 167 open slots for additional meetings.

The committee is still trying to review other platforms with better service and functionality. There are numerous free platforms that can be used. This feature is how the companies operate and are offered to every user account on a free basis.

Respectfully submitted,
Telephone Meeting Conference Call Committee