

Zone Alignment Committee Survey Packet for the District's Input- July 2020

The District 5 Zone Alignment Committee wants your input on some ways to better align our zones and offer support to our lodges! Please review the survey packet and return the response form by September 1. Please share this with ALL your lodge members as everyone's input is welcome!

The Zone Alignment committee has met many times the past year to discuss possible ways to propose changes to our zones. We began this process two years ago in committee discussion. In February 2020 we sent out a survey to all District 5 lodge officers via the FFFN. We used the results in our discussion preparing for the spring District 5 Board Meeting and discussion during the meeting. The direction given during the meeting was to proceed with developing some options, getting feedback, and then move forward with some concrete ways to more evenly divide our District.

We did another survey in May and received more feedback. We used that feedback, along with the discussion in March and April, and came up with various proposals that have been discussed by the committee and board during conference calls, and then changed, modified, or eliminated!

We have four options for you to review and the fifth option is to do nothing. If adding another zone or an additional director to one zone if the preferred route, that leads to an expense to the District of additional board members for two board meetings, convention expenses, and other expenses zone directors incur. We have asked District Treasurer Mike Palecek for a financial impact for adding additional directors- it is estimated at \$2,900 per board member for a biennium.

We would like to invite the District to review four options plus the “don't do anything option” which we have narrowed down through many calls, emails, survey results, and discussion. We also have explored how to proceed and based on the recent referendum passed by the 2018 International Lodge to allow Districts conduct business via electronic communications, that we can make these changes without reconvening the delegate body in-person.

Any change would take effect at the District Lodge Meeting in June 2022 – on that Saturday when the delegates go to caucus. The delegates would be going to the new zones as they elect board members, alternates and delegates/alternates to the International Lodge meeting.

Our proposed timeline:

1. July- September 1- get feedback from lodge members, officers, and board
2. September- Committee meets to finalize a proposal for a district bylaw change
3. October Board Meeting- Board reviews the proposal and moves a motion to send it to the 2018 delegates (District Lodge) for action
4. November 1- send the proposed bylaw change to the delegates to vote
5. By December 31, 2020 complete the voting process on the bylaw change

We want to complete this process by early 2021 as the new nominating committee has to be elected at the spring board meeting (April 2021) of the year preceding the convention. The committee needs to know what the district and zones looks like to start their work.