

## **Executive Group**

### **Policy Comments**

In this week's meeting, a suggestion was made that members arrange for someone else from their company to attend meetings whenever the principal member is unavailable. This suggestion was discussed briefly and generally viewed favorably by the members present.

I have looked at our Bylaws and found the following statement:

## **Article 5 – Membership**

- 1) Membership is open to individuals only, not to businesses or corporations.

I think this raises some question about what the policy should be and invite comment on the question from the membership.

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### **Feedback**

- Clearly that would not allow for another person to attend. However, it would be up to the board to add an amendment allowing another person to attend or not or informally agree it is ok or not.
- I think it is a mistake to have such a strict rule. It will limit the potential for more referrals coming from the other team members in our companies. It is after all a company which is presented there. I think we should leave some flexibility for owners such as Sharon and myself.
- As thought I would share what I told you with everyone. I said that I didn't mind someone bringing someone who was a real asset to their company to a meeting but I am against sending someone in their place. However, some have already done it.
- I would keep it as it is. This change in policy could encourage absence and hurt the group's ability to generate quality referrals. I always like to hear feedback from the group as this is your group. However, this idea could really hurt the chemistry of what makes our group excellent.
- If I had known that businesses were eligible, I would have been sending someone in my place for years. Seriously, I don't mind someone bringing a person who is a real asset with their company with them but I do not favor sending them alone to represent the company.
- I do not think it necessary to have another company member attend a meeting nor have another member help give a presentation. We refer or give introductions to a member because we have acquired a relationship with that person and not because they work for a particular company.
- As a group we have been able to support and grow because of the relationships we have built. We have become each other's marketing team, it only works through

relationships. If we dilute that idea, we will dilute the outcome. I feel we should keep the rules at it is.

- My vote is that we should maintain individual memberships. I like to know the individual to whom I am making a referral and build relationships accordingly.
- I think it should be limited to the member. The member can bring another employee from time to time. I think that if you change the rules, then you open it up to someone always sending a person from their office.
- Making a change to requiring a person in as a substitute is a lot like BNI and I think we've wanted to avoid making that impression.
- I want all to know that I feel strongly that I refer to the members of our club because I have come to respect their business acumen. To do otherwise would defeat the business networking we are working to establish.
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