

Indiana Area 17 AFG Assembly Minutes November 9, 2024

WELCOME:

Maureen H. opened the Assembly at 10:15 am EST with the Serenity Prayer. Housekeeping: Maureen's work computer is no longer in use so those on zoom will not be able to see those in the room. However, hopefully at some point we will have Area devices so that we will be able to see the speaker as well as those in the room, though a timeline on that is not yet established. Then, Roberta H. read the 12 Concepts of Service and the General Warranties of the Conference. Janice was thanked for providing GR orientation.

FORUM DRAWING:

Connie H. spoke about the forum drawing wherein a GR who's in attendance for the first time can win a subscription to the Forum. Jenni from District 7 won.

SECRETARY REPORT:

Emma S. (D7) is our new secretary, but Brenda K. (D1) did the minutes in July so she did the report. Maureen emailed the minutes on Thursday. Christie (D2) corrected the Group Records section in the minutes from "DR" to "GR. Peggy N. (D7) made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Kathy B. (D8) seconded. The motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT:

Denise S. gave the Treasurer's Report from the last assembly to this assembly (July to November).

Income \$12,457.04

Expenses \$6,927.10

Net Income \$5,529.94

Balance Sheet \$51,719.66

Peggy N. (D7) made a motion to approve the report. Krystal K. (D10) seconded. Motion passed.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE/CHAIR REPORT:

Patti M. gave the Alternate Delegate Report. She reminded us that the Area Assembly dates for 2025 are March 1, July 12, and November 15. AFG Convention will be May 16–18 at the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie.

DELEGATE REPORT:

Brenda K. (D1) gave the Delegate Report. The World Service Conference was held April 18–21, 2024 in Virginia Beach. What a blast! Jerry was the Chairman of the Board for the WSC, and is, despite it all, a real human being. The 2025 AA International Convention will be held July 3–6 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Registration opens September 2024 and is \$160. Approximately 60,000 will attend. The 2028 International Convention will be selecting a city

soon (April), and will be held in June or July of 2028. Budget for the WSO is finally in the black, rather than the red! They gave back to their savings account!

100% of groups are using services, while only 61% of groups donate back to WSO. We looked at the financial picture from WSO and what funds go towards when we donate (i.e. Group services, Conferences/Events, Translation, Conference Approved Literature and Magazine Editing, maintaining the app). The quarterly appeal is an appeal that *members* give back to WSO. Each group costs about \$330 to maintain at the WSO level. The annual cost to the Area is \$117. The annual cost to the district is \$92. The annual cost to AIS/LDC is \$150. Looking at these percentages, it may be pertinent to groups to redistribute their donations across the service arms.

A dollar in 1952 was worth \$1.00 and in 2004 it cost \$7.13. In 2024, a dollar cost \$11.58. When you make your donations, be aware of this inflation of the dollar. A dollar donation in 1952 is not worth as much as it used to be.

Stepping Stones is the historical home of Bill and Lois W. Delegates typically go. It's a very emotional experience to go. The cost to visit is about twice as much as the visit to Virginia Beach. Therefore, we suggest that the groups have a discussion about Stepping Stones and learn about how powerful it is.

AFG Connects "In the Loop" is a report from WSO monthly that you can subscribe to. Currently, the service is getting outdated, so they are moving to change the current computer generated storage and moving it forward. This will be a capital expense and cost of maintenance.

Copy and paste this link to be connected to "In the Loop": al-anon.org/emailme .

If you want to get involved in service or want to know more about the serenity that service work can provide, talk to Brenda K. (D1). She encourages everyone to get involved and to bring service back to your groups.

DR REPORTS:

District 1: Darlene D. They have members trying to start a women's al-anon group. They had their district banquet on October 19th. October 20th was their fall potluck. Their Alateens are struggling for membership, so they're trying to come up with outreach methods (i.e. billboards). First Sunday in December will be their last district meeting, which will also be a cookie exchange.

District 2: Laura E. They participated in the AA mini conference on October 5th. They are providing packets to the behavioral health clinic. Alateen has grown from 0 to 3 to 5. Their student only group has grown as well. They are thinking of having a Lois W. party in March around her birthday. They do not yet have a DR, but people have been stepping up to help fill the position in the meantime. They had one meeting close, and a zoom meeting that's looking to go fully in person.

District 3: Barb G. They've been struggling to get Group Reps to continue holding their positions. They are going to participate in an AA conference in April. They have been hosting speaker meeting potlucks, the 5th Saturday of a month, so there are 4 a year. They have 10 Al-anon meetings. They have 6-8 participants at their Alateen meetings, though they need new leadership for their Alateens in the form of AMIASs. The website is slowly being updated with new or fresh meeting information.

District 4: Linda F. They had a workshop on October 19th. They have a new meeting for adult children of alcoholics. Two meetings closed. They ordered a tent for outreach. The Alateens have about 10 members but they do not all come right now because of school and events, so attendance is low.

District 5: No report.

District 6: Tery. The majority of their groups are increasing in membership. The Alateen group has 4-5 members. They went to the Fall Festival in Marion for outreach. They also went to Turning point and gave their information for outreach. They created a brochure with all their meetings in their district. In December they will have a New Year's Eve potluck and speaker.

District 7: Peggy N. They haven't done much of anything. Sherry T. has been elected as Treasurer. The Alateen has been quite small, but still meets every week. They have a group of sponsors that rotate in through the Alateen meetings, key of which is Emily M. They took 3 teens and 3 sponsors to KOMIAC. And one of the teens has aged out and transitioned into Alanon and is now your secretary ;). Farmersburg is having their potluck on November 15th.

District 8: Jennifer B. Save the date April 5th. They will be having a picnic or event for 2025 but have yet to get a group to sponsor that event. Their district meeting participation is low for GRs. The Mini Conference in April is asking for baskets for the silent auction and desserts as well. They had a meeting close since the July Assembly. They have about 13 kids coming to the Alateen meeting at Chappel Rock.

District 9: No report.

District 10: Joyce C. They have an outreach workshop coming up November 16th. They participated in a walk with a table. They added a new group in Whiteland on Monday nights. They've updated all their meeting information online. Their Alateen meeting closed.

District 11: No report.

District 12: Christine W. was with the Alateens. Alateens in Bloomington have no attendance. They are looking to fill the DR position.

District 13: No report.

District 14: Debbie P. They've had a very busy late fall. August 24th they had the district picnic with 70 members present. October 19th their clubhouse had a founding day with a "He said, She said" speaker. October 26th had their mini conference with 3 speakers and 74 members present. February 14-16th they are having a Winter Getaway.

Six Districts do not have DRs. We have so many people in the room who have years and years of experience as DRs who can help you. Please find the willingness in your heart to reach out and take on this service position.

CONVENTION COORDINATOR REPORT:

Tracy H. gave the report. We have online registration! There are flyers in the room and online for the event. The Convention is quickly approaching on May 16th in Muncie. Registering early is very important so the committee knows who all is coming and can meet their obligation. They will not be offering breakfast, but hospitality is working on bringing in breakfast items. The speakers and workshops have been planned. The theme is "Fellowship for 50." Peggy N. confirmed that online registration does in fact work and is very simple.

Please collect magazines (any kind, that you will not get back) to bring with you to the convention for a workshop.

They are looking for an AMIAS or Alateen Sponsor who would be willing to chair/be in the room for the Alateen meetings.

Here's the link to register: <https://indiana-al-anon.org/indiana-afg-convention/>

ALATEEN REPORT:

Makenzie was our only Alateen in attendance during the Alateen Assembly. Christine nominated Vinny to be the Chair. Mackenzie volunteered themselves to be the secretary.

Treasurer sponsor is Candi.

Laura E. and Dan M. are the outreach people for Alateen, and they recommended that a teen work with them to help with outreach.

Shelbyville closed. Bloomington is on pause.

Band app is working. A Chatroom would be useful. But Band is most useful for keeping our age ranges included.

New business: Mackenzie's group is speedway. They looked at a map of Indiana to see where the groups are located and what districts they belong to.

KOMIAC will be in Ohio in July 2025, of which we do not have official dates, although it is usually the last weekend in July. In July 2026, KOMIAC will be in Indiana.

We would like to point out that AMIAS and sponsors can attend even without any teens to bring. But still, do try to bring your teens as well. As long as they are 12 they can come to KOMIAC.

Richmond Alateen is unsure if they have booted up their meeting.

The 2025 Convention is looking for an Alateen sponsor to chair/be in the room for meetings for Alateen during the convention.

OLD BUSINESS:

2024 Convention Report: Lynda. We had \$7,944.29. Then we removed the seed money of \$1,500, and after that we made \$6,442.9. Over 250 People in attendance. We will not be returning to that site due to the sound system being bad.

District Boundary Thought Force: Beth A. There are many disparities between the districts and 6 of those do not have DRs. The proposition is to maybe change the boundaries of the districts in order to make the districts more balanced. There will be more on this later.

Technology Thought Force: They focused on what benefits come with getting more technology for the Area (i.e. better microphone use, loaner tablet, methods to collect donations, platform coordinator/host outside the chair). They also focused on the benefits of Zoom (i.e. if someone is ill or handicapped they can attend, more efficient time wise, if someone has other plans like camping etc. they can still attend, easier to get service positions filled).

NEW BUSINESS:

Policy Committee:

Convention Chair: Mari Lee, Only change was “insured” to “required.”

Convention Summary Report: Mari Lee, Made a place for the year. Pre-deadline Registrations are \$35 and After Deadline Registrations are \$45. They listed all committee expenses. They listed all positions that are listed in the convention guidelines, as well as speaker expenses and hotel expenses. Then, everything will total so that we’ll see total income, total expenses, and total profit. On line 26, “mileage” is misspelled without the “e.” The excel sheet should total all these things automatically, but if it doesn’t it will be updated before it goes out.

Technology Coordinator: Mari Lee, Term would be three years, beginning Jan. 1. Needs 3 consecutive years in AI-anon and cannot be an AA member. Appointed by the Area Chairperson. Must have a working knowledge of computers, the internet, email, Windows, scanning, access to high speed internet, and AV equipment. Responsible for: leading tech related work, Stay up to date on existing technology, maintain a schedule of all Area Virtual meeting account usage of any of the area accounts, develops and maintains a user guide, conducts in person and online workshops to educate members, attends AWSC and Area Assembly and Orientation, submits receipts, ensures that all hybrid meeting equipment is working and available. Organizes substitutes for their absences. The hope is to fill this position once the Technology Committee Task Force completes their work, which has not yet begun.

Policy Committee made the motion to accept all three documents, Peggy N. (D7) seconded. The motion passed.

2025 Budget Proposal: Denise. She raised contributions, interest income. She forgot about WSO speaker expenses in the last budget report so that was added. The Public Outreach

budget was increased. New technology needs (besides zoom aka virtual platform) are not reflected in the budget. We've estimated that we'll end in the red, but from past experience it's better to underestimate income and overestimate expenses. If you go over the expenditures by \$50 we have to get Area approval, so we overestimate costs. Archivist-Storage facility that stores all the archives is \$2,300 allocated for it, this includes things like posters, past KOMIAC t-shirts, programs and tapes, etc, that can't be put in the cloud. Insurance is for liability for and a bond policy for the treasurer and all signers for Convention accounts. In the past, we exceeded our budget income, and we'll land about what was budgeted for expenses. Joyce C. made a motion to approve the 2025 budget. Mari Lee W. (D8) seconded. Motion passed.

Motions to present to Area Assembly from AWSC:

Delegate Assessment: Covers the cost for each Area Delegate to attend the World Service Conference. The full cost to send a delegate is \$3617.71. However, the equalized expense is \$2,532 per delegate. That's a difference of about \$1026. We moved to bring to the assembly the idea that we would pay the equalized expense. We're voting to pay that expenditure, and the alternative is that the delegate does not attend. We collected *about* \$2100 for our delegate, the shortfall to pay the equalized amount would come from the General Budget. AWSC made a motion to pay the equalized amount to WSO. Kathy B. (D8) seconded. 21 DRs voted in favor. 3 DRs voted opposed. The motion passed.

Convention Seed Money: Due to difficulties to confirm locations and still pay for all other expenses, the AWSC makes a motion to increase the seed money from \$1,500 to \$2,000. It would begin with the 2026 Indiana Area Convention. We would need to make a deposit to the 2026 Convention of \$500 to even this out, if the motion passes. We were reminded that the value of a 1952 dollar is now about \$11. Joyce C (D10) seconded the motion. 24 DRs voted in favor, No DRs voted opposed. The motion passed.

Distribution of Convention Proceeds: AWSC motions to change the distribution of convention proceeds to percentages. The percentages would be as follows: 25% to Indiana KOMIAC, 25% to WSO, 50% to the General Fund. Audrey H. (D11) seconds the motion with the amendment that the convention proceeds go 25% to Indiana Alateen, 25% to WSO and 50% to the General Fund until monies are dispersed. 25 DRs voted in favor. No DRs voted opposed. The motion passed.

Alateen Coordinator: Cristine W. stepped up for 2024 for one year. We need someone to fill the position for 2025-2026.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

Convention: Tracy. Districts 1, 2, 5 are hosting the Indiana Area Convention. They need to make a site selection. Denise took the checkbook.

Archives: Cathy R. Nothing to Report.

Forum: Konie H. Forums contain interesting historical information. Forums have discussion questions, announcements from WSO, etc.

Group Records: Beth B. 63 in attendance today, maybe more. 181 meetings in our state. Only 172 with different numbers. 145 GRs.

Literature and Literature Depot: Peggy D. "Healing within our Alcoholic Relationships," the new book is selling well. New books come in a case of 150, and they sell quickly. Gratitude.

Orientation: Janice G. 3 new in person and 3 new GRs online.

Public Outreach: Laura E. Plan, prepare, and execute! Then you just have to maintain. PAR-personal administrative responsibility: Group members come to her with ideas and she tries to get you the information you're looking for. Linking service chain. New QR code to the al-anon website. Public Inreach- Referrals to Al-anon often come from AA, try to gear information to them and get them to bring family members into Alanon/Alateen. 2025- Governor's Conference on Addiction, getting a booth; Indiana school counselors convention, getting a table for Alateen; Area website design enhancement, adding color, and photos.

Website: Kim H. Left Early

CLOSING:

Maureen closed at 3:20 with the Al-anon Declaration

2025 AWSC Dates:

Virtual Only: January 18 and October 11

Onsite: May 31

4627 Carvel Indianapolis, IN 46205, 317-255-0037

2025 Assembly Dates:

March 1, July 12, November 15

Hybrid and Onsite

Crowne Plaza Airport 2501 South High School Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46241

2025 Indiana AFG Convention:

May 16–18, 2025

Horizon Convention Center

Muncie IN 47306