

MINUTES OF AREA 17 ASSEMBLY 7/13/2024
Hybrid meeting, please mute yourself when you log in.

OPENING: Maureen H (D1), Chair, opened the assembly at 9:40 am, with a hybrid meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Those in attendance via Zoom were asked to rename themselves and their position. Concepts of Service and the Warranties were read by Lori E. (D7). First-time attendees were welcomed. We had 4 new members to the orientation. We also have new members to the Alateen Assembly, so we will do the drawing after the Alateen's come in with the Al-Anon Assembly. Welcome to our WSO guests: Scot P, Director Communications and Community Awareness, and Bob H, Webmaster.

SECRETARY REPORT: Maureen H (D1). We don't have a secretary currently, but we have a couple of people who are willing to help keep minutes. We had some adjustments to the March minutes as we didn't have all the names for who read concepts. Motion made to accept minutes as corrected: Kathy B (D8). Seconded by: Jennifer B (D8). Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Denise S (D1).

Income: \$7,720.02

Expenses: \$7,131.58

Net Income: \$588.44

Balance Sheet: \$46,005.72

Motion made to accept the treasurer's report as presented: Mari Lee W (D8). Seconded by: Barb T (D8). Motion passed. Basket going around, recommendation is \$10 donation.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE/CHAIR REPORT: Patti M (D14). Loves being a cheerleader for Al-Anon. Apologized for not sending out the invitations to everyone with the dinner for the WSO visitors.

DELEGATE REPORT: Brenda K (D8), Panel 64. Thank you to everyone who sent letters and cards of encouragement for the WSC. She had a great time. Attended the 64th World Service Conference in April and met a lot of wonderful people in service. It was very humbling. Came back with a few new ideas, such as having a PO Box that forwards to the Area Treasurer, so we don't have to keep updating the members with new addresses every 3 years. Updates:

- There are 112 International meetings in 60 countries. We've translated 37 languages.
- A new booklet will be released this fall: "Healing in our Alcoholic Relationships". Will be \$4.00.
- 2023 International Convention, 3387 Al-Anon attendees, 47 Alateen attendees, 293 AA attendees, 741 virtual attendees.
- 2025 AA International Convention July 3-6, 2025, in Vancouver, BC.
- Still getting information gathered for the 2028 Al-Anon International Convention. We have applied as a possible site.
- Budget information: 100% of the groups utilize the services of the WSO, but only 61% of the groups contribute in 2023. Preliminary budget: \$6,198,330 income; \$6,078,780 expense; Net income: \$119,550.
- Board of Trustees: we have the North Central Regional Trustee will be ending her term this year, and the spot is going to be open for resumes. Contact Brenda if you are interested, but the applicant will need to be vetted by the Assembly before moving forward to the WSO.
- Stepping Stones discussion: the cost of WSC during the year of the Stepping Stones visit is much bigger than when it is held in Virginia Beach. There are on-going discussions about how we can manage this financially, and still allow the visit to continue.
- 4-day versus 5-day WSC: we are in the middle of a trial for decreasing the days of the WSC to see if this is a cost saver. More will be revealed.
- Next Generation AFG Records: will be updating the AFG Record keeping, which will also affect AFG Connects. Will take 2-3 years, and will be a capital expense, so will not immediately affect the budget.

- WSO annual report is available. It's 59 pages of information about what is going on at the WSO. Each area of the WSO team reported on what they were doing, but it is all available in the report if you would like to read it. Please let Brenda know if you are interested.
- 2024 AI-Anon Membership Survey is underway. Must be 18 to fill out.
- Had a first time Motion from the floor in several years. It was very exciting. We approved adding delegates to the Conference Leadership team.
- Road Trip: October 26, 2024, in South Carolina.

Very humbled to serve. Thank you to everyone for their prayers and thoughts.

WSO Guest Personal Sharing: Bob H, WSO Webmaster

ALATEEN REPORT: Makenzie G, \$6446.54 in account. We talked about how to get more attendance at Alateen meetings. Talked about using the Band App and how to use it with calendars. Komiatic in Michigan this year. Staying at a campground. AMIAS training to every 3 years vs 2 years. We decided to do 2-year training. Talked about electronic meetings. Talked about crosstalk during meetings. Discussed outreach to therapists, schools, and courts. Sometimes AA members are mandated to go to meetings, and it would be nice to alert the courts to Alateen meetings for the children of alcoholics. Talked about Higher Power in meeting. Discussed if there are no other teens at the meeting, don't have to close the meeting, can attend the AI-Anon meeting if there is one there.

FORUM DRAWING: for the first-time attendees: Lori S is the winner. We will get her subscription to her.

WSO GUEST PRESENTATIONS: "Technology in AI-Anon": Scot P, Bob H: Scot does community outreach, public outreach toolkit (currently on-line), and in charge of the annual survey. In charge of the digital communications team: website, social media, and the app, and the In the Loop newsletter. In charge of the global community's tech teams. Use 4 different platforms. Real time interpretation as well. AI-Anon.org receives 6million visitors per year. Findings meetings through this. 200,000 members in mobile app. 46,000 members subscribe to In the Loop. 2022 WSC had a task force to discuss technology coordinator vs website coordinator. Made recommendation to create a separate service position for Technology coordinator. 13 areas who have technology coordinators right away.

Bob H: technology coordinator can oversee audio-visual equipment, can become complex very quickly. Hybrid meetings add to the complications. Portable speakers/microphones may be needed. Managing on-line accounts: names include Google (accounts, google drive), training members of AWSC to know what's out there (AFG connects, the app) connect with other areas to see what they're doing. We are never alone. It takes a village. Overseeing documents, how frequently do we need to replace equipment, how long do we keep documents in print vs on-line. On-line donations and platform for that is also a consideration. Laptop vs tablet for hybrid meetings. Staying informed about new technologies. Staying on top of Information Technology. Do I need a degree to be the technology coordinator: no, just need to be willing to be of service. Knowing the AI-Anon principles and having a willingness to learn and be taught.

Questions about technology: Is there a free phone service, google voice d/c our account, WSO uses ring central, do voice, recordings, can support many things regarding voice. Ability to take card payments, responsibility falls to an individual with giving personal information vs a business account. There are opportunities out there for the assembly to come up with ideas. The WSO does not have the same hurdles that individual groups do since it is a corporation already. The WSO may not have all the answers, but there are many people who have experience in the AI-Anon Family Groups, that may not be at the WSO. Having the access to the community pages is also important.

How do we implement this? It takes a village to create the job description.

DR REPORTS

D1: Sharon, Al-Anon Portage, August 8 celebrating 52nd anniversary potluck, furnishing chicken and cake, bring dish if interested. Picnic July 20, sponsored by St. John, held at Park, have a speaker, potluck, supplying chicken and hot dogs, white elephant gift exchange. Banquet in October, Theme: Turn it Over, October 19, sponsored by Men's group.

D2: Laura E, 2 events: August 31 recovery festival; October 5 one-day AA conference with Al-Anon participation.

D3: Barb G, have 10 meetings, 1 Alateen has reported 6 members, years with no one attending. 4 times a year host a potluck, last Saturday of August and November. Barb had a chance to share for the first time, how exciting. Lost one meeting in Warsaw to Ft. Wayne district.

D4: Lynda F, Planning workshop on conscience discipline October, health fair outreach attended recently. Alateen's planning a workshop in the district soon.

D5, no DR.

D6: Teri, new AMIAS, Jesse, doing an awesome job! A lot more kids are attending the Alateen meeting in Marion. Getting the word out about Alateen.

D7: Peggy N, only been in a month, haven't done much yet. Trying to plan a picnic in the fall. Haven't had one since before COVID.

D8: Jennifer B, have all positions filled in the district now. Panel discussion at Carvel Club from Indianapolis Information Service (district 8,9,10)

D9, no DR.

D10: Joyce C, 12 meetings in district. Haven't had a list updated for a while. Finally got the websites updated with GR's. New meeting in Whiteland registered. Planning an outreach workshop on Sat Nov 16 at Club East. More info will be made available.

D11, no DR, no updates.

D12: no DR.

D13, no DR.

D14: Dave, Alternate DR, district picnic Sat, August 24 in Ft. Branch at senior center. October 26 mini conference, information is on the website, Maureen H and Beth B are speakers. One meeting in district has closed. We have a workshop on twelve steps going on.

OLD BUSINESS

2024 AFG Convention: Lynda F (4) we had a bag left over, if it's yours, let Lynda know. Made a scrap book. Convention went well. Went through the suggestion box and will pass on those to the next convention. Convention is in the black, don't have total numbers yet. When we were able to change the registration price, we were able to cover the expenses. We were able to use a lot of the 2020 decorations. 243 total in attendance.

2025 AFG Convention: Tracey H (11) Save the date: Muncie (central location), May 16-18, 2025. Hosting districts 10,11,13. If you are in those districts and aren't involved yet, please let us know. We have open positions: Entertainment and Workshop. Next meeting is on zoom August 17, we will have in person meetings, but zoom for now. This is the 50th convention: Theme "Fellowship for 50". This committee will be moving into 21st century allowing for on-line registrations. Stay tuned, more information to come.

2025 AFG Online Registration/Payment Update: Krystal K/Tracey H, 4 different platforms available. Doing more research to see what the best fit is for the convention. The committee is also investigating on-line payment options. Most secure is

using Zelle, as it's the least risk regarding the banks, as it was designed by banks. We were given permission to move the bank to Chase at AWSC, but the decision hasn't decided by the committee yet.

District Boundary Thought Force Update: Norine, thought force currently. We are not redistricting. Very slow process, committee consists of representatives from several districts, current group records, Area Chair. Charge from the Area is to look at the districts and how they are currently separated to see if they should be updated. We are using AFG Connects for District Reps, Past members of WSC, and Group Records to see if other areas have participated in redistricting with no response yet. Next meeting is in September. Not balanced conventions regarding participation. Interstates are different, populations are different now from 5 decades ago.

NEW BUSINESS

Area Secretary Nominations and Election: Peggy N (D7) nominated Emma S (D7). Seconded by Brenda K (D8). Emma accepted the nomination. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy Committee proposed guidelines, Mari Lee W (D8):

- Indiana Area Assembly Structure
- Voting Procedures

Motion to approve position descriptions as amended: Kathy B (D8). Seconded: Mark C (D10). Motion approved.

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Alateen: Christine (D12), Alateen Assembly all agree the adults should train every 2 years instead of 3. Felt the original people who suggested the change from 3 to 2 had good reason. Also discussed having a teen present for training, but realized when the adults came into the Assembly for Alateen Sponsor training, it was the time for the teens to speak.

Archives: Cathy R (D8), not available.

Convention: Tracy, 2025 up and running; 2026 will be getting ready soon.

Forum: Konie H (D5), July 2024 Forum, wanting some sharing's on specific CAL, items listed on what the sharing's are wanted, by August deadline. Photographs are accepted for submission if you are a photographer. Submissions that are not printed are archived and may be printed later. Forums are available in different languages. Alateen doesn't have a lot of submissions, and they do accept poetry if you are inclined. Subscriptions are available at front table and at the back of each Forum. Can be gifted.

Group Records: Beth B (D8), 182 active groups: 14 districts, D1: 24; D2: 11; D3: 10; D4: 19; D5: 7; D6: 10; D7: 8; D8: 21; D9: 16; D10: 11; D11: 8; D12: 9; D13: 13; D14: 15. When you send in updates, make sure you put whether the person is the DR or CMA. Currently have 6 meetings in no mail status.

Literature: Peggy D (D11) catalogs available from the spring revised March 2024. New piece releasing in fall 2024, not in the catalog currently.

Orientation: Janice G (D8), 4 awesome people this morning, good questions, good information, grateful for the handouts.

Public Outreach: Laura E (D2), ppt to discuss starting program in public outreach. PPE: plan, prepare, execute. PAR: Personal Administrative Responsibility.

Website: Kimberly H (D9), website visitors: 12,000 this year so far. Last few years we've had 20,000 per year. Member survey has been added to our website as well.

CLOSING: The meeting was closed with the AI-Anon Declaration, and Maureen H thanked everybody for attending.

Respectfully submitted by,
Maureen H, Area Chair
New Secretary: Emma S (D7)

AWSC Meeting Dates: 10/5/2024 (virtual for this meeting)
4627 Carvel Club; Indianapolis, IN 46205
Telephone: 317-255-0037

Area Assembly Dates: 11/9/2024
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2501 South High School Rd; Indianapolis, IN 46241

Quotes from Assembly: ***Shame: should have already mastered everything.***