

Accepted with Corrections 11-12-22
Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups
(SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Zoom Meeting
July 16, 2022

The meeting opened at 9a.m. by Chairperson Becky R. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Al-Anon birthday/anniversaries were recognized. Rules and guidelines of the meeting were presented. Carol W volunteered to be the Chat monitor. Barbara S was the Timekeeper. Becky reminded all that the Group Representatives (GRs) are the voting members of the Area meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service with Warranties were read. There were 26 members present (14 voting members) at the regular Zoom meeting.

BOARD MINUTES: Rowena A read the Board of Director's Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2022. No vote required.

AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES: The March 12, 2022 SIAFG Meeting Minutes were presented by Mary P. Corrections were made and will be posted on the SIAFG website with corrections in red. **A motion was made to approve and accept the minutes with corrections. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

TREASURER REPORT: Carol W first reported on the period from January 1, 2022 through April 30, 2022. Beginning balance was \$13,660.20 with receipts of \$1,726.15 and expenses of \$1,635.54 leaving total cash on hand \$13,750.81. The savings/Reserve fund was \$6,012.11 with interest of \$0.13 leaving \$6,012.24.

The next portion concerned the budget for 2023. Carol reminded all that the data from 2020 and 2021 was not considered normal because of the pandemic. Her budget estimated the total income for 2023 will be \$9,350; Expenses to be \$9,310.08 with a surplus of \$39.92 After discussion, it was reminded that the budget will be voted on at the November 12, 2022 meeting.

Carol mentioned previous Area discussions that asked for more money to be added to the prudent reserve. Her motion was to **Raise the SIAFG reserve account balance from \$6,000 to \$10,000. The Motion is to transfer 10% of the checking account balance in December 2022 and every December, until reserve level is at \$10,000.** After discussion, the motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Carol then discussed the need for more donations from the Districts to the Area. **The motion was made to prepare a special appeal letter to be sent to the SIAWSC mailing list, to be distributed to all groups, asking for SIAFG contributions.** The motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

The Illinois State Al-Anon Family Group Convention is scheduled for October 14-16, 2022. Carol is the Convention treasurer. In order to register people virtually, she needed to use the SIAFG tax ID number and checking account. In being transparent, she advised the group that she transfers registrations from SIAFG checking to the convention checking monthly.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY: Jane F was unable to attend the meeting. The group was reminded that information/reports need to be sent to Jane (groupprepsec@gmail.com) by September 30, 2022. This will insure that Jane can send out the information 30 days ahead of the meeting on November 12, 2022. It was noted that Jane is doing a great job and is appreciated by the group.

DELEGATE REPORT: JoEllyn P gave a stirring report about the World Service Conference she attended April 26-30, 2022. The attendees were Delegates from all countries, WSO Office employees and the Board of Trustees. This was the first time in 3 years that the meeting was in person (pandemic issues) and meeting in person was very special to JoEllyn. Some projects that were discussed were electronic meetings, new daily reader, and the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention. It was noted that there will be a special appeal letter going out to all groups to help offset \$240,000 deficit. The services that are used and cost money are registration, CAL, WSO meeting info, Mobile App, and PSAs. This costs \$283.33 per group. The new daily reader will be titled "A Little Time for Myself".

OLD BUSINESS:

Alateen: Susan B has located and spoken with lawyers/prosecutors about the mandated reporter issue concerning Alateen meetings. The consensus was that Al-Anon and Alateen would not be considered mandated reporters, but nothing is on paper. To get a letter of acknowledgement from a prosecutor or lawyer that states we are not liable is the goal. We still need an Alateen Coordinator to step up. We also need an Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP). Mary S is stepping down after years of service.

ELECTRONIC MEETING UPDATE: At the last meeting, AREA decided to accept permanent registered electronic meetings as part of our Area structure. The next step is to form a committee to make recommendations on creating the operational guidelines for the functioning of these meetings. The committee includes JoEllyn P, Jane G, Donna S and Bob R. They will report at the November 12, 2022 Area meeting. Jan T will share any information she has from Northern.

WEB AND EMAIL CONTACT UPDATE: Krya has sent the new emails to officers and coordinators. They will be using them in the near future.

DISTANCE MEETING CHECK IN: We've held the Area meetings through Zoom for 2 1/2 years. Although many are happy with Zoom, there is a growing desire for in person. Hybrid may be a way to solve this problem. Charlene and Becky offered to check locations that could handle a hybrid meeting and report on November 12. All members are encouraged to check out possibilities and report. The November 12 meeting will be on Zoom.

SIAFG INSURANCE UPDATE: Certificate of insurance is available to all DR's. On that Certificate of Insurance, it give information about filing a claim. You can also call Becky if you need help. Carol W assured the group that she has paid the insurance bill for the year on June 26, 2022.

NORTHERN CENTRAL **Regional DELEGATE MEETING** - The 2023 Northern Central Delegate Meeting will be held in Northern Minnesota in March. JoEllyn will check on the 2024 meeting. It could be Southern Area's turn to host and we should start working on it in 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

ELECTIONS OF AREA OFFICERS: The election guidelines were outlined. The votes were taken. The results are here:

Chairperson: Becky R

Recording Secretary: OPEN

Group Records Secretary: Jane F

Delegate: OPEN

Treasurer: JoEllyn P

Alternate Delegate: OPEN

Becky R asked everyone to search their hearts and be willing to offer service in officer and coordinator positions. The open officer positions will be offered again at the Nov. 12 meeting. The chairperson can appoint Coordinators and announce them at the Nov. 12 meeting.

DISTRICT REPORTS & GROUP CONCERNS/SUCCESES

DISTRICT 10: Becky stated that the DR, Janis T is working hard but couldn't attend today. Hybrid is being used in some meetings.

DISTRICT 12: Kelly T had a district meeting in March. She is new to the position and is working hard at learning. Carol H mentioned that quilt squares had been sent to the convention from her group.

DISTRICT 15: Charlene V from District 18 said she had been in touch with Jacksonville. She keeps up with the DR, Tammy F, with convention news and Area news. Jane F now has Tammy's contact info to connect.

DISTRICT 19: Charlene stated that the Illiopolis meeting is right on the border of Districts 19 and 11. Dist. 19 is in charge of the Convention and it's helping to bring the membership together. They run hybrid and in person meetings. Angie C is a new group representative. Her meeting has been in person since February. They voted to give extra money to WSO, in addition to quarterly. Tuesday morning in Chatham, has a 6:45 am meeting doing well. Debbie Mc mentioned they are getting new people in meetings. Janese say Chatham has an in person meeting with 12-14 people, some new.

DISTRICT 20: Mary P stated that their website is adding more information daily. Besides WSO and SIAFG links, it shows calendar events, business meeting times, fellowship events and newsletters. Rowena A mentioned a fellowship meeting that was a conflict/resolution in person meeting. It was well attended and got rave reviews. Zoom and hybrid meetings have found a few former Peoria members who have moved to other states. It's been fun to reconnect. Jan C asked if anyone was having issues with Zoom and Hybrid meetings not collecting as many contributions. Claudia mentioned that there are virtual ways to collect money (VenBo) and they have found reminding people in the middle of the meeting to donate is helpful.

DISTRICT 14: Andrea is the new DR since June. She has 12 meetings with 1 shut down because of low attendance. A new meeting has started in a counseling center, which offers more new members. They have some Zoom and some Hybrid meetings also. One meeting decided to have a potluck for their 5th week months. It has been successful. Walt stated that AA members have started coming to Al-Anon meetings and one will even share at a summer BBQ.

DISTRICT 16: Fern is close by District 16 and said there are 2 meetings at a church.

DISTRICT 17: Laura is new. She said they have one meeting in Murphysboro and one in Carbondale. Both are in person. They are trying to do outreach. There are no meetings east of Carbondale, so a person would have to travel 75 miles to find one. The challenge is to find a willing person who could start a meeting in Marion or Harrisburg.

DISTRICT 18: Barbara said they've held regular District meetings. They had a fellowship picnic well attended. They use Zoom, hybrid and in person meetings. Claudia says her meeting is Zoom, and they're hoping to go to hybrid in the fall.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

ALATEEN: A coordinator is needed for Alateen. Mary S is retiring in her Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP), but will check if the paperwork is coming along.

ARCHIVES: Rowena A reminded the group that old audio tapes had been handed off to a member in Peoria who was going to put them on flash drives. Because of family situations, she wasn't able to get it done. Rowena will get the tapes to Becky. Discussions will be held as to hiring someone to do this or finding a member who is capable.

CONVENTION: Debbie stated that the convention is well underway. The dates are October 14-16 in Springfield. The website to find all information is ilstateafgconv.org Registration can be done virtually or by snail mail. The cost is \$25 until August 1 when it raises to \$30 and another raise to \$35 on October 1. There is a signup for banquet and volunteers also. At this point, the convention is in person. She invites everyone to come, stay for the weekend, and enjoy the process.

NEWS-O-GRAM: Carol H reminded all that the deadline for reports and shares is September 30, 2022. Send to newsogram@siafg.org

BY-LAWS: Cyndi P is working on it. Jan T asked that By-laws should be updated with a note saying Officers and Coordinators should use the email addresses assigned to their positions.

WEBSITE: Officer and Coordinator positions should be using their new emails by December. After the election, these new emails can be easily switched to new elected members.

WRAP-UP: The next Area meeting is November 12 via Zoom from 9am-2pm.

The next SIAWSC meeting is September 17 via Zoom from 9-11.

The motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 2:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary P
Recording Secretary