

Accepted and Approved with no corrections 11/4/17

Southern Illinois Area World Service Committee
(SIAWSC) Meeting
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.
July 8, 2017

The meeting was opened at 9:03 a.m. by Chairperson Rowena A. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Everyone was welcomed, introductions were made, and the rules and guidelines of the meeting were discussed. District 11 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 23 members present (19 voting members) at this regular meeting.

Fern T. (**Archives Coordinator**) asked to address the group. She presented a binder with histories of SIAFG Al-Anon groups, all unique. She implored groups that hadn't provided a history to do so in the future, as it was helpful to the archives. Forms were available.

Convention: Cathy B. is the liaison for the 2017 SIAFG Al-Anon Convention and was the Coordinator for the 2016 Convention. She reported she had contacted Embassy Suites in East Peoria and had a tentative contract for October 12,13,14 of 2018. This would include a block of 60 or 80 rooms at \$119 a night. But if we didn't fill all rooms we would be responsible for the cost. She requested all rooms in one hallway (FonDuLac Hall) so that it would be easier for members to find locations. At this rate we would be spending approximately \$3300 for 3 nights. There is a 24% tax per banquet plate and per room. Consensus was to block 60 rooms with the communication that the rate would rise to \$239 after that initial rooms were reserved. Cathy B. also distributed quilt raffle tickets and State Convention bookmarks. Any unsold raffle tickets should be returned to the Convention or next Area Meeting. Area will be asked to vote on date and theme this afternoon.

Minutes: The March 4,2017 SIAWSC meeting minutes were presented by Mary P. A motion was made to accept the minutes with no corrections needed, seconded, and the motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Carol W. reported on the period from January 1, 2017 thru April 30,2017. Beginning balance was \$8,231.14; total receipts were \$2,172.23; total cash available \$10,403.14; total disbursements were \$2,179.60; leaving total cash on hand \$8,223.77;Savings/Reserve fund for the same period, beginning balance was \$5,062.48(goal\$6,000): receipt of \$10.10 and the ending balance being \$5,072.58.

Carol then presented the proposed Budget for 2018.She explained a review of the last few years of expenditures helped her with her estimates. Estimated budget Income \$7,493.00;Estimated Expenses were \$7,725.00; leaving funds needed to balance budget were \$232. The proposed budget will be up for a vote in November 2017.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT:

Annette W. offered handouts. One was a bookmark with acronyms and definitions. One was an explanation of assemblies and duties for new people, especially Group Representatives. She mentioned challenges with the WSO website and was mailing in changes. Annette asked for addresses of people who were not receiving emails and for new addresses. Committee Lists are being revamped and will be sent out.

DELEGATE'S REPORT/DISCUSSION:

Tim E. attended the World Service Conference in Virginia Beach. Tim explained that being a delegate had not been his plan, but his Higher Power had "something different" in mind. He said a lot of material was covered in very long days and a seemingly short week.

Service manuals will be on the website and available to purchase but will not be sent automatically to groups every 3 years. There are some changes to the new Service Manual that will help make information easier to find. Newcomer packets have been revised, yet price remains the same. Due to the decrease in volunteers at WSO, the new "packet" is now

a broacher's format. The discussion about the prayer on the Just For Today showed that there is a 50/50 split on whether to change or leave it, so the Thought Force was concluded. International Convention is held every 5 years and will be in Baltimore, Maryland on July 5-8 of 2018. Finance: In the past the reserve fund was in the red. After a plea for donations, the deficit was resolved. The outlook for financial momentum will depend on us. Do we want to continue in this positive direction or return to our old habit of support? Electronic meetings expand meetings and awareness of Al-Anon through phone and internet meetings. Al-Anon members are encouraged to use the chain of command with Al-Anon problems before going to the WSO. The WSO has a very small staff and are dealing with the whole world Al-Anon population. Remember the manual, sponsors, wise Al-Anon members and traditions all help to resolve issues at a local level. Tim would like to form a thought force Committee to help define guidelines for money to be spent by delegates as well as responsibilities. Please contact Tim if you would like to participate.

Coordinator Reports:Rowena thanked Sherry B. for accepting Public Outreach position, Cindy P. for accepting By-Laws position, and Jan T.for accepting News-O-Gram position.

Ways and Means: Theresa explained the upcoming fundraiser.

Choice 1: water bottle koosie (Buy 250 , sell for \$2, profit \$159.50)

Choice 2: Tote Bag (13"X15",Buy 250, sell for \$3, profit \$239.50)

Choice 3: Mousepad -(buy 200, sell for \$2.50, profit \$194)

Consensus was to offer Choice 1 and 2 to Area for a vote.

Discussion about colors, symbols, and words was next. Consensus was to use blue with footprints as symbols (12 steps). The Area would be asked to vote on words.

Choice 1: Let it Begin with Me.

Choice 2: Serenity,Courage,Wisdom

Alateen- Mary S reported that Twenty AMIAS (Al-Anon Members in Alateen Service) have been re-certified. We have 25 AMIAS certified in SIAFG. There are five Alateen groups registered.

Mary has asked the current and past SIAFG Alateen Coordinators, Becky R. and Dottie Y and the Past Delegate Cathy B to help review and rework the applications for becoming and recertifying as an Alateen Sponsor. Mary asked for volunteers to join the ad-hoc committee.

Forum/Literature: Marge E. encouraged members to share in forum. 300-400 words were suggested for typical sharing. "My Story" could be up to 1200 words. Check the WSO webpage for address.

***News-O-Gram-** Jan T. distributed a page of suggestions for the News-O-Gram. One was to include personal and business sharing with the limit of 75 words or less for personal. Business should also include references to Al-Anon Conference Approved Literature. Jan also listed ways to clarify guidelines for the Editor of the News-O-Gram. This included creating a supplement to the current guidelines. There will be discussion and a vote this afternoon on these issues.

Webmaster- Lyri M. asked members to check SIAFG website. Click Meetings and click both city and District to insure your group is accurate. Any inaccuracies can me emailed to Lyri.

Next meeting is scheduled for Nov.4 ,2017 at Memorial Medical Center.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon Member

MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING

