

Approved with Corrections 11/4/17  
\*\*\* shows corrections  
Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)  
Area Assembly Meeting  
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.  
July 8, 2017

The meeting was opened at 12:32 p.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 26 members present (13 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 one to do so in the future, as it was helpful to the archives. Forms were available.

**Minutes** from the March 4, 2017 Board of Director's Meeting were read by Rowena A.

**Minutes:** Mary P. stated that 4 sets of minutes from 2015 and 2016 and one treasurer report were missing from the website. She wanted permission to scan and send to the Webmaster and be reimbursed. Motion was made and seconded and voted in unanimously to reimburse Mary P for scanning the missing pages.

The March 4, 2017 SIAFG 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 in 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.

**Convention:** Cathy B. is the liaison for the 2017 convention. She has a possible contract with Embassy Suites in East Peoria for 2018 convention. A motion was made: **We accept the liaison's recommendations of signing the contract at East Peoria Embassy Suites on Oct. 12, 13, 14 of 2018 at \$119 for each room, reserving a block of 60 rooms.** Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Theme for 2018 is still undecided. Possibilities mentioned were "Change the I to E in Willness and you get Wellness", "Change Me to We", "Use I instead of You". Convention Coordinator is still needed, but "Save the Date" information shared at the 2017 convention would be helpful. These theme possibilities can be offered to Coordinator when that position is filled.

**Ways and Means:** Katie explained fundraiser that Theresa is forming. Choice 1: water bottle blue koosie with footstep symbols (Buy 250, sell for \$2, profit \$159.50)

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

**Vote was taken with hands raised for Koosie or Tote Bag. Tote Bag won with majority.**

Second Decision: Words printed on bag could be:

1. Let it Begin with Me
2. Serenity, Courage, Wisdom

**Vote was taken: "Let it Begin with Me" got majority of votes.**

Raffle tickets were also sold for baked goods and Forum subscriptions.

**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. There are four people in Quincy who are starting the certification process and will be working with Becky R. to start a new Alateen meeting.

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. explained suggestions for News-O-Gram. First she would like to include personal and business sharing both. (#2 "News-o-Gram editor review sharing to determine type using the following definitions of sharing types:

a. Personal-sharing by Al-Anon/Alateen member of their experience, strength and hope, limit shares to 75 words or less.

b. Business - sharing by an Al-Anon /Alateen member who is principally concerned pertaining to Al-Anon/Alateen business, organization or procedures (sharing must include references to Al-Anon Conference Approved Literature.)

c. If Editor has problem determining type, they will consult SIAFG Area Chairperson for assistance.

\*\*\* d. **Motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted yes to the question: Do we want to include personal and business sharing in the News-O-Gram using the definitions in #2?"**

\*\*\* e. The second issue Jan T. explained was that Guidelines for the News-O-Gram Coordinator were murky and she wants to create a more specific document. **Motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to Give New-O-Gram Editor whatever assistance she/he requires to create a supplement for Guidelines for Newsletter editors. (G-21)**

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 be emailed to Lyri.

**GROUP CONCERNS/SUCCESES:**

Tim E. voiced a concern. When votes are taken, he would like a vote for yes, no, and abstain. That would provide a more accurate count of opinion.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Next meeting is scheduled for Nov.4 2017 at Memorial Medical Center.  
The meeting was adjourned at 2.42 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon Member

MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING

**\*\*\* d. was made bold faced**

**\*\*\* e. the letter e was added.**