

Southern Illinois AI-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)  
Area Assembly Meeting  
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL  
July 9, 2016

Accepted  
&  
Approved with corrections  
Nov 5, 2016  
MP

The meeting was opened at 12:38 by Chairperson Cathy B. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Everyone was welcomed. District 18 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. Introductions were made, and the rules and guidelines of the meeting were discussed. The AI-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 33 members present (16 voting members) at this regular meeting.

The Board of Director's minutes from March 5, 2016 were read by Rowena.

**Recording Secretary Report:** Minutes from March 5, 2016 SIAFG meeting were corrected. Motion was made to accept corrected minutes. It was seconded and unanimously accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Helen B. reported on the period from January 1, 2016 thru April 30, 2016. Beginning balance was \$7,630.02; total receipts were \$3,007.26; total cash available \$10,637.28; total disbursements were \$2,077.87; leaving total cash on hand \$8,559.41. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period, beginning balance was \$3,998.44; receipts of \$40.17 and the ending balance being \$4,038.61.

Helen B. then presented the proposed budget for 2017, using the approved 2016 budget and the 2016 estimated expense. World Service Conference Equalized Expense was clarified. It was explained that this was like a budget plan that World Service Office Board of Trustees suggests to cover the expense of the Delegate to attend the World Service Conference. (WSO) Areas pay the Equalized Expense or up to and including the entire cost of sending a Delegate to the WSC. The 2017 Proposed Budget and decision on whether to pay Equalized Expense or more for the Delegate to attend WSC will be presented for the discussion and/or vote at the November 5th Area meetings.

Jan T. distributed a Reserve fund handout, explaining that \$6,000 might be a more realistic Reserve Fund goal versus the \$8,000 that had been approved in 2012. Data from 2013-2016 was used to project this amount. After discussion the following motion was made: **Reduce reserve fund goal from \$8,000 to \$6,000 which would be 9 months to a year expense. No vote was taken. It was decided that this should be discussed within groups and brought up for vote in November 5th Area meeting.**

**Group Record Secretary:** Mary S. initiated discussion on printing reimbursement for SIAFG Records Secretary. The possibilities included using receipts from commercial printers, buying ink and paper for the group records secretary, and/or paying 10 cents per page on private printer. After discussion, the motion was made: **The policy would be to reimburse members engaged in Area business at 10 cents per page, or provide paper and ink, or pay what actual printing charges are.** The motion was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Mary S presented changes/corrections in trifold, "What are Assemblies All About?" Motion was made: **to Accept new trifold "What are Assemblies All About?"** Motion was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Mary S presented the SIAFG District map with new boundaries. The motion was made **to Accept the new SIAFG District map with changes.** Motion was seconded and carried unanimously

**Delegate's Report/Discussion :** Lyri brought love tokens back from the April 2016 World Service Conference to be distributed. She reported that Rick B. (former Executive Director at World Service Office) is no longer affiliated with the WSO. Mary Gregory is the Interim Executive Director. The Head of Finance and Treasurer are also changing. The Conference passed a deficit budget (Deficit was met by using money from the AFG, Inc. Reserve Fund.) Delegates asked for a strategic plan to address the deficit in the 2016 projected budget and implementation of a process to maintain the Reserve Fund balance. The budget was passed as presented.

There was a passionate discussion on the recommendation to remove prayer from the Just for Today bookmark. Themes included personal attachment to the prayer; that we should be a spiritual program, not a religious one; that we should be welcoming to all members of any religious affiliation or none; the importance of preserving our history; importance of positioning ourselves for the future. No consensus

was reached. Members are encouraged to review and respond to the Discussion Forum on the Member's page of our Area SIAFG website.

Discussion about unhealthy meetings not using Al-Anon guidelines and traditions were had. Suggestions were made, but no consensus was formed.

**Election:** Each officer's position was named. For each position, all past and present District Representatives, Coordinators, and Past Delegates were asked to stand and remain standing if they were interested in being elected to respective officer position. If uninterested, they were to sit. If no one was left standing, the position was left open to any member. If no one stood at that time, the position was left open for election at November 5th Area meeting. The members who offered their service were all unanimously accepted. The positions are as follows:

**A. Group Records Secretary** - still open, will be carried over to November 5th meeting

**B. Treasurer** - Carol Wielgus, District 14

**C. Recording Secretary** - Mary Pirtle, District 20

**D. Chairperson** - still open, will be carried over to November 5th meeting

**E. Alternate Delegate** - Cheryl Newman, District 14

**F. Delegate** - still open, will be carried over to November 5th meeting

**Convention Update:** Lyri and Cathy B are chairing convention. Marge is webmaster for convention site. 90 people can now attend banquet vs. previous 70. This is because of negotiation from Cathy and Lyri. At this point in time, 61 have signed up for convention. 50 have signed up for banquet. There is on line registration for the first time. The program will have 4 featured speakers and a panel of speakers will replace Ric B.

The basket raffle and Quilt raffle bring in money to help pay for convention. Promote filling the basket and selling quilt tickets at your weekly meetings. The hotel cost is in the \$9-\$10,000 range.

**Coordinators:**

**Alateen:** Becky R (Dist10) reported that she has 25 active AMIAS. Pockets of very strong groups.

★ **Archives:** Fern T(Dist. 14) Archive boxes were sorted. Only items that pertain to Area were kept.

**Form/Literature:** JoEllyn P reported CAL approved Electronic readers have begun. EB16( electronic Courage to Change) EA16 (Audio Courage to Change)

**News-O-Gram:** Marge E talked about discussion on new guidelines. News-O-Gram previously just had business. It has slowly changed to adding shared personal stories. The Forum prints personal stories. Group decided to limit New-O-Gram to only business and send personal stories to The Forum.

**Ways and Means:** Kathy asked members to bring fall or holiday decorations to Nov. 5 Area meeting to be used for 50/50 raffle.

**Webmaster:** Nicole stated everything has been updated. Site is being used regularly. The website space has been paid for for 2 years. The name has been paid for 9 years.

**Group Concerns:** Public Outreach through radio? Contact WSO to find out which radio stations have outreach for Al-Anon. **Think about volunteering for the open positions . Service work is worthwhile.**

**Next meeting is November 5, 2016. District 19 will host in the Springfield facility.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Pirtle  
Recording Secretary

★ During research and observation of boxes Archives Coordinator found many duplicate copies of the Forum. WSO was contacted and asked what needed to be kept. Only items pertaining to Area need to be kept.