

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS, INC.
AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING
MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
10 June 2012

Meeting opened at 9:03 with Serenity Prayer. Thanks given to District 10B for hosting. Al-Anon birthdays were recognized. Board of Directors minutes were read. Noted that Cathy S needed to be elected to fill vacant spot on BOD, which was done by majority vote. Present agent has stepped down and nominations were made to fill slot. Rowena A accepted and was voted in by acclamation.

Minutes of March meeting were accepted with corrections.

Treasurers Report—Rowena A treasurer's report—,200. Cash on hand \$3,436.26. Total Receipts \$2,073.89. Total available cash \$5, 510.15. Total disbursements \$1,985.45. Total cash on hand \$3,524.47 less reserve fund of \$1,200 to make ending available ending balance of \$2,324.47. Proposed Reserve Fund Goal—To set at one year's operating expenses. Reserve funds to come from contributions and fund raisers ear marked for Reserve Fund and from the checking account the greater amount of \$300.00 or 10% of the year end checking balance.[note- needs to be added to next year's proposed budget]. Until goal is reached should only be used in case of emergency to meet Area obligations. These withdrawls to be approved by either SIWSC or SIBOD, one of which must be determined.

Group Records—Rowena A for Mary S only their District Al-Anon Group information. If you find errors please contact Mary S. at siafggprec@gmail.com. A reminder, SIAFG has a policy now that **ALL** changes go through the SIAFG Group Records Secretary. The DR's should have received an e-mail from e-Communities telling you how to become connected. If you have not been notified contact WSO at wso@al-anon.org and the staff will help you. Put "Group Records" in the subject line. Only about 1/3 of the District Representatives have accessed e-Communities. Let's try to have all District Representatives in Southern Illinois participate.

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Workshop—Lyri says Workshop will be Delegates Report followed by report back of 2 questions asked of the assembly.

Delegate's Report Cathy B **Delegates Report:** Cathy B. started by demonstrating WSO's website, how to log into the site, navigate through the tabs, and find various documents, forms, literature and how to save as *.pdf files. Cathy also demonstrated e-communities by showing how to log in, and how district representatives and group representatives have the opportunity to participate in discussion boards posted on e-communities.

A handout was given of Cathy's notes taken during the 5 days of the 2012 World Service Conference. The notes are a very brief summary, so if anyone needs detailed information about any portion please send an email (cathy.blakey@yahoo.com) or call Cathy direct (217-377-0140) for a more thorough explanation.

THE MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING

Cathy then shared that there were 15,689 groups registered with WSO within the US & Canada at year end 2011. Only 9,226 groups donated to WSO, leaving 6,463 groups that made no contributions to WSO. Total Group contributions were \$1,255,205 and total annual costs of services for all groups were \$3,891,920; making the average cost of services per group of \$248.07. The 2012 budget for WSO is showing \$5,260,000 in expenses; with \$5,057,000 projected revenues; leaving an estimated \$203,000 deficit. The deficit will most likely be covered with funds from the reserve fund. Part of our donations goes towards sending the Trustee's to visit other countries GSOs (General Service Office) that are supported by WSO. The WSO also provides literature to 34 GSOs outside of the US and Canada.

Cathy talked about the literature updates. Our pamphlets have a new look by color coding the design (only). Al-Anon Pamphlets on 'Service' is blue, 'Recovery' is yellow, 'Outreach' is purple, but Alateen is still red. There is a task force working on the newcomer kit and its presentation. The new *Conflict Resolution* cards (wallet size) are now available to order (AB31). *Parents of Alcoholics* is now available as a reprint (R-18). Shipping costs are going up effective July 1, 2012 - will be 10% or \$10 minimum. WSO still needs about 900 more sharings for *Intimacy in Relationships* before it can go to print. A new *Legacy Workbook* is in its final review and on schedule for release at the 2013 International Convention.

The literature committee reminded us that you cannot post a piece of literature on Facebook as this is a copyright violation. A copyright violation includes anything in a piece of literature published on TV, Radio, Press, Films, Internet, etc. However, excerpts or copies of excerpts from a piece of literature used during a meeting are okay. If you need copies of full pages for a specific event, then you need to ask the WSO for permission. Once permission is granted, a written note on the bottom of the copy is required that states, "Permission to copy given by WSO." Then make copies only needed for the specified event, and can only be used once.

WSO is working with Group Records Secretaries in trying to get every CMA's contact information updated. Also, WSO is taking suggestions for a name of the newsletter other than "CMA." Goal is to send this newsletter once a month via email. Group Records Secretaries can now have a backup with full rights to update group information on line. However, they suggest that the backup person be an officer of the Area (i.e.: the chairperson).

A new service tool, "Best of Public Outreach" is now available on the members' website. It's been revised as a guide and a "how to do it" service tool. *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*, the magazine, only about 10% of the groups is actually ordering them. Note that this magazine is not designed for the average Al-Anon member to read. It's intended to be used as an outreach tool to potential newcomers. Our latest DVD, "Portraits" is in the top 5% of the Nielsen ratings. Clips are on the website, U-Tube, and Twitter. We received a 'working copy' of the new DVD, "Portraits II" (Cindy will show with her report). Also, a treatment center outreach tool, along with a user's guide, is in the works. The goal is to satisfy the professionals needs as well as Al-Anons' needs.

Cathy then passed out a flyer, "Possible Conference Structures for Areas". Goal: Areas may formulate and implement a structure in their geographical Area or combination of geographical Areas for a trial period that would enable their groups to have full communication, participation, and representation. Criteria: No Restrictions! Be Creative! Be empowering! Out of the box strategies are welcome. (See flyer for details)

Cathy also discussed the trip to Stepping Stones, the picture board(s), and love tokens, encouraging everyone to help themselves

Lyri's 2 Questions--- What are you taking back to your groups and district? How will you bring it back to delegate?

Coordinator Reports

Webmaster- Nicole R web address will be www.siafg.weebly.com until July when it becomes www.siafg.org. Updates will be sent to Mary S to be on Area Business. A web editor is needed to proof read, check Tradition and legal compliance, a position which could become a coordinator. Will vote on this at October assembly. Jan T to act as interim editor.

Public Outreach—Cindy P She has been getting emails and is learning her way thru e-communities. The latest literature information she found was that the trial period for "Al-non Faces Al-Anon" soft cover, has been extended for another year at \$5.00. "Parents of Alcoholics R-18 and "Conflict Resolution Card" S-17 is now in French & Spanish. Pamphlets How I Can Help My Children and Dear Mom and Dad. Has been revised.

Convention Liaison—Kathy H 2012 Illinois State Convention reminders. All workers must register. They are in need of Notary Public to register walk-in Alateens. Can use food and donations for Hospitality Room.
Jan T--

News-O-Gram-- Rita C thanks for the contributions. Dead line for Letter is 10 August 2012. Could we hear from DR's.

Ways & Means—Kathy H Bake Sale this times fund raiser, next assembly's fund raiser will be Early Christmas or Thanksgiving (your choice) Need ideas for Area fund raiser- Perhaps calendars that are available thru WSO.

Literature/Forum—JoEllyn P by Cindy P I am learning to navigate my way thru e-communities. Parents of Alcoholics[R18] and Conflict Revolution Card has been translated into French and Spanish. Trial period for soft covered "How Al-Anon Works" at \$5.00 is extended for another year.

Pamphlets—How Can I Help My Children and Dear Mom and Dad have been revised.

Archives—Fern T has Guidelines on Archives. She mailed out check list to DR's.

By-Laws—Cathy S by-laws ready to be sent out and to put on Website as well.

Alateen—Dottie

Other Business

Next Assembly is 12-13 October 2012. District 11 to be contacted to Host.

'Do not refer' is a group not on the meeting list do to non-compliance of Traditions.

KBDM-Knowledge Base Decision Making- research first, present, develop strategies pro and con, present and vote.

Skits are available on line at WSO. Can also Google on line for Al-Anon meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Yours in Service,
Marty H, Rec Sec