

Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)  
Area Assembly Meeting  
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield IL.  
March 5, 2016

Accepted  
with  
Corrections  
7-9-2016

The meeting was opened at 12:35 pm by Cathy B. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Everyone was welcomed and District 16 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. Introductions were made, and the rules & guidelines of the meeting were discussed. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 34 members present (16 voting members) at this regular meeting.

Rowena A. read the minutes from the November 7, 2015 Board of Directors meeting.

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from the July 11, 2015 meeting were presented. A motion was made to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded and the motion carried.

Minutes from the November 7, 2015 meeting were presented. A motion was made to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Helen B. reported the period from September 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2015. Beginning balance was \$5,790.55; total receipts were \$3,373.03; total cash available \$9,163.58; total disbursements were \$1,533.56; leaving total cash on hand \$7,630.02. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period, beginning balance was \$3,080.50; receipts of \$917.94, and the ending balance being \$3,998.44. Helen reminded everyone the purpose of the reserve funds and that our goal is \$8,000.

Helen then presented the year-end report from the period of January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2015. Beginning balance was \$5,803.16; total receipts were \$8,659.24; total cash available \$14,462.40; total disbursements were \$6,832.38; leaving total cash on hand \$7,630.02. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period, beginning balance was \$3,017.36; receipts of \$981.15, and the ending balance being \$3,998.44.

Helen also presented a Budget versus Actuals form and asked the members to look at the possible elimination of the \$3.00 registration fee for attending the Area Assembly meeting. Discussion was had at the Area World Service meeting earlier this morning and a motion was made for presentation to the Area Assembly today. The motion read as follows:

"Drop the Area Assembly \$3.00 registration fee as of 3/5/2016. The motion at assembly was made, seconded, and carried.

A brief discussion was also had as to whether members thought the \$8,000 goal for the Savings/Reserve fund was unrealistic or too large. Lyri asked that the members go back to their groups and have a discussion around this topic and bring back thoughts to the next assembly meeting. Lyri also reminded us to refer to guidelines (G41) pertaining to the fund.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY: Mary S. reported on the ongoing development of Welcoming Packets for new GR's and DR's. Mary S presented on the DR packet, while Marion McP presented the GR packet. Packets will be sent out to DR's, Officers, Coordinators and Delegates (current and previous) for review and this will be voted on at the next Area Assembly meeting.

Mary S. also showed members the new map showing new district boundaries.

Mary S. also reported that nothing has changed since instructions were put on the area website for making changes to information related to groups.

DELEGATE'S REPORT/DISCUSSION: Lyri M. reported that the World Service Conference is scheduled for April this year. Lyri is looking for feedback on topics that will be discussed at the conference along with any specific questions members would like to have submitted for answers. Please email Lyri if you have any questions or feedback. She will also be bringing back Love tokens for the July meeting and Conference Summary booklets for

the November meeting. The full delegate's report can be found on the area website; [www.siafg.org](http://www.siafg.org), under members area, and officers and coordinators updates.

WORKSHOP: Tim E was not present to conduct a workshop. Lyri M. and Cathy B. asked current Coordinators and Officers to give a brief description of their responsibilities in these positions. We currently have 2 open positions and many have terms that are ending.

Chairperson: Cathy B. reported that her main responsibility is chairing the Southern Illinois Area World Service Committee Meeting and Area Assembly meeting. These meetings meet 3 times a year in March, July, and November. Responsibilities include setting the agendas for the meetings and signing the contract for the State Convention. The Chairperson is also third in line to replace the Area Delegate if needed.

Treasurer: Helen B. reported that her main responsibilities are creating budgets, paying out expenses and reimbursements.

Group Records Secretary: Mary S. reported that her main responsibilities are making changes to groups, CMA etc....Also coordination between different officers and coordinators. She also stated that familiarity with computers would be helpful.

Area Delegate: Lyri M. reported that the delegate represents our area at the WSO Conference and serves on committees. However, serving on committees is voluntary and not a requirement.

Alternate Delegate: Marian McP reported that the main responsibility for the alternate is filling in for the delegate when she/he cannot fulfill their responsibilities.

Recording Secretary: Main responsibilities for this position are taking minutes during meetings, typing up those minutes and disseminating the final minutes. The secretary also keeps record book of previous meeting minutes.

Alateen Coordinator: Becky R. reported that responsibilities include conducting background checks for potential Alateen sponsors, helping districts implement Alateen groups, and sending any paperwork into WSO. Becky also stated that proficiency in computers is also helpful.

Archives Coordinator: Fern T. reported that responsibilities include going through boxes of information and archiving what is important to our area and sending information to WSO if warranted.

Bi-Laws Coordinator: Cathy S. reported that responsibilities include making sure that how we operate is in our bi-laws, deciding what is legal and not legal and being the "protector" of the policy/guidelines.

Forum/Literature Coordinator: JoEllyn P. reported that responsibilities include conference calls with the WSO, reports to assembly meetings, and being up on changes to AI-Anon literature.

News O Gram Coordinator: Marge E. reported that responsibilities include disseminating the News O gram three times a year, putting information into the News O Gram, and coordinating with the WSO. Marge also states that proficiency in computers is also helpful.

Public Outreach Coordinator: This is currently an open position, but the main responsibility is to get information out to communities in regard to AI-Anon and Alateen.

Webmaster: Nicole R. reported that the main responsibilities include maintaining the website and updating information as it gathered.

Convention Liaison: This is currently an open position.

Lyri M reported that the descriptions of positions can be found on the SIAFG website. Current officers and coordinators will look over their job descriptions and if any changes need to be made they will get them to the webmaster by 5/10/16.

2016 ISAFG Convention Update: Lyri M. reported that the quilt squares and raffle tickets for the quilt are available for members to take back to their groups. Any unused tickets should be brought back to the convention. For more information on the convention members can go to our website [www.siafg.org](http://www.siafg.org). Under members area you will find a link to the convention.

## **COORDINATOR REPORTS**

Archives Coordinator: Fern T. gave a more detailed report about a new location for the Archive boxes. Fern purchased extra protective totes which made them easier to carry. As it was her decision to purchase the totes, no reimbursement is necessary unless the decision is made to keep them to be used by the future Archives Coordinator. Duplicate Forum Magazines were also found in the boxes and the suggestion to contact WSO first to ask if they need them or if other districts could use them. Fern did keep a copy of each month for our archive records. Fern also has copies of the Group History Checklist for those groups wanting to make use of them. Also a book "Ala-anon Faces Alcoholism", 2<sup>nd</sup> edition from 1984 was shown and passed around.

Alateen Coordinator: Becky R. reported that last year she had 17 new Alateen sponsors signed up and so far this year she only has 3. There was also brief discussion by members in regard to groups that have disbanded and how you might keep them going and transportation often being an issue.

By-Laws and Guidelines Coordinator: Cathy S. reported that there were no changes to report at this time.

Forum/Literature Coordinator: JoEllyn P. reported that the Forum will no longer be given free to groups. She also briefly shared ideas as to how to use conference approved literature at meetings.

New O Gram Coordinator: Marge E. reported that May 10<sup>th</sup> is the next deadline for submitting anything to the News O gram. She also reminded members that any Al-anon member may submit something for publication.

Ways & Means Coordinator: Kathy H. reported that all of the pens/highlighters have been sold. They were purchased for \$1.00 and sold for \$2.00. During the Area World Service meeting this morning it was noticed by members that some of the pens they received did not have highlighters that worked. It was determined that Kathy H. would give the money back to members for those pens not working and would call the supplier to find out how to proceed.

Kathy also reported that she had coins for purchase and also laminated book marks with Al-Anon quotes are available.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle during our next Assembly meeting in July.

Webmaster: Nicole R. reminded members that any updates to Coordinator/Officer job descriptions should be turned in to her by May 10<sup>th</sup>. Also any districts wanting flyers for upcoming events posted on the website should also be sent to Nicole.

## **GROUP CONCERNS/SUCCESES/QUESTIONS**

District 18: Debbie reported that the district has sent members to talk with parents who have children in recovery.

There was also a question raised by a member in regard to how long a district keeps an Alateen meeting open if no one shows? There was brief discussion by members including what has worked for some districts and what has not worked. It was also reported that it is up to Alateen sponsors to vote on possible closure of a meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

There are still two open Coordinator positions one for Public Outreach and one for Convention Liaison. If anyone is interested or would like more information, please contact Chairperson Cathy B.

The next meeting will be on Saturday July 9, 2016. District 18 will host. Registration begins at 8:30 am for SIAWSC, meeting starts at 9:00 am. Registration begins at 12noon for Area Assembly, meeting starts at 12:30 pm. Both meetings will be in Springfield, IL. at Memorial Medical Center, Room D229.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Tory Kleinhans  
SIAFG Recording Secretary