

Approved with corrections 7-14-18

Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.
March 10, 2018

The meeting was opened at 12:31 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 15 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 32 members present (14 voting members) at this regular meeting. JoEllyn P was designated timekeeper.

Minutes:

Rowena A read the minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held Nov. 4, 2017. The Nov. 4, 2017 SIAFG meeting minutes were presented by Mary P. A motion was made to approve and accept the minutes with corrections. It was then seconded, and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Cindy P. reported on the period from Jan. 1, 2017-Dec. 31, 2017. Beginning balance was \$8,231.14; total receipts were ~~\$16,601.92~~; ~~\$8,370.78~~ total expenses were \$6,757.26; leaving total cash on hand \$9,844.66; Savings/Reserve fund for the same period, beginning balance was \$5,062.48 (goal \$6,000): receipts of \$55.40 and the ending balance being \$5,117.88. Cindy then reported on the period from Sept. 1, 2017-Dec. 31, 2017. Beginning balance was \$10,602.96; Total receipts were ~~\$ 13,630.82~~; ~~\$3,027.86~~ total expenses were \$3,786.16; leaving total cash on hand \$9,844.66; Savings/Reserve fund for the same period; beginning balance was \$5,107.72; receipts of \$10.16; and the ending balance being \$5,117.88. According to the November 4, 2017 meeting minutes, the end of the year goal for the Reserve fund was \$6,000. In contacting Treasurer, Carol W. after the meeting, it was confirmed that she deposited \$882.12 to the reserve fund from the general fund on January 20, 2018.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT:

Annette W. distributed Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change forms. These can be found on the siafg.org website. On the bottom of the homepage, click on group changes. Then click on Al-Anon Registration /Group Records Change Form. This will bring up the form which you can type on. Once completed, download it to your computer and send it to Annette at siafggrprec@gmail.com. Along with updated District lists, Annette brought an updated list of SIAFG officers and committee members. She reminded us that Group Representatives should be relaying information from the SIAWSC and SIAFG meetings.

DELEGATE'S REPORT/DISCUSSION:

Tim E. reported some updates from the Policy Committee Meeting in January 2018.

1. The team began discussing revisions to the "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies".
2. They had a report from the Electronic/Virtual meetings Work Group.
3. The Open Policy Committee meeting at the 2018 WSC will address two topics: meditation meetings and Policy Committee Interim Action Procedures.
4. The treasurer reported transferring \$189,600 from the Reserve Fund to the General fund, as budgeted. Although the treasurer reported falling short of budgeted amount for contribution, literature sales were strong and allowed the fund to end with a small deficit.
5. Individual Group contributions to the WSO are relayed to the Delegate. Tim wanted to know if the SIAWSC members wanted to know the specifics. The consensus was to contact Tim if your group wanted that information.

Coordinator Reports:

Archives: For the last year Fern T has collected and organized SIAFG Archive Boxes. In doing so, she found 62 audio cassettes, 2 films and 1 - 8 track tape from various meetings and conventions throughout the years. The estimate Fern got for transferring this material to modern technology was \$744.00. After discussion, it was decided to reach out to members and ask if anyone has the expertise, interest, and tools to complete this project. We'll revisit this in July.

Fern also displayed a three ring binder with miscellaneous information organized by index. On top of that, Fern created a Master Index in a small binder, which has the number of each Archive Box and what is filled and stored in each box. Fern's work has been time consuming, but she feels very rewarding.

A reminder was give by Rowena A to submit a written report to the recording secretary and the News-O-Gram editor when sharing District and/or Coordinator reports.

Ways & Means: Theresa B reported that all but one bag had been sold. She asked any willing participants to bring a "summer basket" to the July meeting to be raffled.

Convention: Jan T , Convention Co-Chair reported the 2018 Illinois State AFG Convention, "Serenity along the River" will take place October 12-14, 2018 at Embassy Suites Hotel in East Peoria, IL. The website is up. Go to ilstateafgconv.org Click tabs at top to get details and registration form. Soon the site will be updated to register online, but that is not quite ready. The next Convention Planning Committee will be held March 18, 2018; 1-3pm; Hilltop Club, 115 Western Ave. Peoria. Entertainment and Program Speaker committees are still in need of a chairperson. Contact Donna Spencer, ddspencer2@comcast.net at 309-253-8547 or Jan Tucker, janimtucker@gmail.com at 309-208-5897. Members were also reminded to bring extra, unused quilt squares to the July 14 SIAWSC and/or SIAFG meetings.

Jan T also reported that World Service Office had contacted SIAFG to offer a visit to our Area within the year 2018. They would like to keep communication open between WSO and Area members, and it's been five years since the last visit. The Board of Trustees would send a trustee or staff member to our Area at their own expense. Jan will be discussing logistics with the 2018 Illinois State Convention Planning Committee on March 18 and report back with details at the July meeting. Group Representatives will be asked to spread the word of the WSO visit when details are confirmed.

Workshop: Becky R introduced herself as the Alateen coordinator. Becky explained that there were big gaps in Alateen meetings in Southern Illinois. Alateens from Springfield and Bloomington She would like to find adults willing to be certified to hold Alateen groups and she would like to find new ways to attract teens to meetings.

Becky presented a Powerpoint that explained:

1. Alateen is a part of Al-Anona Family Groups.
2. It is NOT a program for young people seeking sobriety.
3. It is NOT a therapy program.
4. AMIAS are Alanon Members involved in Alateen service. Adults have to be certified in order to work with teens. To become certified, one has to be an Alanon member, regularly attending meetings, must be at least 23, have at least 2 years in Alanon, and not convicted of a felony.
5. At least 1 AMIAS (but 2 recommended) must be at every Alateen meeting.
6. The teens are asked to set their guidelines and run their meetings.
7. AMIAS are there to provide support and encouragement, but avoid one on one interactions.
8. Teens have their own teen sponsors.
9. AMIAS keep FOCUS on Al-Anon principles.

The SIAFG meeting then broke into smaller groups and discussed ideas. It was mentioned that many teens are encouraged to go to Alateen meetings because a family member is in program. Teens are allowed to attend Al-Anon meetings. Once a teen joins a group, it is recommended to attend at least six meetings before she makes a decision to stay or go. When a parent brings a teen, recommend they continue to bring the teen for at least 6 meetings.

Success seems more probable when there are AA and Al-Anon meetings in the same building. Public libraries were mentioned as a safe and neutral place to meet, especially when teens want to keep anonymity. Pamphlets can be provided to school counselors for distribution.

District Concerns: Fern T from District 14 reported confusion on holding District meetings and finding a District Representative. Records were old and new DR was needed. She was referred to Annette, Group Records, and Al-Anon manual.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2018 at Memorial Medical Center.

District 18 will host.

The following meeting will be Nov.3, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:11p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon Member

MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING