

Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups (SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Zoom Meeting
November 4, 2023

MINUTES OF MEETING

(Approved with Corrections on 3.2.24)

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Becky R. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Al-Anon birthday/anniversaries since the last meeting in July 2023 were recognized. Rules and guidelines of the meeting were presented. Becky reminded all that the Group Representatives (GRs) are the voting members of the SIAFG Area Assembly Meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service with Warranties were read.

There were 25 members present (11 voting members) at the meeting. This was a hybrid meeting for The SIAFG Area Assembly Meeting.

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT

Christy E., Recording Secretary, requested that the District reports that are sent to Carol H. for the News-O-Gram be copied to her also in a word document format for inclusion in the minutes along with the meeting reports.

BOARD MINUTES: Rowena A. read the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from the SIAFG Area Assembly Meeting held July 15, 2023. No vote required. Becky R., Chairperson, explained to newcomers the purpose of the Board of Directors being keeping us legal relating to the business of Al-Anon.

The SIAFG Area Board consists of: Rowena A., Becky R., Carol W., Tim E., and Christy E.

AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES: The July 15, 2023 SIAFG Area Assembly Meeting Minutes which were “Revised and Non-Approved” were presented by Christy E. Two corrections were made by Tim E.

A motion was made to approve and accept the “Revised Non-Approved Minutes” of the SIAFG Area Assembly Meeting, July 15, 2023, with these additional revisions:

- **In the Treasurer’s Report section: “Tim E. asked whether a non-profit is allowed to earn interest and the answer was yet- **yes**.”**
- **In the Treasurer’s Report section : “Tim E. asked if we were sufficiently paying toward the ~~Unity United States North Central Regional Delegates Meeting~~ **World Service Conference** and Carol W. answered we are paying more than equal amount to support the other areas.”**

The motion was seconded and passed with nine “yes” votes and one “abstain” vote.

TREASURER REPORT

JoEllyn P. was not in attendance and had asked Cindy P. to report on the and the Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups Treasurer's Report and the proposed Southern Illinois Area Family Groups Annual 2024 Budget. The Budget which would need a vote for final approval.

Southern Illinois Area 16 Assembly Treasurer's Report: (Period from May 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023.)

The beginning balance was \$12,231.90 with receipts of \$2,850.34 and expenses of \$3010.21, leaving an ending operating fund balance of \$12,072.03.

The beginning balance of the Savings/Reserve Fund for this time period was \$7,392.44. With adding interest of \$1.03, the ending balance for the savings/reserve fund of \$7,393.47. There were no questions.

Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups 2024 Budget

Some clarification was made by Cindy P. that the \$200 in the "Birthday" category is for estimated donations towards Al-Anon birthdays and the \$100 in "Other Donations" was because someone gave as an individual gift at one time.

Relating to the "Do not budget fundraiser" notes on the "Fundraiser" category of "Income" section and the "Ways and Means Fund Raiser" category on the "Expense" section, Becky R. explained that we have had enough donations from our groups that budgeting for these is not needed at this time.

Christy E. asked why the proposed 2024 Budget is not balanced and was given reasons from various attendees, including Carol W. and Tim E., that the expenses include \$1,000 that go into the reserve fund, donations were down a bit, and the budget is only a guidance and an estimate. In addition, the SIAFG Area operating fund (checking account) has a net balance of around \$12,000 in it and we had no expenses for a room rental in March or November of 2023 due to those meetings being held on zoom.

It was confirmed that the budget runs from January through December.

Joan K., Group Representative, asked if Group Representatives are to do something with the "Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Group, Inc. Appeal Letter" that was sent with the other information regarding this SIAFG Area Meeting of November 4. Carol W. asked that it not be distributed yet.

A motion was made and unanimously approved to accept the SIAFG Area 2024 Budget.

Procedures for Exceeding Budget Amounts

After discussion and input of ideas regarding a how to handle clarifying procedures for exceeding budget amounts, a committee was formed. The committee includes Tim E., Shelly N., and Katie G.

TREASURER REPORT (continued)

Additional:

Carol W., SIAFG Area Delegate, mentioned the Area usually provide a donation to WSO and the dollar amount will need to be confirmed and sent.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT

Jane F. was not in attendance, but had communicated she is still having ongoing challenges with the new email system.

DELEGATE REPORT

Carol W. presented a power point that included highlights of the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention. She also presented information from the July 2023 Chairperson of the Board (COB) Meeting. Also, Carol shared that the 2024 World Service Conference is April 18-21, 2024. Carol W. shared, also, that she is willing to attend district meetings and discuss any of the WSC presentations.

Carol W.'s SIAFG Area Delegate Report is "Attachment 4" with the SIAFG Area Assembly Meeting Agenda of November 4, 2023. It will also be posted on the SIAFG Area website.

Carol W. also brought up that the idea is being discussed to draw on the Al-Anon Areas for volunteers for the Al-Anon International Convention in 2028. The need is for 400 members. She asked if there any concerns from the SIAFG Area if asked to help and there were none.

Jenny B. shared that a two years notice would be helpful.

OLD BUSINESS

ELECTION OF SIAFG OFFICERS – ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO PROPOSE

Becky R. reported that the SIAFG Area has someone interested Alternate Delegate and Carol W. said Katie G. has asked to stand. Becky R. asked if anyone else was interested. Katie G. was asked to step outside the meeting and further sharing and questions were shared by attendees.

A motion was made and unanimously approved with eleven votes to accept Katie G. as SIAFG Alternate Delegate.

COORDINATOR POSITIONS

Becky R. reported that two members have stepped up for Coordinator positions:

- Anne M. as Alateen Coordinator and she has been connected with the Alateen committee working on the recertification process.
- Jane G. as Forum/Literature to finish out the next two years.

Also, later in the meeting, two additional Coordinator positions were filled:

- Shelly N. as Archives Coordinator
- Tim E. as By-Laws Coordinator

OLD BUSINESS (continued)

ALATEEN UPDATE

Anne M. has stepped forward as the new SIAFG Area Alateen Coordinator!

The Alateen recertification process for SIAFG Area continues and Shelly N. has interest in participating in the process and has spoken with the Emily regarding this and will be involved further.

KBDM PROCESS (KNOWLEDGE BASED DECISION MAKING)

Becky R. gave some background information on the KBDM experience in the SIAFG Area and that we no longer have a software platform for us to use electronically. There was discussion of the pros and cons of the KBDM platform usage, however, Rowena A. mentioned that it can be useful as guidelines and Jane G. said it was used by the committee that she was on to develop the Electronic Meeting Guidelines.

GRs, DRs, OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS SERVICE PARTICIPATION QUALIFICATIONS

After sharing and discussion, it was suggested that a “thought force” be formed. Becky R., Carol W., Karen G., Darlene B., Tim E. and Shelly N. are willing to be on the “thought force”. Karen F. suggested using KBDM.

A motion was made and unanimously approved to use the KBDM process on a trial basis and a “thought force” committee be formed relating to service participation qualifications.

BYLAW CHANGES

Cindy P. reviewed the proposed Bylaw changes shown on “Attachment 6” of the SIAFG Area Meeting Agenda of November 4, 2023.

Of the proposed changes, the only correction was for the first word, “Written”, on Page 10, Section 8, “Notice of Meetings” not be removed.

A motion was made and unanimously approved to accept the changes in the SIAFG Area Bylaws with one change being that the word “Written” be left on Page 10, Section 8, “Notice of Meetings”.

NEW BUSINESS

US NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL DELEGATES MEETING – MARCH 15-17, BLOOMINGTON, IL

Becky R. gave background information on the purpose and details of who attends the meeting. A flier was an “Attachment 7” of the SIAFG Area Agenda for November 4, 2023. A hotel contract has been signed and a committee is working on the preparations for this event. JoEllyn P. is Chair and Tim E. is Co-Chair of the committee.

EMAIL AND WEBSITE PLATFORM COST ANALYSIS DISCUSSION

Becky R. asked what were the thoughts on process for this and what do we want to do as an Assembly on this? There were good and bad comments about the new email platform and the question was tabled until our next SIAFG Area Meeting.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- District 20 has received a request for four Al-Anon groups in the Galesburg vicinity to join their District and was inquiring if there are any SIAFG Area concerns. Discussion occurred and Jane G., District Representative for District 20, suggested this be put on the agenda for the next SIAWSC meeting and vote on it at the next SIAFG Area meeting. In the meantime, more information will be gathered for presentation to the SIAFG Area, considering the questions and input given.
- Carol W. reported that the World Service Conference is April 18-21, 2024. Also, that she is willing to attend District meetings.

DISTRICT REPORTS & GROUP CONCERNS/SUCCESSSES

District 10:

No report at this time.

District 11:

Suzanne D. reported there are currently three meetings. ~~and two are active.~~ They had a District 11 meeting a couple of weeks ago. They ordered 200 of “Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism” booklets and are going to order 100 more and have updated their mailing lists. Also, they are going to do an ornament exchange with finger food and socialize.

Also, if giving coins is re-enacted, she shared that Teresa H. has the coins and could get together with her. ~~her.~~

District 12: Kelly T., District Rep.: (emailed to Recording Secretary)

Happy Fall Days to all Alanon members.

District 12 has 13 active groups. 3 are meeting on ZOOM ONLY. 4 are meeting HYBRID. 6 are meeting IN-PERSON ONLY. Also I would like to ask if more of District 12 groups would be willing to become open to Welcoming Observers. There are only 2 open groups in District 12. We do still hold to anonymity by all observers and members. The Saturday morning RISE AND SHINE GROUP have stated they completed their Workshop on Conflict Resolution recently. They are having a birthday on October 3 with an after meeting gathering. We are grateful for the return of so many since the pandemic and excited for every Newcomer that embarks upon a better way.

Thanks

KelleyTrosper

DR 12

Also, Kelly shared that the Tuesday meeting is going to do “conflict-resolution”.

DISTRICT REPORTS & GROUP CONCERNS/SUCCESES (continued)

District 15:

No report at this time.

District 19:

Charlene V. reported that a District 19 meeting was held and they are trying to bring a workshop together. They are having an annual gratitude meeting the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and after it, lots of pie! Also, they found the coffee pot and hot pot so it will be available at the next in person Area meeting in Springfield.

Debbie M. shared she attends the Wednesday night meeting which has changed locations and continues to grow.

District 20:

Jane G., District Rep.: (emailed to Recording Secretary): In-person meetings in District 20 are well attended with many newcomers. We have one Hybrid meeting and three unregistered electronic meetings. At our last District meeting, we passed the motion to accept Electronic Groups into our service structure. Several Galesburg groups have asked to join our District. We are exploring the logistics of that change with our Delegate, Carol W.

Rowena A. shared that the Wednesday, 11:00, meeting is very strong with 15 to 21 attending.

Joan K. shared that the Wednesday, 7:00, meeting is also strong and they do the Steps, Traditions and Concepts and is glad they are covering the Traditions as they are very applicable to home life. They are also updating their contact information and email lists.

Christy E. shared that the Sunday Hilltop evening meeting will be having a group conscience as Donna S., who recently passed on, was the Group Representative. Her service was wonderful and she is missed.

District 13:

No report at this time.

District 14:

No report at this time.

Carol W. shared there are a lot of open positions.

District 16:

No report at this time.

District 17:

No report at this time.

DISTRICT REPORTS & GROUP CONCERNS/SUCCESES (continued)

District 18:

JoAnne D. shared the groups are doing well and they have recently done some outreach.

JoAnn J., Group Rep. for the Monday night group, has a good core group. Unfortunately, they have some "snow birds". They held an informational meeting at the local hospital that attracted a new member and perhaps a group will be started at the hospital.

Jenny B., of the Monday Night Serenity in Edwardsville, is the new Group Representative and this is her first SIAFG Area Meeting. She said they are trying to come back from the Covid downturn and prepared to accept newcomers, organized a workshop and making a card to passed out for information on their meetings.

Kathryn F. reported that the Wednesday in person meeting attendance has gone down a lot in the last couple of months. They are sending someone to the St. Louis AIS. Also, they are studying two different books: "Transforming Our Losses" and "Reaching for Personal Freedom".

(Additional information is available from the district representative reports in the News-O-Gram sent with the information for the SIAFG Area Assembly Meeting Agenda.)

COORDINATOR REPORTS

ALATEEN

Anne M. has stepped forward as the new SIAFG Area Alateen Coordinator.

CONVENTION

Debbie M. shared that over 340 registered for the 2023 Illinois State AFG Convention which was a really good turnout. The banquet was delicious and the hospitality room was great. She does not know any information of who in our Area will be hosting the 2024 Illinois State AFG Convention. She said a lot of planning can be done on zoom so volunteers do not have to be from your District.

Tim E. mentioned there is a fantastic handbook for State Conventions.

Tim E., Jenny B., Carol W., JoAnn J., and Tim E., Rowena A., and Darlene B., all shared their highlights, enthusiasm, and appreciation for the 2023 Illinois State AFG Convention.

COORDINATOR REPORTS (continued)

FORUM-LITERATURE

No report.

Jane G. has stepped forward as the new SIAFG Area Forum/Literature Coordinator. Becky R. will connect with Kathy H., the previous Coordinator, to get what is needed.

NEWS-O-GRAM

Becky R. shared that personal shares are tools that are helpful for your recovery.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

No report – Open Position

WAYS AND MEANS

No report – Open Position

BYLAWS

See report under OLD BUSINESS – By Laws Changes.

Tim E. stepped forward as the new ~~SIAFG Area Forum/Literature~~ ByLaws Coordinator after the US **North Central** Regional Delegates Conference is over.

ARCHIVES

No report.

Shelly N. stepped forward as the new SIAFG Area Archives Coordinator.

WEBMASTER

Becky R. has been in communication with Ed F., Webmaster Coordinator.

WRAP UP

- Tim E. shared he has a large collection of coins.
- Debbie M. shared there is a wrap-up meeting for the 2023 Illinois State AFG Convention on November 12 and a meeting to hand off the information on December 2. Shelly N. said she can attend the two meetings in Schaumburg or on zoom.
- Charlene V. said she will assure that Springfield Memorial Hospital has the dates to reserve the room for our 2024 SIAFG Area Assembly meetings.

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP (SIAFG) AREA
ASSEMBLY MEETINGS OF 2024**

March 2, 2024 – Zoom

July 13, 2024 – Hybrid

November 9, 2024 – Hybrid

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE
(SIAWSC) MEETINGS OF 2024 (ALL ZOOM)**

January 13, 2024

May 4, 2024

September 14, 2024

The motion to adjourn was made, seconded and it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 1:55 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy E.
Recording Secretary