

Accepted with Corrections March 10, 2018

Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.
November 4, 2017

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 10 and 14 were thanked for hosting today's meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 19 members present (8 voting members) at this regular meeting.

Minutes from the July 8, 2017 Board of Director's Meeting were read by Cheryl N.

Minutes: The July 8, 2017 SIAFG meeting minutes were presented by Mary P. A motion was made to accept the minutes with corrections needed, seconded, and the motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Carol W. reported on the period from May 1, 2017 thru August 31, 2017. Beginning balance was \$8,223.77; total receipts were \$3,170.69; total expenses were \$791.50; leaving total cash on hand \$10,602.96; Savings/Reserve fund for the same period, beginning balance was \$5,072.58(goal\$6,000): receipts of \$35.14 and the ending balance being \$5,107.72.

Carol then presented the proposed Budget for 2018. Estimated budget Income is \$7,793.00; Estimated Expenses are \$7,306.00; leaving \$487 operating income..

After reviewing January through August receipts, Carol increased the Group Contributions estimate to \$5,800.

The next category was the North Central Regional Delegates meeting. Three people are sent: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, and Past Delegate. Carol left this category at \$1000 for all three.

The World Service Conference Equalized Expense came next. Carol suggested paying the full amount requested (\$2,443), rather than the subsidized, or equalized amount (\$1612.00). She estimates we'll have \$5,000 in checking at the end of the year and suggested paying the full amount. **Motion was made: We will pay the full amount of \$2,443 instead of \$1,612 for the World Service Conference for the year 2018. This motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.**

Carol then explained that our goal for the Reserved Fund was \$6000. We are close to that amount now. Rather than using the 10% equation, she would like to cap the reserve fund at \$6,000 at the end of the year. Extra funds can then be distributed where needed. **Motion: We cap off the reserve fund at the end of the year with whatever funds are needed. This motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.** Carol also reminded DR's to put identification names and District numbers on any donations mailed to her.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT:

Annette W. offered handouts for members who were new to Area. They explained what to expect at Area Assemblies. She also brought the updated list of Officers and Committee Members. Each District went home with a list of meetings in their District with contact information for each group. If there are any mistakes in her lists, please contact her, not WSO, with that information. She will then contact WSO. Her email is siafggrprec@gmail.com

DELEGATE'S REPORT/DISCUSSION:

Tim reported that he gets information routinely from WSO. Here is a summary.

1. Board Vision Statement: All people affected by someone else's drinking will find help and recovery in every community.
2. Board Mission Statement: Anticipate the future and Al-Anon's place in it and ensure that the necessary resources are available.
3. 2018 World Service Conference will be held in West Harrison, New York. The theme is Al-Anon - There is no standing still!
4. 2018 International Convention Celebrating One Day a Time is Friday, July 6-8. Register at www.al-anon.org
5. 50th Anniversary One Day At A Time In Al-Anon (ODAT) commemorative edition, can be purchased at the International Convention for \$15.
6. Day of Connecting will be held on Thursday, July 5th, 2018. Registration is a separate fee of \$40 and will increase to \$45 after May 31, 2018.
7. Finance Update: In order to meet 2017 budget goal of \$2,100,000 in contributions, we'll need to receive \$600,000 in contributions during October, November and December. Besides suggesting raising individual groups' quarterly donations, Tim suggested raising our Group weekly donations from \$1.00 to \$2.00.
8. Three Al-Anon books have been discounted to \$5.99 apiece until the end of the year to help spread the Al-Anon message. ("Discovering Choices", "Many Voices, One Journey-AL-Anon Family Groups" and "The Al-Anon Family Groups - Classic Edition" The form is in the back of the Forum.

Coordinator Reports:

Alateen: Dottie Y reported for Mary S , who couldn't be present. Mary S thanks Dottie Y, Becky R, Lyri M, and Cathy B for joining her in the Alateen Group Sponsor ad hoc Committee. They helped update four SIAFG Alateen Documents. This was necessary because the Area Alateen Process Person can now electronically manage Alateen group and AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service) information with WSO.

She reported there are three active Alateen groups at this time. Two are inactive.

Dottie made a presentation showing a revision of old forms that have become outdated.

The four documents were: Southern Illinois, Area 16, Alateen Group Sponsorship Guidelines; Southern Illinois, Area 16, Requirements for Al-Anon Members in Alateen Service (AMIAS); SIAFG, AREA 16, AMIAS initial Candidate Profile; SIAFG, Area 16, AMIAS.

After the presentation was made this Motion was made: **We accept the changes made in the Alateen documents suggested by the Alateen Group Sponsor ad hoc Committee. The motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.**

A new form was created for Sponsor Recertification . This was presented and the following Motion was made. **We accept the new recertification form suggested by the Alateen Group Sponsor ad hoc Committee. This motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.**

Becky R added that Alateen groups are diminishing with no evident reason. Therefore it is difficult for some to pay for the literature to their groups - **districts to have literature for Alateen.** Other Groups could set aside money for Alateen Public Outreach if interested. Also Groups could distribute Alateen literature to ministers and professionals in their District.

By-Laws- Cindy P and Jan T found discrepancy in the by-laws concerning duties of Officers, Coordinators and District Representatives (DRs) giving reports. The current By-laws say that each Coordinator is to verbally report to SIAWSC and give a written report to Recording Secretary and News-O-Gram. There are no report guidelines for Officers and DR's.

Much discussion was had about possible revisions. **The following Motion made presented and made: Page 11 - SECTION 12. DUTIES OF SIAWSC MEMBERS -All Officers shall: Change current #5 TO #6.**

Add new #5 as follows: 5. shall prepare a written report of his or her activities. Oral report is to be given at SIAWSC and SIAFG meeting. Written reports are to be given to

News-O-Gram editor (for publication in the next News-O-Gram) and recording secretary. **Page 17-H-DUTIES OF A DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**

Replace #3 as follows: 3. shall prepare a written report of his or her activities. Oral report is to be given at SIAWSC meeting. Written reports are to be given to News-O-Gram editor (for publication in the next News-O-Gram) and recording secretary.

This motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

This means that Officers, Coordinators, and DRs should have a written and oral report. The oral report should be given by Officers at the SIAWSC and SIAFG meetings and by Coordinators and DRs at SIAWSC meeting. The written reports should go to the News-O-Gram Editor and Recording Secretary.

News-O-Gram- Deadline for next News-O-Gram is January 10, 2018. Members were reminded that the News-O-Gram is their publication and the editor's job is to organize submitted articles into a News-O-Gram and submit to Group Records Secretary for distribution. Members were also reminded that Business and Personal articles are welcome and, that Personal submissions are limited to 75 words or less. Jan T and Cindy P, By-Laws Coordinator, collaborated regarding the Officer, Coordinator, and District Representatives reporting duties and recommended a motion that was voted and passed. **Therefore Officers are to give an oral report at SIAWSC and SIAFG MEETINGS. Coordinators and DRs are to give an oral report at SIAWSC meeting. Officers, Coordinators, and DRs are to submit a written report to the Recording Secretary and News-O-Gram editor.** Jan T plans to have a draft of News-O-Gram supplement document for personation at March 2018 meeting.

Ways and Means: Theresa brought samples of bags available for the fundraiser. They cost \$3. and say "Let It Begin With Me", with two little footsteps printed below. Profit is estimated to be \$239. Contact Theresa if you have questions at tmb1008@comcast.net.

Convention: Donna S and Jan T are Convention Co-chairs. The 2018 Illinois State AFG Convention will take place October 12-14, 2018 at Embassy Suites Hotel in East Peoria, IL. The theme is "Serenity Along the River". The next planning meeting will be held November 12, 2017; 1-3pm; Hilltop Alanon Club, 115 W. Western Ave, Peoria. Communications, Entertainment, Literature, and Website committees are still in need of a chairperson. Save the date bookmarks and quilt squares were distributed. Contact Jan T at janimtucker@gmail.com or 309-208-5897 or Donna S at ddspencer2@comcast.net, or 309-253-8547 with questions or interest in volunteering.

Forum/Literature: Marge E. encouraged members to use (CAL) Conference Approved Literature. She gave reviews of some of her favorite books.

Webmaster- Lyri M. presented the changes made to the SIAFG website. One link goes to WSO website rather than 4 or 5. She will update the coordinator information on the site soon.

DISTRICT CONCERNS/SUCSESSES:

District 18: Public Outreach is provided at four Health Fairs and Chestnut Health Systems in Maryville. A luncheon was held for Al-Anon's Birthday in May and money was donated to WSO. Two scholarships of \$150 each were provided for two members to attend the Northern Illinois State Convention. District 18 collaborated with District 14 to hold 5th Annual Fun Fest.

District 11: A Spring Workshop will be held in Decatur, IL on April 6-7, 2018. Speaker is Larcine G of California. Check the website for more information.

District 14: District 14 and District 18 collaborated to hold a funfest in October. There was a great turnout. A District inventory will conclude in December. The survey was found in Survey Monkey. All answers anonymous.

District 10: District 10 provides outreach monthly to Advocate Bro Men Treatment Center. Chestnut Health System has added 14 beds for mental health issues associated with alcohol and drugs.

Group Concerns: How do you get a newcomer to come back? Discussion proceeded with some suggestions. All have felt concerned with this question.

1. It's all about timing. It's in our Higher Power's plan.
2. Verbally welcome people when you notice a new person walk in.
3. Use the first three months of Forum (old) and hand them out to new people. This will give them information on the first three steps.
4. I try to remember where my head was at when I first walked in.

Workshop: Cheryl N divided the members into four groups. Each group had a seven question survey that she found on Monkey Survey. After 20 minutes of small group discussion, the whole group convened and discussed findings. Many repeated the feeling that one day Assembly Meetings are much more productive than 2 day. Also many reported that written reports are helpful to keep members focused.

OTHER BUSINESS:Next meeting is scheduled for March 10 ,2018 at Memorial Medical Center. District 15 will host.

July 14, 2018 and November 3, 2018 are also scheduled at Memorial Medical Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon Member

MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING