

Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL
November 7, 2015

Corrected
Accepted
July 11, 2015
MP

The meeting opened at 12:30 p.m. by Cathy B., with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Everyone was welcomed & thanked District 14 for hosting today's meeting. Introductions were made, and the rules & guidelines of the meeting were discussed. Al-Anon birthdays / anniversaries since the last Assembly meeting were celebrated. There were 30 members present (15 voting members) at this regular meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service w/Warranties were read.

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT: Cathy B. explained that the minutes from the last meeting (July 11, 2015) were not available at this time. The notes were lost, but had been found just prior to today's meeting. Minutes will be reviewed and submitted for vote at the next Area meeting on March 5, 2016.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Helen B. reported the period from May 1, 2015 thru August 31, 2015. Beginning balance was \$6,148.23; total receipts were \$2,942.82; total cash available \$9,091.05; total disbursements were \$3,300.50; leaving total cash on hand \$5,790.55. Savings/ Reserve fund for the same period, beginning balance was \$3,027.43; receipts of \$53.07, and the ending balance being \$3,080.50. Helen reminded everyone the purpose of the reserve funds and that our goal is \$8,000. Helen thanked all the districts and groups for donations throughout the year.

Helen then presented the proposed budget for 2016 at \$7,395.00 (income & expenses being equal) for discussion. A motion was made to accept the budget as presented, was seconded, and the motion carried.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY: Mary S. explained how group record changes must go through the area secretary rather than the WSO. Full report is on the siafg.org website under Members' Area, Officer and Coordinators, Group Records Secretary.

DELEGATE'S REPORT/DISCUSSION: Lyri M. handed out the 2015 Conference Summary Books from the World Service Conference held earlier in March to all group representatives and anyone who wasn't here this morning. She highlighted some of the information in the summary and answered questions. The Conference Summary book is available on the WSO website.

Cathy B. announced that she accepted MaryBeth's resignation as Recording Secretary. In the meantime Tory K. has expressed interest in serving as recording secretary for the remaining term. But before putting this to vote by the Assembly, Cathy asked all DR's and past DR's to stand; asking if anyone else wanted to volunteer, no one remained standing. A motion was made to accept Tory K. as the recording secretary for the remaining term ending December 31, 2016. Motion was seconded and unanimously accepted.

WORSHOP – AREA INVENTORY: Tim E. divided the attendees into 6 smaller groups, and the groups were allowed 20 minutes to discuss their chosen topics & answer the questions. These were then shared with the Assembly. – Conclusions:

Positive: People felt welcome. The visuals on the screen were very helpful. Food and fellowship were good. One day rather than two was appreciated. Organization and rules ahead of time were appreciated. Agendas sent prior to meeting were appreciated.

Negative: Directions for parking was not clear as well as directions to the room was not clear. Registration fee was not known prior to today. Sidebar conversations are distracting. Some redundancy from the morning meeting to the afternoon meeting. Acronyms need to be explained.

Solutions: Add clear directions to parking and room location. Registration fee and other information to be included in new packets being created by Mary S. and Marian M. Bringing guests will be encouraged.

CONVENTION UPDATE 2016 Ill. State AFG Convention

Cathy B. and Lyri M. explained that the convention is a way for all members (and non-members) to celebrate recovery. Speakers, meetings, activities and banquet are all part of the celebration.

Quilt squares (with detailed instructions) were handed out and encouraged to be completed using Al-Anon / Alateen slogans or convention theme related "Unmasking Our True Selves". Deadline to mail the completed squares to the quilter is June 1, 2016. Donation of fabric pieces for the quilt is appreciated.

Groups are encouraged to make baskets using at least one piece of Al-Anon literature, and the contents of the basket should include convention theme and/or Al-Anon & Alateen related ideas. The quilt and baskets will be raffled at the convention and all proceeds go to the convention to help cover part of the convention costs.

Registration can be made on-line starting now, go to www.ilstateconv.org to register for the convention and book your hotel reservation. The code for the discount is AFG. Marge E. is the state convention web coordinator and updates to the convention website will be ongoing.

Lyri stated that we still have two committee chairs to fill: Volunteer Coordinator and Banquet Coordinator. We also need a secretary to record minutes during the convention committee meetings.

Cathy B. stated that Serenity bags had been sold at the 2015 IL State AFG Convention and brought in money. Would that be something the group wanted to take on? There was no discussion.

COORDINATOR REPORTS

WAYS & MEANS: Kathy H. presented 3 options for next year's fundraiser for Area. They could each be sold for \$2.00 with profit approximately \$1.00 each: Highlighter/pens, Letter Openers, and Coasters were discussed in detail. A motion was made to purchase 250 highlighter/pens with the slogan "Just for Today", with profit going to Area; and 200 coasters (same as last year) with the profit going to the 2016 IL State AFG Convention. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

ALATEEN COORDINATOR: Becky R. stated she had asked for help in maintaining the AAPP portion of the responsibilities, and Marian M. Alternate Delegate, has volunteered to help.

NEWS-O-GRAM COORDINATOR: Marge E. stated that January 10, 2016 is the deadline for submission of articles, etc., for the next issue. She also shared that the News-o-Gram is a publication with information about area events and district information.

FORUM/LITERATURE COORDINATOR: JoEllyn P. stated that a conflict/resolution booklet is now available in Spanish and French (#S72). She also encouraged people to submit articles to WSO about their own stories.

ARCHIVES COORDINATOR: Fern T. found a fellow Al-Anon member to store our Area archives.

Cathy B. mentioned that the Public Outreach Coordinator position is still open. It links the WSO and Districts and Groups. Anyone interested, please contact the Chairperson. Also the Convention Liaison position is still open. It links SIAFG & NIAFG with current state convention information. Anyone interested is welcome to talk with Jan T. for more details.

GROUP CONCERNS: Positive activities include: A group that has a half hour meeting two months before the Area meeting and three times a year to discuss business that takes longer than allowed weekly. Multiple groups talked about members meeting for lunch and having fellowship activities. On-line meetings were discussed with positive and negative remarks.

OTHER BUSINESS

Workshop – AWSC Inventory, will be done at the next meeting in March 2016.

The next SIAWSC & Area Assembly meetings will be March 5, 2016 (same place), District 16 to host.

The meeting closed at 3:45 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pirtle

Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon member
Interim Recording Secretary