

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS, INC.
AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES
MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
14 October 2012

Meeting opened at 9:10 am with the Serenity Prayer and Thank You to District 11 for hosting assembly. Steps, Traditions and Concepts with Warranties were read and introductions of newcomers were made. Minutes were approved as sent with corrections and additions. Al-Anon Birthdays were recognized.

Group Records—Mary Sutton: **IS YOUR HOME GROUP USING THE MOST RECENT FASTER WAY OF GETTING COMMUNICATION FROM WSO?** Your groups' CMA (Current Mailing Address) has the opportunity to receive the most recent group news from WSO if you have given the SIAFG Group Records Secretary an e-mail address to receive Al-Anon information electronically. **Group e-news** is the newest fastest way for WSO to keep your group informed. If your group is receiving this information an e-mail address was submitted to SIAFG and/or WSO as an electronic contact. The group CMA is responsible for getting this information to the group by bringing and discussing the information at your meetings and/or forwarding this information to group members. This means of communication speeds up the connection from WSO to the groups. If your group **isn't connected**, please have a group conscience about joining *Group e-news*. Please send the new CMA information to siafggrprec@gmail.com or to Mary L. Sutton, 608 W. Teton Dr., Peoria, IL 61614-2047

WSO will be sending an Annual group information request soon. Please check all information and send the updates or confirmation of correct information to siafggrprec@gmail.com or to; Mary L. Sutton, 608 W. Teton Dr., Peoria, IL 61614-2047.

Treasurers Report—Rowena Beginning balance \$2324.47. Reserve Fund is \$1200.00, making cash on hand \$3524.47. Receipts- \$1505.55. Total cash on hand, \$5050.02. Disbursements- \$788.29. Total cash on hand is \$4261.73 minus reserve fund of \$1220.00 leaving available ending balance of \$3041.73. Proposed Budget for 2013 was presented after discussion of following Tradition 7 it was decided to present to assembly the following changes, motel allows increased to \$1300.00 from the proposed \$650.00. Miscellaneous was reduced to \$100.00 from proposed \$200.00 bringing total budgeted expenses to \$7620.00. To balance the budget other donations would be increased to \$550.00 from projected \$100.00. Proposed budget presented with discussion of changes

- 1 form for officers expenses to be change
- 2 Hotel reimbursement to be raised to \$45.00.
- 3 WSO contribution to be \$180.00 Accepted with these changes.

Workshop-- Lyri had attendees divide into 6 groups to discuss parts of the inventory with report backs from each group to assembly.

Coordinators Reports

Convention Liaison—Jan T **2012 Illinois State AFG Convention** "Bloom in Normal" held September 28, 29 & 30, 2012 at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center in Normal, IL was a great success. Thanks to the committee for their dedicated hard work and to all who attended, you all made this convention a wonderful experience. Attendance totaled 243 (211 Al-Anon, 8 Alateen, and 24 AA). Jane P. from Peoria won the quilt. **2013 Illinois State AFG Convention** "T.H.I.N.K." will be held October 25-27, 2013 at Eaglewood Resort in Itasca, IL. Pre-Registration form is available at this meeting and on SIAFG website. **2014 Illinois State AFG Convention** will be hosted in Bloomington/Normal area and will be hosted by District 11. **2012 Illinois State AFG Convention Resource Committee (CRC) meeting** will be held December 8, 2012 at Holy Trinity Parish in Bloomington, IL. This is the 'business meeting' for the Illinois State AFG Convention that facilitates sharing of information between SIAFG and NIAFG. Agenda for this meeting is similar to any other business meeting and includes such things as: minutes from last meeting, treasurers report, Guideline update, etc. **Al-Anon International Convention** will be held in Vancouver, BC July 5-7, 2013. Registration has begun. Registration forms have been mailed to groups. Convention information is also available by clicking on the 'Al-Anon International Convention' at WSO website (www.al-anon.org/members). **AA International Convention** will be held in Atlanta, GA in 2015.

Am so EXCITED!!!! Betsy Crang will become the new SIAFG Convention Liaison on 1/1/2013

2012 Illinois State Convention – Kathy H All committees chairs are working on reports and finalizing bills and bank accounts, etc. Wrap up meeting is planned for the end of October.

News-O-Gram—Cindy P for Rita Deadline for articles 12 JAN 2013.

Ways and Means—Kathy H Suggested raiser for 2013 is key chains that are functional and reasonably priced. March Area Assembly fund raiser will be 'Let's think Spring'.

Public Outreach—Cindy P Suggestions for the use of "Best of Public Outreach", the "How To Do It" is a good tool to use. It's available on members site under Public Outreach. Consider having a Public Outreach workshop and pot luck and inviting member interested in learning more about Public Outreach. Set up your computer to give an overview of The Best of Public Outreach. This tool provides so much information and suggestions on reaching out to family and friends of alcoholics. Perhaps print hard copies to pass out. Be creative in use of soft cover "How Al-Anon Works. Deliver

THE MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING

books to schools, professionals, etc. or place in waiting rooms(with their permission) Put a pocket on the inside with Al-Anon info bookmarks and something with your answering service number and website. Inscribe the pocket-"Enjoy this book while wait". Check back occasionally and refill as needed. Log onto Members Website, click on "Surveys of Members" and participate in the survey which is Conference Approved, anonymous, and confidential.

Literature/Forum—JoEllyn P It is discussed on e-communities that groups should encouraged to use Conference Approved Literature. The newest book *Many Voices, One Journey* has discussion questions that would make good meeting material. Both *Opening Our Hearts*, *Transforming Our Losses* and *Discovering Choices* both have discussions after each chapter.

Remember the Forum as meeting material. Workshops are also encouraged, with "I Can" as an example, which is looking through CAL for "I can" statements. A writing workshop where members are asked to write about their experience, strength, and hope or some particular subject and submit the to the Forum, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism or even in a piece of new literature.

Archives—Fern T Reminder given to DRs about the history check list. Should have the person's name and district number with date of filing. Our history is important to us. Suggested that members should read "LOIS REMEMBERS" published in 1979. She has newsletters printed from May thru August 1977 with letters They came to a Nashville, IL member from a member in So Dakota and have articles from everywhere in the US and even Australia.

By-Laws Cathy S "Temporary" changes to By-Laws.

Secretary--On pg. 12, D., # 2 & 3 to read not more than 45 days after each meeting.

Alt Delegate—on pg. 11, B., 4 shall be...add if there is no Alateen Coordinator to fulfill these duties.

Alateen Coordinator—on pg. 14, 1, b. shall be... process person for...

Alateen Coordinator—Dottie Y The participation of SIAFG Alateen at the 2012 AFG Illinois State Convention was an exciting event. Our Alateen Speakers were Gracie E from NIAFG and our Jessica B from SIAFG. Peoria Alateen Sponsors and Alateen Members had planned activities for Saturday noon to 6pm that included lunch and get acquainted activity, a meeting with topic "Bloom Inside you", a game styled after Jeopardy with categories being the Steps and Traditions where points were awarded, and a scrapbook session where the Alateens created a page featuring a slogan and capped off with pizza and wings in the Hospitality Room for closing activity. Another Alateen part of the Convention included a Sponsors Workshop worked up by both NIAFG and SIAFG Coordinators It was well attended by Sponsors from both areas. Getting acquainted and working with the NIAFG Coordinator was a very valuable experience for which I am grateful . Motion made and passed to pay for background checks as needed for registering new sponsors.

Webmaster—Nicole demonstrated how to navigate on both the area level and WSO sites. She feels the need for an editor to help with keeping with the traditions in organizing programs as she develops them. Jan T will do this temporarily.

Delegate Report—**Delegates Report:** Cathy B. stated that copies of the delegate's summary notes from the June '12 Assembly are available for those needing copies. Also those who didn't receive the email this week regarding summary notes for today's meeting are also available. Conference Summary books are here and will be distributed to all officers, coordinators, and district representatives. Those not in attendance this weekend, will receive their copy via snail mail. If any extras left over, they will be available to those who want them after the Assembly meeting on 10/13. Cathy read a letter from WSO regarding a membership survey being conducted from Sept. 10 to Oct. 21, 2012. All Al-Anon members are encouraged to go to the members' website and complete the survey. The 2013 WSC meeting will be in Virginia Beach April 14-18, and the WSO is looking for chosen agenda items. A sheet will be passed around during the Area Assembly meeting for anyone to write their ideas. Any submissions from our Area must be in writing by the first week in December 2012. Cathy then discussed in more detail the Conference Structure changes as proposed by WSO. The main objective is to ensure each group has ample representation at the Area level, and to promote opening channels of communication, and encourage more participation at the Area level. Lots of discussion ensued; asking the assembly members for their comments and recommendations to carry forward. The WSO is encouraging each Area to write a 'Do Not Refer' policy and to incorporate that policy into action. Cathy asked for recommendations from the assembly members as to suggestions for where to begin in writing such a policy. Cathy then discussed KBDM, and to help demonstrate its effectiveness, a skit was performed with the help of volunteers from the audience. KBDM is the methodology in gathering information first, then having discussions, then make the motion and not the other way around.

Additional Business—Lyri will send summary re: courtesy guidelines.

Next SIAFG Assemblies-- March 9-10,2013, July 13-14, 2013, and November 2-3, 2013.

There were no Ask it Basket questions.

Marybeth S -- District 18 DR, asks if all the districts in southern Illinois would share their Answering Service phone numbers and if they could say what counties they encompass.

March Workshop-- Will be JOB FARE as elections are coming soon.

Raffles for Forum and Ways & Means done

Meeting adjourned at about 2:30 pm

Respectfully submitted, Marty H, Recording Secretary

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