

Accepted with corrections 11-2-19

Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.
July 13, 2019

The meeting was opened at 10:31 a.m. by Chairperson Cathy B. 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 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 38 members present (17 voting members) at this regular meeting. Becky R was designated timekeeper.

Cathy B asked for Al-Anon birthdays to stand. There were 6 birthdays ranging from 2-32 years. Cathy then read a note from Chairperson Rowena A. explaining that because of health reasons, she would not be chairing for the July and November SIAWSC (Southern Illinois Area World Service Committee or World Service Committee Meeting) and SIAFG (Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Group or Assembly or Area)meetings. She has asked Cathy B to step in and appreciates her work and all the members. Rowena will continue as our Registered Agent. Rowena is thankful for her Al-Anon family and her Al-Anon family is thankful for her.

BOARD MINUTES: Mary P read the minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held March 2, 2019.

MINUTES:The March 2, 2019 minutes were presented by Mary P. Corrections were made. A motion was made to approve and accept minutes with corrections. It was then seconded and the motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Carol W reported on the period from January 1, 2019 thru April 30, 2019. Beginning balance was \$13,964.01; receipts were \$2,753.97, which made the total receipts \$16,717.98; total expenses were \$1,643.39; leaving total cash on hand before reserve donation \$15,074.59; Reserve Donation for this period was \$0 since we have attained our goal of \$6,000. That leaves the ending balance of total cash on hand \$15,074.59. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period; beginning balance was ~~\$6,010.35~~ \$6,010.53 (goal\$6,000): We received \$.17 in interest, leaving the Reserve fund at \$6,010.7

Carol then reported on the proposed budget for 2020. She stressed that to arrive at her figures, she used data from 2017 - 2019. The estimate had revenue at \$8,850 and expenses at \$7,858. There were revisions to the estimates for the forum, means and ways coin, domain name and WSO donation. The revised estimate has revenue at \$8,710 and expenses at \$8,305 with a surplus of \$405. One question that would be brought to the Area was "Should we increase the donation to WSO from \$500-\$1,000?"

There was a discussion, and a motion ensued.

Motion: Increase the amount of donation to WSO from \$500 to \$1,000 for the year 2019. The motion was made, seconded, and voted in unanimously.

THOUGHT FORCE:

Because the previous discussion pertained to excess funds, Cathy B presented the Thought Force Work. First she presented a report on the Knowledge Based Decision Making Procedures (KBDM) used to gather pertinent information.

Then she gave the history of the Area being broke fifteen years ago. When that happened, the Ways & Means Committee was tasked with holding fundraisers. The World Service Committee Meeting decided to meet three times a year rather than four. They also decided to cut the Meetings from two days to one. This allowed a slow rise in funds until we found ourselves in the surplus we have today.

Now we have the surplus and aren't used to spending it. The Task Force found three areas we might want to fund in some way: Fellowship, Public Outreach, Group Services.

After much discussion, Mary S suggested setting up a committee to figure out ways we might use funds for Group Service, Public Outreach and/or Fellowship.

Laura C (District 20), Carol H (District 12), Suzanne D, (District 11), and Sue W (District 19) volunteered to develop guidelines for using extra funds using Group Services, Fellowship, and Public Outreach Projects. Carol W will not change the budget at this time. This Committee will report back at the November 2, 2019 meeting.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT: Susan B. reiterated that any Group Changes needed to go through the Group Records Secretary. The correct Change Form should be in the news-o-gram and on the website.

DELEGATE: Tim E reported that electronic meetings are increasing at an average of one a day. Electronic Literature is also in demand. Changes to the Al-Anon Handbook will be ready by August. They include updates to the Administrative Staff (pages 139,140, 168, 171) and Concept Five (pages 186,187). The AA International Convention will be in Detroit, MI July 2-5 in 2020.

Tim also updated us on the Finance Report from WSO as of December, 31, 2018. Literature sales were up for 2018. Contributions for 2018 were lower. Forum subscriptions were lower than budgeted. The Reserve Fund investment account continues to be sensitive to market conditions. Expenses are higher than income, so they are dipping into the Reserve fund.

Last of all, Tim pronounced what a life changing event being a Delegate was for him. He quoted Lois. "We get something at these huge, unique gatherings that cannot be gained in any other way." He thanked us for the honor of serving.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

WAYS and MEANS: Theresa B reported that she will continue to sell Al-Anon birthday coins, but will do no further fundraisers at this time.

NEWS-O-GRAM: Jan T thanked everyone who submitted articles for publication in the last edition of the News-O-Gram. The deadline for the Fall publication is September 10, 2019. Send to siafnog.org@gmail.org or Jan Tucker, 105 Susan Ct, East Peoria, IL 61611.

ARCHIVES: Fern T noted that she had a good selection of archives and welcomes more. She asked that all documents have the name of District, Group, person sending information, and date. Although Fern had to send her report, she expects to be at the November 2 meeting with a sample from her archives.

CONVENTION LIAISON: Cathy B distributed flyers giving information about the Illinois State AFG Convention. It will be held October 11-13 in Schaumburg, IL. She also reminded the Assembly that the planning for the 2020 Illinois State AFG Convention should begin soon. A hotel has to be decided upon. Chairperson and Co-Chairperson need to volunteer. Michael P from District 19 volunteered to work with Cathy B on finding a hotel in the Springfield area. A Chairperson is still needed.

Al-Ateen: Becky R has trained 2 new AMIAS in District 10. All current AMIAS have recertified through Mary S, as is protocol. Darlene, from Edwardsville, contacted her for help in getting an Al-Ateen group up and running. This inspired Becky to note that there are many ups and downs, ebbs and flows, especially where teens are concerned. She encourages all of us to be OK with a small group or even a group where no one shows. If we continue to keep it open, someone will find us. She reminds us all that she is willing to help with Al-Ateen groups in any way. Contact Becky at rroppp@growmark.com or 217-369-8164.

FORUM & LITERATURE: Kathy H stated that 2 Al-Anon pamphlets have been pulled because of questionable wording. "Are My Parents Problem Drinkers?" and "Al-Anon welcomes Gays and Lesbians". The second pamphlet will be reworded with "LGBTQ".

WEBMASTER: Lyri showed the audience how easy it is to navigate the website. She encouraged all to consider standing for Webmaster at elections.

BY-LAWS: Cindy is making sure the changes from the last meeting are put on the website.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

DISTRICT 10: Kathy H reported that she has resigned as DR after 9 years of serving. No one has stood yet, but she is hopeful someone will soon.

District 11: Theresa B says attendance is down. They still go to a treatment center monthly for public outreach. She will send out a flyer later in the summer detailing another Public Outreach event in which all District members are welcome.

District 12: Cathy B reported that her District had very little participation in District and Area meetings. Then she held informational meetings about service at different locations.. These were very successful. Now her District has all positions filled. Her District held a fellowship event in May in which 20

members attended. She is still working on updating contact information for each group in her District and determining if they are active.

District 14: Katie G says that her District had a spring workshop Roundup in April. They will be participating at an event about Mental illness at the Shrine on August 23.

District 15: Connie has been reaching out to people to participate. Her District had a workshop and had little attendance, but she has decided to keep going, keep holding events, and spreading the word.

District 18: Joellyn P's District had Health Fairs in the spring. They also have a potluck with a speaker planned for Sept. 28.

District 19: Charlene V reported her District started an Alateen meeting this winter and their Sunday night Alateen group is doing well.

District 20: Mary S reported that Tori had to resign from the position because of moving to Wisconsin. Mary S is the interim DR. Her District had early elections so that the people new to positions could be mentored. Mary P will be the DR and Christy E will be the Alternate DR.

ELECTIONS: Cathy B asked people who were interested in each position to stand. Each recruit would go to the hall while the vote was held. Here is a list of positions filled. Chairperson and Webmaster are still open.

Treasurer: Carol W

Recording Secretary: Mary P

Group Records: Susan B

Delegate: JoEllyn P

Alternate Delegate: Theresa B

The Coordinators will be appointed at the November meeting. Please pray about standing for Chairperson and/or Webmaster.

GROUP CONCERNS: Wendy K from District 18 shared that the church where her home meeting was being held closed. They were given a very short notice and had to scramble to find a new location, but were successful.

Colleen D from District 20 mentioned that her home group is the only one in the Peoria area that offers babysitting. They went through a rough time without enough funds to pay the babysitter, so asked the District members if they could personally donate or if a Group would consider a one time donation. Between those pleas, they weathered the storm and are again self-sufficient.

Sue from District 19 stressed that people gain so much from service. And she was proud of Michael for stepping up to offer help in finding a hotel for the Convention.

Susan B thanked people for sharing. After hearing Colleen talk about babysitting for a group, she is inspired to take that information back to her District to share. She also feels that service is important. If you're not doing service, you're not getting the benefit of the whole program. But how do you get people to serve?

Brenda from Champaign said that her sponsor made service a requirement if the member wanted her for a sponsor.

Becky R said Bloomington had an AA meeting connected with the Alateen kids on a panel. The AA members were thoughtful and the Alateen kids learned lots.

OTHER BUSINESS: Certification for liability of insurance is still a concern. Sandy W presented information from Northern at the March meeting. No one volunteered to look into it, but Mary S from District 20 stated that a member from her home group had contacts in the insurance community. Mary has been in touch with one of these contacts and will report back in November what she has found out. Susan B will help Mary with compiling and making sense of the information. They will also use Sandy W as a resource.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2019 at Springfield Memorial Medical Center. District 11 will host. **REMINDER: SIAWSC meeting will begin at 9. SIAFG meeting will begin at 9:45 and last until 2 with a lunch break. Then the SIAWSC members will stay for another half hour meeting to trouble shoot and plan.**

This meeting was adjourned at 3:23p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon Member

MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING