

Accepted with Corrections Nov. 3, 2018
Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)
Area Assembly Meeting
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.
July 14, 2018

The meeting was opened at 12:36 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 18 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 31 members present (14 voting members) at this regular meeting. Wendy from District 18 was designated timekeeper.

Rowena A updated the group with members' situations. Betsy C has passed away. A blank journal was distributed for members to share thoughts and memories which will be given to the family. Mario, a longtime member is at Barnes Hospital with lymphoma. (Mario died July 17.) Cathy, a former Area Chairperson, is in the hospital. Charlene's husband is in the hospital suffering from a heart attack. Theresa, Ways and Means Chair, is having surgery today with a broken wrist. Please keep all in your prayers.

Minutes:

Rowena A reported that minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held March 10, 2017 were not taken because there were no votes taken.

The March 10, 2017 SIAFG meeting minutes were presented by Mary P. Corrections were made. A motion was made to approve and accept the minutes with corrections. It was then seconded, and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Carol W reported on the period from Jan. 1, 2018-April 30, 2018. Beginning balance was \$9,844.66; total receipts were \$3,478.57; total expenses were \$394.94; leaving total cash on hand before reserve donation \$12,928.29; Reserve Donation for 2017 was \$882.12 leaving the ending balance of total cash on hand \$12,046.17. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period; beginning balance was \$5,117.88 (goal \$6,000): receipts of \$892.30 were from the general fund, interest and birthday donation bringing the ending balance to \$6,010.18. A short discussion ensued about the possibility of donating \$500 to WSO since we have the extra funds at the time. **A motion was made to send \$500 to WSO. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Carol then reported on the proposed 2019 Budget. She explained that she used the 2017 data as a template and increased or decreased categories with estimates. She increased forums from 7 to 13 subscriptions. Carol increased the World Service Conference Expense from \$2,443.00 to \$2,500.00. She questioned the amount for Ways and Means and reiterated that all of these numbers are estimates. In this proposal, total receipts are estimated at \$7,993.00, and the total budgeted expenses would be \$7,288.00 with an excess of \$705.00. **This proposal will be voted on at the next SIAWSC meeting November 3, 2018.**

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT:

Rowena reported that Annette W. has resigned as the Group Records Secretary. Annette felt she did not have the time to do the job properly. Many thanks goes to Annette for all her hard work. Rowena explained that the position is now open and asked Mary S, a former Group Records Secretary to define the job and its duties. Mary stated that records are done electronically with WSO (World Service Office). All SIAFG changes go through the SIAFG Group Records Secretary. When changes come in the Secretary updates WSO, SIAFG, gmail account, and notifies the webmaster of any changes that may be needed on the website. This position also is the connection for officers, coordinators, District Representative, Group Representatives and CMA (Current Mailing Address) communication. You will also be

responsible to send out the News-O-Gram electronically and a few by United States Postal Service. When there is a new District Representative, Group Representative, or Group, you will send several documents to them as a welcome. These documents have already been created. One last responsibility is to update the SIWSC (Southern Illinois World Service Committee) list. These are the people who attend the Saturday morning Area meeting. This information is sent to the Delegate to notify WSO and our webmaster for changes to website. These details can be found on the SIAFG.org website under Member's Area, subtitle Officers and Coordinators, password (area16) you will find a list of job descriptions. Rowena asked for volunteers to stand. There were no volunteers at this time.

DELEGATE'S REPORT/DISCUSSION:

Tim E. reported his attendance at the World Service Conference was positive. The Conference had no agenda items up for a vote. It was mostly an informative meeting with workshops and topics. Some topics: How do we encourage attendance in rural areas? What are your thoughts on members who are dual members - should they hold positions? What are our Area's "policy" for members to hold certain position? What is our Area's procedure of members wanting to apply for WSO Trustee? One workshop had a topic question with the directions to discuss only in one way. (negative, logically, facts only, positive, emotionally, rational) After a short discussion, they would have to change tactics and discuss in a different way. He stated that this was an interesting method.

The Handbook has been updated and can be bought or downloaded. A new book on Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships is available. A new pamphlet called Open Understanding for Parents and Grandparents is available, as is the 50 year edition of One Day at a Time.

Tim reminded the group that the Delegate position is open next year and asked people to pray on it. He feels he has grown in many ways from his experience. He reminded everyone that Al-Anon gives us an opportunity to grow - especially through service.

Coordinator Reports:

Alateen: Becky R reported Midlakes Conference for Alateens is to be held at Illinois Wesleyan July 27, 28 and 29 of this year. She has forwarded all information to AMIAS in the Area. She is pleased that it is local since it is often held in other states and feels it's a good opportunity for Alateens. Mary S reported that all AMIAS have been re-certified with only two choosing to become inactive.

Ways and Means: Kathy H spoke for Theresa B who was in the hospital for surgery. Kathy said she has two boxes of the blue "Let It Begin With Me" bags selling for \$3.00. Kathy also mentioned she had medallions for ~~Alanon~~ Al-Anon birthdays to sell. If anyone was interested, see her at the break.

Forum and Literature: Kathy H said she had inherited two totes full of Al-Anon hardback books, pamphlets, CDs, tapes, and miscellaneous and wanted to offer it to the group for donations if possible. If anything was left after that, she would add them to the afternoon raffle. She informed the group that WSO sent new literature to the Forum and Literature Chair so they could share them with their Area. Rather than keeping them forever in a tote, it was decided this morning to share them at two Area Meetings and then sell them.

Archives: As the Archives Chair, Fern T felt it is important to share various Archives Material with the Area Assembly Members. She shared a 1990's article written by Joseph Kellerman who was a close member of the Al-Anon Family. Besides other articles and pamphlets, he wrote "Alcoholism: A Merry-Go-Round Named Denial". At the March 10 SIAWSC and SIAFG meetings Fern had asked for aid in updating old tapes into newer technology. Jane P from Peoria was her "miracle". Jane P is currently working on the updates for the cost of a flash drive. Fern also shared that in organizing all 7 tubs of information she had received, she had spent \$137.25 at ~~Kinkos~~ Cavco Printing and wondered if she could be reimbursed. **A motion was made to reimburse Fern T \$137.25 for updating archives. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.** Fern thanked the group and reminded them to label any archives sent to her with your name, district, and date, and the topic of the article.

Webmaster: Lyri M explained that the footer on every page of the website includes the following tabs: Contribution forms, Calendar, and Group Changes. The SIAFG site gets 300-400 visits per week. Most are looking for information on meetings.

News-O-Gram: The deadline for the Fall/Winter 2018 News-O-Gram is September 10, 2018. Please send information to siafgnog.org@gmail.com or Jan Tucker, 105 Susan Ct, East Peoria, IL 61611. Personal submissions are limited to 75 words or less.

Convention: Jan T gave an update on the 2018 Illinois State AFG Convention. The website www.ilstateafgconv.org is up and working. It has many details and links. The quilt is currently being constructed. Gift baskets created by each group can be brought to the convention on October 12 and dropped off. The website describes the basket parameters. Please go to the website and offer your ideas on Meeting Topic Suggestions. There will be breakout sessions of Zentangle and River Rock Painting. The Photo Booth will be manned by the Alateens from 11am-1pm on Saturday, October 13. You can register online. If you click on volunteers, you can be of service at the Convention. Jan brought jars with "Silver for Service" that could be taken to fill with spare change and brought to the Convention. A Music Circle will be held 15 minutes after the Banquet. This is comprised of any willing member who wants to share his/her expertise in singing or playing an acoustical instrument. Along with that, there will be tables that can be used to play cards or games that members bring to play. There are printable flyers and forms on the website. The next Planning Committee meeting will be a walk through at the hotel on August 22 at 4:30 pm.

WSO Trustee Visit: Rowena reported that The World Service Office had contacted our Area to ask if we would be interested in a visit from the Board of Trustees. This would mean a Trustee would visit us and present her personal story, and also hold a workshop. The WSO would fund the transportation, hotel, and food. In the morning session the possibilities were discussed. Consensus was that the spring meeting would be the best time of year for this to work. The Trustee could tell her personal story on Friday night in Springfield at the Memorial Hospital where we have the Area meetings. The following day she would be invited to the Area meeting to share a workshop with SIAFG members. The members were asked if they wanted to pursue the visit of the Trustee to SIAFG. **A motion was made that we pursue asking a trustee to visit Area in 2019 . The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Rowena A and Tim E will contact WSO Trustees to work out details and report at the November 3 SIAFG meeting.**

District Concerns: Fern T from District 14 reported they were having trouble finding a District Representative. Records were old and new DR was needed. She was referred to Al-Anon manual.

District 15 wanted to report an invitation to an event "Fall Into Gratitude/Leave Feeling Empowered" event in Quincy on September 8 from 10am-noon. It will be held at Union United Methodist Church.

Rowena reminded the Group that the position of Group Records was still open. She asked anyone who felt qualified to stand. Susan B stood. She told the Group that she had been a system analyst in her "former life" and wants to serve. The position would not be complicated for her. She was asked to step in the hall while discussion and the vote took place. When asked to raise hand to accept Susan in the position of Group Record, 13 hands raised to make it unanimous. **Susan B is the new Group Records Secretary.**

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 3, 2018 at Memorial Medical Center. District 19 will host.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.
Respectfully submitted,
Mary Pirtle, Al-Anon Member

MINUTES WILL NOT BE READ AT THE MEETING