

Accepted with corrections 7-13-19  
Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. (SIAFG)  
Area Assembly Meeting  
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL.  
March 2, 2019

The meeting was opened at 12:44 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 20 was thanked for hosting today's meeting. The Al-Anon 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts of Service were read. There were 36 members present (18 voting members) at this regular meeting. JoEllyn P was designated timekeeper.

Rowena A asked for Al-Anon birthdays to stand. There were 5 birthdays ranging from 1-11 years.

**Rowena then announced that Katie G from District 14 had accepted the job of interim alternate delegate for the rest of the term. Elections are in November.**

**BOARD MINUTES:** Rowena A read the minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held Nov. 3, 2018.

**MINUTES:**The Nov. 3, 2018 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 September 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2018. Beginning balance was \$13,625.38; total receipts were \$2,770.05; total expenses were \$2,431.42; leaving total cash on hand before reserve donation \$13,964.01; Reserve Donation for ~~2017~~ **this period** was \$0 since we have attained our goal of \$6,000. That leaves the ending balance of total cash on hand \$13,964.01. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period; beginning balance was \$6,010.35(goal\$6,000): We received \$.18 in interest, leaving the Reserve fund at \$6,010.53.

Carol then reported on the period from January 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2018. Beginning balance was \$9,844.66; total receipts were \$ 8,903.58; total expenses were \$3,902.11; leaving total cash on hand before reserve donation \$14,846.13. A reserve donation of \$882.12 was done, which leaves cash on hand of \$13,964.01. Savings/Reserve fund for the same period:beginning balance was \$5,117.88, with general fund donation, interest and contributions leaving a balance of \$6,010.53 The reserve fund goal of \$6,000 has been met.

The Checking account signers need to be changed since Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Group (SIAFG) has had officer changes. Carol W. (treasurer) will provide documentation (meeting minutes on letterhead) to US Bank to add Rowena Altic (Chairperson/registered agent) and Mary Pirtle (recording secretary)and remove Cheryl N. and Annette W, adding the new signers with full account access. Mary Pirtle and Rowena Altic will take meeting minutes to US Bank and provide ID to complete the steps necessary to get added to the account. When there is change in officers, this procedure will be repeated with new names.

**GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY REPORT:** Although Susan was ill and absent, she reported that she will email any group changes she has been given to the Group Representatives.

**DELEGATE:** Tim was ill and absent, but has committed to attending the World Service Conference in April.

**WORKSHOP/SPEAKER:** Sandy W from Northern Illinois gave a presentation on Service. It was an inspiring speech that reminded us that fear and the illusion of perfection were often the reasons we hesitate to serve. The joy we get from service outdoes the fear and perfection issue if we allow ourselves to dip our toes into giving back.

**COORDINATOR REPORTS:**

**WAYS and MEANS:** Theresa B talked about the extra money we have in our banking account. She wondered if we should table the fundraising for the year and look into options. She relayed the motion that had been made at the SIAWSC meeting. **The motion was: We will table Ways and Means for this budget year. We will have a thought force to see what we can do differently with our finances chaired by Cathy B. Members include Maurielle P from District 15, Kyra N from District 12 and Carol W from District 14. They will report back at the July Meeting.**

After much discussion, the Assembly concurred.

**NEWS-O-GRAM:** Jan T talked about the current News-O-Gram using the Area 16 South in its title. WSO is no longer using numbers to label the News-O-Gram's titles. She asked permission from the Assembly to change it's title.

**MOTION: Remove Area 16 from the title of News o gram and rename it Southern Illinois Alanon Family Groups News-O-Gram.**

**The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.**

Jan also reminded everyone that May 10 is the deadline for the next publication.

**ARCHIVES:** Fern noted that she had a good selection of archives and welcomes more. She asked that all documents have name of District, Group, person sending information, and date. She relayed how WSO had been very helpful in finding registration dates for a certain group and was tickled that she and could be of service. Fern also distributed forms for Group histories to be completed.

**CONVENTION LIAISON:** Cathy B talked about the Illinois State AFG Convention to be held in Schaumburg, Illinois on October 11-13, 2019. She distributed Quilt squares and Raffle tickets for the event. Quilt squares should be returned by May 10 with the directions in each packet. Cathy also reminded the Assembly that the planning for the 2020 AFG State Convention should begin soon. Chairperson and Co-Chairperson needed to volunteer.

**GROUP CONCERNS:**

1. Lyri M. talked about the service manual page 156. It talks about purpose of Area meetings and what business takes place in them. Lyri brought up the fact that the SIAWSC and SIAFG meetings were duplicates of each other and it was not serving our people right by doing this. She felt that much of the business took place during the SIAWSC meeting and the Group Representatives did not get full information at the Assembly meeting. She reminded us that GR's are the voice of our fellowship. After discussion, a motion was made: **MOTION: ASSEMBLY WILL START AT 10:30 ON OUR JULY 13 MEETING. Motion was made, seconded, and passed with 17 yes and 1 abstain.**

**MOTION: To Bring our SIAFG Area Assembly Meetings into alignment with our Service Manual, we will suggest the Assembly make the following temporary changes to our SIAFG By-Laws: Section 12, item 5 "oral report to be given at SIAFG Area Assembly meeting. (Strike SIAWSC and )**

**Section 12; section G, item 2 -"Oral reports to be given at SIAFG Area Assembly meeting (replace SIAWSC with SIAFG).**

**Section 12 Section H , item 3: "Oral reports to be given at SIAFG Area Assembly meeting". ( replace SIAWSC with SIAFG)**

**Motion was made, seconded, and passed with 16 yes and 2 abstain.**

It was clarified that SIAWSC will start at 9a.m. at our July 13 meeting and SIAFG will start at 10:30a.m. District and Coordinator reports will given in the afternoon. Break will be held at noon, returning at 12:30. If anyone want more information, the Service Manual has force/task force information on page 71 and Election Process on 151.

2. Cathy B spoke about the **election** coming up in July. Every 3 years, elections are held. Positions are: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Group Records Secretary. Cathy explained that SIAWSC and SIAFG are not the same. The voting bodies are different. At the SIAWSC, the District Representatives, SIAFG officers & Coordinators and the current and past Delegates vote. At the SIAFG, Group Representatives (or the Alternate Group Representatives if the GR is not present) vote. Cathy distributed job descriptions of positions for people to ponder. Coordinator positions are appointed by Chairperson.

3. Rowena asked Sandy W to relate her experience with **insurance** in Northern Area. Sandy noted that she had asked about liability insurance for the previous 10 years. Many people dismissed her concern. She finally talked with 2 different lawyers. They agreed that Al-Anon, being a non-profit organization would probably never be held liable. But one of these lawyers reminded her that we would need \$50-\$100,000 in legal fees to pay in order to get to that decision. Therefore, Northern Area has found insurance that covers all the Districts, Groups, and Officers. (Alateen is included.) It also gives a discount on background checks and gives training on sexual misconduct. She advised finding a non-profit agency that insures non-profit organizations. **Rowena asked for a show of hands for people in favor of starting a thought force to look into insurance. All people raised hands.**

**Volunteers to be on the force were asked to raise hands. No one volunteered. Insurance was tabled until the July 13 meeting. Sandy W said she would be willing to be in on a conference call with the task force once it was formed.**

4. Kyra from District 12 asked for protocol when visiting a hospital to share stories. She was told that the members should only use first name. They should speak as a member of Al-Anon, not as the whole. Also, no pictures.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2019 at Memorial Medical Center.  
District 10 will host.

The 2019 meetings are planned for March 2, July 13, and November 2, 2019.

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