

Accepted with no corrections 9-17-2022

Southern Illinois Area World Service Committee  
(SIAWSC) Meeting  
Zoom Meeting  
May 21, 2022

The meeting opened at 9am by Chairperson, Becky R, with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The purpose was to review what went well or not at the Area Assembly and to set the agenda for the next Area Assembly meeting. Rules and Guidelines for the meeting were presented to the 15 attendees with 12 voting members. It was explained that all Al-Anon members have voice; only Area officers, District Reps, Area Coordinators, Registered Agent and Past Delegates have the vote. The 12 Traditions and the 12 Concepts of Service and Warranties were read.

**Old Business: Minutes**

Mary P presented the minutes from the January 8, 2022 SIAWSC meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes with no corrections and seconded. The vote was unanimous in accepting the minutes as is.

**What Went Well/Not so Well at the Area meeting**

Positive:

1. All documents sent at the same time was helpful
2. Easier to commit to Zoom which does not take travel time
3. Attendance is better (questioned - Mary P will look at last few years and report)
4. Better pace, less distractions with zoom

Negative

1. miss face to face and hugs
2. some members are not comfortable with zoom (Group members can invite them to their computer)
3. need more inspiring workshops
4. GR's may need a presentation to take back to groups (some felt that orientation is responsibility of District Reps, not Area)

**Alateen Update:**

Becky reported that two people have expressed interest in the Alateen Coordinator and/or the Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP), but no commitment at this point. The mandated reporter situation is still a question. JoEllyn stated that Northern would like to coordinate with our Area in options and decisions. Sue B has talked with 3 attorneys. Because no precedent has been set at this time, all they can do is give their opinion. Sue talked with Barbara Greenspan, in charge of Children and Family Services at the state level. Ms. Greenspan stated that she was not able to give concrete advice, but personally thought it would have to be a flagrant issue to be prosecuted. Sue has written to the Illinois Attorney General, Kwame Raoul, with questions and will report when she hears back. Mandated reporting could affect Al-Anon and Alateen combined. The responsibility has always been on our members, even with adults. It could be an option to add in our Opening a line that say "Anonymity except in the case of abuse" or

something similar. We need to figure out our state laws, get Area to accept our guidelines, and then get WSO to accept our guidelines. It's also notable to remember we have insurance. Area needs to think about steps of action in case a member feels the need to report . Area needs to check with insurance coverage in mandated reporting cases.

**Budget Education:** There was a discussion about raising the reserve from \$6,000 to \$10,000. To get there, we might ask for an appeal through the Area. Districts could also be reminded to donate to Area. Carol W mentioned that she is the AFG Convention treasurer also and the only way she could set up automatic payment for the convention was to link it to the Area. The computer would not approve linking it to the Convention site. She will keep it separate. These discussions will be brought up at Area and will be voted on.

#### **Updates to Job descriptions and Bylaws**

Since elections will be coming up in July, job descriptions were looked at by each position. This helps members know what each position entails.

#### **ByLaws Discussion: Articles of incorporation with Bylaws on website.**

Cyndi P asked for clarification. Are the Articles of incorporation supposed to be put on website? Are we ready to put changes in bylaws on the website? After discussion Cindy said she was ready to put the articles of incorporation at the end of the bylaws and add it to the website if the Area so desired. She would look into the process of dating any changes added to the appropriate pages. A vote will be taken in July.

**Format for SIAWSC meetings:** Becky especially likes zoom for the SIAWSC meeting. It helps the chairperson be more ready for the Area meeting. JoEllyn says this smaller meeting has enhanced our preparation.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Delegate Information:**JoEllyn attended the in person World Service Conference in TerryTown, New York. She learned a lot and loved it. One contact she made was an Alaska delegate. It was the last state in 1986 that became a part of WSC. The Conference admitted the first Non-Panel Global Electronic Area Meeting and the member asking to be the Group Rep was attending. JoEllyn was on the committee to look into Electronic meetings in Southern Area. In March, 2022, this committee recommended to accept permanent registered electronic meetings as part of our Area structure. The follow up to this committee would be to create the operational guidelines for the functioning of these meetings. JoEllyn encourages interested people to volunteer for the committee so it can be brought back to the Area for a vote.

Also JoEllyn reported that WSO would be asking for a special appeal in July because of low funds. WSO also has a Pilot Project for Alateen who wanted to meet virtually. WSO has been researching all states who have different laws so that Al-Anon complies.

#### **Area Assembly Agenda for July 16, 2022:**

1. Minutes to be voted on.
2. Treasurer Report. ( Convention, appeal, raise reserve,)
3. Group Records Secretary Report
4. Old Business;
  - A. Alateen Update
  - B. Electronic Meeting Update
  - C. Web and Email Contact Update

- D. By-Laws information
- E. Distance Meeting Check In
- F. Insurance Reminder

**New Business:**

1. Election of SIAFG Officers
2. Articles of Incorporation added?
3. District Reports
4. Coordinator Reports
5. Delegate Report
6. Next Area meeting July 16, November 12
7. Next World Service Committee Meeting ( SIAWSC) September 17, 2022

The meeting was adjourned with the AI-Anon Declaration at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully yours,

Mary Pirtle

Recording Secretary