

AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (AWSC) Meeting

February 16, 2019

Glendale, CA

Final minutes

Meeting opened at 9:00 a.m.

Chairperson's Report: Donna E.

- Serenity Prayer
- Introduced
 - Past Delegates: Kay D., Jayme C., and Willie W.
 - New DRs: Peggy R. from District 6, Mary Jo C. from District 54, Teresa K. from District 30, Linda C. from District 45
 - New Board members: Lalena E., Interim Secretary; Institutions Coordinator: Sandy W.
- Reviewed Knowledge-Based Decision-Making (KBDM) guidelines
- Marcia M., Delegate, went over "Area World Service Committee: Shared Information" handout

Traditions: Read by Barbara V.S. , DR District 17

Group Records Coordinator (GRC): Mary M. Roll Call, not present were:

Elizabeth K, Immediate Past Delegate (on Leave of Absence);
Ben P., Website Coordinator, Truck S. present in Ben's place;
Billy M., Inland Empire AIS Liaison;
Nichole S., Los Angeles County AIS Liaison;
Lauren E., Orange County AIS Liaison;
Marque M., Orange County AIS Liaison;
Lupe M., Spanish AIS Liaison;
Roxanne S., San Diego County AIS Liaison;
Gaby I., Spanish Intergroup Liaison;
Si-Si M., Ventura County AIS Liaison;
Allegra S., DR D3;
Nicole S., DR D10;
Cheryl Y., D51 Sylva C.

Minutes: Lalena C., Interim Secretary, Tracy from District 9 made a motion, Stacey from District 21 seconded, hand vote for all in favor: 7 abstains, motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Tarisa R., See Treasurer report in *Bulletin*

- Referred to handout
- Showed audit, everything looks good!
- As of December 31, 2018, our account is balanced.
- She reviewed rules for reimbursements for GRs and DRs, please provide documentation (receipts, etc.)

Questions:

- Q: Jayme, Past Delegate, asked for clarification of what it means to "up to \$100."

- A: Tarisa said it depends on how many share the room and the cost of the room. Also, that in the fellowship we don't say donate, we say contribute.
- Q: Bruce, newsletter editor, discussed how 7th tradition is made at every level: group, at district, assembly, committee meetings as well as WSO. He finds members are confused.
- A: Chair responded to get familiar with service manual and the different expenses work so that they know exactly what they are paying for every step along the way. It is an education process. Tarisa said we are trying to model the appropriate use of 7th tradition for expenses and contributions to service arm WSO. Eva said we give out of gratitude, give without earmarking, and we need to understand isn't just Southern CA but that it is a worldwide fellowship.

Comments:

- Nancy W. from district 12 thanked Tarisa for the transparency.
- Donna asked everyone to get their clicker to vote on approval of
 - 1. Audit Report: 33 yes, 2 abstain
 - 2. Approve Financial Report 41 yes, no no's, no abstentions
 - 3. Approve WSO Contribution recommendation: 38 yes, 1 no, 0 abstains

Alternate Delegate Report: Eva B. See report in the *Bulletin*

7th Tradition basket was passed. Tarisa read from *Service Manual*.

Delegate Report: Marcia M. See handout and full report in the *Bulletin*

- Referred to pink handout "World Service Conference" (WSC) April 13-17, 2019 which is requesting love gifts for her to give out.
- Referred to white handout "Use of Material at Al-Anon members". A member from our Area emailed WSO, when WSO responded they included Marcia in the email so she could share it with us.
- Referred to yellow handout "SCWS and Service Participation by Members of Al-Anon Family Groups Who are also members of Alcoholics Anonymous"
- Chair Donna to have discussion and vote that bylaws need to include: All members of AWSC will have voice and vote at the Committee meetings (all around the table, such as: coordinators, AIS/intergroup liaisons, DR, convention chairs, officers, and now Past Delegates)
- Q: Traci, D21 asked why it was necessary to include Past Delegates in vote
- A: Willie discussed that they would like to not only be referred to for their opinion but that they could have a vote concerns him.
- Q: Bruce, has a concern that it is a Bylaw amendment than clarification. Service manual says committee members, doesn't include Past Delegates. Also, to delete chairman and put chairperson since it is sexist.
- Q: Carole, archives: Dual Members, concerns her because it is happening her where she lives. Some are stopping their AA program and considering themselves only Al-Anon.
- A: Chair, Donna says: any ISR who is a dual member will not be recognized. ISRs can potentially be a committee member and their vote affect more than one group if on AIS. It is being clarified since it is in the service manual
- A: Jayme: read in bylaws: Article 7, section 2 refers to voice and vote including Past Delegates, but it doesn't include vote. We make a change on a trial basis for 3 years and then change the bylaws.

- Comment: Kay D., Past Delegate wants to feel a part of, wants to be currently active
- Comment: Peggy from D6, rotation of leadership, that they would always be eligible to vote
- Comment: Tarisa: referenced service manual p. 137. She would like to see a task force, take it on a trial basis of 3 years and then be brought to vote
- Mikaela D27: wants to suggest that it say members “who is or has been members of AA” be added.
- Leti D75: need to rotate treasurer at district level, it is a nonvoting position. There is a concern of their voice and vote being too strong. She has seen one meeting close as a result. What are the ramifications? Her vote is no, more will be revealed.
- Suzanne: Alateen: p. 6 Article 5 in bylaws, article 7 voting paraphrases service manual. Q: when did we decide at assembly (where we have voting GRs) for the committee members to be voting on items?
- Answer: Marcia said that this was a piece missing in the bylaws, it is going to be an ongoing discussion
- Bruce discussed traditions re: dual membership. He notices it is a concern but was wondering how we know if they are in another fellowship since it is breaking their anonymity.
- Willie said to develop matters and vote on at assembly is necessary, need a consensus so we do need a vote.
- Nancy D12 asked for clarification for vote
- Chair had a Vote: Add to assembly agenda a motion to allow Past Delegates to have vote at committee members on a trial basis (for 3 years): 31 yes, 8 no, 2 abstain; it will be added to the agenda in May.
- Marcia made sure to announce the at large committee positions, should have received an email/posting. No questions.

Eva, alternate delegate: Ask it basket questions being passed around, there is also an opportunity to win a free Forum subscription.

Old Business: #5: Area Alateen Resolution Committee Report-updating the ASBRs: Bear

- ASBRs need to be clarified
- Changes were recommended by Alateens and voted on at last assembly:
 - They have voice, but no vote on Safety guidelines
 - Eligibility requirements for AMIAS: have at least 2 consecutive years in Al-Anon not in Alateen (wording change)
 - It is DAL to have contact with AMIASs and DR
 - Alateen meeting and responsibilities: 2 certified AMIASs need to present
 - #8 age range 12-18, age out on 19th birthday
 - Changing Alateen user permit process more usable, 2 tier process developed: *1st tier*: fill out form with information to advertise and publicize event then it is submitted to Alateen Coordinator and then once that it is approved you will be allowed to publicize. *2nd tier*: Publication process items will be addressed in event plan. That makes total event plan needs to be approved 30 minutes ahead of time. Need both to get approval.
 - Donna said it shows that by following these tiers, that it has our approval otherwise they cannot go through with the event. Formalizing it.

- Vote: Mikaela D27 made motion, Roxanne San Diego Intergroup Liaison seconded: Add to assembly agenda a motion to update ASBRs: 41 yes, no no's, no abstains

Old business #1: Task force report: District 64

- We now have a Survey monkey subscription
- Would like to create 5/6 questions for members to vote on via email, including Spanish speaking
- Not sure what questions will be yet

Old business #2: Creating a Safe SCAC 2020 Task Force

- New members of that task force are: Donna M. district 57, Kathy M. former delegate from Alaska, Loreina, Selina J D17, Ron P. Tina S. from D21, Yvette K-B, Bear, Suzanne, Miles from D12

Old business #3: Area Group and Member Concerns Resolution Team Update:

- 3 groups petitioned our Area to go through process to be relisted. A resolution team was formed to look at the letters coming in re: these 3 meetings. 82 emails have come in. Cut off date was January 31st. All emails after that will be held on to but not submitted yet. They are reviewing the emails in detail. Going into their second phase. Learning process, creating new procedures. More this afternoon in re: to this item.

Old business #4: Thought forces: a) assembly, b) insurance for groups: not formed yet

DR reports: A DR reports in the *Bulletin*

DRs reporting were: D6, D9, D17, D12, D21

New Business item #1: Presentation: SCWS Past Delegate Travel Reimbursement handout: Tarisa: Adding a line item for Past Delegates to be reimbursed as current board members are for travel and lodging

Questions:

Traci D9: is hotel expense up to \$100 like Districts are held to?

A: Tarisa: No, it is not the same because as DRs you have district to fall back on where as Area Board members do not have a group or district to fall back on. We do ask them to buddy up on hotel rooms.

Q: Traci, D9 How come we don't know they are coming?

A: Tarisa: took a note and will get feedback

Q: Jocelyn, D8: would this have changed our contribution to WSO we voted on earlier?

A: Tarisa: No, we are voting to put it on the agenda at assembly that GRs will vote on.

Comments:

Bruce: believes it is a larger issue. We should be finding ways to serve our area before donating surplus.

Chris, D40: in order to keep it you have to give it away.

Jayme, Past Delegate: Clarification re: Past Delegates there are 3 present. She gave history on others who are elderly, ill, and/or out of state.

Vote: Chris made a motion, Darcy D63 seconded to have a vote: Add to the assembly agenda a recommendation to reimburse travel expenses (mileage and hotel) for SCWS Past Delegates who live in southern CA for committee meetings and assemblies. 32 yes, 3 no, 1 abstain

Clarification: Tarisa will give same report for the assembly. Committee meeting is where we do a dry run and give her feedback. Please email all who are making presentations.

DRs reporting were: D24, D27, D48, D30, D33

Lunch: 12:05

Meeting resumed at 1:05

Concepts: read by Mikaela D27

Bruce made a motion every vote taken that was moved and seconded, that we now ratify those votes to include a motion, seconded by Nancy D12, passed

DR reports: D36, D40, D42, D54, D45

Vote: Omnibus ratification of all votes taken approved in this session before lunch whether or not 'proper procedure' was followed. 35 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain

New business #2: Eva and Tarisa presentation: Proposal for: Finance Committee Task Force
handout

- February 2018 is missing so that's why it wasn't included.
- These were suggestions from past auditors.
- We are asking to be put on the agenda for the May assembly to vote on if we can have finance committee task force

Question:

Mikaela, D27: Why is February 2018 not there?

Answer: asked auditor, can't be found. It's her belief is that it wasn't done.

Jayme, Past Delegate: She will look for an email?

Tarisa: Answer she is looking for observation report.

Jayme, Past Delegate: why do we need a separate committee?

Tarisa: We know what needs to be done but how do we do it? Task force will decide one way for it to be done. It's also for simplicity so anyone who doesn't have an accountant background can step in. Also, to research other ways for it to be done.

Jayme: Only update to bylaws will just be the financial portion?

Tarisa: Yes, it will only be the financial portion of bylaws that will be updated

Eva: It will be a manual for incoming treasurer to follow.

Nancy D12: is the task for to help write the procedures of how to do the job?

Tarisa and Eva: yes

p. 71 in service manual Thought force and task force vocabulary definitions and review.

Willie, Past Delegate: Are they going to make criteria to make decisions? He is suggesting changing it to "Finance committee"

Eva: now putting it together and having a plan

Tarisa: It would help bring clarification re: reimbursements, savings, yearly tasks

Comments:

Libby D75: Thinks that it should be a brought range of people with different backgrounds.

Nancy D12: Auditor for last 4 years have made recommendations which is what is listed in this proposal and we now need a vote from the committee to make it happen.

Tarisa and Eva: yes

Kay D., Past Delegate: to put a time limit on it. For example, 6 months.

Marcia, delegate: finance committee would report back to these bodies so that we know all that needs to be done and what has been accomplished

Tarisa to establish a finance committee, removing wording of task force.

Jayme: suggestion to find out how other areas are doing this.

Andy, D24: asked for clarification for what we are voting on.

Tarisa: wants to be able to put into practice recommendations have been made because nothing has been done with those so far.

Chair: it's more about carrying out treasurer's duties, a finance committee be formed to give reports to AWSC and assembly

Tarisa: do we need to vote? Or this body approves it and we are still presenting at the assembly

Chair: present as appropriate, assembly will be informed rather than them voting on it.

Kathy, Area Alateen Coordinator: don't have to be an accountant to be treasurer, bulletin report is very general. She is concerned about report in February 2018 meeting is dated 2016. It was a typo. Records secretary has all the official records.

Eva: review policy (checks and balances in bylaws) and procedures for yearly/quarterly/weekly items (binder given to treasurer on how to do things)

Willie: What makes developing a finance committee different than creating the Alateen coordinator positions?

Chair: We are looking at the complexity, most areas are not as large as us. These recommendations are not being followed. Want them to be a consulting body of members on an ongoing basis.

Jayme: Where will it be recorded? Will it be put in the bylaws?

Chair: not sure if it needs to be done yet

Jayme: temporary fix?

Chair: one possibility is it is a work group which is defined as ongoing in service manual

Tarisa clarified to look at treasury procedures at a whole, we just wanted to get it started, not sure if want it to be ongoing yet

Mikaela D27: Referenced service manual p. 205

Andy D60: Will we get a Fidelity bond?

Tarisa: That's something that could come out of the finance committee

Motion made by Chris C. D40 Motion seconded by Andy D24

Vote: To add to the assembly agenda to create a treasurer recommendation of a finance committee be formed to give reports to AWSC and assembly 37 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain

District reports: D60, D63, D64, D66, D69, D72, D75

Hospitality Report: Thanked districts who brought food and water today as well as SOS in January. It went well, we had plenty. For assembly these districts need to bring food and water in May: 3, 24, 42, 54, 57, 60, 64, 69. She will send a reminder email.

Coordinator Reports:

AIS-LDC coordinator: Andy is working on how to get members to step up and be of service, visited San Diego to see how it was done and they seem to have only one contact point. He believes this would work for us.

Archives: Carol has been doing a lot of research. It's more than collecting, it also includes preservation. When sharing materials, remember anonymity even for the deceased because their families are affected. Have a back up system on how to find it, need an index.

Area Alateen Communications Coordinator: Suzanne, let Bear know if you want a newsletter. Rad 24 is coming. Some events have been approved so now they can be listed in newsletter.

Area Alateen Events Coordinator: Jida, submit events form and then she will email you to let you know you can have the event. It is provisional. Once approved, can take it to the next step.

Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator: Bear: starting up AMIAS workshops. First one is next week in D54. It's not only for AMIASs, it's also for Al-Anon members who want to be of service at events and

activities. Working on DAL and Information Service Liaisons to provide training for them. Ideas: To take a road show or to do online? He is open to suggestions.

Bulletin Coordinator: Bruce, submit reports to him. See *Bulletin*. Apologized for delay

Area Group Records coordinator: Mary: look in Bins: mail for each district, take mail but leave the folder. 1226 active, 304 inactive, 82 no mail, 0 marked for deletion, 17 reported not meeting, 20 bounced emails, and 6 new meetings. Go to alanon.org to find WSO #. Register a GR or CMA, take a form and she will collect.

Institutions: Sandy, just getting started. Will look at what has been successful. She will be reaching out asking survey questions and then making goals to accomplish during her term.

Literature: Judy: Pamphlet Alcoholism: the merry go round of denial is 50 years old. They want sharings on these books to The Forum: Opening our hearts and transforming our hearts and new intimacy book. New bookmark Just for tonight coming out soon. 2 districts are doing a writing workshop, she is helping to facilitate.

Public Information: Kathy G. please reach out to her

Spanish Coordinator: Brissa, reaching out to Spanish groups. Going to visit D64. If you know someone who needs help, contact her.

Area Alateen Process Person: Laura: please submit any changes on GR 3 and she will make the official changes. There are a few changes being made, she made a PowerPoint

- Step 1: talking to DR
- Step 2: attend training
- Step 3: get signatures
- Step 4: background check
- Step 5: registration with WSO, both need a signature, usually takes 2-5 days.
- Step 6: Confirmation from WSO
- Step 7: Annual recertification
- Alateen info flyer: many are being made with wrong information. Please don't make your own Alateen outreach literature. There is an approved flyer to be used, please go to Laura if you have any questions or concerns.
- Personal information form for becoming an AMIAS which has a statement that needs a signature on a piece of paper, DRs will hold on to this as documentation.
- Background checks: first phase: getting long timers to get certified, 22 are holding out; second phase: there are 70.
- Wants to change from quarterly to yearly will be a synopsis of all that has been happening with AMIAS. She will do it twice a year after speaking to DRs.

Website: Ben

Convention Chairpersons Reports:

AFG: will be March 29-31, 2019, this is the 43rd year! Will have a slideshow and comic.

YAH: St. Patrick's Day weekend in District 17 as well as August in District 17

Intergroup Liaisons Reports: San Diego: Roxanne

New business #3: Safety in Meetings Document from WSO:

- To make into Guidelines: decisions will be made at World Service Conference in April
- Meanwhile call someone: police, etc.
- Reviewed blue handout: "Let's Talk about Safety in Al-Anon Meetings!"
- Slideshow presentation: Green handout: "Southern California Policy for Resolving Group and Member Concerns Where Are We Now?", email Marcia if you want the pdf version. Marcia and Donna read slides.
- Skit: script on yellow handout: "'Script' for Group & Member Concerns Phone Calls: DRAFT": Donna and Marcia acted out

Comments:

Mikaela, D27: thanked them for humor. Some of these have been issues in her district. Read from service manual p. 52 under Group problems and solutions.

Mary, D3: thanked them, discussed how one person offered to combine resources with AA and Al-Anon so they will do some workshops together: one in the Spring and other in the Fall.

Libby, D75: discussed how these concerns are true and how we need to work together using the traditions in the group, home, and work environments.

Andy, D60: there some delisted meetings in his district, still have to be welcoming to those members when they attend other meetings, be the example of what a healthy meeting looks like.

Carole, Archives: spoke on a vote taken at assembly in the past, a GR brought up a violation of a tradition. Everyone opened their service manuals. With knowledge comes responsibility no matter what amount of time a member has.

Barbara, D17: spoke about an incident that happened in her district, would like some feedback.

Laura: Alateen becoming an AMIAS, please persuade others to go to certification process to ensure safety for us as Al-Anon members as well as Alateens. Otherwise, we might need to shut some doors (close some meetings).

Mikaela D27: spoke of a member causing unrest, discussion of loving interchange. Disagree without being disagreeable.

Tarisa: loved piece at the end, would like to see this brought to the assembly.

Fill out evaluation

Ending with Al-Anon Declaration

Closing time: 4