

# AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (AWSC) Meeting

August 20, 2022

## Final minutes

1. Shauna spoke briefly about Area Inventory and how we began and implemented it. Now, how we are looking at the answers and seeing what can remain status quo and what to improve.
2. Marcia announced Area treasurer and Area chairperson openings. Resumes can be submitted
3. Introduced Irene as Bulletin Coordinator
4. **Voted** on if Christy R. can have voice for the treasurer: Yes 84% (28/33), no 0% (0/33), not a voting member 15% (5/33)

5. **Read Traditions:** Renee D17

6. **Roll call:** Teresa F.:

Donna, Marcia, Tim, Lalena, Roxane, Christy, Kathy, Bernie, Tina, Bear, Suzanne, Irene, Yoly, Teresa F., Elaine, Micheila, Shauna, Jon, Terri and Sandra, Marce, Kay W., San Diego no, Reina, AFG chair, Kathy W., Past Delegates: Jaymie C, Kathy M, Willie W, Miriam M

DRs: D3 Sandra, D6 ADR Patricia, D8: Larry, D9 Donna no, D10 Celina no, D12 Si-Si no, D17 Renee, D21 Keith, D24 Mykel, D 27 Mike no, D30 Wes no, D33 Denise, D36 Coy no, D39 Sue, D40 Lyn D42, Maria no, D45 Lydia, D48 vacant, D51no, D54 Bernie, D57 Terri, D60 no, D63 no, D64 Josefa, D66 Teresa, D69 Connie, D72 Lundie, D75 Elaine, D78 no, Celina D10 came in afternoon. AFG Chair Diane P; SCAA Chair Cathy W.; OC AIS Liaison Kay W; LA Spanish AIS Liaison Reyna

7. **Minutes from February:** Willie making motion, Jayme seconded: Yes 78%(29/37) no 0% (0/37), abstain 11% (4/37), not a voting member 11% (4/37)

8. **Treasurer:** Christy R.: balance is over 90,000. Revenue 41,470.25 budget is 38,410. Insurance cost was a little more than expected.

98,939.06 cash on hand, ample reserve is 70,331.81.

### Questions:

Elaine D75: what's budget and expense for the storage

Christy R.: Year to date is \$2321

Elaine: asked what is in there

Donna: archives, minutes, items for hospitality, etc. It is not temperature controlled. It's near where we met for assembly in Glendale, so it was easy to access.

Connie: Maybe we could get everything digitized.

Donna: Yes, a lot of things were digitized. But some things need to remain in physical form.

Suzanne: remembers the last archive person suggesting temperature control.

Donna: the oldest books are being taken care of in the AA archives which are temperature controlled.

Suzanne: Where are AA archives located?

Kathy G.: We keep certain things in original form, Kathy has in her house.

Suzanne: Could we see these at an in-person meeting in the future?

Christy R.: discussed 7<sup>th</sup> tradition: PayPal, or mail to PO Box in Cypress. It's important for each group to monitor their contributions to SCWS.

9. **Old Business:**

a. **Insurance:** Elaine: working well with an insurance broker. Requests are coming in gradually. Right now, groups are learning about insurance availability. She's not confident everyone knows about it. One group who has 11 meetings wants to keep theirs until it runs out.

Sandra made a suggestion to visit meetings to inform members.

Connie: Thank you, D69 feels it.

Terri D57: does it go until October?

Elaine: Yes, when October comes, the broker will send out a new one to the location. Reiterating WSO ID is important.

b. **Assembly Thought Force:** Heather, Andrea, and Maryanne. Tim is interested.

Bernie: Is there a best way to reach you? She has a few who are interested.

Marcia: email is best.

Willie: Do either of the people for D40 get a voice today since there are 2 of them?

Teresa: don't think they've been voted in by their GRs

Lyn D40: yes, voted in by her GRs

Josefa D64: how do you gain experience for the thought force?

Marcia: let's talk afterward

Suzanne: I thought we extended the amount of time?

Marcia: At this point, at the assembly we can take a vote. We are going off of the voices of those who have completed the survey. Well over 80% want to continue meeting virtually. We don't have a location. We might need one more central for our area.

c. **Electronic Meeting Task Force**: Marcia, Tim, Jayme, Sally L, Sandra L, Terri P., Teresa F., Jayme

· Reviewed Glossary of Terms, Background Information, KBDM questions:

1. Some Temporary Electronic Meetings (TEMs) are waiting to be included in Area service structure.

2. We have the financial resources, Spanish language groups have been welcomed and supported, consistent with our Vision for Al-Anon

3. We know Tradition 1, accepting EGs is in the spirit of unity, EGs are Al-Anon Groups, might attract younger members who are comfortable with technology

4. We are recognizing all meetings physically and electronically, depending on their group location. Don't know details regarding the process of registering EGs in our area.

*\*Recommends:* a vote in favor of welcoming EGs into our area service structure, complete part B: bringing the details of this process and the criteria back to the area assembly

### **Questions:**

Larry asked to reread slide 17. Is that only EG or does this include hybrid?

Marcia: This has to do with our primary purpose.

Renee D17: asked which groups are affected?

Marcia: the electronic meetings

Renee D17: when are they no longer considered temporary?

Tim: They don't have the process finished. It is their biggest priority at WSO.

Teresa: there is no cut off date, it could be another year. TEMs are findable on alanon.org. Vote will be made at the next assembly.

Terri P.: A lot of us have meetings that are splitting. Some animosity is growing and that's not Al-Anon. We want a vote

Terri Z. D57: slide 25 asking for feedback, she feels it is confusing

Bernie D54: Will we welcome EGs in our area?

Jayme: We will ask GRs in November to vote. If a yes, then the task force will come up with the criteria. For example, Does GR have to live in Southern CA and be able to attend a physical assembly if we have one again? English and Spanish speaking only? Or do we accommodate all languages?

Willie: suggests giving page # so information is easier to follow and understand

Lydia T. D45: confused how some have a physical location and some don't

Teresa: some have been floating and some have made a permanent decision during this time period.

Josefa: How are we going to accept the members if they want to join from another country?

Suzanne: Can you tell us more about the financial impact?

Sandra L.: She's been going to a meeting out of state. The physical meetings are getting more money and the zoom ones are giving less so the physical meeting feels they are not pulling their weight. The amount gathered impacts the contributions to service arms.

Marcia: we don't know exactly; we don't think certain things will cost as much

Teresa: This is education and awareness

Terri P.: We get donations, but it is not daily/weekly. It's more monthly or every few months. Some feel they can't take service positions.

Jayne: The financial impact she was thinking of was how to help them get to Southern CA meetings, it could impact the meeting greatly.

Marcia: We are prepared if GRs vote in favor of welcoming these groups. We have some preliminary criteria: slide 28.

WSO is deferring to area autonomy to make this decision.

Task force proposal Part B:

To welcome all TEMS with: CMA, reside in SCWS area GR reside in SCWS area, EG meets criteria in the Service Manual p. 85.

Still need to be reasoned out:

- How will an EG that is currently registered in the Global Electronic area return to the SCWS area?
- Will Electronic groups join a geographic district in our area, an electronic overlay district created in our area, or have the option of doing either one?
- How will we welcome and include Spanish speaking electronic groups?

#### Questions:

Connie D69: she suggests having us send this presentation to GRs, so they have all the information before the assembly

Marcia: There's going to be another meeting in Sept. We need to get it translated. The language we are using is the same language WSO is using. Some don't have a voice until they become part of an area. It is her hope that DRs can go over this information at a District meeting with GRs

Larry: Are we looking at this long term or just focusing on November assembly? He feels we've lost a lot of long timers because of technology. Can we look at the bigger picture questions?

Marcia: We don't have a stop date. Right now, we are targeting November. When we finish our charge, we could start a Work Group if needed.

Terri P.: has made the choice to not be on social media. People have choices. It could help those who are disabled.

Josefa: Are hybrid meetings included? Who is translating the presentation?

Marcia: Hybrid is a physical meeting with some group members joining electronically. She will check in with Marce.

### **Comments:**

Suzanne: slide 23, second bullet: thinks there's a lot of confusion with the word Sponsor, thought advocate might work better.

Marcia: We are talking about having an AI-Anon sponsor.

Suzanne: maybe add a personal AI-Anon sponsor

Willie: It's important DRs take the information back to GRs so they are prepared.

Teresa: Likes the term floating. It's important that groups get GRs, so they get a voice and vote.

Tina S.: Is the world service website global? Or will it say Southern CA in front of it.

Teresa: not sure if it is findable in my city or zip code.

Micheila: The EGs have been around since the 90s. We can always do things on a trial basis.

Marcia: welcoming them will be permanent, as far as platforms— that could be on a trial basis

Donna: This is too complicated. We should be thinking about policy vs. procedure.

Connie D69: I would put all of it in one presentation.

Terri P: There will be a lot of work involved such as changing WSO ID #s and miniscule details.

Sandra D3: I can see problems as those meetings that have dual members where there is a few number of members serving.

Jayne: Could we have a poll after lunch if we should have a special assembly?

Marcia: Maybe we could have it before the May 2023 assembly, possibly March.

Jayne: It would be a short assembly.

d. **Delegate Report:** Tim:

- Electronic Groups,
- Program Services,
- 2022 Projects: new daily reader translation, EM transformation, Service Manual translation, first longitudinal study, 2023 International Convention
- 2021 World Service Office annual report available online
- July 2022 Chairperson of the Board letter: AI-Anon Family Groups Inc has a manageable deficit this year. We are hoping we will continue to have generous contributions.
- Cost Per group: 283.33
- The power of \$1: \$1 in 1952 is worth \$10 now
- 2022 WSC highlights in English, Spanish, French. The World Service Conference Summary is published in English only. Available early September.
- In the Loop: News from your WSO is emailed to CMAs monthly. Any and all AI-Anon members can subscribe to this enewsletter from WSO.
- Consider becoming a WSO volunteer, the deadline is Oct. 29, 2022. Many of these committees meet online.
- 2022-2025 Service Manual: Version 2 available online. Printed version will be available soon.
- WSC Chosen Agenda items index: 2 get voted on at each World Service Conference and are discussed at the WSC.
- AI-Anon Brand Communications: WSO Brand communications will be sending information on a regular basis suitable for SCWS and our Districts' efforts to carry the AI-Anon message to the public.
- AI-Anon literature prices increased on August 1
- International Service Meetings.
- IAGSM Planning London 2022: October 12-15: Theme: Connecting Hearts and Minds around the World
- Stepping Stones presentation may come to the January 21, 2023 Sharing of Service day pending WSO approval.
- Road trip of Board of Trustees to come here Saturday 10/28/23 if we apply and are chosen.
- 2023 WSC will be April 20-23 in Virginia Beach, VA

Questions:

Lydia D45: Do we get any support financially for the International convention?

Tim: Sometimes a district will pay the way for their DR.

Tina: Will it be a lottery for 150 people if we have the Road Trip Event, or will it be an invitation only?

Tim: We don't know yet; we will figure out criteria to give everyone an equal shot.

Jayme: SCWS doesn't financially support DRs going to International, it is based on District autonomy

Tim: We will know in February if we are chosen for the Board of trustees to come.

e. **Alternate Delegate's Report:** Donna

- New DR/GR meetings will be standardized now where they're 2 weeks ahead of an Assembly/AWSC meeting.
- Encouraged members to get subscriptions to The Forum
- She is working on making a Handbook of Policies and Procedures.
- We do have speakers for the Sharing of Service event on January 21, 2023. John—delegate from Northern CA will be a keynote speaker.
- Hours will be 9-4
- Theme: How to appeal to people to be of service

f. **Read the Concepts:** Sandra D3

g. **Convention Chair Report:**

- Diane: AFG in March 2023 at Doubletree Hotel in Ontario. It will be hybrid. Planning meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month are beginning online: 4683834186, password is 838552
- Cathy W.: SCAAC: Platinum View is the theme; it will be in November in City of Industry. aasocal.com Meetings are hybrid. 8287607677 password SCAACFUN
- Bear: SCAC: committee meetings are going on, more to come

h. **DR reports:**

- Sandra D3: Doing monthly meet and greets for Alateen, in process of adding Group change link.
- Larry D8: We are putting an español tab on our website. Second article published in a local paper. Having picnics to get to know each other. New ADR. We have a GR toolkit. Finished insurance work group in June.
- Renee D17: Discussions re: insurance, some have received their certificate. Sent out notices of when their commitments end which will be December. Looking to find replacements to begin in January.
- Keith D21: Many of the meetings are on Zoom. Concerned about rotation of leadership. Discussing election procedures with the district.

- Michael D24: Have a few new meetings. Some are going back face to face and hybrid. We have 59 hours of meetings.
- Micheila D27: Has 5 committees, did a KBDM workshop, discussing gender of the HP in the steps and traditions.
- Denise D33: Had an in-person event with a great speaker, having a workshop in the fall.
- Sue D39: Had an event last week, 4-5 AMIASs,
- Lyn ADR D40: Term ended in June, but it needs to be December according to WSO. New DR will be voted in, and Lyn will help her transition. Have a website, fundraiser, still need public outreach and treasurer.
- Lydia D45: Alathon 9/24, 9 am -2 pm: The Healing Is in the Hearing. All on Zoom
- Bernie D54: Many vacant positions, about 16 GRs come to District meetings. Had an Alathon in July.
- Terri Z. D57: Putting on an event in October, theme Living in the Present.
- Josefa D64: Planning some workshops, having one for AMIAS, working closely with Teresa. Participating in Hispanic Convention and Ontario Convention. Her service term will end this year.
- Connie D69: Happy we have insurance now. 2023 is filling up. They have writing workshops coming up. People all over the world come. Grateful to Suzanne as they figure out when they are able to use the Alateen event on a flier. Her position is ending soon. Some are wanting to make changes to steps and traditions about the gender of HP. She has instructed people to go to WSO to make any changes to CAL.
- Lundie D72: 40 active groups, has 18 GRS, district meeting will be next Saturday.
- Elaine D75: Fall workshop in limbo, had a booth at Pride event, 2 new GRs
- Teresa D66: District meeting coming up soon

Marcia: All of our meetings with SCWS are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month: AWSC are February and August, Assemblies are May and November, SOS is January. Brought up having a special assembly

**Informal poll:** tentatively March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023: Electronic Meeting Special assembly

Yes 86% (25/29) No 7% (2/29) Not a voting member 7% (2/29)

This is information we will bring to the assembly for the GRs to consider.

Elaine D75: Should we consider having 3 assemblies, so we don't feel rushed?

Marcia: That is part of the Assembly Thought Force charge.

i. **Teresa:** use of the Al-Anon name:

- It is protected by Copyright and Trademark: SM 85, 171

- Why groups need to be registered with WSO: carries responsibility
- Benefits of registering with WSO: findable to a newcomer, granted permission to use CAL, etc.
- How do AI-Anon Groups update/register in the SCWS area? Our area is unique, information is sent to GRC who updates directly on the WSO database, GRC also copies DRs on any additions/changes.

Suzanne: Doesn't want the groups to think they have the authority to use the logo but that they need to run these things by their district.

Sandra: Do I need to explain to them that they have to specify if it's a hybrid/in person/online meeting

Teresa: The form has been updated to include that information; this helps the newcomers know where to go.

Elaine: She only sends insurance certificate to those who fall within the guidelines so it should behoove them to update their information

Renee D17: Just because an event is being attended by all AI-Anon members, doesn't mean it's a true AI-Anon event. For example, retreats, etc. She will discuss this at her next district meeting.

Micheila: We are asked to be in obedience to the unenforceable. It is about having unity within the fellowship.

Lydia D45: How are meetings advertising if they are not listed?

Teresa: Word of mouth, etc.

Jayne: Service Manual 91,92 discusses what you can announce at meetings.

j. **Coordinator Reports:**

**AIS/LDC:** Roxane: no report

**Archives:** Kathy: She is going to send out a questionnaire to become part of the online records

**AACC:** Bernie: not a lot to report, struggling to find Alateens to speak at different events. Please ask your GRs if there are Alateens that are good candidates for speaking. Please check emails for AMIAS monthly newsletter.

**AAEC** Tina: there will be Alateens at VCAAC in September. There will also be a Spanish speaking event coming up in the fall (first weekend in November).

**AAPP** Bear: New AMIAS Trainings continue to be held monthly.

Trained 45 Prospective AMIAS

Added 23 newly certified AMIAS

The Recertification Process was complete prior to the June 15 Deadline.

Pre-Recertification:

200 Certified AMIAS

43 Registered Alateen Groups

Post Recertification:

Currently we have:  
186 Certified AMIAS  
38 Registered Alateen Groups  
8 Limited Access Meetings, 5 Paused for Summer, 3 Paused for COVID  
18 Reporting MIP  
6 Electronic Meetings  
3 known Meetings in Person & Electronic  
AMIAS and Alateen Group Records were updated and reconciled during the Recertification process and sent to the districts and appropriate AIS in mid-July.  
We are anticipating the restart of 6 of the Paused Limited Access Alateen Groups (School Groups) within the next couple of months.

**AASC** Suzanne: Alateens are just younger Al-Anons, there's a workshop coming up, you can find out about it on SCWS website. Something coming up in October, details to come. Doing outreach.

**Bulletin** Irene: please send her your report as text, email. She will send out a reminder on Monday.

**CPC** Yoly: Doing a presentation at an event called Recovery Happens.

**GRC**: Teresa: she is looking for help, someone who likes details. Please give her information re: your ADRs. Let groups know they need CMAs.

**PI** Shauna: Working with Suzanne and Bernadette, working with Native American tribal elders, she is also working on 211.

**Literature** Micheila: some books will become eBooks; it will take time. Sharings needed for CAL Corner.

**Spanish Coordinator** Marce: working with the Spanish Al-Anon convention. He is helping with Ontario and AFG conventions.

**Website** Jon: new ways to fill out forms, it seems to be working so far

**Intergroup Liaisons:**

**OC Kay**: Chairperson resigned, everyone is excited, had a booth at OC fair, had a successful fundraiser, Newsletter Orange Blossom just went online.

k. **Ask it basket questions:** none

l. **Al-Anon Related Announcements:** none

Closing: Al-Anon Declaration: 3:34 p.m.