

Rhode Island Al-Anon Family Groups (RI AFG)
Fall Assembly – November 4, 2017
Kingston Congregational Church
Hosted by District 2

Voting Members (Groups Representatives and Proxies)

District 1 - Nel P., Denise G., Esme H., Ann H., Lorie G., Jane A., Susan H. District 2 - Charles W., Joe M., Cindy B., Rosemary H., Rosia, Linda D., Jackie G., District 3 – Joy, Sandy C., Terry L., Ann-Marie C.

Area Officer/Coordinator Attendees

David G, Area Chair; Phyllis H, Area Delegate; Barbara H, Literature Coordinator; Jane A., Office Coordinator; Tami K., Treasurer; Charles W., District 2 Representative; Terry L., District Representative 3, Ann-Marie C., AA Liaison; Megan B., Alateen Coordinator; Joy, Alateen Process Person.

Opening

Moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer; reading of the Steps, Traditions, Concepts, and Warranties; roll call/introductions. David reviewed the housekeeping issues. Jane thanked the members of District 2 that helped to set up today's meeting.

Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the June 3, 2017 Assembly were approved.

Area Business

The Assembly members agreed the date for the Spring Assembly would be either June 2 or June 9, 2018 to be confirmed by District 1 according to facility availability.

David reviewed the open service positions that will be voted on in the afternoon session.

Area Officer/Coordinator Reports

The officers/coordinators gave a brief update on the area business. David updated on various Area matters. Finances are stable, no group closures and one new group, AIS/LDC office working well, communication improved with all 3 DR positions filled, and each DR with active email list, and the revival of our newsletter. Met with other New England Area Chairs. Weaknesses are 1/3 of positions not filled, lack of overall diversity, and seemingly non/enthusiasm from many Area members towards service.

Phyllis H. updated the members on the most recent Board of Trustees meeting. Barbara H. updated the members on the status of the Literature items and will send out a report in December for the 2017 year-end on expenditures and income. David G. gave an update on Group Records and Workshop; Ann-Marie C. gave an update on the AA Liaison activities. Jane A. gave an update of the office status.

Business Session

The finance committee presented the 2018 Budget. After discussion and questions from the members, it was decided to vote on the proposed budget after the lunch break so that members can more thoroughly review and discuss.

The Website Task Force presented their recommendations for the website redesign. They passed out the information on a survey for members to make recommendations, which will be open until December 1st. The target date is April 2018 for rolling out the new website.

Megan reviewed Slack, a platform that the Communications Task Force recommends for RI Al-Anon Area Service communication.

2018 Budget

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the 2018 Budget was approved

Service is Fun (Service Manual Quiz)

Phyllis H. began the game – Al-Anopoly – the attendees enjoyed the fun & fellowship, using the Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual to answer the questions.

Assembly Action Items

Group Representatives Questions & Answers

1. How do you encourage your newcomers to keep coming back? Joy's group gives a newcomer packet and speaks to them after the meeting. Barbara's group gives them a copy of How Al-Anon Works, a newcomer packet, and does the meeting on Step One. Phyllis's group has a separate newcomer meeting and gives them How Al-Anon Works and a newcomer packet. Sandy's group has the person next to the newcomer take them aside for questions and gives them a copy of How Al-Anon Works.
2. Why isn't voting done at the beginning of the day? The Assembly makes this decision, but past experience has shown it works much better at the end of the day.
3. Why doesn't the Area make more of the Coordinator positions that never seem to get filled, non-voting, thus allowing more members the opportunity to serve? Due to time limitations the issue could not be fully explored, but the AWSC will put the issue for initial discussion on its Dec. 2, 2017 Agenda.

The following service positions were voted on and approved for a three-year term.

Chairperson – Phyllis H.

Delegate – Barbara H.

Treasurer – Tami K.

AA Liaison – Jackie G.

Literature Coordinator – Ann-Marie C.

The following service positions were voted on and approved for a one-year term.

Workshop 2018 Coordinator – Holly R.

No one stood for the following positions which remain vacant.

Alateen Coordinator (filled until Jan. 1, 2018).

Secretary

Alternate Delegate

Archives Coordinator

Forum Coordinator

Public Outreach Coordinator

Website Coordinator

CLOSING

Motion to adjourn, so carried.

The meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer and Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb H.