

**Location:** 106 Rolfe St., Cranston, RI  
**Date:** October 13, 2012  
**Time:** 10am-12pm

**In Attendance:**

Barbara M- Area Chair  
Barbara H- AA Liaison  
Bonnie- Office Manager  
Deb E- Literature Coordinator  
Rose B- Alateen Coordinator  
Phyllis H- District 4 Representative  
Linda F- Lifelines Editor  
Nancy S- Area Treasurer  
Denise C- Group Records  
Karen M- District 3 Representative  
Robin D- District 1 Representative  
David G- Area Delegate  
Maura D- Workshop Coordinator and Public Outreach  
Yael B-S- Area Secretary

**Opening:**

- Moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer
- Welcome:
  - The Preamble to the Twelve Steps (service manual)
  - Our 3 Legacies: Read Steps/Traditions/Concepts
- Introductions
- Motion passed with one abstention for acceptance of 8 September 2012 minutes.

**Nancy and the Budget:** presented proposal for a change of **mileage reimbursement** rate. She researched other Areas' practices—three of them use 42 cents per mile.

Barbara M. suggested adopting this guideline going forward. Maura made a motion to accept this guideline and Linda seconded it. All but one voted in favor, with one abstention. Nancy will have guideline and forms by February.

Nancy reported a **steeper increase in the budget** this year—in part because of mileage' part because of AA liaison's needs; in part because of **office needs**; and in part because two positions had no budgets at all last year. David asked whether that included upgrade of office phone system. Nancy replied that it did. Bonnie is researching possibility of a phone to access the internet and make long-distance calls, etc. Maura suggested investing in an inexpensive netbook. She also suggested that a "wish list" go out to the membership.

Nancy asked if all present were comfortable enough with the budget to present it at the Assembly. The reply was affirmative. Barbara M. asked for corrections. Phyllis asked whether mileage should be a separate line item. Discussion ensued on the amount we contribute to the **equalizer fund**. The WSO asks for \$1,280. The actual cost is \$1,900. We send \$1,600. 38 Area pays the full amount. We, in RI, are not fully self-supporting at the Area level. This is why Nancy kept us at \$1,600. For the first time last year, proceeds from the Workshop managed to cover this amount for the equalizer fund.

Barbara H. asked whether we should each bring “backup” justification to the Assembly for the budget increases. Nancy said she will do all the talking and has our emails as backup. Nancy also noted that she may need to change the Office’s budget line after talking to Bonnie, but Bonnie indicated that it looked fine to her. Karen asked whether, given the explanation about the equalizer fund, we should, in fact, decrease our contribution to \$1,200. Robin seconded that thought. Maura agreed we should talk more about it. David wondered whether Nancy could also present where we are with the budget through October at the Assembly and bring the donations list to hand out to GRs. Barbara M asked whether we can also say that it costs “this much money” to serve the needs of each group to encourage donations. David reported that under half of groups actually donate anything to the Area and asked how we can increase awareness of what happens with donations. Rose asked that we emphasize that Alateen is not separate from Al-Anon, so there is no need to donate separate amounts to each. Alateen gets its budget from Al-Anon.

**More on the Assembly:** Discussion turned to how much time each person would need to report at the Assembly. The Agenda was revised accordingly. Phyllis volunteered to introduce the Thought Forces and KBDM. It was also decided that GRs will count off in 3’s to populate the three Thought Forces. Barbara M will send out the revised Agenda. Denise will do Registration and Roll Call to determine how many voting members are present. Barbara M ordered coffee pots. Deb reported that each attendee will get a copy of “When I Got Busy, I Got Better.” Everyone will send Barbara M materials they want included in the packet and Barbara H will print and collate.

**Workshop Update:** Maura reported that several meetings at the Workshop still need leaders. Volunteers are still needed for set-up and clean-up.

**Closing:** The date of the next AWSC meeting is Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. Discussion of non-performing service members was moved to that meeting. David passed around a proposal for procedure on removal of non-performing members. Barbara H asked whether an Al-Anon member can be the speaker at an AA anniversary, to which Barbara M replied yes. Maura made a motion to adjourn the meeting and all voted in favor. The meeting ended with the Serenity Prayer and Al-Anon Declaration.