

Minutes for AWSC Meeting

Location: 106 Rolfe St., Cranston, RI

Date: March 2, 2013

Time: 10am-12pm

In Attendance:

Barbara M – Area Chair

David – Area Delegate

Nancy – Treasurer

Robin – District 1 Rep

Linda S – Lifelines Coordinator

Denise C – Group Records Coordinator

Deb E – Literature/LDC Coordinator

Barbara H – AA Liaison

Maryanne – Possible 2013 Workshop Committee Chairperson

Phyllis - District 4 Rep

Dean – Website Coordinator

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
- Minutes
 - Add assembly date, June 15, 2013 to January 2013 minutes.
 - Motion passed with 2 abstentions for acceptance of amended January 2013 minutes.
 - Email amended minutes to Dean for the website and make a hard copy for the office.

AWSC Related Discussions

- AWSC Service Events
 - AA Convention With Al-Anon Participation
 - 2:45 meeting on detachment still needs a chairperson
 - Mary G – Al-Anon speaker
 - Public Outreach – Maura has stepped down. Barbara H will set up table; Barbara M will help if Maura is unable to.

- Thought Force Updates
 - Guidelines for non performing service arms
 - Has been an issue for many years and has been ignored until now.
 - If there is a problem with the area chair, it will be taken up with the area delegate and vice versa.
 - Motion to accept the Guidelines as amended was carried with 1 abstention.
 - Diversity – Maura absent
 - Area structure changes
 - Barbara H (with David’s help) will have a proposal for the assembly. David is not sure it will be ready for the assembly. Barbara will break it into pieces and start work on the first piece after the AA Convention.

- **Reports**
 - Treasurer
 - Money was given to Wendy to buy a heater for the office, but no heater was received. Barbra M will contact Wendy about money for the heater.
 - Maura said she would put together a new appeal letter, but Nancy has not heard from her.
 - Nancy will send mileage from to everyone on the panel.
 - 2012 budget
 - Expenses for the year were not covered by donations brought in, but the shortage was covered by the balance forward in January 2012(\$3000.00) .
 - We were not fully self-supporting for 2012, but we did come in under budget.
 - 2012 budget accepted into the record.
 - 2013 proposed budget
 - Need for fundraising in order to be fully self-supporting.
 - Would like to see \$20.00 donation to the area per group per month.
 - Quarterly appeals to WSO are not included in the donations for the area.
 - Alateen funds used to be handled separately; now it is handled through the Al-Anon budget.
 - No money should be earmarked for Alateen; Alateen should be a line item in the budget.
 - David will research how it should be handled
 - Phyllis will research past minutes to see how Alateen money was handled in the past.

- What is the best way to present fundraising to area groups without bombarding them with requests for money and not scaring them with the idea that Al-Anon will go defunct.
 - The WSO appeal letter states how the donations are used. Phyllis would like to see that go into an appeal letter for our area.
 - Dean thinks the WSO receives too many donations. Groups give to WSO, the area gives to WSO, and WSO sends quarterly appeals.
 - Decision made to table the prudent reserve issue for now.
- Secretary – Yael out for 10 weeks, Denise will act as secretary until Yael returns.
- Delegate
 - David’s report is in Lifelines and he will continue to do this for now.
 - David asked other areas for information on how they handle donations, memberships, etc... He has heard from PA, NY, MA, NH, & Washington DC. He has also asked for their panel members names and contact information so that our panel members can contact them for help and input on how to best serve our positions.
 - We now have a list of active groups
 - David put together a list of GRs that were not on the announcements list. Denise invited them to the list and Linda will send them Lifelines.
 - David urges panel members to go to other area conventions to get feedback from other areas.
- District Reps
 - District 1 – Robin will be leaving for a year. She is looking to her GRS for a replacement.
 - District 4 – Phyllis sent an appeal to her district for help with Assembly planning. Debbie volunteered to chair the Assembly Committee.
- Website Coordinator – Dean established an email account and will contact the previous webmaster.
- Group Records – Denise invited GRs from David’s list, but only 1 accepted the invitation. Maryann will write an article about her experience getting onto the announcements list.
- Alateen – Rose absent. Sponsors needed.
- Literature Coordinator –
 - Deb needs submissions for the Alcohol and Intimacy Book. She will come out to individual meetings to facilitate a writing workshop for the submissions.
 - Deb now has enough reserve and is able to pay for literature when she purchases it.

- Deb would like to make a trivia game to put in the book, using facts about Al-Anon. (Ex. Who started Al-Anon?)
 - Lifelines – No report.
 - Public Outreach – No report/Position vacant.
 - Office Manager – No report/Position vacant.
- **Other AWSC Related Items**
 - Delegate preparation for conference
 - David has not requested anything for the conference.
 - Love gifts needed by April 12. Love gifts are hand made gifts representative of your area to be exchanged at the Delegate Conference. There is a trend away from this and to use the money for another purpose.
 - Notes, cards, letters for David – address will be put in Lifelines.
 - Open Positions
 - Public Outreach –
 - Other areas send PSA announcements from Al-Anon. Anyone can call the TV stations to inquire about Al-Anon announcements.
 - Expenses not submitted
 - Diversity thought force – Barbara will pursue getting Maura’s information
 - Table for AA Convention – Barbara will set up table but cannot man it.
 - Appeal letter – David and Nancy will take care of.
 - Office Manager
 - Barbara M checks phone messages
 - Deb comes in every 2 weeks
 - Volunteers can pen the mail
 - Agenda additions for next meeting - Should area donate to WSO? David and Barbara will ask at NERD Conference
- **Closing**
 - Spring Assembly – Saturday, June 15, 2013; 9:00 am - 3:30 pm (registration @ 8:30 am)
 - Next AWSC Meeting April 20, 2013 10:00 - 12:00.
 - Adjournment
 - Closing Prayer and Al-Anon Declaration.