

RHODE ISLAND AL-ANON AREA 49
MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY
July 8, 2010

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

Opening:

Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer
Reading of the 12 Traditions
Reading of the 12 Concepts of Service and General Warranties of the Conference
Read from the Service Manual (Pages 165-167)

Introductions:

Area Secretary; Cranston Warwick Day GR/Alt. District 4 Rep; Area Treasurer/Alateen Process Person; Alateen Coordinator; Webmaster/Forever Hope GR; Acting Office Manager; District 1 Rep.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary did not have a report and was not present at the May 13th AWSC meeting. The person who had taken minutes at that meeting distributed her minutes. There was one correction.

A motion was made and seconded to accept corrected minutes. Motion was passed with 5 in favor 1 abstention.

Treasurer's Report:

See attached. Office expenses are running more than what was in the budget, however the difference is coming from the miscellaneous line.

Chairman's Report:

The Chair was not present. The Treasurer acted as Chair.

Conference Summary Discussion:

KBDM: Page 59 of the Conference Summary was read on this topic. Discussion: it is difficult to get the full information to all members; decision makers may not know all the details as to how decisions will affect members; AWSC is not taking time to fully discuss issues, rather making decisions in order to wrap up meetings; if decisions are not made, the issue does not come up again or get resolved; it is difficult to present decisions to the group level without direction.

Responsibility: Page 62 of the Conference Summary was read on this topic. Discussion: what can the AWSC do when members are not fulfilling obligations, such as showing up only once per year at AWSC meetings; the Policy Committee could perhaps look into accountability for trusted servants not fulfilling obligations; dates for all AWSC meetings were listed at the beginning of the year; job descriptions for various positions do not state that they are required to attend AWSC meetings, members may not be aware that they are expected to attend; if someone is not on the agenda, they may not want to attend; Alateen sponsors are told that they need to attend a certain number of meetings and area aware of the requirements; voting members have the responsibility to attend AWSC meetings; the policy committee needs to be directed by the AWSC before they will work on a policy regarding this matter; this will be put on the agenda for next meeting.

Mileage Reimbursement for AWSC & Assembly Members:

In March there was discussion to set a mileage rate that everyone can adhere to, since there are various rates. The Treasurer will research and present the different rates at the next AWSC meeting so a decision can be made. The moderator for the AWSC Inventory Meeting who was from Connecticut asked for the charitable rate.

Service Email List:

Addition of Committee Chairs to Service List: The only way they know they are being discussed is through the e-list. Discussion as follows: if we are all equal, why is there not one list? By limiting and even having a service list, we are leaving people out; the service list was designed to allow AWSC members communicate between meetings; Coordinators were typically on the service list because they were AWSC members.

A motion was made and seconded that AWSC appointed Committee Chairs be added to the service list. The motion was approved unanimously.

Past Delegate's Appeal Letter: She was not present. Discussion as follows: experience strength hope being lost when past Delegates are excluded from AWSC deliberations; in the past it was said that the AWSC govern itself and ask for help when needed; if it had not been for the problem with the last Delegate that the AWSC would not have excluded past Delegates to begin with; confronting someone directly was discussed; suggestion that members don't say something negative and if there were a policy the issue could be approached with enough information; answers are in the service manual; the decision was a knee jerk reaction, however the person was confronted and it escalated the situation. Most members felt that the Past Delegate needs to be present before this decision is made. It was decided to table the issue until she is present.

Forwarding Messages to Members not on Service List: This item was also tabled because the AWSC did not know the background behind it or who put this item on the agenda.

A motion was made and seconded that if anyone presents an agenda item to the Area Chair to be discussed by the AWSC, the person's name be attached to it. The motion was passed unanimously.

NERD Report:

The Past Delegate was not present.

Assembly Discussion & Followup:

June Assembly successes and suggestions for future Assemblies: The issue of abstaining votes and how they might effect the 2/3 vote at Assembly was brought up. This item will be discussed in the planning of the November assembly. The Secretary read the raw minutes of the June Assembly to clarify the motion as follows:

Barbara M. made a motion seconded by Denise G. to abide by WSC voting rules with regard to abstentions for this Assembly. Clarify rule: Abstentions are not considered as votes. Therefore, the number of voting members will vary from motion to motion. Leah D. read the rule from the WSC handbook. The motion was passed with 21 in favor and 1 abstention.

List of items for AWSC follow up from the June Assembly: This item was tabled.

Assign to volunteers/AWSC members for research/footwork before September AWSC meeting: This item was tabled.

Other Items:

An AWSC member asked about the Alateen donations that were reported at the Assembly. Clarification was given. Groups must designate where they want their donations to go (i.e. Alateen, Alanon, Public Outreach).

The Lincoln Alateen meeting is closed. Only one member has attended for the past year.

This AWSC agenda needed to go out much earlier as members were not prepared, as suggested in practicing KBDM. A member would like to get reports from Literature, Public Outreach and different Districts if those AWSC members are not going to be present. It was suggested that the AWSC agenda be presented at least a full week ahead of the meeting, preferably two weeks.

The Literature Coordinator has never given a report to this Area Committee. She ordered 400 ALANON FACES ALCOHOLISM, because an AWSC member emailed her to get that information. An earlier remark that people may not know that they are supposed to be present and give a report was repeated.

It was suggested that tabled agenda items go to the top of the agenda list before we add new ones.

The Alateen Coordinator asked that members let groups know about the Alateen Sponsors Meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 14th at 7:00 pm.

Workshop Report:

The Workshop Coordinator was not present.

Date of Next Meeting:

AWSC Meeting, Thursday, September 9, 2010 at 7:00 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion was carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm and closed with the Serenity Prayer and Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Area 49 Secretary