

Area World Service Committee Meeting Minutes~ September 20, 2011

Area 49 – Rhode Island

OPENING: [15 minutes] Start at 7:05 pm

- Moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer
- Read Traditions (*Service Manual, pp 15-16*)
- Read Concepts & General Warranties (*Service Manual, pp 19-20*)
- Group chose to skip the reading of the excerpt from Service Manual
- 11 Al-Anon members; 9 voting members; 2/3 vote will be 6, and everyone in attendance has voice.

ACTION ITEMS: [1 hour, 40 minutes]

- Secretary's report – Reading of the secretary's report was tabled since the acting secretary for the May meeting was not present and we have not received the draft minutes to review.
- Treasurer's report - August expenditures were \$460.21, intake was \$925. September expenditures so far are \$467.49, intake is \$530. Treasurer is working on the budget to present at the November assembly and requests that all officers and coordinators provide their budget by October 31, 2011. The office expenses are down this year. In planning the budget for the next year she is figuring on an inflation increase of 4%. Treasurer prepared an appeal letter for review by the AWSC. After reading the letter and discussing it, a motion was made and approved to send out the appeal letter.
- Delegate's report – The delegates report was tabled since the delegate was not present.
- Lifelines newsletter review & approval – Discussed all the submitted changes. There was a question about why the Alateen Process Person wasn't included on the list of positions being voted on at the November Assembly. It was determined at the June Assembly that the Alateen Coordinator would choose the the Alateen Process Person. A motion was made and approved to accept the September edition of Lifelines with updates mentioned.
- Report from staggered terms thought force - The thought force felt that it was a good idea to stagger terms. Various scenarios were presented. Although it was a "thought force" they did review the service manual and checked with WSO and other areas for policy/procedures. Since the Assembly created the thought force, the chair of the thought force will report back to the Assembly in November.

- Assembly agenda –Only one member of the assembly task force present. There were only 3 people on the task force and the chair of the task force was not present. It was believed that a location had been secured for the Assembly. It was not known if a WSO Trustee had been asked to attend. A tentative list of agenda items was made:

- Elections
- Treasurer's report and budget
- Staggered terms thought force report
- Minimum attendance AWSC thought force report
- WSO Trustee presentation
- Delegate's report
- International convention bid thought force report
- Non-Al-Anon groups using office
- Lunch

Since the Area Assembly Guidelines that were approved at the June 2011 Assembly, states that the Assembly task force should submit their recommendations to the AWSC in September, which was not done at this meeting, it was suggested that we hold an emergency AWSC meeting as soon as possible. After reviewing their calendars, a motion was made and approved to hold an emergency AWSC meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at 7:00p.m. at the Area Office to discuss and finalize the planning of the November Assembly.

The acting chair volunteered to send out an email to the service list informing all AWSC officers and coordinators of the emergency meeting.

- Fall workshop – The workshop chair gave an overview of the plans for the Fall workshop and distributed Save the Date flyers for everyone to take to their groups. The registration fee will be \$10 for Al-Anon and AA members, \$2 for Alateens. Also, if you register by 11/11/11 you will receive 5 free raffle tickets. The workshop committee has prepared a list of breakout session topics and is seeking people to lead the breakout sessions.

- Coordinator reports – The group records coordinator will provide DRs with information at Assembly for reporting updates. The website coordinator reported the addition of Google maps links to meeting lists online. The public outreach coordinator said he has a strong candidate in mind for taking over public outreach. The acting office manager had nothing to report. One member requested that her phone number not be given out at the office. The Alateen coordinator reported the addition of a meeting at the training school. Since they are not allowed to have hard cover books, she has removed the covers from a couple of books so that they would have some books. She requested that this need be passed on to WSO. The Cumberland Alateen meeting is doing good. The AA liaison reported that the AA Convention is scheduled for March 23-25 and the theme is Soaring in Sobriety. They need workshop volunteers and will want public outreach to set up a table.

- Groups/committees using RI AFG office for meetings – It was reported that there were groups in district 4 that were concerned about non-Al-Anon groups using the area office. It was also reported that there groups in district 3 that will not make contributions to the area or purchase literature from our LDC for the same reason. The acting office manager reported that the group in question was no longer meeting at the area office.
- Al-Anon service: Getting busy & getting better! – A motion was made and approved to table this item.

CLOSING: *[5 minutes]*

- Al-Anon announcements – Next AWSC meeting – Tuesday, October 18th, 7-9 pm
- A motion was made and approved to adjourn.
- Closing prayer and Al-Anon Declaration

Closed at 9:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Acting Secretary