

RIAFG Hybrid AWSC Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2022

In Attendance: Barbara H. Area Chair, Terry L. Area Treasurer, Elaine H. Office Coordinator, Kim C. Website Coordinator, Wendy H. Literature Coordinator, Ann H. Forum Coordinator, Eden C. Lifelines Editor, Julia G., McKenzie, Nancy

Reviewed minutes from February 8, 2022, AWSC meeting. Julia amended the Workshop Coordinator section to clarify that she is not presenting to the AWSC this week, just notifying to the Chair on what times she needs present at Assembly. Minutes were then voted on and passed without any additional corrections or addendums. Terry L. volunteered to take the minutes.

New Business:

Assembly Planning 6/4/22

Barbara proposed an initial draft of the Assembly agenda and members had the following discussion and amendments:

Workshop Coordinator - Defined times for Julia to present her Workshop Coordinator proposal to Assembly.

Treasurer Section - Rolled Treasurer's portion into the Area Business section to allow more time for other discussion. Treasurer will report on year-end 2020 and YTD 2022.

Location - Assembly location of Amicable Church in Tiverton was confirmed. There is no projector or screen, so Barbara will follow up with Phyllis to borrow her equipment.

Electronic Meeting discussion - discussion on navigating the decision/process around RI electronic meetings converting from RIAFG to a new Virtual Delegation. Some felt we weren't prepared to address in the Spring, but it was decided to include in Spring Assembly and Delegates can table to Fall if necessary. Delegate's Assembly presentation will have WSO decisions around electronic meetings.

Food - potluck was rejected and BYO affirmed to avoid COVID-related issues. GRs can bring food to share but RIAFG will not solicit this or require shared dishes as it has in prior Assemblies. Area will supply water, coffee, tea, sugar, cream, and paper products. Elaine will assist in doing an inventory of our on-hand supplies.

Funding - Group to pay \$5 for each group. We will also put out a donation basket to cover Area refreshments.

Icebreaker activity inquired about but decided not to include because Delegate's report will need a significant amount of agenda time.

McKenzie asked about making the Assembly hybrid. Chair expressed concerns around technical challenges and raised WSO hybrid mandates allowing in-person attendees to object to being on video a/o recorded, which could cancel virtual Assembly access at the last minute. McKenzie volunteered to support virtual access and manage tech throughout the Assembly. She will report back on logistics at the April 19th meeting. With the uncertainty around Assembly being hybrid or in-person exclusively, Chair recommended we put "at this time the meeting is in person" on the flyer and subsequently announce online access in Lifelines if available.

Terry L. will create the flyer.

Barbara will put the packet together for RIAFG review.

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Accepting Electronic Groups Task Force report (Elaine):

- Will get volunteers and meeting dates together
- Expecting that Chair and Barbara M will relay insights from upcoming NERD meeting to inform the RI discussion
- Elaine expects that the group will produce a pros/cons list to present at Spring Assembly re: accepting electronic groups in RIAFG. Agreement that GRs do not have to decide in June and may table decision to Fall.

Office Hours Discussion (Elaine & Eden):

Proposal from Eden on how best to recruit Office Volunteers through Lifelines. She suggested that publishing specific office hours and open volunteer timeslots would help readers better understand the requirements and drive volunteer recruitment. Elaine reported that there are not enough volunteers to publish consistent open office hours. For general scheduling, they currently coordinate Literature pickups and any other in-person needs directly with members. Elaine agreed to try quantifying ideal office hours for the next issue of Lifelines so volunteers can pick their own timeslots. Possibility of using a Google doc for sign up.

Allowing DRs to use RIAFG zoom accounts to facilitate District meetings? will table this issue to next meeting

Forum Writing Workshop: Ann will table this issue to next meeting

Reports:

Literature Report (Wendy):

- Finally has access to Literature bank account and a debit card
- Managed to get copies of *How Al-Anon Works*, which are very scarce right now, for RI distribution!

Treasurer's report: Feb YTD income/expenses tracking well and within budget, although too early in the year for any meaningful annual forecasting

Next AWSC Meeting April 19th, 2022, at 7PM in Cranston office (with Zoom available)

Motion made to adjourn, seconded, and passed