

NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLY AREA 36

MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 1, 2019

Tim S., in place of Chairperson, Ann Marie Z. called the meeting to order at 10AM. The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer followed by members reading the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts of Service and the General Warranties of the Conference. Donna S. read from Page 86 of the Service Manual regarding dual members in Al-Anon service.

Angela R. acted as Corresponding Secretary for the meeting to keep count for votes

Chairperson: Tim S. reminded all of etiquette procedures as outlined in her report. Each speaker would have 2 minutes at microphone and was reminded to stay on topic.

Tim S. indicated the theme for this Assembly was Concept 9.

Chairperson report from Ann Marie Z. was included in packet. Tim S. added there was a flyer for a TEAM event in Plymouth Meeting included with the packet.

Tim S. requested actors for skit: 3 men, 4 women needed for “the Meeting after the Meeting.”

Tim S. passed Ask It Basket in place of Katie O., who was excused from attending.

Tim S. requested District/Group to volunteer for November Assembly to provide refreshment.

Christina from District 4 volunteered.

Alternate Delegate: Katie O. did not attend; excused. Report included in packet.

Treasurer: Treasurer’s Report included with the packet.

Recording Secretary: Mary F. gave the new email address for the recording secretary: recordingsecarea36@gmail.com.

Corresponding Secretary: Angela R. acting Corr. Sec.

Report included in packet. Reviewed inactive meeting list/no mail list. DRs providing help regarding updating this list, GRs also helping. Angela R. requested groups/districts let her know of any questions, changes. Update list mailed to groups from WSO March 21. Make sure your group checks this and mails back, even if there are no changes.

WSO is updating so that group changes can be made on line. However, updating online form and should be available by end of week.

Mailing labels sent for Alagrams.

Alagram: Kalpana’s husband passed away. Alagram did and she did not attend. Alagram did go out. Report is p.17 in the packet.

Alateen: Report was submitted. Tim S. thanked Diane and Holly in District 27. Diane did a number of presentations at schools. Holly set up training session in District 27. 14 new AMIAS.

Looking to start Alateen in South Brunswick, possible 2 meetings.

WSO updating mailing/contact info for Alateen meetings. Please check mail from WSO.

Frank asked to STRESS: Please get AMIAS information verified so that we can do background checks.

Next Alateen training in the fall. Tim S. indicated it is okay to give out his phone number and email address to those interested in starting Alateen meeting.

Archives: Mike indicated his report is on back table; also included in the packet. Mike's goal is to help generate more interest in the history of Al-Anon. Donna S. requested Mike's contact info and also let him know that WSO had info about a NJ group adopting a group in Russia. WSO will send info. Tim S. indicated Assembly sponsored three groups in Russia and sent literature a few times a year. George who was coordinator with Russia has info to return

Literature: Lori-Jo gave her report and highlighted electronic literature. One book is only available electronically: *Having Had a Spiritual Awakening*.

Members can search digital literature on line.

Public Outreach: Karen P. included report in packet. Karen P. indicated a lot of requests for Alateen. Karen also reported on the 888 number: people are still happy to have a person to talk to on the other end of the line.

Website: Martha indicated her report is included in the packet.

Martha indicated that flyers are coming in great. She reminded groups to please copy Delegate and Chair for their approval.

Also, indicated that flyers should please be sent in PDF form.

If groups don't hear back from Martha in a week, contact her.

Martha is still looking for feedback about the website.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District #2 Morris: Angela submitted her reports, which is included in packet. Angela amended her report to indicate there are no Spanish meetings in district.

Angela indicated her district had request to start Alateen meeting in Morristown area. District is looking for a place to start one

District #3 Hunterdon/Warren Counties: Katie O sent Mary as her representative. Report included in packet.

District 4: Kristina indicated district report was in the packet. Kristina reported that GRs decided to have district meeting every month. The district is ordering new business cards with meeting list on them.

Districts 11, 12, 13, 14, 15: Mary S. was unable to attend but sent a report. Her report is included in packet.

District 18: No Report

District 20/21: Mary K. included her report in packet.

Mary K. indicated that the Districts need AMIAS to get Alateen meeting starting in South Brunswick. Mary K. and Diane S. are willing to start it. However, the district needs local AMIAS to keep Alateen going.

There was a question: What is Footprints for Recovery? The answer is that this is a private recovery center with a family program which welcomes AL-Anon

District 22: Liz M. attended and gave report. No report submitted for packet. Her district holds district meetings every month.

Her district has 7 active GRs out of 14 meetings, 3 attending today.

District is developing speaker list and ordering new business cards with meeting list.

District 22 works closely with District 25 Camden County.

Liz indicated her district is having a workshop and brought a flyer.

Look for workshop info on website. Plenty of parking.

District 23: Karen P. was standing in for DR and gave report. Report was also included in packet.

District is having workshop June 22. Karen brought a brochure. Workshop will include drawing for free Al-Anon books.

Karen indicated they are trying to promote service in the district.

District 26: Keith attended the assembly but submitted no report.

District 27: Holly gave report but did not submit report for packet. Holly indicated that her district is primarily a resort area and service is an on-going issue. One GR from District 27 is attending today. The last district meeting is June 3.

There is lots of enthusiasm for Alateen in District 27. The district already has a place for the meeting and literature.

The district is having a potluck October 19, hoping to be in the middle of the county.

The district had a surplus of money and has ordered another batch of AFA. Their meetings have lots of newcomers and they want them to keep coming back.

Jal-Con: Diane S. submitted a report, included in packet. They have found a place for Jal-Con, St. Luke's Parish Center. The cost of the venue is to supply St. Luke's Parish Center with literature.

This year's theme: Reconnect. Date: October 26, Saturday. Cost \$30 for early birds, \$35 at the door. May audiotape speakers.

Looking to vary venues, looking for input for future conventions.

NJIS: No report. No one attended.

Spanish Intergroup: No report. No one attended.

Delegate: Donna S. presented PowerPoint presentation about WSC.

12:05P: Broke for lunch.

12:45P: Reconvened.

Delegate: Donna S. continued PowerPoint presentation.

Kathy B. presented "Did You Know" about the use of the Al-Anon hyphen.

Spanish Intergroup: Two members arrived to Assembly after lunch:

Aura Tuesday 6:30-7:30

Lucy Mondays

Aura gave report. There are 17 Spanish speaking groups in NJ. Meeting changes made with Angela and meeting list is available.

There will be a National Convention 7/26-7/28 Ramada Inn in Newark. They gave flyer to Martha to put on website.

Aura wanted to know if Spanish speaking meeting can be set up for Jal-Con.

Skit: The Meeting after the Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes of March NJ Assembly approved with two amendments. 30 voting. 30 approved.

Policy Handbook: Donna S. gave report. Policy manual is updated and available on NJ Al-Anon website.

Includes 5 motions which had not formerly been included previously.

Task force set up to correct typos and grammar in existing handbook. Stayed tuned for progress report.

Kathy B. set up the Policy Handbook Task Force; looking for DR and GR to work with Task Force. GR volunteer: Scott.

Redistricting: Tim S. gave report for Katie O. Working on it slowly. Have divided up thought force questions. Hoping to have report to AWSC in October.

Technology Task Force: Rich M. gave the report for Monica. No formal report will be available until November. Most ideas are cost prohibitive. Looking at costs for conference calling. Looking at hybrid AWSC and Assembly. May also consider smart phone voting.

Voting for Corresponding Secretary: Angela gave description of position.: Manages all groups in the Area, records, etc. or any questions about groups. Reports to WSO and to Groups.

Angela is willing to stand for this position. Angela has been acting in this position. Al-Anon member since 2011. Former GR, now DR for District 2. Formerly Area treasurer and website coordinator. Loves to learn new things and looks forward to any opportunity to give back to Al-Anon.

Vote taken: 29 for, 1 abstention

Budget Committee: Tim S. indicated there was a need for volunteers: DR, GR, past Delegate. Conference call to set budget for 2020 will be held in September.

DR Volunteer: Mary K.

GR Volunteer: Joe M.

Thought Force regarding Do Not Refer/Re-Refer Policy:

Paul G. gave synopsis of history of this thought force: some groups have deviated so far from traditions as to be deemed by members as unsafe for new members to attend. Conference allowed areas autonomy to make this decision as long as they had a policy in place.

Paul G asked: Does our area need/want a policy like this in place? The task is to come back to Assembly to give pros and cons. AWSC will then come back with a task force to create policy if decided policy is necessary.

Thought force: Ann Marie will write a charge to be considered. Questions will be emailed to thought

force to be answered by the thought force. Thoughts will be discussed. Should require one or two conference calls and then a report to AWSC. Would like to have done by next AWSC in October via email and conference calls. GRs, DRs, ISRs, etc. encouraged to volunteer.

Jesse volunteered as a DR; Rich volunteered as a past delegate, Keith as a GR, Scott as a GR, Diane District 4 as a GR. If anyone else is interested, Paul invited to see him after the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tim S. asked if there was any new business. Karen B. requested that we have a presentation on the structure of Al-Anon at one of the Assemblies.

Ask It Basket

Question 1. Angela took the question. Can you email to GRs a reminder of an upcoming GR meeting (Assembly)?

Angela responded that the Alagram has notification of Assembly meetings. They are also posted on the NJ A-Anon website and are printed on the calendar. The meetings are:

First Saturday of March, June, November

Question 2: What does a GR need to do to host a meeting? (This related to providing refreshments to NJ Assembly). The board answered all that was required was to just raise hand to volunteer.

Donna had gift bags for groups which were having events.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45P

Minutes Submitted by
Mary F. - Recording Secretary