

Connecticut Area World Service Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2021

Meeting was opened by Elaine M. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Roll call was taken by secretary, Taffy P. Absent were: Alt. Delegate, Pat S., Archives, June C., Phone service, Marie B., Spanish Liaison, Sue D. Guests included: Past delegates – Ann B., Gail L., Ellie L., Gina R.; Board of Directors – Shirley B., Katy D., Kathy G., Betsy N., Michael, Janice R., and Ann T.

Elaine opened by welcoming everyone with the hope that one day we will be able to meet face to face. She reminded everyone of who has voice and vote and meeting etiquette.

Taffy informed the committee of several corrections to the March minutes. Motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Kristen H, DR 11 and seconded by Janet S. DR 1. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report : for months ending March and April was reviewed by Jackie B.:

	<u>Month ending March 31, 2021</u>	<u>Month ending April 30, 2021</u>
Checking beginning balance	\$40,158.91	\$39,598.09
Income received	2,678.66	2,235.80
Less expenses	<u>(3,239.48)</u>	<u>(330.79)</u>
Checking ending balance	\$39,598.09	\$41,503.10

Motion to accept Treasurer's report as presented was made by Stephanie S. DR6; seconded by Donna C. DR7. Motion carries.

District 11 Report: Kristen H. shared that there are 19 meetings including two at York Correctional facility and two Alateens. However, five are not currently meeting due to Covid. Their district PO is very active and they have successfully delivered boxes of business cards, schedules, bookmarks, AFA's and pens to emergency services along the shoreline. They are currently in need of more Alateen sponsors, especially once face to face meetings resume. Lastly, Kristen will be stepping down from her role as DR as she will be moving to Florida.

District 12 Report: Stephanie R. reported that there are 19 meetings which includes two Alateens. However, six have closed due to Covid, including one Alateen. In spite of closures, there are two new Al-Anon GRs, one Alternate GR and one Alateen GR. District 11 uses Zoom for all groups that wish to use it. After the area business is conducted at the district meeting, GRs are able to share what is going on with their group and ask questions for open discussion.

Delegate's Report: Marcia M. reported that she had attended the virtual NERD meeting in March. Her second Virtual World Service Conference was held on April 12 – 16, 2021 via WebEx. It was a totally different experience than last year. This year's Conference mirrored what an in-person Conference would have been which included 8-hour days and lots of information and discussion. She informed the committee that we will be hearing a resume for the position of Co-Chairperson for 2022 Convention, and that the Board of Directors (BOD) has elected a new President, Carol D. She continues to attend monthly Zoom meetings with her

Panel 60 Delegates. It is a great opportunity to exchange and explore new ideas. Please be on the lookout for WSO's 2021 membership survey.

Concept 2: *The Al-Anon Family Groups have delegated complete administrative and operational authority to their Conference and its service arms.* Ron S., DR 3, read from the service manual for its comprehensive explanation of Concept 2.

AA Liaison: Justice K. put out a plea for Al-Anon support for three of the AA events – CSCYPAA, Round Up and Area 11 Convention. [Al-Anon co-chairs are needed for these events. She also had fliers sent out for several anniversaries.] She informed the committee that AA has announced all 2022 events will be virtual.

Alateen: Lisa G. reviewed the requirements and time commitments for being an Alateen sponsor.

- Alateen Group Sponsor serves for six (6) consecutive years' service with the same Alateen group.
- When they step down, they are encouraged to keep their certification as an AMIAS or substitute sponsor.
- Attend their own Al-Anon meeting, their Alateen meeting, district meetings, AMIAS meeting, anniversaries to transport Alateen speakers or support fellow Alateens, AWSC assemblies, Al-Anon convention, CAWW, and mandatory training (once a year).
- Prospects need to read over policies and procedures, speak with DR and coordinator before going onto a background check.
 - Full name [and social security #] is required
- Approval needs to be given at two district presentations; two AMIAS meetings, and finally, Alateens have final say after attending six of their meetings.

Lisa explained all this not to scare anyone off, but to let them know it is a worthwhile commitment.

Public Outreach: Kathe L-B. informed all that May is National Mental Health month and PO had set up a successful table at the 2nd Annual Milford Coastline Challenge and Music Fest. This is a great month to reach out to therapists, counselors, Mental Health providers and facilities. They also plan to set up at the Women's Better Living Expo in Bridgeport. The April PO meeting had an opportunity to discuss and share project ideas and several districts were actively participating in their own PO projects.

Spring Delegate's Assembly: Elaine announced that the Assembly will be June 12 via Zoom. It will be hosted by districts 11 and 12, with two breakout rooms. Upon registering, members will be required to note which workshop they wish to attend-- "Grow your Al-Anon program with Alateen Sponsorship," or "Finding Answers and Solutions in the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual." A flier will be coming soon.

Resumes: Marcia, once again, took the floor to announce a candidate for the 2022 Convention co-chair position. Deborah C., past BOD president and long-time active AWSC member, was unanimously approved.

She had previously sent out an application with requirements for the Northeast Regional Trustee position (NERT). So far, there has been no one interested from Connecticut. Process involves approval from AWSC, then approval from the Assembly. Deadline is August 15, 2021.

BOD Report – Audit: This summary report was presented by newly elected BOD president, Carol D. The May 2018 task charge was to look into any financial discrepancies. Although, the committee found no major discrepancies, they did make several recommendations:

- To make sure that CT AFG is in compliance with IRS guidelines.
- With online banking available to use one bank for all accounts.
- Provide continued transparency and consistency
- Conduct regular audits.
- 2020 tax preparer found unreported \$4500 in Alateen account and the way our unforeseen returns are distributed by the Convention committees was a concern.
- To create a Profit & Loss form for the LDC and Area to use for tax reporting.
- The Convention and Alateen would have its own P&L and roll into the Area's account.

Discussion ensued:

- Was this 'Double-headed Management'?
- Creates more responsibility for the Area Treasurer
- Al-Anon doesn't do anything out of fear
- Original purpose was only to audit books; no recommendations were asked for
- Tax preparer brought up things that we need to be aware of
- Elaine reminded all to take it slow, read over summary, read our by-laws on the website, take this information back to the groups and share, and, as always, invite your Higher Power in the discussion.

Elaine thanked everyone for attending. A motion to adjourn was made by Donna C. DR7; seconded by Morgan R., Literature. Meeting was closed at 8:44 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Taffy Perachio
AWSC Secretary