**Connecticut Area World Service Committee**

**Minutes**

**December 3, 2021**

Meeting was opened by Chairperson Elaine M. at 7:30 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Attendance was taken by Taffy P. Absent from the meeting were: DR from District 13, Alateen and Archives coordinators. Guests in attendance were: Betsy N., Gina R., Ellie L., and Kathy G.

Elaine M. thanked all the outgoing District Representatives (DR) from districts 1, 2, 7 & 9 and our Public Outreach coordinator. She is hoping that we can eventually return to face-to-face meetings. She also asked that all information for the new DRs and alternates be sent to the secretary as soon as they are elected.

Taffy P. asked for a motion to accept the October’s minutes as presented. Linda P. DR2 moved and Karen V, DR5 seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report** as of November 30, 2021

Beginning checkbook balance $38,014.55

Group contributions 1,566.16

Less Expenses ( 6,410.90)

Ending checkbook balance $33,169.81

Questions were asked to Jackie B. regarding the amount of Public Outreach expenses for November. She stated that it was due to a media advertising campaign and would be discussed later in the meeting. She also informed the committee that by December, if contributions were not increased, she would have to make up for the expenditures by taking money from our checking account. However, we are still financially solvent. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented was made by Stephanie S, DR6 and seconded by Janine G., DR 11. Motion carries unanimously

**Delegate’s Report:** Marcia M. reported that the 2021 Chairperson of the Board letter has been released. The 2022 Strategic Plans have been approved and will move forward with:

* Examine the opportunity for a member of WSO staff to speak in a professional capacity at professional events
* To create animations from existing newcomer content for social media distribution
* Investigate and recommend systems that allow us to take additional electronic forms of electronic payments
* Reduce staff time by improving WSO communications (i.e., bequests and wills).
* Will continue to work on 2021 Strategic Plans.
  + Increase access to CAL globally
  + Electronic Alateen meetings
  + AFG mobile app implementation
* WSO will be working on major projects such as: Electronic meetings, 2023 International Convention
* Longitudinal Study
* 2022 International IAGSM
* New daily reader
* 2022-2025 Service manual translation
* Opening of At-Large member of the Executive Committee has a deadline of January 1, 2022. Information can be found in Service Manuel under Concept 8 or on WSO website.
* Revenues consist of mainly literature sales and contributions. As of September, literature sales were $227,190 and contributions were $172,624.
* Largest expenditures consist of WSO staff salaries and benefits, PSA, technology support and postage. Expenses for September were $443,571.
* WSO continues to work on formation of new Non-Geographical Area which will include all permanent electronic meetings (PEM).

**Alternate Delegate’s Report:** newly elected Katie D. shared a moment of remembering Pat S.

She is hoping to meet face to face in June 2022 and plan workshops for the assembly.

**District 4 Report:** Robert T. reported that district 4 has 20 meetings including one Spanish meeting and one monthly meeting. Nine are on Zoom and three have remained closed due to pandemic. One meeting is concurrently as separate in-person and Zoom and has decided to officially split with Zoom registering as new group. There are four Alateen meetings – two are school based—and currently suspended. At the district level, all service positions are filled. They have a healthy treasury

**District 5 Report:** Karen V. shared that district 5 consists of 26 meeting, including three Spanish and two Alateens. Two Greenwich meetings are currently on hold, while others have been combined on Zoom. Norwalk Thursday has closed. One meeting remains in-person, while others have continued with the hybrid approach. Karen is still looking for an Alternate DR and secretary.

**Concept 5:** was shared by Stephanie S. DR 6, who read from Paths To Recovery. Growing up she felt that she was never heard. She saw this Concept in action at our Budget meeting.

**Assembly Wrap-Up:** There were 157 participants while 200 registered. Janet S. DR1 who assisted with the assembly believed that it was easy to do since it was virtual.

**Board of Directors:** Carol D. reiterated that they are looking for new members for 2022. Qualifications, resume procedures and forms are on the CT website under ***Members and BOD.*** She repeated the qualifications and encouraged out-going DRs to continue with their service.

**Convention 2022:** Chairperson Martha N. reported that at the November planning meeting, the team worked on a number of items that required a decision to finalize the convention budget. They decided not to have a banner made for the convention and there will be no registration fee. In lieu of fee, they will ask for voluntary contributions via Event Brite to cover expenses.

Program Committee has secured an Al-Anon keynote speaker and are working on a Spiritual speaker. They do not have an Alateen Chair/co-chair at this time and may be unable to offer an Alateen program. Registration for the convention will be online and will be open after the Serenity Breakfast. Convention will take place virtually on March 19, 2022. She encouraged everyone to talk up the Serenity Breakfast and the Convention at their meetings.

**Serenity Breakfast:** Co-chair Deborah C. informed the committee that the breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 23, 2022. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The waiting room will open at 9:30 a.m. Registration information will be sent out on December 15. There will be no fee for the breakfast nor for the raffle. AA, Al-Anon speakers, and possibly an Alateen have been secured. Again, talk it up in your meetings.

**Group Records:** Kelly D. reminded everyone the importance of notifying her of any meeting changes so she can update the WSO database. There is also a link on the WSO website to guide one to the temporary electronic meeting change form. These are not classified in the same way as permanent electronic meetings (PEM). On the same website, there is a fact sheet that includes Tradition 7 and carrying the message worldwide. These meetings follow the same format as face-to-face, but due to safety reasons, there are no Alateen electronic meetings.

If a group wishes to form a permanent electronic meeting, they would become a new meeting (new registration) and no longer have access to the district. Temporary electronic meetings will continue to utilize their WSO registration number.

Several questions were answered by Kelly regarding anonymity [Zoom link not identifying individuals]. Marcia M. clarified Non-Geographical Area

**2022 Meeting and Agenda Schedule:** Elaine M. sent out the schedule and asked that if coordinators wanted to be on the agenda to contact her before the scheduled agenda meetings.

**Redistricting:** Robert T. DR4 brought to the committee’s attention a in-person group that changed facilities and is now located in district 7. Donna C. DR7, met with this group and explained the procedure to re-register. Since, this meeting has not been registered, the topic was tabled.

**Public Outreach Media Advertising:** Since questions were raised regarding the amount of money used to purchase this advertising campaign, as well as concerns about anonymity, Kathe L-B and Robert T. explained the process to the committee. Seattle Times Media Solutions having worked with Al-Anon in the Washington Area, is being used to run ads for Al-Anon during the months of November, December and January. Video will be displayed to CT residents that have searched for information regarding alcoholism and other related words. In November the video was been shown nearly 33,000 time to online users, with 54 total clicks to our website. Nearly 52% of viewers watched the entire video resulting in 15,980 video completions.

Robert T., Website coordinator tried to get the technical answers from non-technical people. According to him, Google Analytics (measures website activity) is already present on most websites and nothing different on how the web is handled every day. He reassured members that this kind of analysis is common internet practice.

**Website Coordinator:** For fourth time tonight, Robert T. took the floor. He believes that he is still learning the fine details of our website and meeting updates. However, if your group is having an anniversary or events, send the information along. Robert completed a basic overview of website with former webmaster, Deanna. He is focused on keeping the meeting information as accurate as possible. As groups change formats, he will communicate these changes to the DRs. He has requested that all Zoom information be in digital format for ease of copy and paste to webpage. Webpage activity in November were 2852 visits from 1376 unique users averaging over five minutes per visit.\_

Motion was made by Janet S. DR 1 and seconded by Linda P. DR2 to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Taffy P., AWSC Secretary