**CONNECTICUT AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**MARCH 4, 2022**

Meeting was started at 7:32 p.m. with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer led by Chairperson Elaine M. Her opening remarks: grateful for technology that allows us hope and continue to do Area business. She reminded who is allowed to make motions and vote. Members were encouraged to step up for service. Members who have any questions or concerns were asked to use her official chairman@ctalanon.org address rather than her personal email address or to call her. She announced that Morgan R. will be added to the agenda for a report.

Taffy P. took role call. All active DRs and coordinators were present. Guests included: Shirley B., and Janice R.-BOD members, Past delegates- Ellie L., Gina R., Ann B. and potential PO candidates Eric B and Patricia McH.

**Secretary’s Report:** Taffy read the changes that were made to the January Minutes. Ron S.DR3 moved to approve the minutes as amended; seconded by Janet S. DR1. Motion carries with unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:**  for the months of January and February 2022.

January beginning balance $35,413.00 February beginning balance $33,944.25

Contributions 1,944.26 Contributions 1,226.00

Less Expenses (3,413.01) Less Expenses ( 343.37)

Ending checkbook balance $33,944.25 Ending February balance $34,826.88

Jackie B. reported that the Archives expense of $19.20 should have been credited to Mileage. Also $4.29 will be taken from Treasurer’s budget instead of Miscellaneous for bank checks. Also, February’s year to date amount was corrected and should read $3756.38. Questions were asked about phone service cost fluctuating, cost of Zoom account and the amount for BOD staff/LDC/Storage. Jackie will send out a revised budget. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report was made by Stephanie S. DR6 and seconded by Janet S. DR1. Motion carries with 21 yes, 0 no. A new electronic form for reimbursements was displayed.

**Delegate’s Report:**  Marcia M. was excited to announce that she will be attending her first in-person World Service Conference this year in Tarrytown, NY, April 26-30. The theme is “Enhancing Our Recovery through Abundance, Unity and Understanding”. Conference Leadership Team (CLT) made a decision not to accept any physical packages of love gifts for distribution nor mail addressed to Conference members at the hotel. Send any love gifts to Marcia’s home by the end of March.

WSO news:

* Non-panel global electronic area has elected a delegate and, upon approval, will be admitted to the WSC structure as the new Panel 62 delegate and voting member.
* 2021 Membership Survey results are in with participation from a record-breaking number of members. Complete survey is available at al-anon.org/surveyresults .
* CLT discussed upcoming preparation for WSC and status of three Task Forces.
* WSO revenues for December consisted of $213,541 for Literature sales and $368,734 for contributions.
* Expenses was largest category which consists of staff salaries & benefits, printing, technology support and postage. A net decrease of $76,066 below budgeted expectations.

Area news:

* Nominating Committee reviewed resumes for BOD. Recommendations forwarded to President of the Board
* Two candidates have come forward for PO coordinator
* NERD (North East Regional Delegates) will be held March 11 & 12.

**Alternate Delegate:** Katie D. presented an update of the Electronic Meetings Thought Force. They are working through the KBDM questions to determine what guidelines will be needed to admit a Permanent Electronic Group (PEG) from the Non-Geographical Area to the CT Area. They have met twice and will meet again on Saturday to gather information and discuss possible guidelines and issues. Katie is expecting to provide a report to Marcia in the next month. She is also looking for Spring Assembly Workshop ideas. If you have any, send them to her.

**District 8 Report:** Justice K. shared that there are 15 groups, including one Spanish-speaking. Recently, Alternate DR has stepped down. Most meetings remain virtual with two meeting face to face. She has noticed that many meetings have discussion of Steps, Traditions, and Concepts. Newcomers continue to return as well as active members in service.

**District 9 Report:**  Rosalie L. shared that there are 15 groups in the district, but attendance has been down. Long timers have not returned. There are 6 hybrid and 2 Zoom meetings. She is currently looking for two members to step up as District Representative and Alternate as her term expired in 2021. District 9 has no Alateen participation.

**Concept 7:**  was presented by Janine G. DR11, who did an enlightening sharing of how Concept 7 works traditionally and spiritually—in our meetings and in her personal life.

**Convention Co-chair/Serenity Breakfast:** was held virtually with no registration fee nor contributions. Expenses were speaker gifts $88.69, Spanish interpretation $280 (covered by Spanish Committee line item) and free Raffle $40.28. 265 registrants, 9 requesting Spanish interpreters. Deborah C. was disappointed in the number of questionnaires returned (29=14%). She went on to read some of the questions. Her recommendation is for GRs to encourage members to review the questionnaire at meetings. Should they charge for registration? Cost of interpreters was greatest expense. Recommended that they have more volunteer interpreters. Open a PO box to facilitate contributions from attendees and receive surveys.

**2022 Convention Chair:** Martha N. reported that the 44th CT AFG Convention is only two weeks away (March 19 from 8:30-7pm) via Zoom. Subcommittees are busy finalizing program details. The convention is self-supporting and committee is asking for voluntary contributions which will allow the convention to cover expenses and return the $5000 seed money. She reminded everyone that the 9a.m. Spanish-speaking meeting will be interpreted into English.

**Group Records, Website and Phone Service Work Force:** Sharon B. (Phone Service) took to the floor to read the updated process to maintain accuracy of the CT Website, Phone Service and WSO website. Eleven districts have reported the accuracy/changes for the groups in their districts. The three that did not contact her were called for their results. As of now, the meeting section of the CT Area website is up-to-date and accurate. The Work Force’s goal is to have the CT site and WSO site in sync. To assist face to face meetings that are moving to temporary electronic format, they have created a ‘Temporary Al-Anon Electronic Meeting Change Form’ at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/group-resources/group-records/> Sharon emphasized several times to NOT SEND CHANGES DIRECTLY TO WEB COORDINATOR. It is important to contact Area Group Records, Kelly D. at kellydandorph@gmail.com DRs were asked to use the “View” access to check current listings on the WSO database or Valerie in Group Records at valerie@al-anon.org. If inaccuracies contact Kelly. If temporary Zoom or conference call information is not listed, fill out the Temporary Al-Anon Electronic Meeting change form. The committee would like this process completed by May 1, 2022. Robert T. will send Taffy P. the new URL link for Area distribution.

**Alateen Coordinator:** Lisa G. worked on CAWW packets for 2022 with a several members, since it will be a one-day event this year only. April is AMIAS recertification training. It will be held on line on April 23. New DRs were asked to contact Miguel or Lisa if they were unsure of the process. Paperwork must be completed and submitted prior to June 30.

**Spring Assembly Update:** Elaine M. took the floor to tell the committee that the consensus was to meet via Zoom. She will again use Tech 12 to facilitate technology support. Hosts districts are 2 and 3.

**LDC Manager:** Steve G. introduced himself as the new LDC manager. He thanked Deborah for the training. They have a new volunteer, Trish, and Catherine, who has been there for a while. Sales and donations have been down slightly from December, but he is optimistic that the sales and donations will start to increase. Two issues that concerned him were: (1) LDC computers are very old and run slowly. They did receive a newer computer from a long-time member and will have it installed shortly. Also, he has been having difficulties with emails which has required much of his time. Steve apologized for not getting back to people in a timely fashion due to the problem. (2) due to paper supply shortage and supply chain disruption, they are running low on “How Al-Anon Works” and daily readers.

**Public Outreach Candidates:** Marcia M. introduced two candidates who have stepped forward for this position—Eric B. and Patricia McH. They both read their resumes and were placed in the “waiting room” while the committee discussed their qualifications. Issues arose concerning Anonymity, teamwork, and computer skills. After much discussion, a consensus was taken. It was decided that the committee did not have enough information to make an informed decision. Since Eric B. had to leave, Patricia McH. Was asked to return to the May meeting with a more detail vision for PO and a service sponsor. Marcia reminded her that we needed to hear more about her role as an Al-Anon member versus her profession.

**AA Events Coordinator:**  Justice K. reminded the committee that Al-Anon participation is provided to five Area 11 events. She encouraged members to step up and show their support by volunteering for any open AA event positions. She asked that the AA events flier be shared at meetings. Finally, it was brought to her attention that the AA annual regional convention known as NECYPAA will be held in Connecticut this year between Christmas and New Year’s. Since it was not one of the five AA events, she was asking the committee for a vote to participate. If both NECYPAA and AWSC votes to support Al-Anon participation, Justice will begin the process of identifying chair and co-chair. Several questions were asked and answered were:

* Is this a one-year event? YES
* How will it affect the budget? Since planning meetings will be held on Zoom, there will be little to no cost.

Motion was made by Sue D., Spanish Liaison to support NECYPAA this year [only]; seconded by Carol D. BOD president. Motion carries with 18-yes, 0-no, 1-abstention

**AAPP:** Miguel C. stated that he will be sending out forms to districts with AMIAS or Alateen group sponsors. Please read over forms carefully before signing. He stressed that the DRs need to make sure that all are doing what needs to be done (i.e., attending Al-Anon meetings, Alateen meetings, yearly training, conventions and assemblies) Forms B & C will be sent to all Alateen sponsors and AMIAS’. Once all forms are returned, he and Lisa will send off to WSO to start the final recertification step.

**Spanish Liaison:** Sue D. asked us to spread the word that the 9 a.m. Spanish breakout session at the Convention will be interpreted for English speakers. The Saturday Spanish meeting in Meriden is working with the Alateen coordinator and district 2 DR towards starting a new Alateen meeting. They will be looking for two sponsors who do not need to know Spanish since the teens speak English.

**Literature/Forum Coordinator:** Morgan R. reported that the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual will be available electronically in April. Printed version will be available in late summer. She encouraged members to write a sharing for the Member Blog, Alateen’s Just for Tonight bookmark, new daily reader and various ‘CAL Corner” topics in the Forum. Particularly, The Forum is in serious need of members sharings. A submission form is available on line.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Taffy P.

AWSC Secretary