**CONNECTICUT AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 2, 2022**

Chairperson Elaine M. opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Roll call was taken by Taffy P. Absent were: DR 13-Leslie S., Alateen-Lisa G., Archives- June C., 2023 Convention Chair-Deborah C., Public Outreach- Eric B.

Guests were: Betsy N., and Past delegates-Gina R. and Gail L.

Elaine welcomed and thanked everyone for his/her service during the past three (unusual) years. She has learned to remain teachable.

**Secretary Report:** Taffy P. requested that since there were not any changes, deletions or additions to October’s minutes that a motion be made to accept as presented. Motion was made by Ron S. (DR3); seconded by Karen V. (DR5). Motion carries unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:** for month ending November 30, 2022

Beginning checkbook balance $33,842.81

Income 1,642.26

Less Expenses (2,248.72)

Ending checkbook balance $33,236.36

Jackie also requested that all AWSC expenses are due to her by December 15, 2022. Stephanie S. (DR6) moved to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented; seconded by Janet S. (DR1). Motion carries unanimously.

**Alternate Delegate’s Report:** Katie D. thanked the outgoing District Representatives, coordinators and officers. It had been her privilege to serve as our Alternate Delegate and she looked forward to working with the new officers. She is also looking forward to starting to attend district meetings.

**Delegate’s Report:** Marcia M. reported that

* The World Service Office (WSO) has completed the first round of questions for the Longitudinal Study. Approximately only 50% of those members completed the Year One survey.
* 2023 World Service Conference (WSC) will be held April 20-233 at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach, VA.
  + The WSC theme will be “Love, Laugh and Grow Together”
* Marcia attended a virtual Chairperson of the Board letter to hear what the Board of Trustees have been working on and to ask questions.
  + A series of new messages to inform Delegates about their role, the Conference agenda and the importance of reading the material in advance.
  + A Task Force was created with three CLT and three Delegates to create and present a one-hour presentation at Conference focusing on Concept 6.
* In October, the Board met with Envisioned Future Work Group (EFWG) leading a panel discussion on diversity and inclusivity.
* Finance Update: literature sales remain below expectations.
* Staff continues to cut costs where needed.
* 2023 International Convention registration is now open and will take place in Albuquerque, NM from June 29-July 2, 2023.
  + Help WSO offset International Convention costs by reserving housing through the Housing Room Blocks.
* At the Area, we will be hearing resumes from candidates for open coordinators’ positions

**District 4 Report:** DR Robert T. reported that his district has been having significant on-going changes over the past year. Currently, there are 20 Al-Anon meetings registered with WSO, one is inactive. One Spanish meeting and four Alateens. A new meeting has just started. Thirteen are face to face, five are temporary Zoom and two meetings are hybrid. Three unregistered Zoom only meetings are awaiting word on how CT is going to handle Permanent Electronic meetings that wish to remain affiliated with Connecticut. Current terms will be ending in December and elections will be held at this month’s district meeting.

**District 5 Report:** DR Karen V. stated that her district consists of 23 meetings—1 suspended, 4 hybrid, 7 on Zoom, 11 are meeting in person and two are Alateen. Due to lack of service and equipment, the hybrid and Zoom meetings are going back and forth. 50% of groups are without a GR. However, the other 50% have added a tremendous amount of experience, strength, and hope to the district.

**Concept 11:** Janet S. (DR1) read from **Paths to Recovery**

**Serenity Breakfast:** Janice R. reported that so far, they have had 42 registrants for the Breakfast. The Al-Anon/Alateen logo has been corrected to comply with WSO’s trademark regulations. English and Spanish registration forms have been distributed. AA officers and members were invited to attend. Please talk up at your meetings.

**2023 Convention Report:** was read by Gina R. for Deborah C. ***Let It Begin with Me in 2023*** will take place on March 25-26 at the Hartford Sheraton South in Rocky Hill. The proposed 2023 convention budget was voted upon. Alateen registration fees will stay at $5 for pre-registration and walk-in. Al-Anon registration is increased to $30 for pre-registration and $35 for walk-in.

Al-Anon keynote and Spiritual speakers have been secured. Still looking to secure an Alateen speaker. Workshops will include Spanish meetings, Alateen meetings and AA participation. There will be a raffle but not district baskets this year.

**2024 Convention Site**: Janice gave a very detailed report regarding the four hotel sites she visited for the 2024 Convention. Omni in New Haven was ruled out as extremely expensive.

The Sheraton at Bradley was also disqualified, as was the Double Tree at the Hilton in Bristol, even though it was more reasonable. Janice’s recommendation was the Sheraton South in Rocky Hill. Several questions arose as to the number of days for the convention. Could we possibly wait to see how this year’s convention faired? Hotel would not hold dates for that length of time. Most members preferred the two days. A vote was taken with 19 members preferring the two days and the Sheraton South was confirmed for 2024.

**Confirmation of Coordinators:** Marcia led the introduction of the candidates and asked them to read their resumes. Each in turn was approved by the AWS committee

AA Liaison – Stephanie R. Archives – Justice K.

AAPP – Gay B. Group Records – Jackie B.

Alateen – Kim G. Website – Robert T.

Positions that still need to be filled are Phone Service, Literature, and Spanish Liaison

**Phone Service Report:** Alternate Delegate, Katie D., has been searching for a replacement since the passing of Sharon B. Currently there are three volunteers who are receiving calls through Google Voice phone service. She has been working to compile information from Sharon’s records, document account numbers, former, current, and prospective volunteers. She stressed that the phone service is a critically important tool for supporting the Area to assist people who have questions about Al-Anon, seeking a meeting, or just need to connect with someone. Please share this report and information with your groups and ask for volunteers to receive calls.

**Archives Report:** was read by Elaine M. CT Al-Anon printed and audio archives are all stored safely at the AFG office. Printed material is stored in 25 labeled Paige boxes and the audio is stored in a metal cabinet in the same room. A CD/tape player is also in the cabinet to enable listening.

**Spanish Liaison:** Sue D. reported that currently there are 7 Spanish-speaking meetings in Connecticut. Six are in person. Everyone is welcomed at these meetings. The Norwalk meeting celebrated it’s 20th anniversary with approximately 150 members in attendance. The Wallingford, Meriden and Hartford groups collaborated in organizing a special discussion meeting on the Traditions. Meriden and Wallingford meetings have strong ties with a Spanish speaking meeting in Providence, RI. CT members plan to travel to Rhode Island to join in a recovery holiday gathering on December 18.

**For the good of the order:** Elaine M. informed the committee that as of January 2023, we will not be meeting at this facility for our AWSC meetings. She and Lisa G. will be looking for another centralized location and will let the committee know when they have found one.

Elaine is still looking for districts/groups to report on electronic meetings. Please send information in.

Stephanie R. (DR12) moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:37 p.m.; seconded by Ron. S. (DR3). Motion carries.

Meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Taffy P., AWSC Secretary