

Connecticut Area World Service Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by chairperson, Elaine M. A moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Roll call was taken by Taffy P. Absent from the meeting were: Kathy F-Alt #2, Jean B-Alt#3, Rosalie L-DR#9, Mary C.-Alt#12, Miguel C.-AAPP, Convention Co-Martha N., Group Records – Kelly D, Phone Service – Marie B, Webmaster – Deanna S. Guests: Ann B, Ann T-V, Janice R., Gina R., Ellie L., Carol D., Stephen

Chair Comments: Elaine reminded everyone of the 2021 challenges and that we can make it. She welcomed everyone for attending, especially the new District Representatives and Alternate. This is the place where we can bring issues for healthy discussions. Please let her know if the committee does or does not like a forum. It is important to use our Links of Service. She also reminded the committee of upcoming important dates and who has voice and vote. Guests have no voice unless recognized.

Secretary's Report: Since there were no changes/amendments to December 2020's minutes, Kristin H-DR#11 moved that the minutes be accepted as presented; seconded by Janet S.-DR#1. Motion carried unanimously

Treasurer's Report read by Jackie B. for month ending December 31, 2020:

Beginning balance	\$41,131.49
Income Received	1,784.59
Expenses Withdrawn	<u>(5,585.35)</u>
Ending balance	\$37,330.73

Jackie, also noted that the \$92.90 under Area meeting was not for rent, but for Zoom licensing. Also, the \$814 credit under Insurance and Bonding was the LDC reimbursement to the Area for insurance. She reminded groups to send their contributions to: CT AFG, Inc, PO Box 3538, Milford, CT 06460. Some contributions are still being sent to old address. Cards may be helpful again. Ron S.-DR#3 moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented; seconded by Lisa G-Alateen coordinator. Motion carries unanimously

Our payment of the 2021 Equalized Expenses was discussed. WSC will again be held virtually and WSO has asked Areas to let them know if they would like a refund or donate the funds or partial funds to WSO. Discussion took place. Kristen H-DR#11 moved that we let WSO keep the full amount of \$1667.00 of the Equalized Expenses; seconded by Sue D.-Spanish Liaison. Motion carried unanimously.

Delegate's Report: Marcia M. welcomed all new DRs and Alternates. The 2021 World Service Conference (WSC), "Moving Forward with Unity, Courage, and Perseverance" will be held virtually the week of April 12-16. She attended both Indiana and California North's virtual Town Meeting. She went on to talk about the importance of our Links of Service, which is

designed for the flow of information and the need to remember our responsibilities when we take a service position.

Alternate Delegate's Report: Pat S. welcomed the new Panel 17 DRs and Alternates. She updated the committee about District 10 who does not have a District Representative. Helen B. will serve as a contact. She attended the December District 2 meeting and would love to attend other district meetings as well. Just email her your zoom invitation.

District 6: Stephanie S. reported that it is comprised of 11 towns, 14 Al-Anon meetings, 1 Alateen and 1 New Milford meeting that closed in October 2019. Two groups do not have GRs, but have a contact for the group. Two groups are getting new GRs. All groups are virtual. She is still looking for an Alternate DR. Her district is planning an event with speakers (date TBD). The first planning meeting is January 16 at 10 a.m. Public Outreach at the district level is looking for volunteers and groups to share initiatives. At this time, no brochures etc. are allowed in medical offices or libraries.

District 7: Donna C. reported that it is a large district that covers greater Waterbury up to the New York and Massachusetts borders. They have 15 Al-Anon meetings including one institutional in a recovery center. No Alateen meetings at this time. Seven meetings are face to face with precautions in place. Four utilize Zoom and three meetings are unclear at this time.

Concept 12 sharing was by Janet S., DR #1. Janet read several excerpts from the Service Manual and How Al-Anon Works (pp139-140)

Archives – June C. reported that she started to rehouse printed material into boxes. She organized materials in folders in each box according to specific subjects. She will revisit the LDC to bring more boxes and continue the rehousing of material. She plans to proceed to the storage area after completing the office. If any group is interested in duplicates of Conference Summaries, let her know. She also found 1960's outreach literature and the Detachment pamphlet. She is enjoying discovering all the treasures in our archives.

Serenity Breakfast: Martha N. was unable to attend. Her report was read by Rick L., Convention 2021 chair. Virtual Breakfast is January 24 and program begins at 10 a.m. The registration link is on the ctalanon website and is live beginning December 15. No limit to attendees and technology team will upgrade our Zoom license to accommodate registrants. Speakers have been secured, along with Spanish translation and or closed caption. Registrants will receive a reminder email several days before event.

Convention Report: Rick L. reported that the committee will meet on December 10, 2020 via Zoom to finalize any issues. 2021 Vision of Hope Convention (virtual) is almost complete as last-minute details are worked out. Zoom may add an additional user fee for larger audiences, but that does not occur until the event and members connect.

Public Outreach: Kathe L-B asked that groups share the links provided for more information. In December, 12 members attended the Area PO meeting. The committee voted to order more business cards for police, fire and first responders in each community. Contact

PublicOutreach@ctalanon.org to get your supply. Volunteers are researching the cost of using digital newspapers to provide CT Al-Anon information. She had included in her report the PowerPoint workshop from the assembly. A volunteer from District 8 and 7 composed a letter which included website and *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*. This letter was sent to 683 people who participated in The Women's Expo. The next Area PO meeting will be held January 19 at 7 p.m. Contact the above PO email address to receive a zoom invitation.

Sharings from the New District Representatives:

District 1 – Janet S. shared that she is all set to begin her journey. She had received a set of “Roberts Rules.” She is looking forward to attending the 22 meetings in her district and hopes to manage the agenda so that there is more time for the groups to share.

District 3 – Ron S. stated that he had been an Alternate back in the 90s, but is looking forward to meeting new faces in service, as well as seeing the “old” faces. All groups have GRs and most have Alternate GRs. Ron said, “If I want to have self-esteem, then I must do esteem able things.”

District 8 – Justice K. is looking forward to her additional role as DR of district 8. Her district and new Alternate DR, Jill, have stepped up to support her.

District 10 – has neither a DR nor an Alternate DR. Former DR, Helen B. has agreed to be their contact person for the Area. As it was her 82nd Birthday today, she does not feel comfortable driving at night if we should start meeting face to face again. District 10 has five meetings with a treasury and they buy their own AFAs

District 11 – Kristin H. has already started a long to-do list. She would like to maintain the role of the Traditions and focus on the malleability of our Traditions. Right now she is working on the Contact information and trying to find a few lost meetings to get them back into the fold.

Motion to close the meeting at 8:50 p.m. was made by Ron S-DR#3.; seconded by Morgan R - Literature. Motion carries.

Elaine announced that the next AWSC meeting is March 5 and agenda dates are posted on website.

Marcia M. led the committee in the Al-Anon Declaration

Respectfully submitted,

Taffy P. Secretary