

CONNECTICUT AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS SERVICES, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting

October 19, 2016

Meriden, CT

The October 19, 2016 meeting of the Connecticut Al-Anon Family Groups Services, Inc. was called to order at 6:55 pm by President Pat Strong, and opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Present: Pat Strong, President, Jackie Bontems, Secretary, Sam Chaney, Treasurer, Robert Kane, Gail Larkin, Deborah Cavanaugh, Sue Guilford and Stacie Van Deusen. **Absent:** None.

Opening Remarks: Pat S. thanked Deborah and her committee for the work they did on the LDC Open House in September. Pat also said we received our State Dept. of Labor ID #. By the end of October ADP should have the payroll quarterlies done. We are doing the “Contribution” method re: Unemployment Taxes.

Secretary’s Report: Jackie B. presented the Minutes from the July 20, 2016 Board Meeting. Jackie then made the motion to accept the minutes as presented and Sam C. seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Concept XII: Bob K. shared on Concept XII using our Reaching for Personal Freedom workbook and Paths to Recovery. The Warranties in Concept XII reveal a wisdom and balance to be carried into our personal lives, work and relationships. By exercising the spiritual principles of prudence, humility, substantial unanimity, personal responsibility, avoidance of controversy, mutual respect and equality, a healthy outlook can be attained. A belief in a Higher Power gives us the courage to

live our lives differently. Bob gave a brief history of the Concepts. The warranties in this Concept reinforce the principles set forth in our Concepts and Traditions. This concept reiterates the importance of fiscal responsibility in Al-Anon and personally. Warranty V speaks to Democracy in action, we are Trusted Servants, responsible to the fellowship without being a rubber stamp. Being democratic means keeping an open mind and not trying to force opinions onto others and fosters acceptance and unity. Stacie V. will present Concept I at the next regular Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Sam C. did not present a written report. Sam did thank Pat for all her work as Board President in recent months and said that both of our primary bank accounts are in good standing. As of 9/30/16, the Area checking account had \$18,244.70 and the LDC checking account had \$28,675.00. To date we have not asked the Area for the \$6,000.00 for the LDC that is in the budget and he spoke to why he believes that to be a good thing for now. In the future as Michael C. and the Finance Committee have predicted, the LDC Treasury may be drastically reduced by operational costs and we will need funds to make payroll. Sam then reported that the year end 2015 Tax Return has been filed and for the first time, the balance in the LDC bank account was listed on the return as an asset. The corporate EIN# is the same as the LDC's EIN#, therefore as the IRS is aware of this, Sam is working with the attorney who prepares the tax returns to file amended returns for 2013 & 2014.

Insurance Policy Changes

Sam also reported on the renewal of our insurance policy (for coverage other than

workers compensation). He said he reached out to the agent who now handles our workers compensation insurance but the initial proposal provided did not include event coverage and there was no time to obtain same prior to the payment due date for the premium for current insurance coverage we have, therefore Sam recommended to Pat S. that the premium be paid simply renewing the current coverage we have. Sam said he would still like to follow up with MBI (workers comp. insurance agent) to ensure the policy we currently have is competitively priced. Pat then said that she passed along the insurance premium invoice to Carol D., Area Treasurer so that she could remit 2/3 of the \$2,436.00 due on same. The LDC is responsible for 1/3 of the payment. Pat has let the insurance company know they will therefore receive two payments for the renewal of insurance. Pat paid \$812 for the LDC portion of the policy.

LDC Report

Pat said she went to the bank and got a password to use for herself for the LDC bank account online as Michael has not yet sent the checkbook. Bills needed to be paid to WSO and insurance. She also presented a 3rd quarter financial statement for the LDC. She noted that on 9/30/2015 the LDC bank balance was \$29,331 and this year it is \$28,675.00. The LDC is spending more because of payroll and our sales are behind last year at this time. Pat S. requested the inventory dollar amount from Marie and received same through Quickbooks on line. The inventory amount is \$9,766.66. Pat also said that all is going well in the new space and they need more volunteers.

Discussion and Vote re: LDC Treasurer Candidate

Discussion held regarding the two LDC Treasurer candidates who were interviewed prior to tonight's Board meeting. The Board voted to ask Sandy S. to be the new LDC Treasurer. Discussion was held about holding a special Board meeting prior to the start of the Assembly on Nov. 5, 2016 in order to formalize the signature change on the LDC checkbook to now include Sandy S. as the new LDC Treasurer.

Discussion and Vote re Modified Form for LDC Sale of Schedules

Sue G. made the following motion: "That the BOD take on the responsibility of the production and distribution of Area Schedules". Motion seconded by Gail L. Discussion followed and included who would make changes to the Schedule in the future. The motion failed with 4 yes, 2 no and 2 abstaining.

Discussion re 2016 Budget Line Item for LDC

Carol D., Area Treasurer, asked Pat whether the Board would request the funds allocated to the LDC in the 2016 Area Budget. The funds (\$6,000) must be requested by December 15, 2016 or will no longer be available for the LDC. Sam C. said that for right now the LDC bank account holds more than enough funds to cover payroll for the rest of 2016, although sales are on the down trend. Board members voiced opinions about whether to request the budgeted funds from the Area. No motions made or votes taken.

Discussion of Proposed Background Check Guidelines

This was sent to Pat by Donna C., Area Secretary. Questions were raised regarding this matter which Sue G. will try to obtain answers to prior to the next meeting. This matter was tabled until the next meeting.

At the special BOD meeting at 11:30 prior to the Fall Assembly meeting it will be decided whether to meet again prior to year end 2016 to once again discuss the Schedules Implementation Plan and other matters not reached tonight.

The Meeting closed at 9:05 pm with the “Al-Anon Declaration”.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Bontems/Corporate Secretary