

Area World Service Committee Meeting Minutes
AFG of Ohio August 11, 2012

Meeting started at 12:30 PM with the Serenity Prayer. This was led by Chairperson, Sandra F. who welcomed everyone to the AWSC Meeting.

The Traditions were read by Susan W. DR for District 26, the Concepts of Service were read by Chris M. Past DR for District 56 and the General Warranties were read by Betty M. Alternate DR for District 34.

A motion was made by Barbara W. to waive the reading of the Minutes from the March AWSC meeting and accept them as written. Motion seconded by Janice R. Unanimously passed and minutes were accepted.

Treasurer, Theresa M.-

We have taken in more than we have spent since the Spring Assembly – however, I don't know if I am going to be hit with a bunch of expenses in the near future!! I hope to be able to figure out how to present material in a power point presentation by the fall assembly - but it will all depend on available time between now and then. The next plea letter will be done before Fall Assembly. Members were generous, but submitted donations were not always clear if they were from the group via the plea letter or a regular contribution from the group. I am not the group records person, so sending me the "new address of the group treasurer" is not a part of my job. I also do not need letters explaining why your group is not sending money -- all contributions are voluntary :). Vouchers are always available on the ohioal-anon.org website. I will have some copies at the meetings. Please only take these if you are submitting a voucher at the meeting. Remember that copies or originals of your receipts for these must be included in order to be reimbursed. Any member who has questions or who wishes to know if their group or individual contribution has been received may email me at treasurer@ohioal-anon.org or snail mail at AFG of Ohio, Inc., PO Box 18062, Fairfield, OH 45018. Yours in Service, Theresa M.

Alternate Delegate and Al-A-Notes Editor, Ginny C –

Deadline for the summer issue of Al-A-Notes is tomorrow (August 12th). Please email me or give me a written copy as soon as possible. For the past two months, I have been doing research for the Task Force to explore electronic vs. USPS mailing of the Al-A-Notes and the minutes. I have looked at all the Area websites in the U.S. Some Areas no longer issue a newsletter, some print and mail them, some email them and some post them to their websites and others have a members only section that is password protected on their websites.

Delegate, Rex M. –

I am going to keep my report until 2 day Fall in October. One item that should be announced is that we have a Spanish speaking group in Ohio. Have some changes in AWSC list to be taken care of. Please sign that you received Summary. Rex Mc V, Panel 52 - Ohio.

Chairperson Sandy F. requested that all coordinators hold their reports until the Fall 2012 Assembly unless timely concerns needed to be reported. The following coordinators advised the Chair that they would hold their reports until the Fall Assembly and did not submit a report at this time: Alateen Coordinator - Rose R, Archives Coordinator - Caroline D, Forum Coordinator -- Sharon B, Literature Coordinator - Shirley M.

Group Records Coordinator, Phil H.-

If the DR's are still having difficulty getting their reports from E-Communities -- please see me after the meeting. I can email you the basic instruction page. I have the District Reports here with me, as well as the individual group reports. I can print those off after the meeting as well. The new GR-1 Registration/Change Form is on the table, along with the instructions. Please, PLEASE note - this form is for AL-ANON groups. If you have a change for an ALATEEN group, please see Janice R. It is a different change form.

As of 9:00 PM last night, here are the statistics: A total of 445 active groups, holding 456 meetings. Some of these are multiple meetings and some are beginner's meetings. WSO is starting to list beginners meetings separately, so I have to check through records to get an accurate group count. A total of 16 groups in "No Mail" status. DR's please check to see if these groups are in your district and let's get a good address for them. Groups stay in "No Mail" status for two years, then are listed as "Inactive" for one year, then deleted from the WSO database. A total of 128 "Inactive" groups. We have found some groups meeting that were listed as "inactive". Again, DR's, please check over your District Report to see if you have a group still meeting that is listed as inactive. Finally, check in your district to see if you have a group meeting that simply isn't listed. If so, CALL ME! I can check the "Deleted" group list that I have and we can find out what's happened. Groups listed as "No Mail", "Inactive", or not listed at all receive NO mail from WSO or the Area. I need your help with this - I can't do it alone. Thanks to ALL of you for your service and support! Phil H.

Public Outreach Coordinator, Amy H-C (not present) Sandy F gave report

Addiction Studies Institute is coming up August 22 - 24 at the Convention Center in Columbus. The handouts have come in. Contact information for Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio AIS Councils and Districts. I am looking for assistance to man the information booth. If you can help let me know.

Chairperson Sandy F. requested that all standing committee reports be held until the Fall 2012 Assembly unless timely concerns needed to be reported. The following standing committee chair advised the Chairperson that they would hold their reports until the Fall Assembly and did not submit a report at this time: Budget Committee - Robin R.

By-Laws and Handbook Committee Chair, Barbara W.-

Copies of the by-laws are available if anyone needs them.

Compliance Liaison and Area Alateen Process Person, Janice R

The process to be an Alateen Sponsor will begin again in September and ends in December."

Ohio Area Convention and Two Day Fall Liaison, Donna K.- (not present) sent a report

22 registered in advance for the OAC and 27 were walk-ins. The rest of the report will be read and shared at the 2 Day Fall Assembly.

Ohio Area Website Committee Chair, Mike K

There have been issues with spam related to the website and I would like to change the website domain provider." By consensus it was approved by the AWSC for the Website committee to change to a new website domain provider.

Audit & Review Committee Chair, Louise W

Books were reviewed for 2011 at 2 day fall assembly - all are in agreement. Expense paper trail since April has been Audited and all is compliant.

Ohio Area Convention - Two Day Fall Up-Date. The District of Youngstown

OAC 2012 report was provided above and a full report will be delivered in more detail at the Fall 2012 Assembly on October 20-21, 2012.

Fall Assembly will be hosted by the Districts of Dayton represented by Dennis K. (not present). Phil H. gave report

Registration form is available for hotel and banquet reservations on the website and I have paper copies here today to pass out. There is a requirement to make hotel reservations by September 28, 2012 to get the discounted rate at the hotel.

Old Business - None

New Business - Chairperson, Sandy F. advised that a Knowledge Based Decision Making item was submitted to amend the Ohio By-Laws. After review of the proposal by the Delegate, Rex M, the By-Laws Committee Chairman, Barbara W, and the Area Chairman, Sandra F, and resulting in a subsequent consultation with the Associate Director for Membership Outreach – Alateen at the World Service Office, Mary Lou M., the proposal will not be presented.

Areas do not have the autonomy to change the original six points of the Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements for Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service. The Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements must be met by all area using the Alateen name in order to be in compliance. Area may exceed the requirements by adding additional requirements, as deemed suitable by each Area, (i.e. Ohio added #7 in May 2005 and #8 in 2011.) but the original six points determined by the Board of Trustees in 2003 and affirmed by the World Service Conference in 2004 may not be altered.

This means that anyone who has ever been convicted of a felony of any kind is not eligible to become certified for Alateen Service. The only way a member with a felony conviction could become eligible for certification would be if they were able to have the conviction expunged from their record by the courts.

There was additional discussion from the AWSC regarding concerns raised by the Cleveland DR Merri G. regarding the KBDM submitted and the KBDM process itself. Past Delegate Barbara W. reviewed the history of Ohio Assembly regarding the additions made to the Minimum Safety Requirements. Alateen Coordinator, Rose R. shared that she will be coordinating a meeting during Fall 2012 Assembly to create a KBDM regarding the fees for background checks. She invited all who are interested in assisting to meet with her during that weekend to create the KBDM.

District Celebrations and Concerns:

Terry from District 39

Juvenile Detention Center listing an Alateen meeting that was not in compliance and as a result the Probate Court/Juvenile Detention Center website was also not in compliance, because it listed the meeting. He is working with the Juvenile Detention Center/Probate Court to correct this information.

There is a group coordinating an Amtrak Train trip for Al-Anon members who are attending the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention. It would start in New York and go through to Vancouver. He believes that the cost would be \$1,400 round trip and it is being booked through a travel agency in Toledo, OH. When he has more information he will get the information to the Website Chairman, Mike.

Betty from District 34

There was participation in the Ohio State AA Service Conference with Al-Anon Participation in Beachwood, Ohio. The program started on Friday at 4pm and on Saturday from 9-4. It was shared that there was concern in the Cleveland area about promoting an AA event at Al-Anon meetings or events

Discussion from the AWSC advised that there are Al-Anon guidelines as well as information in the Al-Anon Service Manual stating that Al-Anon is welcome to participate in an AA event as Al-Anon.

Sharon from District 51

There was Al-Anon Participation in AA's 77th Annual Founder's Day Celebration in Akron Ohio. Our current Ohio Delegate and Alternate Delegate attended the weekend. Two of our past delegates, Sandy F and Dennis K spoke during the Al-Anon portion of the weekend. It was shared that the Akron AIS Council has been invited to participate in this AA event as Al-Anon 's for quite a while.

Barbara W

The KBDM (Knowledge Based Decision Making) skit which was written and presented by the Fellowship Communication Action Committee is being shared across the fellowship and is gaining a lot of interest. She also reported the following: "I appreciate Ohio's support and affirmation in submitting my resume as a candidate for the Board of Trustees. We have 9 Areas in our North Central Region. Each Area may submit one eligible candidate for the position. The resumes are due by Aug. 15. Each candidate will receive a question to answer concerning a current hot topic. A committee made up of the Delegate from each Area in the NC Region, plus 2 out-of-region delegates will score the resumes and submit the results of their tally to WSO. The Board of Trustees will consider the Delegates' input and select several candidates for an interview at WSO in January. The Board of Trustees will select a candidate for the Regional Trustee at their January Board Meeting. The World Service Conference will have the opportunity to affirm the candidate at the World Service Conference in April. If affirmed the candidate will serve a 3 year term as Regional Trustee for the North Central Region.

Thank you for your support, time and energy invested in my leadership training."

Judy from District 9

There has been a request for 2 people to go to the Miami, Florida to a Convention. Yvonne R and Justin (Alateen) are going to be leading on August 24, 2012. This is for the FL South Al-Anon Area.

It was also shared that Barbara W has been invited to speak next year.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Terry N and was 2nd by Ginny. C.

Closing -- Al-Anon Declaration. Meeting ended at 1:30PM

Meeting Schedule for 2013

USNCRDM -- In Wisconsin March 15-17

AWSC -- March 23, 2013// Spring Assembly -- May 18, 2013

AWSC -- August 17, 2013// Fall Assembly --- Hosted by Districts of Youngstown October ?????, 2013