

**AI-Anon Information Service of Greater Rochester NY**  
**Meeting Minutes 03/13/2021**  
**Zoom Meeting-links on Rochester AIS Website**

Chair: Open meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Read: 12 Traditions-Robin, 12 Concepts of Services -Dennis, Warranties-Karen R., and Expanded Version of Concept #3-Pat H.

**Rollcall first names: Mel Y., Loron O., John B., Rebecca B., Pat H., Billie Sue, Dennis C., Maggie G., Robin S., Diane, Carol C., Janise B., Sue C., Laura R., Angela R., Laura R., Karen R.**

Welcome to all newcomers, AIS welcome statement below from Mel:

We welcome you to the AIS Rochester monthly meeting, and hope you will find in this fellowship:

1. Growth in your program and understanding of how AIS works.
2. A welcoming environment where members feel safe and can express opinions and ideas freely without interruption or criticism.
3. Discussion and actions that benefit the AI-Anon groups in Rochester area and beyond. We welcome feedback on how our organization is working ideas for improvement.
4. Contact information for officers and AIS members-an orientation for new members.
5. Lastly, thank you for your service, rotation of service important for all group's health.

**Reports and discussion**

**Secretary:** Last month's minutes on website, <http://www.aisrochester.org/minutes.html> Motion to approve Pat H. Second, Robin, no amendments, motion passed.

Distribution of members attending the meeting was sent out 3/13. Please review and update. I am updating AIS email platform to ensure all present get minutes and reports. I encourage members to submit agenda items to secretary and chairperson. Loron will send information to Billie Sue (welcome!) about this contact list.

**Chair Report-Mel Y.**

The Rochester AI-Anon Information Service is now in its second year with COVID-19. Presently the AIS Rochester has 39 Zoom meetings, 2 call-in meetings, and 3 face-to-face meetings. The website is updated on a daily basis as new information becomes available.

The website has:

- Meeting information on the main page.
- Days of the week.
- Printable Meeting List. The most current list has a date listed.

The "Welcome for Newcomer" link has mailed out over 200 newcomer packs. The addition of a field for phone number and email has resulted in a number of 12-step calls.

For the present the AIS monthly meetings will continue as Zoom. When the meeting location permits, and people are comfortable face-to face meetings will resume.

The following positions are presently filled.

- Vice Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Website Chairperson
- Web Tech
- Newsletter Chairperson
- Public Outreach Chairperson
- Activities Chairperson
- Secretary
- Book Depot

The office phone is monitored daily, and any call received is returned within a day.

The AIS website traffic for January & February:

- 9,200+ visitors
- 39,900+ pages visited.
- 70% new and 30% returning visitors.
- 48% desktop and 52% mobile visitors (the website is mobile friendly).

**Vice-Chair:** Pat H.

- Our committee for reviewing and updating our by-laws is in its final stage, we are almost done! As soon as we look at these one more time, we will get them out to all groups to review and to give us feedback.
- We still have positions open. We need a Chairperson for the Finance Committee and an Intergroup Representative. The Finance Committee reviews the financial records of AIS, prepares a preliminary budget and is made up of the Finance Committee Chairperson, Treasurer and up to three AI-Anon/Alateen volunteers. The Intergroup Representative is the link between AIS and the New York North Area, exchanging information between the two. Information regarding these positions is listed in our current by-laws under 'Information' on our website. I'm happy to review the responsibilities of these positions and answer any questions you may have. Please help us spread the word at meetings, etc. Thank you. You can email me at [vicechair@aisrochester.org](mailto:vicechair@aisrochester.org)
- Please report any changes in the name and/or contact information of your Group Representative, Alternate Group Representative, Information Service Rep (ISR), current mailing address or telephone contacts for WSO by going to our website [www.aisrochester.org](http://www.aisrochester.org) and click on 'Contact Us' and fill out the form at the bottom of the page. It's important that we keep our records up-to-date.

**Treasurer:** Diane -Report attached and at <http://aisrochester.org/treasurer.html>. Motion to approve-Loron, second, John B., no amendments, Motion accepted. Diane notes we are in a deficit for incoming funds in February and that we expect to have increased donation in the next months. This is supported by John B, Finance Chair.

**Book Depot:** Rebecca- Electronic forms of CAL are available-

- ***In the Loop***, WSO monthly newsletter, this month included new outreach posters-free subscription at this link:
- AI-Anon official mobile app-Mobile App | AI-Anon Family Groups ([al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org)) this comes in regular no charge and premium-\$20 yearly. Premium includes daily reflections. Description below from WSO:

- A social app for members to share their experience, strength and hope. A new platform for electronic meetings, connect with Al-Anon family in private chats, create digital journal and stay updated with information from the WSO.
- Members of worldwide Al-Anon have contributed 3 million dollars to WSO during pandemic times, this has helped the organizations bottom line with declines in literature sales.
- Rebecca would like to form a *Book Depot committee*-anyone who loves CAL and service, contact Rebecca B. 585-288-0540

**Public Outreach:** Food Cupboards close to 400 packaged information packets will be taken to sites soon.

Bulletin Announcements/Email Blasts Districts 19, 20, 25, 2 finished and 14, 9 and 29 to be done (will clarify).

New Beginner Meeting Dennis C. My part from the Activities Committee, regarding New Beginner's meeting. Our last meeting took place on Wednesday, 2-24-2021. The committee agreed that attaching the new meeting to an existing meeting would be more prudent than establishing a standalone meeting. A proposal was drawn up to take back to Spiritual Awakening at the March Group Conscience. Normally, this would be at the end of the month, however, a request was made to call for a "special" group conscience on 3-14-2021 to begin discussion on the committee's proposal to attach the New Beginner's meeting to Spiritual Awakening. This is where the proposal stands at this time.

Discussion: Dennis has learned the church cannot support in-person meeting at the time requested for this beginners meeting, will proceed with virtual meeting plans at this time. The group thanks Dennis for his work with this important project.

- Dennis has stopped into Conifer to offer literature with lukewarm response, he will continue to visit treatment sites.
- Loron is looking into town magazines to put a short Al-Anon information statement.
- Carol showed us the statement that she put in Pittsford Neighbors magazine.
- Nancy volunteered to look into Perinton, and Rebecca volunteered for Irondequoit.
- Nancy will contact the Helio program at Bullshead and take pamphlets.

John, AIS treasurer last year, explained the process for ordering needed items for our various projects. There was discussion about the \$200 budget.

- We can propose an item at the AIS meeting and get approval or ask for money from groups. There could also be a proposal to take money out of our budget to pay for items of necessity. See new business section.

Two new items posting information about AL-Anon in Webster Town Hall. Mike offered to make any item we need to take to Recovery centers when we resume going.

**Newsletter:** Karen R.

Newsletter at <http://aisrochester.org/newsletter.html>. Deadline for articles, 3/15/2021 list newsletter item suggested at this meeting links to the loop and NY north newsletter. Pictures to be added of CAL literature to newsletter.

**Web Committee: March 5, 2021-Sue C.**

**February 2021 - AIS Traffic**

- 4,350 visitors viewing 18,299 pages.
- 66% new and 34% returning visitors.
- 50% mobile and 50% desktop viewing devices.

**Top 10 pages visited:**

1.	Home Page	3672
2.	Meeting List	576
3.	Sunday	449
4.	Saturday	313
5.	Wednesday	308
6.	Tuesday	280
7.	Monday	272
8.	Friday	220
9.	Thursday	179
10.	Contact Us	172

19 Newcomer Pack Requests

11, 12-step calls

Suggestion that we remove the calendar sales off the website at the end of March.

**Calendar Report.**

There has been no Calendar purchase from the website between 2/19/2021 and 3/5/2021. -correction 2 calendars purchased directly from Rebecca. Discussion: We will keep the link on the website through March and then ask members to contact Rebecca if they want the 2020 calendar.

**Alateen:** Beth-working on AMIAS application. Thank you!

**Finance:** Open-see nomination below

**Activities:** Dennis and Debbi-see report Outreach and Tureen Supper notes.

**Intergroup Rep:** Open-See office description in Vice-Chair report.

**Unfinished Business:** Outreach spent \$30 on expenses to deliver literature to food banks in 2020. We ask AIS to consider reimbursing member, we did this one time and see below for proposed budget item in the future. **Discussion**-agreed that member should be reimbursed. What process? Since no receipt-

- Committee chair to send request to treasurer.
- Include amount, what was purchased and who to make check out to.
- Treasurer will review and send check to member.
- Reviewed process for obtaining funds from AIS, submit request before purchase, use tax exempt number, stay within allocated budget and amend or update budget as needed.

**Motion** from Janise: reimbursement of \$30 to Outreach Committee member, spent for urgent project, if outreach chairperson sends letter or email confirming need to AIS treasurer. Second-Mel, motion passed.

### **New Business:**

Proposal to amend the Outreach budget for 2021 to include expenditure of discretionary funds needed to assist projects initiated by the Outreach committee. Presently the funds are earmarked for Health Fair tables and other public events incurred by Outreach before the pandemic. We propose a new item be added to the budget titled Discretionary Funds which will pay for items needed for Outreach projects.

Proposal from Outreach to use budget line of \$200 for Outreach supplies, which have been bags to deliver literature to community groups. **Discussion**-we do have option to amend our current budget during the year. The line item in the budget does not specify what the money is used for, and it was the understanding of the committee members from past discussions that this was to be for space rental at conferences or other events. Group agrees that since line item does not have description in the budget that this will be okay to use as supplies. Thanks to John B. for helping with this.

### **Updates**

Tureen Supper, Debbi B. is attempting to contact Eddie, contacts shared.

John B.-nominated by Mel to be Finance Committee chair, **motion** passed. Welcome John!

From Carol C- New York North Chairperson:

- AWSC (Area World Service Conference) meeting 3/21/2021 from 11-4. Mel and Pat will be attending with members from New York North, which includes Al-Anon Groups from most of New York state. Anyone is welcome. See the NY north website to register. <http://www.nynafg.com/news.html>.
- Positions available for service in New York north, include newsletter editor.
- NY north website and newsletter includes updates about our program, see the website to subscribe <http://www.nynafg.com/index.html>.

From Laura R: Simple Beginnings Saturday meeting may have new location and possible hybrid set up. Laura will keep AIS updated.

### **Bullet Points: secretary/members to summarize take home points-secretary and group**

- In the loop from WSO monthly newsletter, free! Subscribe through WSO website.
- Mobile app from WSO helpful with recovery, see the WSO website.
- EVENTS-District 19 Al-Anon's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, March 21, 2021 1-3 pm, see AIS website under ACTIVITIES for flyer and zoom links. [www.Aisrochester.org](http://www.Aisrochester.org). Simple Beginnings anniversary 3/27!
- Newsletter deadline 3/15/2021.
- Book Depot committee forming-call AIS if interested 585-288-0540.
- Calendars for 2020 still available -contact book depot.

Motion to adjourn Karen R. Second-Robin

**Adjourn:** with Al-Anon Declaration-thanks for your service

**Next Meeting:** April 10, 2021 10 am-see electronic link on website, reports requested by 4/4  
Respectfully submitted, Loron O. AIS secretary.