

AI-Anon Information Service of Greater Rochester NY
Meeting Minutes 06/12/2021
Zoom Meeting-links on Rochester AIS Website

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

Read: 12 Traditions-Janise, 12 Concepts of Service-Robin, Warranties-Diane, and Expanded Version of Concept #6-Loron

Roll Call: Loron O., Mel Y., Pat H., Janise B., Diane, Robin, Sue C., Meg, Karen R., Angela R., Michele C. Excused: Dennis C., Laura R., John B., Rebecca. Heal well Rose!

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 the Rochester area and beyond. We welcome feedback on how our organization is working on 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 is important for group health.

Reports

May we have a volunteer to list newsletter items for Karen?

Secretary: Loron O. Last month's minutes on website, <http://www.aisrochester.org/minutes.html>. Motion to approve-Pat, second Karen, no amendments, minutes approved.

Distribution list for attendees of meeting screen shared. Updates recorded. Any changes please email secretary@aisrochester.org.

Any suggestions for improving meeting minutes and format? Contact Loron.

Follow-up from Loron-she will screen share the attendance as soon as able during the meeting so we do not miss any attendees.

Chair: Mel Y. As the year progresses the world is beginning to open up. A few more meetings are going face-to-face. There are many people wanting to attend the opening meetings instead of Zoom. As time goes on it is expected that more meetings will be open.

Last year on May 29, 2020, AIS started mailing Newcomer Packets out. As of this date 275 Newcomer Packets have been mailed. This has helped spread the work about Al-Anon.

Vice-Chair: Pat H. Even though November seems far off, Pat asked us to start thinking about the positions that will be opening up at AIS Rochester and that we will be voting on come November. All positions are for two years. We have a great team and we will help those newly elected transition into their new position. If you would like to experience more growth in your program and connect through service with new people who are also in recovery, here is your opportunity. The following positions will be available:

- AIS Chairperson
- Secretary
- Book Depot Chairperson
- Volunteer Coordinator for the Service Center
- Finance Chairperson
- Intergroup Rep

This month the featured position is **Book Depot Coordinator** and the responsibilities that go with this position. (By the way this position is open to dual members.)

- a. Maintaining an adequate inventory of Al-Anon/Alateen Conference Approved Literature (CAL) for sale at the Service Center; filling literature orders and dispensing CAL to Al-Anon/Alateen groups and the community.
- b. Maintaining inventory records.
- c. Informing AIS of new CAL publications; working with committee chairs to coordinate set-ups of CAL as needed for health fairs, Days of Al-Anon and conferences.
- d. Studying the WSO guidelines G-6, G-8, and G-31. Please contact Pat if you are interested in a position.

Discussion: Group approves of the idea - publish in newsletter and at meetings. Thanks to Rebecca for her great job with Book Depot.

Treasurer: Diane Report attached and at: <http://aisrochester.org/pdf/treasurer-report.pdf> Motion to approve-Pat, second-Karen, no amendments, minutes accepted.

Discussion: see Finance Chair report. We are running a deficit at this time and remind all to send donations to AIS.

Book Depot: Rebecca B. Book Depot Report: AIS meeting and newsletter

There is a new Electronic Welcome Newcomer "packet" (eK10) available through all the eBook vendors. The cost is \$1.40 - \$1.99, depending on the vendor. Also, the WSO has redesigned the on-line bookstore. Buy from us locally but check out the wonderful organization and clarity of our beloved CAL in WSO's new online store. And if you want an item from our Book Depot, please call or text Rebecca at (585) 472-6393. Some

volunteers have returned to the AIS office, but we still don't have daily coverage. Volunteering two hours at the AIS office is a wonderful service opportunity!

OUTREACH: Dennis C. For the new beginners meeting hope to have registration approved this week. Practice Zoom meeting is scheduled for 6-19-2021 at 11:30am. Dennis will talk to Rebecca about literature. We are all set with location of the meeting when face-to-face meetings resume at Bill and Bob's building located at 289 Monroe Ave. Rent is \$15.00/month. Carol C. is working monthly with pre-trial in the city. Results of the initial contact with recovery centers were mixed. Pat H. has a group of five reaching out to various locations in the Canandaigua area. Dennis received an invitation to have an Al-Anon meeting at Norris Clinic on a monthly basis. Other team members have made contact and are waiting for a response from the sites they contacted. Mike is preparing for the re-opening of the Health Fairs at colleges, etc. Members of the team are helping to design and prepare trifold for speakers at recovery centers and health fairs. If any Al-Anon members are interested in any of these projects, please call the office at 585-288-0540 and leave your name and number and someone on the committee will contact you.

Discussion: Pat H. and finger lakes districts have contacted FLACRA-chemical dependency providers in the area to share information about Al-Anon and outreach. Group is pleased with opening of outreach opportunities. Flyer for new meeting shared with group and approved will be on website and newsletter.

Newsletter: Karen R. Newsletter at <http://aisrochester.org/pdf/newsletter.pdf>. Deadline for articles is 6/15/2021. Will be mailed out 6/20 after discussion with beginners meeting committee.

Website: Sue C.

May Website Report

AIS Traffic

- 4,242 visitors viewing 17,181 pages.
- 65% new and 35% returning visitors.
- 52% mobile and 48% desktop viewing devices.

Top 10 pages visited:

1.	Home Page	3596
2.	Meeting List	614
3.	Sunday	432
4.	Saturday	334
5.	Tuesday	297
6.	Monday	295
7.	Wednesday	278
8.	Thursday	193
9.	Friday	184
10.	Newcomer	169

21 Newcomer Pack Requests

The Courage to Change meeting that meets at 12 pm on Saturdays is now face-to-face at Fairport United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall (Enter Back of Main Church) 31 W. Church St. Fairport, NY.

Discussion: Correction to meeting listed noted. See meeting lists for latest updates.

Alateen: Maureen is interested in the position and is getting needed credentials to proceed.

Finance: John B. Meeting of Finance Committee was held. Please see May 2021 Treasurer Report posted on our webpage. Note we are currently over \$300 in the red for this calendar year. Please consider supporting AIS Rochester through group and member donations and purchasing literature through our Book Depot. Remember at this time no fundraisers are planned for this year.

Reminder to all chairpersons that 2022 budget considerations should be submitted to finance@aisrochester.org by end of August for preparation of proposed budget for next year. Any questions or concerns please send email to finance committee, treasurer or chairperson of AIS Rochester.

Activities: Tureen supper has been discussed in the last few months, no new information.

Intergroup-Maggie G.

Attended the NYN Area Assembly May 14th-16th. All Reports are located on the NYN website AWSC Meeting Minutes (nynafg.com).

Highlights from Various Members Reports

Chairperson

- Newsletter Editor and the Conventions Coordinator resigned in March.
- Pat H. covering the Newsletter until someone is elected.
- Convention Coordinator position open and discussed at meeting:
 - Jim M., from Syracuse, voted in as new Conventions Coordinator.
- The Area Inventory has been updated and is available for review on the NYN website.

Delegate Report

Emily K. gave a creative and engaging presentation on her experience at the WSC.

- Introduction to Task Force/Thought Force Presentations
 - The Twelve Concepts Al-Anon's Best Kept Secret
 - Conflict Resolution
 - Dreaming Big-Envisioning Our Future
- Financial Information

- Successful 2020 financially for WSO but not expected to continue in 2021
- Breakout discussion
 - Newcomers in a virtual world. How can we serve them?
 - Maintaining the relevancy of the links of service in a time of increased and accessible electronic information.
 - What steps can we take today to let the young members of Al-Anon know that we take diversity and growth seriously and are working towards change and acceptance?
 - Group Inventories in a virtual world

Alateen

- New Alateen Bookmark Just for Tonight
- New Alateen Preamble being discussed to ensure inclusion

Service manual Updates

- A few minor changes
- Proposal/Recommendation to somehow include electronic meetings that choose to stay electronic post COVID to have connection to a specific AFG Area to allow for participation beyond the meeting itself.
- There are Questions for our Area to discuss-see report

Treasurer

- NYN has a surplus in 2020

Immediate Past Delegate

- No NYN participation in NYS Fair for multiple reasons

Alateen Coordinator/Area Alateen Process Person

- See reports online
- 14 active Alateen groups

E-Meeting Host

- New position started January 1st
- Report has list of responsibilities

Group Records

- Working on updating each districts records.

Literature Coordinator

- Project to develop electronic packet
- New daily reader coming
- Electronic Welcome, Newcomer! (eK-10) Is Coming Soon
- Outdated/Non-Inclusive language noted in some older CAL. Preface that provides historical prospective to be added to:
 - One Day at a Time in Al-Anon

- Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage
 - Along with a "Gems" piece will be created, taking highlights of the book for members.

Web Coordinator

- Plans to take inventory and update website!!
- Personal Note: I struggled navigating the website and finding the reports from the Assembly

Member Survey

- Available on the WSO website 6/16-7/27
- For those 18 or older, it is anonymous and no personal information is required.

Fall Assembly

- September 17-19 via Zoom.

Unfinished Business:

Zoom account for AIS Rochester-Loron O./Sue C. and members

Sue C. suggested:

Zoom Meetings Sponsored by AIS Procedures

1. Each Zoom meeting needs a group contact.
2. The group contact will email the website coordinator requesting a Zoom link.
3. The website coordinator will set-up the Zoom link and forward it to the website tech to be added to the website.
4. The website coordinator will also email the group contact back with the Zoom information.
5. If there is a time conflict with two meetings, the website coordinator will contact both group contacts to see if there can be a resolution.

Discussion: Zoom account for AIS Rochester that would be made available to groups.

1. Should we do it and why? And “nuts and bolts” of implementation and purchase.
 - Our mission is to help families of alcoholics - will this help our mission? Group agrees it could. Zoom platform (we suspect) will continue as well as meeting opening.
 - Smaller groups have asked for this help, can we accommodate? Group discussed the cost to AIS. How will this be fairly offered? Robin shared that groups now are sharing Zoom accounts and sharing cost's and this has been helpful. We agree that this sharing of resources between groups or through the districts should be encouraged.
 - What if conflicts for need of the account occur? See above from Sue C. who has used this in Livingston County. We will ask groups to work with each other to solve scheduling conflicts.
 - Sue C. reports that once this is set up, she will share with the group sign-in procedure, this will not involve sharing account “keys”.
 - Purchase-how to? Thanks to Janise for her summary of using “Tech Soup” to defray costs of using Zoom for non-profit organizations. Cost of “pro” account is \$150 yearly if purchased not using non-profit options through Tech Soup. This

would include one “license”. We can have up to 100 participants at a meeting and there is no time limit.

- Group agrees it would be worth a try and we can review after a year for effectiveness.
- Motion from Loron to research best value for Zoom account for AIS Rochester and purchase for groups to use based on guidelines above. Loron/Janise will research the best purchase options. Motion seconded by Angela, motion passed, one abstention.

2. Donations to AIS, do we need to ask again? Follow-up from May discussion.

New Business: None

Bullet Points - summary to take away from meeting

1. Al-Anon meetings are opening face-to-face, hybrid and continued on Zoom. Please contact AIS at 585-288-0540 to update meeting information and share your experience, strength and hope!
2. Second beginners meeting to start July 18th at 11:30 am on Zoom. See flyer in newsletter.
3. AIS Rochester presenting at Norris Clinic starting this month. If interested in speaking to people in treatment about Al-Anon, please call 585-288-0540.
4. See the newsletter and AIS website for positions opening in 2022! We need you and your great ideas and service!
5. Budget plans and items are due by August 31st. Please let the treasurer know so we may plan.
6. Membership Survey of Al-Anon members being conducted 6/16-7/27/2021. See link on the WSO page and from the AIS Rochester home page.
7. To keep our promise to help family and friends of alcoholics, AIS Rochester will purchase a Zoom account for member meetings to use. The details of how this will work will be shared at the next meeting of AIS and through the website. We will look into the most economical account to purchase and report to AIS next month.
8. Please remember AIS Rochester in donating as our group donations have decreased. We have continued expenses. See treasurer’s report on the AIS website for where you can review and make donations.

Adjourn: Motion made by Robin, second Karen, ended with Al-Anon Declaration
Thank you all for your service!

Next Meeting: July 10, 2021, 10 am-see electronic link on website-reports due June 7th.

Respectfully Submitted Loron O. Secretary AIS.