

Al-Anon Information Service of Greater Rochester NY - Meeting Agenda

May 9th 2020 @ 10am - Submitted by Mary L

Zoom Meeting (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82989122074>)

- I. Open the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.
- II. Read: 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts of Services, Warranties and Expanded Version of Concept #5
- III. **Rollcall first names:** Angela R, Cathleen B, Deb G., Dennis C., Ellen V., Lisa M, Mary L, Mel Y., Mike H., Pat H., Rebecca B., Rose B., Russell M., Sheila S., Ann S, Mary (guest from Buffalo)
- IV. Reports:

Secretary (Mary L):

- Approve/amend/accept April Minutes: Moved Pat, 2nd by John. Mary will add into last month's minutes.
 - Amendment suggested by Ellen V

As stated in April Minutes

"Electronic Meeting Chair: Ellen will work on a job description and currently has a committee."

Proposed Amendment

"Electronic Meeting Chair: Thank you to everyone who stepped up to help create a continuity of connection! We now have 30 Meetings listed on our AIS home page. It was hectic getting things going but it seems to be quiet right now. As new situations arise we will take each one as it comes. We don't know how long we will have to do this, and we are grateful to have this platform to communicate and stay connected. Ellen will work on a job description."

Chair: (Mel)

- **Continuance of Electronic meetings** - Ellen will discuss.
- **Tureen Supper schedule** -
 - (Mel/Rose/Cathleen) Not sure if we'll make June 7th. Should we postpone or cancel? Ed has a date at the end of August. If we are opened up, we'd have to have limited attendance, 6 ft. distance and wear masks and St. Anns can't accomodate 80 people at 6ft. apart. Ed recommends that the Tureen Supper be cancelled for this year.
Cathleen-suggested a way to come up with an alternative, something to do differently instead. Since we already collected we could ask for donations.
 - Ellen- suggested doing a zoom Tureen Supper on June 7th. Ellen is willing to spearhead a committee to start that. Rose will call Ed and discuss.
 - Lisa - Cuold still do raffles for baskets etc.
 - Mel - Thinks the Tureen supper shouldn't be held because it wouldn't be as good on zoom.
 - Cathleen - since Tureen supper is the biggest fundraiser for AIS, anything we could do instead would be a positive for raise money
 - Mel suggested "A Day of Alanon"
 - Cathleen suggested Rick J from Toronto to be a speaker. Rose said she knows there are already speakers but not sure who they are.
 - Dennis - suggested we should just ask for donations instead of creating an unecesary function
 - Was voiced by several people that it's also about fellowship and speakers. It's up to the individual to donate or attend. Don't need to share, it's just listening.

Motion: Cancel the Tureen supper for 2020 - moved Cathleen, 2nd Lisa

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion: Plan a Zoom Fundraiser - moved Ellen V, Sheila 2nd

Motion Passed Unanimously

- **Credit Cards**

Can we accept credit cards?

- Mel said there are fees associated with it. If we did it for the book depot, it could wipe out our profit. Suggested Paypal
- Dennis mentioned that Another AA group uses Cashapp
- Mel said he could set up Paypal linked to our checking account tomorrow.
- Angela stated that we need to make it very easy to donate online. Paypal is the most common and trusted. Suggested a research committee
- Mel said they've already done the research. He'll send spreadsheet of options if people are interested.
- Rebecca is very glad that we're exploring this as it will help her job at the book depot
- Mary & Mel mentioned that we could inflate the price of the books or charge a fee for using credit cards at the book depot.

- Research is ongoing on credit card systems. Rebecca, Mel and John will have something to report at the next meeting. Will met Thursday to advance the topic and send research in advance of the next meeting

Motion - Put Paypal on the Website to accept donations Moved Lisa, 2nd Angela

Motion passed unanimously

Vice-Chair: (Loron via Rose)

- “Mel and group- I agree that the tureen supper will need to be moved. AND I agree that we need to do some fundraising. Perhaps visit zoom meeting if we want to have a “campaign” to fundraise with a specific goal? I would be glad to do this as part of vice chair duties. I will ask rose to share this report as I will probably not be at the meeting, still working on getting mom and dad settled after illness. Am available by phone and will check email every few days. Thank you!”

Treasurer: (John)

- See Attached Documents:
 - Transaction Report April 2020
 - Banking Summary April 2020
 - 2020 Budget Report at end of April
 - April 2020 Treasurer Report

Donations look huge in April, but mail wasn't delivered to our office for a couple weeks, so it was for several weeks in march

- The last appeal in the newsletter seemed to increase our individual donations
- If not putting \$ in basket, save up and send to AIS, or WSO etc.

Motion to approve: Moved Russel, Cathleen 2nd

Motion passed unanimously

Electronic Meetings: (Ellen)

- We currently have 33 meetings on the list, plus the Alateen meeting (*Mary mentions later that this meeting is not meeting right now, though there is an Alatween meeting*)
- Things are quiet for now – I just want to remind everyone that the zoom meetings are temporary. WSO has allowed them due to the pandemic. When it is possible to go back to face to face meetings, if someone wants to continue an electronic meeting they just have to register it with WSO.
- There has been a lot of talk about the 7th tradition and how to handle it
- Must register a meeting seperately if using an online platform.
- Not practical to host a zoom meeting of an in-person meeting due to internet limitations

Book Depot: (Rebecca)

- Rebecca is delivering books, Mel is sending them out

- Emails from the distribution centers: WSO is looking at attracting a younger/more diverse population. Trying to hire someone to help with that goal. Rebecca has contact info for that job application
- Volunteers can't come in to office, but the 3 of them have managed to do the work.
- Scrubbing down every surface and wearing masks. No contact delivery.

Public Outreach: (Loron/Pat)

- Our group meeting by phone, and will distribute literature and schedule visits as our area opens up, per Monroe County guidelines and Rochester AIS direction.
- We are asking people to call with questions and we will follow up. No questions this month.
- One form of outreach - the development of Zoom meetings for my home group. Thank goodness for the program tools. Learning zoom and getting all of us on the same video and audio page took several tries. We did not give up. In spite of this this writer complaining. We rested and tried again.
- We now have had 3 out of 5 weeks of successful meetings via zoom, learning to mute, learning who has video and audio capability on their devices. Learning to dial up to meet and rename ourselves. The guidelines on the AIS website are helpful. We also invited other folks to this closed meeting. We agree that we are here to help families and friends of alcoholics, SO with group discussion, consensus and feedback from AIS zoom experts, our group will start open meetings Sunday 5/10. We look forward to continued patience and support and thank you to the AIS team for helping with this and updating website.

Newsletter: (Sheila)

- Are we going to have a meeting in August & send out a newsletter? Hold decision off til next month to see what happens. Will keep it on the upcoming meetings and if it's cancelled, we'll take it off. Will add a note about finding a computer buddy to help you out if you don't have a computer
- Asked Sheila to send a note out in advance.
- Probably will have some things to sort out at some point, but with corona, we'll wait a bit.
- Send Sheila a note via email or website if you'd like anything included

Web Committee Report (Pat & Mel)

- We added a "welcome" at the top of our homepage.
- The 2019 Newsletter's have been posted.
- Under "Contact Us" - Officers and Coordinators names have been added.
- District information has been updated.
- April 2020 - AIS Traffic
 - 4767 visitors viewing 19,059 pages
 - 70% new and 30% returning visitors
 - 55% mobile and 45% desktop viewing devices
- The top 5 pages visited:
 - Home Page
 - Meeting List

- Zoom
- Contact Us
- Sunday

Alateen:

- The Zoom meeting Saturdays at 11:30am is cancelled until further notice.
- There is an Alateen Zoom meeting 10:30am
- Mary will send Pat the contact info for Alateen Meeting

Finance: Open

Activities: Open

Juanita stepped down

Deb mentioned via chat that she would like to work with someone on activities, after we get back to normal

Intergroup Rep: Open

V. Unfinished Business:

None

VI. New Business:

- Ellen has quotes for calendar. Suggests that one person take a month and to start a committee to look at ways to sell it.
- Need to discuss seed money. Will AIS provide the money? Ellen will get the proposal to the group.
- How can we estimate sales if we don't know the rules post covid re: in person meetings
- Nancy & Sheila volunteered to serve on the Calendar committee.
- Committee will research how to advertise.

VII. Adjourn: Moved Rose, Angela 2nd

VIII. Next Meeting: June 13, 2020 10 am