

AI-Anon Service Meeting Agenda 10/14/2023

10 am-ELECTRONIC ONLY

Electronic sign in on AIS website

Chair: Pat-open meeting with the Serenity Prayer

Read: 12 Traditions-Robin, 12 Concepts of Service Diane –, Warranties -Maureen, Concept 10- expanded information – Loron O. from how AI-Anon Works page 139-concept 10

Roll Call first names and AIS roles- excused, John B, Maggie G., Ellen. Present, Pat H-chair, Loron O, AIS secretary, Robin, ISR, Diane, treasurer, Maureen C. Erin-book depot, Barb, Dennis

From Pat: Welcome all to the AIS Rochester monthly meeting. We 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, w/o interruption or criticism.
 3. Discussion and actions that benefit the AI-Anon groups in the Rochester area and beyond. (We welcome feedback, especially ideas for improvement).
 4. Contact information for Officers and AIS members, and an orientation for new members.
- Thank you for your service; rotation of service is important for our group's health.

Reports Below:

Secretary: Last month's minutes on website are attached. If you did not get these materials, please email Secretary@aisrochester.org Clarification on reaching AIS if members have passed, minutes reflect this correction
Motion to approve minutes: Robin, second, Maureen, motion passed.

Treasurer-Diane: reports on website and attached. Motion to accept: Maureen second: Loron. Treasurer report accepted. Budget to be voted on in November.

Chairperson's report - Pat H. We need your help! Been thinking about giving back? Now is the time. Below are members standing for a position at Rochester AIS. Voting will take place at our November meeting.

Chairperson -need candidate

Vice Chairperson - need candidate

Secretary - Maggie G.

Office Manager - need candidate

Book Depot - need candidate

Finance Chairperson - Kathy M.

Intergroup representative- need candidate

- Discussion-learning curve for new members/officers/coordinators can seem steep
- Members lack confidence-how to help increase confidence?
- Members noted that all positions can be done tailored to the officer's styles/schedules. This has worked with book depot, newsletter, secretary etc.
- Our opening statement lists orientation for new members
- Should we be more formal about this? Schedule times to meet? Buddy with outgoing member for a set amount of time till new officer feels comfortable? Use of Vice chair as springboard to chair? Agreed that "handoff" between outgoing and new members should always take place. Suggest adding how to access office and disbursements for new officers from treasury as part of orientation/handoffs.
- Will discuss at next meeting-please ask members to consider the open positions.

Slate of officers will appear in the November newsletter.

Any questions or concerns please contact me at chairperson@aisrochester.org

Join us for an informational meeting to start the process of becoming an AMIAS. (Al-Anon member involved in Alateen Service). Saturday, October 28th, 1 - 2:30 pm on zoom. Check out the flyer on our website under "Events"

Discussion-AMIAS are needed for short term sub and to cover some conferences, as back up for our great folks supporting our active Tuesday evening Alateen meetings.

Update-Maui Al-Anon no longer needs donations of literature.

Vice-Chair: open position

Activities report: Kathleen-no report

Alateen report -Muffy-Active meeting 5 teens core group and teens coming for shorter term. They would go to NYNAC convention if able to find AMIAS to take them. This will be a goal for next year.

Book Depot – Erin

- **Please check your stock of newcomer packets, old information regarding beginner meetings has been going around. The active newcomer meetings, Wednesday at 11 am and Saturday at 11:30 am.**
- **Book depot position can be held by dual member-great way to serve!**
- **As we understood is still in stock. If you need literature that is not in the office let Erin know. “A Little time for Myself”-still on backorder.**

Discussion-leave Erin a note in the office for any questions or pick up for literature needs.

Finance-John- review budget attached

Intergroup-Maggie-below

Report from New York North Area Assembly

Held Syracuse NY Sept 29th-October 1st 2023

For the first time in several years, the NYN Assembly was a fully in-person event. It was also an election year for new officers and coordinators as December will end their 3-year term (Panel). Attendance included representation from 18 of the 28 districts within the NYN Area. Only Group Reps can vote at the Assembly. There were 48 voting members present. There was 31 at the virtual Spring Assembly.

There were task forces and thought forces reporting and offering clarity and suggestions for action on agenda items. Motions were made, and seconded. Everyone had the right/option to share their views on every topic. Voting was done by raise of hands for most decisions, others were by paper ballot to allow for anonymity when there were alternate views being shared. The traditions and concepts were our guiding principles and after a very long day, we accomplished a great deal!

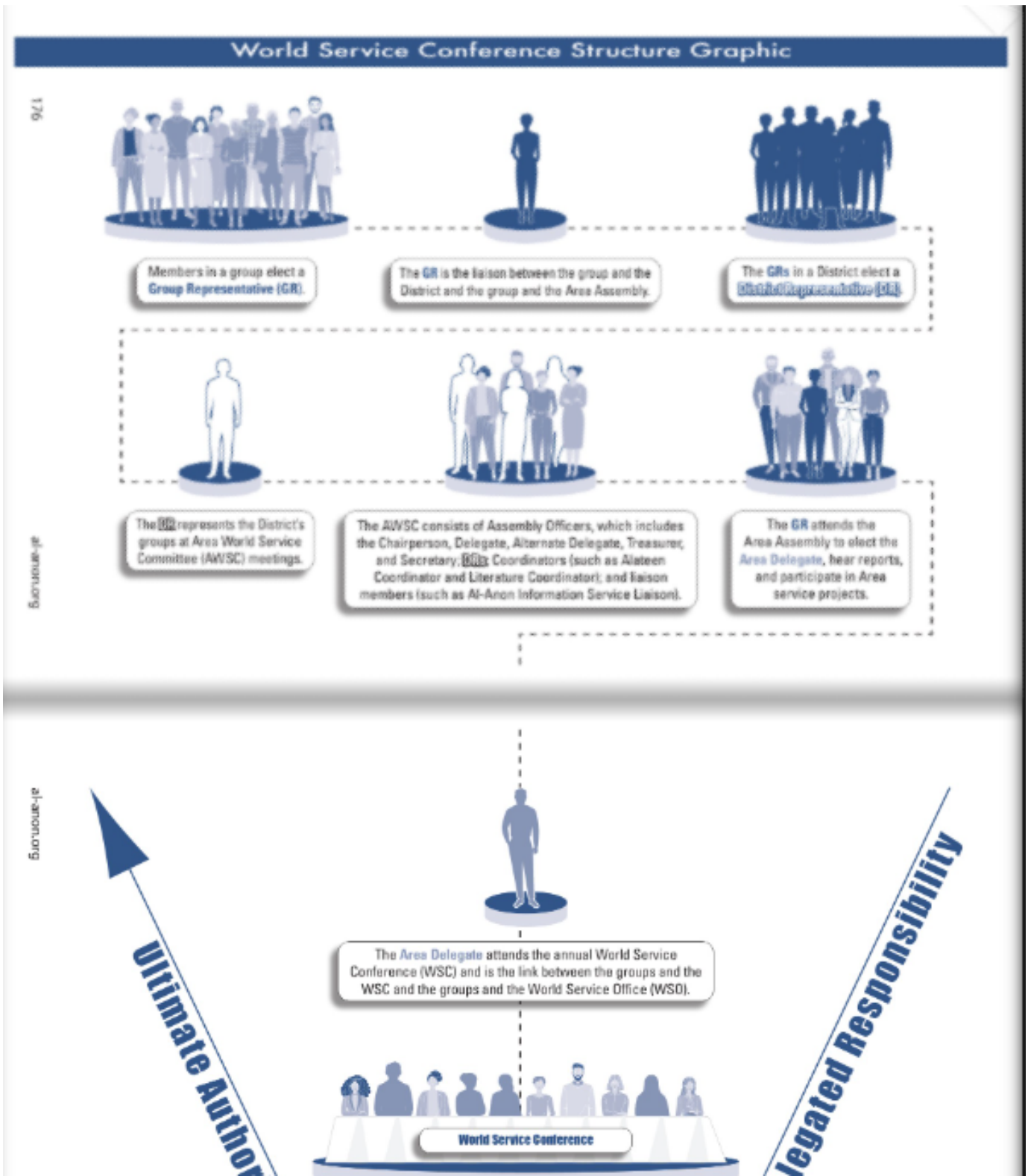
Over the last 3 years as the intergroup rep, I have learned so much about the “behind the scenes” work that keeps Al-anon/Alateen available for us, the friends, and families of alcoholics. I can’t help but to feel like I finally got a handle on my role and the functions of AIS and NYN when my term is coming to an end! So as the election process played out, I found myself raising my hand when they asked if anyone would stand for the **e-Meeting Coordinator**. I’m excited to continue work with the members of NYN (and AIS!)

Summary Key Reports/ Discussion/Voting Items:

Delegates Report: The Delegate shares Area experience at three annual World Service Conferences that serve Al-Anon worldwide. He/she brings the views and spirit of worldwide Al-Anon to his/her Area and represents the Area worldwide. He/she must be thoroughly familiar with the current Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual.

- Group Reps are the most important part in service structure (see next page from Service manual)
- New Public Outreach Toolkit: place where members from anywhere can submit their outreach work/ideas. Link to tool kit is on the WSO website under Members-Public Outreach-Public Outreach Toolkit. Members are encouraged to add our projects to the PO Toolkit

- Alateen: was a major topic at the WSC and at HYN Assembly. Additional details will be in Alateen Update
 - Electronic meeting for Alateen still in trial stage. WSO does have 5 Alateen meetings available on the AI-anon APP
 - Electronic Alateen Safety & Behavioral Requirement (EASBR) is needed for electronic meetings within the WSC structure
 - New Alateen bookmark (M 82) expected to be out this fall.
- Finance: WSO spends \$321.25 per group/year.
 - NYN groups contributes approx. half that amount.



Alateen Coordinator: Reminder that Alateen is Al-Anon

- There was a lot of discussion around Alateen. Many shared their concerns and suggestions.
- Meetings are limited. AMIAS are limited, awareness of program is thought to be limited.
- Happy to report there will be a NYNAC convention this year! Until recently there wasn't enough teens signed up to go.
- **How can we help?**
 - Ensure you are sharing with New Comers that Alateen is available for their children. Can add this to your meetings *New Comers Welcome*.
 - Consider becoming an AMIAS (Al-anon member involved in Alateen Service)
 - There are no individual sponsors in Alateen.
 - AMIAS may serve as Alateen Group Sponsors, chaperones and drivers
 - The Alateen Service e-Manual and other information about Alateen is available on the WSO website under Members Tab-Members Resources-Manuals and Guidelines
 - Attend and encourage others to join you at the upcoming Alateen informational meeting on Saturday October 28th 1-2:30 on zoom hosted by our AIS office in conjunction with the NYN Alateen Coordinator.

Convention Coordinator/ Task Force for future Assemblies/Conventions

- **See Task Force document at end of this report for details on their work**
- The suggested Motion # 1 was submitted for the Assembly to consider
- After the motion was made many members shared how important being in person is to fellowship. Others shared the cost, travel time etc are barriers to participation.
- In the end the suggested model was approved. Still need to identify districts that are willing to host the hybrid and in person events. Many DR's were reluctant to step up as their term is ending and didn't want to commit their district if they were no longer the DR.
- The current Convention Coordinator shared a document, *How to Plan a Convention and Assembly*, that shares suggestions based on past events. This is located on the NYN website

Electronic Meeting Task Force

- In beginning stages of the work. Needs volunteers to be on the TF.
- NYN needs to decide if it will allow electronic meeting be a part of the NYN Area. If not, any meeting that transitioned to electronic d/t the pandemic will need to register with the WSO as an electronic meeting and will be part of the Global Electronic Area within 6 months.

Elections

- Most of the afternoon was dedicated to elections for the next term (Panel) that begins January 2024
- This was my first election assembly and I was curious how the process would unfold
- The chairperson announced each position, gave a brief summary of the role and for the officer positions asked all the DR's to stand. Only DR's are able to stand for the officer positions which are:

- Delegate
- Alternate Delegate
- Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Being that on DR's are eligible, there were limited members present. The chairperson asked all the DR's to stand. Then asked anyone unable to fulfill the need to take a seat. Those left standing were nominated and voted on by the GR's. There were times when no one was standing, but eventually all officer roles were filled.
- There are 12 coordinator positions which DRs and GRs are all eligible. All of the positions were filled by the end of the day.
 - The current term had 2-3 vacant positions

If anyone is interested in reading all the reports from the Assembly, they are available on the NYN website on the NYN Newsflash page.

Yours in Service,
Maggie G
10/4/2023

NYN Area Fall Assembly 2023

Task Force for Conventions and Assemblies Proposal

Introduction

- This is an Assembly; we have two per year.
- I'm saying this for the new GR's. It took me a long time to understand our structure, and I am still learning
- The assemblies are designed to make sure that there is, "adequate interchange of information and ideas about service activities, not only in the immediate Area, but where worldwide AI-Anon is concerned." (Service Manual)
- Assemblies are important to keeping us connected to the Worldwide fellowship of AI-Anon.
- Conventions are bigger than meetings, they include program breakout sessions with great learning and fellowship.
- A Convention is like a conference. We have not had a Convention since COVIC.
- A convention is program heavy, and light on business.
- Over the past 3 years, through and after COVID, every time an Assembly comes around there is a lot of discussion about whether it should be electronic, in-person, or hybrid.
- A Panel is what our three-year cycle is called.
- Carol, our Chair has been committed to passing on a plan for the next chair so that they don't have to try and figure it out every time.
- In AI-Anon the decision-makers are GR's – the decisions are made by people representing our groups.

- Decisions that take a lot of thinking and discussions are sent to a task force or a thought force.
- Trying to figure out how we move forward is a more complicated discussion than a one-day Assembly can absorb, and so our taskforce was formed.
- Again, none of us as officers or coordinators make decisions, we make recommendations and GR's decide at our Assemblies
- I'm going to share our proposal and then we will have a discussion. The proposal may change through our discussion – it gives us a starting point.

Proposal

- First, what I am sharing looks different than what you received. We were rushing to get information out, because this is an important decision. I hope this makes it a little clearer.
- We also got into sharing all of our thinking so that people understood we went through the Knowledge Based Decision-Making model that AI-Anon supports.
- I invite you to also think of some of the notes you read that included;
 - Benefits of Conventions
 - How long it takes to plan a convention
 - Barriers that may make it difficult for people to attend
 - Considerations we thought about as we discussed making a plan
- We propose 2 out of 6 Assemblies that are normally held be in-person, and we propose that they also be Conventions
- 2 hybrid Assemblies because it is important for Officers and Coordinators who are working for our area have more opportunity to come together,
 - And, it is an opportunity for GR's who can make the trip to be able to come.
- **Convention: Program heavy, business light**
 - **Panels and workshops including the following two**
 - GR Orientation/Workshop
 - DR Orientation/Workshop
 - **Delegates Report**
 - No other workshops at that time, because the Delegates report connects us to the World Service Office and AI-Anon around the world
 - **Banquet and Speaker** (a dynamic speaker - possibly someone from speaker circuit or WSO)
 - **Business Meeting** (small meeting 2 hours max – possibly have tables displays for coordinators)
- **For the Election/Convention**
 - **Convention program in the morning**
 - **Election Sat afternoon**
- **Based upon our historic practice:**
 - Convention Location – anywhere in NYN (2025 we might want to be more centrally located to attract most members to gather momentum).
 - Election/Convention Location – Syracuse Area

- Hybrid – One day event in Syracuse Area *consider another task force to consider how best to offer hybrid meetings

	Year	Spring	Fall
Pa nel 64	2024	Electronic Assembly	Hybrid Assembly
	2025	Assembly/Convention	Electronic Assembly
	2026	Electronic Assembly	Election Assembly Convention
Pa nel 67	2027	Electronic Assembly	Hybrid Assembly
	2028	Assembly/Convention	Electronic Assembly
	2029	Electronic Assembly	Election Assembly Convention

Suggested Motion:

That we (NYN), on a trial basis, follow the schedule for Assemblies and Conventions below for all of Panel 64 and reflect on how it is going in 2028, the second year of Panel 67.

Reflecting on how it is working after a full panel will allow us to go through the full cycle. Waiting until the 2nd year of Panel 67 will allow new Officers and Coordinators to learn their jobs before thinking about how it is all working.

Second Possible Motion

Consider forming a thought force or task force to determine how to conduct hybrid Assemblies with the possibility of creating a technology coordinator position to facilitate hybrid meetings.

Newsletter- Theresa-pls have articles to Theresa by 10/18

Public Outreach Update 10-14-2023

Committee members continue to follow through with individual projects; Libraries, Post Offices, Community Centers, Health Centers, and Coffee Shops. Follow up and restocking of materials as needed. John L. Norris Clinic informational meeting continues to meet bi-weekly. Dennis has attempted to speak with the Assistant Director in charge of scheduling about the possibility of an actual Al-Anon meeting for friends and family. Connection with Assistant Director has not been successful. Dennis will continue to make calls. Pre-Trial Services, Carol C. reports that she is looking to transition out of primary responsibility for this outreach event. The next scheduled meeting at Pre-Trial is on 9-24-2023 from 3:30-5:00pm. Dennis plans to attend this meeting and is hopeful Carol will attend as well to make the transition as smooth as possible for all concerned. Beginner's meetings in the Rochester area continue to meet regularly, Wednesday at 11:00am and Saturday at 11:30am. Dennis continues to mail Newcomer packets as requests come into AIS. Twelve packets sent out in August and twelve packets sent out in September. Margaret E. continues to hold Outreach events in the Newark, NY community. Dennis attended health fair, sponsored by Monroe County at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center on October 2, 2023. Dennis spoke with several community organizations about Al-Anon and asked for permission to come into their offices and do a presentation about Al-Anon. People were enthusiastic about the possibility of gaining information about the program. Dennis left contact information and is awaiting a call back. Following the Public Outreach Committee meeting of 8-20-2023, Dennis followed through with the purchase of a banner to be used at health fairs and conventions. Two banners were purchased because the cost was low. It was also believed that having two banners would allow for use at events in Rochester as well as events in outlying areas. The Banner Reads:

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon can help-ask us how!

Dennis plans to begin an active recruitment for more members of the Public Outreach Committee. Next meeting of the Outreach Committee is scheduled for November 15, 2023 at 6:00pm. Access to this meeting may be gained through aisrochester.org website.

Discussion-note that treatment centers are not opening to family groups (only treated folks). Dennis and the committee will keep looking for this opportunity. Dennis encloses with newcomer packets how to reach Dennis or AIS with questions. Suggest placing flyer on the website for more to view.

Submitted in Service-Dennis C.

Volunteer coordinator: no report

Website Report- Ellen-Read by Loron-no questions-Thanks Ellen!

Group Announcements or concerns:

- D-29, Day of Sharing 10/21 12-3, Victor-see website for more information
- AMIAS training online 10/28 link on AISrochester website

Unfinished Business: see above-next month, November, budget and election review and vote
Next month, add discussion of support of new AIS members.

New Business: discussed in reports

Bullet points from 10/14/2/23 AIS meeting

- AIS office has more open hours, Tuesday 11-1, Thursday 9-11, and 1-3, and Friday 9-11.
See website and call before visiting
- Adult members in service to Alateen-training for AMIAS will be on line 10/28 1-2:30
Check out this opportunity on AIS website
- 10/21 Day of Sharing district 29 12-3, see website for flyer
- Maui donations have been received and appreciated-no more needed of Al-Anon literature
- From NY north- ½ of districts in this large area do not have district representatives -this decreases the sharing of information between groups and groups and the WSO. Please consider this role and that of GR in your group.
- Please check your newcomer packets, old information is being passed on. The most recent beginner meetings are on Wednesdays at 11am and Saturdays at 11:30am. Both are on zoom.
- Panels/ conferences and assemblies for NY north will be planned in 3-year blocks. Next years will be virtual and hybrid meetings. Next in person conference 2025
- AIS needs members to serve in several roles including book depot, this is a position that a dual member can fill. Voting at 11/11/23 meeting. Please call or email AIS if you have questions or interest, there is no “perfect” way to serve and we will give you support and mentoring.

Adjourn with Declaration and Serenity Prayer-
Next meeting 11/11/23
Respectfully Submitted, Loron O. Secretary