# Al-Anon Service Meeting Minutes 1/8/2022-HYBRID 2480 Browncroft Blvd, lower office Electronic sign in on AIS website

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

Read: 12 Traditions-, Robin 12 Concepts of Service-John B., Warranties-Diane, and Expanded Version of Concept 1-. Rose

**Rollcall first names:** excused- Debi B., and Karen R. Pat H., Loron O, Mel Y., Rose B., John B., Elissa, Robin, Diane, Laura R., Sue C., Kelly, Mike H., Michelle W., We added our positions and meetings we represent.

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 Al-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, http://www.aisrochester.org/minutes.html

approve-Robin, second-Rose, amends-update phone list, minutes accepted approved by group.

Distribution list for attendees of meeting shared. Any changes please email <a href="mailto:secretary@aisorchester.org">secretary@aisorchester.org</a>

**Treasurer**: -reports on website: <a href="http://aisrochester.org/pdf/treasurer-report.pdf">http://aisrochester.org/pdf/treasurer-report.pdf</a> motion to approve: Elissa, second Robin: amendments-none, report accepted.

## Chair Report- Pat H.- Chairperson - Pat H.

Welcome everyone and best wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2022. "An AIS exists to aid the groups it serves in the common purpose of carrying the Al-Anon message to the suffering families and friends of alcoholics". (From Al-Anon guidelines G-4). We represent 7 districts: 2, 14, 19, 20, 25, 27, & 29. I have been in communication with present DR's (District Representatives) and contacts. I'm hoping that the districts will work with one another by sharing information, (minutes and agenda) so we can learn from and support one another.

District 2 - no DR at this time. Ellen V. is interested

District 14 - Cindy R.

District 19 - no DR at this time - contact is Cathleen.

District 20 - no DR at this time.

District 25 - this district will be voting on a DR at their Jan.15th meeting.

District 27 - no DR at this time - contact Mike W. has stepped down. District 29 - Laura L.

Welcome to Pam, our Literature Coordinator, and many thanks to Rebecca for spoiling us over the years. We appreciate you! Mel, thank you for being our Chair and for all the things you've done behind the scenes. You've been a great resource for me, I know where to go when I have Al-Anon questions. For everyone else, thank you for continuing your great work and for your participation. I look forward to the next two years as your Chair, a day at a time, and I ask for your help and suggestions along this new path. The Vice Chair position is still open. Responsibilities for this position are on our homepage. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact me at the email at <a href="mailto:Chairperson@aisrochester.org">Chairperson@aisrochester.org</a>

Vice-Chair: open position

Activities: Debbie and Dennis-no report this month

**Alateen:** Maureen continues to complete steps to open a local Alateen meeting.

**Book Depot-**Pam and Mel are meeting soon to share access to website and email for the Book Depot. Inventory has been done recently. Thanks to Mel, Mike and Rebecca for keeping this up!

NEW E-Book now available, Opening our Hearts Transforming our Losses. See the WSO website to purchase for E-Readers.

**Finance: John B.** Reviewed finance reports. We are in the "black" due to generous donations from individuals and groups. HELP NEEDED-to sit with finance committee and review 2021 finances and reports. No bookkeeping experience needed, just love our program. This would take 1-2 hours. Contact Finance chair if interested.

Intergroup -Maggie with Pat-have your groups reviewed below-report read by Loron

DR's we need your help! From NYnorth: The Electronic Meetings Thought Force requests DRs respond by January 31, 2022. We are looking for discussion points, not decisions.

A **thought force** is a temporary unit of people established to brainstorm ideas and to develop strategies on a single defined task or activity. It uses the resources available such as perspective of members of the thought force and Staff knowledge. ... The thought force is not expected to have all the answers or to provide the final solutions. If there are facts that are unknown, they can be flagged in the KBDM question, "Things we don't know but wish we did." A thought force may lay the foundation for the work of a task force. Sometimes they offer recommendations resulting from their findings. A thought force presents its information to the originating body to move forward. **Thought forces are "thinkers," not "doers."** 

#### **OUR TASK:**

WSO geographic Areas (including NY North) are invited to discuss and decide whether to

accept electronic AFGs into their service structure and to define Area policies and procedures if appropriate. (See NYnorth website). Thanks to all groups who completed questions 1-3 or 1-5.

The Thought Force is asking districts to discuss these questions especially all parts of questions 4 and 5 and submit responses on a Google Form available on NYN webiste, please submit by January 31<sup>st</sup>2022.

Question 4 How might Areas Assemblies and District meetings need to change to accommodate trusted servants living within and outside the Area? Would Areas need new service roles to support groups which meet electronically? Why or why not? Are our groups willing to financially support additional Area service roles and/or technology?

Question 5 Because Electronic Meetings were not a part of any service structure, some of their members may not have participated in District and Area meetings. How might our Area welcome and support them? How might we help them understand the service structure in our Districts and Area? For example, are members willing to organize service workshops? Are members willing to act as Service Sponsors? What other kinds of support could our members provide? Are there any kinds of support which it would be wise for us not to provide?

See NY north or call AIS Rochester for more information. Thank you!

Discussion-how do we know contacts for DR's and do they know of this request? See Pats note about DR's. in her report. Could this DR list be shared with outreach? Mel is working on updating list and will share soon with outreach. Agree that DR's and monthly contact with these important servants keeps groups healthy. Please announce at your meetings DRr's needed and that NYnorth and AIS will provider orientation and support. Description of DR in Al-Anon guideline G-37.

**Newsletter**: Karen R.-please have articles by 1/15/22. <a href="http://aisrochester.org/pdf/newsletter.pdf">http://aisrochester.org/pdf/newsletter.pdf</a>

**Report from Outreach Committee -Rose** Norris weekly meeting continuing and new volunteers needed. Consider helping for one or more Mondays a month from 6-7pm. Call AIS Rochester.

All other programs are running smoothly.

Remember to take literature to libraries and some grocery stores. 3 libraries have been gifted with Al-Anon literature! Forum subscription and books, one library has an information table about Al-Anon. Thanks to these groups for outreach! Rose will contact DR's to ask this be placed on the DR meeting agenda. Encourage group conscience to review this service opportunity.

Spectrum news aired a short video about Al-Anon and its purpose. Welcome news to share our program's gifts. Our next meeting is January 19<sup>th</sup>, 6pm on zoom.

## Volunteer coordinator/office- Mel

We now have volunteers in the office 3 days a week. Mel is contacting others who have served in the office. Loron will forward suggested cleaning guidelines for folks using the office to volunteer coordinator.

## December 2021 - AIS Traffic

- 4,254 visitors viewing 16,183 pages.
- 64% new and 36% returning visitors.
- 51% mobile and 49% desktop viewing devices.

## Top 10 pages visited:

- 1. Home Page 3026
- 2. Meeting List 630
- 3. Tuesday 481
- 4. Thursday 421
- 5. Wednesday 401
- 6. Saturday 397
- 7. Sunday 385
- 8. Friday 338
- 9. Monday 277
- 10. Contact AIS 109

12 Newcomer Pack Requests, 9 meetings using the AIS Rochester zoom account.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Has everyone received literature suggested at last meeting?

Pat took information and will forward literature. This is part of our welcome and orientation to AIS service.

Hybrid meeting-how did it work this month-in the office, Mike and Mel, working well.

#### New Business: Welcome to new officers!

From Pat, use of AIS zoom account, review and possible expansion due to folks wanting to use our AIS account and meet using the same time slot.

Discussion- What zoom can provide? Do we need a new account or can we make the one we have work for 2 meetings at the same time? Differing opinions, noting previous discussion and we agree we have a lot to learn AND want to support member requests. Mel, Laura, Sue and Pat will explore our present account use for multiple meetings at the same time, or the need to purchase more product from the Zoom platform.

## **Bullet Points** for take away/follow up/next meeting agenda?

- Outreach to libraries with literature, books, Forum or Al-Anon display. We ask groups to discuss.
- The AIS Office is opening more hours following guidelines. Contact Mel, office coordinator vist website if interested
- DR's questions from NYnorth about electronic meetings and submit to NYNorth by 1/31/22, link is <a href="http://www.nynafg.com/">http://www.nynafg.com/</a>
- Flower City Fellowship Convention February 18-20, see AIS website. New E-Book Available "Opening our Hearts, Transforming our Losses". See the AIS website for anniversary meetings, 1/12 and 1/16/2022. DR needed for district 19, call AIS Rochester if interested, vice chair of AIS Rochester is another open service position.

- Norrtis Clinic is in need of volunteers to bring the Al-Anon program to their clients on Monday evenings from 6-7 pm.. Please ask your groups and contact the AlS office at 585-288-0540 if anyone is interested.
- One time audit help needed to review books and records of AIS Rochester with the Finance Committee. Call or email through the AIS website.

Come join us!

Motion to adjourn-Mel, second, Kelly Adjourn with Declaration and Serenity Prayer. Next meeting will be February 12, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted, Loron O