

## AIS Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2016

### **Present:**

Ancelin: Secretary/Sunday South Wedge Serenity Seekers ISR

Becky: Activities Chair

Brenda L:

Carol C: Women's 12 at 12 GR/ District 14 DR

Elaine R: Finance Committee/NYN Past Delegate

JeanRita: Spiritual Awakening ISR

John B: Evening Serenity ISR

Joni H: Website Chair/ Simple Beginnings ISR

Marci: Vice Chair/D19 Treasurer

Megan: Newsletter/Evening Serenity GR

Mel: Treasurer/Webster Monday ISR

Mike H: Book Depot Chair

Pat H: NYN Public Outreach Chair

Sheila SF: Spiritual Awakenings GR

Marci opened the meeting at 10:00 am with the Serenity Prayer. Pat read the 12 Traditions, Elaine read the 12 Concepts and the General Warranties. Megan read Expanded Concept 10.

Roll call by 1<sup>st</sup> name and position.

### **Reports:**

**Chair:** Has asked Marci to chair as she was unable to attend this meeting.

**Secretary:** Corrections made to the AIS sign in sheet there were several GR's listed for 1 particular meeting. Received 1 additional correction to last month's meeting minutes. Presented minutes with revisions, Megan made a motion to accept, Mel 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.

**Treasurer:** Mel went over the preliminary Treasurer report sent out to the distribution list (bank does not have business month ending until after this meeting). Final report will be sent out once bank 'closes'. George Made motion to accept, Ancelin 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.

**Vice Chair:** Candidates for open positions are as follows: Vice Chair (none), Website (Joni), Intergroup Rep (none), Activities (Becky), Treasurer (John), Public Information/Outreach (Brian), Newsletter (none), Alateen (Diane). Slate of candidates will go into the October Newsletter and voting will take place in November. Positions begin in January. Marci has said she's personally enjoyed being the vice chair as it has allowed her many opportunities for meeting new people and visiting groups. The spring convention went well and D19 has made a contribution to the AIS office.

**Activities:** Has made several more coffee meet ups and the last outdoor activity before heading into winter. This will be on the AIS website. Currently working with Sheila to set up a movie showing at Nazareth College. Should this work out it will be an open to the public event as this will greatly decrease the cost. Members' suggested putting an "AIS Event" on any activity flyers so they are known as an AI-Anon approved event and can remain on group calendar's and clip boards as well as for publication on the website.

**Alateen:** Diane not present, sent in her report. A large amount of flyer's for the Saturday morning meeting were distributed.

**Book Depot:** Mike will put the Alateen flyer out with new book orders as they come in. Sales are listed in the treasury report. A lot of the pamphlets are coming in redesigned & the old stuff is being tossed as the information is different. Paperback of "How AI-Anon Works" are on order, currently being printed. Question if the title "Lois Remembers" was still in print? Yes, in paperback and the office has them. At the convention

the local AIS made bookmarks that they print and put into newcomer packets so Mike will be designing one the same way. It will be all Al-Anon approved so no concern for non-CAL literature going out.

**Finance Committee:** The 2017 budget was worked on. Differences were an increase in the Public Outreach budget. Current chair is doing a great deal of work and needs the funds to accomplish outreach goals. 1 is to order a case of "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (2017)" and a case is \$ 144.00. Alateen budget was decreased as it was never used.

**Institutions/Public Outreach:** Brian not present, no report sent in, outreach continues. Joni attended the Marketplace Mall outreach day that had various organizations present with tables. Was a great opportunity to network with other organizations and to meet new people. Joni & George both attended an event at Blue Cross Arena called "Homeless Connects". Many various organizations were there serving the homeless & in need community. Both members feel this is a great place for Al-Anon outreach for next year. Event is held once a year, will give Brian the info.

**NYN Public Outreach:** Pat read aloud her publication regarding the 2017 AFA's. This will be in the October Newsletter as well. Also reported there is a Power Point presentation on the New York North Website regarding Anonymity and technology. Pat has met the Buffalo AIS Outreach Chairperson who is working hard! Thanked everyone for participating & support.

Regarding outreach several suggestions were made. We still have old 2016 AFA's, put a sticker on the year and give them out the year is different but the information & sharing's are still useful. If your group has old forums give one to a newcomer and encourage them to buy a subscription. Share meeting guidelines in your groups and suggest everyone write something and send in to the Forum.

**Newsletter:** If anyone would like to write an article for the Newsletter please send it to her. Megan has lots of information for the October newsletter coming out as well as candidates for AIS positions.

**Volunteers/Service Center:** Made a call for more volunteers. Answering the phone is the most important thing anyone can do in the AIS office. If there are no phone calls or book orders to fulfill, there is always a ton of literature to read. Another member who volunteers shared it is great quiet time to enjoy CAL and help others when the need arises.

**Website:** Flyers & activity dates have been put up on the AIS website.

**Intergroup Rep:** Position remains open.

### **New Business:**

Sheila SF brought up the topic of students who are mandated by class to observe an Al-Anon meeting. Through her profession she has had students report members being overzealous in behavior toward observers who have announced that they are students, not necessarily 'newcomers' to the program. Reported students could not stay in a general meeting were taken to a 1<sup>st</sup> step meeting and felt put on the spot to talk & were very uncomfortable. There was much discussion about differences in greetings throughout our various meetings. General consensus was they should still be given a newcomer packet as they may someday need Al-Anon themselves, but they should not be pressured to go to a 1<sup>st</sup> step meeting.

Marci will call the Guardian Angels church to see which Sunday is available for the Tureen Supper. Date will be picked shortly. A date will be chosen that will not conflict with the AA convention & Easter Sunday.

**Unfinished Business:** None

Megan made a motion to close, Ancelin 2<sup>nd</sup> approved. Meeting ended at 11:25 with the Al-Anon Declaration.

**Next meeting is November 5th, 2016 at the AIS office at 10 AM.**

Respectfully submitted: Ancelin