

AIS Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2017

Present:

Ancelin – AIS Secretary
Connie – Newsletter
Danette J – Living in the Solution ISR
Deb G. – Came to Believe ISR
Dennis C – Spiritual Awakening ISR
Elaine R – Finance Committee
John B. – Treasurer/Evening Serenity ISR
Joni H. – Website Chair
Kathleen H. – Victor Parents ISR
Megan N – Evening Serenity GR
Mel Y. – Volunteers/Webster Monday ISR
Mike H. – Book Depot/Faith & Hope ISR
Mike W. – Hamlin Sunday Niters
Pat H. – NYN Public Outreach/Penn Yan ISR
Rebecca B. – Hope for Today ISR
Rose B. – Serenity on Saturday ISR
Sheila S. – Chairperson
Tom H. – Henrietta AFG ISR

Sheila opened the meeting at 10 am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Mike H. read the 12 Traditions. Mike W. read the Concepts and the Warranties. Megan read the expanded Concept 10.

Sheila reports the Fall Convention went very well. Pat shared a list of elected officers. These are available on the New York North website. Elaine read through several voting items which will also be available in notes on the NYN website. One issue of importance was missing funds from NYNAC. The situation was looked at using the AI-Anon Traditions & Concepts. A final decision will be made at the next meeting. The person was presented a contract to sign for repayment of funds.

Sheila has also made the next flyer for the Tureen Supper. Deb G. has spoken with Marci (former vice-chair) and is getting all materials relating to this and will be putting out sign-up sheets for help. Sheila secured AI-Anon & AA speakers they are from Syracuse, NY. Connie asked if there was a theme as themes tend to do well for fundraisers, the theme is, "Keep it Simple Sweetheart". Date is March 25th, 2018.

Ancelin had nothing new to report. Special thanks to Loron for taking the minutes at the last meeting. Pat asked for a correction to the minutes. Present minutes w/corrections for acceptance. Mel made a motion to accept Mike 2nd, approved.

John went over the treasurer reports sent out for August and September. Noticed there has been a dip in donations to AIS so if we attend any groups that have not made a donation in a while, please give a gentle nudge to do so. AIS is ahead on the collections side of the budget, a little behind on expenses as a few outstanding checks are waiting to be cashed. Mel made a motion to approve reports, Mike 2nd approved.

There is currently no one in the Vice Chair position, which means we have no rep actively seeking out folks to fill AIS positions. *New Business discussed at this point* Mike H. nominated Rebecca B. for Book Depot chair. Kathleen H asked for consideration for Public Outreach chair. Megan nominated Mel Y. for Volunteers/Service Center chair. Tom H was asked to be vice chair however he is moving out of the country. Sheila asked that if we personally find someone who is interested in holding a position to send her the name and number and she will make a personal phone call to them.

There was much discussion of sending out a special edition of the Newsletter. It was decided not to do this. Connie has put in many service positions available announcements, descriptions, service stories, and nominations will go out in the next Newsletter per the By-Laws. Perhaps by pressing too much we are trying to make 'our will' happen and not Higher Power's plan for AIS. Connie also commented about a special section in the Newsletter she made for 'service stories' and she has only received 3 from all present. If we do not, "Let it begin with me" then how can we expect positions to be filled? She has a steady sign up for the Newsletter, so it is being read. The message needs to start with all in attendance at AIS.

Elaine suggested sending an email to all GR contacts for the groups as they are the alternate ISRs who are not present at meetings. Questions were asked who chairs the meeting if no one is elected? Who takes notes? It can rotate between those present for the meeting.

Megan brought up a point of stating AIS will survive this change and we have tried all we can do, why are we risking our personal Serenity? Both Mike H & Mike W have offered to go around to meeting and publicize what we do. The newer meetings are not aware we are here and what we offer.

Diane's report was received and read, no questions asked. Watching for a new Alateen meeting soon!

Mike reports the World Service Office is lowering the price on 3 titles: Many Voices, One Journey (b-31), Al-Anon Family Groups Classic Edition (b-5), and Discovering Choices (b-30). Suggested we have the books in the depot for sale at \$8 each no shipping, available now through the end of December. Suggestions to donate to a local library, lending library in an Al-Anon meeting, and donations to treatment centers were made as well.

Pat stated there were no upcoming fairs at this time but is surprised the AFAs 2017 are not moving. There was much discussion about this public outreach tool. Mike is not ordering the 2018s. Currently is printing labels to go over the year on the 2016s and 2017s to use with our information on it. Pat volunteered to help with that. Megan made a motion & Elaine 2nd to order the AFAs 2018 out of the Public Outreach budget. To allow folks to take the AFAs to their meetings and ask the treasurer for a check to reimburse the AIS office, approved.

Connie reports nothing new for the Newsletter. Kathleen & Pat will both write a few sentences for Connie for the Newsletter service section.

Volunteers with the office are currently steady and always needs new volunteers. There may be a possible change of winter hours if there are members who live south in the winter.

Danette passed out flyers for a new Wednesday 6pm meeting.

Ancelin read through Brian's public outreach report.

Tom brought up the idea of a bigger meeting room. At this point there were 2 people seated/standing in the hallway. We would likely have better participation if we had more space. Passed the idea that some people may have come, saw the set up and not returned. There was lively discussion about this issue. Places surrounding the office were explored previously with no good fit. Other places would charge. Pat made a point. We are a fully self-supporting organization. At all other big meeting (fall assembly, etc.) a basket is passed. The choice belongs to the member to contribute or not but there is no room for growth in this room. Megan mentioned the main AA office charges outside groups \$10 an hour to use a meeting room. Kathleen will look into Al Siegel center. Concerns brought up about being away from the Book Depot. Ancelin pointed out that John was waiting for 2 members to pick up literature that no showed. There are people available at different times to pick up literature and they can coordinate that by phone. This topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

AIS will also be reviewing a day and time for the meeting. A quick show of hands revealed Saturday at 10 am works for the majority in attendance so places will be checked with the current meeting day & time.

A committee has been formed to look at the By-Laws as they need to be updated. So far Sheila S. and Megan N. are on this committee.

Elaine reports the Finance Committee has a draft budget for 2018. Will be sent out to all chairs. If you have a budgetary need or want to suggest a change get that to John B at treasurer@aisrochester.org. There was a line added for a WSO donation of \$100 for next year.

Connie made a motion to end the meeting, Rose 2nd passed. Sheila read the closing along with the Declaration & Serenity Prayer. Meeting closed at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Ancelin

Next AIS meeting will be Saturday November 4th at 10 am