

NEW YORK NORTH AREA 39
AWSC MEETING
April 2, 2016 12:00 PM

1. **Call to Order:** By Susan A. at 12:10 PM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.
2. **Traditions:** Read by Lynda S. - D22 Concepts & Warranties: Connie D. D22.
3. **Welcome & Information:** Susan stated 4 additional items to add to the agenda today.
 - Immediate Past Delegate –Service position description
 - Area Inventory
 - Officer & Coordinator “My Service Position” – Presentations
 - 2016 Budget
4. **Roll Call:** 30 voting members present as follows (note: 10 people were representing more than 1 position).
 - **Districts present:** 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29.
 - **Coordinators:** Alateen, Archives, Convention, Group Records, Newsletter, Public Outreach and Web.
 - **Officers:** Delegate, Alt Delegate/Forum Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairperson, Immediate Past Delegate. Past Delegates: 4 = Elaine R, Connie D. Bob C. & Anne F.
 - **Trustee/Past Trustee:** Anne F.
 - **AIS Reps:** Rochester, Syracuse
4. **Secretary’s Report:** Minutes from September 19, 2015 AWSC meeting read by Pam A. M: to accept as read: Tim G. - D1, 2nd by Bob C. Past Delegate. Passed by voice vote.
5. **Treasurer’s Report: Linda A.**
 - 2015 reporting – Incoming funds = \$19,2016.63 outgoing funds =\$20,811.73
 - Has not received the 2015 NYNAC financial reporting yet.
 - Linda explained 2 line items from the 2016 approved budget. \$200.00 was added to the 2016 NYNAC seed money line to bring the Total Seed Money for NYNAC to \$1,000.00 (disbursed once during the 3 year term). The \$200.00 was disbursed in Sept 2015. She also noted at some point the Delegate Equalized expense had not been raised accordingly by \$100.00 per year until reaching the full cost to send the Delegate to the WSC.
 - Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report by Elaine R. Past Delegate 2nd by Mike D26.
6. **Delegate Report: Diane C.**
 - AFG Connects rolled out for many positions and Diane receives the information for all. She also shares information on what our area is doing with other areas.
 - Preparing for the 2016 WSC. Reviewing the Annual Report, Preliminary Budget, 2015 Audit, and wording on policy related to the 11th Tradition, Memorial Contributions, Group Contributions and Forum Sales. Continues work on the Task Force on meeting types - will be presenting their report at the WSC along with a workshop and skit. Assigned to a Task Force for 2016, “Spirituality in District Money Discussions “- first meeting will be at the WSC.
 - Diane reviewed the WSO Contribution list of all areas - 55.7% of NYN groups donated an average of \$54.19 per group to the WSO in 2015 for a total of \$14,480 compared to \$15,050 in 2014.

There are 15,237 groups in the US and Canada. A breakdown of WSO's expenses per group in 2015 was \$266.

- Attended NERD March 11-13 in Conn. with Ruth, IPD along with 43 current & past delegates from the North East. The Regional Trustee's report included WSO Finances & Budget Deficit, what to expect at Conference and plans for the 65th anniversary celebration. Diane presented a Timely Topic at NERD, "How to Increase Participation of Group Representatives at Area Assemblies". She wanted to share her concerns with other Delegates that NYN averages 85 voting members at each assembly out of 229 groups. Others do attend, however only GR's are able to vote. Policies, finances, and election of Officers and Coordinators are being decided by a small amount of representation. Diane was encouraged by other Delegates to celebrate those who do attend and to continue using the links of service to pass information on to the groups. NYN is not unique. Diane stated it was good to reach out for help rather than keep it to herself. Diane also shared at NERD on NYN's success at the NY State Fair Public Outreach booth.
- Diane stated she would like to continue NYN's Task Force on Dim and Dark Districts and would like to meet at the Spring Assembly. If interested let Diane know.
- The 2015 Fall Assembly & District 18 provided love gifts for Diane to take to the WSC.
- 7. **Two Minute Hot Topic Reports: Officers & Coordinators:** Reports on-line unless otherwise stated.
 - **Alternate Delegate/ Forum: Gwenne R.**
 - ✓ 2 new groups so far this year - Auburn, and Clifton Park.
 - **Immediate Past Delegate: Ruth**
 - ✓ Attended NERD with Diane in March and served as secretary for NERD. Having been secretary for NYN gave Ruth the confidence to volunteer last year.
 - **Chairperson: Susan A.**
 - ✓ Since the Fall Assembly attended NYNAC 2015 and arranged for the AWSC meeting. Has been working on the various NYN committees and is looking forward to the coming year of activity in NYN.
 - **Past Delegates and Past Trustee:** Nothing to report.
 - **Alateen: Walt S.**
 - ✓ Currently have 131 certified AMIAS in NYN. AMIAS Recertification for 2016 needs to be completed by June 30th. Plans to start up the Alateen Guidelines Review Committee (comprised of sponsors and teens) again to update the guidelines.
 - **Archives: Kevin M.** - no report – Deferred until assembly.
 - **Convention: Nancy H.**
 - ✓ Officers & Coordinators Room Reservations: Send Nancy your requirements and name(s) of roommates by 4/20. Send checks for roommates share to Linda A.
 - **Group Records: Lynda S.** - report not online
 - ✓ Gave a presentation with a hand-out on how to log on to the WSO Group Records database.

- ✓ Kevin M. suggested that the GR1 electronic form on the NYN web site have a statement to contact the District Rep. to advise when making changes. Gwenne suggested, as Alternate Delegate, each time she welcomes a new group she can advise the District Rep. and the AIS of the new group. She will add that to her Service Position Description.
- ✓ There was a suggestion to have someone actually log on the WSO database and review the process. Molly, District 12 Rep signed on and moved around to show all the information DR's see for each group, etc. as Lynda explained.
- **10 Minute break at 1:30 PM**
- **Literature: Cindy C.** not present no report
- **Newsletter: John O.** no report – Deferred until assembly
- **NYNAC: Bridget** - not present no report
- **Presentation: Sarah** not present- no report online
 - ✓ Sarah contacted Susan advising she would be out of town today. The presentation for Spring Assembly/Convention will be "Concept Quiz" and last about 1hr and 15 mins.
 - ✓ The host committee wants to work with Sarah to confirm times & adjusts panels so all in attendance will be able to participate.
- **Public Outreach: Pat H**
 - ✓ In the April Group E-News there is information and links with ideas for public outreach activities and also information on public outreach and social media.
 - ✓ *Why Anonymity in Al-Anon?* (P-33) pamphlet has been revised with information about anonymity at the level of the media - including social media.
 - ✓ Loretta from D17 stated that a Buffalo TV station ran an Al-Anon PSA.
 - ✓ Tim D1 stated they are working to get information on TV stations in the Buffalo area.
- **Website: Molly C.**
 - ✓ Updates NYN meeting information online, prepares minutes and reports for the website, maintains the NYN Online Events Calendar and responds to the NYN Contact Us emails. Has responded to 21 inquiries in 2016.
- 8. **AIS Reports and Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:**
 - **Western AIS** – not present no report
 - **Rochester AIS: Marcie**
 - ✓ The annual Tureen Supper raised over \$700. The AIS moved – see Rochester AIS website for location. A kickoff breakfast was held today.
 - ✓ Instituted "Musical Shares" - members going to other meetings and sharing
 - ✓ Looking for others to share historical information on fund raising ideas.
 - **Syracuse AIS: Kathi D.** report online
 - ✓ Voted to allow dual members to hold all positions except AIS Chair and Alternate Chair.
 - ✓ Working with Syracuse Behavioral Health educating counselors about Al-Anon and providing informational packets for the families of clients. Have provided SBH with

AFG's newest DVD, "Al-Anon and Alateen's Role in Family Recovery" to introduce the families to Al-Anon while providing a consistent message.

- **Suggestion: Loretta D17-** Suggested that AIS information be included in the Northern Hi Lights for all to read.
- **State Fair: Ruth S -**
 - ✓ NYN will be at the NY State Fair, Aug 25th thru Sept 5th 2016, located in the Science and Industry building. The committee met before the AWSC meeting and will provide updates for the Spring Assembly.
- **Insurance: Walt S.**
 - ✓ Agents don't want to compete with the estimate that was already given. Coverage for Del, Chair & Coordinators and events up to \$1M liability. Cost - \$2,781.00 for 1 year.
 - ✓ Q. Why is there are physical location of the Syracuse AIS on the estimate? A. Will look into that. Q. Would coverage include attendees of events? A. Will look into that.
- **Finance: Elaine R. -**
 - ✓ Finance committee has not received a financial report on NYNAC and will be offering assistance to help NYNAC Coordinator with the reporting.
 - ✓ Discussion occurred regarding the 2016 budget that was reported in the Treasurer's report relevant to 2 line items (NYNAC seed money and Delegate Equalized expense) and if a revised 2016 budget should be presented. Consensus was to leave budget as approved at the 2015 Fall Assembly.
- **Web: Kathi D.**
 - ✓ Looking at Joomla 2.5 or 3.0. Need capabilities so page layout can accommodate different screen sizes and different display devices. (Cell phone, tablet or laptop)
- **Members Involved in Service who are Unable to Effectively Fulfill the Responsibilities of the Position: Pam A.**
 - ✓ Committee presented a guideline for recommendation that outlined a procedure to follow when concerns regarding the performance of any NYN Area Officer or Coordinator arise.
 - ✓ Discussion. Some felt the guideline was too harsh and unnecessary because we are volunteers. Others felt the document incorporated Al-Anon's Traditions and Concepts of Service and that a guideline was needed to refer to when issues arise and trusted servants are not doing the job they were elected and trusted to do.
 - ✓ Committee will take back and modify.
- **Expanding our Vision of AWSC- Pam A.**
 - ✓ Committee's first meeting directly after today's AWSC meeting. Pooled the committee to see if all agreed to have AWSC members complete a short survey on what type of things would be beneficial to them in their positions. Committee agreed.
 - ✓ Survey was circulation and collected, results to be tabulated and communicated.

9. **Host of Fall Spring 2018 Assembly:**

- ✓ District 15 is considering and will know by 2016 Fall Assembly.

10. **Additional Items :**

➤ **Immediate Past Delegate Service Position Responsibility update.**

- ✓ Ruth S. IPD would like to add the following to the Service Position responsibilities of the IPD. The Immediate Past Delegate will chair the NY State Fair Public Outreach Committee.
- ✓ Anne F stated that this could done for a trial period to see if it worked.
- ✓ Discussion: Some members felt the AWSC could vote to update the service position description, others felt all changes in the service position descriptions need to be voted on by the Assembly.
- ✓ That discussion lead to a discussion on what does the AWSC have ability to vote on independently without taking to assembly and what needs to go to the assembly.
- ✓ **A general consensus was taken to put the IPD service position responsibility update on the agenda for the Spring Assembly.**
- ✓ **A consensus was also taken to look into the roles of the AWSC and the roles of the assembly as part of the Improving the AWSC committee.**

➤ **NYN Sound System:**

- ✓ Through-out the meeting members in the back of the room said they were unable to hear. Kathi D. stated Dist. 21 borrowed the sound system and one of them speakers blew. She is looking to have it repaired. Walt S. can borrow a portable system for AWSC meetings until NYN's system gets fixed.

➤ **Spring Assembly agenda items:**

- ✓ **Host for 2018 Fall Assembly**
- ✓ **Area Inventory:** per NYN Policy an Area Inventory will be done once every 3 years at the 2nd Spring Convention/Assembly after elections.
- ✓ **Officer & Coordinator "My Service Position" Presentations:** Each Officer & Coordinator conducts a Service Workshop or presentation relevant to their position once during their 3 year term. Please sign-up with Susan for your presentation.
- ✓ **AWSC meeting:** 8:00 PM Friday
- ✓ **New GR meeting:** 8:00 – 9:00 AM Saturday
- ✓ **Assembly Time:** Start 9:00 AM needs to end by 4:30 PM

➤ **Announcements: Various announcements were made regarding Days of Sharing and District announcements.** See website & NHL for more info.

11. **Adjournment:** Motion to close meeting @ 4:25 PM by Walt S. Alateen 2nd by Louise F. D18. Passed by Voice Vote.

Closing: Al-Anon Alateen Declaration – Let it begin with me. When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there and let it begin with me.