**CONNECTICUT AREA ASSEMBLY**

**MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 6, 2021**

Meeting was opened at 10:45 a.m. by Chairperson, Elaine M., leading the assembly with the Serenity Prayer. Janet S.-DR1 and Leslie S.-DR 13 welcomed everyone to the assembly. Janet S. read “*How Am I a Link of Service.”* Designated individuals were called upon to recite the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts.

Secretary Taffy P. took attendance and announced our AA guests and Al-Anon’s past delegates. There was a total of 157 participants,

Elaine M. thanked everyone who attended, the outgoing DRs and coordinators, Districts 13 & 1 for hosting, and the Tech Team, who shared the screen with Assembly etiquettes.

**Secretary’s Report:** Taffy P. requested any changes to the June Assembly’s minutes and then asked for a motion to accept those minutes as presented. Jim H.-GR District 1made the motion; seconded by Jackie B.-GR District 4. Motion carries by 94% yes, 0 no, and 6% abstaining.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Jackie B. reminded DRs to make sure that all contributions need to have District # and Group # included when sending in Area donations. Also, to pass out spreadsheets to their groups with WSO contributions. Year to date expenses and income were reviewed.

Month ending October 31, 2021

Income received $2,401.48

Less expenses ($5,125.89)

Difference \*\*(2,724.41)

\*\* Area’s cash balance is $38,014.55

Reserve Fund guidelines were read. Motion to approve the budget as presented was made by Jim H. GR District 1; seconded by Cathy T GR District 1. Motion carried with 94% yes, 0 no, 2% abstaining.

**Delegate’s Report:** Marcia M. is hopeful to once again meet face to face and keeping fingers crossed to attend her first in-person World Service Conference (WSC). The 2022 theme is “**Enhancing Our Recovery through Abundance, Unity, and Understanding”** Her next Literature Committee assignment is to help develop a new preface to “One Day At A Time” to put into historical perspective.

WSO News

* October 2021 Chairperson of the Board letter will be out shortly. She will be attending a WebEx meeting later today to go over the letter and ask questions about content.
* WSO is working closely with suppliers to replenish literature that is out of stock due to paper shortage, staff issues and shipping delays.
* “Cooking with Concepts” was included in her report and will be sent out again.
* WSO Literature committee is still looking for sharings from Alateen members for new Alateen “Just For Tonight” bookmark

Area News

* Call for resumes for Public Outreach coordinator. Please send resume by November 27, 2021.
* She thanked all the out-going DRs for a fabulous job and hoped that they will continue to serve.

**30 minute Break**

Taffy P. took a district voting count. 97 participants were voting members.

**2022 Proposed Budget:** Jackie read a sharing of how to apply Al-Anon principles to finances. She reviewed the procedure for creating our Area budget and gave a detailed description of each line item. She took time to answer any questions members may have had and asked coordinators to assist if she didn’t know the answer. It was agreed to have a simple majority vote. Carol D. GR District 8 moved to accept the proposed budget as presented; seconded by Mike B. GR District 8. Motion carried 94 -yes, 3 -no and no abstentions.

**Vote for Alternate Delegate:** Again, Elaine M. reviewed the eligibility requirements for this position. A 2/3 vote is required for this position. Linda P. DR District 2 read her resume, as did Katie D., formerly a DR and currently on the BOD. Votes were 69-Katie D and 23-Linda P. Katie had achieved 2/3 majority.

**Alateen Coordinator:** Lisa G. informed the assembly that during October’s Alateen Awareness month, three meeting opened and newcomers/Al-Anon members attended. Five Alateen meetings have gone back to in person, three are offering hybrid. She encouraged all Al-Anon members with teens in need to send them to Alateen.

Gail L and Aimee L. will be the Alateen liaison for the 2022 Al-Anon Convention. Peter K and Scott D. will represent CAWW. There was an AMIAS Work group formed to focus on PO for Alateen. They will bring ideas and concepts back to the Alateen sponsors.

**2022 Convention Chair**: Martha N. reported that progress is moving forward for the March 19 virtual convention. Next convention meeting is scheduled for November 21 and will be finalizing their budget.

In October, the committee selected and voted on the logo for the theme, ***Where Hope Grows—Miracles Bloom.*** Save the date flier is on the CT webpage. She encouraged everyone to talk up the convention and Serenity Breakfast.

All chair and co-chair position are filled with the exceptions of AA Co-chair. They will be having a raffle this year.

**2022 Convention Co-Chair**: Deborah C. stated that t flier was sent out prior to the Assembly with information about the Virtual Serenity Breakfast, which will be held on Sunday, January 23, 2022 at 10 a.m. Another flier will follow in December to include instructions and a link for registration and on our website. A free raffle for all who register by January 21. They have speakers from AA, Alateen and Al-Anon. Deborah will also be sending out a post event questionnaire to members for feedback.

**LDC Finance Committee:** Carol D. read the absent Ron S. report. The LDC account balance as of September 2021 is $9,623.47. The pandemic continues to suppress the financial activity at our Literature Distribution Center (LDC). Reduction of staff and business hours has allowed the us to maintain services while realigning the costs of operations. The Finance Committee thanked the many individuals and groups who have made contributions. To date the contributions total $2,269). Ron welcomed the two new Finance Committee members: Ron M. – District 3 and Karen V. – District 5.

**Phone Service:** Sharon B. introduced herself as our new Answering Service coordinator. Our phone service is a toll-free line that forwards any call to Al-Anon members. It appears that most people seeking help go to the internet first. Those who get calls for AA are given the AA toll-free number. However, they will be anticipating a rise in call due to the holidays and people’s new year’s resolutions, particularly Spanish-speaking or bi-lingual members.

Sharon stated in her resume just how important the phone service is to those in need of help.

**Website Coordinator:** Newly elected Robert T. thanked our former website coordinator, Deanna S. for her support while assuming this new position. His first order of business will be learning on the job to get a better grasp of his responsibilities and honing his technical skills.

**Public Outreach (PO) Coordinator:** Kathe L-B presented the new WSO Public Service Announcement (PSA) *The Benefits of Al-Anon Recovery*. Her committee has contracted to have the new PSA aired in Connecticut during November, December and January. It is expected to be delivered to approximately 243,000 people in Connecticut. The committee is also working with Hearst Media to have Al-Anon information printed in the December issue of CT Magazine. PO always needs district and group support. Publicoutreach@ctalanon.org has posters in English and Spanish, business cards, pens and ***Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism.***

Kathe’s term will end December 31, 2021. She encouraged members to please consider this service position. Next Area PO meeting is Tuesday, November 16 at 7 pm via Zoom.

**Board of Directors Report:** was presented by Board president Carol D. She announced that they are looking for new members to join in 2022. Qualifications, resume procedures and resume forms are on website under **Members and BOD.** Presently LDC is open for pickups on Tuesdays from 9:30-3:30 p.m. The BOD is grateful for all groups and individuals who have sent donations for the LDC. Since Dawn, past manager, was offered a fill-time position with the state, Carol wanted to thank Deborah C and Catherine R. for being a regular volunteer. A new manager is currently in the process of being hired.

Elaine M. thanked everyone for their reports. A motion was made by Marianne P GR District 2 to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Fran L. District 9. Motion carried.

Elaine M. closed with the Al-Anon Declaration at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taffy P.

AWSC Secretary