

Area Assembly

Meeting Minutes
AFG Area 22_LA
Saturday, January 18, 2020

**** UNAPPROVED MINUTES ****

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Louisiana Area Assembly was held at the Alexandria Convention Center on Saturday, January 18, 2020, at 11:10 a.m., in Alexandria, LA. Angela A., Chairperson, was absent, so Alyson M., Alternate Chair, opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. She then read the Area 22 Assembly Mission Statement: The mission of the Louisiana AFG Area Assembly is to foster and support participation in service for Al-Anon and interest in the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts; to provide opportunities for groups to associate with other groups; to inform about the activities and service in our region; and to maintain representation to and from the World Service Conference (WSC).

Alyson asked for volunteers to read Al-Anon's Twelve Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service.

Alyson made pertinent announcements, including the remaining dates of the 2020 Assembly weekends: April 4-5; August 15-16; and November 7-8. She then asked all newcomers to Assembly to stand and introduce themselves.

Rachel B., Area Secretary, asked for any corrections to the unapproved minutes from Saturday, November 2, 2019. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Naomi D., Group Representative (GR), and seconded by Randy W., GR.

OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer's report: Hope L., Treasurer

Alternate Delegate's report: Eric N., Alternate Delegate

Alternate Delegate Eric N. reminded members of the afternoon's workshop and evening speaker. He encouraged members to sign up to speak and lead workshops using the sign-up boards posted at the rear of the Assembly meeting room.

Delegate's report: Tammy M., Delegate

- ◆ Thanks from the World Service Office (WSO) to all members; budgeted goal for contributions for 2019 was \$2,050,000, and finalized unaudited amount as of December 31, 2019, was \$2,185,790. Much appreciation to all the fellowship, because without you WSO would not have made the goal.
- ◆ Sharings for the New Daily Reader are requested and are as follows: Abundance, Abuse, Concept 2, Concept 6, Concept 7, Concept 8, Concept 11, Conference Approved Literature, Finances/money, General Warranties, Respect, Responsibility, Sex, Shame, Spirituality, Tradition 6, Tradition 8, Tradition 9, Trust, Unity

- ◆ Updated Service Manuals will soon be available to purchase

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

State Convention: Duke H., Convention Chair

The DoubleTree is saving July 17, 18, and 19, 2020, for us. We are working on a new contract. In years past, we used four sections of the grand ballroom for speakers and the dance. This year, at Kay B.'s (immediate past Convention Chair) suggestion, we will use three sections instead of four. This will reduce our costs. Additionally, in years past, we had the banquet upstairs in a section of the grand ballroom and a hospitality space downstairs. This year, we asked the DoubleTree to move the hospitality space into the banquet space. This will allow folks to grab a cup of coffee or a snack without waiting for the elevator to go downstairs then waiting for the elevator to return upstairs to the speaker space. Less time in elevators means more time for fellowship. Finally, the chef plans to meet with us to determine the best menu. He will also prepare some sample dishes for us. This will help us find choices that are more appealing to convention attendees.

We plan to offer five (or more) workshops this year. Suggested topics, thus far, are: (1) Twelve Steps, (2) Twelve Traditions, (3) Twelve Concepts, (4) how to write an article for *The Forum*, and (5) how to start an Alateen group (to be led by Alateen members). It has been suggested the workshops have two co-chairs who share for 10 minutes each to introduce a topic then ask workshop participants to share their experience, strength, and hope on the topic. It has been suggested, as well, that we offer each workshop twice, so that folks can participate more.

Advances in online meeting technology allow us to have committee members from around the state. This is working in Tennessee. I recently sat in as a "silent observer" on a meeting of the Memphis Convention. The process was similar to other meetings that I have attended: reports were given, questions were asked, etc. For folks in Lafayette, I will arrange for a physical meeting space to gather. Those in other locales may meet with us online or by phone.

When folks register online this year, we want to provide a way for them to sign-up to volunteer. It has been suggested that we have a page that describes the volunteer opportunities (e.g., registration, literature table, raffle tickets, workshop co-chair, etc.) so that they can better match their interests with opportunities that are available.

In years past, the co-chair of the committee served as The Voice. This year, that will be a separate role. This will free the co-chair to focus on the overall convention.

We plan to offer a paper survey and an online survey to convention participants this year. This will help us know what worked (and didn't) to help us plan for 2021.

GR Meeting report: Carmen O., GR Meeting Coordinator

Newcomer Orientation: Angelique L., Newcomer Orientation Coordinator

District Representatives (DR) Meeting report: Sylvia G., past Delegate

Sylvia G., Past Delegate of Panel 51 was asked to facilitate the meeting. The goal is to educate, educate, educate. There were 14 District Representatives (DRs) present. "Guidelines

for District Representatives” (G-37) was reviewed and “Guidelines for District Meetings” (G-15) will be discussed at the next Area Assembly. There was sharing of ideas and the DRs were asked to be prepared to share more of the ideas that they not only have, but have been doing in their individual districts. Assignments were as follows: Saturday Morning Al-Anon/Alateen Meeting District #12, Saturday Morning Registration District #14, Al-Anon/Alateen Night Owl Meeting District #6, Sunday Morning Al-Anon/Alateen Meeting District #10, Sunday Morning Registration District #9/District #8, Serving Team A District #15, and Serving Team B District #19.

South Central Regional Delegates Meeting (SCRDM) report: Clara E., past Delegate

The South Central Regional Delegates Meeting (SCRDM) will be held the first weekend in March, March 6, 7, & 8, in Wichita, Kansas. The purpose of the meeting is to acquaint and prepare the new Delegates for the WSC that they will be attending in April 2020. Current and past delegates are voting members; any Al-Anon member may attend.

At the present time, Carmen O'M, Sylvia G., Clif B., Clara E., Gail F. (past delegates), and Eric as Alternate Delegate, plan to attend. Jay P. and Angela A. do not plan to attend.

In 2021, Louisiana will host the SCRDM in a city to be announced.

In the "new business" section of today's meeting, we will be seeking confirmation for partial financial support to the 2020 SCRDM. (Either full or partial financial support for the past delegates has had annual approval by the Assembly.)

ACTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Group Services Committee: Mary F., Group Records Coordinator

Fellowship Communications Committee: Duke H., Convention Chair (immediate past La Treasure Chest (LATC) Editor)

Membership Outreach Committee: Angelique L., Newcomer Orientation Coordinator

Public Outreach Committee: Patsy G., Public Outreach Coordinator

Budget & Finance Committee: Lisa A., Budget & Finance Coordinator—absent, no report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Alyson M., Alternate Chair

- ◆ Trial Assembly weekend schedule: this is the last weekend of the trial (Motion 2019-01), so the Assembly needs to decide to keep the new schedule, go back to the old one, or continue with the trial.

Motion 2020-01:

Matter under consideration: Area 22 Assembly Weekend Schedule

Wording of Motion: to continue the trial schedule from Motion #2019-01 for the rest of the year 2020

Motion made by: Hope L., GR; *seconded by:* Angelique L., GR

41 voting GRs; yes: 40, no: 1; abstain: 0

Motion passed

- ◆ Clara E.: Louisiana is hosting the 2021 SCRDM; past Delegates will make arrangements for location, venue, etc. Please support us emotionally and financially.

NEW BUSINESS: Alyson M., Alternate Chair

- ◆ Signatories on LA AFG, Inc., checking account:

Motion 2020-02:

Matter under consideration: Rescind Motion 97-02 dated 03-07-97, Checking Account Authorization

Wording of Motion: Rescind Motion 97-02 dated 03-07-97 “A checking account will be opened requiring two (2) signatures for the check to be valid. The Area Officers, Chairman, Co-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer will be authorized”

Motion made by: Pebble B., GR; *seconded by:* Paul H., GR

41 voting GRs; yes: 32, no: 8; abstain: 1

Motion passed, Motion 97-02 rescinded

- ◆ Matter under consideration: requiring only one signature on checks and who will be authorized to sign them. No motion made, Eric N. will begin a KBDM document, and the policy at the bank requiring two signatures will not be changed until there is a motion to do so
- ◆ SCRDM funds for Alternate Delegate and immediate past Delegate

Motion 2020-03:

Matter under consideration: SCRDM

Wording of Motion: The Area Assembly shall fund the expenses of the Alternate Delegate and the immediate past Delegate to a maximum of \$500 each annually

Motion made by: Clara E., GR; *seconded by:* Allan L., GR

40 voting GRs; yes: 39, no: 1; abstain: 0

Motion passed

- ◆ SCRDM funds for active past Delegates (excluding immediate past Delegate)

Motion 2020-04:

Matter under consideration: SCRDM

Wording of Motion: The LA Area Assembly shall reimburse each past active Delegate attending the SCRDM to a maximum of \$250.00 annually

Motion made by: Clara E., GR; *seconded by:* Paul H., GR

40 voting GRs; yes: 23, no: 17; abstain: 0

Motion passed

Alternate Chair's report: Alyson M., Alternate Chair

- ◆ AA is determining where we will have Assembly beginning in 2021; there was only one bid submitted, and it is in Lafayette
- ◆ DR Assignments:
 - ♣ Saturday morning meeting: Melissa B. (District 12)
 - ♣ Saturday morning registration: Allan L. (District 14)
 - ♣ Serving Food Team A: Danielle H. (District 13)
 - ♣ Serving Food Team B: Charlotte B. and Jane S. (District 19)
 - ♣ Saturday Night Owl Meeting: Rebecca P. (District 6)
 - ♣ Sunday Morning Meeting: Susan A. (District 10)
 - ♣ Sunday Morning Registration: Kay B. (District 9) & Mary F. (District 8)

Assembly was closed with the Al-Anon Declaration, followed by the Lord's Prayer.