

The Chairman, G.W., opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

2016 Area Assembly Dates: April 9 & 10; August 20 & 21; Nov 19 & 20

Officer Reports

Secretary's Report – Bob H. November 2015 Business meeting notes emailed and reviewed. Lucy H made a motion to accept November 2015 minutes, seconded by Sara M, approved as written.

Treasurer's Report – Jan V. provided Treasurer's report for review. Checking account balance as of September 30, 2015: \$22,367.97; Net Income: \$316.88; Balance on Dec 31, 2015 of \$22,684.85; Less the Reserve of \$4,000.00; Less Alateen Fundraiser money \$292.89; Less SCRDM Seed money of \$450.00; Cash On Hand of \$17,941.96.

Alternate Delegate's Report – Carmen O. Thank you to Sara M. for sharing her story on Saturday night. Topic for next workshop is TBD. We are working on the Invitation and preparations to our WSO visitor, coming in November 2016.

Delegate's Report – Angela A. Thank you to everyone that attended the Information Forum on Saturday. Please visit the Delegates Blog on our state website to review all the information presented. Angela will only be in attendance on Saturday of the April 2016 Assembly before flying off to attend the World Service Conference. Thank you for all beads mailed out to represent the fun we all have here in Louisiana, they are a hit at Conference. Thank you for everyone participating in the Al-Anon Survey. There will be a Meet the Board event October 22, 2016 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Be sure to read your Forums! Beginning in March 2016, there will be no more free Forums mailed to your groups, please continue to support our Forum with a yearly mailed or online subscription. Policy updates (to the Al-Anon manual) made at last year's Conference are available to download and paste into your Service manual. (Located at <http://al-anon.org/members/service-structure/area-resources/item/401-al-anon-and-alateen-service-manual>) Become familiar with your Al-Anon member website! So much information is freely available.

Special Committee Reports

Newcomer Committee – Cindy D.

Great conversation about links of service and purpose of GR's. 2 newcomers and 1 new GR were in attendance.

Convention – Erica F.

The 2016 LA AFG Convention will be July 7th, 8th & 9th at the DoubleTree by Hilton on 1521 West Pinhook Road in Lafayette. We are excited to explore this new location with all of you this year! 2. The rate for a standard double room is \$89/night & king rooms are \$99/night.

These rates are only valid if you book under the LA AFG Convention block rate by July 1st. The number to call & reserve your room is (337) 233-6815. a. The Convention gets a \$25 credit against the cost of the venue each night a room is booked under the LA AFG Convention block rate, so please tell your groups that this is a great way to support the Convention & experience non-stop Al-Anon fellowship all weekend!!! b. Hospitality will be changing, as no hotels but the Ramada will allow outside food & drink on their premises. However, room rates for standard double rooms will decrease, allowing others to use the discount to fund meals, & there are a lot of restaurants in the immediate area at varying price ranges. Please note that dry snacks (whole fruit, packaged goodies, coffee, & water) will continue to be available in this room. Feel free to use it as a fellowshiping area while enjoying the view of the Vermilion River. c. More details will be given by the April Assembly, when we will hand out Convention Packets containing the Convention brochure, raffle tickets, etc. to GRs & DRs. 3. Claire D. did a fabulous job of rounding up all of the creative theme suggestions everyone submitted for this year's Convention. The winning theme will be decided by group conscience at the LA AFG Convention Planning Meeting on January 30, 2015. Once the decision has been made, the theme will be added to the website, announced at the next Assembly, & a Forum subscription will be awarded if the theme is chosen from the list of suggestions received. 4. The current balance in the LA AFG Convention checking account is \$18,299.76. We are happy to report that the Convention will be fully self-supporting in the event of an emergency in which no one is able to attend, but Convention-related expenses still need to be paid. This is aligned with Warranty One of Concept Twelve, which reads "that only sufficient operating funds, including an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle." 5. LA AFG Convention Committee member job qualifications & duties were updated & sent to Cindy D. so that she will be able to update the LA AFG Procedures Digest.

GR Meeting Report – Jay P. We have a great group of GR's. Some things considered as the most important in Al-Anon are, Participation in Al-Anon Service, giving back and to others the feeling of Fellowship we receive. Next Assembly will be a combined GR and DR meeting!

Action Committee Reports:

Group Services – Kathleen F. We had 10 members present. We have embarked over the past years to improve participation in the Assembly, our efforts have not seen an increase in participation; so to adjust our efforts we will be mailing requests to groups to update their information with us.

Fellowship Communication – Dave K. We had 15 members present. We reviewed the section in our Service Manual on the use of CAL and also discussed how we work that in our groups.

Membership Outreach – Elaine B. We had 8 members present. We passed around requests for the Name the Convention contest and had lots of submissions. We will also be making tent cards for the Convention. The Budget worksheets were also passed out in our local groups. We have created peelable stickers with all of our different state websites for Al-Anon.

Public Outreach – Elizabeth T. We had 14 members present. We were presented with lots of valuable information from an employee from a local TV station. As Public Outreach is provided a budgeted amount of money, goals and ideas were discussed on how to best spend that money to increase Public Outreach. Still under consideration is a Louisiana Al-Anon Facebook

page and a Twitter account to utilize electronic means to perform Public Outreach under the direction of the Public Outreach committee.

Unfinished Business:

Update on Twitter and Social Media. A new pamphlet is been published by WSO to provide Social Media guidance. Social Media is encouraged. Please encourage group discussions on whether or not Social Media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter would like to be used to share information and workshops in our state. The Public Outreach committee will follow suggested guidelines from WSO on safe use.

New Business:

Motion 16-01 was made by Clara E, seconded by Claire D. titled, "Increase reserve of LA Area Assembly (from \$4000 to \$9000)" With 38 voting GR's, with 36 for and 2 against, motion 16-01 passed.

Motion 16-02 was made by Claire D., seconded by Clara E. titled "Annual Net Income Donation to WSO"(Giving previous year end's net income to WSO after treasurers report approved at beginning of year, starting with 2015 net income.) With 38 voting GR's, with 37 for and 1 against, motion 16-02 passed.

Assembly Report

Alternate Chair Report – Kay B.

29 Rooms were used this Assembly; Please consider visiting other group meetings throughout the state, particularly groups that haven't been in attendance at our Assembly. Assignments for April 2016: Sat. morning meeting is District 16; Saturday morning registration is District 7; Lunch Team Serving team A is District 2 & 9, Team B is District 6; Night Owl Meeting Saturday is District 5; Sunday morning meeting is District 7; Sunday morning registration is District 15; Silent Auction is District 14; Sweets are District 10 and Salts are District 19. The Spirit Stick went to District 10, with 13 members present! Watch out next year as the Assembly will be in Lafayette, who will get the spirit stick next year?!

Meeting was closed with a few moments of silence to allow time for personal prayer followed by the AI-Anon Declaration