

Area Assembly

Meeting Minutes
AFG Area 22_LA
Saturday, November 2, 2019

**** UNAPPROVED MINUTES ****

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Louisiana Area Assembly was held at the Alexandria Convention Center on Saturday, August 17, 2019, at 11:12 a.m., in Alexandria, LA. Tammy M., Chairperson, opened the meeting with a few moments 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).

Tammy asked all new Group Representatives (GRs) to stand to be welcomed by the Assembly. She then asked for volunteers to read Al-Anon's Twelve Traditions and Concepts of Service.

Tammy made pertinent announcements, including the dates of the 2020 Assembly weekends: January 18-19; April 4-5; August 15-16; and November 7-8.

Rachel B., Area Secretary, asked if all Group Representatives (GRs) received a copy of the unapproved minutes from Saturday, August 17, 2019. She asked for corrections; none were made. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Heidi H., GR, and seconded by Amy B., GR.

OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer's report: Eric N., Treasurer

Revenue for the third quarter was \$4,017. Expenses were \$3,725, leaving a net income of \$292. The beginning balance on July 1, 2019, was \$12,076, and the ending balance on September 30, 2019, was \$12,368. After subtracting the reserve of \$9,000, Alateen fundraiser funds of \$90, and South Central Regional Delegates Meeting (SCRDM) seed money of \$450 from the ending balance, the remaining cash on hand was \$2,828.

A few special requests:

- ◆ Please register at Area Assembly with cash.
- ◆ Please submit late Area World Service Committee (AWSC) expense reports by US postal mail with a self-addressed stamped envelope inside.
- ◆ Please ask your group treasurers to write the group's name and World Service Office (WSO) ID number on contribution checks. It's important to have both pieces of information.
- ◆ Most importantly, please ask your group treasurers to mail contributions to the correct Area treasurer. The Area treasurer's name and address will change on January 1, 2020. The correct name and address are always posted in the Members section of the state website.

Alternate Delegate's report: GW, Alternate Delegate—absent, no report

Alternate Chairperson's report: Cindy D., Alternate Chairperson

AA has requested that we keep a hotel night count again so they can be sure we are getting credit for the rooms we use. Also AA is entertaining bids for LA Area Assembly for 2021/2022. They will be voting on where to go or stay in January of 2020. Molly (AA Chair) will keep Alyson informed as things move forward.

Delegate's report: Carmen O., Delegate

- ◆ If anyone has the Service Profile from last Assembly to turn in please do so.
- ◆ Calendars: Proposal, 250, how many, prepay-submitted to Chairperson
- ◆ Knowledge-based Decision Making (KBDM) on Alateen: Drafting KBDM on Alateen: Strengthening Minimum Safety Requirements-WSO will not do this because of variances in laws per state. I have heard concerns which lead to controversy. Our preamble and 10th tradition guide us in this area "No Controversy". I listened to all voices, the minority and worldwide Al-Anon experience. My hope is to have this to present so it can be on the agenda for next Assembly. Our Area Assembly is responsible for ALL Alateen!
- ◆ Vision & Successes of LA Panel 57: We met as officers and as individuals to know each other personally to place Tradition Twelve principles above personalities. We did this multiple times to each identify a vision for our individual leadership roles. Previously officers' meetings were short, and rushed with no time for in depth discussions.
 - ♣ Our Assembly now has its own insurance.
 - ♣ We have a trustee to visit and educated folks more on Trustee, Trustee at Large
 - ♣ Welcomed newcomers to Assembly in a special way expanding our link of service
 - ♣ Celebrated Alateen's 60th Anniversary
 - ♣ Our Al-Anon officers and AA officers have had several lunch meetings to live Tradition Six fostering co-operation between the fellowships.
 - ♣ Workshop on Spiritual Principles in our Financial Matters-Spirituality and Finances! Tradition Six "lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our spiritual aim."
 - ♣ AMAZING Conventions! Hospitality!!
 - ♣ KBDM!!
 - ♣ Tradition Two Successful Rotation of Secretary!
 - ♣ Inventories of all levels: Officers, AWSC, Assembly
 - ♣ Concerns: Elephant in the Living Room-Alateen/Deep-South Alateen Conference (D-SAC); Financial Concerns downward spiral at all levels: local, Assembly, Convention and & WSO.
 - ♣ JOY in service: tossing Beach Balls with the Beach Boys, Dancing! Music! Rap! OZ-Freedom
 - ♣ GRunco!!!
- ◆ Once again there are not enough words or time to give my most sincere and loving gratitude to you all! Your loving texts, support, concern, trusted confidence, respectful and courteous listening, love gifts, hugs. You are amazing-just the way you are!

COORDINATOR & SPECIAL REPORTSNewcomer Orientation: Jane S., Newcomer Orientation Coordinator

There were seven newcomers at the Newcomers Orientation. The group went through the orientation booklet. It was emphasized to use the website often to find information regarding Assembly business and general Al-Anon information.

State Convention: Kay B., Convention Chair—absent, report given by Mary F., Associate Public Outreach Coordinator

While we wait for our new Area Delegate to appoint the new State Convention Chairman, we would like to update you on the status of next year's convention. The DoubleTree has given us some lower-priced options (less space reserved) and the Wyndham has begun to look like a real possibility. The last group that held a function drew over 500 people – and were allowed to bring in food to feed the attendees. The new Convention Chairman, along with the committee members, will be looking at these locations, as well as possibly a few others, and will bring their decision to the first 2020 Assembly. Be thinking about a theme – you can send your suggestions to convention@la-al-anon.org.

Some of you would make great convention committee members – please be thinking of what you might like to do!

GR Meeting report: Angela A., GR Meeting Coordinator

This was our last GR Meeting of the current term. It was conducted as a joint meeting with the DRs due to this being an election Assembly. Initially, we had approximately 45 members in attendance; additional members joined us at the close of the Newcomer's meeting. During the first half of the meeting we conducted at study of Tradition Twelve; we revisited locating KBDM documents on the webpage; we reiterated the need for voting GRs to provide their signed voting designation forms today. Then we shared experience, strength, and hope around securing our successors for the new term, and we reflected upon how quickly three years fly by in Service! For the second half of the meeting each of the past, current, and incoming DRs from each District who are eligible to stand for Area Officer positions were asked to introduce themselves to the voting GRs.

South Central Regional Delegates Meeting (SCRDM) report: Tammy M., Chairperson

The next SCRDM will be held March 6-8, 2020, in Kansas.

ACTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance Committee: Dave K., Budget & Finance Coordinator

We had all five members present.

I successfully filed our Louisiana Nonprofit status report with the Secretary of State's office.

We discussed ways to reduce spending where possible. GW researched our spending patterns over the last 3 years and we went over this data.

Group Services Committee: Heidi H., Group Records Coordinator

Eleven people were in attendance at this meeting.

Discussions included:

- ◆ Alateen showing up at Al-Anon meetings and being turned away. The service manual recommends to let them in.
- ◆ Also, Alateens and Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) may not be getting info about Assembly. I don't have access to contact info for AMIAS, but DRs do according to Danielle. Maybe they could forward the schedule and agenda to them.

- ◆ We had Bunco in August and 32 people played the game, while 36 people joined us for dinner. We put out a donation “basket” to defray the cost of the pizza to the Assembly and it was very successful!

There was no Archive report, as the coordinator arrived later in the day.

Fellowship Communications Committee: Duke H., LATC Editor

Membership Outreach Committee: Jane S., Newcomer Orientation Coordinator—no report

Public Outreach Committee: Angelique L., Public Outreach Coordinator

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Tammy M., Chair

- ◆ Danielle H. started a KBDM document on Safety in Al-Anon Groups. It has been posted to the members’ page of the Area website (password: serenity): <https://www.la-al-anon.org/kbdom.html>; please read and post your comments to the document.
- ◆ Rachel B.: KBDM on possible Area 22 Policies & Procedures Handbook is still on the website; please read it and email any additions or questions about it to secretary@la-al-anon.org

NEW BUSINESS: Tammy M., Chair

Election of Area Delegate and Officers for 2020-2021:

Delegate: Tammy M.

Alternate Delegate: Eric N.

Chairperson: Angela A.

Alternate Chairperson: Alyson M.

Secretary: Rachel B.

Treasurer: Hope L.

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