**PO Minutes for ZOOM Meeting of January 8, 2024 @ 5pm**

**Attendees:** Joy, Jan, Nell, Gene, Susan T, Susan B, Marian, Margaret, Diane T, Linda, Jenny, Cathy W **Opening**: Serenity prayer led by Jan S.

**Minutes:** Cathy submitted the minutes from the December meeting prior to the meeting; no changes.

**Treatment Centers** **and Event Happenings**

* Joy added info to the Google doc list for the Professional packets. Has new contacts at Preferred Health (Ashley), and Marie C at a nearby behavioral health facility. She will follow up with these contacts.
* Margaret reports Al-Anon members are still going to the Bridgeway facility in person for informational meetings. Harris House zoom meetings continue and are every other month. Has emailed both groups to be sure they will continue in 2024. Margaret has contacted Sheila at Center Pointe to meet with her regarding the possibility of meetings at the facility.
* Diane T continues to visit Hyland Center monthly for informational meetings. Reports previously donated literature to this site has been used/taken by the clients!

**Budget**

* The remaining PO funds of 2023 will be rolled over to the 2024 budget.
* A new table has been purchased for PO in Dec 2023; call the office if you need to use it.

**Digital/Board Liaison**

* Gene shared the PO budget for 2024 will be $1000 as agreed to by the Board.

**Old Business**

* Professional packets were distributed at the workshop this past weekend by Susan C. Cathy will contact those that did not pick up their packet and make arrangements for p/u. Margaret shared she made smaller separate packets with the info and attached the business cards to each one for distribution to sites/individuals. Cathy shared more business cards and/or posters are available at the office. Jenny would like to know the contents of the professional packets; Cathy will share this info with her via email.
* Tablecloths: Joy clarified the Al-Anon logo can’t be used on tablecloths but the WSO website may be shown on the tablecloth. The PO group discussed the need for lettering to be consistent on all tablecloths. Joy will research this further regarding the cost for embroidery; she may have pics of a completed tablecloth to share with the committee. Margaret has an individual who may be willing to make tablecloths for other districts; cost would be approx. $38. She will update the group on this.

**New Business:**

* Margaret shared the PO Budget for D17 has increased to $350 for 2024 - was $75 previously! A Spring Market Fair will be held at a local high school in D17; Margaret will share the info when available. Margaret contacted the St. Charles Resource Booklet Guide and requested for Al-Anon/Alanon info to be shared on the mental health resource page and they agreed to do this.
* Joy questioned the possibility of the PO committee making packets with Alateen info such as what was used in the Professional and Back to School packets. Joy also suggested these packets could be available where Alateen meetings are to attract others; also, the packet could be shared at treatment centers. The committee agreed this was a great idea. Cathy will do research and report back to the group. Joy reports there will be a PO presentation at the SMART meeting later in January.
* Suzee B has been attending Jefferson County Health Department meetings and as a result, Al-Anon info will be listed in their two resource guides. Suzee will check into the possibility of having this info in the StL County Resource Guide.
* Nell shared Alateen info at the DART meeting in her district, this generated interest with the kids. She suggests Alateen kids could be present at the meetings to share on Alateen.
* The new Alateen meeting in Jefferson County is going well and there are new members weekly as reported by Carole W. Unfortunately, the group is unable to publicize meetingninfo at the local schools but other attendees have been bringing friends to the meetings. Carole W reports new members get a welcome kit with Alateen info when they attend. It was noted that prior to the start of these Alateen meetings in the area, the group did a large amount of PR by putting Alateen informational flyers in the community and Carole feels this was a great help.
* Carole W shared that she takes old forums/AFA’s to doctor’s offices and places a sticker or business card on the front cover. Reminder - permission is needed to place our Alanon/Alateen info at sites.
* Nell was able to get a FORUM subscription placed in her doc’s office finally…yay!
* Diane T questions why some schools don’t accept Alateen info/literature and if this is true of all schools? Margaret, who is a retired school secretary, shared she was unable to hand out unsolicited materials to other staff members where she was employed. Joy shared she was able to distribute literature at some schools in her area and this was done by sharing with the social workers/counselors at the specific school. Diane plans to follow up with a few of her school resources to see if they are able to accept info in their school district.
* Margaret has been asking members in her district to share contact info (if they feel comfortable in doing so) of their churches or counselors and she follows up on these leads with literature.
* Cathy will check at the office for AIMAS contacts and ask their advice for using Alateen info in an informational packet. Literature recommendations by the group to use “Just for Today and Just for Tonight” bookmark. Carole shared the kids like this info as well as the Alateen “Do’s and Don’ts”.
* Christine M-R continues to work on getting contacts for ER’s so info could be placed in these facilities. She has a meeting with a potential MERCY contact next week and will ask about placing info at their facilities.
* Linda shared pics of two new billboards placed along Highway 70. The lady who spearheaded this idea had a son who died of an overdose and Linda was able to meet her at an event at the Warrenton Outlet Mall. She plans to stay in contact with this lady for more info.

**Closing:** Nell closed the meeting with the Serenity prayer.

**Next Meeting**: February 5, 2024 at 5pm.