

Intergroup Representatives (IR) Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2020

Zoom meeting, 7 PM. Chaired by Bill B., Board President.

Other Board members present were: Annette K., Abby S., Mike P., Mike W. and Marc B. Also present was Peggy B.-After Hours Phone Answering Coordinator, Chris E.-Website Coordinator, Susan C.-AIS Office, Mary Kay H.-Board Secretary, and Patty S.-Journal Fundraiser Committee Chair.

- I. A moment of silence was followed by the Serenity Prayer.
- II. Concept 8 was read.
- III. Introductions were made. There were 12 IRs (2 were new IRs) and 4 visitors present.
- IV. Announcements / upcoming events – Review of several workshop flyers sent out as attachments for IR meeting. There were no other announcements or events.
- V. Secretary Report – July Meeting Minutes were emailed prior to meeting, reviewed and approved.
- VI. Treasurer Report – Treasurer expressed thanks to groups for donations which led to a surplus of \$2201 for June, but year-to-date is still negative (-\$2425). Literature sales are down, and July appears to be break-even. Question about a group's donation not appearing accurately in the Sincerely Al-Anon. It was pointed out that donations should be clearly identified as group or individual and to print the name of the group or individual. The treasurer's report was approved.
- VII. Website Report – It was reported 800 users, 1000 views of meetings page, and 76 views were for the donation page. The wording on the website has been changed from Donate to Contribute.
- VIII. After Hours Phone Answering Committee Report – There were 2 after-hours calls that provided meeting information to possible newcomers.
- IX. AA Social Event Coordinator-No activities planned.
- X. Office Report – Susan C. reported the office sent out 32 newcomer packets and is maintaining a list of volunteers to speak with newcomers; contact the Office to volunteer. Literature sales are still being offered for curbside pick-up or mailing. Weekly updates of meeting changes are sent out. Groups with meeting changes should email details to the AIS office. Document Retention Project for Treasurer records is still underway. Next staff meeting is scheduled for September 4th. Foreign language fluency volunteers include 3 Spanish; contact the office if members can volunteer. Reminder that the office accepts memorial donations and a thank you note is sent. World Service Office (WSO) offers a free newsletter "In the Loop"; sign up at: al-anon.org/emailme. WSO will soon be offering a mobile app.
- XI. Outreach Report – Nancy P. was unable to attend due to her husband's recent stroke. Prayers requested. There are no events planned.
- XII. Old Business:
 - a. Journal Fundraiser Report – Patty S. reported that she placed the order with the printer for 1,000 for cost of \$4,172 and thanked members who reviewed. There have been numerous concerns with

errors at the printer which Patty rectified and also discussed color issue with the artist, Gabrielle, who approved. Patty requested to donate 5 journals to Gabrielle as a thank you which was approved. She also suggested including the free Public Outreach pens only with the Journals that go out of the AIS Office and it was approved.

Patty asked IRs to mention that the books should be available by August 20th. She will deliver 500 to the AIS Office and IRs can pick up curbside and Patty will keep 500 to distribute from her house. Checks should be made payable to: AFG STL. The AIS Office will maintain a record of Journals sold and/or picked up to be sold. There was a discussion concerning pre-payment and Marc B. stated the Journal Committee's decision was to maintain record of members selling and payment will be collected later.

Abby suggested creating a video clip to display and explain the Journal and possibly posting on the Website. Abby will check with Chris E. if feasible. Patty suggested that the IRs do the same at meetings.

b. New Board Member Request – Linda W. introduced herself and provided her experience in Al-Anon. She was unanimously approved.

Abby reported that Treasurer Annette K.'s term ends in October and a replacement will be needed. Annette responded that she will assist during the transition period. Abby also reported that Marc B. will continue to serve as Office Liaison after his term ends in October.

c. IR Minutes Posted to Website – Completed.

XIII. New Business:

a. COVID-19 Update –Please alert the office if your meetings have resumed in person and are continuing online as well.

b. Fund Raising Ideas in a Pandemic – Bill B. requested ideas be emailed to him.

c. New Venmo Account – Bill reported that Not-For-Profit organizations cannot have a Venmo account, so he decided not to pursue other options which could possibly expose the bank account and will continue PayPal.

d. Contribution vs. Donation in accordance with WSO – Wording has been changed on the website.

XIV. Open Sharing-Patty S. requested that a new article appear in the September Sincerely Al-Anon to announce the arrival and sale of the Journal fundraiser. She will have Barb B.S. email an article to Mary B. in the AIS Office.

Elaine F. inquired about the July Open Sharing discussion regarding the mark up of literature. Susan, AIS Office, responded that she sent a report to Bill B. who requested review by Marc B. and Mike P. Tabled.

Abby reported the Al-Anon participation in the AA Convention was good. The Al-Anon convention will be on September 26th and recommend that IRs remind members to attend.

Next meeting will be held Thursday, September 3rd, 2020 at 7:00 PM on Zoom. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM. with the Serenity prayer followed by the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary K. H., Board Secretary