

Intergroup Representatives (IR) Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 4, 2024

The meeting was held via Zoom commencing at 7:00 PM and chaired by Linda W, Board Member and AIS Office Liaison in Blake R's absence. Other Board members present were: Gene M, Vice President, Barb BS, Secretary and Jan McD, board member. Barry R, outgoing Treasurer, also attended.

- 1) **Opening:** Linda opened the meeting with a cleansing breath/moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading of Tradition 1.
- 2) **Attendance:** There were 32 members present including 5 board members, 1 Office Staff member (Susan C), and 26 IR's, including 2 new IR's.
- 3) **December IR Meeting Minutes -**
The minutes from the December, 2023 IR Meeting were sent out to the IR's via email prior to the meeting and were unanimously approved.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report:** The following report was submitted via email to the IR's for review prior to the meeting - Barry R presented the report in Blake's absence.

TREASURER'S REPORT – AFG OF STL

As of November 30, 2023

Submitted by Blake R, President

For the January 4, 2024 IR Meeting

1. Overall, the month of November 2023 produced **Total Revenue** of \$6,398 versus the 2023 budgeted average of \$5,693. **Net Operating Deficit** was \$386, and the **YTD result was a \$4,167 Surplus.**
2. On a cash flow basis, Literature Sales were \$3,773 [versus 2023 budgeted average of \$1,833].
3. Group Contributions were \$1,865 [versus the 2023 budgeted average at \$2,108]. Miscellaneous Contributions of \$518 were substantially below our average 2023 monthly expectations of \$1,108.
4. **Monthly Expenses**, at \$6,783, were above the 2023 budgeted average of \$5,688.

5. Literature and brochure costs were \$2,418 compared to the 2023 budgeted average of \$1,417.
6. Our 2023 YTD **Surplus** of \$4,167 compared to 2022 YTD **Deficit** of \$2,905 is a good place to be. That is a \$7,072 Variance in favor of 2023.
7. **Total cash in checking** was \$4,860. Total Cash and Reserves were \$57,409.
8. The previously approved drawdown of \$5,000 still has \$2,000 left undrawn. The Board decided to consider returning funds to Reserves once the financial results from December 2023 become known. The AFG of Greater St. Louis 2023 YTD cumulative financial position remains positive.

Respectfully submitted,

Blake Rundell, President

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Linda and others thanked Barry for his service.

5) **Public Outreach -**

John Y, committee liaison, was not in attendance so Linda summarized their activity. The committee is handing out professional packets geared to doctor's offices, social workers, treatment centers, counselors and other professionals. They are providing one to each District. Susan added that there is a District 9 workshop she will be bringing the packets to in case DR's are there to pick them up. If not, they can pick them up at the office. They will be in the office next week. Each brochure has 24 pieces of literature in it. Linda reminded the IR's that the office has the Trifold brochures still available - there are many uses for them including handing them out to newcomers.

6) **After Hours and Office Reports -**

The following report was sent out to the IR's via email for review prior to the meeting:

AIS IR Office Report January 2024

We love to post Al-Anon events!!

Please email the flyer(s) to the Office at aisoffice@stl-al-anon.org

All flyers need to be in a PDF

Answering Service Report (After Hours)

No calls for the month of December

AIS Office Website Report

7 orders from the web

Total Sales

115 total sales & contributions.

61 newcomer Packets & 41 How Al-Anon Works

Sincerely Al-Anon

Please ask your group members to sign-up for our newsletter at www.stl-al-anon.org.

Newcomer Packets

The Office now has a Welcome to Al-Anon Email. Please let your groups (especially our Zoom meetings) know of our new guidelines. The office would be happy to pass this email to the groups if your groups would like to send email out to Newcomers (NC).

18 emails were sent to NC's for the month of December. 1 NC packets was given out in-person.

3 Spanish pieces of literature for a NC in person.

Meeting Updates

Please let the office know of any change to your meetings by emailing the new information to aisoffice@stl-al-anon.org

To get the meeting changes in the weekly updates it is best to get the information to the office by Monday 9am.

My Journey Journals

These make great gifts for the holidays and easy to mail.

Journals are \$12.00 each.

Public Outreach Report

The Public Outreach Committee has initiated a new outreach for 2024 which targets professionals and includes counselors, physicians, clinics, as well as rehab and outpatient facilities. If you recall, the PO's 2023 outreach was the "Back to School Campaign" which was geared to teachers, school counselors and schools.

To share Al-Anon/Alateen info, the PO committee, with the help of the office, has assembled a packet of basic information (at no charge!) for each District. This packet includes 5 Al-Anon posters, 5 new color trifolds, 5 envelopes of basic literature with a cover letter (8 pieces total of literature in each envelope), 20 business cards and 25 AFA's.

The PO committees has two "asks" for sharing the packet of info in your District:

1. If you take the information, please distribute it in your community! Don't leave it in your car or on your desk!
2. When possible, please email the office as to where the literature was placed. We don't need to know where each paper, poster etc is placed but a general overview of placement would be helpful. This means less duplication and the committee will be able to follow-up if needed.

The packets for each District will be available at the office as of **January 8th**. Please let the AIS office know if you will stop by to pick up your District packet or if another designee from your District will do pick-up. Also, each District may take 5 extra posters if wanted.

Once again, the PO Committee thanks you for your help in spreading our Al-Anon/Alateen information! As always, we are grateful for those members who so willingly extend the hand of Alanon and Alateen to help others!

Thanks,
The Public Outreach Committee

For 2024

**July the 4th is on the first Thursday. The Office will be closed due to the federal holiday.
The IR meeting will be on July 11th at 7 pm**

In Service,
Susan C.

7) New Business:

The Board is going to start considering the 2024 budget using the 2023 budget as a baseline after we receive the financials for December 2023. We gave the employees a \$1 an hour raise which will cause salary costs to rise. We will not have the equipment expense we had to incur last year to replace an office computer and monitor.

8) Open Sharing:

One IR asked if the new proposed budget was going to be shared with the IR's - Linda said that we'd share it at the February meeting. The AIS office still needs support from the groups even though we had a relatively good 2023. Further discussion took place on whether the AIS office made periodic additional requests for funds from the groups if the office is running short. Barry and Linda responded that we do additional appeals or requests from time to time. There was no enthusiasm for having a large fundraiser last year. We don't have as large of a reserve as we have in past years. We are in stable conditional financially.

One IR asked if the ODAT was being discontinued. Discussion took place that it was unlikely. The new reader isn't popular, but it doesn't take the place of the ODAT. Barb BS volunteered to check on this with the WSO.

Several IR's did not receive the Sincerely Al-Anon attached to the email that was supposed to be sending it out. Susan told them to call the office, and that it would be resent. Or they can print it out from the website tomorrow when it is posted.

One new IR asked what the money that we raise and the groups donate is used for. Linda explained in more detail where the money goes and how we obtain it. She also

asked about what Districts were. Susan recommended that she purchase a Service Manual at the office or view it on the WSO website.

One IR asked for clarification on how the professional packets are obtained - Susan explained that the DR could designate her to pick up the one for her district at the office.

Linda closed the meeting with the Serenity Prayer and the Al-Anon Declaration.

Next Meeting is Thursday February 1st, 2024 at 7 PM via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Barb BS, Board Secretary