

Intergroup Representatives (IR) Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 2, 2023

The meeting was held via Zoom commencing at 7:02 PM and chaired by Blake R, President. Other Board members present were: Barry R., Treasurer , Linda W, Office Liaison, Barb BS, Secretary, Jan McD, board member and Gene M, prospective board member.

- 1) **Opening:** Blake opened the meeting with a cleansing breath/moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading of Tradition 11.
- 2) **Attendance:** There were 28 members present including 5 board members, 1 prospective board member and 22 IR's.
- 3) **October IR Meeting Minutes -**
The minutes from the October, 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:

TREASURER'S REPORT – AFG OF STL

As of September 30, 2023

Submitted by Barry Russell, Treasurer

For the November 2, 2023 IR Council Meeting

Month of September 2023

1. Overall, the month of September 2023 produced **Total Revenue** of \$5,847 versus the 2023 budgeted average of \$5,693. **Net Operating Deficit** was \$1,108, and the **YTD result was a \$5,199 Surplus.**
2. On a cash flow basis, Literature Sales were \$2,097 [versus 2023 budgeted average of \$1,833]. The timing of the reorders for the new daily reader are out-of-sync with the sales.
3. Group Contributions were \$1,996 [versus the 2023 budgeted average at \$2,108]. Miscellaneous Contributions of \$1,160 were slightly above our average 2023 monthly expectations of \$1,108.

4. **Monthly Expenses**, at \$6,955, were above the 2023 budgeted average of \$5,688.
5. Literature costs of \$2,856 were double the 2023 budgeted average of \$1,417. Again, these were out-of-sync with the sales.
6. Our YTD Surplus of \$5,199 compared to 2022 YTD Surplus of \$2,171 is still a good place to be. That is a \$3,028 Variance in favor of 2023.
7. **Total cash in checking** was \$5,634. Total Cash and Reserves were \$57,952. The Board will examine the redeployment security holdings.
8. The previously approved drawdown of \$5,000 still has \$2,000 left undrawn. The Board decided to hold off putting funds into Reserves. A new computer system has been purchased, after considerable research by experts, replacing older equipment at the AIS office.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Barry R, Treasurer

Barry also mentioned that we had spent just over \$300 this past month for the Tri-fold brochures - these were a bargain based on the donated time from the individual who printed them for us.

The treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

5) **Public Outreach -**

In John Y's absence, Barb BS read some of what had been discussed regarding PO at last week's board meeting, mainly that the PO committee has been involved in a lot of events setting up booths and handing out information. They are in need of additional people who would be willing to volunteer at those events. Barb discussed the ways the board thought we could reach out including sending out blast emails asking for volunteers, putting events to sign up for on the website and in the Sincerely Al-Anon. Discussion took place on other ideas and suggestions for getting additional volunteers for these events which take place mostly on weekends. Lois suggested that we funnel this request through the District and partner with them on getting this out. Mary agreed to mention this at the Assembly this weekend along with her report. We may or may not post this on the AIS website but it may be difficult to get it out on a timely manner. Linda suggested that those in charge of putting out flyers for events add a line stating that volunteers are needed and whom they could call to volunteer,

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 for November 2023 IR Meeting**

Sincerely Al-Anon

Please ask your group members to sign-up for our newsletter at www.stl-al-anon.org.
If you want to know when the new read arrives sign up for our emails. When it arrives the office will send out an email.

Answering Service Report

1 call in Oct. A woman passing through St. Louis, when she learned of an untimely death and wanted a meeting. She was able to attend a Zoom meeting from a camp site... Pretty cool!

AIS Office Sales and Website Report

No Web Report

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.
15 emails went out to NC's for the month of October. 0 NC packets were given out in-person in September.

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.

Events

We love to post Al-Anon events!!

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

In Service,
Susan C.

Linda added that the new readers are in the office and are available for purchase - \$17.00 each. We will be placing another order soon. She added that the new computer and accessories are in the office and that the office is getting used to them. There are some minor things that still need to be worked out. Susan C's spouse came in on the weekend to transfer the data. We are cleaning up to get rid of old data.

7) Old Business:

The new tri-fold brochures are in the office and available for purchase. The cost is \$8.00 per 100 which is a very good price for these. You can also buy them in packs of 20. There were several comments about how nice they are and that they have been well received by various groups. They are an awesome introduction for a newcomer. They will be listed on the website for purchase shortly.

8) New Business:

Gene M who is a candidate for a new board member introduced himself to the group, He's been in Al-Anon since 1994 - his home group is North County Parents. He has worked the steps several times. He has sponsored many men and has had four sponsors. He has been involved in a number of service organizations. Some of those obligations are ending so he is very interested in doing service on the Board.

Gene left the Zoom room and was discussed. Two IR's know him personally and highly recommended him. The council voted on Gene and he was unanimously approved. Blake then called Gene back to the meeting to give him the good news.

Blake discussed how Barry will be leaving the Board after the end of this year and that we could use up to three new board members. Barry is currently treasurer so we will need someone to step into that position. He asked the IR's to consider it themselves and let their groups know about the openings. One IR asked about what the duties of the treasurer are, and if you needed to be an accountant to do it. Blake and Barry responded that it wasn't necessary to be an accountant because Annette who was the former treasurer is employed about 20 hours a month to do the financials. She works closely with the treasurer to put the financials and the report together for the meetings.

9) Open Sharing: One IR (Bob) gave an update on a new Al-Anon meeting taking place in Illinois.

Blake closed the meeting with the Serenity Prayer and the Al-Anon Declaration

Next Meeting is Thursday, December 7th, 2023 at 7 PM via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Barb BS, Board Secretary