

## Intergroup Representatives (IR) Meeting Minutes

**Thursday September 7, 2023**

The meeting was held via Zoom commencing at approximately 7:00 PM and chaired by Blake R, President., Other Board members present were: John Y., Vice President, Barry R., Treasurer , Barb BS, Secretary, Jan M, Board Member and Linda W, Office Liaison. Susan C., Office Staff, was also in attendance.

- 1) **Opening:** Blake opened the meeting with a cleansing breath/moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer and a short reading of Tradition 9.
- 2) **Attendance:** There were 32 members present including 6 board members, 1 office staff person and 25 IR's, including 3 new IR's.

3)

**August IR Meeting Minutes -**

**The minutes from the August, 2023 IR Meeting were unanimously approved.**

- 4) 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 July 31, 2023**

**Submitted by Barry Russell, Treasurer**

**For September 7, 2023 IR Council Meeting**

**Month of July, 2023**

1. Overall, the month of July 2023 produced **Total Revenue** of \$8,748 versus the 2023 budgeted average of \$5,693. **Net Operating Surplus** was \$913, and the YTD result was a \$6,849 Surplus.
2. On a cash flow basis, Literature Sales were \$5,249 [versus 2023 budgeted average of \$1,833]. The new daily reader was a sell-out success!
3. Group Contributions were \$2,632 [versus the 2023 budgeted average at \$2,108]. Miscellaneous Contributions of \$452 were below our average 2023 monthly expectations of \$1,108.

4. **Monthly Expenses**, at \$7,835, were above the 2023 budgeted average of \$5,688.
5. Literature expenditures of \$3,266 were above the 2023 budgeted monthly average of \$1,417. This reflects the impact of the new daily reader.
6. Our YTD Surplus of \$6,849 compared to 2022 YTD Deficit of [\$953] is a good place to be. That is a \$7,802 Variance in favor of 2023.
7. **Total cash in checking** was \$7,535.35. Total Cash and Reserves were \$64,170.
8. The previously approved drawdown of \$5,000 still has \$2,000 left undrawn. At our next IR Council Meeting, in late September, we might consider putting back some surplus funds into Reserves.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Barry Russell, Treasurer

**The treasurer's report was unanimously approved.**

5) **Public Outreach** - John Y reported that there have been a lot of opportunities out there right now reaching out to schools. They are still following up on the school program they began last year. October is Substance Abuse Awareness Month which presents many good opportunities. The PO committee has been very active - they have some speaking opportunities coming up including at Bridgeway. They will speak at a health fair at a union hall in October and also at the Recoveryfest . They may also have a table at the fall classic. They are currently doing extensive outreach to about 60 libraries. They are also trying to bring the Al-Anon suitcase and participate in various district events. John commended the PO committee for their hard work. John asked that the IR's bring any ideas for PO to the committee. One IR asked about the Recoveryfest coming up in Kirkwood on Sunday September 24th. District 15 reached out to the PO committee about having a table there - they are looking for volunteers to man the table. Barb reported that District 13 is considering having its own PO committee.

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

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

**AIS IR Office Report September 2023\***

### **Answering Service Report**

**Peggy's last day as Answering Service Coordinator is August 31<sup>st</sup>.**

I can report so far, we have had 1 call for August. The volunteer returned the call and left a message for the client to call during office hours as she appeared to be needing professional help.

I so appreciate all the support of the office and the Board for supporting the Answering Service. In the past few years we have not received as many calls but it remains meaningful to the few we do get to talk with.

I wish you all the best and I know we will have opportunities to connect along the way.

Peggy B.

**Thank you, Peggy, for your service to the Office and all members of Al-Anon.**

### ***Are you looking for a Service Commitment?***

Answering Service Coordinator

If you are looking for a service commitment, please call the AIS office for more information.

**314-645-1572**

### **AIS Office August Sales and Website Report**

#### **August Web Activity**

3,482 views from 1,673 visitors.

11 web orders.

#### **August Sales**

119 total sales & contributions.

103 Newcomer Packets, 41 Just for Today-Alateen, 25 How Al-Anon Works

NEW BOOK: A Little Time for Myself: 54

### **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. 13 emails went out to NC's for the month of August. Four NC packets were given out in-person in August

### **Meeting Updates**

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

### **Sincerely Al-Anon**

Please ask your group members to sign-up for our newsletter at [www.stl-al-anon.org](http://www.stl-al-anon.org).

### **My Journey Journals**

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](mailto:aisoffice@stl-al-anon.org)

### **Spanish Speaking Volunteers**

We are looking for Spanish speaking volunteers.  
We got a new volunteer!!! Thank you, Claudia P.,

In Service,  
Susan C.

Susan C reported that the Ice Cream Social was a huge success, and that many Al-Anon members came to it. She said that a suggestion would be to have the film showing in the big room to be able to accommodate more people.

Jan McD has agreed to help out as an interim After Hours Answering Service Coordinator until someone else is found. She still needs to reach out to Peggy to get information about the role.

### **7) Old Business:**

#### **Ideas for services AIS office could provide:**

Barb BS reported that she was trying to find a more concise list of other AIS Offices/ Literature Distribution Centers which would be more manageable to contact. There are over 300 listings for the U.S. on the link the WSO sent. Barb will call or email the WSO to see if there is a more concise list or know if someone else would have it. There have been no additional ideas presented by the IR's/other groups.

#### **Tri-Fold Brochures for Al-Anon**

The AIS Office is in the process of putting these together. We already have quotes for printing - we got two bids and the low bid is 40% lower than the high bid. The low bid was given by the same business that printed the business cards. That printer has offered to fix up the brochure and make it look professional for an additional \$100. All agreed that would be worth it. The brochure is going to be used to hand out at various events. It will provide the history of the AIS office, the services it provides and other basic contact information (from the business cards), and volunteer opportunities. AA and the Area already have one of these types of brochures.

Blake asked about how we have leveraged the business cards. Susan C reported that many DR's have picked theirs up, but may haven't. The business cards are also used for public outreach. One IR (Nell) praised the business cards - she has handed them out and feels they are very useful. Susan C is going to send out the initial email offering the business cards to the DR's again.

8) **New Business:** None

9) **Open Sharing-** New daily reader is sold out - we have more on order. One IR recommended using the book sharing boxes in neighborhoods to share Al-Anon information.

**Next Meeting is Thursday, October 5th, 2023 at 7 PM via Zoom**