

Intergroup Representatives (IR) Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021

The meeting was held via Zoom at 7 pm and chaired by Bill B., Board President. Other Board members present were: Blake R.-Vice President, Annette K.-Treasurer, Mary Kay H.-Secretary, Board members Linda W-AIS Office Liaison and Abby S.-Public Outreach Chair. Also present were Susan C.- AIS Office, Chris E.-Website Chair, and Peggy B.-Answering Service

I. Opening with The Serenity Prayer.

II. Concept 9 was read.

III. Introductions-There were 29 members present including 20 IRs.

IV. Announcements/upcoming events-There were attachments sent out with the IR meeting reminder.

V. Secretary Report-August Meeting Minutes were emailed prior to the meeting, reviewed and approved unanimously.

VI. Treasurer Report-The Treasurer Reports were emailed prior to the meeting. Annette K. reported the month of July shows total revenue variance of \$600 more and expenditures of \$800 more year to date. The Happy Birthday Lois campaign contributions received is \$5,460 and billboard payments is \$5,900. Last month \$5,000 of excess reserves was approved for Public Outreach. She added that there is still \$5,000+ remaining in Excess Reserves to be designated. The insurance payment was slightly over last year's payment. The treasurer report was approved unanimously.

VII. After Hours Phone Answering Report-Peggy B. reported that there were 3 calls in August.

VIII. Website Report-Chris (Website Committee volunteers)-Bill B. reported that the Website Committee is looking for volunteers. Chris added that they are looking help on organizing information and new ideas, so no specific skills are required. Bill stated that they are also looking for someone with IT experience to assist the AIS Office. Interested members should contact Bill B. at wlbecker1738@gmail.com.

There were 1,300 users this month and there were 50 views on the page "What is AI-Anon/Alateen" which might indicate more new people viewing.

IX. Office Report- The office is open for literature sale and members can walk in or call ahead and the order will be ready upon arrival. The books "One Day at a Time" and "Hope for Today" are out of stock. There were 27 newcomer packets sent out in August. Meeting updates or changes should be sent to the Office by email and the meeting list updates are done on Monday or Wednesday morning.

Staff is excited to have a new staff member, Peggy M., to help out when needed. Peggy will be at the next IR meeting for an introduction. The next staff meeting is September 9.

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X. Outreach Report-Abby stated that the Public Outreach (P.O.) articles in the Sincerely Al-Anon have the best updates on P.O. efforts. Cathy W. maintains the billboard finances and reported that the digital billboard contract on I44 East lapsed on July 25. The static billboards are cheaper and possibly more effective. The static billboard in District 28, Franklin County, was a three month contract and lapsed on August 22. The Warrenton billboard in District 25 contract ends around November 26. The total cost \$6,700 has been covered. District 2 has requested consideration of a billboard. The question is "Do we want to continue the billboard campaign?" since there is no clear way to evaluate their effectiveness. She asked IRs to think about this and consider ideas.

Joy W. spearheaded the Poster Outreach and called all District Representatives (DR) who have not picked up their district's posters with only one response. The districts that have not picked up posters are: 8, 14, 17, 18, 22 and 25. There are 26 districts and only 13 have DRs. The area needs DRs in Districts 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26 and 27. The districts also need Public Outreach chairs. She asked the IRs to check with their respective DRs and asked to help distribute. Mary Kay from District 2 reported that she downloaded a poster from the WSO website and had copies printed.

A report from Eliza and Cathy regarding establishing new meetings in District 10 was shared. The Natural Bridge branch of the St. Louis County Library is not accepting reservations from outside organizations so have decided to wait for that location.

XI. Old Business:

a. Journal Fundraiser Update-Patty S. reported that there about 118 journals left for sale and 38 were sold in August. The decision was previously made not to reorder. Her term to serve as an IR has ended but she offered to still be available to assist with the journal sales.

b. Excess Reserves-Bill B. reminded the IRs that \$5,000 was approved for Public Outreach, \$500 has been set aside for a new meeting in North County and another \$500 for a new meeting in Warrenton which leaves \$4,000. Financial reports from Missouri and World Service Office (WSO) were sent with meeting attachments. Annette K. added that two and four years ago contributions to Missouri were \$3,000. She explained that excess funds are typically donated upward. Patty S. asked if the AIS Office staff has been compensated fairly and Bill responded that they have received a raise. The decision was to designate excess funds next month. **Topic tabled.**

c. Flo W. report on AWSC (Area Wide Service Conference) meeting-She was not in attendance and Susan C., AIS Office, will follow-up and ask her to report next month. **Topic tabled.**

Secretary Note: AWSC is Area Wide Service Committee

d. We need 4 new board members as our newest (Lynn Mark) is unable to fulfill her duties-Bill reported that there is one new applicant to be reviewed. There are three board members leaving in

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October and currently there should be seven board members. Bill also reported that Lynn Mark who was approved as a new board member last month has resigned because she was unable to fulfill her duties. Bill is willing to stay on as an advisor and Abby S., whose term is ending, will stay on as Public Outreach chair. There is a job description on the website. **Topic tabled.**

XII. New Business:

a. Revamping Sincerely Al-Anon: Suggestions-The newsletter was previously printed but it is now published electronically. Bill asked for ideas on how to continue and distribute. Two shared that the electronic version is easier to send to members who do not attend in-person meetings.

b. Bylaws revision-Bill reported that the Board will be meeting to discuss possible revision of the terms of service for Board members. **Topic tabled.**

XIII. Open Sharing:

a. Board Member Terms-There was a question about when the Board members terms end. Annette clarified that the terms end after the October IR meeting and new Board terms begin at the following Board meeting. Interested applicants to the Board can shadow a board member and a volunteer form should be completed.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM on Zoom. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm with the Serenity Prayer followed by the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Kay H., AFG-STL Board Secretary