

**Area 13 AFG Spring Assembly**  
**The first ever Virtual Assembly for this Area**  
**May 16, 2020**  
**DREAMING BIG WITH 20/20 VISION**

**Attendees:**

(This was difficult to ascertain, please let me know if there are corrections to make; 36 all together)

V=voting; NV=non-voting; ?=unsure; DR=District Rep, GR=Group Rep; D=District

Kathy B. Host/Area Chairperson, NV	Sheila M. Area Secretary, NV	Becky Y. Area Treasurer/GR, V
Chandra B. DRD2, V	NancyJo WSO Delegate, NV	Anne Marie B., NV
Paula N. Literature/Forum, NV	Anne W, NV	John K., GR, V
Cheryl S. Area Grp Rec Coord/DRD1, V	Linda H. GR, V	Lisa C., D3 Treasurer, NV
Cheryle N. GR, V	Ramona, Co-GR, V	Cherie, DRD5, V
Jan K. alt. DRD7, V	Joyce A., GR, V	Jodee GR, V
LeWayne D3 Secretary, NV	Ladora B., Area Archives, NV	Diane GR, V
Susan K., GR, V	Kris S., GR, V	Reah D. ?
Pam A. GR, V	Pam A., GR, V	Tami O. GR, V
Glenn K. alt DRD3, ?	Donna ?	Jane F. DRD3, V
Cathy Z. ?	Carolyn K. GR, V	Annie H. ?
Shellee P. ?	Sue C. ?	208.284.6992

-Kathy B. opened by sharing information on the Links of Service from the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the most recent Service Manual, p. 183 (?)

-Anne W. read the 12 Traditions

**-GR Exchange-**

-Joyce A., D4 Their group meetings will be conducted via ZOOM until mid-June

-Susan K. -How long are GR terms? According to service manual 3 years, individual groups have autonomy and may change the length of the term if needed; They aren't letting new people in to the AOOM meetings, she is concerned about this as it's not very welcoming, the groups are doing so as they are concerned about sharing log in information with strangers

-Jan, Ontario-their Tuesday night ZOOM meeting had someone from across the country want to join, they declined for anonymity reasons; She went on the WSO website and found 16 pages of options for meetings for those unable to attend meetings in person

-Kris S. Living Fully, Monday nights has been meeting via conference call; still paying rent to the regular meeting place, though

-Ramona, Twin Falls/Buhl, older members in her group are concerned about attending in person even after restrictions are lifted, could they continue to meet via ZOOM?

-Tami O. some of her group's members will not be attending in person until there is a vaccine and testing is more available; they plan to take a group conscience about going (virtual) ZOOM permanently; they are looking for ideas on how to address the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition-one idea they have is setting up a group PayPal account; their group traditionally meets twice a week, maybe they will have one ZOOM meeting and one in-person meeting; they are waiting for their next district meeting to see what their district determines about who would be financially responsible for the ZOOM platform

## **ZOOM Discussion**

-Becky Y., to have a ZOOM component to an in-person meeting, one member would need to bring a computer/electronic device so that other members could join the meeting via ZOOM; district Websites could be used for sharing meeting information

-Jodee, D3, the 3 Legacies Writing group is struggling with ZOOM

-Glenn, they have had newcomers via ZOOM, ZOOM recommends not posting passwords publicly, have a contact person to call to get that information

-Kris S. said that District 1 shares ZOOM meeting information via the District Newsletter which is sent out to people on the email list

-Kathy B. stated that the District 1 newsletter is very well done

## **-Secretary's Report**

-Sheila M. read the minutes from the Fall Assembly

-Chandra B, D2 moved to approve minutes with Sheila's name correctly spelled

-Becky Y. seconded the motion

**-motion to approve Fall Assembly minutes with correction passed**

-John K. asked if the minutes had been made available prior to the assembly

-Kathy B. stated that she would like to see them be posted to the Area Website so they would be available any time; secretary could send a PDF file to Laura F. (area website person) to post. Kathy would also like to enhance the GR information on the website keeping in mind that information would need to be safe-guarded

## **-Treasurer's Report**

-The Calendars

-net profit of \$750 on sale of 100 calendars

-Calendars will be further addressed later on the agenda for today

-Kris S. asked about the people named in the report, why did they get checks? Becky thought it was related to Fall Assembly expenses

-Becky will check with the former treasurer, Roberta about checks 1265-1270

-Becky will have all treasurer's documentation available electronically by the time the Fall Assembly is held; she will ensure that all checks are clearly accounted for

-Area still received donations even though there haven't been as many expenses

-Kathy B. asked if the Area has been reimbursed by WSO for the "equalized expense" for sending the delegate to Virginia Beach

-Becky said we have not; she will inquire with WSO about that

-Kris S. moved to accept the treasurer's report as written

-Ramona seconded the motion to accept the treasurer's report as written

**-motion to approve treasurer's report as written passed**

## **-Delegate's Report-NancyJo**

-This year they held the first Virtual WSO Conference

-she had lots of difficulty with the technology, CISCO System

-She reports there was a great deal of scrutiny of the agenda by various attendees with some voting

-She read her report to the Conference

-she missed the energy which is present with an in-person meeting

-next year is Al-Anon's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary

-Task Force-Rural and Urban needs

- Revenue was down 2% 2018-19
- Contributions and Forum increased 218-19
- She is on a Task Force for the conflict resolution pamphlet to make it more user-friendly, maybe an electronic format?
- She sent DRs a "Request for Proposal" form, 3 pages, seeking information/suggestions for ways WSO can assist with:
  - getting younger members into Al-Anon
    - would opening up Al-Anon to other addictions help?
  - registration of electronic meetings
  - she would like to get input back from DRs in time for her to make her September report
- May 15 she received information about the effects of the COVID restrictions on Al-Anon
  - Literature sales down 34%
  - projected operating deficit of \$1.6 million
    - one idea for overcoming this is to see if groups are willing to send \$ which would have been used for travel
    - Do members realize that they may donate directly to WSO?

### **Calendars**

- A great deal of discussion of the calendars was held, the main points were:
  - How much did/will calendars cost?
  - 100 calendars seems to be the target number
  - Groups will be surveyed for potential pre-order numbers to see if 100 will be enough,
  - Acknowledgement of the photographer would be a nice addition, first name and last initial, name of home group
    - remember that donations for the calendars are accepted since Al-Anon doesn't sell anything
    - Spanish translation of slogans used will be needed again,
      - Adrianna of district 3 volunteered last fall to assist, there may be others in district 3 who would also help since that is where the largest number of Spanish speakers are
  - A committee was established to choose pictures
    - Kathy B., Kris S. and 3 others (unfortunately I didn't get their names down like I thought, so sorry)
  - Cover photo- see if this could be chosen ASAP to assist with promotion
  - photo submissions still open, animals is the theme

### **-Fall Assembly**

- District 5 is host district
- no information yet due to uncertainty of COVID-19 restrictions
- It is the first item to be addressed at the next District 5 district meeting
- Cherie has the Assembly planning guidelines and will check in with the Clarion and Red Lion for costs in case it can be in-person
  - Cherie's email address is chersown60@gmail.com
- Suggestions following much discussion about the assembly being virtual or in-person
  - get feedback from individual groups
  - plan for both in-person/physical and for virtual
  - needs for a virtual assembly in conjunction with physical assembly would be video cameras and microphones for transmission of assembly to remote locations along with a large video monitor (TV) for those attending in person to be able to see the virtual attendees

-there may be increased cost associated with the physical assembly if numbers of people staying in the hotel are down

**-Any questions for AWSC Committee?**

-committee members are: Nancy Jo, Kathy, Paula, Cheryl S., Becky Y., Sheila M., Chandra, Ladora, Jane F., Cherie G.

-Any new literature coming out? Paula hasn't heard of anything ready for distributions yet, Kathy said that Hope For Today is available as an e-book

-Jane reminded everyone that there is a Literature Distribution Center in Boise which is taking mail orders

**Meeting Closed at 2:10 pm with the Al-Anon Declaration**