

Area 13 AFG
Fall Assembly Minutes
Coeur 'Alene, Idaho
9/18/21

In Attendance via ZOOM:

Becky Y.- area treasurer; GR	Rosemary-GR	Neil-GR
Ladora B- Area Archives	Jan- D7 GR	Sharon R. D1 GR
Cathy Z- D7 DR	LuAnn C-Area Outreach (?)	Reah D-GR
Laura- area website coordinator	Lois C-D3 GR	Lynn A- D3 GR

In Attendance in person:

Gail S- D1	Jennifer O-D1 Gr	Cheryle N-D1 GR
Cherie G- D5 DR	Benita K-D1	Rita M-D7 GR
Sharon R-D2 GR	Anne W-D2 GR	Steve R-D2 GR
Kris S-D1 GR	Clara R-D1	Phyllis L-D1
Carolyn K-D6	Linnea J-D1	Dianna R-D1 GR
Rosemary L-D4 GR	Cheryl S-D1 DR	John K-D1 GR
Linda H-D1 GR	Lori M-D1	Carol G-D2
Janice C-D1 GR	Nancy J- D7	Rick P-D1 GR
Cindy P-D1 GR	Nicole R-D1 GR	Joanne F-D1
Kelly S-D1	Darrin H-D1	Cathy Z- ??
Janice K-??	Kathy B-Area Chairperson	Sheila M-Area Secretary
Paula N-Area ??	Laura F-Area ??	Poppy K-D1 GR
Darlene-D1	Laura-D1	Amy S-D7
Sue C-D7	Sandy V-D1	Megan W-D1 GR

- **8:52 am Meeting opened with Kathy B leading the Serenity Prayer**
- **Secretary's Report**
 - Read by Sheila
 - Linda H. moved to accept the secretary's report
 - Carol seconded the motion
 - **Motion passed**
- **WSO Delegate:**
 - Nancy Jo passed away.
 - We now have no delegate to represent our Area.
 - Our alternate delegate has been out of contact with us. Kathy B, area Chairperson has tried numerous times to reach her
 - WSO will be meeting in person next year
 - One of the days will include a trip to "Stepping Stones," the final home of Bill W and Lois W which has been converted to a museum
- **Archives Committee Report**
 - Glenn sent a PowerPoint presentation which Kathy B shared with the Fall Assembly (see end of minutes)
 - Request for expenses:
 - DRS Imaging for one test-box: 100-250/box
 - Contact with DRS Imaging has been difficult, no responses to messages left
 - 1 TB thumb drive has been obtained at a cost of \$50.00
 - Shredding Cost: \$20.00/100 pounds

- Recommendations:
 - 3-year lease for space
 - Continue to reduce the amount of materials
 - Grant committee ability to decide on what to shred or to keep
 - Donate extra newsletters/WSC summaries
 - Continue with scanning
 - More help is needed as there are still 11 boxes
 - Preparation of materials
- It was determined that no motion was needed
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Becky Y presented the treasurer's report (see attached Excell Files)
 - Area 13 will need an increase in donation (65% increase) to meet financial obligations with resuming face-to-face meetings
 - Currently the Area is financially sound however
 - Donations are down by 65%
 - Resuming face-to-face/in-person assemblies will drain our current resources
 - Discussion ensued as to need to vote on holding Spring and Fall 2022 Assemblies via ZOOM due to cost involved
 - Nicole R moved to hold **Spring and Fall 2022 Assemblies via ZOOM**
 - Linda H seconded the motion
 - Becky Y proposed a **friendly amendment that the Spring and Fall 2022 Assemblies be held as hybrid ZOOM/in-person events** to promote inclusion
 - Cathy Z commented that District 7 could easily host a hybrid Assembly due to the amount of planning time available
 - Nicole rejected the friendly amendment
 - Neil and Rosemary seconded Becky's friendly amendment
 - **Spring and Fall 2022 Assemblies will be hybrid events**
 - 19 of the GRs present voted in favor
 - It was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's report be accepted, (secretary missed the names)
 - **Motion passed**
- Permanent Electronic Meetings (PEM's)-Kathy B presented the following information about PEM-s
 - Vermont has been working on allowing PEMs into our Area. We began with two zoom town hall discussions on PEMs during the summer. We also had two thought forces working on how to incorporate PEMS into the Area. At the Fall Assembly we voted to allow PEMs to become part of the Area.
 - We currently have a task force working on guidelines. Here is the essence of the report we sent to the AWSC for their November meeting.
 - The PEM TF meet via zoom on -11-8-21 to discuss a few questions we had answered using email. After discussion we came to a consensus on several items related to PEMs which will we use to start creating the guidelines.
 - We agreed that a PEM will have a contact person, a CMA, like a face to face group. We decided that the contact person could live anywhere.
 - We decided that an PEM GR will live either in Vermont or in one of the contiguous states, NY, MA or NH. We agreed that Quebec would be considered a contiguous state. (We have/have had members who live outside of Vermont and attend nearby Vermont meetings active in group, district and area service. We want to keep that option for electronic meetings)
 - We agreed that the PEM does not need to be an English speaking group however we would like either the contact or GR to be able to speak English.

- We don't want to have a policy where someone from the Area visits the e-group before they are allowed to become part of the Area. (We don't do this for F-t-F groups). We want there to be a waiting period before the meeting is listed. (We do this with new F-t-F meetings.)
- We also discussed ways to keep the groups and districts informed.
 - We will be writing a report for the AWSC each time they meet. We asked that reports are forwarded to the DRs and that the DRs forward it to the groups.
 - We will invite DRs and Grs to our zoom meetings
 - Task force members will attend district meetings
 - Task force members will be available to talk to groups
 - We will hold a Town Hall meeting probably sometime March to answer questions.
- Several things become obvious to us during our first discussion. One was we needed to keep the AWSC, districts and groups informed on what we are thinking and proposing every step of the way. We need to prepare the members for change. We need to get the members feedback along the way. We recognized that PEMs are autonomous like the F-t-F meetings and should not be treated otherwise. Another thing that became apparent in our discussion is to keep it simple. We are not trying to solve everything at once. We have proposed guidelines of how a group can join. Next we will discuss the district aspects of electronic groups.
- We are looking forward to hear what other Areas are doing
- GR Exchange was held, facilitated by Laura F. and Sheila M. GRs responded well to this opportunity
- DR Exchange was held, facilitated by Kathy B.
- Lunch Speaker was Darrin H of Spokane. He was very inspirational!
- Skit performed by Sheila M after the Recovery Count down was well-received.
- Coordinator Reports
 - Paula N.-nothing of note to report, she hasn't done anything lately
 - She does note that she prefers the spirituality of in-person meetings
 - There are no meetings in her home district currently
 - She has had very little contact from WSO although she is to meet via WebEx on 9/22/21 with someone from WSO
 - Alateen- Kathy reported briefly for Bret, Alateen is still struggling to recover from COVID restrictions
 - Bret is sharing this position and the other part of the position still has no one filling it
 - Statewide more Alateen sponsors are needed
 - Group Records-Cheryl S.
 - Reminder: meeting schedule updates go to Laura, the area website coordinator
 - Most meeting records have been updated as the changes are supplied to me. I call the group contact if there is an alert sent to me by WSO and try to get the records updated that way. Currently, the following meetings need information sent to me to update their records:
 - **D7** Wednesday Night Caldwell 5:30pm at Hope Door Plaza was reported as not meeting. Someone went there and no one showed up. The meeting has been put into the "Inactive" status until I hear differently.
 - **D7** Paths to Recovery TH 6:30pm Nampa has no CMA (Current Mailing Address) WSO is getting the quarterly appeal letter returned to them.
 - **D2** Canyon AFG Lewiston has no CMA (Current Mailing Address) I called the group contact, Susan, and she said that she would get back to me with an address, but no calls have been received.
 - **D6** Westside AFG Idaho Falls has no current e-mail and apparently no contact. I used an old contact, Lisa T. but she never responded.
 - In addition to making sure that all changes get posted, DRs need to update their own tri-fold meeting schedules and get them sent to our website coordinator, Laura F., to post on the Idaho Area 13 website.

- Districts that update their meetings and schedules frequently are attracting newcomers.
- DRs can updated their own meetings, if they choose, by logging onto:
 - <https://al-anon.info/OnlineGroupRecords>
- And using their AFG Connects password and login.
- Area Website Coordinator-Laura
 - She has been working with Kathy B, Bret R, and the original author of the area website to determine the best route to move forward with the website
- Archives-Ladora B
 - At spring assembly GRs suggested that submissions for the 2022 Calendar come from the archives, this could be done with the help of the committee
 - Possibly dates important to the founding of Al-Anon/Alateen in Idaho
 - Pictures or other visuals used during the years
- Outreach Coordinator-position not filled, no report
- Literature Center-no report
- District 1-Cheryl S
 - District 1 has 23 active meetings. 3 are strictly Zoom, 2 are hybrids and the remainder are in person.
 - Of those meetings, the district has 12 GRs, with some representing several meetings under the same WSO ID number. We have all District positions filled: DR, secretary, treasurer, outreach, Zoom coordinator and Alateen. We have, also, added an unofficial position that we call “Interstate Liaison”. She is our contact with the Washington Al-Anon District 2 which is just ½ hour from Coeur d’Alene. We share district newsletters and events with each other through our liaison.
 - District 1 also has a dedicated GR, Nicole R., to update our meeting schedules monthly, print them and have them posted on the Idaho Area 13 website and WSO website.
 - District 1 is ready for the Fall Assembly which will be held here on the weekend of September 17-18. Each GR has a responsibility at the Assembly and all are on board and ready to go. I am anticipating 20 members from this district to attend. All of the GRs will be there and many more. We are promoting this as an Al-Anon business/social event with lots of fellowship and fun.
 - Kootenai Behavior Health is our primary outreach project. We provide an Al-Anon panel of 3 members that share their stories every 8 weeks for both in-patient and out-patient facilities. The hospital is so pleased with our member shares that they contacted our outreach person to provide that positive feedback.
 - We continually get lots of newcomers at all of our in-person meetings. Much of the credit goes to our meeting directory person, Nicole, who updates the schedules frequently and to our group records coordinator who posts new directories on our Idaho Area 13 website and prints them for distribution with the district.
- District 5-Cherie G
 - Mondays there are 2 meetings which have good in-person attendance
 - Tuesday there is 1 meeting with low attendance
 - Wednesday there is 1 meeting with low attendance
 - Friday there is 1 meeting with 6-12 people
- Spring Assembly will be May 20-21, 2022
- AWSC Meeting will be March 19, 2022
- 2:45 pm Meeting closed with the Serenity prayer, led by Dianna

