

Southern Arizona Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Steering Committee Minutes

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Kathy with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Concept 9 was read by Kathy

Participants included Kathy, Sue, Alice, Marcia, Frank, Thomas, Michelle

AIS Items of Interest and Reports

Treasurer. Sue reported that the budget committee met and has a proposed budget for the steering committee to discuss next month. There is \$6,700 in the checking account.

Bring a Friend Meeting. The October 5th AIS meeting will be an in-person “Bring a Friend” event from 6 pm to 8 pm in the social hall of Christ United Methodist Church, 655 N. Craycroft, Tucson. The event is potluck. AIS to provide pizza. Kathy to bring supplies. Officers and persons in service positions should have brief prepared remarks re what they do in the office/position and a brief description of their office/service before holding their current office/position. Open positions will be advertised at the event. Sue to read “Four Primary Ideas” (page 20 of Service Manual) before the speakers talk. Keep any agenda at the meeting short. Will use Zell for contributions as well as baskets.

Audit. The informal internal audit done by the Audit Committee was accepted at the September 7 AIS meeting. Sue checked and AIS, which is a small 501C3, is not legally required to do a more formal external audit. There was discussion of the purpose of the audit—internal self-policing.

Public Outreach. There was discussion of whether the Festival of Books would be an appropriate venue to carry the Al Anon message. The group discussed the cost of the booth (\$665 for a nonprofit), the number of volunteer hours to staff the booth (8-5:30 for 2 days), deadlines and confidentiality issues vs. what outreach may look like in the future. The suggestion was to gather input from the group at a future AIS meeting.

There was further discussion of the following: AIS needs a public outreach coordinator. It is not the job of the literature coordinator to be responsible for public outreach. The literature sales at the recent Al Anon convention totaled approximately \$1,500 while sales at the AA convention totaled approximately \$300. Because of supply chain issues, there may not be enough literature for a large event. There was also discussion of public outreach at public health fairs.

Elections. There was discussion of the need to appoint someone ASAP to be the Election Chair. Kathy will announce the need at October Bring a Friend meeting.

Literature.

WSO increased prices of literature to AIS in August. Frank, the literature coordinator, will institute increases in prices as soon as he is ready—cost basis plus 15% rounded up to the half dollar or whole dollar and pamphlets rounded up to next quarter dollar. Prices will be changed on the website.

At the Bring a Friend AIS meeting on October 5, Frank will have a table displaying literature with order forms.

It is a lot of work for the literature coordinator to keep up with inventory in the storage unit using an excel spreadsheet. The storage unit was never intended to be a permanent solution. In the future the committee may want to consider having a task force purchase software for the on-line store.

The committee discussed what literature, including books and pamphlets, is considered public outreach and given away free of charge. In the future may want to have standard norms established for giving away literature. There is a standard budget item for the cost of literature used in meetings at jail. Also the desire is to continue to offer new member packets free of charge.

Kathy closed the meeting around 6 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Next Southern Arizona AIS Steering Committee Meeting:

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Time 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Zoom Number 827 5938 5248/PC 474954

Respectfully submitted by Alice, Secretary.