

Southern Arizona AIS Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 6, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Kathy with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Welcome and Courtesy Guidelines – Kathy

Step 7 – Ricki

Tradition 7 – Julia

Concept 7 – Kathy

Participants included Alice, Andrew, Cheryl, Frank, Gene, Jeff, Julia, Kathy, Marcia, Mike D, Monta, Pam, Ricki, Steve, Sue, Sydney, and Sylvia.

16 voting members present

May Minutes approved by consent.

May Treasurer's report approved by consent.

7th Tradition Basket: Donate online or by mail

AIS Items of Interest

Women's Prison Outreach. Sydney, coordinator of the women's meeting at the Pima County Jail, announced that this once-a-week meeting (which has been on hiatus during the pandemic) will be active again soon. She is in the process of scheduling a time and day, the window for which is 8 am to 3 pm, any day of the week. She currently has enough volunteers (two serve at each meeting) but anticipates that there will be openings. Volunteers must first be cleared and participate in an orientation training. Sydney will help with arranging for both. She has been serving as coordinator for six years and is looking for someone to take over this responsibility. Anyone wishing to serve as a volunteer or the new coordinator should contact Sydney. Her email address is: sdbcingvaz@hotmail.com.

The meeting will need literature. Sue noted that there is a line in the budget for Public Outreach. Ricki made a motion to designate \$200 to purchase literature for the meeting. Julia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sydney will coordinate with Frank in acquiring literature for the meeting.

WSO Appeal/Distribution of Extra Funds. Sue called to the group's attention the special appeal WSO has made for donations in light of a budget deficit estimated to be in excess of \$350,000. She noted that Southern Arizona AIS (1) has already donated \$500 to WSO and \$1000 to the Area this year and (2) has approximately \$13,000 in the savings account (including the ample reserve of \$3750 and the \$1000 set aside for opening an office) and \$6000 in the checking account. Given this abundance and our charge to carry the message, AIS is positioned to consider making an additional donation to WSO. Discussion followed. A question was raised as to whether AIS needs to retain the funds set aside to open an office given last month's vote to put off opening an office for at least a year. It was pointed out that our agreement on this matter requires that we maintain the set aside until we decide not to open an office. It was suggested that AIS make an additional donation to WSO so as to match the amount already given to the Area. Andrew made a motion to donate \$1000 to WSO. Monta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Positions. Concern was again raised over the large number of open positions at AIS (Alternate Chairperson, Secretary, 7th Tradition Coordinator, Archives Coordinator, Alateen Coordinator, Public Outreach Coordinator, and District Representatives for Districts 21, 22, 23, and 25). It was suggested that we bring this matter to the attention of our groups and reach out directly to at least two members (with the required two years of membership in Al-Anon). Kathy will look into scheduling the Meet-a-Friend meeting for the fall. In the past, this meeting has served as means to familiarize Southern Arizona Al-Anon members with AIS and to interest them in service.

Secretary. Steve will take notes for one more meeting (in August) with the hope that someone will step forward and assume this position for the remainder of the year. He also pointed out that Kathy, also, is doing double-duty, as chairperson and, in effect, corresponding secretary.

Discussion followed. A question was raised as to whether we might want to separate the secretary position into a corresponding secretary and a recording secretary (as has been the case in the past). It was also pointed out that, because the position requires taking notes at both the AIS monthly meeting and the Steering Committee monthly meeting, we may want to consider making some modification to reduce the burden of the position.

Officer / Coordinator / DR Announcements & Reports

AIS Chairperson. Kathy invited Monta to speak on the status of preparations for the 2022 Arizona Al-Anon / Alateen Convention with AA participation (July 8th-10th, Westin La Paloma, Tucson). Monta said that the numbers are looking good, registration packets are ready, banquet is settled, and presentations and meetings are all taken care of.

Treasurer. Sue reported that she submitted the documentation that will ensure that Paypal continues to provide AIS with a charity discount. She also said that Paypal's fees are going up. She and Frank have been working on setting up Square for point of payment purchases and have ordered a new reader.

Literature. Frank made literature purchases to cover sales at upcoming conventions. He is also keeping an eye out for popular publications that have been unavailable. His policy has been to purchase literature when it is available as a work around the supply issues.

Al-a-Note. While this position remains open, anyone wishing to send out information that would ordinarily be carried in the Al-a-Note may send that information to Andrew, who will publish it on the website. He will also list on the members' side of the website the contact information of AIS officers and co-ordinators. When Kathy sends out the meeting list, she will also include a PDF copy of the AIS officer and coordinator contact information.

District 20. Ricki has submitted three new meeting applications to WSO. One, a Thursday evening bilingual meeting in Aravaca, has been approved and has been included in the meeting list. Future meetings include a Monday meeting and a Saturday speaker meeting, which starts in

September. Anyone interested in volunteering to speak at the Saturday meeting should contact Ricki.

District 24. Julia reported that District 24 will be meeting on Thursday, July 7th. The agenda for the meeting includes a review of the new service manual; group records updating, and an appeal for donations to WSO. She also noted that the rent is going up at the site of one of the district's meetings and that she will be polling the other groups in the district as to how things stand with their rents. She expressed a concern that rent increases may force location changes and reduce contributions to our service arms.

Kathy closed the meeting at 7:30 with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Next Southern Arizona AIS Meeting:

August 3, 2022

6:30-7:45 PM

Zoom Meeting

Access Code: 879 9286 3715

Passcode: 913121

Respectfully submitted for the Secretary by Steve R.