

Southern Arizona Al-Anon / Alateen AIS Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2021

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 4 – Cheryl J.

Tradition 4 – Ricki

Concept 4 – Sue C.

Participants included Ricki, Tim S, Andrew M, Kathy, Connie, Susan S, Michelle Y, Sue C, Lisa W, Debbie B, Julie, Frank S, Carol, Linda M, Julia C, Cynthia, Judith P, Brian C, Cheryl J, Kimberlie, Maria, Thomas, Mike M, and Steve R

17 voting members present.

April Minutes approved by consent.

April Treasurer's report approved by consent.

7th Tradition Basket: Donate online or by mail.

Action Items

Election of Officers. Judith P. was elected Alternate Chairperson and subsequently resigned her position as 7th Tradition Coordinator. Kathy asked whether anyone was interested in filling the positions still open (Secretary, Office Manager, Archivist, Alateen Coordinator, 7th Tradition Coordinator, and Representatives for District 21, 23, or 25). The positions remain open.

Change to Article VI of Guidelines. The Steering Committee discussed the proposed change to Article VI of the Guidelines, which would allow At-Large Steering Committee members to be included as voting members at AIS. No recommendation emerged from the discussion. The committee decided to table the proposed change for now.

Financial Task Force Report. Kathy reported that the task force to define “ample reserve” and “operating expenses” met in April and will meet again after the tax season.

Postage for Literature. Kathy invited discussion on the question of whether AIS should continue to pay postage for the literature mailed to purchasers. Kathy began with a reminder that the new owners of the storage facility prohibit members from picking up purchased literature at the facility. As a result, literature is being distributed exclusively through the mail. It was pointed out that the budget for shipping costs (postage) is \$150 and that the actual year to date shipping costs (\$159.16) exceed the budget. Frank noted that the postage paid by AIS is approximately 10% of sales and that this cost to AIS is roughly offset by the 10% markup on purchases. There was general agreement to continue paying postage on purchased literature for the time being.

Other Topics of Discussion

SWACYPPA. Kathy reported receiving an email from SWACYPPA requesting assistance from AIS in the form of panelists, leaders and speakers. Debbie B. suggested that the request be sent to the Mary S., the Area Alateen Coordinator.

AIS Returning to In-Person Meetings. Christ Church has sent out COVID guidelines for the use of their facilities. The spacing restrictions for the room AIS has used might allow AIS to return to meeting in person. Julia C. pointed out that the guidelines required the submission of name and contact information, which is a violation of anonymity. Andrew raised the concern that members arriving after all the spaces are occupied would have to be turned away. Several members, noting their lengthy travel time to and from the church, expressed a preference to continue meeting on Zoom. Mike suggested that in-person meetings would still be preferable for special events (Bring a Friend, Elections, Founder's Day), but that ZOOM serves well for regular meetings. An informal poll was taken as to whether AIS ought to continue to meet on ZOOM. There were seventeen voting in favor of remaining on ZOOM, with one abstention.

AIS Office. Julia C. mentioned that a member of a group she attends was curious to know when AIS might reopen an office. Kathy suggested that AIS put off taking up that question until the Office Manager position is filled.

Officer / Coordinator / DR Announcements & Reports.

District 24. Julia C, Alternate DR, reported that the District will meet next month. The District is planning a roaming Area workshop on Sponsorship for Beginners. A few groups in the district are meeting in-person.

District 22. No report.

District 20. Ricki reported that the District is planning a pot luck fundraiser to help cover the cost of attending the convention.

Spanish District 10. No report.

District 5. No report.

Election Chairperson. No report.

Web Coordinator. Andrew had nothing new to report.

Southern Arizona AIS Liaison. Julia C. had nothing new to report.

Translation. Maria requested that documents sent to her for translation be submitted in MS Word (rather than as a PDF).

Twelve Step Calls. No report.

Public Outreach. No report.

Al-a-Note Editor. No report.

Literature. Frank thanked Mike and Jay for filling in while he is recovering from his surgery.

Meeting List. Steve will be adding a color coding for hybrid meetings.

Seventh Tradition. No report.

Liaison to AA. Brian reported that AA is forming a sub-committee for Founders Day. It will be Zoom only. He is looking into whether there will be Al-Anon participation.

Treasurer. Michelle noted the large balance in the savings account is being maintained until the Finance Task Force makes their report. She also noted that the individuals have been responsible for 20% of the year to date donations and groups the remaining 80%. She also noted that donations were down for March. Julia C. suggested comparing March 2020 with March 2021.

Alternate Chairperson. Judith reported that the next Steering Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 19th, at 6:00 p.m.

AIS Chairperson. Kathy had nothing to add to what she had already reported.

Turbocharge Your Recovery Workshop. Information for the workshop is listed on the Southern Arizona and Area Webpages under Events and Workshops. The next workshop is, Saturday, May 15th, at 10:00 a.m. Julia C. requested that the group sponsoring the workshop provide an alternate, printer-ink friendly flier.

2021 Al-anon State Convention. The 2021 Al-Anon State Convention, to be held July 9-11, 2021, at the Tucson Sheraton El Conquistador, will be both in-person and hybrid. Due to the COVID restrictions, there will be a limit on in-person attendees. Volunteers willing to make a 1.5 hour commitment for either the in-person or ZOOM sessions should contact Susan S. Training will be provided. Judith is requesting donations and volunteers for the hospitality room. Registration, hotel reservation, and volunteer information is available on the convention website: <http://www.azal-anonconvention.org/>

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

Next Southern Arizona AIS Meeting:

June 2, 2021

6:30-7:45 PM

Zoom Meeting

Access Code: 879 9286 3715

Passcode: 913121

Respectfully submitted for the Secretary by Steve R.