

Panel 59 AWSC Virtual Conference Meeting May 31, 2020

Opening: Chair Christy B opened with the virtual conference meeting with the Serenity Prayer at 6:30 p.m. She welcomed all and read the purpose of AWSC meetings from the Service Manual. She stated that another purpose of this meeting was as a trial run for the Virtual Summer 2020 Assembly in July and for just to practice and to iron out the technical difficulties. Christy explained the format of the meeting and how the meeting was to be run. All participants, except the designated host, would be muted. The designated host would be the Chair or whomever was giving a report. Members who wanted to talk would electronically raise their hands and Kari Mc, the Area Alternate Delegate, would unmute them.

Linda C, the IT/Media Coordinator, ran a test poll so that the AWSC could practice voting.

Roll Call: The roll call was done electronically by the Zoom list of the participants. The following members were present. **District Representatives:** 04 Jackie C., 06 Jo Ellen D., 08 Nancy R., 09 Bill S., 10 Deb B., 11 Dawn W., 12 Jason B., 12 John C., Alt-DR, 13 Kevin S., 15 Vicki F., 16 Robert L., 20 Suzanne B., 25 Margarita C. **Coordinators:** Alateen Annaika S., AAPP Cathy C., Archives Donna V., Butterfly Connie P., Forum Debbie S., IT/Media Linda C., Public Outreach Kevin S., Records Edward B., Website David W., WIA Chair Donna H., **Officers:** Chair Christy B., Alt Delegate Kari M., Delegate Rick G., Treasurer Grete B., Substitute Secretary Donna H. **Past Delegates:** Panel 38 Dennis G., Panel 47 Tom B., Panel 52 Debbe P., Panel 53 Marilyn B. **Guests:** Karis H.,-AMIAS Training Thought Force, TMF Literature-Task Force, Ernie D., At-Large-Finance Committee

Approval of the January 12 AWSC Minutes : Corrections of the minutes: Deb B said that in the Day In Al-Anon Report it should be "District 10 put the DIA flyer on the website." and not "District 6 reports the the flyer is out there on the website." Jackie C should be listed as in attendance. Robert L DR-6 moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Deb B DR-10 seconded. Passed. 88% approved, 4% opposed, 8% abstained

Officer's Reports:

Delegate's Report: Rick G asked to defer his time to later in the meeting in his Special Report.

Treasurer's Report: Grete said that she needed bit more time and would like to speak later.

Chair's Report: Christy said that she wanted to know if the virtual AWSC informal meetings we had to support DRs was helpful. Please email her if you want to have more of those scheduled - especially with groups looking to go back to face-to-face meetings or doing a hybrid, etc. Christy is looking for volunteers to help testing for our virtual assembly in July - email her if you are willing to participate.

Old Business:

Task Force: Spanish Translation Equipment -Debbe P. Chair - Should be ready to present at the next Assembly or AWSC meeting.

Task Force: Area Ample Reserve Surplus-Suzanne B. Chair The first meeting will be next Sunday, June 7th. They are just getting started.

Task Force: Alateen Behavioral Guidelines-Tom B. Chair Tom stated that there is no report at this time.

Officer's Reports:

Treasurer's Report: The Colorado Area will be donating our budgeted \$1500 to WSO this month. Area donations are down Grete requested that DRs ask that groups in their districts donate to the Area. Grete B. asked that when donations are made that the group ID be included so that she can credit the group with their donation. Dawn W DR-11 said that her district had made donations to DASC and WSO. D-11 members were wondering if the Area needed donations as we are not having regular Assemblies. Kari said that she would address donations during her Area Finance Report presentation.

Rick G made the observation that the Area is not getting donations that are needed. Jackie C requested a copy of the report for her GRs. Grete said that she would email it out. Grete also said that she would send out Quarterly donation reports to Groups to help to sort out who is sending donations.

New Business:

Thought Force Presentation-AMIAS Required Training -Karis H. Chair: The Charge: Explore the Potential need for mandatory of required training of Colorado Area AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service).

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The Committee included: Karis H.-Chair, Annaika S., Janice Z., Rick G., TMF F., Dawn W., Cathy C., Sue K., Karis H. said that the group chose required over mandatory. The words are synonyms but the members felt that the word, required, has a less aggressive feel to it. She stated the Pro and Cons of required training. The recommendation of the Thought Force is: The unanimous recommendation of the Thought Force is that there is a need for training of Colorado Area AMIAS and that this item be moved forward to a Task Force.

Tom B asked how many Areas have required training of AMIAS. Karis said that she did not have that info, another member of the Force had looked into that. Rick offered that he could check with the California North and California South Areas on their training programs.

Suzanne asked what the motivation was for looking into having required Area AMIAS training. Christy answered that Annaika, our Alateen Coordinator, had brought it forward to the AWSC due to experiences the Area has had with AMIAS.

Dawn W., who worked on the Thought Force, said that the Thought Force hoped that work that they have done could be moved forward to defining what required AMIAS training would be in the Colorado Area, basing it on trainings that already exist.

Karis said that the Force had the idea to poll the Colorado AMIAS about what they would like have included in the training.

Deb S asked since the Thought Force has done such a thorough job, does it have to go to a Task Force?

Christy answered that a Thought Force does not have to go to a Task Force and read from page 71 of the Service Manual on *thought force* and *task force*. *Thought forces are "thinkers," not "doers." Task forces are the "doers."*

Deb B said that the Task Force would define what the training actually would be. Rick said there is a lot of what the training could do if this is moved forward to a Task Force. It would be helpful for the members of the Thought Force to carry over into the Task Force.

Suzanne asked if the training needs to be required or can it be optional. Debbie P said that if we add required training to the Area guidelines it won't be optional.

Annaika's concern is for the Alateens who are underage members and they need the protection of having trained AMIAS. Her experience is that members who become AMIAS don't read the materials that she sends in emails to them and that training would ensure that they are aware of how to provide a safe and effective meeting for the Alateen members.

Annaika attended a California Zoom Alateen training that she was impressed with. It was a 3 hour slot of time and could work well for our Area.

Motion for the Thought Force for Colorado Area AMIAS Required Training; Nancy R DR-8 made the motion: That the Thought Force on Colorado Area AMIAS Required Training be moved forward to a Task Force for Colorado Area AMIAS Required Training. Donna V Archives seconded. Passed. Approved-82%, Opposed-5%, Abstained-14%.

Task Force Presentation-Literature Coordinator Position Description TMF-Chair: The Task Force has created a position description for submission for the Assembly's approval. The members of the Force: TMF, Vicki, Leslie, Debby, Michelle with a ton of help from Rick G. The work was wrapped up in December for presentation at the Spring Assembly which was cancelled due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Christy thanked the members of the Task Force for all their work.

Edward B asked if there is any reference to multi-lingual skills for the position. TMF that he didn't think that was in the position description but it could be added.

Deb B asked how it would affect the current Forum Coordinator when the Literature Coordinator position is combined with Forum Coordinator position. Christy said that the current Forum Coordinator is willing to take on the merging of the two positions. One benefits of the merging of the two positions is that it is a funded position.

Tom B asked if the library that the Literature coordinator would maintain would contain one of every CAL item, as it also includes posters and banners. Is it necessary for the library to have every item of CAL?

Rick would like Margarita's input concerning multi-lingual aspect of the position. Tom said that we can move forward with the motion and the Thought Force can add to it when it presents it to the Assembly.

Motion for the Task Force Presentation for the Colorado Area Literature Coordinator Position Description:

Deb B made the motion: to approve and move forward to Assembly, The Colorado Area Literature Coordinator Position Description as presented by the Task Force. Passed. Approved-87%, Abstained-13%.

Special Reports:

Area Finance Report-Kari Mc., Alt Delegate: The 2020 year-to-date is a net of \$6109.01. The Area is in the black for the year as expenses have been far less than has been budgeted. We still have expenses: Zoom (in lieu of Assembly rent @ \$500/Assembly), Rent for Archives @ \$300/mo. AMIAS certifications \$800, Tax Accountant \$475,

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Insurance \$1500. Expenses that have been reduced: Assembly Cost of \$5800 for Spring (no Assembly) and Summer (will be reduced as it will be a virtual Assembly). Southwest Region Delegate's Meeting (SWRDM) only 2 of our covered attendees participated. World Service Conference held online. Officer/Coordinator travel in Area down due to no Spring Assembly and Virtual (online) Summer Assembly. There will be more analysis at the Summer Assembly. Income is also down. The budgeted amount of \$1333 for Assembly fundraisers could not happen with the cancellation of the Spring Assembly and not likely as the Summer Assembly. Will be a virtual meeting. Day In Al-Anon was cancelled, so no income from DIA. There is a net negative of budgeted income from Group donations of \$2.92/group and \$11/ District. What if members attending the Assembly sent in donations to our Area Treasurer?

The Ample Reserve Surplus is \$22,570.

WSO Appeal. WSO has a \$1.6 million shortfall and has requested donations from Groups, Districts and Areas. Our Colorado Area financial status is strong: 1. We have an actual positive of \$8577 for 2020 YTD, 2. Our Sufficient Operating Funds at \$12,785 versus \$10,000 our preferred baseline, 3. \$22,570 Ample Reserve Surplus. We could Donate \$5300 to WSO without hardship to the Area.

Debbe P asked what WSO is doing with the Equalization Fund. It could be sent to WSO as a donation. Deb B asked if the WSO presentation could be sent to AWSC members so that DRs can share it with their Groups. Kari said that she would and Bill S DR-9 thanked her for sending it out.

Delegate's Report-Rick G., Delegate: As delegates, there were lots of questions about what was going to happen to the Al-Anon World Conference with the pandemic happening. The AWC was held as a virtual/online meeting. It was a happy surprise that at the 2019 meeting the delegates had envisioned and worked out having virtual meetings. It had a strong sense of the HP's hand in it. There were AWC shares that were posted on AFG Connects. This will be discussed further at the upcoming Assembly.

Event Reports/Updates:

Weekend in Al-Anon-Donna H., Chair: The committee is planning the event with the awareness that it may be cancelled. Online Registration will be available. The theme is "I Can See Clearly Now, A New Vision for 2020". October 2-4, 2020 at Glacier View Ranch in Ward CO. We have simplified the pricing to \$150 for everyone. The benefit is register early to get the preferred rooms.

State Convention 2020 Update-Brook H., Chair: No report as Brook was not present.

State Convention 2021 Report-Deb B., 2020 Co-Chair/2021 Chair: Having been the 2020 Co-Chair and working with the 2020 Convention committee Deb felt that it would be more productive to be embedded with the 2021 AA Committee. AA has three years of committees already set up and she thinks that it would be better to have the Al-Anon Convention Co-Chair work with the committee of the year that they are chairing. She would like to discuss it with the AWSC.

Open Position: GR connection Co-Chair for 2020: The 2020 GR Connects Co-Chair resigned just after the November Assembly so there is no Chair for 2021 GR Connects as the Co-Chair becomes the Chair. Jolene will finish out her term through 2020. So we will need to elect a new 2020 GR Connects Co-Chair at the upcoming Assembly. Please let GRs know that the position is open and consider standing for the position.

Virtual Summer Assembly: We need volunteers to have practice Zoom meetings to get ready for our Summer Assembly to help work out the difficulties of having a virtual meeting. We will be having training for people new to large virtual meetings. We will be able to have up to 300 people on the Zoom Summer Assembly meeting. Requesting that members register early so that the meeting can be set up and be ready to go. We will have Spanish interpreters and Spanish Speakers in a breakout room. The virtual Assembly will be 3 hours with a break.

Poll Questions:

Question 1: Assembly Format

Results:	Morning	9 a.m.-12p.m.	22%
	Afternoon	1 p.m.-4 p.m.	13%
	3 hrs w/ speakers & Breakouts		48%
	3 hours with Speaker or Breakouts		30%

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Question 2: "I would like to see us offer a 1 hour GR Connects, DR Breakout and Coordinator Breakout

Results: Sunday morning - 6
 Saturday Night - 5
 Friday Night - 9
 No Breakout - 3

Christy thanked everyone for being on the call and closed the meeting with the AI-Anon Declaration.

Closing: We closed with the AI-Anon Declaration at 8:39 p.m.