# AWSC Teleconference Meeting **Draft** Minutes, 06/07/2026

Attendees: Adrian B. Technology Coordinator; Beth G.; Bill F. DR7 alt; Brandi H Alateen Co-Coordinator; Brice H. Group Records; Chesley M., Past Delegate; Colleen D., DR20; Deb C., DR 24; Dennis G., Archives; Grete M., Alt Delegate; Honey C., DR 13; Janice Z., CO Treasurer; Joleen H., Spanish Coordinator; Judy R., Secretary; Julie R., Literature/Forum coordinator; Kara E., DR 11; Katherine C., DR8; Linda C., Area Chair; Marcia S., GR Connection Chair; Marie WP., DR 22; Marilyn B., Past Delegate; Rich L., DR 16; Sheila A., Website coord; Sue W., Butterfly/La Mariposa Newsletter; Tammy C., DR14; TMF., Delegate P65; Wendy M., DR2

## Opening

- Chair Linda welcomed attendees.
- Serenity Prayer.
- Sheila W. read the Twelve Traditions and Marie WP read the Twelve Concepts/Warranties.

## Meeting Information

- Audio recording was made to assist with preparation of the minutes.
- Attendance will be taken from the Zoom participant list.

## Approval of Previous Minutes

Several corrections were identified for the March AWSC Spring Assembly minutes:

- Website report should read "beef up your page on the website."
- References to "AWSC" should be corrected to "WSC" where referring to the World Service Conference.
- Correct "excited my electronic group" to "exited my electronic group GR position."
- Correct inconsistent capitalization of the acronym "AMIAS."
- Literature/Forum Coordinator report had been omitted previously but has now been added.

**Motion:** Approve the March AWSC Spring Assembly minutes as amended.

**Result:** Motion passed by majority.

## Announcements & Updates

- Secretary Judy requested all reports be submitted via email in Word document format to facilitate minutes preparation.
- Summer Assembly updates: capacity is 122 in the conference room; hotel rooms at the venue are booked; Durango is 20 minutes away. Butterfly article submissions extended to Saturday; presentations due July 19th.
- Assembly setup details: No tables will be inside the conference room except one; space for tables will be available in the hallway by the conference entrance for silent auction, archives, and possibly literature displays.
- Linda announced plans to request permission from the hybrid committee to enable voice recording via Zoom at assemblies to assist with minute-taking. This practice is already permitted in the area guidelines for secretary purposes and is common in other areas according to AFG Connects.
- The AAPP Coordinator position will be vacated as Lori is relocating to a different area and will depart in December. Lori will be available for cross-training with her successor before her departure. DRs are encouraged to share the position description with GRs for the Summer Assembly election.
- The 2027 state convention would be held in Grand Junction. Following standard practice, the co-chair for 2026 is expected to become the 2027 chair, and a new co-chair position will need to be filled. State Convention Chair, Colleen, noted 20 rooms remain at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs for the 2026 convention.
- Winter Assembly will be held at the DTC in Greenwood Village; room booking is open.

- Marcia (GR Connections) announced three upcoming Zoom sessions: July 19 (GR introductory basics/Q&A), August 1 (public outreach introduction), and September 27 (KBDM workshop).
- Marilyn announced that she and Tom will not attend the July assembly due to travel to their beach cottage in Rhode Island; they will be flying on the assembly date and unable to participate even via Zoom.
- Treasurer Janice announced that the area bank account will transition from First Bank to PNC in mid-June, resulting in new account numbers and a new debit card. Janice clarified that checks with the old bank information can still be deposited without any problem.
- The original deadline for Butterfly articles was July 10th, which Sue extended to Saturday to accommodate busy schedules. Presentations are due by Sunday, July 19th.

## Key Takeaways

### World Service Conference Key Decisions

- TMF (Delegate) reported on the World Service Conference (WSC) held in April, highlighting three major outcomes: the Group Naming Policy, the Single Trustee Process, and Electronic Alateen — all passed with substantial unanimity.

#### *Group Naming Policy*

- The Group Naming Policy reverts to allowing group names with identifiers, but groups must honor Tradition 3 and welcome all Al-Anon members; WSO will not register non-compliant groups. TMF plans educational outreach to all Colorado groups with identifiers over the next year.
  **Honey**: You mentioned visiting existing Colorado groups with identifiers in their names over the next year — can you clarify what that outreach will look like?
  **TMF**: The outreach will be purely educational. Colorado does not currently have a delisting policy, so no punitive action is involved. The goal is simply to ensure groups are aware that Tradition 3 requires them to welcome all Al-Anon members, even if their group name includes an identifier such as "women's," "men's," or "parents'." Many groups are unaware of this requirement, and the conversations will focus on education rather than enforcement.

#### *Single Trustee Process Details*

- The Single Trustee Process adopted Option 1 (modified to preserve regional voice), with a three-year trial period beginning in 2028. All trustees will eventually be known simply as "trustees," with no regional distinction. Option one was selected because it best maintains regional voice by keeping the Regional Committee of Trustees (RCT). Tom Blake will serve as the new Southwest Regional Trustee, and when his term ends, Colorado will participate under the new single trustee selection process. The new timeline requires trustee applications to be submitted by June 15th, after which delegates and group records coordinators will be notified if applicants are from their area. Areas then have until August 15th to provide feedback—not approval, but additional information to help WSO better understand the candidate.
  **Chesley**: Can you briefly outline the three options for the Single Trustee Process and explain why Option 1 was chosen?
  **TMF**: Option 1 was chosen because it best preserved the regional voice. The other options involved dissolving the Regional Committee of Trustees (RCT), eliminating that regional representation. Under the modified Option 1, the RCT and the Conference Committee of Trustees (CCT) will be combined into a body with regional and panel representation. All trustee applications will be due by June 15; areas will have until August 15 to provide feedback (not a yes/no vote, but supplementary information). After the process is complete, all trustees will

simply be called "trustees" — the distinction between trustees-at-large and regional trustees will be removed. The three-year trial begins in 2028.

### *Electronic Alateen Implementation*

Three separate motions were passed regarding electronic Alateen:

- Recognition of electronic Alateen groups as official Al-Anon family groups
- Implementation of the World Service Conference Electronic Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (WSCEASBR)
- Recognition of the Global Electronic Alateen Safety Minimums (GEASMs), which will be shared with nations outside the WSO structure for their own implementation

A significant change: electronic Alateen groups are no longer restricted by area boundaries. Any Alateen member living within the WSO structure (United States including Puerto Rico, Canada, or Bermuda) can attend any electronic Alateen meeting in any area that has opted in. The opt-in date was moved from June to September to give areas more time to make their decision.

**Marie**: Will electronic Alateen meetings still be restricted by the state/area going forward?
**TMF**: No. Once an area opts in (opt-in date is now September), electronic Alateen groups operate like any other Al-Anon family group. Any Alateen member residing within the WSO structure — the United States (including Puerto Rico), Canada, or Bermuda — may attend any electronic Alateen meeting in any opted-in area, regardless of which area hosts the group.

## Colorado Area Guidelines Amendment Proposal

- Grete proposed amending the Colorado Area Guidelines at the end of Section 1 and Section 7 to allow the Policy, Procedure & Guidelines Committee to make housekeeping changes without requiring two assembly discussions. Housekeeping changes are defined as "any item from the Colorado Guidelines that is currently not being used or needs updating, such as updating addresses; adding, updating, or removing language that does not change content or is no longer relevant." Examples include removing outdated mailing permit information and updating registered agent addresses. While these changes won't require Assembly approval, the Alternate Delegate as Chair of the committee will inform the Assembly to ensure transparency. The committee discussed the definition of actively participating members and confirmed that past delegates who attend assemblies and AWSC meetings would qualify. The motion will be moved forward to the summer assembly for a vote, with Grete offering to email the details to committee members in advance for review by their GRs.

  **Wendy**: How many people are on the Policy, Procedure & Guidelines Committee, and who are they?
  **Grete**: The committee consists of all past delegates who are currently actively participating at the area level (attending assemblies and AWSC meetings), plus TMF in an advisory/non-voting capacity.

  **Sheila**: How is "actively participating" defined for committee membership?
  **Grete**: Active participation generally means attending assemblies — not necessarily every assembly but showing up regularly — and attending AWSC meetings. Past delegates who have not attended an assembly in years would not be considered actively participating.

  **Kara**: Did this proposal arise because specific changes are already planned, or is it purely about streamlining the procedure?

  **Grete**: Both. In reviewing the guidelines, Grete noticed outdated items (e.g., mailing permits that are no longer used). Rather than going through two full assembly discussions for every minor clerical update, the proposal creates a housekeeping clause so the committee can make those changes efficiently. Once the clause is adopted, subsequent small changes can be made as needed without requiring two assembly discussions.

**Marcia**: Does this proposed change to the guidelines itself require discussion at two assemblies before it can be voted on?

**Grete**: Yes. The proposed amendment will be discussed at the Summer Assembly (first discussion) and the Winter Assembly (second discussion), with a vote possible at the Winter Assembly if the assembly feels sufficiently informed.

**Marcia**: Would Grete be willing to participate in the GR Connection Zoom session before the Summer Assembly to briefly explain this proposal?

**Grete**: Yes, depending on her AWSC responsibilities at that time, she would be willing to participate.

- The AWSC voted in favor of moving this proposal to the Summer Assembly for first discussion.

## Policy and Position Updates

The meeting focused on discussing policy changes and updates to position descriptions. Marcia asked about the process for discussing policy changes at two assemblies, and Grete confirmed this would happen at Summer and Winter Assemblies. The group discussed where policy guidelines are located on the website, with Sheila providing guidance on the location (under Members → Colorado Area Documents). Linda emphasized the importance of updating service position descriptions by spring 2027 in preparation for elections, noting they need review by TMF and Grete before being presented to the Assembly. All officers and coordinators were asked to complete their position description updates with this timeline in mind. Marilyn suggested that the Area consider creating position descriptions for past delegates, though no formal action was taken on this suggestion.

## Hybrid Task Force Progress Update

Wendy provided an update on the hybrid task force, which currently has 8 members: Adrian (IT Media Coordinator), Joanne (Past IT), Terry (Past Delegate, Panel 50), Willard (Past Records), Wendy (District 2), Kara (District 11), Sue (from Butterfly), and Jennifer C. The team is working on creating position descriptions and next steps for the hybrid coordinator role and has begun drafting a Zoom guide documenting their processes. The team discussed concerns about funding for volunteers, noting that DR and GR participants may have divided focus between their district duties and hybrid responsibilities. The challenge of transitioning from the current trial period ending November 2027 to potentially moving forward with a permanent hybrid program was discussed.

**Colleen**: Can a district group gather in one room to watch the assembly together as a hybrid watch party, rather than each person logging in individually?

**Wendy / Adrian**: The primary concern is voting. Each voting member needs to log in with their own account to ensure votes are properly tallied. Members do not need to have their video on, but individual logins are required for voting members. A group could display a room video feed for visual presence, but individual logins remain necessary for voting purposes.

**Katherine**: Does the hybrid task force have a timeline for completing position descriptions, and how will the transition to a permanent team be managed before the trial ends in November 2027?

**Wendy**: The transition timeline is one of the most challenging aspects. The task force is still working on position descriptions and next steps. Wendy acknowledged that ideally a new team should be identified well before the trial ends, potentially requiring presentation at two assemblies prior to November 2027. The exact timeline remains under discussion, and the trial period could potentially be extended by the assembly.

**Katherine**: Will the vote on hybrid's future happen at Winter Assembly 2027, and could there be a gap in hybrid service afterward?

**Linda**: A formal vote is not anticipated at Winter Assembly 2027. Rather, the task force will inform the assembly that the trial period has ended and present findings. The assembly will then determine next steps, which could include extending the trial. There may be a period of uncertainty, but the process will involve at least two assembly discussions before any final decision.

The discussion concluded with questions about timelines for presenting position descriptions and voting, with Linda indicating the trial would likely end in December 2027 and be presented at that Assembly, though the actual vote on continuation would depend on future assembly decisions.

**Clarification on Hybrid Trial Timeline**

There was some confusion during the meeting about exact dates. The hybrid trial period ends at Winter Assembly 2027 (November/December timeframe). Linda clarified that the trial ending will be *presented* at Winter Assembly 2027, but a formal vote on whether to continue hybrid is not expected at that assembly — the process will involve at least two assembly discussions before any final decision. The trial period could also be extended by assembly decision. If the trial ends without a continuation plan in place, there may be a gap in hybrid service availability.

## Thought & Task Force Updates

- The Alateen Task Force (TMF) is wrapping up and will present a recommendation at the area assembly; a show of hands will gauge GR readiness before a formal vote, with the option to wait until Winter Assembly.
- Linda announced formation of two new task forces: one for website archives and one for safety and behavioral guidelines. Charges for both task forces will be made available before the Summer Assembly.

## Proposed Topics Updates

- The proposed topic on re-evaluation of the electronic group registration process was withdrawn after Sheila received adequate answers to her questions about the registration process, eliminating the need for further assembly discussion.

### *AWSC Meeting Etiquette Guidelines*

Marilyn's proposed topic on trusted servant behavior at assemblies (specifically addressing phone scrolling for non-essential purposes and side conversations that disrupt others' ability to hear) did not achieve majority support for a formal workshop (10 of 26 in favor). Specific concerns raised included: phone use for viewing personal photos during meetings, side conversations during presentations, and general distractions. The group acknowledged that some phone use is legitimate (notetaking), making it difficult to distinguish appropriate from disruptive use. The group discussed whether the issue was about disrupting others or judging how individuals spend their time. Deb questioned the purpose of the proposed guidelines. Rather than creating a formal workshop, multiple members (Katherine, Kara, Julie) suggested simply incorporating behavioral reminders — similar to those given at assemblies — into standard AWSC meeting openings. The consensus was that regular reminders about respect, attention, and minimizing distractions would be more practical than a formal workshop.

### *Alateen Coordinator Role Proposal*

Brandi and Linda discussed the proposal to add a co-coordinator for the Alateen program, with Brandi explaining that the role had become too large for one person, especially as they expand the program through

SROs (School Resource Officers) and school counselors. Brandi clarified that they were proposing to change the title to "alternate Alateen coordinator" rather than co-coordinator, to ensure continued program presence at events without creating multiple decision-making heads or double-headed management. This would also allow for more seamless reimbursement processes. Marcia suggested developing a committee structure with Brandi as a member. TMF noted that if Colorado opts into electronic Alateen, the coordinator role will expand significantly with responsibilities for electronic AMIAS registration and oversight — primarily falling on the coordinator — so the area may want to revisit this proposal at that time. Discussion will continue at the Summer Assembly; the proposal may need clarification and refinement.

### *Al-Anon Program Unity Concerns*

Sheila raised concerns about unity in the Al-Anon program, noting that an Al-Anon speaker at an event had not mentioned any Al-Anon-specific tools or literature during a presentation. The speaker mentioned tools common with AA (sponsorship, steps) and AA-specific materials (the Big Book, Seventh Step Prayer, columns for personal inventory), but no Al-Anon slogans or conference-approved literature. Sheila shared that this prompted her own reflection—when she went home and did a resentment inventory, she realized she was using a tool that wasn't Al-Anon-specific, highlighting that while members may personally use non-conference-approved materials, speakers representing the program should focus on Al-Anon tools. The group discussed the importance of using Al-Anon literature and tools to maintain program unity. Linda emphasized the need to follow Al-Anon traditions in meetings and events, noting that she provides host committees with guidelines requesting Al-Anon speakers use Al-Anon literature. She referenced the opening of "Many Voices, One Journey" where Lois discussed how traditions weren't followed in Al-Anon's early days, acknowledging this has been an ongoing challenge.

Chesley contributed several practical suggestions to strengthen Al-Anon unity:

- Promote "Groups at Work" materials ($1.10 each, inexpensive enough for each member to have their own copy) instead of outdated plastic sheets that haven't been produced by WSO in 20 years
- Implement a Forum drawing tradition: members contribute 25 cents with their name for a Forum drawing, with a "drum roll" to create excitement and encourage Forum engagement — a practice that could help address declining Forum subscriptions

The group affirmed that while members may personally use non-conference-approved materials in their own recovery, meetings and events should follow Al-Anon traditions and use Al-Anon literature to maintain program unity. Discussion will continue at the Summer Assembly AWSC.

### *AWSC Budget Meeting Planning Discussion*

Grete proposed hosting an in-person AWSC budget meeting in September (tentatively scheduled for September 27), noting that before COVID these meetings were always held in person and generated much more robust conversation than virtual meetings. Participants expressed concerns about the difficulty of organizing a hybrid event and the challenges of distance—Rich from District 16 noted the travel burden, and Wendy from District 2 acknowledged that hosting from the Western Slope would likely result in low attendance. Linda clarified that the meeting would be virtual unless a district volunteered to host it in person, with the possibility of hybrid if someone could assist with organizing it. The hybrid option was acknowledged as requiring additional support beyond just a host, potentially from the hybrid team or from local groups experienced with hybrid meetings. Grete agreed to provide information on hosting requirements to all members for consideration, and the group acknowledged the importance of considering both in-person and virtual options while continuing discussions on the best approach.

The meeting closed at 8:20 PM with Linda leading the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration: "Let it begin with me. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there, and let it begin with me."

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda C. Panel 65, Area Chair