

## Area World Service Committee Meeting Minutes~ April 19, 2011

### *Area 49 – Rhode Island*

#### **OPENING:**

7:05 pm

- Moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer
- Read Traditions (*Service Manual, pp 15-16*)
- Read Concepts & General Warranties (*Service Manual, pp 19-20*)
- Read excerpt from Service Manual (*Service Manual, Concept Six*)
- 6 Al-Anon members; 6 voting members; 2/3 vote will be 4, and everyone in attendance has voice.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- Secretary's report - Minutes from March were accepted with corrections.
- Treasurer's report - March expenditures were \$850, income was \$555. April is not looking good. May need to send out an appeals letter. Will watch and let us know.
- Delegate's report Gave report on WSC. Monday was orientation and opening dinner where she was pinned by her conference sponsor. Tuesday they received the WSO treasurer's report – we are okay. The mortgage for the office has been paid off after 15 years, so those funds can now be redirected to other needs. Release of the new website which has a focus on the newcomer was announced. There were two international members at WSC, from New Zealand and Mexico. Also, departing delegates gave 3-minute talks throughout the day. A soft cover version of *How Al-Anon Works* is being released which will sell for \$5. This is a trial run. If it goes well they will also print it in Spanish and French. The newest Al-Anon book, *Many Voices, One Journey* was released at WSC. Each delegate was given a copy. The first 10,000 copies will also get a commemorative bookplate. Canada formed a task force to look for a new regional delegate. RI Delegate was randomly selected to serve on that search. Wednesday they talked about the difference between a thought force and a task force. We might want to use thought forces in our KBDM process; it could be a good bonding tool for GRs to get to know each other – not as intimidating as a task force. Current WSO thought forces were discussed, (1) How to Deal with Non-conforming Groups and (2) Cultural Competency. Some Al-Anon groups in other areas are purchasing translating equipment for use by Spanish speaking members. They also discussed the Abundances Survey that is on the members website. The delegates visited WSO and our Delegate's favorite part was the warehouse where she could picture the literature being shipped all over the world. On Thursday and Friday she attended two workshops: (1) Active Listening and (2) Learning Styles. There also were presentations on (1) Memorial Contributions, (2) Service, and (3) Where Contributions are Spent. One of the 10 motions voted on was owning property which was passed by a vote of 95 ayes, 1 nay. Friday they discussed the

bidding process for the 2018 AI-Anon Convention. The Delegate thanked the AWSC for the flowers and everyone for the love gifts and cards. She learned that other areas have struggles too. There is a plan for a new book on intimacy (all types) and they are encouraging people to send in articles to the *Forum*. She would like to propose that RI consider a Thought Force on bidding and hosting the 2018 International Convention to be held the July 4th weekend.

- Lifelines newsletter was reviewed and approved with the corrections.

- Assembly agenda – The Coventry Senior’s Center will accept a donation. The Assembly Agenda Task Force had considered several versions of the agenda. The Area Chair tried to keep the breakout groups in the agenda since the feedback from past assemblies was very positive about the breakout groups. They wanted to ensure that there was enough time for the delegate to give her report and also have time to present, discuss, and vote on the policies. After considerable discussion, it was agreed to have the roll call by the DRs immediately before the introductions. A discussion on staggering the AWSC terms will be added. A request will be sent out to the AWSC to bring posters describing their jobs for the GRs to view during breaks. The Delegate would like to have a data projector for her report. Minutes from previous assembly are missing. The Area Chair gave the past secretary suggestions for locating the minutes on her computer. District 4 DR. will try and locate her notes from the assembly to see if she can put together back-up minutes.

- Assembly guidelines – The Area Chair presented the draft *Assembly Guidelines* prepared by the Assembly Guidelines Task Force. The guidelines were reviewed and several changes were discussed. A motion was made and approved to accept the Assembly Guidelines as amended and send them to the DRs.

- Policies – The Area Chair presented the revisions from the Policy Committee for the two policies that the November Assembly had returned to the policy committee for revisions.

After discussing the changes that were made a motion was made and approved to add the revised policy 02-2010 to the June 2011 Assembly agenda.

After discussing the changes that were made to the policy and attached flowchart a motion was made and approved to add the revised policy 01-2010 to the June 2011 Assembly agenda.

Adjourned 9:15 p.m.