

Rhode Island Al-Anon Family Groups Area World Service Committee Meeting MINUTES
106 Rolfe Square, Cranston, RI 02910 September 16, 2017 10:15 am

Members Present: Chair David, Delegate Phyllis (via phone), Literature Coordinator Barbara, Office Coordinator Jane, District 1 Rep Shawn, District 3 Rep Terry, Lifelines Editor Elaine, Alateen Coordinator Megan, Email Coordinator Dennis, AA Liaison Ann-Marie

- 1) **June 24th Meeting Minutes** – motion and second for acceptance and minutes approved.

- 2) **Discussion:** Concerns were raised about so many experienced people leaving their Area positions at once. David shared that although many positions were being vacated, it didn't necessarily mean that the people were leaving Area service. In addition, each person has plans to help transition whoever takes over their position. As an example, the previous AA Liaison worked closely with Ann-Marie through the AA Convention of that year, and Ann-Marie will do the same. Also, the vote will be at the November Assembly but roles will not be assumed until January.

- 3) **Service Reports:**
 - a. Chairperson Report – Over the summer, David attended a gathering of four out of the six New England Al-Anon Area chairs. The meeting was very productive, with attendees exchanging ideas and best practices e.g. websites, conferences. One idea was to have similar gatherings for other New England Area officers. AWSC members present were asked whether they might be interested in a one-day event similar next year for their service position, and the response was positive.
 - b. Treasurer's Report – Tami was not present but David gave an update. We have appx. \$5K on hand, which is good, but we are waiting for our 3 upcoming income-generating occurrences, namely the Workshop, annual appeal, and a literature donation.
 - c. Alateen Coordinator Report – No update beyond confirming that will transition her position;
 - d. AA Liaison – looking for an Al-Anon speaker for the 2018 March AA Convention. The dates are March 23-25th. Leaders are registered for the convention; online registration will be available.
 - e. Email Coordinator – Explanation of duties.
 - f. Lifelines Editor – Editor has issued 2 newsletters so far. She is looking for more member shares; getting very positive feedback. Jane suggested coordinating a Lifelines/Forum writing workshop. Elaine asked the group to talk the newsletter up and print copies in meetings.
 - g. Office Coordinator – The office has two open positions. She is changing the description from "hotline" volunteer to "at home" volunteer. The office is very grateful for the new printer. We also have a new Spanish translator.
 - h. Literature Coordinator – Literature sales are up. Barbara is limiting how often she fills literature orders to make the time more manageable. Mail orders get turned around within at least 2 weeks. Groups save money on postage if they order through the Area rather than the WSO. The Literature Center is self-supporting. Newcomer packet is new – all the pamphlets are now in one binding.
 - i. Group Records – Chris was not present but David gave an update. Records updates are turning around quickly.

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- j. District 1 Rep –meeting planned before Workshop. District picnic report given.
- k. WSO Delegate – we have a new WSO Executive Director. Next International Convention is in July 2018 in Baltimore; Phyllis hoping to have many RIAFG members attend. Group E-news now called In the Loop. Members can sign up to receive via email.
- l. Workshop Coordinator – Tom was not present but David gave an update. The group appreciated the workshop flyer and program. Need meeting leaders; many Area officers volunteered. Correspondence should go to: workshop.riafg@gmail.com. The group is revising the raffle process according to an easier process that Ann-Marie used; Ann-Marie will send directions. Area officers are asked to talk the workshop up, distribute the flyers and the program in meetings, and to request volunteers and gift baskets.

4) Communication Task Forces:

- a. Task Force One (website) – task force is in preliminary stages, and Phyllis will report on the direction the group will take once they meet.
- b. Task Force Two (refining methods of communication) – meeting to follow the Area meeting. May not need more than 2 meetings total; outcomes to be finalized by end of December.

5) Meeting adjourned at 12p

6. Next meeting, December 2.

Prepared and submitted by:

**Terry L.
District 3 Representative**