

Present: Chair David G., Delegate Phyllis H., Literature Coordinator Barbara H., Office Coordinator Jane A., Treasurer Tami K., District 1 Rep Shawn J., (new) Lifelines Editor Elaine H.

•**OPENING:** Motion and Second for approval of 4/15/17 Minutes; Vote: passed

•**AWSC MATTERS:**

1) **Spring Assembly 6/3/17**

David G. says RI attendance at Assemblies is at 45% and better than the nationwide average.

Assembly Evaluations were reviewed: Evaluations were positive! We need to make sure the Assembly packets are distributed by the DRs to the groups. Food is the topic that needs to be clearer. We have the budget for food; perhaps AWSC and host District could have a shared budget contribution to pay for food. The Assembly flier and the Agenda packet cover letter for 6/3/17 Assembly said to bring your own lunch and a dish to share if you wish. Takeout food arrived at lunchtime and a lot of pizza was left over. For guidance, there are guidelines that Phyllis will make available via email to Jane and David and a hard copy can be stored in the office file cabinet.

2) **Intro of new Lifelines Editor** Elaine H. WELCOME! Phyllis took contact info from Elaine, and gave her a binder of reference materials. Phyllis will get her contact info to WSO. Elaine becomes part of "AFG Connects" –helpful for newsletter editor ideas (from other areas.)

3) **District 2 has a new DR:** Charles W. David has arranged a meeting of District 2 Monday, July 17 at Panera in Wakefield 6-7 PM. GRs will have the opportunity to vote for Charles as their DR at this meeting .

4) **Fall Assembly 11/4/17** at Kingston Congregational Church, 2610 Kingstown Rd.,Kingston. A check for \$75 was given to David for securing the facility. This information will be added to the website under "Events."

5) **Fall Workshop 10/7/17** at Ray Hall Butler Campus in Providence. This information will be added to the website under "Events." Barbara H volunteered to make arrangements with Butler ONLY. Tom H. is the 2017 Workshop Coordinator; there is a binder at the office for the Workshop; a Committee is helpful. David will contact Denise C. to ask her to be a mentor for Tom. NOTE: the AWSC meeting in September must be held before the Assembly and the Workshop! It is scheduled for 9/16/17.

6) **Diversity and Inclusion Statement** was reviewed and discussed. "Rhode Island Al-Anon Family Groups are welcoming and accessible to family members and friends of alcoholics, and to people who have been impacted by someone else's drinking. We value inclusion and diversity from all segments of our community and respect the dignity of each person regardless of ethnic origin, race, socio-economic class, gender, sexual orientation or physical ability." Motion and Vote passed to place this on the website.

7) **AWSC positions** that end in December 2017: Chair, Delegate, Treasurer, Alateen Coordinator, AA Liaison, Literature Coordinator, and District 2 DR.

These ought to be announced now (perhaps in Lifelines once Elaine gets it going) prior to the Fall Assembly. Attraction rather than promotion. Shawn J. says "We know our positions best! We can start grooming, introducing others to them.

Tami K. shared about the support she received from the out-going Treasurer when she took office and that it was very encouraging and helpful.

8) **Communication Thought Force** discussion at the Spring Assembly 2017 has empowered the AWSC to form a Task Force to accomplish the goals of the Thought Force. All of the efforts of the Thought Force are noted with thanks.

Communications Thought Force and Task Force efforts will improve our effectiveness. David G. to be Task Force Chair, with two Committees.

Communication Task Force Committee 1: (new website) Phyllis H. (chair), Tami K., Barbara H., Mike, welcome others.

Communication Task Force Committee 2: (replace Service and Announcements Lists/new means of communication/new email service/communication with other Areas) Megan B. (chair), Shawn J., Barbara M., Terry, Susan H. , Jane A.(?), and Elaine H, welcome others. (Probably will hold meetings via WebX or Go-to-meeting.)

David G. is “ex-officio” on these Committees.

David will send information about the Task Force Committees to the Announcements list to get the word out and allow others to volunteer to be on the Committees.

TIMETABLE proposed: Progress update at 9/16/17 AWSC Meeting; Announcement at the Fall Workshop 10/7/17; Report to GRs at November Assembly; Active by the New Year 2018.

The Task Force Committees were given the okay to incur possible necessary expenses (user access, website consultation). The AWSC approved up to \$500 per year for such expenses. (For example, the Alateen Coordinator’s budget includes \$96/year for Squarespace website service.)

David G. is meeting with the other New England Regional Area Chairs on 8/5/17. He sees it as an opportunity to gain experience-related information from other Areas (example: website suggestions.)

•REPORTS:

Treasurer – informal –all okay: Cox and Insurance for liability all paid. The Yellow Pages invoice can always be discarded.

Literature Chair –Shelves are being bought/printer cost split with Office budget---Barbara H. has streamlined the processes for her position. She makes a once per year donation (at the end of year) to the Area now, much simpler than in the past.

Office – Jane announced the closure of service by Dennis S., a believer in “rotation of service.” He was here for 2 years, and we thank him for his excellent service. Card was passed to sign.

-Computer issues - are being addressed by DeanH and Phyllis H. We may need to purchase an operating system, cost to follow. Phyllis is researching connectivity now.

-New printer - Printer is not operating properly. A new one will be purchased (Barbara H.) Jane will try to find a home for the new toner we just purchased.

-Office volunteers - Please advertise the need for Office volunteers at your meetings, thanks.

District 1 DR – a Fellowship event is 7/16/17 Slater Park –Cookout! 12-5 p.m. Friends and Families in District 1 invited.

District meetings are alternated between Tuesdays and Thursdays to accommodate GRs who have meetings on those nights. More fellowship events to come: Pot luck, game night.

Delegate – WSO has 5 candidates for Executive Director position to interview at August Board meeting.

•**Next AWSC Meeting:** Saturday, 9/16/17, 10:15 a.m. -12:00 p.m. preceded by a brief Al-Anon meeting 9:45-10:15 a.m.

•Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane A.