

Oregon Area World Service Committee Meeting

Host: Virtual

October 10, 2020

Start: 8:30 am

Welcome; Serenity Prayer & Reminders (Microphone & Voting Statement w/ changes for the Virtual Platform): Dawn K., Chair

- To make a comment or ask a question type Comment in the Chat and I will monitor the chat to call on members in order.
- You can use the Chat to write notes to individuals or to the group.
- No Photography
- The only recording will be made by the secretary on a local drive for documenting the minutes.
- Speak only one time per discussion and only for 2 minutes.
- We will attempt to use Polls to gain group conscience or vote.
- Introduced Visitors – Milton GR D5, Trish Alt DR D7

12 Traditions: Joan F. CPC; **12 Concepts & Warranties:** Mary Lynn J. Alt. Delegate**Virtual Meeting Participation Guidelines Discussion:** Dawn K., Chair (See Attachment – *Virtual meeting Participation Guidelines*)

- Reviewed the 10/3/2020 Draft of the Virtual Meeting Participation Guidelines. There were a few changes from the last meeting.
- Poll – Do you accept the Virtual Meeting Participation Guidelines as presented? Everyone Votes
 - 100% acceptance

Roll Call: Deanna M. Secretary

- Excused: Jami J. Literature Coordinator, Amanda D. AIS Liaison
- Unexcused: Jenni H. DR D6; Helen L. DR D9; Charles T. DR D12; Tama S. Archives;
- Vacant District Representatives: Districts: 3, 8, 15,
- Guest: Milton (GR D5), Trish (Alt DR D7)
- 24 Voting AWSC Members

Approval of Minutes: June 2020 AWSC Minutes

- Correction –
 - Sheet 1: Reading of the 12 Traditions was Meredith D representing District 5 not District 1
- Poll: Do you accept the Final Draft Minutes for the June 2020 AWSC as corrected?
 - Motion by: Dawn B. Public Information; Seconded by: Joanne C. Group Records
 - 23 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 2 guest
 - June 2020 AWSC Minutes were approved as corrected

Treasurer's Report: Barb B. Treasurer; (See Attachment - *Treasurer's Report*)

- Reported:
 - Made the donation to WSO per the budget Line 68 this last month.
 - Would like to discuss at the Assembly that we make an additional donation to WSO from Oregon Area this year because we had less expenses this year than budgeted
 - We will be getting a partial refund sometime in the near future (Probably November) of our ETF (Equalized Travel Fund) for the Delegate to go to the World Service Conference.
 - Some donations are still being made out to the wrong person or mailed to the wrong person and due to not meeting in person this makes it harder to transfer them.
 - Remember to put following on any donations. District Number, WSO Group Number and Group Name.
 - All donations should be mailed to Barb B. Treasurer

- E-mail Barb for the mailing address: treasurer@oregonal-anon.org
- Questions:
 - Line 45 - Technology Projects part of that was for the initial purchase of the Zoom platform, once everything is settled this will go to Assembly Expenses and not be part of the Technology Projects.

Delegates Report – Katie W. Delegate;

- Announcements:
 - E-Mailed All AWSC about the WSO's virtual Town Hall – Most responded positively to hosting a virtual town hall. Katie put in a Bid on 10/8/2020 and has not heard back yet. Katie will e-mail once she has an answer.
 - A Virtual Town hall - Since the WSO can't do a TEAM event anymore The WSO suggested we do a virtual event where various members of the WSO would present on topics and then we will have the opportunity to ask questions.
 - The Mobile App is being updated – It has had a few bugs and WSO is addressing those. So if you have any concerns or know of any issues let the WSO know.
 - The Native American AI-Anon Conference (NAAC) – Scheduled for April of 2021 – No idea if they are going to have it but they are going to begin planning for it in November which is when they traditionally begin planning for them. Whether or not it is going to be an in person event, a virtual event or not happen at all is still to be determined. If you would like to be a part of the planning contact Katie at oregon-delegate@oregonal-anon.org there is a need for more members on the committee.
- Report/Discussion on Racism in AI-Anon (See Attachment – Statement on *racism in AI-Anon & Facing Our Biases*)
 - Member Dialogue/Discussion:
 - AI-Anon says attraction rather than promotion; how do we attract diversity, but you do not want to go out and harass people.
 - In thinking about Diversity – AI-Anon has created pamphlets to be attractive to other groups who might not naturally feel like they fit in AI-Anon. We have pamphlets for an assortment of groups, it is not all inclusive and don't know why WSO chose to write the pamphlets they did but that was an effort on AI-Anon's part to be more diverse. If we utilize those resources then we could attract people from those groups.
 - Awareness, acceptance and action. Awareness is that first step of being aware that all of this that is in our fellowship is within our members. Sexism is another thing that we have in our fellowship. The materials that we produce can be very feminine both in color and the images. We need to be thoughtful about our materials, decorations, flyers and posters to attract or not repel people that are different from our demographics that are mostly in AI-Anon.
 - Prior to AWSC there was a lot of conversation about the happenings from the prior assembly. A lot of discussion, so I think that sometimes these painful experiences that come out of some of this even though it brought up anxiety it also brought up a lot of growth. Appreciated Katie addressing the situation in such a way that calmed me and set a good example. For the question of how do we attract – by setting good examples.
 - In an outside organization we have also been discussing this same topic. We have had a couple of speakers come and share. Some things I heard was to utilize all the literature. Asked one of the speakers, how do we reach out because we can't just go knocking on doors? Go to where they are – So using our outreach committees can we find the groups via churches, civic groups or community groups and find out who the contacts are in the group and send them some of our information. Some may not even know that we exist.
 - Difficult to speak up in large forums when there is no one like you in the room. Sticking to the Conference Approved Literature in Assemblies is very important. Outreach in the communities would be very beneficial.
 - In the home group that I attend there is not a lot of diversity in race and culture, what we do have is a big gap in age. Median age is probably about 65-70, being one of the younger ones has never bothered me because I look for the similarities. Talking with another member the other

day we discussed how members repeat that the average age of a member is 56-62, if a newcomer who is 60 comes into Al-Anon and is constantly hearing how we want new young people why would they stay. We do need young people in Al-Anon, but we are living in today. I think of those type of things as we have what we have today. We can do our public outreach and we can do what we can to reach other ages and groups but we need to also make sure that we are not degrading the members that are here. I hear about the 62 year old white female, if I was a 62 year old white female I would question if I should step back to let more people in. I do not think that that is what we are here in Al-Anon for. I think we are trying to bring in more people and all we can do is more public outreach to these diverse groups but we need to be careful to not minimize those that are already in attendance.

- Safety in our groups is above everything. We don't know what we don't know. We want to grow our program, we want to attract young people. We sometimes don't know our Bias. Pronoun referencing is something I hear on a lot of fronts. We have those in our groups that draw this to our attention, so hopefully we can become more sensitive and more aware. Not so we can be pass it off or make a joke about it because it is serious to the individual who brought it up. We do have all our literature, Traditions, Concepts and Warranties to support us. Maybe we can have more dialogue on how to use those things effectively before I would go out to a group and talk about such things.

2021 Budget Presentation: – Sue B. Audit Budget Chair; (See Attachments – *Proposed Budget & Budget Category Descriptions*)

- Audit Budget Recap
 - The audit-budget committee met both face to face and on a virtual platform in September. We audited the fourth quarter of 2019, the 1st quarter of 2020 and the second quarter of 2020. A final report for 2019 will be emailed out to all AWSC today and printed in the next Communicator. During the audit, there were a few adjustments to amounts paid to individuals who will be notified of these amounts. There were also some minor changes made to categories which are reflected in the final report for 2019 and the current reports sent out by the Treasurer. We also met on a virtual platform to prepare the proposed Budget for 2021 which will presented at the October AWSC.
- Budget
 - Didn't change too much from last year –
 - Income:
 - With the unusual year we have had and not knowing what next year we will bring. We have kind of made an assumption that things will probably be less expensive and we will probably receive less contributions because of the unknown out there. We reduced the contributions and the Assembly registrations. Perhaps we could encourage members to send money into the Oregon Area for the Assemblies when they come.
 - Expenses:
 - Line 10 WSO ETF is from the Letter from WSO.
 - Line 12 NWRDM was proposed at \$600 but later conversations changed this back to \$800 due to highest cost of one of our Past Delegates attending. The money can either pay for one trip or be shared between the Past Delegates per an October 2018 motion.
 - Line 17 – Legal Fees are zero because that is only done every 5 years.
 - Line 18 - Archive Rent is the same as last year
 - Line 19 – ATF was reduced because we know two of our meetings will be virtual
 - Line 20 – Based on what has been incurring so we reduced it.
 - Line 21 – SSM Advance in preparation for the 2022 SSM the advance is given in 2021.
 - Line 22 – Assembly rent was reduced because we will be meeting virtually

- Line 26 – Made a guestimate that it will be higher based on it being higher every year.
- Line 28-33 – This is lower based on meeting virtually
- Line 67 – Need a little clarification not on who gets the money but how the amount is determined
- Line 71 – Reduced because we will probably meet virtually
- Line 75 – Proposing we remove Task Force Expenses. Have never seen this being used.
- Line 84 – Expect to have a net gain of \$5,268.
- Received 100% participation from coordinators, officers and AWSC members in the budget process this year, which was great.
- Questions:
 - Who is the Audit Budget Committee – Sue B, Deanna M, Bunny G, and Barb as the Treasurer
 - Line 77 - The \$400 sent to WSO when was it sent – It was sent in October. It was a motion in 2018. Assumed when we had money left over at the end of the year we would consider a donation. This line item is in addition to a motion made for sending excess funds.
- The Budget is not voted on but it is a general consensus from the AWSC to propose the Budget at the Assembly.
 - Since the travel was just voted on to increase to \$180 need to update the budget prior to the Assembly.
 - The increase will probably not affect the overall budget because we have places to pull money from if needed. Audit Budget would like a few days to come up with accurate figures for the travel though.
 - Decision: Send out a poll and the caveat is that Audit Budget is going to look at the changes that we made and it will be recommended at the assembly of the Travel expenses.
- Poll: Group Conscience (Simple Majority) – Do you approve the proposed 2021 Budget?
 - Yes (22); No (1);
 - The Budget will be sent on knowing there will be potential changes at Assembly.
 - Minority – I want the amount for Assemblies changed, Want to know more about the NWRDM and what about the WSO Donation. November 2018 we voted to assembly for the \$400 that one time.
 - The \$400 was a nominal number just to continue the Area’s support for what the WSO does for the area. Then at the End of the year (Barb spoke a little to this during the Treasurers report) the idea was that once we knew where we were for the end of the year we could make a onetime motion to send an additional contribution if there is extra money to WSO. Additionally the WSO is returning part of the ETF this year which will make that potential contribution larger but this is not a budgeted amount it’s in addition to any budgeted amount. On the NWRDM for Past Delegates. What Audit budget needed more clarification about was historically the Area had been paying for one Past Delegates expenses to attend the NWRDM. A few years ago it was voted that the Past Delegates that were active and planning to attend would decide to either have one go or split the amount between all that go. The confusion was is the amount on that budget line the amount for one PD to go or is it a nominal sum that would pay for one to go or be split between all that go.
 - However many delegates were going, we took the budgeted amount and split it between them. Is the intent for what it would cost for one Delegate to go and then split it if that is decided? Not written in the motion. It is an AWSC decision. Under Operation.
 - The year we had 3 past Delegates attending we had \$1,500 in the budget and then last year with 2 we had \$1,000.

- Sue wants to amend the budget to the \$800 amount others want to leave it at \$1000.
- All is contingent is if they go.
- Perhaps at the next AWSC we can make a motion to clarify all of this.
- Information on reconsidering a vote was in the Oregon Area Handbook Section 7 pages 6-7.
- 1 vote changed. – chose to revote to allow people to chew on the minority voice.
- Reposted the Poll – Yes (20), No (3)

Announcements –

- Mary Lynn J. Alternate Delegate
 - DR's I would like to ask you to poll your GR's about what topics they would like to have discussed during the GR breakout. The GR's really liked having the poll to decide what they wanted to discuss.
 - Mary Lynn Alternate Delegate is resigning at the end of the November assembly because she will be moving. She would like to vote for a new Alternate Delegate replacement at the November Assembly. So if you know any past District Representatives that would be interested in this position have them come to the November Assembly and stand for the position.
- Julie G. Webmaster
 - The AllAWSC@oregonal-anon.org e-mail no longer is forwarded to everyone it has been changed, please contact one of your fellow AWSC members to access the new communication e-mail address.

Election Procedure Taskforce: – Dawn B. Public Information; (See Attachments –*Service Resume & Oregon Area Election Procedure*)

- Committee: Dawn B. Lydia S., Bunny G., Mary Lynn J.
- Reviewed all the comments that were made. Then updated Document where fit.
- The feedback and questions were so varied from people about the questions we were asking. Then we received some input that said you know people will fill out the service resume, so let's just take it for what it is. So instead of narrowing down the questions we can ask, we changed them to only being able to ask clarifying questions.
- The Section has been changed to this:

Balloting Procedures for Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)

1. The Area Chair will ask all present and past District Representatives who served at the Oregon Area level during the current or previous panel to stand.
2. The Chair asks those willing to stand for [Position] to remain standing.
3. The candidates will read their Service Resumes, as written.
4. The Oregon Area Chairperson invites assembly members to ask a clarifying question.
 - a. The purpose of a clarifying question is to make something more clear or easier to understand.
 - b. Examples: 1). When you said _____ what did you mean? 2). I think I heard you say _____, is that correct? 3). Could you please clarify _____?
5. Candidates leave the room once clarifying questions have been answered.

Balloting Procedures for Coordinators, Alateen, Archives, Cooperating with the Professional Community, Forum, Group Records, Literature, Public Information, Technology, Website

1. The Chair will ask members to stand that are willing to serve as [position].
2. Each position is open to any qualified (see position descriptions in Oregon Area Handbook) Al-Anon member willing to serve.
3. The candidates will read their Service Resumes, as written.
4. The Oregon Area Chairperson invites assembly members to ask a clarifying question.
 - a. The purpose of a clarifying question is to make something more clear or easier to understand.

b. Examples: 1). When you said _____ what did you mean? 2). I think I heard you say _____, is that correct? 3). Could you please clarify _____?

5. Candidates leave the room once clarifying questions have been answered.

- There were no new comments or concerns regarding the Service Resume. It appears to the Task force that people are comfortable with the change from the Trusted Service Profile to the Service Resume. The resume is all purpose so you can stand for any of the positions with the same resume. No longer asking the Dates, just asking the years and months. Would like to keep the reason you want to serve to the space provided. Time is always an issue at these assemblies. There is also a part that says I understand that should I become unable to fulfill my service responsibilities; I will step aside. And then they sign it. Then it has the process of what to do with it. Best case scenario is to submit it 6 weeks ahead of time but it can be submitted the day of.
- Questions:
 - Concern – It already appears that we are going to have an election on a virtual platform. We should prepare ourselves that the entire election process may happen virtually. Has the committee made any recommendations on a virtual environment? How is the person supposed to leave the room? The actual voting process. Those using the App can do the Polls but how do we allow people to vote using other forms.
 - Felt it could be easily adaptable to a virtual event. We were willing to meet again.
 - About leaving the room – We have the ability to drop people into Zoom Rooms now which we can instead of having them leave the event.
 - Polling – Having several people that have text capability and getting the numbers out.
 - Feels it too strict. Reviewing the last election and some talked a lot but then some read what they had. Feel the form is too strict. Highlights things we need to pay attention to in the process of voting.
 - Committee would like to have more clarification on what is too strict. This is the same thing we have been doing it is just in a document and written down.
 - Is each person allowed one person or what if they have two clarifying questions? Clarifying question is great but it overlooks the ability, skills and strengths for the position that they are wanting to fill.
 - The Resume does talk about what is your technical skills. It asks, if this position requires technical skills do you have them?
 - About the one or two clarifying questions. If you wrote it in a chat it would be one chat even if it was two questions. One time to the mike.
 - It's been sent out about 4 times, and the committee has continued to request feedback and make changes based on the feedback, and I felt listened to when I gave my feedback. My question is why does it still ask the candidate to leave the room if we are no longer going to comment on the person?
 - The reason we still need to leave the room is that when we meet in room we are recording the votes on a white board and the idea behind leaving a room is so that the candidates do not see the actual votes when they come back into the room they hear who has won the position.
 - Voting by lot – not a fan (Voting by lot = names in a hat)
 - That is the way Oregon has done it in the past, it just didn't get to this vote the last time because candidate withdrew.
 - Service Resume itself is daunting – People are thinking about serving and it feels like a job application and it may deter people from standing.
 - Having been through a couple of election processes, I appreciate the thought that this committee has given to the really awkward places where people can really be hurt in the way the election process is handled. I like the service resume, it is really helpful for all of us to think ahead of time about the next ways we want to serve in AI-Anon.
 - Did we vote on having a 4th vote or have the 4th vote be a lot? I think just that part needs a vote.
 - Traditionally every voting assembly we have had to vote on if we would have the three votes and then vote by lot or have a 4th vote. This seemed to take time, so added it to the document so that it was already decided.

- Question are we the AWSC is going to vote on this to take to the GR's to vote on it at assembly or are we taking a vote to see if we are ready to vote on it at AWSC and this will be the new procedure?
 - My understanding is that voting procedures has to do with a change like this would have to be taken to an assembly. We are deciding whether we are going to vote on it to take to the Assembly for the GR's to vote on it. – After more clarification from the Task Force this was changed to this vote would be to decide if we AWSC are ready to vote on the documentation.
 - In the recommendations for change from the Elections Task force in regards to changing the Oregon Area Handbook. The very first number 1 A & B – Who has the authority and obligations to make changes to the Oregon Area Handbook? Reads it is the understanding that All AWSC are responsible to make recommendations to the handbook while doing their job. As soon as they determine that changes are needed in the Oregon Area Handbook, all other AWSC members should use the links of service. Then major and minor changes – even the major changes it's not taken to the assembly. (This is not official this was the recommendations of the committee)
 - The GR's voted at the last election assembly to approve the voting procedures.
 - This was voted on this way because that is what we had in place. The paper that was sent out to all GR's at that time was so that everyone understands. Not all that much has been changed, it's mainly clarifications.
 - This is a change to the Handbook, this is how we as trusted servants are supposed to the guideline. If GR's have problems with the handbook or what is in it. They should be going to their DR who will bring it to the attention of the AWSC.
- Additional Comments after the Poll was taken
 - Voting on a New Alternate Delegate in November – What procedure are we going to use?
 - Task the task force with taking the original voting procedures and adjusting them with the suggestions for the digital platform and then having something that we can review and present to the assembly for vote at that time for the November assembly only. We will need to vote at that time because of the digital platform.
 - Would like to see more of the virtual meeting voting tied into the procedure.
 - About drawing from a hat – we use to follow the procedure from the service manual on voting for Delegate & Alternate Delegate. I don't remember asking, but we would go to the lot. It has been a long time. I like voting by the hat. I don't like voting one way or the other I like using what the manual reads.
 - From the Service Manual Page 153 Version 1:
 7. Whether or not any names are withdrawn, another ballot is taken.
 8. If still no election occurs, the Chairman asks for a motion to close the balloting and that the choice be made by lot between the two with the highest number of votes. The first one drawn becomes the Delegate. Alternatively, some Assemblies prefer to have a final ballot taken, in which case the candidate with the most votes becomes the Delegate.
 - The Task force did take the procedure from the Service manual but we stopped at the point where it says and the choice be made by lot between the two with the highest number of votes. The first one drawn becomes the Delegate. We stopped there so that there would be no question of whether we drew by lot or we had to vote. Then we will approve the existing voting procedure with the virtual addendum for this November Assembly.
- Poll: Do you feel this is ready to take to the assembly for a vote?
 - Yes 14; No 11; Abstain 0;
 - With such a close vote – not comfortable with going forward with a vote. Take the document back to your GR's and let the task force know of any changes that need to be made. Then this will be revisited at the February AWSC.
- Committee Contacts:
 - Dawn B. Publicinfo@oregonal-anon.org
 - Bunny G. panel-38@oregonal-anon.org

- Lydia S. district-11@oregonal-anon.org
- Mary Lynn J. alternateOregon-delegate@oregonal-anon.org

AWSC Travel Reimbursement – Joanne C. Group Records (See Attachment – *AWSC Travel Reimbursement*)

- Food & Lodging report was read – Request was for the total reimbursement for food and lodging to be raised to \$180.
- Comments:
 - The Audit Budget committee was tasked to look at this in February but has not completed the analysis of the history of how many have gone over, how many have not requested all, and how many have gone under. Some of that has been done but since we won't be meeting for a while it was not made a rush. By February 2021 we should be able to make a recommendation.
 - How can we vote on a budget until this is decided?
 - We do know we are not going to have any expenses in February or March.
 - The cost have increased in the last 12 years and I don't think that looking at the past for the figures is a true comparison of the reality of today.
 - Since our budget is an educated guess, this looks like this is a good projection of what our expenses may be like. Then we can revisit after 2021 to see if they are accurate.
 - February AWSC discussed this and a Task Force to create a spreadsheet of the overages and how much was requested per how much that was spent and how many times members went over to be was created. Since the Pandemic this has not been done since Sue has some of the information and Barb B. Treasurer has other. This will be tabled until we have the data to make an educated decision to the next step. June AWSC the minute's state: This will be tabled until we have the data to make an educated decision to the next step, then in July we repeated something very similar to that. I am not against increasing it, and I understand that historical numbers are historical numbers but one thing we were trying to do by researching this is to find how many people turned in receipts that were over the amount and didn't request all that they had spent.
- Poll – Simple Majority – Group Conscience – Do we want to vote on an AWSC increase now or do we want to wait on the information from the Audit Budget?
 - Yes – You want to vote on it now (17); No - you want to wait for more information (7) ; Abstain (1)
- Poll – Motion #1 – Ongoing
 - I move that the Oregon Area increases the Food and Lodging allowance for AWSC members to \$180.00 for each AWSC and Assembly – Submitted by Joanne C. Group Records, Seconded by: Lydia S. DR D11
 - Yes (20); No (2); Abstain (0)
 - Motion Carried and Audit Budget will reexamine the line items on the budget that this will effect.

Procedure for changing the Oregon Area Handbook – Bunny G. PD38 (See Attachment – *Recommendations for Change Procedures for the OAH*)

- Task Force: Rita S. District 17 DR, Bunny G. Panel 38 Delegate, Sue B. Audit Budget Chair
 - Charge from February: Develop a procedure to come up with a process for changing the Oregon Area Handbook. Not talking about punctuation, talking content.
- Read through the Thoughts and Recommendations for Change Procedures for Oregon Area Handbook-Sept 25, 2020
- A list of questions of what the Taskforce still doesn't know about the handbook or should they be discussed, would like AWSC to take these back and send input to the committee.
 - a. Do we need to have an appointed standing committee to help with handbook?
 - b. What software needs to be made available to produce handbook?
 - c. Is the change recording page being done adequately or do we need to do something different?

- d. What do we record on the Record of Change page? Can it be used to inform AWSC when changes are made? Is it helpful?
- e. Does the AWSC want to have a timeline for a section review in the OA Handbook (ie.: Position descriptions) At least once a year?
- f. Do we need to set a timeline for the Web Coordinator to post changes to OA Handbook?
- Questions:
 - Document was sent via e-mail to everyone.
 - Clarification on 1.b. is it Concept 2 and Concept 3 have or has given?
 - Under 3. Motions and changes should be updated 3 weeks after AWSC or Assembly... How will a member know that has been a revision and that they should update their handbook?
 - There is a section on the end of the document is: What we don't know about the handbook or should they be discussed. There is not a solution to this yet. Maybe adding it to the page and presenting it to the next AWSC.
 - Don't feel we need a standing committee. Others said yes we need a standing committee.
 - Does the AWSC want a timeline for a section review – only think it needs to be done every three years. The Alt Delegate is in charge of something like that.
 - Changes to this section of the web site will be made after the Handbook has gone thru the review process. What does that mean?
 - That is what the handbook currently says and that was the reason for the Task Force. Since this statement is so vague the Task Force is to come up with a procedure to replace this statement.
 - Do we need a statement in the procedure about when a change needs a vote at the assembly such as something that has a financial effect?
- Looks like we have more questions that need to be answered before we can stamp this policy procedure as ready. Maybe at the February AWSC we can have a more in depth discussion about the questions so the committee can have more input.
- Committee Contacts: E-Mail feedback to the whole committee
 - Bunny G. panel-38@oregonal-anon.org
 - Rita S. district-17@oregonal-anon.org
 - Sue B. auditbudget-3@oregonal-anon.org

Regional Trustee Nomination Process – This was put on hold and will be presented in February

Area Procedure for publishing meetings – Mary Lynn J. Alt Delegate (See Attachment – *Publishing Policy*)

- Task Force: Mary Lynn J. Alt Delegate, Meredith District 5 DR, Deanna M. Secretary
 - Charge: Create a policy for Listing, placing on a Do Not Refer List, and republishing a meeting.
 - No changes from the procedure since the last revisions. We talked about the things that were discussed at the last assembly but we didn't make any changes.
 - In the July Minutes we took comments at the Assembly – members mentioned that they had not had time to read it. So we attached the proposed policy to the minutes and resent it to all the DR's for them to go back to their GR's and encourage comments. We only had one District reach out with comments. After reviewing the comments no changes were made. From the July minutes: "Task force will take back to AWSC for review after Groups and GR's have a change to read the proposal. The DR's will bring forward the comments onto the task force and can have a final review at the October AWSC. Then the completed document will come to the November Assembly to be voted on by the GR's. This is voted on by the GR's because this is a policy change not just a handbook change."
 - Does anyone else expect that the document is going to require changes? Nothing has changed in it prior to the June AWSC.

- Our District 5 just discussed it and I received feedback that has not been discussed with the committee. Minor questions about minor changes, not the deep content.
- Placed on the Agenda for November – Please send any feedback from the groups to be presented at the November Assembly for Vote.
- Committee Members – Please send comments prior to November Assembly
 - Mary Lynn J. alternateOregon-delegate@oregonal-anon.org
 - Meredith D. district-5@oregonal-anon.org
 - Deanna M. secretary@oregonal-anon.org

AWSC Locations for 2021

- February AWSC & March Assembly have already been voted on to be virtual
- Poll: Group Conscience – June and October AWSC 2021
 - Both Virtual (7); Hybrid (7); Plan on a physical and if we have to Zoom we can (10); Abstain (0)
 - Decision both events will be planned as in person events but may become virtual.
- June AWSC – Hosted by District 7; (Confirmed via Poll)
- October AWSC – Hosted by District 17; (Confirmed via Poll)

Website Review – Julie G. Webmaster

- Link to our new website: <https://recorder-vibraphone-faag.squarespace.com>
- Reviewed the website as it stands.
- Can make a page password protected with new platform.
- Can view it on a computer, tablet or phone.
- It is a template so there are some things that can be altered but formatting may be previously set.
- Where are the photos from the Photo Contest? There are some photos already on the website but we don't know who has them. Will check with Donelda because she ran that Contest. Maybe Regis.
 - Photos can't be copy righted,
 - Don't want to reveal meetings location
 - Don't want faces
- Would like a new map; can't make it interactive because it is not compatible with phones.
- Make Al-Anon & Alateen larger
- Loved having the calendar. It is incompatible with phones.
- Created a Task Force to work with Julie to look at the website and get the refined points down. As an Area we need to accept the judgement of the trusted servants. Otherwise we will pick it apart and we will never get a new website.
 - Julie G., Bunny G., Cynthia G., Sue B., Deanna M., Kathy K.

Our Primary Purpose – Dawn K. Chair

- Wanted to address the events that happened at the July Assembly. A video was shown during a break, and then some members shared that they felt the video was racist. I want to give some context to that whole scenario. If you are new to an AWSC or Assembly that could seem like it was coming out of nowhere. I want to explain that for several years, at least since I have been in service at the Area level, occasionally we would take a stretch break that included the song and actions from Head, Shoulders Knees and Toes, and generally lead by Judy J. This was to get us out of our seats because you can be sitting for a long time. At one of the last assemblies that we met in person I received more feedback that people wanted more opportunities to get up and not be in their chairs so long. So I was requested to include stretch breaks in the agenda. So when it came to doing our first virtual assembly I was planning on doing a couple of breaks. When someone brought the two videos to my attention that were head, shoulders, knees and toes and another dance video. There was a realization that it was not conference approved. There were reservations in showing it because it was not conference approved but went ahead. The intention was not to incite controversy it was to offer everyone a time to get up and move in a fun way. That is not what happened, and as a result of that, I know I myself started looking at my

assumptions are on things, and my opinions and thoughts on things compared to someone with more years or less years than me. In a way it was a good thing that happened. It opened our eyes, it showed the reason why our fellowship says to stick to Conference Approved Literature. What I want to remind us about is that our primary purpose is to provide help and hope to the families and friends of alcoholics. As such, that needs to remain to be our focus. These things that happen, racism or whatever are outside issues because our primary focus should be on helping people. I am not saying we should not address these issues, I am not saying that we shouldn't be looking at them. I do think they inform what we do in meetings and how we are in our recovery and so many other things, it is just part of who we are. I want us to remain steadfast in what our organization is here for. I think what that is going to look like is, future exercises/workshops to inform us more about things that we may not be aware of. I don't know what that is going to look like yet because I think we have to tread that lightly with maintaining our primary purpose and maintain our focus on our recovery from the effects of alcoholism and getting off tract. It will be a continuing work in progress.

Public Information – Dawn B. Public Information Coordinator

- Originally had 1200 AFA's in English and 500 Spanish that I had intended to distribute at the March Assembly. Since we didn't have an in person Assembly I had to come up with a new way to distribute.
 - Nancy P. Alt DR D14 requested some
 - Lydia S. DR D11 offered to receive the bulk of them and get to the Portland AIS for distribution
 - District 7 had a big push for Spanish Public outreach and so they took the bulk of them.
 - I still have about 200 in my hands, so I would like to get them to someone that will get them out to the public. There is no outreach in the warehouse.
 - The question now is does Public Information order more for next year, or due to the way we are meeting hold off?
- I have made a couple of presentations at District Meetings regarding how to get PSA's on Radio and Televisions. I can do that at any District Meeting via Zoom. As a result of me presenting it, I am hearing some areas are starting to hear our PSA's on the radio and on TV.
- From the October 2020 In the Loop (News letter from WSO), the very first article is about public outreach. It reads:
 - As our world begins to open back up after sheltering in place for several months, the need for recovery is going to be very high. Families may have been struggling with financial issues, job losses, or the effects of being cooped up for weeks on end with someone with a drinking problem. The time for public outreach has never been more critical than right now. Let's let Al-Anon be a beacon of hope. Why not challenge your group to deliver 100 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) magazines by the end of the year to local counselors' and doctors' offices, emergency rooms, and libraries!
 - That's the Challenge from WSO and so I am challenging us in Oregon to do so to.
- The introduction to our Concepts is very inspiring for Public Outreach. It Reads:
 - Carrying the message, as suggested in the Twelfth Step, is Service, Al-Anon's third legacy. Service, a vital purpose of Al-Anon, is action. Members strive to do as well as to be. Anything done to help a relative or friend of an alcoholic is service: a telephone call to a despairing member or sponsoring a newcomer, telling one's story at meetings, forming groups, arranging for public outreach, distributing literature and financially supporting groups, local services and the World Service Office.

Face to Face Meeting guidelines – Joanne C. Group Records (See Attachments – *Returning to Face-To-Face Meetings*)

- Read the Things For Groups to Consider When Discussing Returning to Face-To-Face Meetings. This came to Joanne via AFG connect.
- Just gives you some things to think about.
- Does the area want to provide any kind of direction/guidelines to groups on going back to Face-to-Face?

- GR's have been asking for some kind of guidance.
- Would like to look at the reverse. There are groups that have developed guidelines, what if we asked those groups to share their decisions and that can be passed off to the other DR's to be shared between the different groups so groups can come up with their own plan but see how others are doing it.
- Don't hear a real push to provide something from the area. DR's can take this back to groups and if the groups are still looking for some kind of guidance then they may discuss this at the GR breakout. Group Autonomy – Groups get to make their own way in this.

Use of the Al-Anon Name – Katie W. Delegate

Use of the Al-Anon Name – Katie W. Delegate □ Discuss use of the Al-Anon name and the logo.

There have been some incidents in the recent past where use of the Al-Anon name was called into question by the WSO and the Oregon Area. These events have highlighted how it is a privilege to use the Al-Anon name. Other countries have to sign a licensing agreement to use the Al-Anon name and the logo. So far in the United States we have not had to do that. The WSO has learned from their legal counsel that we will have to move to that model in the US, so look for that in the future.

Regarding use of the Al-Anon name: If a group of well-meaning Al-Anon members gets together and wants to create an event and use the Al-Anon name for that event, it is not enough that their intentions are good, or that they are Al-Anon members. There has to be more to grant use of the Al-Anon name. To be very clear, the Links of Service are allowed to use the Al-Anon name and service entities that are directly connected to a Link of Service can use the name. When we talk about “service entities”, this usually means committees.

Our Links of Service need to think about who we grant this privilege to.

Two examples where use of the Al-Anon name recently came into question are the Al-Anon without borders virtual meetings and PCYHA.

Al-Anon without borders was created by a group of Past Delegates who came together and decided - in the midst of the pandemic - that Al-Anon needed to have more virtual offerings *immediately*. We know how things move in Al-Anon – very slowly. So these Past Delegates decided without talking to the WSO and without connecting to a Link of Service, that they would create this recurring virtual event, featuring speakers from all around the world. I heard it had more than 1000 people in attendance and people continue to rave about it. Even the former Executive Director of the WSO participated.

The event was not connected to our service structure at all. It was simply created and put on by some Past Delegates. Eventually, the WSO was made aware of the event and contacted the coordinators to discuss it. The discussion resulted in the WSO asking that the event no longer use the Al-Anon name; as a result, Al-Anon Without Borders is now AWB.

Now let's talk about PCYHA. Oregon Area's District 9 decided to sponsor a service committee for the purpose of outreach to young people. The name of the service committee was the Portland City Young at Heart in Al-Anon committee. As long as District 9 was sponsoring that committee they were free to use the Al-Anon name. But District 9 decided a month or two ago to stop sponsoring that committee. Despite this decision by District 9, the committee members decided to continue to meet. The group had to be informed that they could no longer use the Al-Anon name for their committee or meetings because they were no longer connected to the Al-Anon service structure.

Those are a couple of examples of protecting use of the Al-Anon name. Like I said earlier, in the future, each of

our Areas in the United States are going to have to sign some type of licensing agreement to use the AI-Anon name and the logo. It is not something we talk about too often, but I think it is important to remember it's a privilege to use the AI-Anon name. We need to carefully consider when and where to extend that privilege.

Discussion of the Communicator – Dawn K. Chair

- The Communicator Editor Stepped down from the position and cited the fact that there were no submissions for this next edition. Dawn mentioned being part of the problem, by not sending in articles. As chair she is supposed to submit something to every Communicator. Since no one has been sending in content Dawn wanted to open up the conversation as to do we end the Communicator or how do we encourage members to make submissions to this document.
- Comments
 - Thanks to Maria for being in the Service position, having a bilingual person being in that service position was really exciting to all of us in the beginning of the panel. I do understand the difficulties and frustration. Having another thing to check, submit or read is hard for me to do right now. Having this awesome new website seems like a great place, when Julie mentioned the Blog capability it seems like a single place to see the content. Maybe the service position would shift but it seems like a polished place to have some of that information.
 - Could have a Blog on the website, you can share and post them as e-mails. There are possibilities there.
 - Having on the website might get more traffic to the website.
 - If the Communicator Editor could send out an e-mail as just a nudge there may receive more input.
 - I am sad, I love having a Communicator in my meeting, and I haven't seen one in my meeting in months. If the Communicator Editor steps down we need a new one.
 - It is important to notice that the Communicator Editor cannot put together a newsletter if there are no submissions. That is incumbent on all of us. It is not the Editor letting us down its kind of us letting the Editor down. If it did go to a blog it could be in a downloadable form to be able to take to meetings.
 - Newsletters are dying in other organizations I belong to.
 - The blog idea sounds great with the exception that you would need to set up something like the flyer committee. It wouldn't be just like a blog instead it would be like a flyer where you submit your entry to the committee and then they approve the blog submissions prior to them being posted. What you're doing by putting it on the Oregon Area Approve website is you are approving that writing. We really need to be cautious of that, but now people could print it off the website and take it to their meeting because it came from the approved website. I have gone onto the NY website where they use their Blog and do a Tradition and ask for submissions. It is not a conversation back and forth. It is we are going to Blog on Tradition one and then members submit their writings, similar to what is done for the Forum except it is local. No comment and then you get other people's views. It is made where you can push print and it comes out as a one sheet .pdf. We could expand on the newsletter a lot but I just want would encourage us before we went down that path that we prepare and have like a three person committee to review like we do the Flyers.
 - Encourage the Loop
 - Suspend the Communicator for 6 months and then bring it up again after we begin meeting in person again.
 - We can mention it at the Assembly and see what the Assembly says, remember we are not focused on the format but focus on how we get more comment.
 - Example Blog: <https://recorder-vibraphone-faag.squarespace.com/test-blog>
 - I am not a paper person so I didn't read the Communicator that much and in these days I do not want to pass on pieces of paper between people.

- DR's go back and bring up at District Meetings – It is meant to be a tool for the groups so if the groups say this is no longer a tool they want to use then we need to listen to the groups.

Breakout Sessions – Dawn K. Chair

- At the beginning of this panel we discussed if we wanted to continue to have Break-Out Sessions. We have them at AWSC and Assemblies for GR's, DR's Coordinators, and Officers. I have been hearing that some of those groups are struggling. I know the GR's appreciate and like their Break-Out groups at Assemblies. I have heard from many DR's that those sessions are very beneficial. Especially when you are starting out and you can have that comradery. Where I have heard that there are struggles and then what to do with officers and other people. Are they useful for the AWSC? Is it too much having breakouts at AWSC and Assemblies. What are the goals of the breakout sessions is it for everyone to complain or do we have a real topic and moderator. I would like to get your comments on them and what you would like to see because they are supposed to be for all of us.
- Comments:
 - Sometimes the problem is that we decide the topic and the chair too late. If we did more preplanning there may be better content. If we decided the meeting before then it would get the topic leader to have more time for planning.
 - We need to have the breakouts for the DR' and GR's but what do we do with the other 20 members. Some want to get together and do the Audit but what about the rest. We use to have the extras go into a break-out and they would go over the handbook. It took care of somethings. If there was some kind of Area thing that those extra people could work on.
 - I have a GR that told me they want to see the Oregon Area do more for the Groups and have a greater focus on what they could do for the groups in the Oregon Area. What has the Oregon Area been doing that helps the individual groups in Oregon.
 - Agenda – If you're going to have a break outs it would be beneficial to have an agenda
 - Don't think that we are using the Zoom Platform very efficiently – We could have break-outs with DR's at other times. Service Manual study. Break-outs are valuable but need to be more structured.
- Decision – Think about it and we will talk about it in February. We will have them at the Assembly.

Workshop Discussion (What to do for November) – Dawn K

- Many ideas were tossed out. Final decisions were to: (Up to 45 minutes each)
 - Have Julie G. hold an opinion and desires pool time for Assembly Members to voice what they would like changed on the website. Knowing that this is a voice and that not all things will be able to be achieved.
 - Dawn B. Will have a workshop on training others on how to run and host a Zoom meeting.

Additional Discussion Items

- I thought there was \$700 in the budget so that we could have a virtual assembly – What happened to that line item?
 - Barb B. Treasurer will look into this.
- Can we receive documents prior to the Assembly so that we can review them prior to the Assemblies?
 - Many times they are submitted prior to that meetings. We rely on the links of service for the DR to get them to the GR's so the groups have time.
- Tradition 10 is highlighted in the October Forum and that there is an Oregon contribution in the Forum.
- Getting low participation in the Alateen Meetings across the State.
- If there are any presentations that we could send ahead of time we could save ourselves times on Zoom.
- The Portland AIS is the last AIS in the State of Oregon. This year happens to be their 60th anniversary serving the Portland area. We are having the event virtually this year and we have long time speakers, Al-Anon w/ about 37 years and AA w/ about 54 years. Because it is virtual everyone across the state is invited to join us on October 24th, 2020. You will have to register to receive the meeting link. <https://rebrand.ly/AISFundraiser>

- Dawn will send out the Position Description and the Trusted Servant Profile so you can get that to your members. For that position since it is an officer they do either have to be a current DR or a past DR.

Break-Outs

No Breakouts

November Virtual Assembly Agenda:

- Dawn Public Outreach 15 min
- Barb Treasurers Report and Discussion of EFT and additional WSO donation
- Sue B Audit recap & Budget
- Alternate Delegate Election
- Area Publishing Policy
- Communicator Discussion
- Emma - Forum
- Delegates Report includes use of the AI-Anon name
- Breakouts
- July and November 2021 Assembly Bids
- 2020 Presenting the Modified Voting procedures
- 2021 Voting Procedures- Brief Share
- 2 workshops

Upcoming Events:

- October 24th, 2020; AIS Annual Fundraiser Virtual
- November 21st, 2020; November Assembly Virtual

3:00pm Close with AI-Anon Declaration

Task Forces:

- Website Task Force
 - Charge - Work with Julie G. to look over the website and get the refined points down to a place that The Website can go live.
 - Members: Julie G., Bunny G., Cynthia G., Sue B., Deanna M., Kathy K.

Motions:

- Motion #1 – Ongoing
 - I move that the Oregon Area increases the Food and Lodging allowance for AWSC members to \$180.00 for each AWSC and Assembly – Submitted by Joanne C. Group Records, Seconded by: Lydia S. DR D11
 - Yes (20); No (2); Abstain (0)
 - Motion Carried and Audit Budget will reexamine the line items on the budget that this will effect.