

IOWA AREA FALL ASSEMBLY
Embassy Suites (Down By The River)
Hybrid Zoom Link
Des Moines, Iowa
October 9, 2021

Virginia B., Area Chairperson, opened the Saturday hybrid meeting at 2:00 PM, October 9, 2021 with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions were read by Beth R. and the Concepts of Service/Warranties were read by Barb G. Virginia B. reviewed the etiquette of the meeting along with the evaluation questions for all members to think about throughout the meeting. The meeting was held hybrid, via Zoom, so those who could not be there physically had the opportunity to join the Assembly. Virtual members had to register for the Assembly in the same manner as those who attended in person and then were given the Assembly Zoom link. 11 members registered for the virtual link. There were a total of 27 GRs registered to vote, 23 in person and 4 virtually.

All Assembly reports were posted on the Iowa Al-Anon website before the Assembly. Please visit www.iowa-al-anon.org, under the Members tab. Use the drop down box to the listing of Iowa Area Assembly. These reports are available for all Area members.

Secretary Report -The minutes from the 2021 August AWSC were approved by a consensus Friday night at the AWSC meeting. The minutes were posted on the Iowa Webpage for prior review to the Assembly. Please visit the Iowa Website for a complete copy of the minutes.

Treasurer Report –The financial statement from August 1 – September 30, 2021 was presented and also was posted on the Iowa Al-Anon website prior to the meeting. Balance brought forward was \$30,065.86. Total receipts for this period were \$1,456.06. Total disbursements were \$1,112.57, which brought the total balance forward on September 30, 2021 to \$30,409.35. An outstanding check of \$34.07 came in after this report was compiled, bringing forward a final total of \$30,443.42. The report was approved by consensus. Please visit the Iowa Website for a complete copy of this report.

Delegate's Report – Katy P., shared her report via PowerPoint by using the hybrid platform. The 2021 Conference theme, “Moving Forward with Unity, Courage and Perseverance” continues to guide our membership to focus on our spiritual principles as we find our way forward. Katy shared that the WSO has again had to make a tough choice to postpone the Road Trip! event scheduled for October 2021 in Cleveland, Ohio.

The WSO is looking for volunteers to serve on four At-Large Committees – Public Outreach, Audit, Literature and Forum Editorial Advisory. Resumes are available on the Al-Anon.org website and are due by October 29th.

Katy shared that once again the WSO has had to revise their annual budget. As a guide for group giving remember that it costs the WSO an average of \$263 to support each group. Iowa averaged \$76.85 per group from January to June 30 in 2021 for a total of \$5,149.62 donated by 67 of our 160 groups.

The 2022 World Service Conference theme is “Enhancing our Recovery through Abundance, Unity and Understanding”. Katy will be going to her first physical Conference in Tarrytown, NY from April 26 – April 30, 2022.

There were many other topics Katy shared that are happening at WSO and she would be happy to share her report and more with any District. The full report will be posted on the Iowa Website at www.iowa-al-anon.org.

Alternate Delegate's Report – Thanks to District 7 for hosting the Fall Assembly in Des Moines, IA. The Spring Assembly in June 2022 will be held in Creston, IA at Southwest Iowa Community College. Currently we have one volunteer to serve as a co-chair but we will need another volunteer to step forward. Missy has been attending, in the interim, the monthly planning meetings that are being held virtually. Our AI-Anon speaker is Sue C. from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The Alateen speaker and the Sunday morning Spiritual speaker are yet to be selected. The 4-bedroom Dorm Suites have a small kitchen & Living room along with 2 bathrooms. Members will have to provide their own linens. The college will serve breakfast both days for a reasonable cost. There is also the SuperTel Inn or the Quality Inn, if you want to stay in a hotel but Missy encourages those who want to stay there to reserve early. The Fall 2022 Assembly will be held in Spencer, IA at the Clay County Events Center. Luanne T. and Tracy H.G. will be the co-chairs.

Missy thanked everyone for participating in the Iowa inventory. The committee presented the report earlier today and will forward the results to the AWSC to make changes, if necessary, to the Area Assembly. The Inventory presentation will be on-line for members to review.

The Forum: The Forum stays in print due to our submissions and subscriptions. Everyone is encouraged to do both. Currently WSO is looking for sharing's on the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts. Please keep you sharing to 150-400 words.

GOOD NEWS from the Forum Editor, Carol C.: For the first time in a year and a half, overall Forum subscriptions have increased! We still have a long way to go to reach pre-pandemic subscription rates, but perhaps this is the start of a trend in the right direction. September Forum Sales were 324 subscriptions for Iowa. Please visit the Iowa Website for a full copy of this report.

Coordinator and DR Reports: Coordinator and DR reports were posted on the Iowa Website before the Assembly. The Coordinators read their reports and DRs from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 14 read their reports. Those Coordinators and DRs who were not able to attend the Assembly in person presented their reports virtually. Please visit the Iowa Website for these reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

AREA SERENITY WEEKEND UPDATE: The Area Serenity Weekend will be November 5-7th 2021 at the Twin Lakes Christian Center in Manson, IA. The weekend theme is "HEE HAW (How AI-Anon Works)". Pre-registration and payment in full is required by October 22, 2021 with no refunds, walk ins or late registrations please. **Mail in pre-registration must be post marked by October 22, 2021.** Members may mail in their forms or register on-line. Use your credit card or PayPal account to register for the package of your liking and to also order totes, t-shirts and/or sweatshirts by visiting our Iowa Website at www.iowa-al-anon.org Look for the "Store" on the home page.

Electronic Meetings Joining the Area Discussion: Katy reviewed the presented time-line and shared that the DRs have done their best to get the information out to the GRs so hopefully they will be able to be participate in the discussion today. As Katy has shared in past meetings, the 2022 WSC will be discussing and voting on the possibility of creating an Electronic Area with Delegate representation at the World Service Conference.

Discussion and questions followed:

Question: Are we now calling the electronic 'meetings' groups? Yes, as of the 2021 WSC, these meetings will be classified as groups, able to elect a voting GR. **Question:** Would Iowa possibly develop an Electronic District? Yes, that could be one possibility. This would be something to discuss as we gather more information. **Question:** Would/could an electronic group be part of the larger Electronic District and also be part of an Area? No, the electronic group can only be represented in one place, which is why our Area needs to make some sort of decision as to allowing an electronic group to join our Area.

Question: Do we know what this would cost our Area, financially? No, this is another item that would need to be worked out if we decide to go forward with allowing these groups to join our Area. **Question:** There are a lot of questions that we do not have a specific answer for at this time, how can we vote if we do not have all the answers? Members still seem a little confused about this process.

The officers, after realizing that the discussion was contributing to more questions than answers asked to take a small break to re-evaluate what they are asking the GRs to affirm.

After the break Virginia presented the following question, asking only for a consensus by the GRs:

- Are you in favor of creating an AWSC workgroup, to explore the feasibility of including electronic groups into the Iowa Area structure? This would be predicated upon the actions at the 2022 WSC.

The consensus was a majority in favor of forming an AWSC workgroup and presenting back to the membership more answers and applications to the final question of allowing Electronic groups the opportunity to become part of our Area. Minority opinions were also acknowledged.

NEW BUSINESS:

AREA SERVICE WORKSHOP: The Area Service Workshop at the Iowa Valley Community College in Marshalltown on Saturday - January 15, 2022, 11:30-4:30. The theme is "*Lighting the Way*". Workshops have been filled by different districts and the flyer is available on the Iowa Website. Go to the Calendar tab and find Area Events, click on Area Service Workshop link. Virginia shared that the construction at the college will be done so we will be back on track as to where to go!! There will be a Serenity Weekend Planning hour after the Area Service Workshop for all to participate in for the Area Serenity Weekend.

Delegate's Equalized Expense: Katy P. explained how the Delegate's equalized expense was developed for attendance at the World Service Conference. In 2021 we sent \$2,500 for the 2020 WSC, which was over the full amount (\$1,959). Since the Conference was virtual in 2021, our Area donated the \$2,500 that we budgeted for the equalized expense to help with the WSO deficit. The equalized expense for 2022 is a little higher for 2 reasons; the WSC is being held in New York instead of Virginia Beach and after the 2021 WSC, there is now the expense of tri-lingual translators. Katy would like to suggest that Iowa increase our equalized expense for 2022 to cover the full amount of \$3,053.00. Currently we have \$2,500 already budgeted so this request would be just to make up the difference, which is \$553.

- Motion: I move that the Area pay \$3,053.00 to cover the full expense of sending our delegate to the 2022 World Service Conference. Motion made by Katy P. and 2nd by Luanne T. Motion passed unanimously.

Google Workspace Task Force – Jamie V. This task force was developed out of the Email Service/Document Storage Thought Force recommendations. Our charge is to research the financial requirements, training requirements and email capabilities of Google Workspace platform for our Area. The Google Task Force has met twice since the last AWSC meeting and has been extremely busy. Members of this Task Force are: Katy P., Luanne T., Jamie V., Michelle K., Connie H., Virginia B., Tracy V.

Iowa Area Technology Coordinator: This task force was also developed out of the Email Service/Document Storage Thought Force recommendations. The charge of this Task Force was to develop the needed information for the possible position of Technology Coordinator for our Area.

Samantha M. reported -Our committee reviewed Technology Coordinator guidelines from multiple Areas and compiled the job descriptions we felt were most applicable to meet the objectives of the Iowa Area. The budget impact is noted in the report. The position will be reviewed at the January AWSC meeting. There will not be a vote on this position at this Assembly. We are just sharing today what we have been working on. There will be a GR vote in the future when we have compiled more information. Members of this Task Force are: Virginia B., Katy P., Audrey U., Samantha M., Beth R., Lorraine R., and Linda A.

Unanswered Questions/Review of Comments: The Chairperson reviewed the questions we were to think about throughout the meeting today. •The workshops went well. • It is nice to stay together for the workshops instead of breaking out for action committees. •We need to keep working on incorporating those on zoom so they have more of an input into today's discussion. •There was some improvement for today's zoom meeting. • There was a little discussion on the future of having the hybrid business meetings. •We are learning and getting better.

The meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration at 4:30 PM.

Respectably submitted,

Connie Hurst, Past Delegate, Secretary Pro-tem
Becky V. - Area Secretary

DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 22, 2021	Registration for Area Serenity Weekend due.
November 1, 2021	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
November 5-7, 2021	Serenity Weekend, Twin Lakes, Manson, IA
January 15, 2022	Service Workshop, Marshalltown
January 16, 2022	Iowa AWSC meeting, Hampton Inn, 9:00 AM, Marshalltown, IA
February 1, 2022	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
March 12, 2022	Serenity Weekend Planning (?)
March 13, 2022	Iowa AWSC meeting, Hampton Inn, 9:00 AM, Marshalltown, IA
March 18-20, 2022	USNCR Delegates Meeting, Indianapolis IN
April 26-30, 2022	World Service Conference, Tarrytown, New York
May 1, 2022	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
June 10-12, 2022	Spring Assembly, Creston, IA
August 1, 2022	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
August 21, 2022	Iowa AWSC meeting, Hampton Inn, 9:00 AM, Marshalltown, IA
September 1, 2022	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
October 7-9, 2022	Fall Assembly, Spencer, IA

Iowa Al-Anon Literature Depots:

District 7
939 Office Park Rd. Suite 113
West Des Moines, IA 50265
515-277-5059 712-255-6724
www.al-anondesmoines.org

District 1
2801 Jackson St.
Sioux City, IA 51104
712-255-6724
www.afg.aiclit@yahoo.com

Iowa Area Website
www.iowa-al-anon.org

Iowa Information Centers
Des Moines AIS/LDC-515-277-5059
Ames-515-233-6312
Sioux City AIS/LDC - 712-255-6724