



| OFFICERS                     |             | Present* | Rpt |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------|-----|
| <b>Delegate</b>              | Cathy T.    | P        | R   |
| <b>Alt Delegate</b>          | Don B.      | P        |     |
| <b>Chairperson</b>           | Denise M.   | P        |     |
| <b>Secretary</b>             | Debbie H-F. | P        | R   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>             | Ann J.      | P        | R   |
| <b>Active Past Delegates</b> | Cheryl A.   | P        | R   |
|                              | Renee H.    | E        |     |
|                              | Jim S.      | P        |     |
|                              | Carol V.    | P        |     |

| COORDINATORS                 |            | Present* | Rpt |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|-----|
| <b>Alateen Coordinator</b>   | Connie O.  | P        | R   |
| <b>AAPP</b>                  | Connie O.  | P        | R   |
| <b>Archive Coordinator</b>   | Karen D.   | E        |     |
| <b>Assembly Coordinator</b>  | Mary S.    | P        | R   |
| <b>Group Records Coord.</b>  | Selwa P.   | P        | R   |
| <b>Literature Coord.</b>     | Ferrell N. | E        |     |
| <b>Public Outreach Coord</b> | Denise P.  | P        | R   |
| <b>Web Site Coordinator</b>  | Sandi H.   | P        | R   |

| DISTRICT REPS                | Present* | Rpt |
|------------------------------|----------|-----|
| <b>1</b> Brenda M.           | P        | R   |
| <b>2</b> Laura Q.            | P        |     |
| <b>3</b> no DR               | n/a      | n/a |
| <b>4</b> Clarine F. (alt.DR) | P        | R   |
| <b>5</b> Sandra G.           | A        |     |
| <b>6</b> Pat S.              | E        | R   |
| <b>7</b> Sarah M.            | P        | R   |
| <b>8</b> Jami C.             | P        |     |
| <b>9</b> Ann J. (C)          | P        | n/a |

| DISTRICT REPS           | Present* | Rpt |
|-------------------------|----------|-----|
| <b>10</b> Mary S. (C)   | P        | n/a |
| <b>11</b> Susan B.      | P        |     |
| <b>12</b> Arla P.       | P        | R   |
| <b>13</b> Sharyl M.     | P        | R   |
| <b>14</b> no DR         | n/a      | n/a |
| <b>15</b> Heidi B.      | P        | R   |
| <b>16</b> Jackie L. (C) | n/a      | n/a |
| <b>17</b> no DR         | n/a      | n/a |
| <b>18</b> Kelli M.      | A        |     |

| DISTRICT REPS      | Present* | Rpt |
|--------------------|----------|-----|
| <b>19</b> Mary S.  | P        | R   |
| <b>20</b> Diane R. | P        | R   |
| <b>21</b> Stacy M. | P        |     |
| <b>22</b> Jaye R.  | P        |     |
| <b>23</b> Cindy W. | A        |     |
| <b>24</b> Bill B.  | P        |     |
| <b>25</b> Cindy V. | P        |     |
| <b>26</b> Diane G. | A        |     |
| <b>27</b> No DR    | n/a      | n/a |

\* **Present column:** Present, Excused, Absent (unexcused). Contacts are encouraged but not required to attend.

**9:02am - CALL TO ORDER** by Denise M. followed by a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer

1. **Reading of the Traditions, Concepts & Warranties**, read around the room
2. **Introductions** – Around the room saying: name, position, years in position, home group, and “If I were marooned on a desert island, what piece of CAL would I want and why?”
3. **Word Game**, similar to Bingo based on Chairperson’s use of specific words.
4. **Answer DR Questions**, Denise M.
  - Electronic Socialization Era: How to keep our people physically/socially active within our District?
    - Can we share email lists like we do phone lists? Yes, but only within the group’s or District’s membership. Do it as blind-copy to preserve anonymity in case it is forwarded. (Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, pg. 92-93)
    - Can I share Area 61 information on my Facebook? Be very careful about sharing any personal information on Facebook.
  - Why don’t we provide medallions for Al-Anon birthdays? The WSO does not stock or offer jewelry or trinkets for sale. (Service Manual, pg. 97, Program-Related Jewelry and Trinkets) Groups can be autonomous, making their own decisions. (Service Manual, pg. 17)
  - Why does it take so long to get the Forum? Bulk mailing delivery can vary up to 2 weeks. It was suggested to call the WSO if the Forum is late so that they are aware of the problem.
5. **New Anonymity Statement**, Denise M.  
 Suggested anonymity statement for open meetings has changed. (Service Manual, pg. 93)



Groups should review the script they are using. The full text may be found on the AWSC Materials page of our website-Fall 2013 AWSC.

6. **Professionals eNewsletter**, Denise P.  
Electronic newsletter launched last September. We had a 22% open rate (very good; it's typically 10%). The newsletter was produced and emailed using a local business' subscription to Vertical Response (which has since terminated). Area 61 could subscribe and pay \$40 for each time we use it. A Special Project request was made for \$160 to fund a quarterly eNewsletter through 2014. It was also asked that people identify professionals and get them to subscribe.  
*Motion made to accept the Special Project cost of \$160 (by Carol V., seconded by Ann J.).*  
**Motion carried.**
7. **Thought Force on Electronic Devices at AWSC and Assembly**, Carol V.  
The Thought Force used KBDM to explore this issue. Findings are below:
  - **For AWSC Meetings:** If convenient for the Mead, members should be able to use electronic devices. We ask that members only do Al-Anon business and to turn their sound off.
  - **For Assemblies:** Thought Force member's opinions vary. Need input from the Assembly. Formed a Task Force to engage the Assembly and then write policy about it. Task Force members: Carol V., Sandi H., Stacy M., and Jami C.
8. **KBDM–New Daily Reader from the WSO?** Cathy T.  
Need guidance from the AWSC on the need for a daily reader focusing on diversity including men, people under 50, and other minorities based on ethnicity, race, or sexual orientation.
  - We have subtle, discriminatory content in our literature. Need to go to people with a voice and message that resonates with them.
  - Do we want to segregate our membership with individual pieces for each demographic group? The goal is to have a single piece of literature to appeal to all diverse groups.
  - Need to eliminate obstacle and barriers to relate to each other.
  - Do we have the enough diversity in our membership to contribute to the book?
  - Already have enough daily readers. How about a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *One Day At A Time*? It was noted that *Courage To Change* is the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of ODAT.
  - *Discovering Choices* is very diverse. A combined book may be a problem.
  - We have to put out new literature in order to be fully self-supporting; WSO makes money from the sale of new literature.
  - Need to reflect current terminology, e.g., website, tablet.

A consensus vote was taken. *Consensus supported a new piece of literature being produced.*
9. **Officer Reports**, see the attendance list at the beginning for reports given
  - Email the Delegate before she goes to Conference, April 25-29 in Virginia Beach, if you have any questions or comments.
  - The Fall Assembly is September 19-21, not the last weekend in September as usual.
10. **Minutes from the Prior AWSC Meeting on 8/3/2013**, Debbie H-F.  
Report deadline for the Spring Assembly is April 12<sup>th</sup>.  
*Motion made to accept the minutes as presented (by Ann J., seconded by Sharyl M.).* **Motion carried.**



11. **Treasurer's Report**, Ann J.

Area Financial Reports:

A Thought Force was created to look at aligning our line items with what we are spending:

Thought Force members: Carol V., Selwa S., Debbie H-F

*Motion made to approve the financial reports as presented to take to the Assembly (by Cathy T, seconded by Jami C.). **Motion carried.***

The annual audit was conducted last night and all is well, Denise P.

12. **Shoe Update**, Cheryl A.

Seven groups notified Cheryl of their "Shoe Contribution" to the WSO. Many other groups were added from the floor.

13. **Meet the Board Update**, Denise M.

Newfoundland Ontario was chosen.

14. **Buddy Day for the Fall Assembly**, Denise M.

Anyone in this room can bring a buddy to the Fall AWSC. Area 61 will pick up the cost of lunch for each buddy, up to \$15.

- Buddies will have no voice or vote in AWSC business.
- Would buddies be able to participate and have a voice in the KBDM exercise & action committees? Yes. We'll have a Q&A at the end.
- The Assembly Coordinator needs to know how many are coming one month in advance to work with the Mead for room setup and lunch.
- Regarding Setup: It was decided to keep the current setup; the guests will sit behind AWSC members and have buffet in a separate area.

15. **Coordinator Reports**, see the attendance list at the beginning for reports given

- AAPP-Certification is coming up; Connie provided a printout for each District.
- Alateen Coordinator-very busy with Midlake. Several Districts are thinking about starting new Alateen groups.
- Assembly-Need hosting Districts for 2016. District 1 is looking for a partner to host Spring 2015. Fall 2015 will be hosted by Districts 2 & 22.
- Group Records-Selwa made changes during a WSO upgrade which were lost in November. She needs to redo them.
- Public Outreach-Turnkey Powerpoint presentations are being worked on. Law enforcement is posted on the AWSC Materials page on the website. Healthcare professionals and schools will be posted on the website before the Assembly. Note that the Powerpoints should be used as a guide; your experience, strength, and hope is the most important information you can share.
- Web Site-please do not use your business email address for Al-Anon business (see the Service Manual, pg. 93, for more information). General documents and flyers posted on our website cannot have personal phone numbers, mailing or email addresses.

16. **Task Force on Al-Anon State Convention**, Denise M.

No report at this time.

17. **Website Feedback**, Denise M.

Having a password is making it difficult for some members to stay connected. This is a problem since we don't have the newsletter anymore. It was noted that most of the information posted on the website was not available previously on-line.



**18. Thought Force on Expense Reimbursement, Jim S.**

Should Officers & Coordinators be reimbursed for the entire Assembly? Recommendations:

- Create a Task Force to work on consistency and fairness of the expense reimbursement policy. They will review and draft policy to put all expense reimbursement in the same place in the Area 61 Policy Manual. Task Force members: Jim S., Mary S., Ann J., Brenda M., Arla P.
- Survey NCRDM (North Central Regional Delegates Meeting) on their practices.
- Determine if study should be extended to a DR equalized expense policy. *This item was tabled until the next AWSC.*

**11:53am – 1:07pm – Lunch**

**19. Districts 2 and 22's Vote To Combine Into One District, Denise M.**

If approved by the Assembly, the District 22 designation will be eliminated. There will be 22 meetings in the combined District 2. Changes required are: Policy Manual (page 1, change 27 Districts to 26), and website (text and Area Map). It will be voted on it at the Spring Assembly.

**20. Discussion on Not Duplicating Efforts Within Our Action Committees, Denise M.**

Discuss what each Action Committee will do so that we don't duplicate efforts. Here's what the Action Committees will be working on:

- Group Services, Arla P.-Flyer mailing to unrepresented groups.
- Fellowship Communications, Jim S.-what can we do to get professional contact names for our newsletter.
- Membership Outreach, Mary S.-take care of DR/GR orientation, bring a buddy to AWSC and make packets. Challenge to AWSC to go to groups with no GR or DR.
- Public Outreach, no new information.

**21. Action Committees Met**

**22. Action Committee Reports**

Membership Outreach, Jaye R.

GR/DR orientation planning. Will have flyers at the Spring Assembly for "Bring a Buddy to the AWSC". Working on a "Visit a Meeting Without a GR"; it will be ready for Spring 2015 Assembly.

Fellowship Communications, Susan B.

How to get new contacts for our Professionals eNewsletter? Have flyers at professional conferences with a tear-off for people to sign up for the eNewsletter. Challenge to all of us, go to the Area 61 website to learn about the eNewsletter.

Group Services, Cindy V.

We will no longer be working on the Service Meeting on Wheels project; we're giving back the \$175 Special Project money allocated to us. We're working on getting a contact for each group (note that this is an overlap with Membership Outreach's work). Asked the Chair to allocate time at the end of the agenda for the members to summarize the most important things they will be taking back to their groups. The Secretary will continue to mail Assembly flyers to groups in unrepresented Districts. The committee members are asked to review and comment on the Groups At Work portion of the Service Manual to be discussed at the next meeting.

Public Outreach, Cheryl A.

Professionals eNewsletter will continue to use Vertical Response; we got one month free. The first drop will be a March issue. Heidi, DR District 15, will coordinate gathering of additional email addresses. Denise P. will have free access to a media database in Wisconsin. We'll add about



500 names from that database to our mailing list. There are three Powerpoints available (Educators, Healthcare, & Law Enforcement), they will be consistent before the Spring Assembly.

23. **Registration Price Increase for Assemblies in 2015**, Mary S.  
Starting in 2015, there will be price increases at the Hotel Mead. It was requested that the Spring Assembly's registration fee be raised from \$10 to \$15 and the Fall Assembly be increased \$15 to \$25. The Policy Manual states that approval is required by the AWSC (not the Assembly). *Motion made to accept the suggested price increases (by Ann J. seconded by Heidi B). **Motion carried.***
24. **Meetings Between Meetings**-using technology tools, Denise M.
- Conference calling, e.g., FreeConference.com, free except for the toll-charge number.
  - Video conferencing, e.g., Skype, WebEx, and Google Hangout. Demonstrated Google Hangout (limit of 10 people) where three people in the room video conferenced using a laptop, a tablet, and a smart phone.
25. **District Reports**, see the attendance list at the beginning for reports received/given.
- DR 12, Arla P.-Cooperating with Area 74 AA for their conference in September.
  - DR 7, Sarah M.-Had a hearing-impaired member looking for a meeting. Sarah found someone to take care of that.
  - DR 13, Sharyl M.-New Alateen meeting is going well.
  - DR 15, Heidi B.-Cabin Fever was a success; the District made \$246.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Spring Assembly is May 16 & 17, hosted by District 6. The next AWSC is August 2, 2014.

**3:42pm - MEETING ADJOURNED** by Denise M. closed with the Al-Anon Declaration  
*Motion made to adjourn the meeting (by Sarah M., seconded by Diane R.). **Motion carried.***

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Harvey-Frederiksen  
Area 61 Secretary, Term 2013-2015

**Note:** *These minutes are not official until approved by the AWSC.*