

Utah Area Fall Assembly Minutes
September 23, 2023

Group Representative (GR) Training began at 8:45 AM with Jane McQ., Alternate Delegate. The topic was Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM). Breakout groups were formed to practice KBDM in a group conscious scenario: "Our group has been told that the rent for our meeting location will increase by 20%. Should our meeting find a new location?"

Heather M., Area Chair opened the business portion of the meeting with the Serenity Prayer at 9:34 AM. The 12 Concepts were read by Kim A. and Etiquette of the Conference was read by Amy W.

Roll Call was done by Dawn M. as Area Secretary and Mary Y. updated group records while handing out blue voting flags to each GR. At 10 AM, there were 27 GRs present + 1 online for a total of 28 voting members, 18 is a 2/3 majority for voting.

Spring Assembly Minutes were reviewed.

- Kevin B. made a motion to approve the minutes as posted with no changes. Nanette seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by more than a two-thirds majority. (An exact count was not taken.)

Delegate's Report was given by Area Delegate, Dave B.

The focus of Dave's presentation was rethinking financial abundance. Dave posed some questions about what it means to be self-supporting and what does your group need? He had a PowerPoint presentation with examples on creating a budget and calculating income needed to meet these needs. It was provided by the World Service Office (WSO).

This PowerPoint is available on the Delegate's Corner on the website.

(*The Group Budget example is on Slide 15 of the presentation.)

Dave also touted the benefits of participating in AFG Connects, an electronic service provided by the WSO for delegates, some Area level Al-Anon service positions, and District Representatives (DRs) to communicate with others worldwide in the same service position. Heather joined in the discussion, noting that DRs can access group records, some groups hold conference calls 1 to 2 times per year, and she extolled the benefits of brainstorming with others in your same position.

Website: Lynnette Y. brought up some key points: Please send PDF whenever possible for the website. It helps with ease of downloading and printing. She also mentioned that she DOES NOT read what you send to her; she just posts it so please ask directly for what you need regarding any changes to the website.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

Alanews: Rachel B., Alanews Coordinator shared with such enthusiasm and excitement about our Area newsletter. She expressed her gratitude to Lynnette for her amazing work at getting the newsletter on our website. She shared about what the Alanews is, explained that it occurs bimonthly – every other month – and reminded us that submission need to be received by the 20th of the month prior to posting. The next issue will be in November, so the final submission date is October 20. Please contact her with any questions or submissions. Her email is on the website.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

AAIS: Patrick M., AAIS Treasurer, presented the Report on behalf of Jeff J., AAIS Chair, who was unable to attend. Patrick reiterated that the Al-Anon Alateen Information Service (AAIS) functions as both an Information Service (answering phone calls for information) and a Literature Distribution Center. The AAIS not only services the state of Utah but also parts of Nevada and Idaho. The AAIS has sufficient ample reserves and is financially strong with donations made to both the Area and the WSO this year. **Service opportunities are available: volunteers always needed to work a 2- or 4-hour shift.** If you are still wanting the new daily reader is not currently in stock but you can get on a wait list for a copy.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

Treasurer Report and Budget:

A copy of this budget is available on the Website under Fall Assembly.

Pat D., Area Treasurer, went over the previous budget and actual expenditures for the fiscal period of October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023 (with an estimated amount for Fall Assembly). She also went in detail over each line item in the

proposed budget beginning Oct 1, 2023, through Sept 30, 2024. Several items are being discontinued on the next budget. Large expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year include payment for the delegate to attend the World Service Conference, an insurance payment in January and the possibility of purchasing new tech equipment. During this discussion, Pat explained that our current equipment is not covered by our current insurance policy, and it is not offered so it cannot be added. She will do further research. However, when talking with our insurance agent, she discovered this policy covers up to one-hundred different physical locations. She posed the following question:

Should groups be allowed to use the Area Insurance policy to cover their meeting locations that require insurance?

11:30 Voting – 30 GRs + 1 online = 31 total, 20 is a 2/3 majority

- A motion was made and seconded to allow groups to use the Area Insurance policy for their meeting locations as needed. The vote was unanimous.
- After confirming that she was willing and able to attend, a motion was made by Kevin B. that our current Area Chair (Heather M.) be sent to the March 2024 Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting in Southern California and her full expenses be paid by the Area. The motion was seconded by Pat D. The vote passed with 29 Yea and 2 Nay.
- The votes regarding paying the full amount to send the Delegate to WSC in April and to pass the budget as proposed were postponed until after lunch break.

Heather made a call for volunteers to serve on the SouthWest Regional Delegate's Meeting (SWRDM) Task Force. She expressed that Patrick M. had to leave early and was willing to stand as the chair for this task force.

Charge for SWRDM Task Force:

Using the information provided by the Utah Area SWDRM Thought Force, propose the best practices for moving forward as a member of the Southwest Region. This proposal should include, but not limited to, who to send to SWRDM, and how often, how to budget for SWRDM, and suggestions on hosting SWRDM every eight years. This Task Force may also want to consider how to approach decisions made at SWRDM that affect the Utah Area.

SWRDM Task Force:

Chair: Patrick M.

Members - Pat D., Denise L., Crystal H., Mary Y., Patti B., and Heather M.

LUNCH BREAK

Lunch Speakers: Nick N., Maria, Sandra

Business meeting resumed promptly at 1:30 PM

Archives – Jeff K., Archives Coordinator, needs a committee to assist him. There are still 20 to 30 tubs of physical documents, and some archive items can be found somewhere online. He will reach out to Kim C., Tech Coordinator for help with the technology pieces of maintaining the archives. Please contact him if you are interested and willing to help.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

Public Outreach – Miriam S. is looking for volunteers to man information booths at events and for speakers. There were several Public Outreach opportunities during September Recovery Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and at Job Corps. She is looking forward to doing some public outreach at Dia de Los Muertos celebrations. Miriam noted that things are slowly coming back from Covid, and more opportunities are available for service in Public Outreach. You may contact her directly for more information.

Forum – Pete H. presented a report on behalf of Lee O., Forum Coordinator, who was unable to attend. Copies of the Forum are available to take home on the Literature table.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

Technology and Equipment Discussion:

Here is what we, as an Area, know so far and what we would like to know more about -

- Projector failure today due to VGA cable (old technology) – suggested updating to HDMI and Bluetooth technology.
- Microphone fades (or is it the way it is being used?)
- Speakers are large, creating storage and transportation challenges.
- Need simplicity for ease of use.
- Request instructions for how to set up equipment be written out so anyone can fill in for tech coordinator.
- Everyone does still want hybrid meetings but recognizes there are challenges.
- Via Zoom attendance: could not see or hear what was happening in the meeting room. Please come to the mic. How to screen share with projector when there are PowerPoint presentations and slideshows. Project Gallery view of Zoom onto to screen for members in the room and have someone on Zoom to show the whole room as well as individual speakers at the mic.
- Zoom link automatically sent to everyone when they register – so members can attend when unforeseen events occur, allows for fulfillment of GR responsibilities while sick or out-of-town.
- Compatibility among all equipment – and replacement expenses in budget every 3 years for the future as technology is ever-changing.
- How will this affect elections? Will the logistics of Polls work to keep elections anonymous?
- What about including Friday night activities and meetings and the Sunday spiritual meeting as part of Zoom?
- Could the Technology Committee offer assistance with the creation of flyers and presentations for assemblies for those who find technology challenging or don't have the resources available?

Charge for Equipment and Technology Thought Force:

Using AI-Anon Knowledge Based Decision Making, review options for the Utah Area to embrace technology moving forward. Some things to think about are: Will Utah Assemblies always be hybrid? What are the pros and cons of hybrid assemblies? What are the pros and cons of new equipment?

Call for Volunteers:

Equipment and Technology Thought Force –

Chair: Lynnette Y

Members - Kim C. as Tech Coordinator, Nick N., Manny, Nancy M., Rachel B., and Melody

Literature:

Nancy W., Literature Coordinator spoke about what was new and coming in literature. The WSO Associate Director of Literature is visiting the New York South area in November and all AI-Anon members are invited to attend via Zoom. [More info will be posted on the website.](#) Nancy also led a writing workshop and passed out some flyers, reminding all of us to “enjoy the journey” and that the sharing of our experience, strength, and hope is always welcome at WSO as these writings are the basis for all Conference Approved Literature.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

Alateen: Ked K., Alateen Coordinator, asked “Why do you keep coming back?” That is what we need to offer to Alateen. He reminded us of the qualifications for certification as an AI-Anon Members in Alateen Service (AMIAS). You must be 21 years of age or older with 2 or more years in active recovery. After your initial processing, fingerprints are updated every three years and Safety Training is required every calendar year.

Ked suggested using the questions presented in “Alateens Talk Back” for workshops and AI-Anon meetings. He will come and do Alateen workshops at any meeting at any level. Just ask.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

AAPP: Crystal H., our Area Alateen Processing Person, shared that we currently have twenty-eight active AMIAS members and 4 active Alateen groups. She mentioned the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) is requiring electronic submission.

The full report is on the Website under Fall Assembly.

The Utah Alateen Convention (UTAC) is happening June 14 – 16, 2024. A call for volunteers to serve on UTAC was made:

UTAC Committee –

Chair: Jeff K

Members - Teresa H., Celia P., Miriam S., Ked K., Martee C., Sheri H., and Kim P.

USAW: Heather created a presentation. However, it was not shown due to tech difficulties. Members who attended the Utah Social AI-Anon Weekend (USAW) in Bryce Canyon came to the mic and shared their personal experiences from this year. Beautiful T-Shirts celebrated Bryce turning one hundred and our 4th USAW are still available for purchase for \$25 each.

Charge for the Budget and Finance Committee:

Using Knowledge Based Decision Making, create a formula for calculating an annual donation to the World Service Office to expedite the budget approval process. GRs would confirm the donation by vote as part of the budget.

The committee's findings should be presented at the Spring Assembly.

Voting: 29 GRs in the room + 2 online = 31, 20 is 2/3 majority

- Motion: To send the FULL AMOUNT for the Utah Area Delegate to attend the 2024 World Service Conference in 2024.
**(Yeas = Full Amount, Nays = Equalized Amount)*
The motion was made by Ked K. and seconded by Cathy. It passed unanimously.
- Motion: To approve the Utah Area proposed 2023-2024 Budget
The motion was made by Mary Y. and seconded by Sheri H. It passed unanimously.
- Motion: To send a \$250 donation to WSO
The motion was made by Guy K. and seconded by Sheri H. It passed unanimously.
- Motion: To accept the procedures presented by the Electronic Groups Task Force for accepting Electronic Groups (EG) into the Utah Area.
**(A question-and-answer session was held on Friday evening to discuss the recommendations presented by the Electronic Groups Task Force prior to this vote.)*
The motion was made by Ked K. and seconded by Betsy. The vote was passed with 29 Yea, 1 Nay and 1 Void.

District Reports: (see website for full reports)

Jan R. – District 9: Currently 2 meetings – 1 in Moab and 1 in Monticello – both are hybrid.

Leslie T. – District 8: Currently 11 groups. District involvement is down. Please come to Alateen workshop on 10/7. Everyone invited to attend either in St. George or on Zoom. More info is available under Events on the website.

Melody O. – District 6: 9 active meetings. District meeting is hybrid. Summer social was held on 7/29. November will be district elections.

Denise L. – District 3: 25 active groups – 9 hybrid, 4 electronic. Past events include Pizza in the Park and a Bees game. Holiday Boutique is December 2, all are welcome to attend.

Jeff K. – District 1: 8 active meetings. District 1 Winter party is being held on November 17.

Service Opportunity – Guidelines Coordinator position is currently vacant.

Sheri H. stood for Guidelines Coordinator and was voted in with 28 Yea and 3 Void

Call for volunteers to be on the Guidelines Committee:

Chair: Sheri H (new coordinator)

Kim P., Lori, Ked, Teresa H.

Looking Forward:

District 9 is hosting Spring Assembly. Jan R. is looking for a meeting place and forming a committee. Spring Assembly weekend is March 15 – 17. Please contact Jan if you would like to be of service.

Beginning with Spring Assembly in March, the District with the highest percentage of Group Representatives present will have the opportunity to take the new Area Quilt and add a new square. It will be a work in progress that hopefully will represent all our Districts throughout the Area. So, save the date and let's make this a fun competition to see how many GRs attend this Spring.

Heather M. adjourned the meeting at 4:40 PM with the AI-Anon Declaration