

**Summer NYN AWSC Meeting
August 27, 2022**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:08AM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

The Traditions were read by Joan L. Group Records Coordinator. The Concepts and Warranties were read by Brenda L., District 25 District Representative.

Welcome and Informational Items:

Carol C., Chair, reviewed the hybrid voting protocols, noting that for this AWSC meeting, the District Representatives, Coordinators, Officers, and Past Delegates vote; Group Representatives do not vote. Carol and Ellen V. are the co-hosts. Please send a chat to Ellen if leaving the meeting so that the roll call can be adjusted accordingly. Carol encouraged those attending virtually to keep their cameras on if possible.

Roll Call:

See attached record for the roll call. There are 19 voting members. The vote for substantial unanimity was as follows: 2/3 – 17 votes and 3/4 – 2 votes. Substantial unanimity will be 13 votes.

Reports

Secretary's Report

Cathy W. read the minutes from the May 20, 2022 AWSC meeting. No edits requested.

Dave N., Newsletter Coordinator, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mary D., AAPP Coordinator. The motion passed unanimously.

Louise F. thanked Molly C., Immediate Past Delegate, for stepping in to do the minutes, adding that she did a very good job.

Delegate's Report

Kathi D., Delegate, gave a presentation for her report (see attached). She highlighted the following:

- ❖ The Chair of the Board of Directors provided a virtual presentation in August.
- ❖ At the end of June, revenue was \$2.5 million and expenses were \$2.9 million. The budget was revised: \$5.6 million in revenue and \$6.0 million in expenditures is projected.
- ❖ The cost for WSO to support each group is \$283.33. \$1 in 1952 is now valued at \$10.26.
- ❖ Only 52% of groups donate to the WSO.
- ❖ The Policy Committee gave an update at the World Service Conference. Their goals are to 1) make changes and additions to the Policy Digest as needed, and 2) to help clarify how a Tradition or Concept might apply to a new or confusing situation. Any member can bring a question or topic to the Policy Committee.
- ❖ The new Service Manual is available for download on the WSO website.
- ❖ Meet Your Board Road Trip is scheduled for October 29, 2022 in Cleveland, Ohio. Registration is \$30 and is open until October 17, 2022.
- ❖ The International Convention is scheduled for June 29, 2023 through July 2, 2023 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Registration opens on November 1, 2022.
- ❖ WSC Love Gifts – NYN has a Task Force to address love gifts for the WSC. Because love gifts could not be distributed this year at the WSC, Kathi mailed them to the Delegates. The gift was a Serenity Prayer recipe card. She spent approximately \$150.00. Kathi would like the NYN Area

members to submit artwork, either electronically or physically, that would incorporate an official New York State symbol (garnet, Sugar Maple tree, Bluebird, Wild Rose, Ladybug). Three designs will be selected, one for each year of the Panel. Submit designs to Kathi by September 16, 2022 so that she can present them at the Assembly.

After the presentation, Kathi responded to the following questions:

- ❖ Dave commented that members can set up monthly donations on the WSO website.
- ❖ Molly inquired about how the monthly chats on the NYN website are going. Kathi reported that these chats are scheduled for the first Sunday and first Thursday of the month. Any member may attend to ask questions. These chats were set up so that she could be more approachable and available to the members of NYN. The Zoom links are listed on the Events Calendar on the NYN website. Kathi noted that the chats have not been well attended.

Treasurer's Report

Betty G.M. shared the following highlights from her report (see attached).

- ❖ The Finance Committee meets monthly. The electronic bank statements are sent to the Committee and officers monthly to help with transparency.
- ❖ Donation receipts are not mailed to groups; they are listed in the Northern Hi Lights.
- ❖ NYN is spending much less than budgeted largely in part because meetings have been virtual.
- ❖ Betty recommends keeping the historic budget for 2023 because it is likely that in-person meetings will be resumed which will require housing and mileage reimbursement.
- ❖ There was a large amount of unspent funds last year; the Area decided to donate it to WSO.
- ❖ Betty proposes to update the Treasurer job description to include the ability to do online billpaying and banking. She noted that she is maintaining the integrity of the second signature requirement via electronic approval from the Chair for online payments.
- ❖ Betty will reformat the printed report to include all the columns of the Records of Deposits form to fit on one page.

Kathi noted that she is concerned that there is no way to pay for the website which requires payment by credit or debit card. Kathi has been making the payment herself and gets reimbursed. Carol stated that this issue will be brought to the Finance Committee.

Diane C. inquired if NYN would consider setting up accounts with Zelle, Cash App, Venmo, or Pay Pal to accept donations. She noted that her home group set up a Cash App account that has greatly increased donations to the group. Betty responded that this has been discussed by the Committee and they are working to find a solution that will work.

Two Minute Hot Topic Reports: Coordinator and AIS

- ❖ Immediate Past Delegate – see report; Molly is looking for materials regarding group finances.
- ❖ AAPP – see report.
- ❖ Archives – see report; Task Force is active.
- ❖ E-Meeting – see report; Mike expressed his appreciation for patience as his group helps to facilitate electronic and hybrid meetings.
- ❖ Convention – see report; hosts are still needed for the Spring 2023 Assembly and Convention and for the 2023 Fall Election Assembly.
- ❖ Group Records – see report; Joan thanked Molly for the great training she is providing to new Group Representatives (GRs). Joan noted that many groups do not have GRs which is concerning to her. She asked for groups to let her know when meetings go back to in-person or change location so the details can be updated with WSO and AISs.
- ❖ Newsletter – see report; Dave would appreciate feedback regarding the newsletters.

- ❖ Literature – see report; Diane noted that the price of literature is going up. There have been questions from literature depots regarding whether they can sell their current stock at the old price or if they need to charge the new price. It was clarified that all literature must be sold at the new price. Kathi noted that literature is going to be available as e-books on the WSO website online store. Members are encouraged to purchase books there rather than from the vendor so that WSO will get the credit for the sale.
- ❖ Website – see report; Ellen is working regularly to make the website more user friendly.
- ❖ Rochester AIS – see report; AIS is providing several outreach activities; they have two Zoom accounts that they make available for groups to use; they each pay a donation to help pay for the accounts.
- ❖ Western NY AIS – see report; AIS is providing several outreach activities; they have many positions to be filled.

Discussion Items/Presentations

Spring and Fall Assemblies

Carol expressed her concern that there are not many District Representatives who would be needed to plan the assemblies and that there is not much time for planning. Two to three years lead time is normally needed. Carol anticipates that the assemblies will be limited to hybrid or virtual for the next year. Jim agreed that full in-person assemblies are not likely, but he would like to see hybrid assemblies. Carol suggested coming back to this venue in the Spring for a hybrid assembly. She noted that fundraising has helped to pay for the assembly expenses. The upcoming Fall Assembly will give an idea about what the hybrid expenses will be. Kathi noted that other Areas are doing hybrid assemblies and are charging a small fee to all participants. Carol noted that the Area will have to buy or rent equipment for the Fall Assembly and the Committee has decided to charge a small fee this year for all participants. Jim noted that there may be three Districts interested in hosting for the 2023 Fall Election Assembly, but no one has stepped forward for the 2023 Spring Assembly and Convention. Carol noted that feedback about today's meeting will be helpful in planning future events. She also noted that help is needed for the Fall Assembly (in-person registration, hospitality, finding speakers for Sunday). Please get the word out.

Love Gifts

See Delegate's report. Carol noted that a flyer will be posted on the NYN website. Please get the word out to groups. Kathi noted that the expense will come out of the Delegate's line item in the budget.

Vacancies – Public Outreach and Presentations

Carol reported that the two vacant positions would serve one year, through December 2023. This will be presented to the Assembly. Carol noted that in the past, officers and coordinators have given a presentation to the Assembly once during the three-year term. She will resume this and encouraged the presentations to be fun. Kathi noted that she submitted a request for a presentation regarding electronic meetings. The Area will need to make a decision about including electronic groups in the NYN structure.

Area Inventory Results

Carol reported that the officers and coordinators have been reviewing the inventory results in the monthly meeting. She noted that a decision needs to be made about how to proceed so that appropriate action can be taken based on the feedback. Themes of the feedback included increasing open communication and the newsletter. Mike offered to summarize the feedback to make it more manageable to review and address. The inventory will be on the agenda for the Fall Assembly.

Comments/Questions

- ❖ Joan inquired about shortening the three-year term of service which might help to attract more people to service. Carol responded that the three-year term is congruent with the Delegate's term and that the panel follows the delegate.
- ❖ Carol will follow up regarding the two task forces under her responsibility: job description updates and the policy regarding expenses.

Additional Items/District Updates

- ❖ Brenda, District 25, reported that her district has very few GRs and it is hard to get them to district meetings. She suggested that meeting topics related to the Concepts might help.
- ❖ Jim, Conventions Coordinator, reported that some groups that had been hybrid are now splitting into two groups: one that meets in person and one that is Zoom only, both being held at the same time. He inquired if the Zoom group needs to be registered separately with WSO. Kathi responded that for now, they can both use the same group number. As soon as a group registers as an electronic group, they lose their NYN participation. This is why it is important for the Area to address the decision to include electronic groups in its structure.
- ❖ Cindy, District 14, reported that she has had good success in getting GRs to the monthly district meetings. She will be completing her term soon and is looking for a replacement.
- ❖ Laura, District 29, reported that the district is hosting a Day of Sharing on October 22, 2022. It will include light refreshments and Al-Anon, AA, and Alateen speakers. A flyer is posted on the Western NY AIS website.
- ❖ Molly, IPD, inquired if AISs include meetings on their printed materials, lists, or website for groups that are not registered with WSO. Carol and Kathi both confirmed that if a meeting is not registered, it cannot legally be an Al-Anon meeting. Molly noted that AISs should have the responsibility to check to make sure that any group they list has an assigned WSO number. Carol noted that those who know better have the responsibility to inform other members of the process.

Adjournment

There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mary D. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Maria S., and unanimously carried. The meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy W.
NYN Secretary