

NCWSC Committee Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2010

Modesto, Clarion Hotel

APPROVED NCWSC 7/31/10

The meeting was convened at 6:35 PM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions, (Debbie O) Concepts (DeDe W) and Warranties (Brenda W) were read.

Patrick: Welcome. We're half over with business meetings; I think we're doing a pretty good job. Agendas available. This will be a Mini-Committee meeting today. There might be time for meetings (Officers/Coordinators and DRs) tonight and not have to meet tomorrow. If you know something that we should discuss before July, talk to me. The topic that's most likely to need time to talk: change of committee meetings and assembly schedule: let's get info at this meeting, and we can take it to our Districts.

Roll Call was taken.

Executive Committee report – Harlan H.

They met May 6 by conference call, decided to wait for trial period before changing EC: deferred to LRPC. Talked about Assembly assessment. This EC is ending, new elections will be at July Comm. mtg.

LRPC - Peggy P.

She will give a full report tomorrow. She's put a survey in bins having to do with diversity; trying to get a sense of what diversity means, what problems we might have with diversity, plans for improvement. Would like GRs to fill out. Will also send to list-serve. Any questions? Talk to Peggy. People can respond via email. GRs to fill it out; OK to discuss at meetings if GR wants. Due by July 30. Will report back to Assembly for action.

Committee looking at DR rotation - Patti R.

She has not done anything about this; finding out her limits. Wants help setting up a conference call; Sandi C. will help.

2011 Budget - Joan W

This is the summary we hope we can present to the Assembly (in October). I think this is correct. We increased our Prudent Reserve. Increase of Fall Assembly income due to 2009 Actual. No details on Convention income, but slotted in 13K. H & I similar to 2009. Donations estimate less than 2009 due to below-expected donations YTD 2010. We still need donations from districts and individuals. Donations of mileage are down YTD. Sponsor R&R-hoping for details from Carla. Line 11Z Literature income is Institutions (Pink Can). We present a balanced budget. 2009 very little Delegate expense; he didn't spend much. We've all been prudent in 2009; budget is for increased expenses for travel due to SWRDM being in Hawaii. (Others can go to SWRDM but only some of the officers and past delegates are paid for.) Asked coordinators and officers for 2011 budget, what's there is what has been requested. Total coordinators: budget is pretty close to 2009 actual. Committees: \$21K for all meetings. Assemblies: We don't know where 2011 Assembly will be; that will make a difference in travel costs. Budgeting is \$10K. Convention is budgeted for \$1K profit. Sponsors R&R match of income and expense. Stepper expenses, kept at same budget, which is more than 2009 actual. Corporate expenses: fingerprinting, insurance, legal and accounting about the same. Corporate rental, \$2500 requested by Archives, but that should be moved to Archives. Total costs up \$100 from 2009 actual, and balanced. Holiday event; Carol is saying she never received deposit slip. Line 10c, mileage donated back: shows both the expense and the portion donated back. Line 44 currently says Action Committee: Art proposes change to Ad Hoc Committee and Committee approved by general consensus. Archives rent is \$137.50 per month, plus corporate office \$200 per month: that totals to \$4050, so she needs to adjust budget. GR assistance was meant to be \$1000, but in as \$100. Charlene proposes leave at \$800 rather than change to \$1000. Thanks to Joan. Please let Joan

know of any changes; the last chance is July Committee, because Joan will present Budget in October Assembly. Will have session on budget tutorial Saturday AM at October Assembly.

TEAM update:

We have submitted all our paperwork to WSO as of last week. Utah TEAM event will be at end of June this year, Connecticut TEAM event upcoming (October 2-3). New Mexico had their TEAM 2 weeks ago. Ours is planned for November 6 or December 4, 2010. GR Boot Camp, Back to Basics, Diversity, Sharing of Service, and Alateen are the workshops we have requested. Location: Livermore at Doubletree Hotel. Karen HA (District 16) will be chair; John will send her list of people who have volunteered. We learned more about how to do it at SWRDM. Plan for Speaker Meeting Friday night. Thanks to Joan for putting the paperwork together.

Secretary's note: the following was cleaned up and sent out separately.

Committee Meeting/Assembly schedule:

Tomorrow will be our 3rd 1-day Assembly. It was not presented as a 3-year trial, despite general consensus. Tomorrow we will see the first plan going as anticipated: Delegate's report, workshops. Do we want to keep having 1-day Assembly?

Impact of 2 assemblies on Committee schedule: compressed this time, due to schedule. There are lots of pros and cons of current schedule. KBDMTGC: let's talk about the issues and then go back to GRs to discuss, will probably vote in about a year. Let's get some conversation going.

Sandi: I'm the one who made all the presentations about having a 2nd Assembly to present Delegate report. It was a pretty close vote. Maybe we need to fix Committee meetings.

Cindy: I do like having two Assemblies. Only 1 Assembly in October is too overwhelming.

Johanna: Let's keep 2 Assemblies, but move Committee meetings to spread them out.

Juaneta: I'm the chair of the Committee charged to look at it. She has been discussing this with a lot of people. Drive time is a problem for 1-day Assembly. More time spent driving than at the meeting. I voted against for only a 1-day assembly, but in having done it for the 1st 3 years, she does see it as an additional service responsibility. Once a year is not enough time keep GRs motivated to service. Why can't 1-day Assembly be held in one site and satellited to another site? If we have DR meeting early on day of Assembly, we can't deal with our GRs/be there for them. Would have to purchase (or rent) additional equipment. Possibly after delegate's report, could do workshops locally to section/district.

Patrick: Delegate's report via teleconference? Webinar? Convention committee did a webinar this year, and it worked pretty well. We could adjust our committee schedule around the Assembly schedule.

Peggy (DR5): GRs have been very interested in workshops. Yes, we need to adjust Comm. schedule.

Sue W: former Alt Del Nevada—we were old-school there. Delegate would go to a group of Districts for an all-day event, and do that both North and South. There was more personal contact with Delegate.

Art: in 1993 was alternate Delegate, alternate chair, and budget comm. chair. Delegate's husband had an MI day before Assembly, and chairman resigned, so he played all those roles. Six people showed up for Delegates' report. Since then he has actively lobbied for 2nd Assembly that was focused on service, not business. Doesn't like combining meetings. We alternate Assemblies by section. When in the central Bay Area, 600 of 750 meetings are within 2 hours.

Karen HA: loves the 1-day Assembly being more interactive. My life is pretty full, so the idea of having another weekend separate from Assemblies is not desirable. Unless we get creative with webinars etc, she would not be in favor of adding another weekend.

Joan: what she heard from GRs, DRs from distant areas, is that they drove together and some DRs did not come for the Friday meeting. Meetings are valuable for DRs. Lots of work goes into committee meetings, and more for Assembly: put on by officers and coordinators. She would love us to do a September or October Committee meeting.

Patrick: can we get these arguments out on the list-serve?

Patty R: interested in separating Comm. and Assembly: would have felt more like she would be in with her GRs. Loves the idea of interactive meeting. Committee meetings are too far apart.

DeDe (D18): Welcome. Alateens decorated bags. Recent experience. Host district for both Committee and Assembly: when we hosted Committee 8 years ago, we were able to give more service to Committee; most people could not participate in both Committee and Assembly. Her district is happy to host.

Committee and Assembly very different—would like to give each their proper due. We're losing some of the purpose of rotating locations.

Patty R: consider 3-day Assembly either north or south and 1-day Assembly always central.

Cindy: would be great to have a GR meeting on the Friday night of Committee meetings—as a way to get the GRs here with their DRs.

Ad Hoc Privacy Committee Report: Art B. Chair

Members:

Chris D of D-13, Bruce H, Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator, Yvonne deG D-14, Deb H D-10, Jim S. Web Site Committee

Reasons for the Committee:

Concerns about privacy of names and addresses were discussed at the committee meeting in February. I suggested a policy similar to that of the WSO. Patrick created an ad hoc committee to report what our practice is concerning full names, addresses and other information collected in the course of the NCWSA business. Members listed above volunteered to serve on this committee.

Proposed Schedule:

We created a draft of the policy for the May committee meeting but have decided not to present the policy itself at this meeting. Discussion of the policy statement would occur in the following committee meeting in July or if there is a fourth one, in October.

As we learned more, some on the committee want to also prepare changes to our current policies in light of what we have found. We are meeting during the day of Assembly to identify these concerns.

Review:

The Committee learned what information is collected, how information is stored, when and how information is used and when information is removed. Attached to this report is that document. Please review it as it affects your own position. Should there be items we did not include or if there are errors, please let me know by June 5th. During this process, I discovered an excellent privacy policy on the web site www.lls.org. We have been preparing the privacy statement using this policy as a model. Interestingly, the LLS policy includes a list of specific legal restrictions when listing addresses of those 12 years old or younger. Our committee is unaware of any listing of those 12 and younger, but we may propose a statement that helps those charged with collecting information to remain in compliance with the federal law. The WSO privacy statement is at <http://www.al-anon.org/privacy.html>

If any of you have experience with privacy statements, please also send what you think may assist us.

Guidelines Revision - Bruce

Guidelines are intended (started in 1981, approved 1983, and have undergone 5-6 significant changes).

Needs to be reviewed: most are 10 years old or more. Look at the guideline, think about what you've actually done for the last 18 months, maybe go back to the person who previously held your position, and send to Bruce whatever changes you propose. He currently has 3.

Insurance for Sexual Abuse -Joyce

My apologies to those who volunteered to be on the Thought Force to talk about possible insurance for Sexual Abuse and Molestation. I did not get it convened. I did get the following answers to questions that were raised at the last committee meeting: If we decide to purchase a policy, \$100K is the level they would recommend as adequate at this time; they will review our policy and procedures and recommend and may even require changes and/or additions; an agent will be sent to our "facility" to monitor our activities. Implementation of the last part should prove interesting. I will endeavor to convene the Force to be with me between now and the next Committee meeting so we can make some recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Regional Trustee Candidate Approval process - John S.

The Board of Trustees is the legal guardian of Al-Anon. There are At-Large and Regional trustees. Our region is the Southwest, 8 states including Hawaii, CA (2), AZ, NM, Utah, Colorado, NV. Once chosen by a region, they are at-large members of the Board, not representatives of the region. Old process was to have the Regional Trustee candidate submit resume to Area, get approved by Area, then vetted by WSO, then chosen by caucus of delegates at WSC. New process: candidates submit resume to Area. In our Area, Committee affirms candidate and alternate, then request Assembly affirm our decision. Resumes must be submitted to WSO by August 15. Tomorrow is the day that the Assembly gets to affirm our choice. Delegate sends resume to WSO, which gathers all the resumes, sends to all committee members, gathers all and sends to Board. Next year will be the year for selection of RT. We are asking for people to submit their intentions to go.

Board members: meet 4X/year for a full week, plus WSC. Expected to travel to wherever Board needs you. Will go to TEAM meetings. Trustees ARE us: all are members of Al-Anon, most are former

delegates, but that is not a requirement. Trustees often serve more than one term. One term is 3 years. Irma was a Regional Trustee; Mary A-T was an Regional Trustee, and then a Trustee-At-Large.

Two people are currently interested in standing:

Sandi C. Retired two weeks ago. Al-Anon has given me so much. I have served in many Area positions Art B: I've served before. Interview 4 years ago, 1 week before diagnosed with leukemia. I can do the job now; I have been told I'm cured. Al-Anon is an important place to grow and recover. We need to get to the point where newcomers are not afraid to come in; need to get the same kind of recognition as the Boy Scouts or other national organizations.

Thirty-seven votes: Art selected, Sandi as Alternate.

Earmarking Funds – Joan W.

Donation to Area: earmarked for Alateen. Brought up policy that Area has for not earmarking funds, but we've been collecting money for literature for prisons, which is earmarking. NCWSA can set up a fund, but it's not up to individuals to donate for a particular purpose, because that would lead to domination.

Discussion: Cynthia D12-asking for clarification: are we asking about funds from groups or from individuals? We're talking only about the Area, not the districts: Districts can have earmarked funds. Did we clarify the pink cans at the Area? It depends on who is doing the earmarking. If someone asks for donations for a particular purpose, that is not earmarking (ala the pink cans). But they won't accept a donation that is earmarked for a particular purpose. If we receive a donation that is earmarked, we are to contact the person and ask if they still want to donate to the general fund, or if they want their money back. Where is it stated? Page 86 of Service Manual. Is this any different from Alateen cans? This seems fuzzy. If I put my money in a can, then it will go for a particular purpose. Could we give recommendations of other funds it could go to, like NoCAC scholarship fund? -Yes. It's a matter of how the money is collected: if for a designated program when it's collected, that is OK. If the name of a person is on the money, that's earmarking and dominance. One cannot name a specific fund.

NoCAC Income/Expenses on NCWSA Tax Returns – Joan W.

Forgot to include NoCAC data on tax return, will need to submit an amended tax return.

B17 Requirement of Alateen Member Safety – Bonnie M.

Events register their intention to meet requirements for safety by telling AAPP how they are going to keep Alateens safe. Assembly is responsibility of Area. She has come up with something she can read tomorrow, but needs approval of Committee: We are all responsible for safety of Alateen members. At least two AMIAS will be present at each Assembly. All Alateens are required to comply with Alateen guidelines. We should require that travel forms be filled out. Question: David: WSO requesting each District to have own Alateen Safety Requirements? Bonnie hasn't heard that, but she is asking what is in place in event guidelines that does abide by Area requirements. DeDe D18 does have procedures: who's doing it at Area? Area needs to do as well as Districts. Chris-great that it's spelled out; we can use it at our events as a template. Only source of special badges is AAPP. (Bonnie clarifies that DAPP and DR also know). There can be a long time lag between submitting a request and getting it approved. If gets report back from DOJ, she does immediately let DR and DAPP know. Elaina DR3: We took WSO's Guideline 34 and turned it into a procedure, but it does say that the Alateens need to come up with guidelines for themselves. Bonnie: It is only necessary to send the policy once, and if changed. Each flier, even if changed slightly, has to get approved by AAPP. Substantial Unanimity: We **will** give Bonnie time on the agenda to read the safety process at Assembly.

SCV Intergroup

Anita: Numbers are rough: 95 meetings, 11 Alateen, 16 Spanish, 70 is Al-Anon meetings in Districts 20-22. Trying to start 2 more Alateen meetings. Just got all of our IG positions filled. Finally have D21 DR; Lisa M. We were down to 3 GRs in that District. Still working on Bylaws, working diligently. Our chair, Chris AC, will be 3-year position now like all the other officer positions, but she will step down 1 year early so there will be a balance of rotation. Have added Process Person. Liaison will rotate at the same time as NCWSA. Have been asked to participate in Unity Day-very exciting. Intergroup Special Event upcoming. Participated in a Health Fair. It is great to serve at this level.

District 6-10 Intergroup Bob

Began in a quandary, but have filled positions, Spring Event has a coordinator and might happen. Rotation helped by others. The Intergroup is financially strong. 20+ people participate.

The Committee meeting closed at 9:56 PM with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.