

NCWSC Committee Meeting Minutes

July 30, 2011

El Dorado Hills

Approved 10/29/11

Note: The meeting minutes for this meeting are not chronologically ordered. In an attempt to make the minutes more easily used as a reference, the minutes will be ordered in a topical fashion.

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The meeting was convened at 8:02 AM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions (Mary Jo), Concepts (Chris M) and Warranties (Lisa B) were read.

Chairperson's Welcome (Patrick B): Welcome to the July 2011 NCWSC meeting. This is the 8th time we've been together as a committee, believe it or not. Thanks to District 9 for hosting and for the delicious dinner last night. It helped logistics. Agenda update has been placed in folders. Please limit your report to five minutes. Please come to microphone to share. Minimize conversations next to you. Fasten seat belts; have fun. Charlene R volunteered as timekeeper.

Roll Call was taken.

In the afternoon, there was a birthday celebration for Patrick, Joan, and John.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm with the AI-Anon/Alateen Declaration, Alateen style.

Motions

1107.01: Approval of Minutes from February 2010 Committee Meeting, with corrections. Moved (Charlene R), seconded (Mary Jo); passed with substantial unanimity.

1107.02: Approval of Minutes from February 2011 Committee Meeting, with minor corrections. Moved (Charlene R), seconded (Sandi C); passed with substantial unanimity.

1107.03: Approval of proposed budget, as amended. Moved (Deb H), seconded (Charlene R.); passed with substantial unanimity.

1107.04: Motion to approve bid from District 24 for Fall Assembly: Monterrey Embassy Suites. Moved (Yvonne d), 2nd (Diane); passed with substantial unanimity

1107.05: Motion to adjourn: Moved (Charlene R), seconded (Debbie O) Passed with substantial unanimity on voice vote.

Consensus: as Group Records Coordinator suggests: NCWSA Group Records coordinator to continue processing data update and registration of new groups via NCWSA form A16. NCWSA District Representative will have read-only and report printing access on WSO Online Group Records for their district.

Consensus: NCWSA Group Records retains forms and paperwork for a time period then shreds (rather than return to sender).

Consensus: Re Purchasing AV equipment: Committee in favor of spending that money

Consensus: Although LiveScan form cannot be put on the website, the website has to include who to contact for the correct form/information.

Elections

None

Task Force for Guidelines Review

Members: Art B., Joan W.,(Charlene R., David B.(or Deb H. and Diana S), Bruce and Joyce.

Task Force for Assembly Guidelines Review

Members: Sandi C, John S, Debbie O as Facilities Coordinator, Yvonne d., DeDe W

Committee Reports

Executive Committee Report: (David for Peggy)

Charlene, Diana, and Deb introduced themselves. Interviewing of officers is complete. This panel of officers works together well. Assembly Host Chairperson and Facility Coordinator should be on the call once a quarter. Secretary should be given 4 weeks rather than 2 to complete minutes. Continue to utilize KBDM. New treasurer should receive books only when complete. All expenses need to be submitted by November 1. EC will report on management audit: a member has volunteered to do it at no cost. Continuing to update EC binders and guidelines and write Financial Assistant guidelines. Would like to see monthly conference calls for officers to continue. Corporate timeline has been updated; incorporated into management audit. Updated corporate timeline will be sent out for comments and suggestions and presented to October Assembly.

Budget Committee Report (Joan W)

Donations have been more than budgeted for 2011. Please submit the entire cost of expenses, then deduct paid by others and donated back: they need to know the total cost. IRS mileage rate has gone up to 55.5 cents as of July 1. Please submit expenses in a timely fashion. TEAM event will be paid in 2nd year of panel, for officers to attend (same as we used to have RSS—does not have be our TEAM event—once per panel). Districts need to take care of their own expenses as much as possible.

I've added a few things: AV equipment (not in budget because it's capital expense). Adding conference calling as a budget item. There are some free services, needs to be discussed more. Secretary, AAPP, Group Records Coordinator, and a few others wanted a little more money.

Thanks to Louise and Yvonne for their work getting meetings into prisons.

However, our expenditures for Institutions are way over budget.

There was a long and spirited discussion about the costs to the Area of continuing to support Institutions work in Prisons; on the one hand, it seems that local Districts should take over support; on the other hand, it is difficult to get into prisons and takes people with experience. This is a different service from anything else we do. No one doubted the value of the work; just the expense. The Institutions coordinator has gone over budget, so it becomes an issue of how much to budget for it. Prisons are generally away from population centers, so there are not a lot of people nearby to do this work. Having the Institutions Coordinator and Alternate go to all the prisons gives them an overview no one else has.

Chair: 3 issues: 1-supporting the prison meetings, districts vs Area

2-How do we handle it when someone goes over budget

3-this specific budget with a line item of \$5000 for prison committee travel

With additional requests, we were \$3,500 out of balance expense over income.

Proposal to increase projected group donations (line 10B), which brings in back to balance.

Moved Deb, Second Charlene to accept budget for presentation to Assembly

NoCAC Committee (Alicia)

Doing pretty well. Fundraiser at Trinity Lutheran did well. 1st BASH had more people than expected, raised about \$400. Anticipate good turnout for 2nd BASH; please help publicize it. There will be water. One of the directions is wrong. Ygnacio Valley Church in Concord: will have a carnival October 1 as a fundraiser. NoCAC will be in Fresno November 11-13. Will need more scholarships, accepting donations today. We signed the contract with hotel. Alicia will speak at MBAR.

Convention Committee (Chris D)

Steps up Slippery Slopes, Squaw Valley. Everyone who was there last time is looking forward to going back. Printed report given. Logo contest. Financial results from 2011: plan is \$13K Income and Expense. Came short in revenue and over in expenses, so sum \$1K negative. Cause: no single cause, committee travel and expenses for speakers. Committee donated back about half their expenses. We did do conference calls, will do for two of our meetings this year. We will continue to try to save money, work with the same money this year if approved. We should not expect more income. We do have a co-chair, Amparo M; she's already thinking about where 2013 convention will be.

--financial report does not have quite the same numbers as Chris gave. Ans: it's hard to get a current count on where the budget is, no monthly statement.

--where does cost of people from NCWSC who go to Convention (3 or 4 officers and coordinators) come from? Convention would like it to come from NCWSC, not from Convention. Coordinators don't have enough money in their budget to do that.

--past convention chair: it gets difficult because Convention overlaps two years.— Budget chair says that it's on an accrual basis now, prepaid expenses to deal with that issue.

--a task force has been put together to review the Convention Guidelines; the task force did not meet and needs to be reconstituted. Folk are also looking at the Treasurer's Guidelines.

Long-Range Planning Committee (Claudia M)

Written report was given, and time was spent on brainstorming re outreach

Area-level

Alateens/social networking

Bilingual: 12 Stepper, openings at meetings

Texting, blogging—using electronic communication

Multiple languages: trying to get a Chinese book

On-line information session for public

Encourage groups to include: we have literature available in 30 languages; please consult the literature coordinator

EAP: Employee Assistant Programs could be contacted and given information

Put personal shares on the website

PI/CPC person have a committee and their own list-serve and conference call.

Area should get all current videos and DVDs and PSAs and have them for lending out at Committee meetings.

Putting information in journals of therapists/counselors etc. Area could compile a list of organizations that we might want to reach out to.
Area research billboard advertising.
Bus placards, taxis, cable cars, rickshaws, BART
Area PI/CPC has info on media; District person can contact area person

District-level

Face book pages

Alternate DR chair committee of all outreach people at District—another energy source for outreach

Ads in Penny Saver

Presentations to police departments

One police department asked for a small thing they could hand out on Domestic Violence calls.

Different districts do outreach, like for health fairs, there might be a way to spread that kind of info around

Coordinator Reports

12-Stepper Editor (Denice E and Kathy H)

Absent. Hard cut-off for 12Stepper is August 14 for Assembly issue-send to Kathy; if you have sent something to Denice, resend to Kathy. If you want anything on the agenda, send to Patrick.

Alateen Coordinator (Carla G)

Sponsors R&R in Westminster Woods coming up for sponsors and wanna-be sponsors. Will probably have 30 people there. Attended June NoCAC Bash. Next Bash coming up, will attend that. Went to Washington Area's Alateen Convention: made me fond for how we do things here. Will speak tonight in D7. D13 and D17 have invited her. Will share about Alateen at ICYPAA. She got WSO modules-gave copies of Module 1 to each DR to give to their Alateen coordinators. She will have Module 2 by Assembly. Trying to write up Sponsor R&R guidelines. It is powerful to hear from experienced sponsors. WSO is going to include some stuff from the 12 Stepper in Area Highlights.

--did 2010 NoCAC financial issue get resolved? So far as she knows, yes.

Alateen Liaison Report (Kayla F-South)

Recently made flyers for 1st BASH, 2nd BASH, and NoCAC registration forms. Wrote article for Alateen Express. I'm available to speak. Email me. Attended first BASH and going to 2nd BASH here in El Dorado Hills. Raising money for NoCAC.

Archives Coordinator (Chris M)

No new major developments. July 9 Archives party but no one came except Yvonne; reviewed 12Stepper and Alateen records. We're thinking about scanning and making a CD of old 12 Steppers. I'm preparing information about the last 10

years to update Journey to Recovery. Asking DRs to have someone write an update about their district: just a couple of pages. Thinking about end of panel and collecting info electronically. There will be an August 13 Archives party. Having a blast from the past. Don't forget the new history book, it has questions for reflection.

--Yvonne. Early 12 Steppers were fun: personal sharings, etc. What if every district sent their newsletter to the 12 Stepper editor, who could cull some of the info and incorporate it into 12 Stepper

Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator (Bruce H and Joyce D)

Bylaws and Guidelines-Bruce

Guidelines are getting rewritten: NCWSC Guidelines and Bylaws that need to be considered. Bylaws committee did not come together, but we may need to do some work before Assembly. Binders: updated guidelines don't necessarily go to everyone, but Bruce will send an update in the next month or so.

Insurance-Joyce

Not able to use Lafayette office, have to still work with Pasadena and have a less responsive agent than before. D&O submitted. Presented to AIS 6-10, asked that they do their own certificates. I also helped them with Bylaws.

Diversity (Janie L)

I've been trying to get translator equipment ready for next panel; we're going to have to upgrade it. I have gone to several meetings. I am trying to help new Spanish meeting in D5. I have enjoyed this service; I will be more than happy to help the next coordinator.

--suggestion to test the equipment before Assembly

Facilities Coordinator (Debbie O)

Since last meeting, working with D6-10 committee to make sure Assembly will be a wonderful event. Our meeting room will be 5 minutes from the hotel registration, in the room for the original Olympics. We're over the room commitment. There ARE rooms available, but you need to call.

I was asked by the Officers to find a spot in Galt: I've engaged Littleton Convention Center in Galt. Mary F, Anita C will help; got a discount because of local members. We have the site 7AM-6PM, with kitchen use. They suggested we bring our own PA equipment. I had fun. We will be back to basics. Thanks to D8. The place felt like home for Friday night meeting at Shepherd of Valley Lutheran church, right behind the Littleton Center. 6:30-10:00; there's a meeting there before us. Comfort Inn & Suites is just one exit away.

I've worked on my guidelines and sent them to BL&I coordinator.

--who is turnover meeting for?—outgoing and incoming Committee members: Officers, Coordinators, DRs, Committee Chairs etc.

--Host committee for Squaw Valley reminds people that each suite includes a kitchen, which will save money.

Group Records (Connie F)

Written report. Re Alateen groups; she does not have access; this goes through AAPP. Will need to keep separate data bases for 12Stepper and Committee members. It is very important to send updates only to GRC (and DR), not to WSO.

She recommends keeping data base entry to single person: GRC. DRs could access the data for their districts, but not be able to enter data.

--DR would like demo: can't be done yet

--DR-A16 has problems including there's no way to enter the focus of meetings. Doesn't provide enough data for multiple day meetings. Ans: if meetings more than one day, write in the time and day. A16 comes from WSO. They do have a spot for focus (6) and then special information. She would like to consolidate so that our database meshes with WSO.

--DR questions re A16, instructions re using last names: USPS requires last names for CMA.

Consensus: as GRC suggests: NCWSA Group Records coordinator continues processing data update and registration of new groups via NCWSA form A16. NCWSA District Representative will have read-only and report printing access on WSO Online Group Records for their district.--SU

In other areas the GRC keeps records for a year and then shreds them. I've been giving them back after I make the change.

Consensus: NCWSA Group Records retains for a time period then shred.—SU
AAPP: reminder that Alateen group records go to AAPP only, not to GRC.

Institutions (Louise M)

Greetings! We at Institutions appreciate all the help and donations which all you groups are giving us. WSO just recently printed the soft cover copy of How Al-Anon Works and we are happy to say that all the inmates at Soledad, Solano, and Tracy that are in our Al-Anon program have their own copy of the book. We are still waiting for San Quentin inmates to get theirs. I have also distributed copies to Juvenile Hall here in Santa Clara County and to the county jail. Some How Al-Anon Works also went to Sacramento for the jails and for the recovery homes there. I am in the process of getting together an order for the recovery homes in the Placer area and the jails in the Santa Cruz area. I just received a shipment of Al-Anon literature that I will be sending out to various places (got to get those boxes out of my front entry way of my house before I lose a husband.)

We are on the waiting list for Chowchilla, the women's prison. We are also waiting to hear from Mule Creek State Prison, which is near Stockton. Sometimes we have to wait for a room to hold our meetings, a time, and a staff person from the prison.

I am submitting a separate account of expenses and income this past year. NCWSA has helped me with travel expenses but I did not submit all of it. Up to July 28th, I had put 8815 miles on my car going to Tracy, Solano, San Quentin, Soledad, Folsom, and Mule Creek

Again thanks for your contributions. We could still need volunteers. Join us for a great service opportunity.

Next H&I will be in Redding.
 PARTIAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR INSTITUTIONS

H AND I CONFERENCE

Income	
66 paid registrations	\$660.00
Hospitality donations	11.66
7 th tradition	108.89
	<hr/>
	780.55
Expenses	
Donation for room to AA	\$350.00
Joan W speaker	196.50
2 rooms – Louise M. and speakers	465.92
Room other speaker	117.12
Treat bags	42.88
Meals including speakers	155.76
Decorations	100.22
Gifts for speakers & panelists	152.32
Flowers	32.68
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	1613.40

DONATIONS

Total deposits to 7/28/11	\$9638.80
LITERATURE ORDERED AND PAID	8592.71
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	

Mailing	197.57
Printing	622.49
Tolls for bridges	125.00
Meetings Solano	2116.00
Meetings San Quentin	30.00
NCWSA	240.00
Mileage for Modesto, Sacramento, Mule Creek, Folsom, Fresno	1084.00
Planning meeting Redding	254.00

Literature Coordinator (Sandy S)

LITERATURE REPORT:

Al-Anon's Newest Book, Many Voices, One Journey (B-31) is available. The price is \$16.00. This inspiring book is the story of the growth and recovery of the fellowship and its members over the past 60 years. How Al-Anon Works is now available in soft-cover (B-32). The price is \$5.00

Remember—when you buy from your local Literature Distribution Center, **you support your local services**. For a list of LDCs please go to: (<http://www.ncwsa.org/ldc.html>)

FORUM REPORT

The Forum is a bigger part of our shared recovery as members of Al-Anon Family Groups. The Forum can keep our group meetings fresh with stories and discussion topics shared by Al-Anon members from across the US, Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico and around the world. Please continue to let your groups know how important the Forum is to our fellowship and encourage members to purchase the Forum and send sharing's into the Forum.

Reminder: GRs are the Forum Representative to their group. Please refer to Seventh Tradition Pamphlet (S-21), Al-Anon Group Representative (G-11) and our Service Manual (page 45).

PI/CPC (Brenda W.)

The last few months have been busy but I've really been enjoying this position. I gave a workshop at May Assembly. Got info from Karleen about something D9 doing, broke into groups, using Best of Public Outreach. I haven't heard if anyone has done anything. In June I got invitation from VA, psychologists and social workers. With help of Chris D I arranged 2 speakers to give talks. Art B gave info on history of Al-Anon and Dave O spoke on a personal level about coming to Al-Anon initially because of a veteran in his life. Chris took literature. I think it went well; I regret I was not able to attend. I will be turning in requests for reimbursement; that's the price of doing service and appreciate the direction and support of the Area to work in this field.

Web Committee (Jim S.)

This is a fun position; I've really enjoyed doing it. I want to thank the committee: Mike M does the calendar updates; Lori K does the dependent meeting updates; Chris D and Erol S are also on the committee: they've been working on a map that shows our meetings. We'd like to have this ready by October 2011 Assembly.

Art B is the architect of the website and the person I go to for anything I can't answer. We've had 2 meetings in the last 3 months. Met at my house once, and a conference call with shared screens. We're looking at an update to the look of the website. I appreciate all the flyers going to Bonnie was well as me. It is important that updates to meetings go to DR and GRC: do not send to WSO. The GRC is the single point of entry. There were 2.8 million hits on website in the last 12 months.

Demo: Map under meetings interfaces with Google Maps, looks like a bit of a mess looking at all NCWSA, but can zoom in, filter by zip code, district map, type of meeting or day of week. Click on bubble and get meeting location, time, type, District, and can click for directions. It is fairly intuitive if you use the filtering bar. The gap right now is between WSO database and our database. WSO does not include info on type of meeting, coordinates. We hope it will be ready by Assembly.

--Chair asks for a demo on how to pull up guidelines as Word document rather than pdf. Will add NCWSC guideline to top of list of guidelines. If documents were sent in Word, he converts to .pdf document. If you just click on the form, get .pdf. If you change to .doc up on the URL site, it will download as a Word document. The Word document is in the background. This will not work if it was sent to him as a .pdf document, he won't have the Word doc in the background.
--If you change a guideline, send to Chair and Bylaws Coordinator before Website coordinator will post it on website.
--Northern California as a trendsetter when it comes to technology.

Delegate's Report (John S, Panel 49, California North, Area 3)

Since the May assembly, I have revised the Delegates Job Guideline, spoken at one district event, and have been invited to speak at two more events.

The report and PowerPoint from the assembly are on the web site for anyone to review, thanks to Jim and his team. I am now going through my closet cleaning things out and trying to decide what is worth keeping and what to get rid of. I seem to have kept flyers for years. This feels good as a form of letting go and it is also sad to let go of a wonderful experience. I was looking at my WSO notebooks and thinking do I need them any longer? Am I ready to give them to archives? I am not sure, but I suspect by October I will be ready to let them go.

This panel has been a joy to work with and as we work on rewriting our guidelines I am again excited to work with this team to improve our area. It feels as if we have made real progress and set in motion a process for improvement for the future.

For once, WSO sent us enough copies of the World Service Summary so I put one in each folder in the bins. Some issues that have come up here are in the Summary, such as changing the words in the Steps. We asked the Literature Committee to come up with another piece on intimacy and sexuality that is not so limited in scope as the older book.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report (Carol G)

Last night's dinner cost \$8.80 per head, a savings on our usual cost of reimbursing members for restaurant meals.

Financial report: Treasurer took Pink Can money out of our accounts because it is dedicated to Institutions for literature.

Prepaid facility expense includes prepay for next year's Convention. Group donations are high; we're grateful for that. If you have not requested any reimbursements, you will not show on the report. Her report does not fully reconcile with Institutions report.

Chairperson Report (Patrick B)

I'd like to thank the person who suggested written reports; I've done one for the second time. Going through guidelines update process, we've found out that each guideline is interdependent with others and with the NCWSC guidelines.

I signed the paperwork to renew the Area's D & O and Organization Liability insurance policy. Thank you to Joyce D. for submitting the paperwork.

I attended a District 23 business meeting to talk about the role of a GR, the upcoming Election Assembly and service opportunities available at the Area level. It was a fun, inspiring and the members of District 23 were great hosts! I have also been invited to attend the District 14 business meeting for a similar purpose the first week of August.

I have been working with Sandi C. and Debbie O. as part of the Thought Force that is looking into whether the Area should purchase its own audio/visual equipment. We have done some research into pricing on different pieces of equipment, what the Area has paid to rent the equipment in the past and how open hotels are to groups bringing their own equipment. We will report on our findings this weekend.

Speaking of technology, well, sort of, it doesn't look like we will be able to hold a meeting using technology this panel. We simply did not have enough time to work out all of the logistics. Hopefully, the research that the committee has done can be put to use during the next panel.

Many committees though, are adopting the practice of using conference calls, instead of meeting in person. Conference calls have become so popular that we are finding the need to come up with a process to share our conference call number...You may have noticed this item on the agenda.

Like many of you, I've been working to update my Guidelines. I have also been working with the Officers and our Delegate on proposed updates to the NCWSA Assembly and NCWSC Guidelines (another topic on the agenda). Still to be updated are the NCWSA Convention Guidelines. This may need to wait until next panel. Updating Guidelines is not an easy task and it is good to remember "progress not perfection." Thanks to Bruce H. for inspiring us to undertake this project. It is nice to know that we will be able to provide updated Guidelines to the next panel of officers and coordinators, hopefully easing the transition.

Another thing we are doing to ease the transition from this panel to the next is we are holding a NCWSC/Turnover meeting on October 29th and 30th in Galt. The idea is to have a Committee meeting, with the opportunity for incoming and outgoing officers, coordinators and DRs (if elected by then) to attend together. We will spend some of the time conducting regular business and some of the time focused on turnover activities. Mark your calendars and let your incoming DRs know to mark theirs.

I'm planning the agenda for the Election Assembly in Squaw Valley. More will be revealed in terms of specific agenda items, but I can tell you that we will hold the elections of officers and the Delegate relatively early on Saturday. We will also have a mini-NCWSC meeting on Saturday night after dinner. This is so we can elect the next panel of coordinators and be ready to reconvene the Assembly on

Sunday morning. We will have a GR orientation on Friday night. We will also have an activity designed to inform people about the service opportunities for which people can stand on Saturday...Unfortunately, we won't have time at this Assembly for workshops or guest presentations.

Finally, I had my third and final interview with the Executive Committee. It was a great experience, once again. As I have said before, I appreciate the EC's thoughtful questions and the opportunity to reflect.

Secretary Report (Johanna MM)

I finished the minutes for February 2011 Committee meeting, Aptos. I did the best I could on the minutes for February 2010 Committee meeting, Pleasant Hill. We have previously approved July 2010 minutes.

I also drafted new Guidelines for Secretary in the new format, updated several forms, and cooperated with Group Records Coordinator on areas of overlap. It has been a moderately busy time for updating the Roster, Roll Call, nametags, etc. There are a few new DRs, new officers for SCVI, and I added the chair of the LRPC to the Roster.

I have started the May 2011 Assembly minutes and should have them completed in time for the *12 Stepper* deadline. I've already submitted the October 2010 Assembly minutes, but I may take another look at them to insert the gist of the reports that also appeared in the December *12 Stepper*.

I meet by phone with the other officers and the Delegate monthly; those minutes get transcribed immediately and distributed only to the participants. I have started discussing with Archives whether they should be sent to Archives also.

Alternate Delegate Report (Joan)

Will be at District 14 half-day workshop on Sex and Intimacy September 10.

AAPP Report (Bonnie M)

My reports have been getting shorter and shorter. I want to thank all the DRs, DAPPs, District Alateen coordinators, AMIAS's for getting through the renewal process; it's gotten smoother. 273 AMIAS renewed; a few more will have to be recertified; we have 3 districts with new DAPP. There are 87 Alateen groups registered and 2 in process. As part of the strongly suggested training, we recently read every line of every page of B17 guideline; it led to a wonderful discussion. That's a suggestion you might take to your local district. The last page of B17 is a list of forms; I will look at those. I want to remove the form for LiveScan service: the one on the website is not complete. Get registered for Sponsors R&R; it's marvelous. Both Carla and I are available to come for training or workshops. As you get flyers this weekend, consider which ones you want to distribute: if they are not on the website, they probably have not been approved, with a few recent exceptions, like NoCAC registration and Last Chance Dance.

--at end of panel/start of new panel, it will be important to have the correct panel up. Should I move the form or just remove it. Form has to have contact info for AAPP, which cannot be posted on the website.

Alateen coordinator: has to put on the website who to contact for the correct form/info. Consensus: SU

Intergroup Liaisons

AIS District 6-10 (Sacramento area) (Joyce for Kellidee)

Kellidee really wants an alternate. Passed revised bylaws after 2.5 years of working on them. Major PI project: acrylic stands distributed to lots of places, police, recovery homes, medical offices, etc. Holds meeting schedules, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, and has information on how to refill on the back. Also has information in Spanish. Cheryl W is PI coordinator who spearheaded this project. Incorporated, but had not had a treasurer for 6 months, at deadline meeting, 3 people showed up: 1 elected and 2 others on her committee.

Santa Clara Valley AFG Intergroup (Peter P)

I'm new to the Committee, relatively new to Al-Anon. Went to May Assembly in Santa Rosa. I'm trying to keep meetings focused, like Patrick.

I am excited to report about the happenings at Santa Clara Valley Inter Group! Many changes have occurred at our Inter Group, not the least of which is me standing here today as a new alternate chairperson, and liaison to NCWSA. We also have a new chairperson, Bruce T, and a new treasurer, Mandi. And did I mention a new secretary, Kathy???

At this point in time, all our Inter Group positions are filled. While we constantly ask for support, our bookstore is staffed, as is our phone service group, juvenile hall and family shelter.

We have about 60 groups attending our Inter Group actively or pseudo actively – as long as the flyers are being taken to groups and I am not just needlessly killing trees, I'm happy! We have one person attending regularly and vigorously representing the Spanish Intergroup – a new happening here in Santa Clara Valley. Amongst providing support and literature to the Spanish community, they also provide Spanish meetings at Juvenile Hall and a couple of family shelters. The force is strong with them.

District 20 hosted the Al-Anon portion of a '12 Step' Public Outreach Day at Kaiser Permanente San Jose. The Al-Anon speakers included Joy and Christina (Alateen). There were about 60 folks in attendance majority of which, in my estimation, were from Al-Anon. Yeah!

Our special event will be on November 5th (see your flyers) featuring Karen R from Arizona. She's an experienced speaker and we're very much looking forward to having her.

August 28th we will once again participate in AA's 'Unity Day'. This is a free event with free meals running from 8am to 8pm at the Milpitas Community Centre. We will have our own room, table with pamphlets, meetings and speakers (including a Spanish one!). The exact details are in the works as I speak.

In terms of challenges or growth – depending on how you choose to see it! – we have been struggling technologically with entering the 21st century. Our Intergroup computer is old and ever so sloooww. I was able to coerce my technology-savvy wife to help me address most of the issues. In the meantime our treasurer Mandi has signed us up for a TechSoup, a discounted technology service for non-profit organizations. We look forward to getting hugely discounted software and hardware from this service.

Our web site coordinator Brett has been working to get our web page up to date. The next step is to update the feel/looks of the web page from that 80s look. Not that there is anything wrong with the 80s!

Our latest addition, treasurer Mandi, has been facing interesting challenges as well. For one, she is the proud owner of an Apple McIntosh while our financial software – QuickBooks – is of the PC kind. Luckily with the help of TechSoup we're able to get our own Apple copy for a mere \$20!

Next, we haven't seen a financial report in many months now, and Mandi is finding many loose ends to pick up, books that don't balance, reports that are misleading and so on. When she presented this to the Intergroup, 5 people immediately stepped up to help her out, no questions asked. This is what service is about to me.

Last, but not least, our Inter Group will be making an effort to strengthen our ties to District and Group Reps. Our representatives will be rotating through District meetings in order to support this cause. Stay tuned for more information!

Hispanic Intergroup-Julieta

Absent

Spanish East Bay Intergroup-Lupe

Absent

Power of Healing Through Service-Leticia

Present earlier, but not at time to give report

Other Business

Thought force on rotating DRs, one third each year. (Patti)—

The committee did not meet this year. Between my work life accelerating and maintaining my duties as a GR and DR, I failed to pursue the objectives of this committee.

I attempted to convene a meeting and had only one person respond that they could attend when given a choice of meeting days & times. But I was too easily discouraged.

The DR phone meeting in Nov 2010 did discuss the issue and the tone was cautiously positive, willing to see the area further explore and possible change the panel rotation.

Out of that call it was requested that we be in touch with Southern California who is already practicing rotation. We had been in touch with them early on and as far as they knew they had always rotated. I tried to reach them again regarding the potential issue with only 1/3 of DRs & GRs being at year 3 at the time of the next panel rotation, but received no response.

Again, I could have pursued it more rigorously, but I was occupied with re-establishing my work life as my career path needed shifting with the changing economic times.

This issue will need to be turned over to the next panel for further discussion. On the DR call there were some who had communicated that going through the initial meeting of the panel, although confusing, built a sense of camaraderie. Some committee members spoke to me about the inclination to try to do things perfectly, that not having rotation may serve a purpose and keep everyone on equal footing, rather than a tiered approach, with experts. That mentorship could be helpful but that rotation may not be the only path to take.

As an aside, I had a member from Tennessee email me on a different question, and she was surprised and grateful that we were on the phone within 10 days. We had a very good conversation about Area level work, and when I mentioned DR Rotation she said they also considered it but then did not move forward with it. She had sent out many emails and I was her only response thus far.

Sorry I didn't have the energy to pursue this further. I took this position at that first area committee meeting of the panel along with becoming a member of the Budget Committee. Perhaps if there had been more mentorship I might have been cautioned about taking on too much! When I offered to resign the position if someone else would take it at Year 2, it might have been best to resign and leave it vacant. But I did learn much from the experience, had practice at not shaming myself, at maintaining self-compassion and facing my own character defects, seeing them as future opportunities to do things differently.

--we do take on a lot, especially at the beginning of a panel. It seems the most important things do move forward

Purchasing AV Equipment for Area—Sandi C

We have spent a lot of money on renting AV equipment; would it be worth purchasing? Spreadsheet. We're asking for budget line item of \$2500.

--Who will take care of stuff?—a work force would decide on actual purchases and who takes care of things, could be facilities, or chair, or shared, or ?

--Is it OK to bring in our own stuff? Will they charge more for rooms?—Facilities says that they have said that we might need to pay a connection fee and take all the responsibility for it: for hotel-supplied AV equipment, they take responsibility.

--available to Districts?—probably not

Facilities Coordinator: will give us flexibility on finding less expensive meeting sites.

--would get a tech person to take responsibility, maybe a Technical Coordinator

--can get concrete information from hotels before this has to go to Assembly

--we can probably pay for the equipment with savings from renting equipment for two meetings.

Old Business

NCWSA Election Candidate Form-Patrick

Recommendation from EC for a standard form to be completed. Patrick suggests that we not use the form this time, but that we ask those who give their 2 minutes at the microphone to answer the questions. Suggestion that the info as to what they want be in the 12 Stepper ahead of time, and have some forms at the site so they can compare, but should be answered at the mic.

“In order to best serve NCWSA members, the EC recommends the following election requirements for officer candidates and that this information be communicated to NCWSA members so our elections are based on KBDM.

- A. Review both the guidelines and position duties stated in the Bylaws prior to standing for the position.
- B. Have a service sponsor.
- C. Provide basic information
 - i. Length of time in AI-Anon
 - ii. Previous and current district and Area positions
 - iii. Statement of why they are interested in this position and/or qualifications and/or what they can bring to the position.”

Alateen Coordinator: change “requirement” to “recommendation”. If you choose to stand, we will ask that you provide this information at the microphone.

Those who know now that they want to stand can submit that info to 12 Stepper. When will 12 Stepper be out? Supposed to be 45 days before Assembly.

Preparing for Assembly-Patrick

Friday night GR Orientation led by Connie and Johanna

Information about service opportunities: Coordinators have tables with copies of guidelines available, people can come ask you questions.

Saturday morning officer and delegate elections. Budget 101 and initial presentation in morning, before elections, then in afternoon pass budget.

Diversity task-force would like to do a longer report. DR reports limited to 5 minutes: talk about challenges and triumphs. Saturday night Committee meeting to elect Coordinators: any AI-Anon member can stand unless they are dual members. Even if they don't want to stand, they can come observe. Also on agenda: changing wording of Steps: will be discussed (a minority voice wants to be heard). There will be a 10-15 minute opportunity for discussion. Coordinators and intergroup reps will get to give reports. Sunday morning: the rest of the reports, other business. Budget has to be passed, discuss the AV equipment, New Business. Web site would like time to go over the updated web site. If you think of anything else, please email Chair.

Question: if DR and ADR cannot attend Committee meeting, the District is able to elect an alternate, but please tell Secretary who will be there.

Alateen Coordinator: feeling the loss of having someone share their experience, strength and hope. Maybe there will be an AI-Anon meeting Saturday night, maybe in hospitality suite. If we're still doing Committee business on Sunday morning, it tends to annoy the GRs who got up, so Chair intends to avoid that.

DR Meeting Report (Karleen H)

Interaction at the meeting shows a lot of growth. We are comfortable with each other; I've enjoyed seeing that growth. Four topics: District guidelines for service positions; does the next panel know what's expected of them? Transition of service panels: pass on information, information, information. We talked about ways to encourage people to stand for service; have current coordinators share what they like. Some Districts have nominating committees. Four questions Patrick asked of our coordinators. DR conference call, rotating night and chair, consensus that's a valuable tool. We're wondering how this gets put into DR guidelines so it continues(—that could go into NCWSC guidelines-Patrick). I'm asking NCWSC if there's something we can do to encourage that. We'd like to add a budget request of \$200 to maintain the conference call on the toll-free line used by NCWSC. One DR brought up the problem of a group changing the wording of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions; she did a lot of work on that and shared it with us.

--Another topic was orientation of incoming DRs, either at February 2012 Committee meeting, or at October turnover meeting (to which DRs **are** invited. At some districts elections won't be held until after October, so they would like an orientation in February conducted by prior DRs. Smoothing the transition to the new panel is an important topic.

Bids

Assembly Fall 2012: David DR 24-Monterey. I have 8 people on my committee. I've worked with Debbie on this. 2012 Fall Assembly to Monterrey. Embassy Suites 1st weekend of October: 5-7. \$159 for 2-room suites, includes full breakfast—could have 6 people in a suite. Meeting room 9000 sq feet, \$2000 for whole weekend. Motion to approve: Yvonne, 2nd Diane, SU

Yvonne wants to put in a bid for May Assembly, but can't get data yet because schools are closed.

New Business

Certificates of Insurance/WSO #s for Alateen-Joyce D

Person trying to secure a facility could not get it without an insurance certificate, which they could not do without a WSO number. Found out this has been a problem before. Don't need this for regular Al-Anon meetings because we need to know who is going to be there, etc. But for Alateen, we have a process where they need to have a sponsor and be in process.

There was discussion about whether we need to be able to issue insurance certificates for Alateen groups before they have a WSO#. We don't want to put a barrier in the way of Alateen groups meeting, but we don't want to have Alateen groups start until they meet all the criteria. It was proposed that a letter could be sent saying that insurance certificate can be issued as soon as meeting gets its WSO number, and that seemed agreeable to those concerned.

Multiple groups (EC, Officers, LRPC, etc.) using the same conference call number

One dial-in number, one code. Could we get more? Sandi can look into that. Lots of people are using number now. Consider scheduler feature. One line per group would be useful but maybe too expensive? Sandi doesn't want to get that bill any more: it should go to the new Treasurer. Short-term: email to NCWSC when you are moving the number.

Changes of forms from Secretary--Johanna

SU to approve changes to A2, A5 and A7. Voting procedures (A13) will go to the committee looking at NCWSC guidelines and Assembly guidelines

Guidelines for publishing events on the Area website-Patrick

Do we publish events that include other 12 step fellowships? Guidelines the website committee will publish: does not police the type of speaker at each event. Does an event need to be sponsored, and what does it mean? No, any event that says it's an Al-Anon or AA event and meets criteria above can get posted. There may be judgment calls. Have there been issues?

Bonnie: difference between AA events with Al-Anon/Alateen participation. Al-Anon does not have retreats. There are no AA/Al-Anon events, one fellowship is primary and the other one participates. We don't post AA conferences outside our Area that mentions Alateen because we don't know that Alateen safety guidelines are met. H&I is AA with Al-Anon participation, if Alateen is mentioned it needs to go through approval process. There **are** Alateens involved in Institutions work.

Guidelines for travel expenses/ways to encourage sharing to reduce expense—Patrick

Needs to be referred to NCWSC Guidelines task force. The money NCWSA is spending comes from the donations that come from groups and individuals. Do try to carpool, share rooms, etc. Suggested that it be presented at the turnover meeting.

Guidelines--Patrick

Met yesterday to look at Guidelines: NCWSC Guideline is the primary guideline, but coordinators have not been referring to that as their primary guideline. Chair wants to establish two task forces: one to review NCWSC Guidelines and Position Guidelines, be sure that things that need to be in all guidelines should be in NCWSC guidelines and have all the position guidelines refer to that. Members: Art B., Joan W.,(Charlene R., David B.(or Deb H. and Diana S), Bruce and Joyce.

Assembly guidelines reviews

Members: Sandi C., John S., Debbie O as Facilities Coordinator, Yvonne d., DeDe,

Announcements

Don't forget to check your bins and leave your name tags.

Next Meeting

Transitional Committee Meeting October 29 in Galt.