

**AL-ANON - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORLD SERVICE (SCWS)  
AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (AWSC) MEETING - SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020**

**Draft Minutes**

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**9:00 a.m.**

**A) Chairperson's Report: Donna E.**

- Moment of Silence -- Serenity Prayer
  - Welcome -- Past Delegates Jayme and Willie and new DR, Josefa for D64\*
  - Guidelines for Participation & Who Has a Voice and a Vote
- \* Acknowledged/Thanked Interpretation Team

**B) Traditions** read by: Elaine, District #75

**C) Roll Call -- Group Records Coordinator --Mary M.**

All Officers and Coordinators present but Jida, Abby, Laura, Bruce.

AIS Liaisons: LA County, San Diego County, and Spanish Intergroup AIS Liaisons present, all others absent.

Convention Charis: YHA and AFG Convention Chairs present; SCAAC Chair absent.

Past Delegates present: Jayme C., Kay D., Willie W., Kathy M., Miriam M.

DRs present: 3, 6, 8, 12, 17, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 54, 57, 60, 63, 64, 66, 69, 72, 75, 78

DRs absent: 9, 10, 39, 40, 42, 45, 48. Not sure whether D36 and D51 were present or absent.

**D) Secretary – Laleña C.**

**Approval of February 15, 2020 AWSC Meeting Minutes**

One change: Carol: point 4, pg. 8, change year to 2010.

**Vote:** 61 participants, 50 voted:

■ Yes (33) 66%   ■ No 0%   ■ Abstain (4) 8%   ■ I am not a voting member (13) 26%.

**E) (Interim) Treasurer's Report – Eva B.**

Tarisa, our former Treasurer, had to step down for health reasons. Donna read a text from Tarisa thanking people for contacting her and wishing her well. Donna noted that the GRs will be asked to vote to approve this interim appointment at the next Assembly. Donna acknowledged the Finance Committee members and thanked them for all of their work and the assistance they've provided with the transition to the new Treasurer. They've been working long hours updating the Treasurer's Job Description and the Area's Bylaws, and creating a Procedures Manual for the Treasurer. Jayme C. has also been helping and performing the role of Immediate Past Delegate.

Eva: Financial records for 2019 are complete. The only outstanding issue is that the former Treasurer recommended making a donation of \$12,641.09 to WSO for 2019. The Area World Service Committee (AWSC), at their February, 2020 meeting, voted to add this recommendation to the agenda for the May Assembly. The May Assembly was cancelled due to the coronavirus situation, so the recommendation will be presented to the September Assembly. Eva thanked the Finance Committee members for their help and support. Roxanne has been helping Eva input contributions and update their records.

- All contributions received through July 31st are posted and current
- Group contributions so far this year decreased by 28.2% compared to July 31, 2019
- Total expenses decreased 39.5%

- The Area's financial condition is solid
- \$35,893.89 revenue.
  - Total expenditures \$28,138.27.
  - Net operating income \$7,755.62, plus earned interest of \$2.42.
  - Assets: \$101,535.30, plus prepaid \$1,837.69, total: \$103,372.99
- Ample Reserve: \$35,000. **Total equity: \$107,019.12**

Roxanne: She is the Member-at-Large on the Finance Committee. She noted that WSO is predicting a deficit of \$420,000 because of Covid 19.

Eva: Proposed that we increase our ample reserve from \$35K (6 months of expenses) to \$71K (approximately 12 month's expenses). We have so much cash on hand because we didn't know for sure how much the new website would cost (the highest estimate was \$20,000). The website only cost a few hundred dollars to create, thanks to our Ben, our Website Coordinator. We have discussed increasing the reserve in the past, to conform to the *Guideline* that recommends that Areas have a 12-month ample reserve, but wanted to wait until the new website was up and running.

Jayne: Served as Delegate from 2012-2014; currently acting as our Immediate Past Delegate. She gave some historical information and facts regarding the history of Area contributions to WSO.

- SCWS has contributed to WSO since 1971, contributions based on budget surplus and our ample reserve, contributions were made annually or semiannually.
- WSO provides:
  - group services, public outreach/professionals, literature, conferences, international and other program services, operations and administrative services, digital strategy
  - Warranty one in *Service Manual* (p. 23)
  - Hosts the annual World Service conference for all Delegates
  - Group contributions to WSO: 40%, Literature sales of the WSO: 54%, these 2 sources do not support WSO's work.
  - The WSO usually needs to tap into their Reserve Fund fund up to 4%,
  - Projected deficit = \$420K
- SCWS Area Responsibilities
  - Communicates with and supports 1,250 groups
  - Hosts Area Assembly and AWSC meetings
  - Helps Districts and groups
  - Virtual meetings--feedback and guidance
  - Hosts Workshops (SOS, Longtimers Event)
  - oversees Alateen
  - Publishes Bulletin
  - Pays for our Delegate to attend WSC
  - Travel Expenses for Delegate and SCWS Board
  - Area Liability Insurance
  - Office supplies
  - Storage facility rental
  - Professional Tax preparation
- *Service Manual*: provides guidance regarding contributions to WSO (pg. 105, 160)
- Could an Area contribute to an AIS? No, per *Service Manual* (p. 67)
- Determining Ample Reserve: G41, *Guideline for Reserve Fund*

Christy, Finance Committee member and former Area Treasurer: referred to *Guideline G41*:

- Finance Committee is recommending that we increase our ample reserve to equal 12 months of expenses, to around \$70K. Currently thinking of what a “normal” 12 months would be. As of July 31st, we have \$101,534 cash on hand.
- Propose increasing the ample reserve to \$71K, which would leave \$30,535 remaining cash.
- The AWSC approved the Treasurer’s recommendation that we contribute \$12K to WSO for 2019. Subtract \$12,641.09 from the \$30K above and that will leave us with cash of \$17,893.91.
- The Area has already spent extra money purchasing computer and printing equipment for some Board members and the professional version of Zoom for our Area meetings.
- We still have more than enough to send an additional contribution to WSO for this year. The Finance Committee is recommending that we increase the amount to send to WSO before the end of this year to \$25,000.

Cathy S., Finance Committee member and former Area Treasurer: Since January 2018, SCWS has only contributed 1.1% of its total income (\$182,282) to WSO. Recommends increasing this amount, subject to the Assembly, if additional funds are currently available.

**Questions:**

Micheila, D27: Do we have a copy of these presentations on the website?

Ben: Yes.

Kim, D24: What about how the issue that the Assembly wasn’t self-supporting? Are we not relying on this \$17,000 extra to pay for the Assembly?

Eva: We are self-supporting overall. SCWS pays for the Assembly, so the Assembly is supported.

Connie, D69: What is our monthly expense?

Eva: About \$5,000. Some months we spend more, like when we have the Assembly or AWSC.

Suzie M., AFG chair: Have we considered no contribution for the year 2020 since we might not have meeting contributions due to the coronavirus. Could this money be earmarked?

Eva: We are receiving contributions. Our Area’s Groups are very generous!

Vickie, D72: Should I ask for a certain amount from each group (suggestion of \$20 per GR/Group)? Or leave it up to the group?

Eva: Leave it up to each Group to decide, per a Group conscience.

Nancy, D12: Can you let us know what the ample reserve covers? She also thanked the Finance Committee.

Eva: The ample reserve is there to cover all operational expenses, if we don’t receive enough contributions: rent, insurance, mileage, accommodations for travel, background expenses, venue, fees.

Josefa, D64: Referred to the Minutes (p. 2) regarding the Question about the \$20 “suggested” contribution.

Judy P, Literature Coordinator: Can Cathy clarify numbers she gave?

Cathy S.: The \$25,000 figure does not include the \$12,641.09 we already approved at the February AWSC meeting. The \$25,000 is additional. Contributions down 28%, expenses are down 39%, so we are still 11% ahead.

Teresa K., D30: So are our monthly expenses \$5,000 or \$6,000 a month?

Eva: The monthly *average* ranges between \$5,000 to \$6,000. The actual expenditure each month changes, depending on the time of year. For example, around the time the Delegates goes to the World Service Conference, our actual expenses go up.

Christy R.: We won’t know the exact number until after we hold the Assembly.

Donna: If we had had an Assembly in May, we would have asked the GRs to vote on the 2019 contribution to WSO at that time. At the upcoming September Mini-Assembly, we will address the 2019 contribution to WSO and ask for a vote. At the October Mini-Assembly, we will address increasing the ample reserve, if we don’t have time on the September Agenda. We are asking the AWSC to approve putting both of these items on those upcoming agenda.

Darcy, D63: A lot of people are holding onto their contributions, until they find a mechanism to turn them in.

Willie, PD: Had a pleasure of working with everyone on the Finance Committee. Asked for clarification regarding \$25,000 amount.

Donna: They rounded up to \$25K, projecting they would be sitting on a lot of extra cash.

Eva: Total cash on hand, minus 12 month ample reserve equals surplus. The \$25,000 is a rounded estimate.

**Comments:**

Nancy, D12: Wants to lovingly remind everyone of abundance as a spiritual principle, *Service Manual* p.101. In all of her years in Al-Anon, she has never seen any need not met. We need to get away from fear-based thinking.

Mary M. GRC: When she was a DR, she learned to think abundantly rather than having fear-based thinking. That gave her the opportunity to learn how to do District finances differently.

Josefa, D64: Referred to the February, 2020 AWSC Minutes (p. 2). The Treasurer at that time had suggested that those GRs attending the Assembly contribute more to the 7th Tradition so that it could be self-supporting. If we have money to contribute to WSO, why was the Treasurer asking us to give \$20 to the group.

Tarisa: Clarified that suggesting a specific amount was done to educate members about the cost of the Assembly, not that Groups had to contribute that exact amount.

Willie, PD: He trusts that if the Finance Committee members have made these recommendations and these are their figures, it is well thought out. Our Area has always been self-supporting.

Connie, D69: Commented on sharing abundance with the newcomer so that the rooms are there when this Covid 19 goes away.

Jayme, PD: Our WSO has had to furlough many employees. They are working with a skeleton crew. WSO is not operating at 100%. This contribution will help with the collateral damage of Covid 19.

Maria, D42: Important to have an attitude of abundance. When meetings went virtual, she reached out to all GRs to remind them to continue to contribute to the District. Now they are ahead in contributions compared to last year, which has allowed them to make significant contributions to SCWS and WSO. It's been a beautiful thing to watch.

Josefa, D64: Quoted abundance, *Service Manual* p.102 in Spanish (p.101 in English).

Teresa F. GR for D66: It is important to purchase literature at this time.

Donna: If each member has literature, they can read from it during virtual meetings, rather than projecting literature on the screen. This avoids copyright issues. Apologized to Teresa F. for calling on her since she doesn't have a voice or vote at the AWSC.

Kim, D24: If a District has a surplus of money, what do they do?

Donna: District sends to other service arms--SCWS and WSO.

Eva: Referred to the G-41 *Reserve Fund Guideline*, where there's a worksheet to use.

Donna: Clarified the topic is to put onto the upcoming Assembly agenda the Treasurer's proposal to send an additional contribution to WSO of \$25,000 (in addition to the \$12K from 2019).

Motion passed: ■ Yes: (38) 72% ■ No (1) 2% ■ Abstain (1) 2% ■ not a voting member (13) 25%.

Donna: Next Treasurer and Finance Committee recommendation: to raise the ample reserve to 12-months' expenses (approximately \$71K).

Micheila, D27: comment: Referred to pages 212-213 of *Service Manual* and second bullet of G41 *Guideline* regarding District Reserve Funds. Are there still Districts that don't have DRs? Also had a question about increasing the reserve to \$72K rather than \$71K, based on the average monthly expenses.

Eva: We have ample reserves. We help Districts by reimbursing mileage to the Assembly. We have a policy for mileage of up to 100 miles, roundtrip of 200, but if a need arises when a District is really suffering, SCWS might be able to help on a case-by-case basis. Please ask for help, hard to know or anticipate the need.

Josefa: What version of the *Service Manual* are people referring to?

Donna: The most recent print edition, version two (2).

Kay, PD: There are different expenses per each panel. We have added 4 Alateen Coordinators to this panel. It has increased expenses for this panel but we still have an abundance.

Connie, D69: Thanked Eva for saying that SCWS can help if a group has a need. She noted that a lot of facilities are asking for insurance and they can't go back to meeting at those facilities if they don't have insurance.

Jayne, PD: Clarified that Groups send GRs to Assembly. SCWS does not help individual Groups financially. The Assembly needs to vote on any expenditures above \$2,000. There is an Insurance Thought Force that is addressing this complicated issue. We can't just vote on this on our own.

Vote: Put onto the Assembly Agenda increasing the Area's ample reserve to \$71,000:

■ Yes (38) 76%     ■ No (1) 2%     ■ Abstain (1) 2%     ■ I am not a voting member: (10) 20%

Willie, PD: We should consider adding this to the Bylaws moving forward.

Donna: Clarified if the Finance Committee will present this as a formula rather than a specific amount?

Christy R.: Yes. Changing from 6 months of expenses to 12 months gives leeway for the amount to be adjusted by the Treasurer in the future.

## **F) Observe 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition**

### **G) Old Business**

1. Area Alateen Resolution Committee Report – will be submitting the revised ASBR to the September Assembly.

Bear, AASC: We almost have the final version ready. The consulting attorney and the WSO have looked at it, and we have incorporated the revisions they requested. Now, we're down to the final approval process for the Assembly. Some of the changes made were: additional language from the WSO and Board of Trustees motions, now require 2 AMIAs at every Alateen meeting, changed the upper age of Alateens and specified the "aging-out" requirement, added 2 Alateen Coordinator positions (Communications and Events), created a two-phase Event Plan process, added appendices for record keeping, background checks, and list of forms. Encouraged everyone to look on a new website or to email him for a highlighted version to show changes made.

#### **Questions:**

Josefa, D64: Why doesn't the Alternate DR have a voice?

Donna: Only the DR has the voice: one voice and one vote for each District at the AWSC.

Darcy, D63: Could we have better communication for AMIAs so there is less of a lag?

Bear: AMIAs have been notified through the recertification process as we've gone along.

Tina, D33: When we pass this, what does it mean for our Area and SCAC?

Bear: SCAC will adhere to the ASBRs. If you look at Table of Contents, you can see where the responsibilities are laid out.

Kim D24: Is document downloadable from the website? When we vote in September are we only voting on the changes in red ink? Or are we voting on the entire document?

Donna: Yes, it's on our website. You can download it as a pdf.

Bear: Yes, the GRs will be voting only on what is in red.

Jasmin, YHA: On p.8 of ASBR, it says "any Alateen member (under 18 years of age)." Does that mean after they turn 18 or under the age of 18?

Bear: Under the age 18, not after they turn 18. If they are participating in the Alateen program, they need to adhere to everything in the Requirements. If they attend other Alateen events, they are considered an AI-Anon member.

Belinda: Which policies are still pending?

Bear: Didn't vote on two additional Coordinators on a permanent basis.

Donna: We added these positions on a trial basis.

Bear: The second change is the 2-phase Event Plan.

Jayne: Gave some history: When we added the AAPP position, we did it on a trial basis. At the end of panel, it became a permanent position. Now Bylaws will be updated as well. So, when we add on these 2 new Coordinator positions as “permanent,” they will be added to the Bylaws as well.

12:10 -- Lunch

1:15pm -- Concepts read by Teresa K., D30

Vote: To put ASBRs on Assembly Agenda, motion passed:

■ Yes 75% (35)     ■ No 2% (1)     ■ Abstain 0 (0)     ■ I am not a voting member 20% (9)

2. *Area Group and Member Concerns Policy*—submitting the revised Policy to the October Assembly

Marcia presented History/Background: Discussion at 2011 WSC, their charge was to develop a list of principles that Areas can use to create a Policy based on Legacies. Asked for feedback on the length of her presentation and the flowchart she presented. It will also be translated into Spanish. She went through the SCWS Policy flowchart step by step. Noted that we will almost never recommend removing a meeting from a local meeting directory, but we needed a road map to follow.

#### **Questions:**

Carol, Archives Coord: If we are submitting only the revisions, why not share what the revisions are rather than going over the entire chart? She finds the chart to be a bit too cumbersome to review. Keep it simple. We do need an existing policy, but there are refinements we need to consider.

Marcia: She shared so much detail because many members have not looked at the Policy. We may still need to review the entire policy even though it is on the website.

Micheila, D27: What are the 2 major revisions? Did WSO ask us to make these revisions?

Marcia: The structure of the original *Policy* is the same as the original. The two big changes are clarifying the role of the DR in the dialogue and education process, and adding the Board as the body that votes on de/listing, if a group were to get to that point. And WSO recommended these changes as it had appeared as if the 3 Officers were making all of the decisions in the original Policy.

Josefa, D64: Where is the Policy on the website?

Donna: It's currently on the AWSC page.

Sam, D36: One of their District's meetings was delisted. Can they be relisted? If they've done nothing, it stays the same?

Marcia: No groups have been removed from the WSO website. Groups have been removed from local directories by Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) offices. In our Area, 3 groups were removed from the Orange County AIS and these 3 groups have petitioned the Area to be relisted. The Area did not remove the groups originally because they were removed prior to the adoption of our Policy. We've had our Policy since 2016. We've had to stop the process of how to work with those three groups until the Area votes on the revisions to our Policy. The original Policy said that three Officers would make the decision. The revision is that the entire board would make the decision.

Belinda: What are the things that are different from 2016? Are there any policies about the confidentiality of individual members who report or participate in the process of what issue is? Is the redline version on the website, does that indicate changes made from 2016?

Marcia: The black ink was the original 2016 version and red ink reflects the revisions. They can expand on language regarding the confidentiality of members who bring issues to the Area. We want members to know that the DRs will be involved in working with Groups. Education and dialogue at the “local level” is the first and most important step in reasoning things out with Group members.

Belinda: AIS offices have agreed to follow the Policy? How would the AIS/LDC Coordinator be involved?

Marcia: After the November 2016 vote to adopt the Area Policy, members of the Policy Task Force went to the AIS/Intergroup boards. While the Boards agreed to follow the Policy, this wasn't always noted in writing or in Minutes. The Area's agreement with AIS Boards is part of the revised Policy.

Carol: Why would we complicate the situation by taking the entire Policy back to the Assembly for approval? Why not just say these are the revisions that will be made?

Marcia: The original Policy was presented to the Boards of the AIS offices at the time (2016). It appears that there are notes about this at many of the AIS offices. Once our Policy is approved, we will work with each AIS office to ensure that everything is approved and noted, for future reference.

Jayne, PD: The flowchart is outstanding and very detailed. Would you consider maybe just showing revisions in PowerPoint slides. Members can refer to the flowchart on our website if they want more detail.

Connie, D69: Likes when Marcia refers to document with red and black ink.

Willie, PD: Thanked Marcia for presentation. The explanation helped him understand the process. He suggested it be on the website for everyone to refer to when they need to make decisions. If it's not written, it doesn't exist.

Sandra, DR 3: Thought the presentation was extra long but also feels like it is very important. This will help the GRs make an educated decision.

Jasmin, YHA: If we don't approve the revised Policy, is it true WSO won't support us?

Marcia: To clarify, Areas were given the option to have WSO look at their Policies to receive approval. If an Area (with an approved Policy) gets to a point of going through the entire process and recommending that a group be delisted, WSO would support that decision. WSO would remove the "delisted" meeting from their website. WSO will not approve of our Policy as it was originally written, but does approve of the revised version.

Donna: Clarified that one of the WSO's main objections was that it appears as if 3 Officers seemed to have too much power to make the final decision. This is why it got changed.

Kay D. PD: For clarification, going forward why don't we use the same name for the policy as the WSO has? Chart is great.

Marcia: We will take all of these things into consideration.

Belinda: What lists are they being delisted from? Maybe add this to the presentation. Also, to give the reason to include individuals in the preamble.

Marcia: Is taking notes, she appreciates the input.

Vote: Submit the revised *Area Group and Members Concern Policy* to the October Assembly:

■ Yes 77% (36)     ■ No 2% (1)     ■ Abstain 0     ■ not voting member 21% (10)

Teresa K., D30: After we vote on this and get it formalized with each AIS office, will this just be done by SCWS?

Donna: Yes. This will be the Area Policy, which will protect everyone involved.

3. Creating a Safe SCAC Task Force: Bear: We are making good process. Working with an attorney regarding the tax-exempt status issues. The changes we're making will allow us to continue to have SCAC on an annual basis and feel confident that it is safe.

Donna: Thanked them for all of their hard work as they are meeting every week.

4. Task Force Report – District 64: Marcia: concluded with this for now. Got very few responses to the survey. Plans to do a brief survey online. The information is still needed.

5. Thought Forces:

a) Assembly: Micheila D27: nothing new, needs to connect with Marcia.

b) Insurance for Groups Elaine: DR 75: wanted to recognize that as meetings are getting ready to do face-to-face meetings, more churches will be requiring insurance. She thinks it's necessary to vote to establish a Task Force.

Jayne: It isn't the role of the AWSC to say we need a Task Force.

Donna: The Thought Force gives their report--and if they recommend forming a Task Force, then the Assembly decides that.

Andy, D60: What can we bring back to our groups now rather than waiting until November?

Donna: Whether or not meetings go back to meeting in person depends on what the local Public Health officials are saying.

Connie, DR 69: How is it that when we vote on money, it gets voted on? When it comes to Group needs, it takes so much longer? Northern CA has insurance available for Groups. She doesn't think we are practicing Tradition 5. We are protecting SCWS. Two of the meetings in her District have become electronic meetings.

Donna: Our Area process on creating or revising policies is to begin with a Thought Force, then they present their findings to GRs. Then GRs vote on if they want a Task Force to follow up on the issue and recommend a policy (or policy change). They need to consider many different aspects of any policy issues--whether it's insurance or another policy. Right now, Groups have not been given permission to meet in person. The Thought Force's report and their recommendation will be put on the Agenda for one of the upcoming Assemblies. Right now no one should be meeting inside, according to public health officials.

Renee DR 17: Is there any plan as to what to do about the Preteen/Alateen meetings? In D17, Preteen meetings are dark, 2 Alateen meetings are small. The contribution we usually ask for, should we still ask GRs to contribute what they can for the October/November assembly?

Donna: There is a 7th tradition basket at all AI-Anon meetings. Maybe talk to Bear separately about Alateen, because it's not an agenda item.

Kim, D24: Could we have an addendum to have the Task Force find out the cost Area-wide vs. District vs. individual meetings?

Donna: Yes. That is exactly what the Task Force will do. Volunteer to be on the Task Force if you are interested and have lots of questions. We will have sign ups at the October Assembly, but anyone who is interested can contact Donna.

#### **H) Alternate Delegate's Report – Eva B.**

- Sharing of Service (SOS) Report: Zoom SOS: January 16, 2021 Speaker will be Judd L., from New Mexico. Details to be announced at the upcoming Assembly. We have a Save the Date flyer now.

#### **I) Delegate's Report -- Marcia M.**

There is now a new AI-Anon APP for your phone. It is in English, Spanish and French. Can download from Apple Store or Google App store. The features are meeting connections, news feed, a spot to personally journal, look up friends, make posts, contribute to WSO, FAQs about the app. This was launched Wednesday.

#### **J) New Business**

**1. Election Procedures – New Board for SCWS—elections in November of this year! Marcia, Delegate:**

- Area Elections Information is on the website under the "Elections" section. It is a Quick Reference Guide. It has been translated, and will be put on the website soon. If you want to be an Officer, information will be on the website. Resumés are due September 15, 2020. Complete the resumé as a Word document, then send it back to the Delegate. All information is on the website. Also look at the *My Service Journey* worksheet
- Officer elections will take place at the November Assembly.
- Information for Coordinator positions will be posted soon. We are currently updating the Job Descriptions. If you're interested in a particular position, please contact the Officer or Coordinator currently holding that position to get an idea of what the position entails.

Darcy, D63: Can you send this information in an email?

Donna: Everything regarding the elections will be posted on the website.

**2. Archives storage—Carol G., Archives Coordinator:**



- Many items have been digitized and added to our Area Dropbox account.
- Dan P., the former Archives Coordinator, showed her a box of books in our storage facility. Six of them are rare first editions that contain signatures of early day members. She explored temperature-controlled storage units so that the books won't deteriorate. AA.'s Central Office has a climate-controlled storage unit we could use. Right now there is no fee, but in the future, that might change.
- The next Archives person needs to create a committee to go through the Archives and decide what to keep and what to get rid of. That committee could also explore how to display these documents.

### 3. Virtual meetings—various issues that are coming up:

- There is no such thing as a permanent temporary electronic meeting. Temporary virtual meetings were created to replace in-person meetings until we are able to safely meet again in person. At that point, the virtual component/meeting will no longer meet.
- Some meeting's members created virtual meetings that did not meet at the same time and day as the in-person meeting they were "replacing." This has created confusion because once we can meet in person again, which one is the "original" meeting--the online, virtual meeting or the in-person meeting? Which meeting "owns" the WSO ID number? Questions to consider: Who represents the meeting? Who are the meeting members? Who represents them at the Assembly? If a Group likes the virtual meeting and wants to continue virtually, rather than meeting in-person, then they need to register as an electronic meeting. Electronic meetings are not within any Area's service structure because anyone, from anywhere can join that meeting.

Mary, GRC: August 6th she emailed a "guideline" regarding some of these issues to all DRs. In that email, she asks members who want to have information about their virtual meetings posted on the WSO website or on local websites to fill out the SCWS Group Records Form on our website. She notifies the DR and the local AIS office so that they can update their meeting directories. In the "comments" box on that form, members can specify whether they want their link to be posted on the WSO site or only on a local AIS site. Mary will make the changes and contact the appropriate service entities. WSO registers *permanent* electronic meetings using their own form. This is the form for meetings that only meet electronically and are not ever meeting face to face.

Donna: The physical meeting is what is registered as an AI-Anon meeting with a CMA and a WSO ID number used in our Area. We strongly suggest that individual members not make these decisions for their Group. These are decisions that should be made at business meetings that include as many regular members of the meeting as possible.

Josefa, D64: How do members of electronic meetings have a voice and vote if they don't have a GR?

Donna: The Current Mailing Address (CMA) members for electronic meetings meet quarterly with WSO staff who oversee electronic meetings. There are no districts or areas. All of the 7th Tradition beyond the cost of the electronic platform goes to WSO.

Teresa, D30: Some directories suggest that newcomers contact a specific Group member rather than putting a zoom link online.

Mary: That should be decided at a group conscience and that information can be added in the "comments" box on the SCWS form as well.

Donna: Over-control of the virtual meeting link could be a violation of the Tradition that says that our meetings should be open and available to any friend or family member of alcoholics. If the link is so closely guarded that only current members of a group can find it, then it's not open to newcomers. Group's members can discuss how to remain available to newcomers while also not publishing the meeting's link on a public website.

Vickie D72: Some facilities are opening up, so do groups go back?

Donna: We recommend that our members follow the Public Health Guidelines of local officials who are tasked with making those decisions. We are governed by state and local laws.

Vickie, D72: Some A.A. meetings at facilities in her District are meeting face to face.

Donna: Again, we should be following Public Health guidelines.

Kathy G., Public Information: There's a lot we would need to do if we did open. She is looking at recommendations from WSO as a guide to inform meetings.

Donna: We recommend looking at what the Public Health officials in your area say, and follow those guidelines.

Connie, D69: Some members in her District are having hybrid meetings at the park, everyone is on their phone.

Donna: If they're following public health guidelines, then they can meet using electronic devices and in person, depending on what they agree to as a meeting.

Micheila, D27: At her District meeting, a GR brought up that a church is asking for personal information of name, email, phone # for contact tracing. Isn't this an issue of anonymity?

Donna: Any facility can ask whatever they want to ask. Members have to decide if they are okay with that.

Maryjo, DR54: The church's rules are consistent with Public Health because of tracking for Covid 19.

Donna: Each meeting decides individually if they are okay with that. And individuals within each Group will have to decide what they are comfortable with.

Josefa, D64: If an issue comes to AIS, who resolves the issue? One group is having issues with money.

Donna: AIS's have certain functions, mainly having to do with distributing literature and creating local meeting directories. If a member has a question that doesn't involve those AIS functions, they can contact the Area using the email: [groupandmemberconcerns@scws-al-anon.org](mailto:groupandmemberconcerns@scws-al-anon.org) or [preguntasdemiembroshispanos@scws-al-anon.org](mailto:preguntasdemiembroshispanos@scws-al-anon.org)

## **K) Hospitality Report -- Shauna S.**

## **L) District Representative Reports**

## **M) Coordinators Reports**

AIS-LDC Coordinator -- Belinda B.

Archives -- Carol

Area Alateen Communications Coordinator -- Suzanne P.

Area Alateen Events Coordinator -- Jida S.

Area Alateen Member Coordinator -- Abby W.

Area Alateen Process Person -- Laura H.

Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator -- Gerry "Bear" W.

Bulletin -- Bruce S.

Cooperating with the Professional Community -- Yoly W-H.

Group Records Coordinator -- Mary M.

Institutions Sandy W. Literature -- Judy P.

Public Information -- Kathleen G.

Spanish Coordinator -- Brissa M.

Website -- Ben P.

## **N) Convention Chairpersons Reports**

### **- AFG Convention (AI-Anon)**

- So-Cal. AA Convention (AI-Anon)** Suzie M. The attendance was low. All of the committee is intact. Tomorrow they will discuss the logo. Did lose money with printing. Contract was cancelled by the hotel. \$14,000 rollover to 2021. April 30-May 2nd will be the date for next year's convention. Hotel has confirmed these dates. 2 fundraisers are planned to recover losses. Looking to restore 501(3)(c) status. Would like people to join the committee.

- **Young at Heart (YHA):** Everyone is welcome. Fundraiser tomorrow, Life Skills at 12. Go to [yhaconvention.com](http://yhaconvention.com) to see flyers. Convention is August 28-29th.

**O) Intergroup Liaisons Reports**

- **Inland Empire · Intergrupal Hispana (L.A. County)**
- **Los Angeles County · Intergrupal Hispana (San Diego)**
- **Orange County · San Diego County · Ventura County**

**P) Ask-It Basket – Q's & A's: Alternate Delegate**

**Q) Al-Anon-Related Announcements**

**Meeting adjourned - 4:00 p.m. - Closed with *Al-Anon Declaration***