

DISTRICT 6 MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 13th, 2021

Virtual Meeting chaired by Tannis R.
Minutes taken by Cyndi W.

“Moving Forward with Unity, Courage and Perseverance”

In Attendance

Tannis R.	Steps to Serenity AFG	DR
Colleen K	Spiritual Circle AFG	Alt DR
Lesley W	Steps to Serenity AGF	District Treasurer
Steve B	Saturday Night Wisdom AFG	DR Advisor - contact for home group
Jacqui	Al-Anon Works AFG	GR
Liz B	Spiritual Circle AFG	GR
Loraine K.	Byron Tues Afternoon AFG	GR
Karen T	One Day At A Time AFG	GR
Matt R.	East 58th AFG	GR
Nancy F.	Friendly Thurs Afternoon AFG	Phone Coordinator
Trish	Friendly Thurs Afternoon AFG	GR
Pat G.	Friendly Thurs Afternoon AFG	Alt GR
Cyndi W.	Higher Power & I AFG	Alt GR/District Secretary
Diane M	Higher Power & I AFG	GR
Shannon K	Al-Anon Works AFG	Public Outreach Coordinator
Jill L	Central Group AFG	Contact for home group

Voting Members in Attendance (only GRs or those representing groups vote)

Lesley W	Steps to Serenity AGF	District Treasurer
Jacqui	Al-Anon Works AFG	GR
Liz B	Spiritual Circle AFG	GR
Loraine K.	Byron Tues Afternoon AFG	GR
Karen T	One Day At A Time AFG	GR
Matt R.	East 58th AFG	GR
Trish O	Friendly Thurs Afternoon AFG	GR
Jill L.	Central Group AFG	Contact for home group
Diane M.	Higher Power & I AFG	GR

Meeting started at 9:30 am

- 1. Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.**
- 2. Second Tradition read by Diane; Twelve Concepts of Service read by Loraine; Warranties read by Pat G.**
- 3. Introductions by name, group, position.** Attendance recorded by Cyndi and whereby group reports not submitted by email, short notes may be referenced. 9 voting members, 5 to pass vote.
- 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting.** Errors or omissions: None. Motion to accept the minutes as is: Diane; 2nd Loraine. Carried unanimously. Comment to include wording “Waiting Room” for Zoom meeting process -revised here re discussion item 2 on New/Old Business.
- 5. Treasurer’s Report.** Errors or omissions: None. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as is: Karen; 2nd Liz. Carried unanimously. Use Email address district6treasurer@hotmail.com for group contribution and 7th tradition donations. Reference group name and reason in comments on e-transfer.

6. Group Representative & Coordinator Reports:

One Day At A Time AFG. Karen e/r: Our zoom meeting attendance is usually 10 - 12 people along with newcomers. We have a couple returning newcomers. E Transfers have been set up for 7th Tradition. We are having regular business meetings and will be making a donation to the church. -Monday afternoon -Zooms

Central AFG. Jill e/r: The meetings are attended by 8 - 10 people weekly. Things are going well but the Group is still in need of a GR. The flyer is out and we are looking forward to hearing Tannis's story at the Group's 70th Anniversary Open Speaker Meeting on March 29. The Group would like to commit to hosting the Friday Night Open Speaker Meeting in November. -Monday Night -Zooms

Just for Today AFG. no report. Monday Night -no Zoom reference

Helping Hands AFG. no report. Tues afternoon -no Zoom reference

Byron Tuesday Afternoon AFG. Loraine K e/r: About 15 to 20 persons join our Zoom meeting each week. Everything is running well and our members show tremendous enthusiasm. We have been holding our regular business meeting. Our Treasurer reported that our group has made all its payments, including \$148 to district. All positions have now been filled except for Alternate Group Representative. Our group agreed to support and participate in the Friday Night Open Speaker Meetings in its Zoom format. -Zooms

East 58th AFG. Matt reported: Zoom meetings 7-12 people- growing. Jane hosting face to face meetings with 5-6 people. Not having business meetings due to challenges connecting zoom & in person. -Tuesday night -Zooms and Face to Face

AI-Anon Works AFG. Jacqui e/r: Continue to host zoom meetings with 15-20 participants Discussed the FNOSM at last business meeting. Our group was in favour of supporting and one of our members volunteered her service to organize the event that our group will host on April 2.

At our business meeting, we decided that to keep the anonymity of members, we would have the secretary send all information to the group and bcc all recipients. -Wednesday night -Zooms

Friendly Thursday Afternoon AFG. Trish e/r: Our friendly thursday AFG continues to have a regular group of about 10-15 weekly. Financially we are sound. Our group has agreed to support a monthly Friday night open speaker meeting. -Zooms

Higher Power and I AFG. Diane e/r: Steady attendance on zoom each week, average of 12-15 per week. A business meeting has been planned for next Thursday following district. -Zooms

No Guff 12 & 12 AFG. no report-- Thurs evening - no Zoom reference

Spiritual Circle AFG. Liz B. e/r: Spiritual Circle continues Zoom meetings with healthy attendance rates of 12-16. Our business meeting on March 6 2021 was well attended. Points of interest: Our budget is set and it was decided to disperse some excess prudent reserves. The group is very much in favour of participating in Friday Night Open Speaker. We are very happy to have Chelsea coordinate our efforts and liaise with the district committee. We had a discussion on un identified newcomers in our Zoom meetings. We are looking for guidance and perhaps a script to follow from the District. We are in the process of updating our weekly format to reflect a welcoming guide to newcomers. -Sat/Sun Mornings -Zooms

Saturday Night Wisdom AFG. Steve-no report. Saturday Night -no zoom reference

Steps to Serenity AFG. Betsi emailed/Cyndi reported: Going well. 5-10 members per meeting. Reduced group members attending due to not meeting in person. Group positions shifting, blessed to have such a united group. Looking forward to connecting and reuniting in person once allowed. -Sunday evening -Zooms

Key to Harmony AFG. No report: Sunday night - no zoom reference

HUGS Alateen. No report: Sunday night - no zoom reference

Future Hope AFG: no report.

Gateway AFG: no report.

Friday Night Open Speaker Meeting: Mar.5th meeting well attended- 39 people. April 2nd meeting set up - AI-Anon Works is hosting— good support.

AI-Anon Day2021 Committee: Loraine e/r: Our committee has met three times, every second Monday. The theme for this year's AI-Anon Day is Recovery: Connecting Us to Hope. AI-Alanon Day will be Saturday May 8, from 9 am to 1 pm. This will be the first virtual AI-Anon Day. The traditional format has been adapted for the virtual environment. The event will be shorter. There will be five speakers, twenty minutes each, with participants from Alateen and AA. Some speakers have confirmed. Service positions have been filled and posters asking for volunteers will soon be out. Our next meeting will be on Monday March 22nd and we will meet every week after that. You are welcome to join in. Meeting times are 5:45pm every Monday from the 22nd of March. Reach out to Loraine

Phone Line Coordinator: Nancy r/e: Phone line going well - we have a new volunteer so there are now 4 of us. There were 11 calls in February 2021

Public Outreach Coordinator: Shannon e/r: Public Outreach has resumed monthly meetings and meets the second Thursday of the month by Zoom from 6-7 pm. Zoom meeting details to follow once set up.

The committee is currently working on compiling an email distribution list of agencies and professionals in the city, to be used to share Al-Anon information like Al-Anon Day, Friday Night Open Speaker (FNOS), the district website information and any other Public Outreach opportunities that come up. The committee decided by group conscience to host the Dec. 3 FNOS meeting. We would be happy to change our date if there is an AFG interested in Dec. 3 as well. We have small, stand-alone literature display packages available if anyone would like one or more to take somewhere and help carry the message.

Website Coordinator: Karen reported: Betsi and Karen maintain and load events on website as sent in to wcdistrict6afg@hotmail.com

SAM Coordinator: no report

DR report: AWSC is May 29/30th and will be Virtual - Only DR & Alt DR can attend. More to come. Save the date for Toronto Area Al-Anon/Alateen Day - May 1st. Re-opening up Road Trip Bids for South Western Ontario— reach out to members to develop a committee. More to come.

7. New/Old Business - Discussion Items

1. District Elections & Vacancies;

- A. SAM Coordinator. No volunteers- forward to your groups -excellent service opportunity
- B. Archivist. No Volunteers. Sharon has totes
- C. Friday Night Open Speaker meeting- FNOSM - updated sheet of upcoming meetings has been sent directly to contact list Mar.13th. Please discuss with your groups to attend, to ask others to attend or sign up for remaining dates. May 7/ July 2/ August 6 are the 3 remaining dates to be filled on the schedule for 2021.

2. What do groups do when someone will not self-identify on Zoom: Create zoom account with waiting room protocol. Train a few people in the group to know how to be account host and transfer to others if host cannot be at the meeting. Karen noted that 2 weeks in a row an unidentified member showed up to which the host removed. This intruder was noted to Zoom. No further issues have occurred. Liz noted that they have sent direct chat messages to unnamed individuals which generally satisfies the group - working to add in a statement to discuss in the format. The link to virtual meetings from Ontario South website is al-anon.alateen.on.ca/membership/how-to-organise-a-virtual-meeting/

3. Will Zoom meetings continue after we are allowed back into our physical meeting places? Discussions for moving forward to be proactive instead of reactive. Steve reported that it is required that when we go back to physical meetings, if we are to continue with a Virtual meeting that they would need to be registered with WSO. Cyndi noted an option for Snow day back--plan B when new comers physically come to a meeting that is not open due to weather or other unforeseen issues. Diane noted that the Zoom meetings have been a blessing for members that cannot drive at night. Liz also noted that the Zoom is very appreciated to those that cannot drive/do not have a vehicle. Loraine noted that for young mothers, it would be the only way to get any sort of recovery is through zoom. Shannon noted that most important to note that any changes - where or what type of meeting is very challenging to get that information to the people wanting to come to a meeting.

4. Change of May date for District 6 monthly meeting-Al-Anon Day May 8th: Discussion for date of May meeting changed to the 15th --agreed upon as group conscience.

5. Open Forum. Nancy & Jacqui- had a concern from a member concerning an event forwarded that was for an AA event. Tradition 5 & 6 states we do not announce events that Al-Anon is not hosting or represented. Noted on pg.92 of service manual.

Diane wished to discuss how members/groups deal with a lost member...death and facilitating announcements or condolences to family etc. Members felt uncomfortable not being able to mention/share details of service in a meeting. Steve shared that with the losses they have dealt with was done privately - directly with the member..if additional family information/services were available the member would need to ask directly and not in the group. In the past the Byron Tuesday Afternoon would share a moment of silence for their lost member. It was noted that this is a group conscience and would not require district approvals. More challenging to share this on Zoom but the same

group conscience would need to be in effect. Shannon noted pg 104 of the service manual - Bequests - a non-public, one-time amount can be shared with WSO for respect/contribution/service of a member lost.

Shannon wished to make note of key holders for St Steven's Church - Shannon / Steve / Karen.

Matt requesting what do groups do when someone notes their full name on Zoom screen? Do the hosts change the name?

Jacqui noted from service manual that it is up to the individual to decide if/how their name is represented.

Diane noted that often it is unknown that their name is in full and we ask if they would prefer this or if we should change to initial only.

6. Motion to close meeting at 11am: Karen, Steve 2nd. Carried

7. Date of Next Meeting: Saturday, April 10th, 2021, 9:30 - 11:30am. Zoom reference will be noted on Agenda

Closing: Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration. Read by all

Position	2021-2023
District Representative	Tannis R.
Alternate District Representative	Colleen
Secretary	Cyndi
Treasurer	Lesley
District Advisor	Steven B.
Archivist	Vacant
Phone Line Coordinator	Nancy F.
SAM Coordinator	Vacant
Public Outreach Coordinator	Shannon K.
Friday Open Speaker Coordinator	Committee created
Al-Anon Day (annual rotation)	Committee created
Western Ontario Conference Coordinator	Leona B.
Byron Rally Coordinator	Vacant
Strathroy Roundup Coordinator	Vacant