



March 27, 2022

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

3:00pm

Zoom Meeting

The meeting opened at 3:00pm with a Moment of silence & The Serenity Prayer

The Twelve Steps of Al-Anon: Iris R and Cathy T

The Twelve Traditions of Al-Anon: Iris R

The Twelve Concepts of Service: Rhonda P and Deb T

Warranties: Deb T

The three obstacles to Success in Al-Anon: Carol V

Attendance: Renie excused

Announcements: Iris

Please remember that only policy Committee members have voice and vote.

Approve Minutes: Rhonda

January minutes:

Motion to approve made by Joanne F. Second made by Carol V. Motion Carries 6 yes; 2 no; 0 abstain.

February minutes: not everyone received so tabled until next meeting.

Reports: All

Delegate: Iris read Renie's report as she was excused from this meeting.

For personal and work reasons, I will not be able to attend the WSC live this year. I am greatly disappointed and will join the conference virtually if it is decided to do a hybrid. The WSO still has not distributed travel instructions, yet. I will continue as an active participant in the WSO public relations committee this year

Alternate Delegate: Attended NCRDM

Chairperson: Where does the Policy Committee fit into the AWSC in service structure? It is a committee, just like the Convention Committee is a committee. PC is about questions and concerns in the Area. While Iris sets agendas, she is in service to the members of Area 61. If she gets an email that says there is a problem in a district and they don't know what to do, if Iris doesn't have any answer, it will be put on the agenda for the PC. The same is true for the AWSC and Assembly. Any member who has voice and vote is allowed to put their hand up and say they would like to discuss something. As long as a member has voice/vote at that particular committee, they can make a motion.



Treasurer: As of today, we have received \$3,096.01 in Group, District & Individual Contributions which is just over the \$3,000.00 budgeted for the first quarter of 2022. Contributions should pick up soon as Timi, Website Coordinator, is able to get out the 2022 Area Appeal Letter email to the group contacts which is being sent via MailChimp. I also plan to ask Rhonda to include this letter and an Area Contribution Form in the mailing she will do sending out the Assembly materials to those groups who do not have an email contact. I have asked Timi to put the Appeal letter on the Area Website.

The expenses for the first quarter are \$5,237.60 also short of the \$8,575.50 budgeted for the first quarter. We have not yet received the direct billing for the guest rooms at Hotel Mead for the March AWSC. I expect the expenses for 2022 will be quite a bit more than 2020 or 2021 due to more meetings being held in person rather than virtually.

The Appeal letter includes the following to remind groups why contributions to the area are so important:

This is a reminder to all Al-Anon & Alateen members in Area 61 that we are dependent upon your contributions to pay for service work at the Area-level. Here are just a few of the Area services supported by your contributions:

- *Area web site including meeting & event listings – www.area61afg.org*
- *Alateen sponsor (AMIAS) background checks*
- *Public outreach materials and events*
- *Policy, Area World Service Committee, and Assembly business meetings*
- *Sending our Delegate to represent Area 61 at the World Service Conference*

The Finance Committee has obtained a new member, Lisa L., Group Records Coordinator. Welcome Lisa! She joins me, Ann J., Chair, Jan C. DR, Terrie G., Member, and Iris R. Area Chair who will join us periodically. We are still looking for one or two more members.

Secretary: Please do not send any suggestions for changes to the minutes last minute. And please do not take it upon yourself to rewrite the minutes. When emailing the PC about any changes you'd like in the minutes, please send an email indicating where you want a change (example: page, paragraph, sentence). I take the minutes based on what is said at the meeting. If you decide to write a paragraph that you'd like to insert, please either write it within an email, or put it in a word document where I can copy/paste and do not put it in .pdf format.



Alateen Coordinator: Met with counterparts in IL to talk about Midlake 2022. Deb T and AAPP Laurie met with their counterparts. Proposed a one-day. Nothing decided. They will work on workshops for the convention.

Past Delegate Carol V – no report

Past Delegate Susan B – no report

Old Business

Area Inventory: April 1 Iris should receive the completed inventory questions. The Task Force is meeting and putting together questions. Once Iris gets them, she'll reach out to our Tech Committee so the inventory can be put on our website and sent out via mail chimp. Also, AWSC members will receive. And with Rhonda so they can be snail mailed so every member gets the Area Inventory. Iris will ask Lisa to make sure people do not fill out more than one survey. The TF will create an email for questions, comments, concerns.

AMAI Processing/Certification Task Force: Iris put together a Task Force. Joanne F and Iris met and put together a charge. Joanne has an AMIAS that asked to join. Joanne is not allowing non-AMIAS to join. Susan: couldn't a non-AMIAS be on the Task Force? Two people from the same district interested and could go through AMIAS training.

Electronic Meetings: Iris has received many emails from members asking questions. Iris asked Susan to put together a document that can be posted to our Area website from what she learned when she was our Delegate at WSC and from those who attended the NCRDM. Per Susan, Permanent Electronic Meeting info can be found on WSC Summary and from the WSO office.

New Business

Discussion of email sent by District 7: Iris moved to seat Doug H from district 7 with voice and no vote for this topic. Susan seconded. Motion carries: 4 yes, 1 opposed, 1 abstain.

Doug: District 7 has concerns, which are written in the following email:

Greetings fellow Al-Anon/Alateen members in Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (WI/UPMI),

My name is Doug Hiruskey. I am the newly elected District Representative for District 7. I asked our participating GR's at our February 15 District Meeting to



discuss and vote on the two motions made in the May 21, 2021 Assembly on the lifetime vote of past Delegates.

Using Knowledge Based Decision Making or KBDM, our groups looked into the 2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual and WIUPMI Policy Manual. The Group Conscience of our participating seven Al-Anon Groups and the District officers unanimously voted that past Delegates should not be lifetime members except the immediate past delegate.

We are happy that Deb T. brought this issue to the attention of the AWSC. District 7 is sharing this information to add to the discussion of Deb T.'s motion regarding the lifetime vote of past delegates.

(The attached PDF has the information we found in our service manuals. Note: PDF is not inserted into these minutes.) If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at: drdistrict7@area61afg.org.

Your grateful servant of District 7 and the fellowship of Al-Anon and Alateen in Wisconsin the Upper Peninsula of Michigan,

Doug Hiroskey
District 7 District Representative

Doug wants all districts and all groups to look at this issue and then take a vote on it. Wants it brought to AWSC and/or Assembly when there is time to discuss.

Iris wasn't ready to discuss this at her first PC meeting (January 2022), but the members felt differently. Regarding the change in the second sentence on page 2 of the Area Policy Manual under "Area World Service Committee" section #3 that was voted on to bring to Assembly, Iris doesn't agree that the immediate past Delegate be the only past Delegate on the PC. At Policy Committee meetings, we have three past Delegates from different panels. They go to Regional Delegate meetings and have a plethora of information because they were past Delegates. If we were to just have the immediate Past Delegate and they choose to not be active on the Area level, we don't have access to previous information. To be an active past Delegate member, they need to attend 2 AWSC and 2 Assemblies and be a member of another committee. They are choosing to be of service to Area 61. Regarding the dissension of lifetime past Delegates, there are only three currently, but Cathy is Treasurer so right now only two. There is no dominance with past delegates.



Susan: we can seat Past Delegates for their voice (not vote) at any meeting. Not how many votes but how long they can vote is her concern. Said it is not fair to anyone. Susan does not agree that not in alignment with our spiritual principles.

Cathy T: She was also Secretary and Treasurer in the past, an Alternate Delegate, Delegate, and a DR. She has been on the PC for 12 years prior to being a past Delegate. Some past Delegates have chosen to not continue service. As past Officers, they were elected. Questions were not answered in the KBDM; and there was nothing from the other point of view – so it's a one-sided document. Only one District brought this up and it was presented to the Area as a done deal, and it is not. Was not a full KBDM, so should not be taken into consideration for this decision.

Carol: WSO office staff do become members and have voted longer than Lois and Ann did. Past Delegate Delores (94) said it was the most surprising thing and asked why a motion was put to the floor and they said we don't want to ever lose their wisdom. We used to do Hot Topics in the past. This could become a Hot Topic. Some people do not know the history. Carol suggests that we schedule a Hot Topic time slot for everyone to say what they want to say.

Susan: she doesn't think that District 7 meant for the topic be an Area but for their own district. They only shared their D7 information.

Iris likes Carol's idea of Hot Topic. Not at the end of an Assembly but right before or after lunch. No motions during a Hot Topic. Susan: a GR could make a motion from the floor. Iris: this is only a discussion; so, no one is to derail the conversation by making a motion. Carol exactly – put it out there to avoid putting a motion on the floor before people can take this back to discuss. Carol does have a format. Carol chaired a Hot Topic in the past. Explains rules, etc. Doug will be at the Spring Assembly. Susan wants Doug leading the discussion. Carol: it should never be the person that brought it up. It should be a neutral person leading it. Carol will work with Iris to set it up at the Area Assembly.

Area Policy Manual: the AMIAS Task Force may also have Policy Manual items to discuss. Ann J, immediate past Chair sent corrections to Iris. Iris put something together for Policy Committee members. Review and make notes and bring to April PC meeting. Majority of meeting will be discussing the Area Policy Manual. May's meeting may be before the Assembly. Hopefully after May we can stop holding Policy Committee meetings once a month.



Motion to adjourn meeting made by Susan B. Second by Cathy T. Passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:36pm

The meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Rhonda P
 Area 61 Secretary
 Term: 2022 – 2024

These minutes are not official until approved by the Policy Committee.

ATTENDEES

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS		Present*
Delegate	Renie	E
Alt Delegate	Joanne	P
Chairperson	Iris	P
Secretary	Rhonda	P
Treasurer	Cathy	P
Alateen Coordinator	Deb T.	P
Active Past Delegate	Susan	P
Active Past Delegate	Carol	P

Guest Attendance: Denise O, Arla P, Reno, Doug H, Terri R, Jan C, Timi H, Jan S, Denny, Mary Sc, Pat N, Ginny, Virginia H

* **Present column:** Present, Excused, Absent (unexcused)