CLEVELAND AL-ANON COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of
January 21, 2022

Zoom log in information: Meeting ID is 847 9751 3760. or dial by phone 312-626-6799 followed by the meeting ID.

The meeting began at approximately 7:05 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. The meeting was conducted via Zoom. There were 13 persons in attendance. The minutes of the December 17, 2021, meeting having been forwarded in advance to council members and also put on-screen for the members to read, the secretary summarized the minutes for new members who had not received a copy. Motion was then made to approve the minutes as read.

GREATER CLEVELAND AL-ANON WEBSITE: The secretary presented Mary Jo's report for the website as follows:

1. **Webteam Report:**
   Mary Jo sent an email to Mojo Design team and Carolyn P. on December 27, 2021, about the Paypal button not working. Tony R (from Mojo) confirmed the problem was not with the website. Carolyn fixed it! Carolyn posted January 2022 HiLites on December 31, 2021, and made six requested changes to meetings on the meeting finder. Carolyn also produced an export of the downloaded spreadsheet off the meeting finder on the new website which Mary Jo can use in the February newsletter. Since January 1 (writing this report on January 12th) seven more groups have requested updates/changes on the meeting finder which Carolyn updated before leaving on her trip. On January 10th, the process of changing the office address on Bing.com (from old address to current one) was attempted, however, it was not successful. Hopefully another member of the Webteam (or perhaps a new volunteer) will be willing to try. Updates to the website (on the meeting finder) are made by our only administrating website volunteer (who also works a full time job) - Carolyn P. It's been a very busy few months in the volunteer "Webteam" for the Cleveland area. Aside from the website design team, basically two volunteers are doing the meeting lists and schedules, updating the website and producing the newsletter. Please think about volunteering or at least asking in your group if any members would be willing to help.
2. The secretary, Sheila, gave the office e-mail address (cleveland.ais.website@gmail.com) for anyone who would like to contact the webteam. Carolyn will be monitoring the e-mails regularly for change requests.
3. Information on web queries for December were not provided but will be furnished later.

VOLUNTEERS/OFFICE REPORT: Nancy presented her report as follows:

1. The office inventory has been completed. A mail slot has been added to the office door. All mail can now go directly to the office. On January 24th, Merri will close the post office box in Brook Park.
2. The World Service Office is still having supply issues and is unable to provide the office with all the daily readers that it usually gets.
3. The office is answering phones every day and things are moving along.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Patty presented her report from Merri for the month ending December 31, 2021. A copy is attached to these minutes. Some items from the report include donations from Friday Freedom, Lakeshore Thursday AFG, Al-Anon Saturday 4th Step, Willoughby 4th Step Saturday AFG, and Blackbaud Giving Fund – anonymous donation. Sales taxes were paid, and the Traveler's insurance crime policy premium was paid in the amount of $850.00, Internet, phone and rent were also paid. Merri wanted to thank Nancy, Vivian, Patty, Julie, and any other volunteers who helped count inventory. The inventory balance for 2021 is $10,430.67. Merri is working on getting the 2021 reports completed so that she can transfer everything from her home computer to the office computer in order to transition over to the new treasurer. The

current signers on the office checking account met at Huntington Bank to add Patty D.'s name to the account. In the near future, they will meet again to remove Merri's name from the account.

2. Patty noted that the background reports are all finished with clear reports, and all personal information will be kept with the office's CPA.

HILITES: Sheila presented Mary Jo's report as follows:

1. January HiLites: After approximately 85 hours of work, Mary Jo produced two versions of the newsletter using the new free for nonprofits newsletter software Canva Pro. The version using less images and color was sent to Vivian to print at noon on December 23rd to print on the office computer (saving ink) and for Nancy to post for the fifteen hardcopy subscribers to receive the newsletter by January 1, 2022. Between December 23rd and December 31st, six groups made changes to their meetings via the message on the meeting finder and those were added. At noon on December 31st, forty-nine electronic subscribers received the electronic newsletter (version with photo images and color). Three emails bounced back saying attachment was too large, so those members received the hardcopy version and redirected in the email to the website if they wished to see the electronic version.
2. February HiLites: Mary Jo began working immediately on February HiLites (due to a planned end of the month personal trip). On January 8th, Merri G. sent a December 2021 Treasurer's Report which has been included. Alashare and Public Outreach writers have been reminded of the deadline of the 20th. Once I return from my trip (Jan. 24th) I will add the minutes (from Sheila) and send the hard copy version to office volunteers for printing and posting, hopefully on Tuesday the 25th.
3. Gentle reminder: October 2022 (month of elections) will be the last newsletter Mary Jo will produce.
4. It was also noted that the front page of the HiLites will need to be adjusted to remove the reference to the P.O. Box. Sheila will follow up with the HiLites editor.

ALATEEN: Gary presented his report as follows:

1. Still not much going on in Alateen right now. Numbers are down and we are still recovering from this virus. The Cleveland Area is down to three meetings, face-to-face, and is trying to rebuild. We have a Rally that we hope (and I stress hope) to have sometime in April. And KOMIAC has been down in the dumpers the last two years. Barring a minor miracle, this summer's KOMIAC will probably make that three years. I don't mean to seem down, but that's the reality of the situation. What we can use are kids, and I'm sure that is true for all the Alateen Meetings left in the Cleveland Area. If you are an Al-Anon member and you know what Al-Anon has meant to you, if you have a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, that could use this program, bring them to 6 meetings and see if it's for them.
It may change their life. And that's all the preaching I'm gonna do(for now).

2. The 2021 Alateen Treasurer Report is as follows:

   The Alateen Cleveland checking account balances are:

   December 31, 2021 - $9,200.48
   December 31, 2020 - $8,025.98

   Income: $1,174.50 - Al-Anon Group Donations

   Expenses: $00.00 - KOMIAC was postponed until the Summer of 2022 due to Covid-19. As of this date, 2022 is iffy also.

   Thank you everybody and I hope the rest of winter goes well for you.
   Sincerely, Gary J, Alateen Cleveland (g.jokela@att.net), res(440)835-8807

PUBLIC OUTREACH: There was no report.

1. A question was raised for Council to consider – should the Bing account be deleted? Google and Bing searches show two different addresses for the office – Bing shows the old downtown building as our location, and Google shows the Lakewood building. Inquiries will be undertaken to see how this can be changed.

DISTRICTS / OHIO AFG LIAISON: Sheila read a report from Mary Jo as follows:

1. A question was asked at the December council meeting regarding AFG of Ohio, Inc. donations to AFG, Inc. in memory of Buff N. and Rex ($25 for each): Who are Buff and Rex and what role did they have in Ohio AFG? Answer: Both Buff and Rex were past chair and Rex was also a past Delegate and I think many other positions at Area level. Both were very long time members of Al-Anon. The suggestion to donate came from officers and funds will come from the projects fund okayed by the Budget Committee - which does not meet until tomorrow. This information will be presented at AWSC in March and again at OAA when the treasurer's report is made. Groups, Districts, AIS's and individuals decide who and when they wish to donate memorial contributions. I know that Rex in particular was beloved by many and many of us donated individually after his passing.

2. Current Ohio AFG Topics:

   (a) Virtual AWSC? A decision will be made one month in advance – on Feb 12, 2022.
   (b) Ohio AFG needs knowledgeable tech crew for virtual/hybrid meetings now and in the future - any tech volunteers greatly appreciated.
   (c) The Budget Committee met January 3rd.
   (d) Ohio website – presentation proposals from tech people about a new website.
   (e) Registration Volunteers needed for AWSC and Assembly - to help keep track of attendance during the meeting - especially for voting purposes.
   (f) Meeting dates and times: AWSC- 3/12, and OAA – 5/21
   (g) Officer meeting planned for Saturday February 5th - on Zoom.
   (h) The updates to the By-Laws and the Ohio Handbook are on the ohioal-anon.org website.

OLD BUSINESS: Sheila presented a report from Jan S. concerning insurance for the office:

1. Here is a brief note for the Intergroup Council meeting tonight to update you on the property and liability insurance renewal. We have been under binder with Philadelphia Ins. since the 1/9/22 expiration because they wanted applications completed which required info from several sources. I was slow in getting the info together, and then had technology issues. Betty was wonderful about coming over to my house last Friday to sign the paperwork. I spoke with the agent this morning who confirmed receipt of my snail mail, and that it had then been forwarded to Philadelphia Ins. The policy will be issued by email back to 1/9/2022 and we will receive a direct bill invoice with 2-3 weeks leeway available to pay.

   The open question is why the premium increased since many of our events last year were cancelled and the only live event was the picnic -- still trying to get an answer. The next step in making our insurance easier will be to get the November crime insurance with Travelers and the January property/liability insurance with Philadelphia changed to a common expiration date. The agent is looking into which policy will be easier to change and will get back to me with a plan.

   Consolidating our insurance with one agency was the first step in putting our insurance in better order. To understand why the agent is important, the agent helps us a lot when we are shopping for insurance because they know the insurance companies' strengths. If you think of how a realtor helps clients who are new to an area because the realtor knows the different cities, the agent understands the different markets

(like the difference between Parma and Pepper Pike) and helps us find the one that suits our needs and the price we can pay.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The office computer is working. Patty reported on her efforts with the computer in order to help her with her new treasurer duties. She noted that the office computer will be fine for now for her to work with and a new computer for her can be put on hold.
2. Sydney raised a suggestion that an external hard drive for the office computer be obtained and requested council to consider it. She will look into pricing for this.
3. Spring Workshop – Sheila remarked that the library meeting rooms are currently closed and suggested that we wait a month to inquire about reserving a room if they will be available. Sydney suggested a possible May date for the workshop rather than an April date. More discussion to follow.
4. Ohio Savings CD maturity – Betty presented information on the CD that came due recently and described the renewal options our bank representative suggested. Different interest rates were looked at (Betty is looking at a 12-month liquid percentage, which is better rate-wise. It would be a 0.30% rate for a business 12-month liquid account. After discussion, Council agreed to proceed with this account change. Sheila will review the information on all the CD's that the office currently holds. Suggestions were also made to take the largest CD and split it up into smaller ones with, for instance, one having liquidity and the rest not. More discussion to follow.

△△△