

Minutes of the Fall 2009 Hawaii Area World Service Assembly

"Stillness"

October 24-25, 2009

Hosted By Kaua`i District at Aston Kaua`i Beach at Makaiwa

HAWSC Vision: All the people of Hawaii will have a vibrant and welcoming Al-Anon meeting in their neighborhood

HAWSC Mission: We plan for continuous improvement of the Hawaii Assembly in order to inform and unify the Al-Anon groups in Hawaii.

Saturday, October 24, 2009

I. Sessions for GRs, DRs and Coordinators

The Group Representative Orientation was conducted by Mary; the District Representative Orientation was conducted by Patti; the Coordinator Orientation was conducted by Kay.

II. Opening and Welcome

Cecily C., Panel 49 Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led the Serenity Prayer.

Joy, GR of Kaua`i Sunday AFG, read a selection from p. 154 of "Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses."

Debby of Kaua`i read the Twelve Traditions.

Marilyn pointed out the location of the restrooms, and where snacks could be obtained and where meals would be served.

All attendees introduced themselves at the microphone.

Mary, Alternate Delegate, explained about the Ask-It Basket and encouraged attendees to submit their questions.

A slide show of upcoming events was displayed.

Announcements:

- Janet, Windward D.R., announced that the Spring 2010 Assembly will be held on May 15-16, 2010, at the Pagoda Hotel, 1525 Rycroft Street, Honolulu, Hawaii.

The Nine Rules were reviewed.

Cecily reviewed our purpose as an Area Committee from page 149 of the Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual: "The primary function of the Area World Service Committee should be to plan for the general improvement of both the Assembly and the Group."

III. Delegate's Time

- Ethel, Alateen Coordinator, discussed Alateen. She noted that Alateen is the responsibility of the entire Area, and encourage groups to stock "Alateen – Hope for Children of Alcoholics" so that it is available for parents to purchase for their children and Alateens to purchase if they attend Al-Anon meetings. She reviewed the requirement for Alateen sponsors to be certified and that she is working on getting the Alateen registration forms for our Area website. She noted that all Alateen info, including meeting changes, sponsor changes, etc., should be channeled through her to the World Service Office.
- Dianne, Public Outreach Coordinator, noted that the holidays are often the most difficult time for families of alcoholics. We should really try to continue to hold meetings that fall on the eve or day of a holiday because that is when the need is greatest. Other suggestions were placing a notice in a church bulletin, having tables at charity events, posting signs on buses and at bus stops.
- Jeannine, Website Coordinator, reported that she would like everyone to let her know if something is not working on our Area website. She is working to update the site. Regarding meeting schedules, the site has two versions of each schedule – an HTML version (or web page) and an Adobe Acrobat PDF version, which is the same as the printed version that each island/district distributes at meetings. For the HTML version, please

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send a list of meeting changes, including the meeting name, time and location, what it currently says online and what must be changed. For the PDF version, simply attach the file (in either Word format or PDF format) to an email to her. All this materials should be emailed to afghawaii@yahoo.com.

- Kathy, Literature and Forum Coordinator, reported on *Forum* subscriptions, which are down everywhere, and subscription rates in Hawaii are among the lowest of all Areas in the country. She urged us to renew or purchase a subscription to the “meeting in my pocket” and pointed out the many wonderful features of the magazine. She added, with the holidays coming up, why not buy a gift subscription for a friend, doctor’s office or spouse? Over the course of the weekend, nine new subscription orders were submitted by attendees.

IV. Strategic Planning Workshop

Cecily presented this training session for the action group on goals, objectives and action plans, which was accompanied by a slide show. She also distributed copies of the *Strategic Planning, Goals and Objectives Handbook*. We then broke out into groups for a mock planning session.

V. Delegate’s Time

Kay discussed several topics from the 2009 World Service Conference, including:

- Al-Anon will participate in the Alcoholics Anonymous International Convention, in San Antonio, Texas, July 1-4, 2010. The convention will celebrate A.A.’s 75th year.
- The Regional Trustee Nominating and Selection Process, which is in the third year of a three-year trial. Kay reviewed how candidates for the regional trustee positions are nominated, reviewed, scored and selected.
- Is the World Service Conference model working considering current technology?
The delegates’ discussion centered on a number of points, including:
the role evolving technology should have in the design of the WSC; how the WSC design would address the diverse needs of the Areas; would Areas be designed differently; how large would we want the WSC to be? What would be the implications of our decisions?
- The Fourth Triennial Report on Real Property Ownership, which concerns the ownership of the WSO building in Virginia Beach, VA. The WSC passed Motion #12 in 1994, which allowed the Board of Trustees to purchase the land and build Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters for a trial period of 15 years. When the trial period ends, the WSC conference can vote among several options, including:
Selling the building and moving into leased/rented offices;
Remaining in the building, which will be paid off in 2011;
Continuing the trial for another period of years.
No decisions have been reached. Discussions are continuing.
- Finances, which tie into the ownership of the WSO property.
- Several changes to the Service Manual, which are posted on the members’ area of <http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members>
- A proposed new book with a working title of “Tracing Our Growth” is seeking members sharing of their personal experience, strength and hope about how events in Al-Anon’s history have affected them. Sharing are due by December 31, 2009. Kay distributed sharing sheets and we spent 30 minutes writing. She collected the writings from those who chose to submit theirs.

VI. Fitness Break

Misty led a dance fitness break.

VII. Action Committee Breakouts – Building Objectives

The Membership Service Action Committee, Business Services Action Committee, and Communication Services Action Committee met in breakout sessions to work on the activities listed under their particular objectives.

- Membership Services worked on “creating a list of potential partners for invitation.” Each member of our action committee selected potential partners that they would be willing to contact to see if they would be

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open to learning more about Al-Anon. Also, if the potential partner expresses interest, the contactor would provide them with at least meeting schedules for their district and possibly some pamphlets, if available.

VIII. Seventh Tradition and Adjournment for the Day

The Seventh Tradition contributions totaled \$150.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 4 p.m.

Sunday, October 25, 2009

IX. Knowledge Based Decision Making and Group Conscience Session

Kay discussed the purpose of Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM), which is to build a culture of trust. She distributed a *Possible Format for a Group Conscience Meeting or Business Meeting*, explained key terms and how KBDM ties into our Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts:

The “bookends” of a discussion are framing and summarizing. “Framing” is an introduction to the topic in order to start the conversation. Open communication between members ties to Tradition 1 and 2 and Concept 1; Dialogue before deliberation ties into Concept 4 and General Warranty 3; Providing group members with access to all the information ties into Concept 4; We presume goodwill and have confidence in fellow members’ competence, which ties into Traditions 1 and 2.

We then broke into four work groups to discuss what a healthy group conscience looks like.

X. Fitness Break

Kaua`i members led a fitness break.

XI. Area Business Meeting

- Cecily opened the business meeting with the serenity prayer at 10 a.m.
- Clyde of Kauai read the Twelve Concepts of Service.
- Sue R of Kauai read from page 134 of “Discovering Choices.”
- Announcements were made concerning the facility, lunch and checkout time.
- Patti took roll call; 26 voting GRs or Alternate GRS were present.
- Voting was guided by Concept 12, Warranty 3, which states that “all decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by unanimity.” Thus votes pass by substantial unanimity, which is a two-thirds majority (18 votes).

XII. New Business

- Proposed Changes to Local Policy and Guidelines (two changes)
 1. Ethel explained the proposed change to our Hawaii Area Policy that would call for the Area to pay ground transportation and parking expenses incurred by Area Committee members to attend Area Committee meetings. The rationale is that Al-Anon service should be structured so that all willing members can do it, not just those who are affluent enough to pay those expenses. After Ethel answered questions from the floor, Tom moved to accept the changes; Misty seconded. All members voted in favor of accepting the changes.
 2. Ethel explained the proposed change to our Hawaii Area Policy that would call for the Area to pay for transportation expense (including airfare) for both incoming and **outgoing officers**, coordinator and District Representatives to attend the two-day Orientation Area Committee Meeting, which is held early in the first year of newly elected panel prior to the Spring Hawaii Area World Service Committee meeting. After Ethel answered questions regarding the policy and the amount (which will be determined by the budget committee annually), Kelly B., Kaua`i, moved to accept the changes; Misty seconded. Twenty-three votes were in favor of the changed policy; two votes were against the change, and one voter abstained. The change carried.

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- Proposed 2010 Budget
Priscilla reviewed the proposed 2010 budget by section. Voting was as follows:
Re *Section I – Delegate Support for the World Service*: Warren moved to accept the budget as presented; Dana seconded; 26 votes were in favor.
Re *Section II – Assembly Support*: Julia moved to accept the budget as presented; Misty seconded; 25 votes were in favor, 1 abstention.
Re *Section III -- Hawaii World Service Committee*: Misty moved to accept the budget as presented; Kelly seconded; 26 votes were in favor;
Re the *Budget as a whole*: Clyde moved to accept the entire budget as presented; Misty seconded. 26 votes were in favor.
- 2010 Area Calendar fundraiser
A mock-up of the calendar was available for review. Orders were to be submitted to Priscilla. GRs were encouraged to take order forms back to their groups.

XIII. Old Business and the Seventh Tradition

The total for Seventh Tradition was \$86.

XIV. Concept Eleven Presentation

Windward District, which is hosting the Spring 2010 Assembly, presented a skit about Concept Eleven.

XV. Approval of the Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda, comprising the Spring 2009 Assembly Minutes, miscellaneous financial reports, and coordinators' reports, was passed.

XVI. Alternate Delegate's Time

The Ask-It Basket questions were answered (see Attachment A).

Julia gave a report on the AA Annual Hawaii Convention with AI-Anon Participation.

Mary reminded attendees to submit their evaluations.

The Spring 2010 Assembly will be held at the Pagoda Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii May 15-16, 2010.

XVII. Closing Comments

Attendees made closing comments at the microphone.

XVIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned with the Serenity Prayer and AI-Anon Declaration at 2:30 p.m.