

AWSC 2023 Minutes

Location: Durham College, Oshawa, ON. Gordon Willey Building South Wing, SW109

Friday, May 26th 7 pm

7 pm Chair. Welcome. This is XXXXX first time chairing an in-person AWSC, and the last time she will be chairing an in-person AWSC. She led us in the Serenity Prayer. Rose from District 2 read the Traditions. XXXXX from District 3 read the Concepts. XXXXX from District 26 read the Warranties. XXXXX introduced the Executive. Timekeeper – XXXXX volunteered.

7:15 –8:15 Coordinators /OSAAC Chair Reports

AAPP- XXXXX. AMIAS has to be certified each year. All forms are in for 2023, and the Area is recertified. We have 54 AMIAS. Only 5 did not recertify. We have 8 new AMIAS. At Assembly, we did not have a lawyer, but now we have a great lawyer. Our new lawyer is part of a firm, and someone opens the mail. The new lawyer is responding within 2 to 3 days, and Jean is really happy with her. There are 13 Alateen groups. One more is coming on-line.

Alateen – XXXXX is really happy to be here in person! XXXXX does Alateen because teens don't have a choice – they have to stay in their home, because the alternative, being homeless, is not a good option. Alateen continues to struggle. XXXXX wants to get some fellowship among the AMIAS people going via zoom meetings. Please consider taking this role in 2024, the only requirement is that you be an AMIAS. It's a great job!

Archives – XXXXX has a committee to begin the delicate operation of downsizing. Archives helps preserve memories, and helps us learn about our past, and how we got here. Some items will be the history of a particular District, and those will be offered to the District's Archives.

Forum Coordinator – XXXXX Annual Subscriptions make a great speaker gift. Some groups buy two subscriptions, and offer them for sale, at cost, to group members. Some people with active alcoholism would not want to have the forum delivered to their home, and prefer to get it from their group meeting. XXXXX encouraged us to subscribe to the Forum, and to submit pieces to the Forum. Forums can also be donated to Libraries. Poems are not published in the Forum, but they can be submitted to Open Lines.

Group Records Coordinator – XXXXX There is a group that is in a no-mail status. WSO asks for a current mailing address from each group, so that the Quarterly appeals and other important information can get to the group. Please use the Group Records form on the Area Website for Group Record Changes.

Open Lines – XXXXX Open Lines is published 3 times a year. Currently we only have a few DRs that submit reports to Open Lines. Reports that are submitted to AWSC can be tweaked and sent to Open Lines. This is a way for the Area to learn about what is going on in your District. There are about 300 email subscriptions and one paper subscription. It's also available on line. The deadline for the August Open Lines is July 11th.

Ottawa AIS – XXXXX. It is a small group, just one District. We have a seven-day-a-week answering service, and maintain a group mailing list. AIS Ottawa is 35 years old, and XXXXX is looking for history. They distributed copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism in the community. They are recruiting for service positions, with 4 out of 8 positions open.

GTAIS – XXXXX This serves 102 Al-Anon and Alateen groups in the GTA. There about 20 GRs that attend the GTAIS meeting. The meeting happens the first Tuesday of each month on Zoom at 7:30 pm. They had a table at the PRIMED conference. They were surprised at the number of doctors who had never heard of Al-Anon. One doctor claimed that they had no alcoholics in their practice, since all his patients had jobs! The

thirteen volunteers who staffed the tables found their service worthwhile. They plan on going to PRIMED again. They are selling slogan cards for 25 cents each, with proceeds going to help with the PRIMED conference. XXXXX expressed gratitude to Ontario South members for all their support.

District 11 – XXXXX We have a small District, with only 3 active groups. One group is hybrid, One group is face-to-face, and the other is electronic. They participated in the AA roundup.

District 12 – XXXXX The Serenity Group in Port Colborne started up again two weeks ago. Some groups are on line, others are in person, and some are hybrid. They had a successful bake sale at the AA round-up with Al-Anon participation. This built up the District purse, and they were able to help the Port Colborne group start up again.

Literature Coordinator XXXXX – If you love talking about Al-Anon literature, you can get opportunities, eg. XXXXX shared Lois’ story at a workshop, and asked the question – Lois threw a shoe at Bill; what was the funniest thing that you have thrown? XXXXX heard phonebooks and an onion. XXXXX loves being a cheerleader for literature. XXXXX O. said that she threw a loaf of bread once.

Public Outreach Coordinator – XXXXX sent a package of material to the Camp Petawawa Army Base that requested it. There is a treatment centre that is looking for speakers for their meetings, so XXXXX provided some names. A new poster is being worked on. XXXXX. asked if there was still a guideline for speaking at Public Outreach events. This is helpful, as it is good to be reminded that Al-Anon has no opinion on outside issues, so if one is asked something like, “What do you think of drinking and driving?” one can note that although they have a personal opinion, Al-Anon has no opinion on outside issues, and our name need not be brought into public controversy.”

SATURDAY, MAY 28

8:30- XXXXX opened with the Serenity Prayer. XXXXX (D 8) read the Traditions. XXXXX (D 17) read the Concepts. XXXXX (D 1) read the Warranties.

XXXXX introduced the Executive. Caterina conducted the roll call, there are 42 voting members of AWSC present. XXXXX (D 16) volunteered to type up the motions.

XXXXX asked for four volunteers for the Ask-It Basket Committee They are: XXXXX (D10), XXXXX (D9), XXXXX (D28), XXXXX (D 8).

XXXXX explained the voting procedures, which are on page 9 of the information package. XXXXX asked when motions are presented. It is when the Discussion ends. XXXXX will signify when the discussion is over.

XXXXX (D11) said that sometimes when discussion is going on, at some times, the discussion is starting to drag on, then a person can start crafting a motion. XXXXX (GTAIS Chair), sometimes what has happened is that sometimes, a motion is presented, but the discussion is going on, there is a second motion going on, and it might not get aired. XXXXX said that she prefers that both motions can be heard, so that we can make an informed group decision. XXXXX (LDC Manager) commented that if we go outside to craft motions to go to the right, to avoid the first-aid class that is going on. XXXXX (Advisor) said that for the voting procedures, we often do a verbal motion.

XXXXX (Advisor) moved, seconded by XXXXX C (D 17), “that the voting procedures be adopted as presented.”

XXXXX (Advisor) understands the concerns that if someone is crafting a motion, they may not hear what is going on. All the information has to come in, then a motion is made. If there are opposing motions, then all motions have to be read. That is what Sue is reading in the procedures.

XXXXX (D 22) wants to clarify that any motions that are crafted with help from the Advisors have to be read to the people in this room.

XXXXX O (Chair) has seen duplicate motions, or motions with something obviously missing.

XXXXXorah F (D 23) trusts her Higher Power has had a hand in crafting the voting procedures.

Voting: 38 in favour. 5 opposed. **CARRIED.**

Approval of 2022 AWSC Meeting Minutes XXXXX (Advisor) page 7, paragraph 7: You and Your Board Connect, should be Road Trip: You and Your Board Connect. Page 12, last paragraph. Literature Office is closed reopens August 22nd at 10 am. XXXXXorah (D 23) Page 9 \$281 Canadian should be U.S. There are 3 regions in Canada, not 9.

Motion, by XXXXX (AAPP), seconded by XXXXX G (D 10) that we “accept the minutes of the 2022 AWSC as amended.” **CARRIED** unanimously.

9:22 World Service Conference (WSC) Report XXXXX. (Delegate for Ontario South, Area 86)

My job today is to fill you in a bit about what we did at the World Service Conference in April. XXXXX is part of Panel 61. We met from April 18th to the 22nd. The conference was in Virginia Beach. XXXXX's first WSC was on line, then the second was in New York City, and the third in Virginia Beach. XXXXX saw how these meetings were fun, and it was great to witness how contentious conversations can be turned around by trusting in our Higher Power, and using Al-Anon principles. Every day we started at 8 am, and we ended at 8:45 pm or so. All the Panel 61 members were asked to give a 3 minute talk about service. We had live interpreters for English, Spanish and French languages. We had entertainment, which was also charged to Panel 61, and it was a lot of fun doing a silly skit. The days were long and there was a lot of information. Each presentation was followed by Q&A. Questions were taken before comments. To ask a question, one needed either a laptop or a manual.

Our auditors gave us a clean opinion on the audited annual report.

Top Selling Books:

1. How Al-Anon Works
2. Courage to Change
3. One Day at a Time
4. Hope for Today

Program Services

- Supports international conferences
- Register New Groups

Where Money is spent pie Chart

Ontario South Contributions to WSO:

Ontario South average contribution per group in 2022: \$126.22 CDN, or \$94.67 US

WSO supports 13, 318. 60% of the groups contribute, with an average contribution of \$208.33 US.

Estimated cost of services provided \$4,278, 435.

Average cost of services per group is \$321.25 US.

Consider putting contributions to World Service Office in your group's budget.

Budget for 2023, is a balanced budget

XXXXX. encourages us to download and use the WSO mobile app, and to share it among our groups.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

The Board of Trustees is looking at Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. XXXXXby Irving is the author of "Waking Up White". There was a workshop entitled, "I'm a good person! Isn't that enough?" And in the workshop, we learned about what needs to be done so that everyone can feel like they belong, and that they can fit in. We seems to have a tendency to be greying, white women. We need to see more young people, and people of colour, and men. We are a microcosm of what is happening in the world. There were some people of colour in the room who said that they were not impressed that the presenter was white. We need to be invitational and inviting, not just good people, but to have good behaviours.

International Coordination Committee:

- Team North went to Norway, Latvia, Lithuania
- Team East went to Turkey, Bulgaria, Hungary, Switzerland
- International Al-Anon General Service Meeting (IASGM) in London, England
- Upcoming Zonal Meetings
 - European – France in September, in –person
 - Ibero-American

Literature Motion: to give conceptual approval to develop a comprehensive piece on sponsorship and service sponsorship using personal sharing. XXXXX said that she is okay as long as she remembers that she never has to do anything alone.

10:00-10:30 Break

10:30 Opened with the Serenity Prayer

Transforming Electronic Groups: Groups can transfer their membership to Electronic Groups. The search for Electronic Groups on the WSO website is pretty good. This is for all groups registered with the Electronic Area. For Electronic groups that are part of a physical Area, use the Area's website. Electronic Groups will be pinned to a zip-code, as opposed to a particular spot. For now, temporary Electronic Groups can stay as is. There will come a point in time where groups will have to decide whether they are going to be a permanent Electronic Group, and then they have to decide whether they stay with their District, if that is an option, or to register as part of the Electronic Area. There is no rush to decide this now.

Visit to WSO Headquarters: The staff work there, all but two work in person. There were no dry eyes as the Delegates got off the bus to visit the World Service Office. It was a very emotional feeling to see the WSO. Most of the staff are Al-Anon members, and their dedication and commitment is above and beyond.

Annual Report

Lynette, Chairperson. There are currently 46 staff positions and they hope to add at least 3 more staff.

Road Trip: You and Your Board Connect: Ontario South has been asked to submit a bid for 2024.

XXXXX – (D 26) Does WSO want sharings for the new sponsorship book? XXXXX replied that they haven't asked for sharing yet for the book, but they are asking for sharings for the Forum.

XXXXX (GTAIS). She was wondering if WSO will be translating to other than Spanish and French. Do we have any Literature in Polish? XXXXX answered that the Literature Office used to have other languages in some quantities. Now those languages are being produced in that country. So you would have to order it from Poland. Public Outreach might have some Polish literature left over.

XXXXX (Open Lines) XXXXX mentioned that you had lots of questions this year, and XXXXX wondered if she could share them. XXXXX had questions about finances and Alateen recertifications and XXXXX couldn't remember the others.

XXXXX (Advisor). Sue was wondering about the Zip Code for the Electronic meetings, how do they determine it? It's close to the home of the person associated with the group, and that is a work in progress. The pins of the map will come more into play when Electronic Groups get accepted into Areas.

XXXXX (D 4). If an Alateen meeting is on line and the adults are AMAIS, how can there be predators on line? Part of the process is that people have to show their face on line, to prevent predators. Does WSO follow our traditions and Concepts of Service? Answer: Absolutely! How was XXXXXbie Irving allowed to share about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, since that is not part of our Conference Approved Literature? XXXXX. said she was brought in as an expert for knowledge based decision making. She shared that other people had those questions as well.

XXXXX C (D 17) The Reserve fund that WSO has is enormous. Is it correct that the interested earned on that goes into the Reserve Fund? XXXXXid not know, but she can find out. We can reprint anything if we get permission, because we are a different country. Does our Delegate agree with that idea? The reality is that it would not financially serve Canadians. It might look like it is cheaper, because it will grow into other expenses, such as staff or publishing help.

XXXXX (Delegate) concluded by saying that service is what we do, it is the price we pay to know that we belong. She is not paying it back, she is paying it forward. It has been an honour and privilege to serve Ontario South. She was very touched by all the cards and communications she received leading up to, during, and after the week of the conference.

11:15 - Financial Update for 2022 XXXXX B. (Treasurer)

We reimburse DRs and Coordinators for mileage, there is an on-line form in the package. It is also on the forms section of the Ontario South.

	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2021 Actual
Revenue AWSC	5,600	8,240	0
Group Donations	18,939	33,740	22,802
AWSC Revenues	0	6,906	0
Other Revenues	523	50	2,082
TOTAL Income	25,062	48,936	24,885
Expenses:			
Assembly	12,195	11,500	76
AWSC	0	12,850	0
Conferences	4,502	4,416	0
Coordinators	559	2,250	678

Delegate	48	2,000	354
Executive Meeting	2,704	7,500	0
Handover	0	0	301
Operational	1,331	1,605	1,374
Other	4,943	6,815	3,814
TOTAL Expenses	26,282	48,936	6,597
Net Income	(1,201)	0	18,288

XXXXX (D 30). It seems like the website charge went up around \$300. Did something change?

XXXXX. I expensed the full year's charge in advance.

XXXXX (advisor): Just a curiosity, for our Revenue for AWSC, did we only have a little more than half of our DRs here? XXXXX replied that there were a lot of registrations received in May, that have not been recorded. XXXXX asked why have there been no photocopying expenses from the Delegate? XXXXX said that she had thought that her printing expenses were her 7th Tradition, but has been told that that is not ok. She is a work in progress, and has some expenses to submit to XXXXX.

Rose (D 2) said that the investments aren't earning very much. What are they invested in?

XXXXX said that they are invested in GICs (Guaranteed Investment Certificates).

XXXXXcS (AAPP) What is the Alateen requirements registration (1,384)? Alateen police checks is another line. XXXXX reserves this for when Area covers the police checks when the District can't. So the 1,384 is what we pay the lawyer for police checks.

XXXXX C (D17) The Reserve Fund does not reflect the \$20,000 amount that we submitted to Trillium, right? So we would be in the black, not the Red. XXXXX said yes. XXXXX asked about the favourable 2021 income. XXXXX said that in 2021 our expenses were way down, because it was a Zoom year.

XXXXX O. (Chair) Please pick up your literature right now, before you leave.

12:00-1:00 p.m. **Lunch Break** and trunk pick up of LDC/literature orders in parking lot at beginning of Lunch Break.

1:00 Opening: Serenity Prayer XXXXX O.

Literature Distribution Centre Manager Report – XXXXX, LDC Manager. XXXXX is really happy to serve Ontario South, and work with Al-Anon members, every day. XXXXX has pamphlet P-87 about Lois, which is discontinued. There is a new daily reader, "A Little Time for Myself", \$22.50. XXXXX has ordered some, and these are available for pre-order. You might want to get together with other groups to share the shipping, but you will need to pay with one e-transfer, please. Effective Monday, any shipping orders of \$400 or less, the shipping costs will be reduced by \$1.00. New order list will come out in July with the new reader and the new shipping costs. Al-Anon stickers are available. Does anyone have a calculator with a print ribbon? They will need that for Trillium. XXXXX C (D 17) has one that she will bring to Trillium. Please share the FAQ's with your groups.

Office Literature Committee Report - XXXXX (Advisor) Summer closure Thursday, July 20th at 1:00. Re-opens Monday, August 21st at 10:00 am. Pre-orders for Assembly are due by Tuesday, September 5th at 1 pm. Payment due Thursday, September 14th at 1 pm. The item for consideration about publishing Literature in Canada has been forwarded by the Executive to the LOC for their consideration.

Question: XXXXX (D16): Who determines the hours of the LDC? XXXXX answered that it is the LOC. One of the people on the committee is the LDC. So, if there was a request to change the hours, please submit an item for consideration.

XXXXX When the Literature office is closed for a period of time, it's often when there isn't a lot of business anyway.

XXXXX (Alateen) I was on the LOC when we hired XXXXX. My question is whether you get paid for extra hours you put in, to ensure that the orders are caught up? XXXXX said, "I do."

XXXXX (D 30). Is it possible to place an order, and pick it up at the LDC. Answer: Yes. In particular, she loves it when she is home to give you your order.

Trillium –update Trillium Chair XXXXX (D28). Trillium is re-blossoming. How many have attended a Trillium in the past? Hold on to the love, and let go of the former details. The purpose of the conference is to hear stories of recoveries. We have more than doubled the number of registrations since our initial report. We are now at around 185 registrations. They have raised over \$1,500 in donations. They anticipate being able to be fully self-supporting, and return the \$10,000 seed money to Ontario South. The deadline for the guaranteed room rate was May 26th. Walk-ins will be welcome. Advance registration is our preference, and then you will have a beautiful nametag prepared for you. Caterina will send out a flyer with volunteer opportunities for Trillium 2024. Monique R. (D 31) will be the chair. Trillium 2023 will have a bookstore, cash or cheque only. There will also be "Merch for Purch", eg. Tote bags, etc. cash or cheque only. God bless the Treasurers. Thank you for doing the work you do.

XXXXX (Chair) What buildings is Trillium being held in? Residence is the South Wing, for the meeting rooms, XXXXX is going to figure that out this afternoon, and will report later.

XXXXX (Chair) When is the schedule coming out? Later, and there will also be an on-line schedule, to reduce the amount of paper. Please pay in advance.

XXXXX (LDC Manager). There won't be bags for literature, so please bring a bag, or buy one from the Merch shop.

XXXXX (GTAIS). If one decides to come at the last minute, can one still get the meal package? Answer: No, the meal package is a package, and the deadline is June 4th.

XXXXX (D22) Has the committee given any thought to using an e-transfer for literature purchases? XXXXX said that it has been considered, and it would require the Treasurer be at the table all day. Therefore, the idea was discarded. XXXXX will bring it up again to Bob, to see if it can happen.

XXXXX concluded with: **See you in two weeks!**

Financial Reports, Continued. – XXXXX B (Treasurer).

Budget 2024 Highlights:

Assembly Revenues	8,280
AWSC Revenues	7,346
Misc. Income	70
Group Donations	44,358
TOTAL INCOME	60,054

Assembly Expenses	13,500
AWSC Expenses	16,001
Conferences	4,300
Coordinator Expenses	2,500
Delegate Expenses	2,000
Executive Meeting Expenses	7,500
Handover Expenses	5,000
OSA Operational Costs	1,538
Other Expenses	7,715
TOTAL EXPENSES	60,054
NET INCOME	0

Number of groups is 261 (February 2023), so estimated donation by group to cover 2024 - \$169.95

XXXXXX (GTAIS) Is there any expectation that the Executive will have meetings by Zoom? Answer: The Executive plans in person meetings in July and November. February is a good meeting to do by Zoom, due to possible inclement weather.

XXXXXX (D 30). On the income statement for 2022, the budgeted income from Assembly was \$8,240, which was based on 204 paid registrants. Why was the 2022 actual income \$5,600 for Assembly? XXXXXX said that we had 140 paid registrants, which was less than the budget. Covid may have kept the actual number of registrants down.

XXXXXX (D 30). Group Donations – will the Executive consider raising the registration for Assembly? XXXXXX said that this will be reviewed by the Executive before Assembly.

XXXXXX (D 11). I understand that it is about 50% of groups only contribute, so do we need to double the donation? XXXXXX hopes and prays that all the groups are able to donate.

1:53 pm Decision Point: Should the 2024 Budget be forwarded to Assembly 2023 for Approval?

XXXXXX (GTAIS): Would we do this with amendments for example for the new computer? XXXXXX said that things change all the time. The budget is based on the information she had at the time.

XXXXXX. (Advisor): Our practice is to set aside \$200 per year for a new computer, so that doesn't change things.

XXXXXX received a motion. The first one is from XXXXXX, (D12), seconded by XXXXXX (AAPP) that the 2024 Budget be forwarded to Assembly 2023 as presented. All in favour, but one.

2:02 pm Decision Point #2 XXXXXX (Advisor) Who Should go to AWSC? If the list of people is expanded, do they have a vote? Do they have a voice? Who should pay their cost?

XXXXXX (GTAIS): AWSC has specific roles represented. GTAIS would like to see Alternate AIS reps. allowed to attend AIS, even if the Chair is there. If an Alternate DR can attend with the DR, why not invite the Alternate AIS chair, to be consistent?

XXXXXX said that the blue motion forms are at the back.

XXXXXX (Open Lines). As a member, I appreciate being able to attend Assembly at my own expense, with a voice, but not a vote. Therefore, it makes sense to expand this to AWSC.

XXXXX (Trillium Chair). May we be so lucky to have people outside of AWSC that want to come. We are not a secret club. I lean towards being inclusive.

XXXXX (Delegate). There is a piece, because if the number of people is expanded, then maybe a larger meeting room is required. And if they get a voice, it could mean that we don't have enough time to hear all the voices. So if we want to expand, we need to look for a way to pay for it.

XXXXX (D4) thinks that there are two separate issues? Should alternate AIS's be allowed to attend, is a separate question than who should be allowed to attend?

XXXXX (D 22) Thinks that XXXXXX's question was right on.

XXXXX. (Advisor) said that yes, the original question was about Alternate AIS, and the Executive thought we could look at this more generally, and wait to see what Motions arose.

XXXXX O (Chair) remembers a time when there were invited guests. Now that she is the Chair, she realises that there are extra expenses with more people.

XXXXX. (D 21). Does that mean that the GTAIS body would cover the cost for the Alternate AIS chair to attend?

XXXXX (GTAIS) The GTAIS is in agreement to send both the Chair and the Alternate Chair to AWSC, to be paid for by the GTAIS.

XXXXX (Alternate Delegate) She wants to support the idea, because it gives the Alternate Chair some experience before they possibly becoming Chair. The reason we don't invite everyone to AWSC, is because we have Assembly, where all are invited. In her mind, the Alternate AIS should be invited.

XXXXX C (D 17). We could fit more people in here, no problem. Service is wonderful. In her District, they have a shadow year to help new people. To XXXXXX, the more the merrier.

Moved by XXXXXX (GTAIS Acting Chair), seconded by XXXXXX R (Public Outreach) that "ADRs and Alternate AIS Chair(s) are encouraged to attend as observers to allow them to experience AWSC meetings, and although they have a voice, they have no vote, unless acting as the DR for their District or Chair of the AIS. Costs for Alternate AIS Chairs to attend AWSC are paid for by the District they represent.

XXXXX (D6) This sounds like we are amending the policy manual, then the motion should say that we are amending the manual.

XXXXX (Advisor) The manual documents the decisions taken by AWSC and Assembly as respect to Policy. Therefore it is unnecessary to put that in the Motion.

XXXXX (D21) The AIS should also be included in the equalized travel expenses.

XXXXX (Advisor) If AWSC feels that this is an administrative nature, then it doesn't have to go to Assembly. His feeling is that this is an administrative.

XXXXX The equalization is for DRs only. AIS pays their own travel expenses.

XXXXX (Chair) This motion is to amend the first motion. The motion by XXXXXX, GTAIS Acting Chair, seconded by XXXXXX, Public Outreach, to amend the motion to read in the last sentence, "are paid for by the AIS they represent."

XXXXX (Advisor) AIS is an autonomous service body, paid for by the groups.

XXXXX (D22) Supports the amendment to the motion.

Voting on the amendment to the motion. CARRIED. 31 in favour, 6 opposed.

Motion is passed, as amended. 33 to 3 **CARRIED**.

2:55 break reconvene at 3:30.

3:30 Reconvened with the Serenity Prayer.

XXXXX (Trillium Chair) to answer XXXXX's question. All the meetings for Trillium will be in the UA, also known as the Science Building. From the Residence, instead of turning into this building, you keep going past the Gord Willet building. It will be a bit of a hike from the Residence. The Auditorium is gorgeous. XXXXX will create maps to help people. She was asked if there was parking for people who can't walk that far.

XXXXX (LOC Chair). Committee is XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX. We gave the committee a round of applause. Electronic Groups in Ontario South. Ontario South created a Thought force, which presented the following:

- That Ontario South accept electronic groups as part of our Area.
- That Ontario South accommodate electronic groups as any other group.'
- They used KBDM, Service manual, etc. to reach their recommendations.

Decision point: What does AWSC want to do next?

XXXXX (D 26) This has been my baby for about a year-and-a-half. I was grateful to be part of the thought force. I would like to recommend that the next step be a task force, to implement the recommendations of the thought force. We used Tradition 1. "Personal Progress for the greatest number depends upon unity." Accept electronic groups is the essence of unity, not accepting separation. Electronic Groups are AI-Anon groups. They fit Tradition 5, as welcoming electronic groups supports our primary purpose to help families of alcoholics. They fit Concept 4, Participation is the key to harmony.

XXXXX C (D17) Ditto. Financially for Ontario South it would be a boon. Electronic Groups have minimal expenses. It may highly likely get more people into AI-Anon. XXXXX likes a balance between in-person and electronic meetings.

XXXXX (Open Lines) My thought of this has changed since I first heard of this. My first thought is that Electronic Groups belong in the Electronic Area. However, the number of electronic members is expanding. XXXXX goes to an electronic group that has 300 people.

XXXXX (D 6) This item was a big topic of discussion at our District Table, and they agree with the recommendations, and think that the next step is a task force. Maybe have hybrid District meetings to include the Electronic groups.

XXXXX (D31) She has an electronic meeting that is international, and if it became part of our Area, does it get taken off the WSO website?

XXXXX (Delegate) The meeting will show on the WSO website under Area 86.

XXXXX (D 31) Someone looking for an electronic group might not be looking at the Area level. I enjoy the International flavour of the Electronic Groups in the Electronic Area.

XXXXX (LDC Manager) I heard that there should be a taskforce. There should be a person that can attend Assembly (not to say that there has to be Assembly with an Electronic component, it should be in-person). XXXXX wanted to clarify that we are talking about electronic groups with a local component.

XXXXX (Advisor) Yes. The taskforce would be involved with this question, as to what the requirements are for an electronic group to join our Area. If all the people in the group are from a foreign country, then there might not be a valid reason for that group to be part of Ontario South.

XXXXX (Delegate). The electronic Area does not have groups that want to be part of Area 86. We are talking about Electronic groups that are in Ontario South. Prior to Covid they were in-person, and then they became electronic, and now they want to stay that way, and continue to be part of our Area. XXXXX said that the taskforce can look at what other Areas have decided to do, because over half the Areas have already decided to move in this direction.

XXXXX (D 4) Is WSO allowing us now to have an Electronic Group within in our District?

XXXXX (Delegate) Yes.

XXXXX (Group Records). As to this taskforce, are we creating a separate District?

XXXXX First, we decide whether we accept them into our Area. Then we can decide if we have a separate Electronic District in our Area, or incorporate them into the physical Districts.

XXXXX (Group Records). WSO will put an electronic group into the global electronic District, until our area has okayed the membership of electronic groups in our Area. If we let electronic groups in our Area, we can also decide to let electronic groups be part of a geographical district.

XXXXX (AAPP) Just thinking, Sue that your Electronic meeting has a choice to be part of the Global Electronic Structure or the one from the Area. We have a process where a group can leave one District and go to another. Each group has choices, right?

XXXXX (Advisor) Yes, the groups have a choice.

XXXXX (D 13) At last year's Assembly, we got together with District 12, and what we talked about was that if they are an AI-Anon Family Group, they belong. Some of our groups had no place to meet in-person, so they met electronically.

XXXXX received two motions, and asked the Advisors to meet with her in the hall. There was a shorter motion, which is contained in the larger motion. Therefore, the longer motion will be presented. The motion, made by XXXXX S (D 26), seconded by XXXXX C (D17), reads, "that the AWSC accept the recommendations of the thought force on electronic groups and authorize the Executive to establish a Task Force to determine the implementation of Electronic Groups in Ontario South, with the goal of presenting a complete package to Assembly 2023."

XXXXX S (D 26). Registration of an Electronic Group is no different that the registration of an in-person group. Page 74 of the service manual shows that the Electronic Area covers the whole globe

XXXXX (Advisor). Once a motion is passed, then it gets put in the Motion Summary. XXXXX advises that we don't include the information that XXXXX is an ADR, as today, she is representing her District.

XXXXX (D 23) Is this motion looking to move forward all the recommendations from the thought force? Does this include defining the processes, and what is the timeline?

XXXXX C (Literature) was under the understanding that the person drafting the Motion has unlimited time to talk to the Motion. If so, can XXXXX come back to speak again.

XXXXX said that she has two minutes, but can be called back by the Chair to answer questions.

XXXXX (D) – time line, There is no reason to re-invent the wheel, so the time frame seems adequate. It is a goal to go to Assembly, it doesn't have to be. Which recommendations? All of them are valid.

XXXXX C (D 17). Many of us have checked into all the parameters already. WSO changed the form already, because they saw the need for inclusiveness.

XXXXX (GTAIS). Would the members of the thought force be the ones on the task force, or would the Executive choose the task force?

XXXXX (Advisor) It would be wise to have members from the thought force on the task force, but it also makes sense to bring in new people, and maybe others that were on the thought force don't want to be on the task force.

XXXXX O called a vote. It was **CARRIED** unanimously.

XXXXX (Advisor) thanked the thought force. The members were: XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX and XXXXX.

There are Forum subscription forms at the front, as well as forms for submissions to the Forum.

District Reports:

XXXXX (D 13). There have been many changes due to changes in membership. Two groups closed permanently. Three groups re-opened in person. One group in particular has really grown. I have re-discovered the fact that men are quite willing to express their opinions, and to ask why we do what we do. We have a person who is talented with electronics. We had an Alateen group that started in April. We have 3 AMIASs, with two that are zoom hosts. XXXXX is a long-time member of Public Outreach, and there are two groups that work together on public outreach. Good luck to the other DRs as they finish their terms.

XXXXX (D 14) 1:01. Spring to Fall in person, and winter and Spring will be on zoom. District meetings are on Zoom, and this has increased attendance. GRs take turns presenting on something happening in their group. We switched phone service from Bell to Unite, and we are saving about \$800 per year. (check 1:03). The teens have not come back after COVID. We want to contact the Alateen groups that are active in Ontario South, and ask about the number of attendees. We want to find out how to reach the teens. Maybe we should have the meeting at the Boys and Girl's Club. We have newcomers, and old-timers, but not a lot of people with 3 to 7 years of service. As a GR, she is looking for a replacement, and hasn't found one yet. All of the District positions are filled, with the exception of Public Outreach. About 23 people attend the District meeting. 1:07 – some event with lots of people.

XXXXX (D 16) – District 16 is Mississauga and Oakville. We have two meetings that are part of Area 89, and maybe they will be back in District 16 after Assembly. Collaboration with PRIMED. XXXXX did a presentation on how Al-Anon can support Alateen. We also had a workshop with XXXXX about literature. She got me to go back to re-read my literature enthusiastically. Our District had quite a lot of energy put into an incident with a disruptive member. The District decided to follow KBDM. We found a wonderful resource on safety in Al-Anon. There was a lot of information to learn about. John Little gave her some guidance on

how to talk to a member about what to say if the member needs more than what Al-Anon can provide. There has been a glimmer of hope. It was a growth experience for a lot of the members in the District.

XXXXX C (D 17). District Meetings are now in person. We have a large District – Milton, Brampton, etc. After the District Meeting, which happens at the same time as an Al-Anon meeting, there is a time for fellowship between the people attending either meeting. They have a Day of Recovery on the first Saturday in February. It's a collaboration with AA on the twelve steps. PRI-MED is an opportunity to learn things. A lot of people didn't know that we had over 900 electronic groups.

XXXXX (D 18). I have been in a Zoom meeting shared with 1,000 people and not have been as scared as I am now. XXXXX admitted to throwing a salt shaker, and tequila was not involved. We have struggled in District 18, and I have struggled with this, and am trying not to take it personally. I am hearing that other Districts are struggling too. Some groups have had votes that were split on whether to meet in person or on line. We are down in AMIASs in our District. We put out a plea to the membership for more AMIASs. We are north of Toronto. We had 5 of our 6 groups at Assembly last Fall. Our District meetings are on Zoom, and attendance has gone up. Orangeville is not close to any other place, except Orangeville. On a personal level, being the GR, I didn't sign up, I was coerced. But it has been great for my recovery. It has been difficult at times. It is difficult to hear from others that "I have my shit together" but if only you knew. XXXXX knows of an Al-Anon member that succumbed to this disease, dying by suicide, and there will be a workshop from Transforming our Losses this coming Saturday. Please see XXXXX if you want the details.

XXXXX. (LDC Manager) Consignment option for literature. Ask XXXXX to explain how that works. XXXXX has compiled a synopsis of what each Literature item is all about. It is available if you email XXXXX.

Stopped at 5:03 for a Dinner Break.

Opened at 7 pm with a moment of Silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Area Executive Reports:

Requirements for Executive Positions are in the Service Manual. There is a resume in Section 2, and you are to submit your application before August 1st, so that it can be included in the Assembly manual.

Alternate Delegate - XXXXX

I know I come across as joking around, but Al-Anon has saved my life. This role has given me the opportunity to grow in recovery. When XXXXX came into Al-Anon, she was really nervous to speak in front of an audience. It was suggested to her that she put her hand up for Alternate Delegate. She would not have volunteered otherwise. When she came to Al-Anon, she was among strangers, over time, she became friends, and now, Al-Anon people have become family. She feels called to be a dissenting voice. The most important person in Al-Anon is the person who opens the rooms and sets up the chairs. This is a very humbling and rewarding position. Also, XXXXX works with the Co-ordinators and that is her favourite part of the job.

Chairperson – XXXXX

I can only speak about my experience. XXXXX has learned so much in this role, for example, how things get communicated between Districts and Area and World Service. It is all teamwork, not a by-yourself initiative. That was a relief. There are many people to support me. If I can't do something I can ask for help. The Alternate Delegate is my back-up. The Advisors and other members of the Executive are there. How much time? Some might spend more time, others less. The work is seasonal, preparing the AWSC and Assembly package. XXXXX likes chairing meetings more than doing the paperwork. XXXXX learned all about her

character defects. XXXXX uses the Traditions and Concepts to help her. There is a timeline document telling her when she has to do what, which has been a lifesaver.

Treasurer – XXXXX

The Treasurer role is busier this year, because we have met in person. The busiest part of the year is getting ready for AWSC. About three years ago, she thought about the Treasurer, but did not apply. Then she was polled and she said yes, she would stand for election, and she was voted in. XXXXX was a previous District Treasurer, and she didn't think she could be District Rep. She was approached to be District Rep, and she did it. For the role, you need to use Quick Books, get the mail from the post office box. Sometimes, she needs to figure out where the money came from. It's hard to do if the District Number is missing. Ideally she needs your group name, number and District number. It's a busy role, but she likes it. If you are interested in the position, come and talk to XXXXX.

Secretary – XXXXX.

The Secretary's duties include taking minutes at Assembly, AWSC and Executive meetings. She also helps at the Registration Desk, and updates the AWSC contact list. The AWSC contact list is modified and sent to WSO. The Secretary needs the ability to focus for long periods of time, and pay attention to detail. A recording of meetings is helpful in being able to go back and listen to parts where the minutes didn't capture all that happened. It's helpful to note the time that the missed parts occur. It's a rewarding experience to do service, and really pay attention to all the speakers at our meetings.

XXXXX (Open Lines) – Do you have to be a District Rep to be on the Executive? No. Do you have to buy Quick Books? Yes, each Treasurer buys it, and then gets reimbursed by the Area, because the program is non-transferable. Can the Executive stand again for another term in the same position? XXXXX said that it has happened, for example, the Treasurer has done two-and-a-half terms.

Workshop: The Seventh Tradition, post-pandemic – XXXXX

Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, avoiding outside contributions. There is the District, AIS, Area, WSO. Donations are down, while expenses are up. Only 40% of groups have contributed to the Area. About half of those gave more than \$102, about 30% gave \$102, and the rest gave less. There are lots of fears about money, and it is hard to ask for money. It is important to prepare a budget at the District and the Group level. Then this can be discussed with the District and Group respectively. When each member can be shown what each donation dollar really buys in helping family members find help, then donations from members are generous and freely given. XXXXX said, "It's time to have some fun. She gave out money to people who wanted it. Then she had places where people could spend money – Rent, AIS, Literature, WSO, District, Area, Other. XXXXX. split up her money and explained it as follows: She put some in each of the pots. Her group is new, and they put some aside for the seventh for the place they use to meet, some for Literature, some for WSO, some for District, some for Area, and some for a reserve fund. Sue S. set aside \$600 for rent, literature is self-supporting, because people pay first. Then some for the Prudent Reserve, and some for Saving for Assembly, then the remaining is split evenly between AIS, District, Area, and WSO. XXXXX. was given \$1,000 which is his budget. So \$500 is a prudent reserve, which can keep the meeting going Paul's group's literature is self-supporting. Then rent happens, because without a space, there is no meeting. There was money put aside for AI-Anon Day, and we would send someone to Assembly, that is part of the prudent reserve. Whatever is left over is split one-quarter each to the service arms: District, AIS, Area and World Service. They were aware that some service arms have a \$ amount that is asked. The Group decides what to do, as it is a Group Budget. Paul said that he applies AI-Anon to his daily life, and now he uses a budget for his personal finances. XXXXX referred us to G-41, about Reserve Funds.

The Ask-It-Basket Committee will be meeting at 8 pm in Room 209. There will be an Al-Anon meeting at 8 pm here. XXXXX. invited people for a walk in the woods tomorrow morning at 6:45 am, meeting at the front doors of the Residence.

We closed with the Al-Anon Declaration at 8 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

8:37am – XXXXX opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Traditions – read by XXXXX (D 23)

Concepts – read by XXXXX (AAPP)

Warranties – read by XXXXX (Group Records)

XXXXX (D 4) – shared on the Financial Reports. WSO costs, if we have a group of 8 people, the service costs .77 cents per person. Rent of \$1.44 District .28 cents, GR fees \$3.09 per week per group member. XXXXX (LDC Manager) asked if XXXXX could submit that information to Open Lines, and XXXXX said yes.

XXXXX thanked everyone for coming here, it has been a fabulous AWSC. We got the work done, we had lots of laughs, lots of fellowship and learning.

8:49 am Delegate's Update XXXXX.

XXXXX shared that, when she came into Al-Anon, there was never a thought in her head that she would be a Delegate. People in Al-Anon encouraged her, and believed in her. XXXXX trusts that group by group, we are guided by our Higher Power. "When I let go of who I am, I become who I might be."

What 2022 looked like for XXXXX:

- Gathered online for AWSC
- Presented a report at AWSC
- Prepared reports for Executive meetings, and attended them
- Answered emails and questions
- Attended some meetings or events and presented at them.

Spiritual Principles to Remember

- Traditions and Concepts guide Al-Anon business
- Remember the obstacles to Success
- Presume good will

Doing the Role

- I don't do it alone
- Help is available
- People trust me, and I become trustworthy

2023

- Stayed active with my home group
- Etc 2 mins

2023 Conference

- Wrote Area Highlights report
- Presented by outgoing talk (3 minutes)
- Participated in a skit. XXXXX didn't want to 'make a fool of herself', but then she realised that she often made a fool of herself before coming to Al-Anon, so what is the difference?
- XXXXX hugged, She laughed, and she slept like a log

Now What?

- Have you been approached to consider a Service Position?
- Has anyone told you how good you would be in the role?
- Have you been told that you have lots to share?
- Are you worried that you can't?
- Be open to whatever comes next.
- Don't be afraid to sparkle and shine
- What you can do is only limited by your imagination
- XXXXX is so happy that she became a Delegate, she has made life-long friendships.
- Sometimes, you might be overwhelmed, and that's okay, because you are human.
- It's been an honour to serve as Delegate
- XXXXX feels that she has to do service, in order to pay-it-forward to those that need help.

XXXXX (D 2) – Was the frog that XXXXX showed at WSO from XXXXX? – No, someone else sent it to the Executive Director

9:20 Ask-It Basket committee answers XXXXX., XXXXX, XXXXX (D28),

XXXXX (D 28): If the AIS Chairperson is a member of the AWSC, as is the DR, then why are DR costs covered by Area, but not the AIS Chairperson. Answer: There was a motion passed that specified that the DR costs were covered by the Area.

XXXXX (D10) Can an Al-Anon member who is serving as GR also serve as DR? The answer is yes. In the area policy manual, "Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon as a whole." It would be better to not have the two roles at the same time.

Dual members cannot be a Group Rep, Alternate Group Rep, or a DR, or an Alternate DR.

Can a member who has never been a Group Rep. be a D.R.? No, but they could be the District Secretary or Treasurer.

When the WSO sends the mailing to a group, and the mail gets sent back

XXXXX (D 9) In District 7, someone brought an emotional support dog to the meeting, and a member is allergic to dogs, what happens? Have a group conscience.

XXXXX (D 8) When a DR goes to Assembly, it is paid for by the Area. When a

XXXXX (AIS Ottawa) What does the Alternate Delegate do, besides fill in for the Delegate when necessary?

XXXXX B (Alternate Delegate): XXXXX is the Forum Coordinator, so she encourages subscriptions to the Forum, as well as member submissions. She runs workshops on Forum Submissions. She also has meetings among the Coordinators. She encourages District Reps to submit items to Open Lines. She is also the back-up for the Chair and the Secretary.

XXXXX said that all seven members of the Executive participate in the discussion and vote on Executive matters.

10:36 Open Mic

XXXXX (D 17): Here's the deal: If a book costs \$10, and we buy it from WSO, then there is the exchange rate, so it will cost us \$15. If a book costs \$10 in Canada, then we just pay 5% tax. 42 minutes. The publishing industry in Canada is absolutely thriving.

XXXXX (AAPP): I just wanted to remind all of you that traditionally, this is the group people from which the Executive comes from. You don't have to be a GR, you just need to be an AI-Anon member to be a Coordinator. Also, consider the AAPP position, one doesn't have to be an AMIAS. This is a very important position. This is a very important position, without it, we can't have Alateen. AAPP needs to be filled.

XXXXX (D 23): Our District had the idea of a GR Road Show. 47 minutes. IF a group doesn't have a GR, then that group is denied a voice at the District, and at Area level. To inject some humour into it, who is familiar with the Traditions? Hands go up? Who is qualified to be GR? Hands go down. 49 mins.

XXXXX (D 8): Thank you for dealing with the pandemic, she had 50 mis

XXXXX (Open Lines): This service position felt right. She worked hard on her Resume, and was happy to get her position, and she got it simply by raising her hand. She was shocked that she didn't have any competition. Since she got it part way through the term, she is happy to serve for the next term.

XXXXX (Alt Delegate) Think about who might be a good Technology Coordinator for the Area. This is a new position, and one that we really need. Please have that person submit their resume to the Delegate.

XXXXX G (Trillium) Congratulations on the work you have done, in these unprecedented times. What you did was more than good enough. Rather than 'moving up' in Service, consider that what you are doing is move to a different circle. Service is a Recovery tool. As we grow in service, we grow in Recovery. Service is always an invitation to trust our Higher Power.

XXXXX (D 14): I am so moved to be here. The Alateen literature helped me to grow in AI-Anon, because it was my Dad's drinking that was the problem. I was loved into health.

XXXXX (D 13): The members of District 13 want to share a message of love to the people of AWSC. We have all been through some emotional and even fearful times as of late, and we appreciate the love and prayers, and we appreciate that you came here to AWSC to do the business of AI-Anon. XXXXX appreciates the Ask-It-Basket committee. Thank you for your service, especially to XXXXX, our Delegate. She gives me a smile even when I know that it is hard.

XXXXX (LDC Manager): What I am hearing over and over is the gratitude and love in this group. Encourage people to trust the process of thinking about service positions, and applying for them. The Traditions and Concepts are really helpful, not only in Service, but in our personal lives.

XXXXX (Public Outreach): I was asked to do this job, and I am not boisterous, but I am someone that listens. I have financial insecurities, so I get scared of large expenses. I thought that PRIMED was a great

idea, but it cost a lot. Once we did research, we found that we could get a table for \$1,000, because we were a non-profit group. So it was not something that we do alone, we have various committees to take care of different aspects, and double-headed management is avoided. Ideas for Public Outreach come from the membership, not the Public Outreach Coordinator alone. Please remember to welcome new member.

XXXXX (Advisor, D 6): As part of the Alternate Delegate duties, they are to update the Area Service Manual. Each person at AWSC has an Area Service Manual, and they need to pass that manual to the next person in their Service Position.

XXXXX (LDC Manager): In the GTAIS, we have posters in the subway. 1:17.

XXXXX (LDC Manager): wrote on the white board

If not you, who?

If not now, when?

XXXXX encouraged people to fill in their Evaluation Forms, they get looked at and considered. Also, items for consideration get considered by the Executive, and a response happens.

10:17 am. XXXXX. led us in a circle to do the Al-Anon Declaration to close the meeting. First, it was done with us looking inward in the circle. Then we repeated it, looking outward from the circle.

Closing: Al-Anon Declaration

AWSC Meeting Highlights:

XXXXXX (Advisor) moved, seconded by XXXXX (D 17), “that the voting procedures be adopted as presented.” (38 in favour, 5 opposed). **CARRIED.**

Motion, by XXXXX (AAPP), seconded by XXXXX G (D 10) that we “accept the minutes of the 2022 AWSC as amended.” **CARRIED** unanimously.

Motion, from XXXXX, (D12), seconded by XXXXXcS (AAPP) that the 2024 Budget be forwarded to Assembly 2023 as presented. All in favour, but one. **CARRIED.**

Moved by XXXXX (GTAIS Acting Chair), seconded by XXXXX (Public Outreach) that “ADRs and Alternate AIS Chair(s) are encouraged to attend as observers to allow them to experience AWSC meetings, and although they have a voice, they have no vote, unless acting as the DR for their District or Chair of the AIS. Costs for Alternate AIS Chairs to attend AWSC are paid for by the District they represent.”

Moved by XXXXX, GTAIS Acting Chair, seconded by XXXXX, Public Outreach, to amend the motion to read in the last sentence, “are paid for by the AIS they represent.”

Voting on the amendment to the motion. 31 in favour, 6 opposed. **CARRIED.**

Amended motion reads:

Moved by XXXXX, GTAIS Acting Chair, seconded by XXXXX R, Public Outreach “ADRs and Alternate AIS Chair(s) are encouraged to attend as observers to allow them to experience AWSC meetings, and although they have a voice, they have no vote, unless acting as the DR for their District or Chair of the AIS. Costs for Alternate AIS Chairs to attend AWSC are paid for by the AIS they represent.”

Voting on the amended motion. 33 in favour, 3 opposed. **CARRIED.**

The motion, by XXXXX S (D 26), seconded by XXXXX C (D17), reads, “that the AWSC accept the recommendations of the thought force on electronic groups and authorize the Executive to establish a Task Force to determine the implementation of Electronic Groups in Ontario South, with the goal of presenting a complete package to Assembly 2023.” Voted all in favour. **CARRIED.**

Estimated donation by group to Ontario South to cover 2024 - \$169.95.