

## AWSC 2022 Minutes

### FRIDAY, MAY 27

**6:30** Open Zoom room –testing technology and exploring controls, voting, *Zoom host*

**7:00** [REDACTED] welcomed us, and we started with the Serenity prayer. Traditions – [REDACTED], Concepts – [REDACTED], Warranties – [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] Introduced the Executive and Coordinators. [REDACTED], the Trillium Chairperson, was introduced. [REDACTED], the Zoom host was introduced, as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are helping with Zoom. [REDACTED] conducted the Roll call. Housekeeping – chat will be disabled during the business portions of the meeting. Evaluation Form, item for Consideration Form and the Survey form will be posted in the chat. Please fill in the meeting survey at the end of Saturday’s meeting. Dates for Assembly October 14, 15, and 16<sup>th</sup> in Ottawa. We need a host committee for the West side of Ontario South for Assembly 2024. The west side is anything west of Mississauga.

**7:20** Workshop –Who Decides What? – [REDACTED].

As a primer, [REDACTED] asked, “How is decision-making in AI-Anon/Alateen different than decision-making in the outside world?” We use Higher Power, group conscience, all voices are equal, Concept 5. Lois W said, “AI-Anon is a program of Love, and Love is the primary motive in all our activities.” [REDACTED] showed the infographic with the cogs in the wheel. Note that the Assembly is the largest cog. Assembly elects the AWSC, and the Executive. The Higher Power provides the lubricant that keeps our machine running smoothly. [REDACTED] went through “Picture It” examples.

Picture It: Ontario South, 2016. The Trillium convention appears to have exhausted its supply of volunteers. Some members think it’s time to move the Trillium outside the GTA. Who decides? Assembly. The Trillium Convention was established by the Assembly in 1990.

Picture It: Ontario South, January 2018. WSO notifies the Delegate that there is a vacancy of the Board of Trustees, and invites Areas to submit nominations. The candidate has to be submitted by August 15<sup>th</sup>, and Assembly meets in the Fall. AWSC made the decision, because it was time sensitive and the Assembly would not meet until after the decision needed to be made. This was a particular situation because of a resignation in the middle of the term. Normally, Assembly makes the decision.

Picture It. Ontario South, June 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic is not showing any signs of ending, as many had hoped. Who decides whether we have a virtual Assembly? The Executive Committee. Section 5A of the Manual says that “The Executive will plan the details of the Assembly.” The Executive sent out a survey to group reps to guide the Executive in making the decision to have the meeting in a virtual format. That is because participation is the key to harmony.

Picture It. Ontario South, 2023. The cost of gas has risen ever higher, and the Area’s current rate to reimburse mileage is out of date. Who decides? The Executive Committee. Section 3 of the Area Policies and Guidelines Manual says, “Certain costs are set by the Executive and may be revised depending on economic factors such as the price of gas. The Area Treasurer will announce the mileage rate at AWSC.”

Picture It. Ontario South, 2022. An idea is presented that would involve making financial changes to the proposed budget. Who decides? It depends. The Area Treasurer creates a draft budget and presents it to the Executive. The Executive discusses the budget, and may make changes before it goes to AWSC. The AWSC may also make changes before it goes to Assembly. Then Assembly decides on the budget.

Summary: Love is our primary motive, and beginning with the Serenity Prayer invites the Higher Power into our discussions and decision-making process. We then had a quick discussion of how the Agenda for Assembly is determined. It is determined at AWSC. The executive suggests items based on the items for Consideration forms, and the survey feedback from Assembly and AWSC.

## 8:00 Coordinators /OSAAC Chair Reports

Trillium Chair: [REDACTED] from Ottawa. For many people, the name Trillium may bring back a flood of fond memories. For others, they may not have any experience with Trillium, as it hasn't taken place for a while. The Trillium Committee is looking for a re-blossoming of Trillium. It's a small group of experienced members that is being chaired by [REDACTED]. They are looking at an in-person gathering in 2023. Technology allows the committee to be formed by members from a diverse area. 2022 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Trillium. So the committee is planning a virtual celebration on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Where will trillium be held? Somewhere in Ontario South. When? –To be determined. Care will be taken that it doesn't conflict with other major events. Why? To celebrate recovery in Al-Anon/Alateen.

AAPP: [REDACTED] To keep Alateens safe, SAMs recertifies each year, and police checks are done every 3 years. It looks like 38 SAMs will be deactivated on June 15<sup>th</sup>, and this will lead to some Alateen groups being shut down. Of the 14 active Alateen Groups, only 8 have recertified, which means that 6 may need to be shut down.

Alateen. [REDACTED] No report for the OSAAC committee, as there is no Alateen Chair. [REDACTED] had nothing to add to the Alateen report that was submitted.

Archives – [REDACTED] Archives got moved into a climate controlled storage unit, with the help of Al-Anon volunteers. There is an Archives Committee. There is a possibility of downsizing the Archives and the Storage, which would save money. Valerie had the pleasure of visiting the WSO Archives a long time ago.

8:15 Central Canada Regional Trustee - [REDACTED] We need a Trustee for 2024. It gets decided at Assembly in 2022, submitted to WSO by August 15, 2023, so that person can start in April, 2024. Central Canada is Manitoba, Ontario South and Ontario North. That means that the Ontario South Candidate may not become the Central Canada Regional Trustee.

8:20 Group Records – [REDACTED] had a strongly worded report, which shows that she does have a level of frustration with Group Records. WSO maintains a Group Contact – for WSO and new members to contact someone by phone. The CMA is the Current Mailing Address for mail. Also the GR is recorded, but is not given out. The WSO only gives out the Group Contact. If your District has a telephone answering service, you can use that as your group contact.

Literature – [REDACTED] is excited to be Literature Coordinator. She finds that literature helps restore a sense of sanity. She also looks forward to being of service.

Open Lines – [REDACTED]'s first Open Lines was April of 2022. [REDACTED] was very supportive. Thank you for everyone who submitted an item for Open Lines. She encouraged us to submit items, and to think of them as sharing, as opposed to creating a report for publication. July 11 is the next deadline to be included in the August issue of Open Lines.

Public Outreach – [REDACTED] has been approached by some Corporations about Al-Anon. Geraldine will provide some information about Al-Anon, and they may also be provided with speakers.

Website Coordinator – [REDACTED] Since May, she has done about 800 changes, so that is more than two per day. [REDACTED] checks for group changes every day. The highlight of her year is going back to creating art, which was suggested to her by a fellow Al-Anon member.

## Question and Answer Period

[REDACTED] District 16 – [REDACTED] thanked the Archivist for the work done.

[REDACTED] – District 20 – [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] to re-cap the numbers. We started off with over 80 SAMs, while 10 said that they would not recertify, and 29 have been recertified. 3 more are with the lawyer. That leaves 38 that we have not heard from. This means that they will be deactivated until they get their documentation in, and that means that we've lost a lot of SAMs, and this might affect the number of Alateen groups that can stay open.

██████ – District 16 – Asked if there were new SAMs, and ██████ reported that there were about 5 new SAMs.

██████ – District 18 – asked if anyone was familiar with Junior Alateens. ██████ said that it's known as Alatot, with some members as young as age 8 or 9. In her experience, sometimes the younger members are disruptive, but sometimes, it works well with Alateen.

██████ – District 2 – Asked if the police check could be sent electronically to save time. ██████ needs the printed copy. Since ██████ is a new member, she can apply to be a SAM at any time. Are there virtual Alateen meetings? Answer, yes, they are on the Ontario South and the WSO website.

██████ – District 26 – Re younger members – it is a group conscience whether to let the younger members join. The younger members are warned that they are younger than the age for membership, and if they are disruptive, they will need to leave.

**8:55** – Meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration.

**8:55** – Opportunity for AIS /Public Outreach reps to meet (break out room) Geraldine R.

## **SATURDAY, MAY 28**

**Note that a summary of votes is at the end of these minutes.**

**8:00** Open Zoom room –testing technology and exploring controls. *Zoom host*

**8:30** Welcome, Serenity Prayer – ██████, Chairperson, Traditions – ██████, Trillium Chair, Concepts – ██████, District 2, Warranties – ██████ Open Lines.

Introductions, Roll Call, - ██████ counted 35 voting members present. Districts 6 and 8 are missing, as is the Alternate Delegate. ██████ has 44 members present. We later agreed on 43 voting members present. Housekeeping, 4 volunteers needed for Ask-It-Basket Committee ██████, DR23, ██████, Open Lines, ██████, Trillium, ██████, DR28.

Assembly 2022 Dates are October 14, 15 and 16. Ottawa, in-person. Let your groups know.

We need a Host Committee for Assembly in 2024 from the West Side of Ontario South.

Explain & Approve voting procedures – see page 9 and 10 of the voting package for more information.

██████ – Advisor moved that we accept the voting procedures as explained, ██████, District 3 seconded. ██████. GTAIS, has a concern that when a motion is put on the floor that sometimes we run out of time, and the Chair can decide that the motion will not go forward. ██████ wanted to share that motions may not make it to the floor, and that didn't seem right, as full and open dialogue is really important. ██████ feels that the rule puts the Chairperson in a tough spot. We have 23 votes in favour, out of 38 voting members. **Carried.**

Approval of 2021 AWSC Meeting Minutes – ██████, District 3 – moved that “I move a motion to accept the 2021 AWSC Minute meetings as distributed.” Seconded by ██████, District 21. 35 Votes in favour. **Carried.**

**9:25** World Service Conference Report - ██████, Delegate. She is part of panel 61. She has a home group, Al-Anon Works. She continues to be grateful for the privilege of doing this service. When ██████ was in New York, there were technical difficulties with voting, which shows that we are not unique. When she came to Al-Anon, she felt broken, and that she didn't have anything of value to share. Through service, she has discovered that she does have things of value to share.

District 2 Report – ██████, on behalf of ██████, the District Rep. Our District is rural and runs from the tip of Tobermory on the beautiful Bruce Peninsula, south to Sauble Beach, Owen Sound, Meaford, Thornbury,

Collingwood and Dundalk. We meet every other month on the first Tuesday (with the exception of July and August). We have 6 registered Groups now. The Lions Head meeting has regrettably closed. For more details, see the District 2 report, which is in the Second Installment.

District 3 – [REDACTED] Please see the District Report. She shared that one of the groups in our District held a step study. It was very successful, with 6-9 members. The group will reconvene in September to do a Tradition Study. Zoom meetings don't seem to attract new members. Others don't feel comfortable meeting in person. Hybrid meetings don't work.

District 4 – [REDACTED], District Rep. Our District is Waterloo Region. We have a website at: [www.alanonwaterlooregion.ca](http://www.alanonwaterlooregion.ca). Many of our meetings transitioned to Zoom due to the pandemic. The District purchased a Zoom account for use by the groups in the District. We have had more meetings return to Face-to-Face, with a couple being hybrid.

Some members enjoy the convenience of Zoom, and some members, due to health concerns, prefer meeting on Zoom, as they feel that going in person is too much. Other members really enjoy the full experience of meeting in person.

On June 30, 2021, the Guelph Al-Anon Family Group celebrated its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Zoom, with both an Al-Anon and an AA speaker.

The District held an Al-Anon Day, also on Zoom, on November 13, 2021. The committee reported that, "We had a wonderful day with great speakers sharing their amazing experiences of strength, healing and hope. We had people join us from British Columbia, and California and over Ontario. We had approx. 60 participants. We encourage everyone to do service like this, there is lots of experience and we receive so much from helping do this service to pass on the message of recovery."

District 5, [REDACTED] - District 5 DR Our '2 County' District has grown by one to 11 Al-Anon Meetings. There are currently 3 using Zoom, 6 in-person and 2 temporarily closed, though starting to re-open. This continues to evolve. District meetings occur 9x each year to share Al-Anon updates, make plans, and review what has been tried and works well to maintain the health of each group and our District. The PO Chair and DR attend and report at both District and PO meetings. Al-Anon participation in the District's 2021 AA Roundup went smoothly! Many thanks to our dedicated committee members for their hard work. District 5 Al-Anon Day, **'Finding Our Way'** took place virtually in September 2021. We appreciated the experience, strength and hope that is shared by the Alateen, Al-Anon and AA speakers. The committee of the Day felt it was a very positive experience. Although the last two years have been 'interesting' in many ways, it is amazing how resiliency, flexibility and dedication have addressed most needs in District 5 Al-Anon. Many endeavours have been amazing and positive! We continue to move forward, learning by looking back.

District #7 ( Sarnia Lambton) Report by [REDACTED] District Rep.

When our in person meetings were shut down, an Al-anon member from our area started a 9 a.m. daily Al-anon Zoom meeting. This meeting has members from United States, Hamilton, Ottawa and Chatham. They read and share using the daily reader Courage to Change from Monday to Saturday. On Sunday they read and share about the personal stories from How Al-anon Works starting with Lois's story. We had a district meeting and made a decision to open a Zoom account and set up time on Zoom for each of our original meetings. Some groups started to meet on Zoom, other groups were not comfortable with using Zoom.

Other events we have had on Zoom are our 65<sup>th</sup>. District Anniversary with a review of our Al-anon history. We also had a Al-anon speaker, an A.A. Speaker and a Skit. We have had studies on the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts. We had our Annual Candle Light Gratitude Meeting. Everyone lights a candle, had treats, and shared what we are grateful for. We are having a book study using the book Many Voices One Journey.

Our meetings are gradually going back to in person meetings. Our Saturday at 10:30 in Sarnia was the first to go back to in person meetings in Dec.2021. Next was our 8 p. m. Meeting in Forest Feb. 7, 2022. Then the 10:30 meeting in Petrolia in March 2022, and Wednesday 8 p. m. also in March 2022.

We still have two meetings on Zoom. Tuesday at 1:30 p. m. and the daily meeting at 9 a.m.

We had to close our Thursday morning meeting as there was no one available to take the key and open the meeting. The Alateen Meeting is now back in person. We have had a few kids come.

For public outreach, we have put an ad on channel 6 Cogeco and also in the local “Coffee News” We have 4 members volunteer for the answering service. We are working together to rebuild our groups.

District 9 Report – ██████████, District Rep.

At the beginning of the Pandemic all of our Al-anon meetings were closed. Wednesday afternoon meeting started on Zoom and eventually went to Mon, Wed and Fri at 1:30 PM. Within months Tues and Fri evening followed on Zoom. In Jan, 2021 our district voted to have 5 Zoom meetings and signed up for a Zoom account which would be paid for by the district. The following Zoom meetings were established: Mon, Tues, Thurs, and Fri at 7:00 PM and Wed at 1:30 PM.

As the year progressed and our meetings began to open in-person meetings, our Zoom meetings were cancelled. As of April 25, 2022, we have 1 Zoom meeting on Monday night at 7:00 PM and are working through the steps using Paths to Recovery, with 8-10 members in attendance.

Our District – Chatham Kent celebrated our 65th Anniversary on Zoom on April 17, 2021. We had around 48 members attend the day with an AA, Alateen and Al-Anon speakers.

Our District meetings are as follows:

Monday- Friendship Group – 7:00 PM – Zoom  
Tues – Hope for Today – Wallaceburg – 7:00 PM  
Tues -Tilbury AFG – Tilbury – 7:30 PM  
Wed. - Victory AFG – Chatham – 1:30 PM  
Thur. - Ridgetown Freedom and Growth AFG – Ridgetown – 7:00 PM  
Fri – Thames AFG – Chatham – 7:30 PM

District 10 – ██████████ District Rep.

The past year has been a tough go. We’ve had an immense amount of trouble finding people to do service. We had a day to promote service, and we are still trying to get people to do service work. The District Rep, the Treasurer and two to three GRs attend District Meetings. One suggestion has been made here to do a District Inventory, and that seems like a good thing to do next. The Assembly in Woodstock was successful, so there is some hope. ██████████ was asked by ██████████, Advisor, what she meant in her written report by “meeting in an unconventional way”, and the answer is that they meet with the AA meeting that meets in the same place as Al-Anon, since there are only a couple of people at the meeting.

#### **10:05-10:20 Break**

**10:20 – Continuation of ██████████’s Report.** ██████████ apologized for the glitches. When ██████████ came to Al-Anon, she heard about us vs. them, ie. Family Groups vs. WSO. But she learned that “they are us and we are them.” She attended five days of meetings, and she will share some highlights. The theme was “Enhancing our Recovery through abundance, unity and understanding.” The World Service Conference is attended by the Delegates, Board of Trustees, At-large members of the Executive, and the World Service Office Staff. We had motions, discussions, agenda items, presentations, Al-Anon meetings, talks and a visit to Stepping Stones. The health of Al-Anon Family Groups is paramount. Reports were given by different areas of the World Service Office. ██████████ loved the meeting. There were shared meals, with one hour for each meal, which was a great opportunity to meet others in service.

There is a Global Electronic Area, as the motion passed. So there are electronic groups, not electronic meetings! There are 674 Electronic Groups as of March, 2022. There are two types of groups – physical or electronic. WSO will continue to register Electronic Groups. A group cannot have a physical location and an

electronic location. A group can have a physical group with an electronic component (what we think of as a hybrid.) That group is part of our Area. Some people say “roomies and zoomies” to distinguish the type of attendance.

Financial Audit for 2021 – We got a clean opinion from the Auditor for 2021. Assets of \$13.8 M, Liabilities 1.5 M. Net assets are 12.3 M in three funds – General, Reserve and Building fund. Reserve Fund is \$3.6 M, which is 8.5 months of operating expenses. Revenue of \$5.2 M (Literature \$1.9, Contributions of \$323 M). It looks like we are headed for a deficit in 2022. Only 51% of groups contributed to WSO. Each group contributed on average \$281.88. For Ontario South, 41% of the groups contributed. Average group contributed \$272.61. The 2022 contributions were \$32,440. What do the contributions do? Registering groups, CAL, mobile App, PSAs, questions and concerns regarding meetings and in general are fielded, translating literature, supporting international structures, the Forum, WSC interpretation, trilingual online store, Alateen recertification, protecting Al-Anon’s name and brand, website, membership survey, updated guidelines, WSO Staff and rent. Please take this back to your groups. All financial matters are guided by spiritual principles. The new daily reader will be available for sale at the Albuquerque conference, which is June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2023. It’s called “A little time for myself”.

A longitudinal Study is being done to provide valuable information of the efficacy of Al-Anon to professionals working in therapy.

The visit to Stepping Stones was amazing. There were 7 busloads of people, who were shown the home of Lois and Bill Wilson.

Annual report was huge. It includes the Strategic Plan, the WSO staff, vacancies, and annual reports and updates from the departments at WSO. The enthusiasm of the WSO staff and leadership really shines through.

**11:00** ██████ GTAIS report – ██████ highlighted that GTAIS consists of 94 groups and that they are putting on an Al-Anon Day this coming November, and she is looking for volunteers. ██████ is the Al-Anon Chair of the Ontario Regional Conference for 2023.

Ottawa AIS Chair – ██████ – After being a Treasurer for AIS, and the Chair, he will now be stepping down, and taking a break from AWS service.

Literature Distribution Chair – ██████ Thank you for allowing me to be a trusted servant to Ontario South. If someone is putting in a personal order, they do not need to submit a group number. WSO is still having printer delays. Right now, everything is in stock, but some things are running low. Please don’t pay for your order until the cost has been confirmed, as sometimes, things are not in stock, and it makes it more complicated. Canada Post has implemented an increase in shipping costs. The LOC has decided that we need to do something about this, so there is a small increase on small orders. A new price list will be sent out next week. WSO has released an electronic version of Al-Anon Groups at Work and the Service Manual. ██████ has an appointment in Scarborough on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you are in the area, and want to pre-order literature by June 16<sup>th</sup>, and pay for it by June 20<sup>th</sup>, then she can bring it to Toronto, and leave the orders with her Mother’s home. This is an opportunity to save on shipping.

**11:13** – Continuation of Delegate’s report. The WSO is exploring payment options, and is working on program services and digital communication. Note that there are no electronic meetings for Alateen, in order to keep the Alateens safe. The workshops and presentation covered service participation, a service Inventory, Diversity Today, and maintaining a sustainable future using abundant thinking. ██████’s group did a skit, and it was a lot of fun! The Delegates led presentations on workshops from last year.

There were policy motions with respect to Social Media which are more clear than previously. There were three different sessions regarding Alateen. There are several Areas without any Alateen groups, and they have been struggling. We are all struggling with Alateen, as the participation has dropped a lot since the pandemic. Some Alateen groups have been decertified.

There is an International Al-Anon General Service Meeting. The Regional Trustees will be attending. It is being put on by the International Coordination Committee. The idea is that when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, that Al-Anon will be there.

You are your Board Connect will happen in Cleveland, Ohio in October 2022. They are requesting bids for 2023. Ontario South has submitted a bid for 2023. ██████ encourages us to do road trips or to gather friends together for an electronic event. If it's safe, share food and fun.

**11:37** Financial Update for 2021 ██████ compared 2021 to 2020 and the Budget for 2021. There was no Assembly Revenue. There is no AWSC revenue. There was miscellaneous income mainly consisting of an Delegate Meeting payment from 2019 that was returned. Group donations were approximately \$22,800. Total income of \$25 K. Delegate expenses were down, as there was no travel to WSO. Executive meeting expenses were also down, because they met on Zoom. Operating Costs were \$1,374. This was less than budget. Archive storage was \$3,372. Expenses were \$7,000 in total, leaving us with income of \$18,000. Then ██████ went through the Balance Sheet. We have Assets of \$76,232, and total Equity of \$76,074. We have funds available that are \$7,000 over our budget. A decision as to what to do with this can be made at Assembly. ██████ then went through the April YTD financials. ██████ asked if the Term Investments of \$10,000 was the reserve account. This is part of the reserve, it also consists of what is in the bank. ██████ also asked about the ample reserve. ██████ Advisor, asked about the supply figure of \$448 and the website other expense figure. ██████ will check her notes and get back. ██████, District 20, asked what bank we use and what type of account. We have a commercial account with Canada Trust. The only expense is \$1.50 per e-transfer we send out. ██████ asked if we earn interest, and we only get it for the Term Deposit, not on the Bank balance.

### **12:00-1:00 Lunch break**

**1:00** Opening: Serenity Prayer ██████.

**1:00-1:30** Workshop -Voting Procedures. ██████ The seconder does not have to agree with the motion, they just feel that the motion should be discussed. If a member feels that they could use some help crafting a motion, the Advisors would be glad to help out. After a motion is made, then a discussion, led by the chairperson, is held to help make an informed decision. Outcome 1 – AWSC can table the motion to be voted on by Assembly. Outcome 2 – AWSC can make the decision, if it is administrative in nature, to be implemented by the Executive. Outcome 3 – AWSC can determine that the motion is not important, so it is not brought anywhere. The Chair alone can place a motion before AWSC. Once the motion is presented to Assembly, it becomes Assembly property, and it cannot be changed without the consent of the Assembly. The mover is allowed to speak first to a motion. A majority vote of the eligible voters present is required to pass a motion. After the motion has been presented, members have the opportunity to discuss the motion. ██████ (ADR, District 4), Can the Chair tweak the motion before it is presented? Answer – No. If it needs changes, then an amendment may be needed. ██████ (ADR – District 4) asked: How do we give ourselves time to think as to whether something is a valid concern? Answer: We try to have a full discussion during the discussion part. When we do the voting procedures, we perhaps leave it as more of an automatic thing, and don't leave as much time for discussion as we should. Maybe we can learn from that. ██████ (District 16) asked where it says that the Chair is the only person that can put it before AWSC or Assembly? Answer: It's in the voting procedures. It's in Section 4, the section that describes AWSC. ██████ suggested that this get submitted as an Ask-It-Basket question, and ██████ agreed. ██████ (District 17) Note: motion is a noun, and move is verb. Saying "I motion" is grammatically incorrect. ██████ (GTAIS) expressed that she didn't think it's fair to the members that the Chair has the autonomy to reject a motion, and that this should be decided by Assembly. ██████ added her thought that it can be challenging when multiple motions are presented, and presenting them to the whole group could be very confusing. If the Chairperson is not sure, he/she can consult with other members of the Executive. ██████ shared a story of Assembly at Woodstock, when he chaired, where he got 5 motions. When he tried to ask the Assembly about the issue of having 5 motions, the situation devolved into half the people yelling, "You can't do that, there's a motion on the floor", and the other half yelling at the first group to be quiet and yelling at ██████ to go ahead. This was ██████ least favourite moment of being chair prior to the pandemic.

### **1:30** Discussion Items – Budget

██████ answered the question about Supplies, it was all for ██████ For the website, the SSL certificate was paid for 3 years. One month was expensed for in 2021. Also, the Jotform expenses were also expensed for the portion from December 17<sup>th</sup> to the end of the year.

Proposed Budget, 2023:

Registrations for Assembly of \$9,680. AWSC revenue of \$6,798. Donations of \$44,583 and misc. income of \$70, for a total income of \$61,132.

Assembly Expenses of \$24,130. AWSC expenses of \$12,850. Convention Expenses of \$4,416.

Coordinator expenses of \$2,250. Delegate expenses of \$2,000. Executive Meeting expense of \$7,500.

OSA Operational costs of \$1,496. Other expenses of \$6,490. Total Expenses of \$61,132. Note that the Group donations are a balancing item, to make the revenues equal to the expenses. Estimated group donation of \$44,584 in total, which is \$150.62 per group based on 296 groups.

██████████ (District 28) All the expenses were based on previous years, but there has now been inflation. ██████████ said that she could try to inflate it, but the amount of inflation is unknown. ██████████ (ADR for District 16). Asked whether Alateen groups were included in the 262. Yes, Alateen groups are included. ██████████ asked about the Zoom costs. There was an error in presentation, they are included. ██████████ (ADR for District 18) wondered if we had an affirmation from the Hotel that the costs will stay the same, or should we put in a higher amount now. ██████████ thought that she based it on the contract, she will double-check. ██████████ said that her understanding is that the hotel prices are locked in, and they kept our deposit. ██████████ (District 4) said that one of the concerns she has is that she has a small group of 4 members, the rent has doubled, and both Area, District and WSO expenses are high. This is a lot of money for small groups. ██████████ (District 17) Now that electronic meetings are turning into electronic groups, can we find out how many electronic groups are in Ontario South. It's next to impossible to collect donations from electronic groups. ██████████ (DR for District 23) Do you happen to know what % of groups donate to Ontario South and what is the average donation? ██████████ did not know, and needs to look it up. ██████████ (LDC) said that there are lots of groups that don't donate. Note that only 41% of groups donate to WSO. Yet, somehow, we can stay self-supporting overall. Some groups donate more than the amount that is suggested. Sometimes, we need to act out of faith rather than out of fear. ██████████ (GTAIS) noted that we had \$22,000 in donations in 2021 (\$77 per group), to go up to \$150 per group seems high. ██████████ suggested we do AWSC on Zoom next year. ██████████ (District 1) noted that in her District, group surplus is sent to District, and then District forwards any surplus to Area, so that could distort the figures. Her group is having to buy insurance, and it has a \$1,000 deductible, so the group needs to have \$1,000 in reserve before donating any to Area. ██████████ (District 4) reported that her experience is that her group has shown increased attendance and much higher donations since returning to a hybrid meeting. ██████████ (Advisor) asked how many years in the past have we run a deficit? It seems that things generally work out ok, with the stronger groups contributing more. ██████████ stated that for the years 2016 to 2021, (6 years in total), we lost money in 2017 and 2018, and made money the other four years. ██████████ (District 20) If we top our budget do we tap our reserves? ██████████ replied yes.

██████████ (DR for District 23) asked ██████████ if she had the information for a donation to WSO to cover the budget. It is \$281.88 Canadian per group (based on all groups donating the same amount.)

██████████ (Treasurer) asked about the \$281.88 number – perhaps it was actual contributions, not what was needed? ██████████ to look this up and send it out via our Secretary.

██████████ (District 3) Do we need to lower the amount per group with the 674 electronic groups that are coming on board? ██████████ said she doesn't know what that looks like financially, but the hope is that these groups will be contributing to WSO.

██████████ (LDC). When you were taking about hybrid meetings, this a meeting happening at the same time, in the same place? ██████████ said that we are calling it a face-to-face meeting with an electronic component, which might be a clearer description. Can areas decide to have electronic groups be part of their area, rather than a global Electronic Area? ██████████ said that this is something that is evolving. It will be up to each individual Area to come up with a guideline to have or not have electronic groups join our area. Many areas in the United States are ahead of us on this, and have had electronic meetings for many years, predating the pandemic. ██████████ said that WSO is planning to make big changes to their



database and she is wondering whether groups can get involved. ██████ said thanks for the question. Currently WSO is the only entity to register electronic groups. She does not know if they have reached out to group records coordinators or website coordinators, but she will find out. ██████ (AIS Ottawa Chair) asked if the numbers were Canadian or US funds? ██████ said that they were American funds, except for those based on Ontario South, which were Canadian. ██████ (District 16) Do we have a handle on how many electronic groups we have in Ontario South? ██████ to look up. 91 groups are meeting in person. 128 groups are meeting online. 17 groups are meeting in-person, with an electronic component. ██████ (District 23) asked why we would have electronic groups join Ontario South? ██████ said that it is an open question. Any newly registered groups would be part of Area 98 (The Global electronic Group Area), until such time as Ontario South makes a provision to include electronic groups in Ontario South. ██████ the Regional Trustee reiterated this. ██████ (District 31), said that she wants to form a new meeting Friday night in Kingston, and had trouble finding a venue. They are part of the Global electronic Area, and the support of Ontario South isn't there. On the plus side, there are people that attend from around the world. ██████ said that the first step for Ontario South would be to have a thought force on this issue. ██████ (Zoom host) said that her group is an electronic group.

There is a motion: Moved by ██████, seconded by ██████ (District 4) I move that the 2023 Budget Expenses be reduced by \$12,000 and that the AWSC be held virtually in 2023. ██████ (District 14) noted that if AWSC was held virtually, that the revenue of \$6,000 would also have to be reduced, so the question is how can you take out the \$12,000 out of expenses, and not consider the \$6,000 revenue? ██████ thinks that if this motion passes, then we are making a choice regarding AWSC right now, and she feels uncomfortable making the decision now. ██████ (District 20) is wondering whether the hotel would continue to hold the deposit. ██████ said the deposit was for Assembly. ██████ (District 32) said that he is down to 4 groups, so it is expensive to support the Area. ██████ noted that it seemed odd to make a budgetary motion on AWSC before it has been decided whether to have the meeting in-person. ██████ noted that there is a cost to having meetings in Zoom, and that they might be more acrimonious than in-person. People are less accountable when people are on Zoom. There is more personal interaction, and hence more accountability. ██████ (District 4) said that she is opposed to the motion, as she feels that in-person meetings are much richer, and we shouldn't be tying our hands now about where AWSC is held. ██████ said that if we decide to make AWSC virtual, it should not be locked in for many years. ██████, Open Lines said that she is now leaning towards AWSC in-person, because it seems like we are missing out on that on Zoom. ██████ said that WSO has a deficit budget, but felt that it was important to have WSC in-person, because of the increased learning for in-person. ██████ called for a vote: 9 Aye's and 28 Nay's. **Motion is not carried.**

██████ moved to the Discussion item to rename SAMs (Supportive AI-Anon Member) to AMIAS. (AI-Anon Member involved in Alateen Service). ██████ said that Ontario South is the only Area that uses SAM as an acronym.

██████ (LDC) said that she thought streamlining the acronym is a good thing. She was at a meeting where no one knew what a SAM was. ██████ (District 1) was on the 2004 committee that came up with the name SAM. The reasoning for the new name was to reflect that Ontario has a separate process than WSO. The other reason was that there was no directive about the name. Organically, the people doing the work referred to themselves as SAMs. ██████ says that there is nothing wrong with being unique. ██████ (Ottawa AIS) prefers the term SAM, as it is easier to pronounce. ██████ (Advisor) was in the room when SAM was coined. There seems to be some confusion when people within our area interact with others outside the area. If we change it, then there will be some confusion, requiring an education process within our Area. ██████ – AAPP said that each Area has its own process for registering SAMs/AMIAS. Every SAM in Ontario is registered with WSO as an AMIAS. ██████ (District 16) asked if we are sending this to Assembly or are we deciding this here? ██████ said that the floor is open for motions.

██████████ (AAPP) moved, and ██████████ (District 20) seconded: “I move that Ontario South change the reference SAM (Supportive Al-Anon member) to AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service).”

██████████ said that hopefully the groups have been able to express their opinions in preparation for AWSC. ██████████ (District 16) wanted to ask if there were still differences in the process for SAMs and AMIAS. If we are able to keep our processes, then changing the name might be ok. Carrie said that WSO has a certain level of safety requirements, and Ontario South exceeds those requirements. Changing the name does not impact our safety requirements. ██████████ said that each Area decides the requirements. For example, some Areas have a mandatory training session for AMIAS. **The vote was carried**, with 25 votes for, with 9 against.

**“I move that the proposed budget for 2023 be forwarded to Assembly 2022 for approval.”** Moved by ██████████, District 14, seconded by ██████████, District 21. ██████████, District 14, said that we presented these to the Group Reps, to bring them back to the groups. And the groups were in favour of this budget. Susan has trust in our trusted servants at the Area level, because no one knows what 2023 will be like. ██████████ asked for comments or questions. Voting: 31 in favour, 1 against. **Motion Carried.**

**“I move that the decision to change the term SAM to AMIAS be taken to Assembly 2022 for a vote by GR's and other voting members.”** Moved by ██████████, District 17 DR seconded by ██████████ GTAIS Chair. ██████████ spoke in favour of the motion. ██████████, Advisor feels a little uncomfortable changing the motion after the fact. ██████████ said that she also feels uncomfortable as well. ██████████, Area Delegate said that we have voted. She is also hearing that the groups did not get the information. However, this process happens every year, and the responsibility lies with the links of service. ██████████ – GTAIS, said that maybe we can add a clock to the Zoom screen for next time, so we know how our two minutes is going. ██████████ asked what harm it was to send it to Assembly? ██████████ says that the AWSC package worded the Decision Point as should it be changed, whereas the other two decision points were should it be forwarded to Assembly? So we have made the decision already. ██████████ (District 23) said that she sent the information to the Group Reps to bring back to their groups. At times she feels that sometimes, the links of service feel broken, as she did not hear back from a lot of groups. ██████████ (District 4) says that we need to act with integrity, so we were asked to vote on behalf of our groups, which we did in this case. ██████████ (District 11) said that she thought that this was a slam dunk. She had no idea of the history. If we have made a decision, it might look like we want a different outcome, and that we are belabouring the point. ██████████ called for a vote. 9 in favour, 23 against. **Not Carried.**

██████████, Advisor spoke to the decision point for adding a Technology Coordinator to Ontario South's Area World Service Committee. This would allow the website coordinator to focus on the website, and the technology coordinator would focus on software solutions such as powerpoint, Zoom, and basic knowledge on the most common online tools. The decision point is “Should the creation of an Area Technology Co-ordinator be sent to Assembly for approval?” ██████████ (District 32). He thinks that it will be a challenge to find someone every three years, but we don't know unless we ask. ██████████ (Website) says that maybe we need a committee to do the website and the Technology Coordinator role. On the other hand, it would be good to have a Technology Coordinator to have more hands on deck. ██████████ (District 16) Her District thought that \$250 is pretty low, because they might need to buy equipment. ██████████ replied that the \$250 for the coordinators budget is that you've been asked to present somewhere or a special project. ██████████ agreed that there would be more costs for travelling to Assembly and AWSC, so that would incur more costs. ██████████, GTAIS, said that she loves the idea and thinks we should look further ahead to potential costs. ██████████ thought that it sounded like a full-time job, rather than a volunteer position. ██████████ said that the computer the Area owns is the one used by Group Records. ██████████ says the main value of the Technology Coordinator is the knowledge that they could provide. ██████████ said that having a computer with the Internet is a reasonable requirement for the role. The website coordinator has made 800 changes since May of last year, and at 5 minutes each, that is 66.6 hours, which is a lot for a volunteer role. ██████████ said that is an exciting time as people learn to use Technology. A technology coordinator could help people get more comfortable with the tools. **Motion:**

**“That the creation of an Area Technology Co-ordinator position be forwarded to Assembly 2022 for discussion and approval. Furthermore, that the Executive Committee prepare a budget for the Technology Coordinator position to be presented at Assembly 2022 as part of the discussion assuming the position would begin in budget 2023.** Moved by [REDACTED] District 26 Seconded by [REDACTED] AIS Chair. [REDACTED] said that there seems to be broad support for the motion, but that there are also questions about the budget, so this addresses both those questions. [REDACTED] said that if the Technology coordinator started in 2023, their term would potentially end at the end of 2023, with a new three-year term starting in 2024. [REDACTED] has a motion that affects the motion that is before us. So we will now deal with the amendment to the motion. [REDACTED] proposed an amendment, “I move to amend the current motion by splitting it into two parts. [REDACTED], District 18, seconded by [REDACTED], District 22. [REDACTED] said that we have been discussing two different concepts that would be cleaner to split into two. [REDACTED] thinks that starting the position in 2023 is too limiting, and she is not in favour of that. [REDACTED] (District 26) said that the change to the budget is simply an assumption about when the position would start, it does not mean that the position will start in 2023. [REDACTED] (District 23) is in favour of splitting the motion. The other coordinator budgets would need to be revised if we go back to face-to-face meetings. Vote was 23 in favour and 8 against, so the **amendment is carried.** The new motion is: **“That the creation of an Area Technology Co-ordinator position be forwarded to Assembly 2022 for discussion and approval.”** [REDACTED] thinks we should have a thought force to work on the specifics of the Technology Coordinator. [REDACTED] said that Assembly could put forward the thought that we should have a thought force. In order to do the vote properly, we need to know the number of voting members present. Roll Call was taken as 37 voting members present. **Vote was taken, with 32 in favour, and 1 opposed. Carried.**

We then looked at the second part of the motion. **Furthermore, that the Executive Committee prepare a budget for the Technology Coordinator position to be presented at Assembly 2022 as part of the discussion assuming the position would begin in budget 2023.** [REDACTED] said that the point of the motion is to give the Assembly to give them more information. [REDACTED] (District 17) said that we don't need the motion. [REDACTED] Advisor says the motion says that the Budget include the Technology coordinator for all of 2023, which implies that we'd have one for all of 2023. [REDACTED] Advisor said that as a result of the previous motion, this will be discussed at Executive. [REDACTED] said that as part of the motion that has been passed, the Executive will provide information for Assembly. Vote was called 4 in favour, 28 against. **Not Carried.**

**5:30** [REDACTED] suggested a half-hour break, and reconvene at 6:00.

**6:00** [REDACTED] opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. [REDACTED] said that she received two other motions, and they have been handled by the motions we had put forward.

Canada Central Regional Trustee [REDACTED] There's no distinction between a regional trustee and a trustee at large. In 1954 Al-Anon Family Groups were incorporated. At that time, 7-11 members, from the New York Area, were the trustees. Then we grew to 3 regions (eastern US, Western US, Canada.). We now have 9 separate regions. AFGs serve families, while Trustees serve Al-Anon. There are 19 trustees. Trustee applications are available on the WSO website and are completed electronically. Within the application you indicate whether applying as a TAL (Trustee at Large) or a RT (Regional Trustee). The TAL applications go to WSO, while the RT applications go to the Area Delegate. The 9 regions in Canada are West, Central, and East. The 6 regions in the United States are divided north and south, as well as West, Central and East. The role lasts 3 years, and 3 regions each year need a new Regional Trustee. It is important to note that although a Regional Trustee must come from a specific region, they do not represent that region, they serve Al-Anon as a whole.

Member at Large [REDACTED] is on the Forum Editorial Advisory Committee. (FEAC). She might have 50 shares to read each month, and she is asked to give feedback on how she connects with the shares. XXXXX showed us how we would apply for this position, which lasts one year. <https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/wso-volunteers/at-large-committees/> XXXXX said that she finds this really rewarding. The deadline for the application is October 29<sup>th</sup>. There is no travel requirement. [REDACTED] hopes that anyone

interested clicks on the link at the WSO website. To be on this committee, you have to give up all other service beyond the group level.

**6:35** – (8:40) [REDACTED] provide a report for the Literature Office Committee. [REDACTED] chairs the committee. The Committee consists of [REDACTED] (Chair), [REDACTED] (Delegate), [REDACTED] (Treasurer), [REDACTED] (LDC manager), [REDACTED]. Literature Office is closed from Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. Pre-orders for Assembly 2022. You can order literature, without having to pay shipping from the LOC, provided Assembly is in person. The literature order for Assembly is due September 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. Payment is due September 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. As per the request of the members, 46 of our CAL has decreased in price. 22 items increased by 5 to 15 cents. Remainder of our literature has stayed at the same price.

**6:42** – [REDACTED] gave her Delegate's report. [REDACTED] thanked us all for being here for AWSC on a Friday night and all-day Saturday. A lot has changed in the last couple of years. Some of us are struggling with fear, and others are ready to leap ahead. Neither is right or wrong. What would be wrong is to not use our legacies and trust our Higher Power's guidance. Rather than going back to in-person meetings, perhaps we should ask how we move forward. We have tools such as conflict resolution guides. [REDACTED] trusts that our Higher Power will provide what we need, even when we don't know what we need. [REDACTED] shared that she has learned that it's ok to ask for help as part of recovery. It's in letting go that we receive. [REDACTED] (District 23) said that she appreciates [REDACTED]'s honest sharing about her fear of failure. [REDACTED] (District 16) asked what a 61 panel means. [REDACTED] said that the panel refers to what year the people started as a Delegate. So panel 62 started service in 2022. People that started in 2023 are called Panel 63 and so on.

**6:54** Closing: Al-Anon Declaration [REDACTED]

**THANK YOU for your participation!**

#### **AWSC 2022 Summary of Votes:**

Approval of 2021 AWSC Meeting Minutes – [REDACTED], District 3 – moved that **“I move a motion to accept the 2021 AWSC Minute meetings as distributed.”** Seconded by [REDACTED], District 21. 35 Votes in favour. **Carried.**

Explain & Approve voting procedures. [REDACTED] – Advisor moved **“that we accept the voting procedures as explained”**, [REDACTED], District 3 seconded. There were 23 votes in favour. **Carried.**

Moved by [REDACTED], seconded by [REDACTED] (District 4) **“I move that the 2023 Budget Expenses be reduced by \$12,000 and that the AWSC be held virtually in 2023.”** There were 9 votes in favour, and 28 against. **Motion is not carried.**

[REDACTED] (AAPP) moved, and [REDACTED] (District 20) seconded: **“I move that Ontario South change the reference SAM (Supportive Al-Anon member) to AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service).”** 25 votes in favour, 9 against. **Carried.**

**“I move that the proposed budget for 2023 be forwarded to Assembly 2022 for approval.”** Moved by [REDACTED], District 14, seconded by [REDACTED], District 21. Voting: 31 in favour, 1 against. **Carried.**

**“I move that the decision to change the term SAM to AMIAS be taken to Assembly 2022 for a vote by GR's and other voting members.”** Moved by [REDACTED], District 17 DR seconded by [REDACTED] GTAIS Chair. Voting: 9 in favour, 23 against. **Not Carried.**

**Motion: “That the creation of an Area Technology Co-ordinator position be forwarded to Assembly 2022 for discussion and approval. Furthermore, that the Executive Committee prepare a budget for the Technology Coordinator position to be presented at Assembly 2022 as part of the discussion**

**assuming the position would begin in budget 2023.** Moved by [REDACTED] District 26 Seconded by [REDACTED] AIS Chair.

Amendment to the Motion: **“I move to amend the current motion by splitting it into two parts.”** [REDACTED], District 18, seconded by [REDACTED], District 22. Vote was 23 in favour and 8 against, so the amendment is carried.

**Amended Motion (#1) : “That the creation of an Area Technology Co-ordinator position be forwarded to Assembly 2022 for discussion and approval.”** Vote was taken, with 32 in favour, and 1 opposed. Carried.

**Amended Motion (#2) : Furthermore, that the Executive Committee prepare a budget for the Technology Coordinator position to be presented at Assembly 2022 as part of the discussion assuming the position would begin in budget 2023.** Vote was called, with 4 in favour, 28 against. Not Carried.