**EDMONTON AL-ANON INFORMATION SERVICES (AIS)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83613599660?pwd=SnZnZlN6cnZmVWNRVFY4U2RJZGFiZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83613599660?pwd=SnZnZlN6cnZmVWNRVFY4U2RJZGFiZz09)

**Meeting ID: 836 1359 9660**

**Passcode: 684023**

**Link to Service Manual:**

[**https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/**](https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/)

1. Called to order @ 6:32 PM
2. Welcome and Introductions: Vida (AGR Oasis); John H (AIS TAS, DR 16); Bruce F. (AIS Treasurer); Gilda F. (AIS chairperson); Jamie (representing Step by Step); Craig B. (AIS meeting list coordinator; GR Oasis); Shirley E. (AIS public outreach); Janie-Rae (representing Millcreek Morning, ADR 17); Catherine (AGR You Count); Rayna (GR Sherwood Park Friday Night); Tammy R. (DR 20); Lorie G. (representing Step by Step), Pat (representing Strength and Unity); Rita R. (GR, Circle of Hope); Mary W. (ADR DR 18): Jean B. (After the Weekend); Mark I. (Henwood/Institutions); Carmen (GR Friends of Lois); Joanne ?
3. Reading of Traditions and Concepts – missed!
4. Additions to the Agenda - none
5. Standing Agenda Items:
6. Review and adoption of January 2023 Minutes – Gilda F.: January 2023 minutes were sent out with the documents for this meeting. Motion made by Gilda to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Rita. Carried.
7. Treasurer – Bruce F.: Financial statements were sent out with the documents for this meeting. Bruce reported we have $3643.17 in reserve. Two (2) checks for WSO and ACSOA yet to be cashed. Motion made by Bruce F. to accept the financial statements as presented. Seconded by Vida. Carried.

**AIS donations information:**

* + 1. by e-transfer to [edmontontreasurer@al-anon.ab.ca](mailto:edmontontreasurer@al-anon.ab.ca)
    2. by cheque to: Edmonton AIS, Box 1375, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2N2

1. Meeting List – Craig B.: Craig sent out a recent updated meeting list on March 15th. The confidential list to be updated adding Strength and Unity (District 18). Pat will be added as the contact for this group.
2. Telephone Answering Service – John H.: John reported that by year end of 2022, there were 239 calls. There were 16 calls in January, 18 calls in February 2023, and 9 calls in March thus far. If groups want to join the Telephone Answering Service (TAS) roster, contact John for more information to get started. John provided a brief review of the telephone answering system and guidelines. There have been calls about Alateen – Gilda and John will update the TAS guidelines with information about Alateen resources.
3. Public Outreach – Shirley E.: Shirley and her public outreach committee have been working on a PowerPoint presentation for professionals. They have revamped the slides and the accompanying text that Calgary AIS developed. The next step is to try presenting it. Shirley has been in contact with a nursing instructor at the University of Alberta who is keen to have her 3rd year nursing students attend this presentation. It will be posted on the area website for everyone to use once finalized.

1. Henwood/Institutions – Mark I.: Mark heard from Paula at Henwood, who is a new contact for outside 12 step programs such as Al-Anon. Henwood is reviewing the previous format to make the information/meetings more family-friendly. He will continue to stay in touch with Paula at Henwood and provide an update at our next meeting.
2. **Area Convention 2023 June 9 – 11, 2023** – Candy B.: Candy was unable to attend. Gilda emphasized the importance of this event for the area, for District 19, and for Al-Anon members! Tickets for the weekend are $50. Free camping. Amazing speakers. Wonderful fellowship. Event information on the Event calendar (toured this calendar) and poster available. Fundraising items still available. Easy to order both items and tickets online. **Talk this event up with your groups!**
3. Old Business
   1. Posting Edmonton AIS records/information on the Area website: Gilda brought forward this idea and toured the Alberta Area website over Zoom.

* What information would we like posted?
* Some ideas brought forward were: meeting minutes, meeting agenda, TAS guidelines, TAS roster, Contact lists (with anonymity).
* **Plan:** We decided to start with TAS guidelines and meeting agenda being added.
* **Please provide feedback when posted and will review at next meeting.**

1. Update re: investigation of use of QR code on AFA’s, literature, etc. – table for next meeting.
   * 1. What links would be best for a QR code? Standardization. Dynamic QR code would be best to use – **tabled for next meeting**.
2. Area Speaker List - Gilda: the Alberta/N.W.T. Area is seeking speakers for a list that will eventually be available on the members only section of the Area website. This would provide options for groups/districts when looking for speakers for their events. Please let Gilda if you are/someone you know are interested in being on this list.
3. New Business
   1. AIS Meeting format and content – what would you like to see and learn at the AIS meetings?
   * Forum/writing workshops?
   * Sponsorship?
   * Archives?
   * Reports?
   * +/- Sharing on Concepts?
   * Those in attendance felt that general updates are good to include at our meetings. A review of the event calendar was another good idea. Sharing of articles or blogs on the WSO website was a hit. A study of the Concepts would be most valuable. Discussion about sponsorship or other topics could be rotated amongst attendees.
   1. AFG Connects: **table for next meeting**
   2. In The Loop: Gilda shared her screen to show everyone where to subscribe to In The Loop and how it shows up in your email inbox. Shared the Chairman of the Board letter on this platform.
4. International Convention Watch Party! We talked about the idea of having an International Convention Watch Party and there was a lot of interest. Those in attendance at this meeting agreed to be on a committee to help organize this event. One suggestion was to rotate locations throughout Edmonton and area. **We will continue to explore this event and hopefully have a plan in place shortly.**
5. WSO Group Contact information/Confidential List: **Table for next meeting**
6. Area Assembly - May 27th, 2023 in Red Deer - **face to face only**
   * 1. Cost: the cost would be $30 per group registration fee, plus $35 for lunch that includes all beverages such as coffee and tea throughout the day. We encourage attendees to join the luncheon. The luncheon is a great way to get connected with others in Al-Anon. More information will be coming through the Area Treasurer shortly.
     2. Book orders: groups can place a book order and have it picked up at the Area Assembly. Work with other groups in your District(s) to put together a book order.
     3. GR Orientation: This is held on the Saturday morning before the start of the general meeting. This is a great opportunity to get more information and meet other people prior to this meeting.
     4. Topics - Area finances, Website review, Links of Service. Agenda forthcoming.
7. 2022 – 2025 Al-Anon Service Manual – bulk order? Let Gilda know if you are interested in ordering a paper copy. Digital format available as a FREE download from the al-anon.org website.
8. Questions and Roundtable

* Strength and Unity (Riverbend) has several newcomers and 4-5 regular members. They continue outreach in their neighborhood.
* You Count is now getting 13 to 14 regular members since moving to Laurie heights Baptist Church.
* Reaching Out has 12 participants between hybrid and face to face.
* Goldbar continues to see 18 regular participants between hybrid and face to face.
* Step by Step will continue to meet virtually. They are seeing 14 to 15 participants over Zoom.
* Oasis continues to hold both a face to face meeting on Saturday, and a Zoom meeting on Sunday. Both meetings going well.
* Friends of Lois W.: Meets at the Orange Hub on Wednesdays. Continues to see 4-8 participants.

1. Announcements
   1. Area Convention – June 9-11th, 2023 – Cardiff Hall (District 19)
   2. DR and GR Workshop – March 18th, 2023 on Zoom
   3. Area Assembly - May 27th in Red Deer.
   4. Camel Fridaynighters – Friday @ 7pm. Face to face.

**Next meeting: May 17th, 2023 @ 6:00pm – 7:45pm at You Count AFG meeting space:**

**Laurier Heights Baptist Church -** 8505- 142 Street Edmonton, Alberta

1. Adjournment @ 8:02 PM