

**THE 2017 VIRGINIA AREA AL-ANON FALL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES
October 21-22**

***“Building Healthy Groups through Attention - Appreciation - Affection”
Recovery Through Service***

S A T U R D A Y

OPENING

- Valerie P., Area Chair, opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer followed by the reading of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Service by Rick A., Peggy F., and Chris B.
- New Groups and first time Assembly attendees were recognized - there were 12 new groups registered since last Assembly in Spring 2017.
- Valerie P. welcomed all present and introduced the Area Officers, Coordinators and Past Delegates.

ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION

- The Registration Committee given by Carol N. reported 161 registered attendees, 121 group representatives, 18 district representatives, 21 officers/coordinators/other Al-Anon members, and one past delegate
- Peninsula District will do Registration for 2018 Spring Assembly.
- A volunteer District is needed to handle registration for 2018 Fall Assembly.
- VAWSC members present: Don F., Valerie P., Duane F., Terry W., Bruce B., Wendy R., Tom S., Stacy L., Justin L., Sue V., Diane B., Leslie K., Brook S., Barbara M., Ginny K., Becky D., Nancy S., Chris B., Merri M., Judy T., Gina B., Peggy F., Laura L., Ann F., David D.
- Not Present: Tina E., Shannon B., Jenny S., Allyson M., Pat M., Robin B., Yumiko A.
- New District Representative for Northern Neck: Jacqui R.
- GR roll call - Wendy R.

ASSEMBLY MINUTES: Wendy R.

- Minutes from 2017 Spring Assembly were emailed to the Registration Committee for inclusion in the registration packets.

MOTION

Made by: Dave D.
Second by: Don F.

That the 2017 Spring Assembly Minutes be approved.

Motion Passed: voice vote

The Agenda was approved by voice vote.

OFFICER REPORTS

- Treasurer Report: Bruce B. (report available upon request)
 - 501(c)3 application has been approved. Contributions to the Area by individuals and groups are now tax-deductible. Area purchases are exempt from sales tax.

MOTION

Made by: Phyllis F.

Second by: Sophie L.

That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Motion Passed: voice vote

- Alternate Delegate Report – Terry W. (report available upon request)
 - The Forum could use some more sharings, particularly on the Legacies. The forum is available as a digital subscription.
- Delegate Report – Duane B. (report available upon request)
 - Asks for all members to ask themselves – “what can I do locally to keep our Program healthy, to make the newcomer welcome and make myself available for Service?”
 - 2-18 International Convention – make sure every last person knows about this event. Special Events: Day of Connecting, Language of Love Parade, Pioneer Luncheon.
 - New WSO executive director is Vali F.
 - WSO website has been redesigned.
 - Board of Trustees Big Question: World Service Conference Summary pg 26-27 – How can we empower our members in the use of our Legacies and policies when seeking solutions to issues within the Area, District and group?
 - 2018 Planning – consider a campaign for the International Convention, think about the Election next year and way to encourage Service. Talk about outreach and give feedback on our website.
- Stretch Break – Bonnie N.

COORDINATOR REPORTS

- Public Outreach – Brook S.
- Literature – JC L. – the updated Service Manual will be available online in December and in print in January; looking for sharings for new daily reader; Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships (working title) may be ready in time for the International Convention in July.
- Group Records – Leslie K.
- AAPP – Diane B. – 142 AMIAS, 15 Alateen meetings, 3 people working through the application process

- Alateen - Stacy L. - In 2017 we held 5 Alateen sponsor workshops. The next workshop is in Hampton Roads in March 2018 - place to be determined.
- Northern VA Service Center - Maria N. - volunteers are needed both at the Service Center and to work at home answering phone calls. A Spanish language telephone line is coming soon. We are still in need of a Secretary, Alternate Secretary and Co-Chair.
- Tidewater Service Center - Stacy L. - quilt fundraiser is underway, purchase a block to have your message on the quilt to be auctioned off possibly at the International Convention.

VOTING ISSUES

1. The amended By-Laws were read to the Assembly (second reading).

MOTION

Made by: VAWSC
Second by: Sophie L.

That the Virginia Area Bylaws as amended be approved.

Motion Passed: 121 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstentions

2. Discussion regarding the future location of the Assembly involved concern about long term contracts, daily rates and additional space.

MOTION

Made by: VAWSC
Second by: Jenks H.

That the Virginia Area Assembly continue at the Koger Center through Fall 2022.

Motion Passed: voice vote

3. After last Assembly the VAWSC reconsidered the make up of the membership of the Long Range Planning Committee and submitted a revised motion for a vote. (Full motion available upon request). Ginny K. suggested an amendment to add an Alateen member to the Committee. That amendment did not pass (20 yea, 101 nay, 0 abstentions).

MOTION

Made by: VAWSC
Second by: Phyllis F.

That the Long Range Planning Committee be established as a continuing standing committee for the Virginia Area.

Motion Passed: 120 yea, 1 nay, 0 abstentions

COORDINATOR REPORTS (con't)

- Website - Sue V. - the Web-ex bridge is open to any member who wants to use it. See Sue to schedule on the calendar. The instructions for its use are on the website. All DRs, Officers, and Coordinators have vaalanon.org email addresses. WSO fixed the link to our website from their website.
- Convention Report - Christy B. - The 2019 Virginia Area Convention is scheduled for August 23-25, 2019 at the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly, VA. The committee still needs a Secretary. We will be meeting in the New River Room after Assembly - please come join us if you can. We are working to refine the budget and develop a program.

SUNDAY

- Serenity Prayer

SPIRITUAL SPEAKER - TERRY W.

WORKSHOP REPORTS

- Sponsorship: material is available from Nancy S.
- Public Outreach and Diversity: Bill W.
- Healthy Groups, Healthy District: Darren L.
- Group Conscience v. Group Inventory: Great Business Meetings - Pat
- All Things Alateen - Jim
- Writing for Recovery - Irene
- Starting a New Meeting
- Bring Your Meeting to Life - Fran
- Working the Program Using Traditions and Concepts
- Al-Anon and AA - Lee and Maria
- Long Range Issues Facing Al-Anon - Teresa

7th Tradition basket

Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down - 2 minute comments on Assembly.

- Thumbs up to posters
- Thumbs up to two workshops

Fairfax/McLean/Vienna will do Fall 2018 Assembly registration; Loudon will do registration for Spring 2019 Assembly

CLOSING

- Valerie P. closed the Assembly meeting with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Rowden
Area Secretary

Valerie Palamountain
Area Chair

Let it Begin with Me

UPCOMING DATES

- **January 6, 2018 - Area Officers Meeting (web-ex)**
- **March 10, 2018 - VAWSC - Cool Spring Baptist Church, Mechanicsville**
- **May 19-20, 2018 - Spring Assembly - Doubletree, Midlothian**
- **June 2, 2018 - Area Officers Meeting (web-ex)**
- **July 5-8, 2018 - Al-Anon International Convention - Baltimore, MD**
- **August 4, 2018 - VAWSC**
- **October 20-21, 2018 - Fall Assembly - Doubletree, Midlothian**
- **May 4-5, 2019 - Spring Assembly - Doubletree, Midlothian**
- **August 23-25, 2019 - Virginia AFG Convention - Chantilly, VA**
- **October 19-20, 2019 - Fall Assembly - Doubletree, Midlothian**