

# THE 2017 VIRGINIA AREA AL-ANON SPRING ASSEMBLY MINUTES

May 19-20, 2018

***“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 Tina E., Rick A., and Bruce B..
- New Groups and first time Assembly attendees were recognized - there were 11 new groups registered since last Assembly in Fall 2017.
- Valerie P. welcomed all present and introduced the Area Officers, Coordinators.
- Val introduced our new Archives Coordinator, Sue Anker. The position had been vacant for nearly 7 years.
- Past delegates in attendance were introduced: Don Feick and Dee Moore.
- Achievements of Panel 56 were reviewed: created 501(c)3; adopted bylaws; created new website; implemented online registration and credit card payments for Assembly; implemented online contributions; created Assembly coordinator position; relocated archives to local facility and recruited a new Archives coordinator; implemented Web-ex online meetings.

### ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION

- The Registration Committee given by Jane B. reported 162 registered attendees, 123 group representatives, 20 district representatives, 11 officers/coordinators, 7 guests, and two past delegates.
- Falls Church/McLean/Vienna District will do Registration for 2018 Fall Assembly.
- Loudon District will handle registration for 2019 Spring Assembly.
- VAWSC members present: Don F., Dee M. Valerie P., Duane F., Terry W., Bruce B., Wendy R., Tom S., Stacy L., Rick A., Yumiko A., Diane B., Christy B., Gina B., David D., Becky D., Tina E., Peggy F., Ann F., Ginny K., Leslie K., Darren L., Laura L., Merri M., Allyson M., Barbara M., Brook S., Judy T., Sue V., Robin B.
- Not Present: Justin L., Pat M., Chris B.,
- New District Representative for Northern Neck: Jim S., New DR for Arlington: Mahender D., New DR for New River Valley: Samantha H.

### ASSEMBLY MINUTES: Wendy R.

- Minutes from 2017 Spring Assembly were emailed to the Registration Committee for inclusion in the registration packets.
- Sharon O. requested the inclusion of a motion from last Assembly that was overlooked. The motion was to include a member of Alateen on the Long Range

Planning Committee and to consider diversity in the membership of the committee. The motion failed when voted on last Fall.

**MOTION**

Made by: Patti M.  
Second by: Jenks H.

That the 2017 Fall Assembly Minutes be approved as amended.

Motion Passed: voice vote

The Agenda was approved by voice vote.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

- Treasurer Report: Bruce B. (report available upon request)
  - All bank accounts are now combined into one statement.

**MOTION**

Made by: Darren L.  
Second by: Ellie F.

That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Motion Passed: voice vote

- Alternate Delegate Report – Terry W. (report available upon request)
  - The Alternate Delegate has been the Forum Coordinator, the Convention Liaison, the Delegate's back up and the leader of the GR opening session.
  - Reading from: Forum May 2018 p. 14 – Service Challenged Me To Grow
- Delegate Report – Duane B. (report available upon request)
  - Southeastern Regional Delegates Get Together (SERDGET) - The event gives a chance for former Delegates to hear information and have input while the current Delegates have the opportunity to practice for the WSC.
  - Each Group, District, Area, Officer, Coordinator and Service Center as a team should consider folks that can fulfill Service work opportunities to ensure Al-Anon/Alateen for the future and pave the way for a successful next three years of Al-Anon.
  - 2018 International Convention – Al-Anon International Conventions are a great way to celebrate recovery, meet old friends, and make new ones.
  - World Service Conference – see report for detail. Unanswered Questions/Reflections - At the end of each day, the Chair asked for folks to come to the mike to ask questions or give reflections. I would like to see the Assembly take on this practice.

- Stepping Stones
- Trustee vacancies – see report for detail.

## **COORDINATOR REPORTS**

- Public Outreach – Brook S. - we've worn out the Public Outreach display (this is a good thing) so we'll probably be replacing it soon. Healthy meetings are so important to the people to whom we are reaching out.
- Group Records – Leslie K. -the DR is the central person for changes thru the link; email Leslie with any questions about groups and include your district info
- AAPP - Diane B. - 147 AMIAS, 17 Alateen meetings, 1 person working through the application process
- Alateen – Stacy L. - In 2018 so far we have held 2 Alateen sponsor workshops. The next workshop is in Toano on August 11, 2018.
- Northern VA Service Center – Yumiko A.
- Tidewater Service Center – Stacy L. - quilt is finished! Raffle tickets are \$1. The quilt will be auctioned off at the International Convention. There are 61 Al-Anon meetings in Hampton Roads.
- MEAC – Wendy R. - MEAC is July 20-22, cost is \$120 by June 1, costs have increased a lot.

## **VOTING ISSUES**

1. Forum Coordinator duties move from Alt. Del. to Literature Coord.

### **MOTION**

**Made by: Sharon O.**

**Second by: Beth**

**That the Literature Coordinator take over Forum Coordinator duties from the Alternate Delegate.**

**Motion Passed**

2. Changes to Alateen Coordinator job description.

### **MOTION**

**Made by: Paula**

**Second by: Ann S.**

**That the job description for the Virginia Area Alateen Coordinator be amended to require a minimum of 6 months experience as an Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS).**

**Motion Passed: voice vote**

3. The officers are recommending that the Area Convention Chair become the Area Convention Coordinator. The Coordinator will appoint the Area Convention Treasurer.

#### **MOTION**

**Made by: Patti M.**

**Second by: Sophie**

**That the Area Convention Chair become the Area Convention Coordinator and appoint the Area Convention Treasurer effective 9-1-2019.**

**Motion Passed: voice vote**

#### **COORDINATOR REPORTS (con't)**

- Website - Sue V. - wish list: banner for announcements, outreach blog; considering changes to meetings pages to allow for different search options; requests for postings to the Calendar should go through DRs. We need volunteers to help add events to the Calendar. The Members page which is behind a passcode includes info on Convention, documents for Assembly and group #s (under Area Information).
- 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 needs a boutique coordinator. There is a link on the Area website to the Convention website which has a Donate button. [Convention.vaalanon.org](http://Convention.vaalanon.org). Thanks to Peter M., Darren L. Sue V. for putting together the website. We are selling merchandise.

#### **SUNDAY**

- Serenity Prayer

#### **SPIRITUAL SPEAKER - CHRISTY M.**

#### **WORKSHOP REPORTS**

- Sponsorship
- Embracing Diversity in Our Meetings
- You Are Not Alone: Getting Others to Step Up in Service
- Guidelines for a Successful Workshop
- Al-Anon Online Resources
- Business Meetings & Group Conscience

- Alateen Sponsors
- CAL & Journaling
- Three Obstacles to Success
- Conflict Resolution in Groups
- Increasing Participation in Your Group Inventory

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket

Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down – 2 minute comments on 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**

- **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**