



## Virginia Area World Service Committee (VAWSC) Meeting Minutes

WebEx - Hosted by Becky D.

August 1, 2020

10:30 am to 2:35 pm

### Opening:

- Area Chair, Tom Spillman, opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer, reading of Concept One and reading of the Purpose of VAWSC.

### Welcome and Introductions:

- Tom expressed a huge thank you to Becky and Sue for keeping the communication going in the Area.
- VAWSC Members present: Terry Woodside, Delegate, Tom S., Area Chair, Stacy Lewis, Alt. Delegate and AAPP, Rick Arsenault, Alt. Chair, Christy Boone, Alt Sec., Bruce Burrows, Treasurer, Sue Vencill, Web Coordinator, Ginny Kelly, Alateen Coordinator, Ann Fletcher, Literature Coordinator, Valerie Palamountain, Public Outreach and Area Convention Chair, Stephanie P., Assembly Coordinator, Wendy Rowden, LRP Liaison, Chris Batchelder, Area Group Records Coordinator, Katherine Pabody, DR #1-Albemarle, Mahender Dudani, DR #3-Arlington, Kathryn Holland, DR #4-Blue Ridge, Shannon H., DR #5-Bull Run, Debra Gessel, DR #8-Fairfax, Rosemary Reed, DR #9-Falls Church/Vienna/McClean, Sean Millington, DR #12-Nansemond, Samantha Harden, DR # 13-New River, Ellie Fetterly, DR #14-Norfolk, Debbie Polston, DR #16-Peninsula, Jenks Hobson, DR #17-Piedmont, Ann Gorrell, DR #19-Rappahannock, Randi Murdock, DR #20-Richmond North, Deborah Teer, DR #21-Roanoke/Alleghany, Alice Jones, DR #22-Seven Hills, Joyce Maxwell, DR #23-Southside, Becky Dimon, DR #24-Southwest, Regan Knutson, DR #27-Virginia Beach, Ami Smith, ASCT Chair, Phyllis Fabian, NVSC Chair
- Absent: Tina Estes, Jenna Miilu, Yasi Sherbaf, Kevin Greer, Robert Rice, Joanna Charlton, Bob Adney, Paula Stallard, Sheri Turner, Fran Brune, Laura Lovern, and David Dickinson

### Minutes: Emailed by Laura Lovern

- Correction p. 4 under Area Convention "Spanish members" s/b "Spanish speaking"
- **Motion** was made by Bruce B. and seconded by Debra to approve the minutes from the 3-7-2020 VAWSC meeting as amended. MOTION CARRIED – poll vote.

### Treasurer's Report: Bruce B. – available upon request

- The 2020 Budget as of 8-1-20 was presented.
- Good financial health at this time considering things are "not normal".
- Contributions are coming in and no expenses since there was no Spring Assembly

- Attachment D proposed '20-'21 budget screenshot shared. Storage facility in Midlothian is increasing our rates by \$10/mo. thus Archives line item maybe a little low. Suggests looking into another place. Website has been bumped up. Our delegate will not be going to the SERDGT so \$500 for travel to that conference will be freed up and the travel to this year's conference should be getting a refund. Convention -\$1,000.00 a guess as to how much net income we have this year, since we don't know what's going to happen with the convention. Financial management line is for taxes, corporate fees, and QuickBooks. Engaged a new firm a little more expensive than the guy in DE. Extension has been filed for paying taxes.
- **Motion** was made by Bruce and seconded by Tom to accept the treasurer's report. MOTION CARRIED – poll vote.

**Delegate's Report:** Terry W.'s report available on the website and via email

WSC held via WebEx and AFG Connects for the first time ever. DRs please distribute the reports to the GRs to get to the members. Please keep the Links of Service moving. Correction to the report: Regional Trustees and Trustees at Large, the two-year vacancy remains in the SE Regional Trustee position. You have until Aug. 15, 2021, get to Terry or Tom by June 2, 2021 if interested in standing. 10 years in Al-Anon and some kind of service to stand. Right now, Terry is chairing the Conflict Resolution Workshop Task Force. Workshop materials will be available after the WSC, April 2021.

Literature sales are down. Think about what you/your groups can do donation wise. Answers re CAL and copyright compliance via Tom Coffey, Assoc. Director of Literature at WSO. Only allowed to show screenshots during meetings with the permission statement included. Terry will send out letter explaining Tom Coffey's guidelines after VAWSC. Newcomers' packet links from WSO are available electronically. Terry has sent them out to VAWSC members twice and will work with Sue V. to post on Area website. Terry is available to attend District meetings if needed.

**VAWSC Discussion:**

- Links of Service – please remind all GR's that the biggest benefit to following the Links of Service is to get the information out to the most people. Cherrie, DR in Alexandria has had to step down. Alexandria members have no voice at VAWSC, Assembly and Alateen meetings cannot be held, new meetings cannot be established. This morning Dist. 10 DR, Loudon, Bob stepped down, Mary will be DR and Harry will be Alt. Bruce reminded everyone to communicate with each other, via Links of Service. Treasurer passing on should let new one know about the contributions must include the group # on the check. Terry reminded everyone to use your roster and contact the Officers or Coordinators/Liaisons in the Area first rather than going to WSO for questions.
- Assembly registration - Paper versus digital - the transition from paper to online has been successful and we will encourage that process recognizing at the same time that there are members who still need the paper version facilitated by their DRs rather than the Assembly Coordinator.
- Virtual versus hybrid meetings. Hybrid meetings are those doing both face to face and virtual at the same time. Each group is autonomous. Be safe and comply with the guidelines of the meeting hosts/place. Make sure we are all inclusive respecting individual needs and the safety requirements

we find ourselves in. If a group decides to go permanently electronic, they cannot belong to a district according to WSO guidelines. The structure is different. We have to compromise and look at a new model for the Area. The officers will move forward in taking this on as an action item. Alexandria, Norfolk, VA Beach, Albemarle, and Roanoke all have had virtual Alateen meetings however Stacy had to stop the Alexandria meetings because there is no DR. There is an Alateen regional virtual meeting today with Dee Moore speaking that Stacy did not know about. Regan announced ESAC may do a virtual meeting this Fall.

- Storage unit is overflowing and we will need help moving if we do indeed decide to move with the cost going up.
- Fall Assembly poll, virtual v face to face. Safety of all members is foremost. With WebEx we can go up 1000 participants for an increase of \$6.50/month. **Poll** voted for a virtual business meeting and agreed that we do need something extra on the agenda, be it DR/GR Sessions, Speakers (one on Traditions, a suggestion, Workshops, and AI-Anon meetings. Samantha would like a workshop on “healthy virtual meetings”. **Poll** taken for helpers with speakers and workshops. The officers will meet and encourage input from DRs and Liaisons in planning the virtual Fall Assembly. Approximately 6 people agreed to help and will be contacted.

**Area Budget for ‘20-’21:** The Website functions as a public outreach tool in this current environment. We should have the funds to apply to our website. **Motion** to accept the budget as presented to be shared during the Fall Assembly. Approved Poll Vote.

**Area Update Reports:** (most available upon request)

- Area Convention – Val P. – The committee voted to recommend the delay of the convention until August of 2022, which will make the committee cross panels and the committee needs time to market the convention at Assembly at least 9 months out to guarantee room nights at the Hotel. A deposit of \$4,500 has been made to the DoubleTree Hilton in Charlottesville. Ellie seconded the **motion** to delay the convention one year. Passed by poll vote.
- Website Update – Sue V. – Team: Sue, Becky, Wendy, and 3 Waves support contract. AFG Connects hot topic, consider having a webmaster and coordinator. Our site needs an overhaul, a little more color, pizzaz. Email: your Area [name@vaalanon.org](mailto:name@vaalanon.org). If you reply it will connect to your personal email account. If you would like to have them separated send Sue an email at [webcoordinator@vaalanon.org](mailto:webcoordinator@vaalanon.org). WebEx conferencing: Average 370 participants per month. 1000 participants for an extra \$6.50/mo. Right now, we’re paying for WebEx, security certificate, hosting service, and 3 waves support. Find a meeting: added a COVID -19 message, changed the verbiage for closed meeting, worked with Chris B. to create a database in the cloud for group records means our website is connected to the database. Check out your District on the website for your meetings’ accuracy. Calendar still has challenges. Members’ pages created a separate page for the VAWSC reports. Electronic newcomers welcome. WebEx has a separate line item in the Area budget under communication. Sue has a template for the job description of a webmaster form AFG connects will send it to Tom. Covid -19 message on homepage under Delegate’s Corner is coming down but stays under “Find a meeting”

- LRPC – Wendy R. – Online meetings, how long will they last, think about how to make that part of our process. Focusing on the website is becoming more and more important. We are due for a refresh and since we aren't spending money now so this is a good time to get 3 Waves to do it.
- Public Outreach – Val P. no report
- Alateen – Ginny K. did have 2 training sessions last Nov at Manassas and January in Salem. As of March, canceled all training. At 2:00-4:00 Alateen speaker meeting with Dee Moore and an Alateen.
- AAPP – Stacy L. reported most groups aren't meeting not a need for training now. We can do it online if needed. Only one person who has stepped down. Dist. 21 has a meeting that needs to be recertified.
- Literature/Forum – Ann F. thanked Terry for the copyright comments about the literature and reported that the WSO has enough sharings for the new daily reader. You can submit sharings for CAL corner and Members' blog. Forum report sent out May 18th. Encourage your GRs to encourage members to purchase the Forum and submit writings to the Forum. The subscription is \$11/year, please DRs pass this along to your GRs support the WSO. To subscribe go to the website and click on the store. Links of Service are important now more than ever. Tom suggested getting a link to the Forum Subscription on the Area website.
- Group Records – Chris B. report available. There's a link to fix those not getting emails. For changes go the [tinyurl](#). Chris included some tips and his personal email and phone number for any questions regarding group records. 293 groups and several groups meet 2 days/week and one meeting 4 days/week. Thank you, Chris!
- Service Centers
  - Phyllis F. - Answering the phone and emails and sending out literature. Financially stable. Misses the face to face meetings. Website has a speaker meeting happening. Check them out!
  - Ami S. - Contributions over Literature Sales. Vickie is in office on Mondays, Betty is in the office on Thursdays to mail out literature. The generosity has been overwhelming. Go to website and click on the "Donate" button. Asking groups for a recurring \$8/month contribution. Miss the Fall Assembly and Convention.
- No Archivist report, Sue Anker stepped down

**DR Highlights** – DR's will be preparing written reports ahead of Assembly. Kathryn's District #4 is having a Fall Workshop via Zoom.

**Closing** – Tom closed the meeting with the Al-Anon Declaration

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Boone

Alternate Area Secretary

**Upcoming Dates of Importance: 2020**

<b>August 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>VAWSC</b>	<b>Virtual Webex</b>
<b>October 10-11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fall Assembly</b>	<b>Doubletree, Midlothian</b>
<b>2021</b>		
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Area Officer's Meeting</b>	<b>Public Library, Midlothian</b>
	<b>VAWSC</b>	<b>Johnson-Willis Hospital</b>
<b>April 12-16</b>	<b>WSC</b>	<b>Stepping Stones, NY</b>
<b>May 15-16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Spring Assembly</b>	<b>Doubletree, Midlothian</b>
	<b>Area Officer's Meeting</b>	<b>Public Library, Midlothian</b>
	<b>VAWSC</b>	<b>Johnson-Willis Hospital</b>
	<b>Virginia Area Convention</b>	<b>Location TBD</b>
<b>October 16-17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fall Assembly</b>	<b>Doubletree, Midlothian</b>