

AFG of MA Assembly Minutes

Saturday, October 26th, 2024 @ 9:00 AM

Met In-Person and on Zoom

Attending: Paul G (Area Chair), Jane P (Area Delegate), Sue P (Alt Area Delegate), David C (Area Secretary), Wendy M (Area Treasurer), Pam S (Office Manager).

Open – Paul: Meeting opened at 9:07, with the serenity prayer, Steps, Traditions, Concepts, and Warranties.

Secretary's Report – David (Sandy and Rita recite the minutes): Minutes from the May 18th assembly approved with corrections:

Paul motions to accept the minutes, Joyce F motions to accept the minutes with corrections, Dave B seconds, **motion passes.** 3 in-person abstentions, 2 online abstentions.

Treasurer's Report – Wendy: Review of different kinds of donations. Personal donations are half of what was budgeted. Please consider a personal donation. Total revenue is under what is budgeted. The payroll had challenges being converted to the new version of QuickBooks. The staff expenses will come down a bit when this is resolved. Separate report for the bequest. The report was heard and understood. \$15,097 left in the bequest account for new projects.

Delegate's Report – Jane: Chair letter describes the activities of the board of trustees. Request for feedback from the delegates. WSO positions are open. 2024 conference summary available. WSC a great opportunity for growth.

Review of Voting Procedures: Paul shares.

Count GR's in-person and online: 51 in-person, 50 online.

Recognition of all those eligible to stand for area office, candidates come forward and share.

Secretary and Chair manage the vote:

- David C was confirmed as Delegate-elect.
- Don R was confirmed as Alternate Delegate-elect.
- Jane P was confirmed as Chair-elect.
- No one stood for secretary.
- Sandy S confirmed as Treasurer-elect.

2025 Budget Presentation – Donna R: Please donate! \$232,890 total expenses, balanced budget. Several requests for comparisons between this year's budget and the 2025 budget. Question about maximum personal donation, which is \$2500. Maximum bequest is 10% of the prior annual budget. Question about what do we do if personal donations don't meet expectations; Wendy says it depends on the fellowship, it might come from reserves. **Steve L moves to accept,** Anna seconds. In-person: 41 yes, 2 no, 3 abstain. Online: 44 yes, 4 no, 4 abstain. **The motion passes.**

2024 Convention Chair and Treasurer Report - Don: 577 total attendees, online and in-person. 117 online only. 50 did both online and in-person. Registration income: \$26,950.64 Raffle Income: \$1,978.77. \$1,700 for online support from an outside vendor. \$5,331.05 owed. \$37,568.57 gross income. \$26,086 in depts. \$11K net. \$7,511.76 back to the area.

Vote on 2026 Al-Anon/Alateen Convention Site:

- Candidate site: Best Western in Marlborough
- Candidate site: Emerald Resort in Hyannis
- Questions about minimum rooms nights, penalties for not meeting minimum rooms, coffee, parking, public transportation, area restaurants.
- The Emerald Resort in Hyannis is selected for the 2026 convention.

Workshop Reports:

- **Welcome to being a new GR:** Marianne presented. Tools and information shared.
- **Bequest Brainstorming:** 6 people online and 5 in-person. Discussed history of bequest proposal. Upcoming town hall on November 20th. Will be on website and bulletin. Ideas: How to strengthen the bond with AA to get to teens; public events; hang out in Southie on St Patrick's Day, public outreach to professionals, reinvigorate Alateen, institutions, a big party for fellowship.
- **Service Sponsorship:** Madonna presented. Successful because people were discussing, including online. Pamphlets provided on service and service sponsorship. Sponsorship may encourage service.
- **AMIAS Workshop:** Led by Terry C. Discussed packet of information on AMIAS requirements. Upcoming requirements may deter online meetings. In-person needs to be strengthened. Go where the teens are. Librarians put fliers in books.

Coordinator Reports:

- **Outreach – Lisa R:** Committee of 5 people, met monthly online. Ideas for DR's, GR's, and groups. Added pages to the website. Poster campaign, got feedback on where things were put up. Outreach to professionals included how to create packets. Great feedback from other areas on this. Newcomer and Professional letters created. Logos available on the website. Some materials available at the office. Ideas for outreach online. Great support from the area. Lisa never did leadership or public speaking before, but she got the chance from Al-Anon. Susan asks about "Not everyone trapped by Alcoholism is an alcoholic" pamphlet for medical institutions; Lisa says that the members distribute the outreach, the committee gives support.
- **Website – Dave B:** This time of year, the shared Zoom accounts need to renew for 2025. Price is still \$36/year. Get the information from the office. Removing old information, please fill out an update form on the area website. Website translator for Spanish and Portuguese. Creole is not available, but French may come soon.
- **Office Manager – Pam:** 3 weeks on the job!
- **Assembly Coordinator – Linda:** Thanks to the assembly committee!
- **Questions:** How are meetings online versus in-person going; Paul says that

Closed with the Declaration at 3:43 PM.

Next Assembly: May 10, 17, or 24, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Hybrid assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cymbala

Panel 62 Area Secretary