**Al-Anon District 5 Area 27**

**3/19/2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Nancy B. / District Rep /

Richard H. / District Secretary / GR Serenity Seekers / [rehughes@umich.edu](mailto:rehughes@umich.edu) / 734-474-2459

Jan A. / District Treasurer / GR Monday Noon Zoom Meeting / jan@sunward.org

Kelly S. / Phone coordinator / [kjstupple@gmail.com](mailto:kjstupple@gmail.com) / 734-277-3861

Spencer T. / District records coordinator / GR Hope, Strength and Courage / spencer@spencerwthomas.com

Theresa Z. / GR Thursday Night Saline Serenity / zacko@wowway.com

Maggie S. / CMA First Things First / maggiesell@yahoo.com

Erika O. / District website coordinator / GR Steps to Serenity / alanonerikao@gmail.com

Marcia W. / GR New Directions / parsleygrows@gmail.com

Julie / GR Just for Today / franzen22@aol.com

Marg / GR Keep it Simple electronic Wed night meeting / only\_margm56@gmail.com

Alvin R. / District technology / alvin.inservice@gmail.com

Terry C. / GR Ann Arbor Noon Virtual Meeting (WAC) / tcaldwell07@gmail.com

Sheryl / GR Changing Directions /

Craig / Member at large /

Mary / Member at large /

**Reminders:**

1. Please be sure donations to District 5, sent to treasurer include the group name and number.
2. May 14th is the virtual State Convention.
3. Phone volunteers needed- contact Kelly S. [kjstupple@gmail.com](mailto:kjstupple@gmail.com)

**ASWC Report.**

Nancy B. gave the report on the AWSC that was held virtually. There was a vote to add a tech coordinator position for Area 27. The Al-Ateen report was that 50% of the Al-Ateen meetings in Michigan did not survive the pandemic. There is work happening to coordinate a writing workshop. She also reported that there is a shortage of program literature. Also, we are not allowed to advertise that intergroup offices sell our literature because the intergroup offices are not Al-Anon.

**Open district 5 positions.**

Richard H. was unanimously elected to the secretary for the remainder of his term as GR, which ends in the fall of 2022. He noted that there will need to be a new secretary then. There was a question about whether the secretary needs to be a GR; the answer was “no.”

**Treasurer’s report.**

Jan gave the treasurer’s report. The available balance was $5071.46 as of 2-1-2022. This is above the prudent reserve of $500. Due to this high balance, there was a motion to donate $1000 each to MI AFG and WSO. It was seconded and passed after some discussion. There was a discussion of making a donation to Al-Ateen, but the discussion uncovered the possibility that the District is not allowed to contribute to Al-Ateen. The topic was tabled to the next meeting to give Nancy B. time to look into the issue. Jan raised a few additional issues: (1) some groups are putting the wrong number on their donation checks, (2) the new bank charged us for statements ($5/month), (3) she is concerned about the tax status for the District.

**Phone coordinator.**

Kelly S., district phone coordinator, gave the update. The phone has gone through a change because she decided to update the outgoing greeting. A third of the calls are from people looking for AA. So she changed the message to include directing people to AA (HVAI) who need it. She said the Al-Anon calls have gone way up, and she has fewer calls back to people who were confused about AA and Al-Anon. Volume has been in Jan there was 12 calls. Of those, 1/3 were for AA and 2/3 for Al-Anon. In February there were 12 calls. Only 2 were for AA. For March, there have been 15 calls already. So calls are way up this month. Only 1 was AA.

She stated that what she needs more than volunteers to cover the phone is people to help update the status of meetings, in-person vs. Zoom vs. hybrid. There is a lot of confusion now. There was a discussion that this information should go to the District group records coordinator, which is Spencer T. He will pass it along to Kelly S. For completeness, information should go to GroupRecords@afgDistrict5.org.

**Group records update**.

There was a discussion of how the WSO will organize in-person (including hybrid) and virtual meetings. An Area is going to be created for virtual meetings, so going forward virtual meetings will not have voting rights at the District level, however their GRs are welcome to attend District 5 meetings. Electronic meetings must register with WSO so they are part of the virtual area. There was a motion to keep the New Directions electronic meeting, which split off from the Just for Today Wednesday night meeting, listed on the District 5 website. The solution was that the District records coordinator will just add a section on the PDF for electronic meetings. There was a concern expressed about COVID-driven electronic meeting becoming open to the world by listing on WSO.

Alvin noted that he is available to do tech support for meetings in the district.

**Website update**.

The website working group finished its work. Its proposal to make it sustainable passed at the last *ad hoc* meeting. We proposed to Miller Consulting LLC. Erika thought it was a good decision and she’s getting better support now.

Something happened to the liserserv. Erika is working with Jeremy of Miller Consulting LLC to create listserv for GRs and other people who come to the District meeting. She asked that people get the word out about this and to send email addresses to her.

**Miscellaneous**.

Jan A. said that there has been mail for the AIS. Kelly S. said she is the AIS and it should go to her.

The upcoming Spring Assembly is schedule for June 11 in St. Louis, MI.

The Annual State Conference will be on Zoom this year and it will be May 14th.

There was a brief discussion of preferred pronouns, but there was insufficient time to have a full discussion.