

Fall 2024 AWSC Meeting Minutes

The Fall AWSC meeting was held on Saturday, August 10, 2024, at the North Congregational UCC located at 2040 West Henderson Rd, Columbus Ohio 43220. Area 44 Chairperson Ann F welcomed everyone to the hybrid meeting at 12:30 pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Kim R (DR 28 and AA Liaison) read the Traditions and Jeff D (DR 45) read the Concepts. Carol R (Treasurer - Panel 64) read all the General Warranties of Concept 12. In attendance were 21 members representing districts 4, 6, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 28, 30, 31, 39, 45, 48, 51 within the Ohio area (Area 44) and one from Global Electronic Area (GEA).

Ann F (Chairperson – Panel 64) **sought permission to audio tape the meeting** for the purpose of recording accurate minutes in accordance with the page 89 of AI-Anon Service Manual which states “Occasionally AI-Anon/Alateen meetings are audio taped by members, but as a matter of courtesy, the person doing the taping should receive permission. AI-Anon/Alateen meetings may be taped with the following suggestions: Every member is aware and approves of the taping and Anonymity is carefully preserved”.

She also addressed the **issue of anonymity within the AI-Anon fellowship** by referencing page 100 of AI-Anon Service Manual which states, “Members use their full names within the fellowship when they wish. The degree of anonymity a member chooses (first name, pseudonym or full name) is not subject to criticism. Each member has the right to decide.” She addressed the **issue of anonymity outside of fellowship** by referencing page 101 of the Service Manual which states, “In AI-Anon/Alateen service positions (Group Representative, District Representatives, coordinators, World Service Conference members etc.), it is practical to use full names and addresses to facilitate communication.”, and page 99 which states, “On any website accessible to the public, whether an AI-Anon site or not, full names, phone numbers, or other identifying information are not posted, if they are identified as belonging to an AI-Anon/Alateen member.”

Ann F (Chairperson – Panel 64) read the Declaration of Unity found on P237 of *Many Voices One Journey* along with AWSC goals which are as follows:

- Members will understand the purpose of the AWSC, relationships with the structure and be able to articulate AWSC Decisions.
- The spiritual tone of the AWSC will prevail by the demonstration of mutual respect acceptable conduct by its members.
- Knowing that our Higher Power is present in the expression of our group conscience, AWSC members will presume goodwill.

Rose R (Delegate – Panel 64) made a motion to seat Tess C (Tech helper from the church) with voice pertaining to technical aspects of the meeting and no voice or vote pertaining to AFG of Ohio Inc. Sandra F (Past Delegate – Panel 49) seconded the motion which was approved by consensus.

Ann F reviewed the etiquette for the AWSC meeting and explained who can vote on matters (Officers, Coordinators, AIS Liaisons, District Representatives and Alternate District Representatives) during the meeting. **The following reports and motions were presented in the meeting which can be accessed in the link**

below under the year 2024 on our Ohio AI-Anon website: <https://www.ohioal-anon.org/calendar.html>

Reports and Motion Presentation:

1. **Spring 2024 AWSC Minutes:** Ann F sought for any corrections in this report. No corrections were brought up. Irene B (AAPP – Panel 64) made a motion to accept the Spring 2024 AWSC Minutes as presented and Kim R (DR 28 & AA Liaison) seconded it. The motion passed.
2. **Delegate Report:** Rose R (Delegate – Panel 64) presented the report highlighting all the events she has been part of in our area and beyond. Please find the Delegate's report below:

Fall AWSC August 10, 2024

Hello AI-Anon family! It's hard to believe that half of the year is over. Time flies by so fast these days that it's very hard to grab on the rails and stay upright!

Lots of things are going on at WSO and I'd like to share some of them with you today. Hopefully a good number of you took part in the Membership Survey that ended on July 31st. In the highlights of the World Service Conference Summary, it talks about one of the Chosen Agenda Items (CAI), "Does It Work If You Work It" and the importance of taking the Membership Survey. The dissertation presented to the Board of Trustees by Jayne Kenny, a PhD candidate, showed how the relationship between AI-Anon attendance, other recommended activities, (such as sponsorship, service, getting in touch with a Higher Power) aids to overall better mental health, happiness and well-being. These surveys are such an important aspect of getting the message of help and hope to families that seek counseling.

One of the items brought up at the end of the Conference, Delegate Participation on Conference Leadership Team (CLT) for Agenda Development has been brought up on AFG Connects and we (Delegates) were asked to take the Survey and communicate our desire to be on the Team. 14 Delegates responded; I was not one of them as I have no desire to plan the WSC agenda. Out of the 11 who responded with interest, 1 Delegate from each Panel was selected to serve on the CLT.

Revenue forecast for 2024 is \$6,198,330. Contribution forecast for 2024 is \$2,643,700. Contributions are still needed to support operations, as literature sales alone will not. The cost per group, as reported in my Spring report is \$330.09. Divided by 12 months is \$27.50 per month. It would be great if our area groups could make this goal although I realize that some groups that are hybrid and getting smaller are challenged to meet these goals. It seems that sometimes it's all about the "money". We need to remember that anytime we reach out to others and spread the message by our actions and behaviors, we attract more people to join us and therefore, will see our groups grow. From 7/1/23 to 12/31/23 Ohio donations for 56 groups were \$15,705.41. I do have the breakdown by District if you would like to see where your District stands. Keep in mind that this is a 6-month period and from last year. This year has not been available as of this report.

Other highlights in the World Service Conference Summary include Electronic Alateen Validation and Implementation Planning (EAVIP), Choosing a Group's Name and Local Services Policy Discussions. The last two were presented in my report at Spring Assembly. These were just a few things that we discussed at the Conference and the highlights of the summary only touch on a small part of the work we did. The complete Conference Summary will be on the WSO website maybe sometime in the Fall and will be available for sale.

Coming up in August, I will be serving on the Regional Committee on Trustees (RCT) for our Region. Our Region (US North Central) has 9 Delegates from Panel's 64, 63 and 62 and we will be reviewing resumes submitted by Trustee applicants.

Things have been quiet over the last few months for Delegate duties pertaining to WSO. I've had a few issues with meetings in Ohio that I've addressed as best as I can, and I've had the opportunity to get to know some members around the State through emails and phone calls.

My gratitude for your confidence in me to inform you of what's going on is overflowing and once again I must thank you all! I will continue to learn on this journey, and I will, of course, bring you all along with me!

Love in Service

Rose / Delegate Panel 64 – In
Service We Soar!

Additional information to report:

I have welcomed 3 new groups to the Ohio Area since I reported to you at Spring assembly.

1. Phoenix AFG in Columbus, Ohio – GR None/CMA Susan H.
2. One Book at a Time in Columbus, Ohio – GR None/CMA Julie G
3. Together in the Valley (Electronic Group) Warren, Ohio GR/CMA Nicole S.

I have noticed that there seems to be a number of groups in different areas that are experiencing difficulties with dominance, safety and just general overall uncomfortable situations happening in their group. I urge you to contact your GR's and to try and visit your meetings in your District. To be a guiding force for the Legacies of our program so that this message of recovery can reach the others out there that need us. If there are no Traditions being upheld in our meetings, there will be no recovery for us or help for others.

The attendees applauded the Delegate after the presentation of her report. Daisy A (Secretary – Panel 64) wondered the source of the revenue forecast in the Delegate report and Rose R answered that the revenue figures were obtained from WSO (World Service Office).

3. **Alternate Delegate Report:** Sandra F read the Alternate Delegate report verbatim on behalf of Merri G (Alternate Delegate – Panel 64) in her absence.

4. **Treasurer's YTD Report:** Carol R presented the Year-to-Date Treasurer's report. She acknowledged a couple of errors (an extra dollar sign and wrong date for one of the \$10000 CDs which was pointed out by Shelly C (2-day Fall and OAC Advisor)) in the report and promised to correct them. Sandra F wanted to know if one of the CD's (\$10000) which is maturing in October 2024 will be rolled over or split in to two CDs of \$5000 each or even smaller amounts. Carol R replied that decisions about the maturing CD will be made after discussions with the budget committee. Ann F and Theresa M (Past Delegate – Panel 58) concurred with Carol R. Rose R made a motion to accept the YTD Treasurer's report with correction. Chris E (DR 10) seconded it. The motion passed.

5. **Corrected Budget Report:** In the spirit of maintaining transparency within our area, Ann F presented the corrected Budget Report as an error was detected in the Budget Report which was submitted during the 2024 Spring Assembly.

6. **Registration Report:** Sue M (Registration Committee Chair – Panel 64) reported that there were 11 inperson members, and 7 Zoom members in attendance for the Fall 2024 AWSC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned for a short break.

7. **AAPP Report and ASBR policy Motion:** After a 10-minute break, the meeting began, and Irene B (AAPP – Area Alateen Process Person) presented her report and explained that extensive work was done with respect to Alateen Safety and Behavior Requirements (ASBR) based on WSO’s recommendations in addition to her other AAPP responsibilities.

She explained in detail all the additions and modifications to the current AMIAS (AI-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service) packet and the summary of changes is as follows:

- Updated terminology throughout to be consistent with WSO language, including Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (ASBR)
- Expand our previous AMIAS Packet to encompass all the elements needed for an ASBR
- Define and include the Annual Alateen Group Certification as part of the Area requirement to meet WSO Annual Certification (page 6)
- Define AMIAS Certification (page 6)
- Define AMIAS training (page 6)
- Define Alateen meetings including in schools or other institutions (page 7)
- Define Key roles needed to carry out the ASBR: (pages 7-8)
 - Area Alateen Coordinator (AAC)
 - Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)
 - District Representative (DR)
- Define interactions with Alateens in a meeting, outside a meeting and at Area events or multiArea Alateen events (pages 8-9)
- Developed a process to report, and resolve an allegation against an AMIAS, including an appeal process. (pages 10-13 – all new, even though not highlighted in yellow)
- Included Permission and Travel Forms as part of the ASBR (attorney agreed that WSO forms were legal for Ohio use; pages 14-17)
- Update to AMIAS Packet Checklist, including a one-time copy of applicant’s driver’s license or government ID (page 18)
- Increase the maintaining records of AMIAS Application forms and Background reports for six years (page 20)
- AMIAS Application form (pages 23-24)

Discussion followed the presentation of the ASBR packet changes. Chris E (DR 10) asked questions regarding the process to confidentially report an abuse complaint or allegation regarding an AMIAS member (page 13 of ASBR policy packet) and the ramifications of such a report. Irene B explained the flow charts found on page 13 in detail and emphasized that it is the accused AMIAS member’s responsibility to submit legal documentation if all allegations are unfounded and no charges are filed.

Kim R asked about the difference between non-abuse and abuse complaints. Irene B answered that the violation of any of the 16 items listed on page 23 of the ASBR policy packet can be considered as nonabuse complaint and the violation of the Ohio Administrative Code 5101:2-1-01 can be considered as

an abuse complaint. Kim R asked if training will be provided to the District Representatives due to the sensitive nature of the issue (Alateen Safety) and the critical role of the DRs in the matters of allegations (abuse or otherwise). Irene B answered that training will be provided. Rose R concurred with Irene B.

Karen P (DR 30) appreciated the work of ASBR task force and commented that Alateen Safety is critical but is overwhelming and brought up the fact that WSO's list of responsibilities of DR does not include the role of a DR in Alateen safety process. Irene B explained that each area decides the responsibilities of a DR. Theresa M commented that each GR and DR should pause before signing AMIAS packet for an AIAnon member who wishes to be an AMIAS.

Daisy A asked if the word on top of page 6 in the ASBR policy packet should be Register or Certify. Irene B answered that it should be Register as it pertains to the creation of a new Alateen group.

Irene B made a motion (**Motion - 2024/08 - #8**) to send the Ohio Area 44 ASBR policy packet as revised by ASBR task force and reviewed by Ohio legal counsel to the 2-day Fall Assembly for approval. Sandy F seconded the motion. The motion is passed unanimously to the 2024 Fall Assembly for approval.

8. **Handbook Committee Report:** Theresa M presented the report on behalf of Cheryl C who had to step down due to personal reasons from this position. Ann F encouraged the members to consider volunteering to be the Handbook Committee Chair.

9. **Area Alateen Coordinator Report:** Lauren B (AAC) presented the report highlighting the participation of Alateens in events such as Spring Rally and KOMIAC. She also reported that Panel 64 AAC, Lauren Bailey, and Area Delegate, Rosie Rollins, need to have their names added to the Area Alateen and KOMIAC bank account along with Gary Jokela and Sara Massey (previous AAC) need to be removed from the account.

10. **Public Outreach Coordinator Report:** Ann F presented the Ohio Area POC report on behalf of Sharon B who stepped down from the position due to personal reasons. Ann F also urged members to take it to their groups and discuss this issue. She emphasized that it is better to have someone in this role than not have anyone.

11. **Thought Force on Future Ohio Area Meetings Report and Motion:** Ann F reported that the thought force that comprises of Robin R, Theresa M, Hernan V, Heidi W, Jeanne W, Dashawn W and herself met twice and discussed the survey results from the Hybrid Spring Assembly meeting.

Ann F made a motion (**Motion 2024/08 - #9**) to continue hybrid meetings for the next two years on a trial basis to gauge the needs and wants of our members. Carol R seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously to be sent to the 2024 Fall Assembly for approval.

12. **Area Group Records Coordinator Report:** Nancy S (AGRC – Panel 64) presented the report explaining in detail her duties and future goals. She also emphasized the importance of using WSO identification number in all correspondence with her.

Theresa M pointed out that WSO ID is actually WSO Group Identification Number and Cheryl B (AIS Liaison – Youngstown) asked if the Group ids can be listed in the next report which will aid her in reaching out to the appropriate groups regarding NO CMA or Bounced Email Status. She also requested that the AGRC include Alternate DRs in her communications in addition to the DRs. Nancy S agreed to all the above requests.

The meeting was adjourned for a short break.

13. **DR 28 and AA Liaison Report:** After a 10-minute break, the meeting began, and Kim R presented her report which highlighted the upcoming 68th AA convention to be held in Independence Ohio with AI-Anon participation. She encouraged members to participate in myriad of fun events during the convention. She also reported that the Central Ohio's Intergroup website is updated, and the Intergroup meeting is held online regularly.

14. **2-Day Fall/OAC advisor Report:** Shelly C reported that the 2-day Fall Assembly will be held in Findlay on Oct 12-13 and encouraged members to book the rooms as soon as possible. She also said that the other logistics are being worked on.

15. **Archives and OAC 2025 Report:** Ann F mentioned that there is nothing new to report as per Sydney P's request (Archives Coordinator)

Ann F mentioned that Thought Force on Appointing Coordinators is on hold at present.

16. **OAC 2024 Report:** Mike B (OAC 2024 Chair) reported that overall things are going well and that 100 members have signed up in advance for the event. He thanked various members for the successful planning of the event and mentioned that a fundraiser that was held earlier this year brought revenue of \$1400 and they were in good shape regarding finances. He also acknowledged that the planning committee must work through a couple of last-minute glitches and encouraged everyone to attend the OAC which will be held in Cincinnati from August 16 -18, 2024. Kim R asked if the program line-up could be explained, and Mike B complied. Daisy A sent out the program schedule to all the AWSC members immediately after the meeting.

17. **DR 10 Report:** Chris E (DR 10) presented the report and shared that she is encouraging members to consider open service positions.

18. **DR 30 Report:** Karen P (DR 30) presented the report and shared her experience of stepping in to this position.

19. **Motion-Belle Valley AFG (Motion 2024/08 - #10):** Ann F presented a motion to move a group from the Ohio Area to West Virginia as per the group's request. Irene B seconded it. The motion passed to 2024 Fall Assembly for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ann F said discussion regarding General Insurance policy for the AFG of Ohio Inc will be discussed in the upcoming officer's meeting.
- Kim R asked if there was any movement in hiring a new web consultant. Cecelia informed that she is working on a strategy to seek a consultant for Ohio Area AI-anon website. She also requested the current Web Master's duties which will aid her in coming up with this strategy. Ann F promised to send it out to Cecelia and other interested members.
- Ann F encouraged members to consider the open positions – POC, Handbook Committee Chair, and Web Coordinator.
- Theresa M encouraged new members to be part of the Handbook Committee. Cheryl B (AIS – Youngstown) volunteered to be Handbook Committee Chair.

Rose R made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Irene B seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 pm with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Dates to Remember

- August 16 -18, 2024: OAC Cincinnati, Ohio
- August 23 – 25, 2024: AA Convention, Independence Ohio
- October 12 – 13, 2024: 2- Day Fall Assembly, Findlay Ohio

Respectfully Submitted,

Daisy A

Area Secretary – Panel 64

The minutes of this meeting were distributed via the Ohio Area website, due notice being sent to every registered group on: _____

The minutes of this meeting were then presented for approval on: _____