

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA)

November 2, 2019

Victoria, TX

Opening: Lynn S. opened the meeting at 9:20 am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. She welcomed attendees and thanked Susan J. and District 3 for hosting the Assembly. Lynn announced two changes in the Business Meeting Agenda. Due to an injury, Cindy K, the South Central Regional Trustee, who was scheduled to be a speaker, was not able to attend. As approved by the Area World Service Committee (AWSC), Saturday evening's agenda was changed to include a workshop on abundant funds, and the Sunday morning workshop was changed to a panel discussion about safety in Al-Anon meetings.

Delegate's Report: Kay C. shared that the slogan for Panel 58, of which she is a member, is "58 So We Participate." She explained some of her responsibilities as Delegate and that she is a member of a Task Force that arose from the World Service Conference (WSC) that addresses the issue of Al-Anon in rural and large population areas.

Kay mentioned that the 2019 World Service Office (WSO) Financial Report is on the WSO members' website under the Board section. Contributions to WSO are down. Ways to support the WSO include individual, group, District, and Area contributions and donating to the quarterly appeal that is sent to each group.

There were mistakes in the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*. Version 2 will be available online on the WSO members' website on November 22, 2019. The printed version will be ready by January 31, 2020.

The 2020 WSC will be held from April 19-24, 2020 at the Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The theme is "Dreaming Big with 2020 Vision." Kay asked the Group Representatives (GRs) to submit topics to her for Chosen Agenda Items by January, 2020. She will submit topics at the April 2020 WSC. In order to assist groups with submitting topics, Kay has a spreadsheet of Chosen Agenda Item topics, and she mentioned that she also has past topics.

There is a Chairman of the Board letter arriving soon. District Representatives (DRs) can send these to GRs, and it will show the status of the WSO.

Kay announced two upcoming events. The Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) International Convention in July, 2020, in Detroit, Michigan, will have Al-Anon participation. The Al-Anon/Alateen International Convention with AA participation will be in July, 2023 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Knowledge Based Decision Making Agenda (KBDM) Items: Before presenting items for discussion, Lynn S. asked Myrthala C., the Area Spanish Coordinator to read the Twelve Concepts of Service in Spanish. Lynn introduced the Area Coordinators and briefly explained each of their roles.

Today's KBDM items were published on page 9 of *The Beacon* (Vol. 51, Issue 4). They include translation equipment, the Bowie County transfer, and the proposed 2020 Budget.

Regarding the translation equipment, Myrthala C. discussed the need for Spanish translation equipment at Assemblies. She contacted the American Language Service. Their equipment would cost \$875 to rent and \$8050 to purchase. Her recommendation was to rent the Spanish translation equipment for a three year trial period.

Kay C. explained the Bowie County transfer process to Arkansas. To release Bowie County WSO needs a record of past and current motions from Arkansas and from Texas East. Arkansas is willing to receive Bowie County. Texas East will have to vote to release Bowie County and Arkansas has already voted to accept Bowie County.

Jennifer S. explained the difference between the 2019 Financial Report and the proposed 2020 Budget. Regarding the proposed 2020 Budget, she explained the expense for the past Area Chairpersons' attendance at the South Central Regional Delegates' Meeting (SCRDM), the reduced Delegate's equalized expense for attending the 2020 WSC, the removal of the leadership conference expense, and the one-time motion for active Past Delegates to attend the SCRDM in 2019.

Area Coordinators – Hot Topics:

Coordinator reports were given by Jayne G. (Area Alateen), Brenda H. (Area Alateen Process Person), Patti W. (Area Archives), Al M. (Area Group Records), Rene D. (Area Newsletter), Lynn B. (Public Outreach). Reports from Coordinators are on file.

Meeting broke for lunch at 12 pm.

Business Meeting resumed at 1:03 pm.

Roll Call: 105 voting GRs were present and broken down by District as follows: D1 (9), D2 (10), D3 (9), D4 (7), D5 (16), D6 (20), D7 (9), D8 (8), D9 (3), D10 (3), D12 (16), D13 (1).

Voting Procedure: It was determined that voting by 2/3 would be 70 voting GRs and that a majority would be 53 voting GRs. The 2020 Budget required a 2/3 voting method, and GRs decided to use a simple majority for all other votes. It was decided that all votes would be cast by ballot.

Approval of May 4, 2019 ETAAA Business Meeting minutes printed in *The Beacon* (Vol. 51, Issue 3): Lynn S. called for corrections to the minutes for the Business Meeting held at the May 4, 2019 Assembly in McAllen, Texas, as printed in *The Beacon* (Vol. 51, Issue 3). No corrections were made. The minutes were accepted as printed in *The Beacon*.

Financial Report: Jennifer S. reported that the Area checking account balance to date for 2019 was \$35,990, and the Certificate of Deposit (CD) was \$20,028. \$3500 seed money was given to District 5 for hosting the May, 2020 Assembly.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business:

1. Translation equipment – In *The Beacon* (Vol. 51, Issue 4) on p. 9 a proposal was made by the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) at the August 24, 2019 AWSC meeting in Schertz, Texas. The AWSC recommended that Spanish translation be required at Area Assemblies for a three year trial period. The method of translation would be determined by the Host District. A motion was made by a GR and is listed below.

2. Bowie County transfer – Kay C. submitted a detailed report in *The Beacon* (Vol. 51, Issue 4), p. 9 regarding the transfer of all Al-Anon/Alateen meetings in Bowie County, which is currently in Texas East, to Arkansas. The motion made by a GR is listed below.

3. Proposed 2020 Budget – There were amendments to the 2020 Budget made and a final vote was made on the proposed 2020 Budget. The motions are listed below.

#1 I, Heather N., motion that for a trial period of three years, the Area will commit to have Spanish translation available at Area Assemblies. The Host District will be responsible for providing equipment and method of translation.

Passed: 66 For, 28 Against, and 9 Abstaining.

#2 I, Natanya A., move that Texas East releases all current and future Al-Anon and Alateen groups in Bowie County to the Arkansas Area.

Passed with a majority vote.

#3 I, Kelly H. from District 2 Padre Island AFG, make a motion to amend the budget for 2020 to increase the budget line for the South Central Regional Delegates' Meeting from \$1000 to \$4000 for active Past Delegates.

Passed: 86 For, 7 Against, and 2 abstaining.

#4 I, Diane B., move that we approve the 2020 budget as amended.

Passed unanimously.

Links of Service Reports:

District Representatives (DRs): The following DRs gave reports: Mandy T. (D1); Ginny M. (D2); Susan J. (D3); Carol B. (D4); Heather N. (D5); Judy W. (D6); Allyn D. (D7); Candy G., Alternate DR (D8); Pat R., Alternate DR (D9); Sheila E. (D10); Candy N. (D12); Sarah W. (D13). Reports are on file.

Al-Anon Information Service Liaisons (AISLs): The following AISLs gave reports: Suzanne R. (Beaumont), Kathy J. (Austin), Rene D. (San Antonio), Gretchen V. (Houston). The South Texas AIS closed. Reports are on file.

Gratitude Basket Total – Jennifer S. reported that the gratitude basket total was \$621.

Announcements:

1. The ETAAA Spring Assembly will be held in Spring, Texas on May 15-17, 2020. There will be a box lunch provided and a dinner buffet. The theme of the Assembly is “F. L. Y. – First Love Yourself.” Flyers are available.
2. The ETAAA Fall Assembly will be held in Spring, Texas on November 6-8, 2020. The theme will be “20/20 Vision: Focusing on Recovery.” A save the date flyer is available.
3. Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything (P.O.S.S.E.) will be held March 27-29, 2020 in Gonzales, Texas.
4. All Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Conference (ATAAC) will be held February 7-9, 2020 in Houston, Texas. Flyers are available. Paula H. announced that her position as the Austin ATAAC board member would be over in 2021 and that someone from the Austin area was needed as a board member in 2022. The position is for three years. The 2022 board member would need to be willing to chair ATAAC in 2023 and 2024 in Austin, Texas.

Deadline for submitting reports to *The Beacon* – January 1, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration in English and Spanish.

Paula H.

Area Secretary