

Fellowship Communication Action Committee Meeting Notes (v. 2) Spring Assembly 2007 (March 24, 2007), AI-Anon Area 5

Attendance: 20 (see Members List)

Chairperson: Kathy S.

Newly elected Chairperson: Chris N.

Alternate Chairperson: Karen W.

Secretary: Ann F.

- * Began with Serenity Prayer
- * Reviewed mission statement and agenda.
- * Approved previous minutes from last assembly.
 - Rick moved
 - John second
 - 4 abstentions

- * The following handouts were distributed:
 - Summary of Perceived Issues and Suggested Solutions (results from our 7/15/06 communication survey)
 - For Audio Lit: two reviews of the newly published Courage to Change CDROM
 - For Tip Sheets: a summary of possible topics, based on the AC's analysis of the 2006 Communication Survey.
 - Copies of the On-line Resources Tip Sheet and the Electronic Communication Protocol, which were written by the AC.

- * Discussed that Action Committees (ACs) were a pilot project and the future will be discussed later in the assembly.
- * Kathy briefly explained the purpose and some of the accomplishments of this AC.

- * Major action items came out of a survey conducted at the March 2006 Assembly. The Survey Subcommittee tallied and summarized the communication problems that needed the most action, per the members' responses.
 - * Those were as follows:
 - Low Awareness of Area and WSO resources.
 - Inappropriate use of electronic communication.
 - Area information (meetings, events, contacts, Butterfly) is out of date and inaccurate
- * These issues have all been addressed by our committee, and are continuing to be worked on.

- * At our Summer 2006 meeting, the action committee decided that our members will serve on two sub committees. One is to support our Coordinators (Butterfly, Literature, and Tape Library), and the other is an "ad-hoc" subcommittee, which change based on current needs.

Topics and details from the subcommittee meetings:

STANDING SUBCOMITEES

Butterfly – coordinator Karen W.

GOALS

- * Include a page for Spanish and a page for Alateen
- * Post the Butterfly on the Colorado Al-Anon website
- * Include more reports

Other information:

- Karen said that in California the Butterfly is on the web.
- She needs help from Spanish Committee to proof and read the Spanish content.
- In answer to a question about who gets the Butterfly, Karen explained that it automatically goes to all coordinators, officers and GRs. Others can subscribe for \$5. The Butterfly is produced and mailed three times a year, to arrive about a month before each assembly.

Notes from the Butterfly breakout session

- Attendees: Karen, JC, John, Pat and Roxanne
- Needs a computer software program, wants to develop a more permanent format.
- Publish only major flyers. Want more local reports, more like a newspaper.

Recommendations:

- Get an “in design” computer program, but it is expensive.
- Will try a “want ad” section in Butterfly for needs.

Literature – coordinator Shirley N.

GOALS

- * She needs help with the inventory of literature.
- * She needs help with the literature board assembly (the way the boards are made so they hold the brochures better).

Other information:

- Shirley indicated that she is required to go to three Assemblies, one State Convention, and one Weekend in Al-Anon. If other groups or meetings want her to come, they need to pay her travel and meal expenses.
- Her car is not entirely reliable, so she may not always be able to make longer trips.
- Susie (former treasurer) indicated that Shirley will need to apply for a sales tax license for each area in which she will sell literature; Marigay can help with that.

Notes from the Literature breakout session

- Attendees: Shirley, Elizabeth, Jerel, Jim, Dawn, Keith, Kathy B., Dennis
- Prices for literature are not current and need to be updated.
- Shirley will speak with Website Coordinator to find out how to update the Literature page.
- Dawn volunteered to update the page after the information is received.
- Shirley will ask for volunteers when she is ready to do an inventory.

Tape Library – coordinator Chris N.

GOALS

- * Expand the tape library.
- * Take the tape library digital, since tapes don't last forever.
- * Add tape library costs back into the budget, as it seems to have disappeared from it.

Other information:

- Chris asked that members contact him if they have tapes or know of other sources for recorded Al-Anon material so he can begin building the tape library.

Notes from the Tape Library breakout session

- Attendees: Chris, Ann, Carol, Rick, Barbara, Kathy S.
- The tapes have not yet been retrieved from the previous coordinator, but there are 300+ tapes in the library.
- Chris wants to get the word out to members about the availability of the tape library.
- Kathy and Carol volunteered to listen to tapes and provide a short summary as a reference to members when they are requesting tapes.

AD-HOC SUBCOMITEES

Tip Sheets (including Electronic Communications Protocol) – temporary coordinator Rick

- Attendees: Rick, Chris, Karen, John, Kathy B., Shirley, Elizabeth.
(Rick, as the new Records Coordinator, will be moving to Group Services, so if the AC decides to carry this subcommittee forward, a new coordinator will have to be named.)
- Rick handed out a list of possible topics for future tip sheets for this subcommittee to consider. The list was developed by the AC last year as an outgrowth of the 2006 survey. (See survey results at <http://www.al-anon-co.org/members/action-fellowship.html>.)
 - One tip sheet has been authored – On-Line Resources.
 - The Electronic Communications Protocol (ECP) could be considered another tip sheet.
- The ECP was scheduled to be approved during the Assembly (but, later, during the Assembly, the chair announced that this wasn't needed).
- Major concern: Who will assume maintenance of such work products (or other AC products not specifically tied to one of the area Coordinators)?

Recorded CAL – coordinator Dennis

- Attendees: Dennis, JC, Barbara, Dawn, Pat.
- Dennis was elected as Chair of this Subcommittee.
- JC gave a history on how recording got started. They have finished recording Paths to Recovery, alternating voices to improve presentation.
- The editing process has slowed down, but they could have a demo for WSO by July. WSO evaluating a professional recording.
- The member survey on recorded CAL needs to be completed. (Background: Dan wrote a letter to WSO, who responded that they would like to know if

members are interested in audio recordings of CAL—and which books, and how much they would be willing to pay for it.)

Survey – coordinator ?

- Attendees: Jim, Jerol, Roxanne, Kathy S., Ann, Carol
- In reference to the survey results (see link above), we discussed tackling the solution suggestion that was recommended more than any other: provide materials for groups to hold meetings on service and unity.
- Roxanne provided a copy of the handout that her district is offering to its groups. Kathy will type that up and talk with the Website Coordinator about where we can post this type of support material for groups.

CLOSING

* Kathy reconvened the group, and new officers were elected. (See top of page.)

* The meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Note: Visit the link provided above for copies of minutes from this action committee since the Winter 2004 assembly.