

AWSC
Yogo Inn, Lewistown, MT
Saturday September 19, 2015

Cindy C. opened the Fall AWSC meeting with the Serenity Prayer. The Al-Anon Steps, Traditions, Concepts, and Warranties were read.

Announcements and Introductions were made.

New GR and DR Training will be held Sunday morning at 8:00 am.

Based Decision – Making : Open communication between leadership and membership : Dialogue before deliberation including the minority opinion is part of the process : All decision makers will have common access to full information : We have confidence in the competency of our partners, “Presume Goodwill” : Frame and Summarize Discussions : Create a Culture of Trust : Use Knowledge-Based Questions to gather information prior to and during the discussion : Understand that not every discussion leads to a motion or a decision : Take the time it takes to fully discuss an issue.

Old Business:

- Conference Call Minutes – The minutes were approved as corrected.
- AWSC Spring Assembly Minutes 2015 – Bev O. made a motion to approve the minutes, Chris K. seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.
- Pennie K. gave a brief rundown on the Treasurer’s report, and Scholarship donations for the Spring Assembly, but will give a full report at Assembly because Connie W. and Pennie K. did a full committee review.

Committee Updates:

- Guideline Committee – Elaine D. gave an update to the on the Guideline Committee. She had received several updates on the area coordinator positions. The committee would be a good thing for the Alternate Delegate to take care of since there isn’t much for them to do.
- Area Speaker Meeting Thought Force – Carole D. gave an update that there will be a speaker meeting at the Spring Assembly. They have some speaker names. It will be at the same place as last spring, the Range Riders Museum.
- TEAM Event Committee – Frances M. gave an update and stated that she needed to get a new list of members for the committee. She gathered names and gave to me after the Assembly. Frances M., Patty K., Lori K., Norma A., Shannon S., Michael B., and Connie W. are on the committee.

- 501(C)3 – Connie W. gave an update.

Scholarships – 501 (c) (3) Report
September 19, 2015

The process to become a non-profit entity with 501 (c) (3) is complete.

Here a listing of the number of things that have happened over the last year:

- We received the Employee Identification number (EIN) in 2014. We needed to change the EIN due to our name change to Montana AFG, Inc.
- We registered with the Secretary of State of Montana and are now registered as a business entity.
- We received notice from the Montana State Department of Revenue requesting information that they need before we are granted tax exempt status, which was done in 2015. With this info, we received documentation that we had filed the Articles of Incorporation and had fulfilled the requirements set forth in law, with the effective date of, September 24, 2014.
- Brand Boyer, an attorney who specializes in non –profit companies, gave us counsel and guidance on a pro-bono status. Our costs to him were \$69.00 and the \$450.00 that it cost to submit the short form for the 501 (c) (3) to the IRS.
- The By-Laws which were framed using the IRS guidelines were signed and filed with the IRS.
- On May 15, 2015, we received the letter from the IRS stating that we are exempt from federal income tax and the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501 (c) (3). We are classified as a public charity.
- We were required to file Form 990-N, which was done and accepted 6/25/2015.
- The Business Entity Annual Report was filed with the Secretary of State office 4/8/2015.

Going forward:

- We will NOT be filing Federal and State income tax unless we have savings account interest in excess of \$1000 for the tax year according to the Montana Secretary of State office.
- We will be filing a yearly Annual Report with the Department of State, stating our Directors, mailing address, etc. between January 1 and April 15 each year.
- We will be filing a Form 990-N for the IRS. The annual information return is due by the 15th day of the fifth month after December 31.
- We need to develop procedures to acknowledge any contributions by an individual.
- The treasurer will be tracking income and budget as we do currently.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.
Connie W.

Pam C. will put the MT AFG Board members on the back of the Area Directory.

New Business:

- Pre-registration for Assembly's - would help with speaker meeting, as well as room count for spring assembly – Carole D. wanted to put on the floor to pre-register and pre-pay for Speaker Meeting and dinner. We would have to run it like a Round-up which was the vision of Pennie K.

Will bring this to the Assembly and have a further discussion at the Assembly and form a task force at that time.

- Pennie K. has some suggestions for changing the forms for Alateen sponsors. The new form has a DOB, Address, Home Group, and District. Pennie K. was given approval to make the corrections and updates.
- Registration expenses for Volunteer positions – It was discussed and it was decided that the area could not afford at this time to pay for anymore registration fees without more donations from groups.
- Room Cost for Friday night for future Fall Assembly's – Discussion was had and it was decided to leave the block set for Friday nights at the Fall Assembly.
- Updates to Archivist Position – Al-Anon Area Archives (with exceptions as noted below) are in McDunn Storage Facility, Unit #48, 3500 Bootlegger Trail, Great Falls, MT 59404. Phone Number is 406-771-0402.

Several Boxes of materials and display materials are with Sue P., 214-693-2247 mobile, 406-560-7936 home.

2 boxes of tapes and CD's are with Frances M. 406-381-8483

AA District 41 in Great Falls has rented the storage and is charging Al-Anon \$10.00 a month for use. Storage fee has been paid to AA through November 2015. AA contacts are Grant M., 370-5250 or Lloyd T., 836-2919.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanne H., Former Area Archivist

A motion C215 – Area will take responsibility for MT AFG Archives storage and cost of storage if necessary.

Submitted by Kelly P. Seconded by Lori K.

- Liability issues – Insurance – Would like input from groups on Liability Insurance. Page 59 of the Service Manual was brought up in response to question on the floor. It was decided to take it to the Assembly for awareness.

A vote count was taken, 20 voting members. A vote was then taken on Motion C215 – For 20, Against 0, Abstain 0. Motion C215 will be brought to the Area Assembly.

The meeting was closed with the Al-Anon declaration and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam C.
MT AFG Secretary