

AWSC
Sleep Inn, Miles City, MT
Friday, April 10, 2015

Elaine D. opened the Spring AWSC meeting with the Serenity Prayer. The Al-Anon Steps, Traditions, Concepts, and Warranties were read.

Announcements and Introductions were made.

Old Business:

- Review of Fall 2014 minutes from Pam C. A vote was taken to approve the minutes as corrected by Elaine D. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as corrected.
- A treasurer's report was given by Elaine D as Sharon M. was not able to make the AWSC Meeting or the Area Assembly.

Checking Account Balance	\$2,781.06
Savings Account Balance	\$3,014.76

A vote was taken to accept the Treasurer's Report. The report was approved as corrected unanimously.

- Connie W. gave an update on the 501(c)(3) as follows:

A number of things have happened over the last year,

- We received the Employee Identification number
- 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.
- We have an attorney in Helena, Brand Boyer, whose specialty is working with non-profit organizations.
- Brand is giving us counsel and guidance on a pro-bono status. When we file with the IRS, hopefully using the short form, there will be a fee for his time.
- I have handed out the By-Laws as they have been framed using the IRS guidelines. These have not been signed, however, they are ready to be signed. At that time, we will be able to file with the IRS.
- Once we have been given approval by the IRS, we will file information with the Montana Department of Revenue.

I have sent out by email, the history of this process. Please note that we have voted and agreed to go forward with this process, there has not been a motion to do so. For my comfort and the

procedures of the Montana Area, I am requesting that we have a motion to go forward with this process.

Our Assembly did review and approval By-Laws regarding this process. Due to the requirements and complexity of the IRS, these By-Laws are not what we will be giving to the IRS. However, there is a huge amount of information in this document that can be used as our policy statement.

I would like a committee to continue to work on the details of the process we need to follow in our Area and be able to have a report for you at the Fall Assembly.

At this time, I understand that we will be doing the following:

- We will be filing Federal and State income tax for the tax year of 2015.
- We may need to continue to give information to the Department of Revenue (probably not)
- We will be filing a yearly Annual Report with the Department of State, stating our Directors, mailing address, etc.
- We need to develop procedures to acknowledge any contributions by an individual.
- The treasurer will be tracking income, budget as we do now, however, more detail may be required since we have the non-profit status.
- And I am sure more will be revealed.

Connie W. wrote Motion C214 – Continue the process of applying for non-profit status to completion.

- AWSC Meetings in between Assemblies – Some suggestions and comments about the conference calls between Assemblies were to use the mute buttons, too easily distracted, have centralized meeting, more communication about meeting, try using “Go To Meeting”. Discussion was had about what to put on the Agenda for the AWSC Meeting and having an added meeting would add expenses to the budget.

It was decided to take it to the floor for a task force.

- Scholarships – Get all scholarship money to Pennie K. and she will distribute for the members that needed assistance.

Committee Updates:

- Guidelines Committee – Elaine D. said all new updates will be electronically. Elaine D. will email anyone who would like a copy of the Montana AFG Guidelines.
- Area Speaker Meeting – (Pennie K., Elaine D., Carole D., Irene S., Judy, Lori K.) Not a task force anymore, there is a speaker meeting after the Area Assembly. 40 people were signed up for the speaker meeting and dinner. Dinner is at 5:30pm.
- TEAM Event Task Force – (Carole D., Frances M., Brett H., Patty, Norma, Cindy C., Lori K.) The TEAM Event Task Force is still working on it. The task force has emailed a couple of times, but has not come up with anything yet. This update was given by Brett H.

- Thought Force for getting DR's and GR's involved at Area level – (Sue P., Irene S., Sue T., Carole D., Cindy C.) This was decided previously to let this go.

New Business:

- Time Frame of Fall Assembly, there was a request that we adjourn Saturday's meeting earlier and come back later or come back later on Sunday am. Carol D. has the background for this discussion – Carole D. stated some of the attendees would like to go to church on Saturday evening or Sunday morning during the Assembly.

After discussion it was decided to leave it as is.

- Fall Assembly, Voting Assembly, Resumes have been distributed; discussion on how process should look in the fall – Form to write down your history in Al-Anon to stand for a position. Elaine D. explained the process for elections coming up in the Fall Assembly. Read the job description for the position when you are interested in standing for.
- Who can change information on Area website? – The only ones that can change the information on the website are Irene S. or Brett H. It is not possible for just anyone to change the information on the website.
- Developing a Montana AFG Facebook was discussed. A task force was started to check into a Facebook page. Carol S. and Katy K. volunteered for the task force and more will be picked up at the Assembly.
- After we get out non-profit status, there is a place on the internet we can use called interoccupy.net that is free to non-profit groups.
- Motion C214 - "Continue the process of applying for non-profit status to completion," was presented to the AWSC for vote. A vote was taken to take Motion C214 to the Assembly. The vote passed unanimously.

There were 26 in attendance.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam C.
MT AFG Secretary

