# Al-Anon Area 63 Business Meeting Minutes

Saturday, May 17, 2025 by Zoom

AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE			
Area Officers and Coordinators following the Fall 2024 Assembly:  pink = F22-25 blue = F23-26 green = F24-27 italics = elected mid-term			
pink = F22-25 blue = I	F23-26 green = F24	1-27 italics = elected Term Begin	mid-term Term End
Delegate (present)	Mari J.	2022 Fall	2025 Fall
Alt Delegate (present)	Carol	2023 Spring	2025 Fall
Area Chair (present)	Colleen	2023 <i>Spring</i>	2025 Fall
Outreach Coordinator (present)	AJ	2024 Fall	2025 Fall
Literature Coordinator (present)	Carol	2024 Fall	2025 Fall
Archive Coordinator (present)	Lois	2022 Fall	2025 Fall
Area Treasurer (report emailed)	Tamiah	2024 Fall	2026 Fall
Group Records (report emailed) Telecomm/Zoom Coordinator	Denise	2023 Fall	2026 Fall
(present)	Tiana	2023 Fall	2026 Fall
(present)	Tiaria	2020 1 411	2024 Fall:
Alateen Coordinator (present)	Stacie	2022 Fall	HOLDOVER
Alateen Process (present)	Terry	2024 Fall	2027 Fall
Area Secretary (Liesel)	Branwyn	2024 Fall	2027 Fall
Website Coordinator (present)	Susie	2024 Fall	2027 Fall
District Reps			
Dist 1 (Interior)			
Dist 2 (Mat-Su Valley)			
Dist 3 (Anchorage vicinity)			
Dist 4			
Dist 5 (Kenai)			
Dist 6 (Yakutat & Southeast)			
Past Delegates in Attendance			
Liesel, Panel 54; Linette, Panel 60; Terry, Panel 57			

# 8:30 AM: pre-meeting fellowship

# 9:00 AM — BUSINESS MEETING

- Serenity Prayer
   Readings
- - 1. Steps
  - 2. Traditions
  - 3. Concepts

- 3. **Zoom introduction** overview of Zoom etiquette (Tiana)
- 4. **Area Chair Welcome** Guidance on Area Assembly and Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KBDM) (Colleen)
- 5. **Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2022-2025** (free on-line) <a href="https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/">https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/</a>.
- 6. Area World Service Committee (AWSC), GRs & other attendees Introductions
  - 1. AWSC.
  - 2. GRs.
  - 3. Others in attendance.
- 7. Volunteer Spiritual Timekeeper

#### **GR ATTENDANCE/GROUP REPORTS**

- GROUP NAME:
- 2. GROUP REP NAME and group email if there has been a recent change
- 3. MEETING METHOD in-person, hybrid, Zoom-only, phone-only
- 4. MEETING SIZE small, medium, large
- 5. 7th TRADITION how does your group contribute?
- 6. WHAT IS ONE THING YOU SP ABOUT YOUR MEETING???
- Lindsey, Glacier Group, Anchorage M & W at 6:30. 2. Branwyn, with Lindsay attending Assembly. 3. In person only. 4. About 20 regular attendees but can range between 15-25. Newcomers regularly attend and come back. 5. Basket & Venmo contributions. After Fall Assembly, approved to start contributing to District, Area, and WSO. 6. Love the friendships and support but the welcoming of the newcomers and how welcome they say they feel when they come back
- Heather, Alanon Northern Lights, Wasilla Small to medium, tues thurs, contribute.
- Mike S, Tuesday Noon, Serenity, Juneau
   Hybrid, 10-15, contribute twice a year to area, district, wso Safety, sharing, honesty
- Lois, Stepping Stones Monday and Wednesdays 5:50-6:30, in person and via phone. 4:~5-11 attending 5: 7th tradition, done quarterly, after rent and reserve the balance is split between World, Area, and District 6: Favorite thing: Safe place to share without judgements
- Liesel, Easy Does It
   5-10, hybrid, strong membership, contribute to WSO, District, and Area
- Stacie, Shoulder to Shoulder, Tuesday night, alt 7th tradition, Alateen, large in person meeting, AA at the same time.

- Carol T, Learning to Laugh, Palmer Monday nights, alternates between hybrid and zoom only; small meeting; we contribute to WSO I need to start suggesting donations to Area; I love the deep friendships made in the group and the support we give to each other.
- AJ, Sitka Thursday Noon. Zoom-only. Small 4-8 5. Most meetings, we announce our practice of the 7th tradition, name our treasurer, that we accept donations to them by mail, then announce her mailing address and post it in the chat. We ask that any checks be made out to our treasurer's name. All donations are held until critical mass, when we distribute or spend on a group project. We give to all levels above us. We have some very strong programs in attendance, and those deep sharings lead to new perspectives.
- Tiana, Foxhall. 12-16 people. Alanon how it works., diversity. CAL.
   Meets twice a week Wednesday and Friday at 7pm @ Palmer Family Church on Hemmer Rd. Attendance ranges from 12-18 on Wednesday to around 8 on Friday, with a wide demographic. Alateen meets in person alongside us on the first Wednesday of each month.
- Amy One Saturday at a Time. Zoom online meeting
   One Saturday At A Time
   GR: Amy L
   Meet over Zoom only
   Medium (10-15 attendees)
   Still need to do splits but it is in the works!
- I love the fact that we get people from all over the world!
- Grace for Today. Grace for Today is still meeting. Sandy sends report through
  me. 4-6 people and they are on Zoom only and don't want to go back to Face to
  Face
- **Brown Bag**. Denise R. Small, core group of 5-7, still phone mtg. Constant stream of newcomers. A few stay, most move in to other meeting, hopefully. Not enough people to offer a physical location as a mtg place.

#### 9:30 AM —

- 1. Quorum Check (As of Fall 2023, a quorum shall be 50% + 1 of all Al-Anon groups in Alaska, as determined by the Group Records coordinator, *or* at least 10 GRs present, whichever number is lower)
  - 1. 10 GRs present

Liesel, Easy Does it Lindsey, Glacier group Heather, Alanon Northern Lights, Wasilla Mike S, Tuesday Noon, Juneau Lois, Stepping Stones Stacie, Shoulder to Shoulder Carol, Learning to Laugh, Palmer AJ, Sitka Tiana, Foxhall Amy, One Saturday at a Time, online meeting

- 2. **Approval of Fall 2024 minutes** Mike motion to approve minutes. Approval delayed to later in the day. *Note: Approved after existing Old & New Business*.
- 3. Request for new business Items added

#### **DELEGATE'S REPORT**

1. 45 Minutes, see separate attachment 2025 Spring Delegate WSC PP Notes PDF

#### AREA COORDINATORS' REPORTS

- 1. Outreach Committee: AJ, see separate attachment *PO Spring Assembly Report* 2025 PDF
- 2. Literature Coord.: Carol.

There has been no demand for me to order literature for anyone, so very little actions on my part.

Info most recently from WSO on literature:

There are two pieces of literature in development. There is no set date for completion of those pieces - when they get enough contributions to the literature they will be able to finish it. The two pieces are: "Finances in Recovery"; and "Sponsorship / Service Sponsorship". Anyone interested in contributing writing can find the guidelines from WSO at this address: <a href="https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/literature-resources/send-your-sharing/">https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/literature-resources/send-your-sharing/</a>

And of course "The Forum" always needs contributions.

- 3. Archive Coord.: Lois. Three tubs of binders. 1981-2020. Memorabilia. Meeting, archives.
- Group Records Coord.: Denise R. (by email) gained a meeting in Bethel. Lost a mtg in Fairbanks.
- 5. Teleconference Coord.: Tiana. All the equipment is available.
- 6. Alateen Coordinator: Stacie.

Alaska is currently still holding 2 Alateen meetings, the weekly Anchorage Tuesday Night Alateen meeting and the Palmer Alateen meeting which meets the 1st Wednesday of the month. We're excited to share that we've had 4 new

Al-Anon members join our Anchorage AMIAS team in recent months. We're still in need of additional Al-Anon members to support our valley Alateens, as we are down to 1 AMIAS serving the valley meeting with current support being given via phone by other certified AMIAS.

We've recently been increasing our Outreach and plan to continue that effort in coming months in an attempt to get the word out about the help and support available to teens affected by the family disease of Alcoholism. We hope to continue growing the attendance at our meetings so the teens can benefit from the WE of their program. To this effort, Alateen participated in the Spring Fling, where I gave a short presentation on Alateen and brought outreach materials to add to the Al-Anon outreach and literature table at the event.

Lastly, we held our quarterly meeting this past week and, like you heard from Mari, she gave us a detailed update about the e-meeting structure for online Alateen meetings the WSO is working to develop and we're looking forward to seeing that become more widely available resource for Alateens in our state.

### 7. Alateen Process Person (AAPP): Terry.

Our Area has 12 AMIAS, 11 are recertified. I expect to have the last one recertified in the next week. We have two Alateen Groups. Tuesday night at 7pm is weekly and the Wednesday 7pm meeting in Wasilla is monthly and only meets the first Wednesday of the month.

Any Alateen can attend an Alateen meeting in the Al-Anon App. This is a pilot project. There are six Alateen groups in the mobile app. It's available through a phone or tablet only. The two groups in time zones close to Alaska are Washington and Montana. These meetings are open to Alateen Newcomers. An AMIAS can walk teens through downloading the app. They do not need an AMIAS to sign them up for a meeting or attend with them.

#### Website Coordinator: Susie.

John S of HonorCoding and I have taken the time to visit all the Al-Anon websites in the US, and we've adopted a number of updates and improvements to make the Alaska Area 63 Al-Anon website more friendly and usable to both newcomers and existing members.

- The background photo on our main page has been changed to an image of the Northern Lights, as it was requested recently that our homepage be given a more Alaskan feel.
- We've changed the name of the "Alaska Al-Anon" menu to "Welcome".
   That menu now includes a link to the AFG YouTube Channel, which has a number of sharings from members, PSAs, stories and videos. The "Literature" submenu now offers links to the current edition of The Forum, as well as to the AFG online bookstore.

- We've changed the name of the "Resources" menu to "Members". That
  menu now contains a link to the current Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual
  on the AFG website. Clicking on that link will always take someone to the
  most recent edition of the Service Manual.
- Our listing of current Area Officers and Coordinators, their terms of service and their email addresses is now also accessible under the "Contact" menu in addition to the renamed "Members" menu. Those email addresses are now hyperlinks, meaning someone can just click on them to send an email, rather than copying down an address and retyping it into an email. I hope in the future we can have standardized email addresses for all our service positions so these addresses can remain static and not have to change every time a new Trusted Servant is elected.

John and I are in the process of making an additional section to our website for Area 63 members. This new section will be under the "Members" heading, and it will be a place where both current and potential Al-Anon members can familiarize themselves with our Area, what we do and how we go about doing it. There would be access to our Area Policies and Procedures document, the Policy and Procedures for Removal of Trusted Servants document, and a to-be-created/ approved document outlining just what KMBD is, among other informational resources as they are created/finalized/approved. Our to-be-approved Service Position descriptions document would also be available there for review by anyone contemplating standing for an Area 63 service position. We also anticipate this new website area as a place where our members can access our Area Assembly agendas and minutes - prior to, during and following our Area Assemblies. While it is possible to have this area of the website be password protected, I do want to say that the documents available on-line from other Areas and groups have been immensely helpful to Task Forces I have served on, and in the spirit of transparency and "paying it forward" I do like the idea of having our ideas available to others in Al-Anon.

Our intention here is to have our Area 63 resources readily available to our members and potential members since our Assemblies are now held in a hybrid format. Not all our members attend in person to receive documents handed out at the Assembly, and posting them in the chat room only works for people who have logged on before any specific document is posted. Also, not all our GRs and DRs have chosen to be included in the groups.io email chain, or perhaps a group/district has not yet submitted updated contact info, meaning they aren't receiving agendas or minutes for their review prior to Assembly.

So when you get a chance, go ahead and take a look at the Alaska Al-Anon Website.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Treasurer's Report (Tamiah), see separate attachment 2025 Spring Assembly Treasurer's Report\_250511\_181504 PDF

#### **DISTRICT REPORTS**

Email reports, Susie from Wasilla.

#### **ELECTIONS/RE-ELECTIONS**

- 2. Alateen Coordinator: Stacie holding over as of Fall 2024
- 3. Prepare for Fall 2025 Vacancies

## NOON LUNCH BREAK 12:00-12:30pm

Fellowship ("Scavenger Hunt" with Wilkie T.) 12:30-1:00pm

# RESUME BUSINESS MEETING 1:00 pm with Al-Anon Declaration

Note: Outcome of Old and New Business will be bolded and highlighted in blue below.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Area Service Position Descriptions**. (see separate attachment)

Vote to accept position descriptions. Represent in the Fall after changes were made.

Discussion around dual members of AA/Al-Anon serving as Officers.

Vote, to accept the position descriptions. Motion passes.

 Static Emails. Suggestion that we use static email addresses for service positions that indicate the service position you are in. Clarification: this is for AWSC positions and groups.

Discussion, when transferring position, the email would transfer with the area service and group position. Thought force. Mari - Chair, Suzi, Carol.

Charge; Suggestion that we use static email addresses for service positions.

Motion to create a task force to create email addresses for Area only service positions. First motion was retracted. Task force change.

Charge: investigation and creation of emails for members Area.

Mike sec. passes.

3. **Backup Access to Area Financial and Electronic Accounts**. Policy on backup access for important accounts and services. Currently, previous treasurers and Colleen, Area Chair, are on the accounts. Al-Anon also has people on the

account that we're no longer in contact with, and we must get in contact with them to remove them. Also, there were some on-line logins and there was difficulty recovering them from a person previously in service. Branwyn is willing to chair a thought force designed to bring ideas about addressing these issues to the spring assembly. Tamiah is willing to be on the thought force. MOTION PASSES.

TaskForce: Create policies for backup access to Area Financial and Electronic Accounts. Passes Lois seconded. Task Force - Linette, AJ, Liesel. Temp chairperson, Bryan, Tamiah and someone else.

4. Native American Al-Anon Conference. Native American Al-Anon Conference hosted by Oregon Area Al-Anon. Next conference will be in 2026. Possibility of supporting the NAAC Conference, possibly during Alaska Federation of Natives AFN Convention. Would need a committee with a 4-year commitment, 2026-29. Tabled, for later updates from people (such as Mari) who may be able to attend in Oregon.

Mari - I was unable to attend due to the fact that it was scheduled during the same time as WSC. I did meet a person at NWRDM who was connected with the conference, and enjoyed talking with her. I believe the decision as to where it is being held next has already been made, so the next time Alaska could bid on holding it here would be for 2030-2033. As interesting as this idea may be, it is my opinion that our Area would have a hard time supporting and sustaining a three-year hosting event such as this. Alaska will be hosting the Northwest Regional Delegate's Meeting in 2028, which will provide an opportunity to support hosting a smaller and easier to support gathering.

# Remove from agenda.

5. **Road Trip (Al-Anon WSO Trustees)**. Al-Anon trustees come to your city and have their board meetings for a week, then they have a day where they talk to membership. The city must have either a big infrastructure or very passionate volunteers. This may or may not be our Area. Deadline has passed or is soon. TABLED UNTIL SPRING 2025.

Mari - Background to this: The first year I became Delegate, I was super excited by everything I heard at conference and was very gung-ho to stir up interest in this event in our area. I had stars in my eyes after meeting our WSO staff and board members, and was not really realistic about the ability of our Area to host a this event. It has a set of requirements just to apply that would be difficult for our relatively small Area to manage, including having at least 120 volunteers to help host the event. It is my belief that we could create our own gathering by inviting a WSO staff or member of the Board of Trustees to speak and possibly give workshops, either in conjunction with a Fall Assembly or as a stand-alone event. At WSC, one staff member reported that "as WSO Staff, one of the highlights of our role is receiving invitations to visit your Areas." There is a WSO Staff &

Volunteer Invitation form found on AFG Connects, which needs to be submitted at least two months in advance. I can't put a motion forward, but I would like to suggest that we invite someone to our hybrid Fall Assembly and bring back some of the fellowship and workshops that we used to hold during Assemblies. These are wonderful ways to bring energy to an Area, encourage more service and pass along the message of Al-Anon in a fun way. Service should be fun! We can either request a certain person or just leave it to WSO to see who might be available. We can also request a topic for a workshop or work with that person to develop an idea for one. Last year, sponsorship was a topic that I remember hearing about, so that might be one idea.

Suggested to drop from Agenda. Remove from agenda.

6. **Literature Distribution Center (Mari).** Mari is willing to chair a thought force on an LDC. AJ will be on it. Motion passed Fall 2024.

Thought force did not meet, no volunteers.

Mari: I attended an LDC/AIS meeting through the WSO e-communities and it proved to be an interesting resource, if our Area wishes to start a literature distribution center, however I have not heard any response at all after having it announced for the past 8 months in groups, so I am going to suggest we let this topic fall until time comes that someone is interested in pursuing it.

Terry: Place an order before fall assembly using LDC number as an experiment so folks could pick them up at Assembly?

Linette: Ask District 3 treasurer - they have ordered stuff. Linette would be happy to contact them to see if folks can order for Assembly.

Tiana: "Can an LDC be a "pop-up" aka event based distribution or must it be a brick and mortar location? Would our literature coordinator be allowed/willing to operate a pop up or CSA style (central meetup model) distribution.

Carol: As the current literature chair, I'd have to think about that responsibility before committing - and also look under the position guidelines to see if having an LDC number and not a physical location with books makes me responsible for that purchase.

**Tasks:** Linette is following up with WSO and District 3 to find out what the status is of our LDC and how to best utilize the current LDC account.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Reimbursement for Love Gifts, a World Service Conference tradition (Mari). Love Gifts: Alaska Buttons 70 at \$2.40 each: \$168, Polar Bear Smooches: 2, canisters of 40 at \$40 each: \$80, SubTotal: \$248

Approved.

2. **Knowledge Based Decision Making (Susie).** Clear definition/guidelines/procedure, consistent with WSO guidance, that we can adopt in our area, make available to groups and districts.

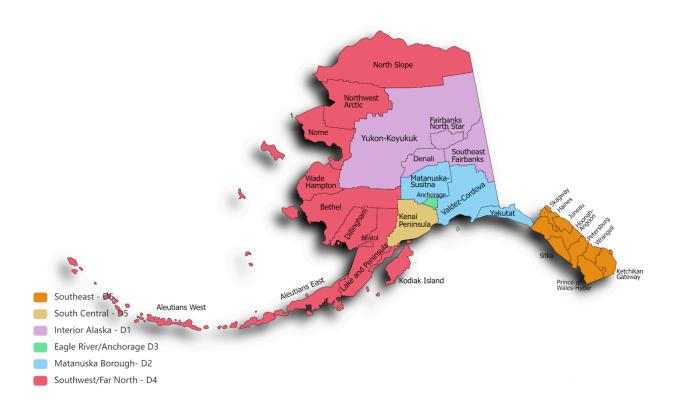
Charge: Thought Force researches KBDM documents with recommendation. Approved. Mari chair, AJ, Lois. Lois motions, AJ seconds.

 Policies and Procedures (Mari). Continuing Thought and Task Force Efforts on the Area Policies and Procedures. Revisiting past Task/Thought Forces' recommendations.

Motion for Task Force to update policy with the changes recommended. Passes. Members: Terry, Liesel. Chair

4. **Redrawing District Boundaries (Mari).** Was this item completed and approved? Terry, (see below) Crystal did make new color-coded map, better map with better boundaries. This version was updated on the website, and maybe can contact Crystal to get the layered version.

Liesel - at one point, added Valdez and expanded District 1.



Mari - Combining some districts might help to strengthen them. Some Areas have found that joining resources allows districts to gather more people to organize district activity. Is anyone interested in creating a thought or task force? It would be particularly useful to have people who live out of District 3 (Anchorage) to be a part of it.

Discussions of Thought Force. Linette asked if there was one in the past. Colleen - on agenda, never got dealt with and so eventually just got taken off. Linette - does anyone think it would be a good idea to have a task force? We have many districts without representation. Do we want to talk about it again?

Recommended to put on Fall Agenda to discuss again.

5. **Regional Trustee Applications for the WSO Board of Trustees (Mari)**. There are openings in our region to think about for 2026.

Tabled for fall agenda.

 Approval of Fall 2024 minutes (tabled from earlier) – Minutes fall 2024 approved.

New Business added.

7. Change format for assembly to half days four times a year.

Carol - what about two hours a month or broken up into four half days a year? Attract more people. Hard to get folks to commit to a whole day, even just twice a year. How to get people to do service?

Discussion, bring up at Fall assembly

8. Are groups and districts allowed to use Area Zoom for meetings?

**If the Zoom is open, use it.** Same Zoom room used for assembly Meeting ID: 856 769 9934 Passcode: 121212.

9. Bring up WSO Trustee to Anchorage.

District 2. Mari will bring the idea of having a WSO staff or trustee come to Fall Assembly to the **District Assembly task force**.

**REVIEW OF NEXT ASSEMBLY DATES** Assemblies begin on the third Fridays in May & September:

- 1. September 19–20, 2025: Who Will Host? District 3 Anchorage
- 2. May 15-16, 2026: Save the date.

# 4:15 PM —ANNOUNCEMENTS TO BE MADE AT MEETINGS SEE SEPARATE PAGE

# 4:30 PM — Adjourn & Close with Al-Anon Declaration

Let it begin with me — When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there and let it begin with me.