

## **Motions One and Two**

### **PAY THE DELEGATE'S EXPENSES TO ATTEND THE 2025 WSC (WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE)**

*Submitted by Mary Loftin, Missouri Area Treasurer, Panel 63*

#### **Background:**

*Missouri Area Al-Anon/Alateen Service Digest, Financials Section, Page 13: "The Area Assembly will vote each year to approve the Delegate's equalized expenses for the World Service Conference and the advance to the Delegate for purchase of literature, photographs, recordings, or other expenses incurred, and an extra night's lodging, if necessary."*

Per the above, the Missouri Area votes on paying the "Equalized Amount" as described in the annual letter from the World Service Office (WSO). This year's letter states that: "the Equalized Expense amount for the 2025 WSC has been set at **\$2,532.00** (US). The Full Amount for a Delegate to attend the 2025 WSC has been set at **\$3,617.71** (US).

The 2025 Conference will be held in New York so the Delegates will be able to visit Stepping Stones next year.

*For an explanation regarding Equalized Expenses, see "How the Conference is Financed," including "General Conference Expenses" and "Delegates' Equalized Expenses" on pages 168-169 of the 2022/2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Version 4.*

#### **MOTION ONE**

The Missouri Area will pay the Full Amount, \$3,617.71 (as determined by the World Service Committee) for our Delegate to attend the 2025 World Service Conference.

#### **MOTION TWO**

The Missouri Area will advance \$500.00 to the Delegate for incidental expenses at the 2025 World Service Conference.

## **Motions Three, Four and Five**

### **ADOPT A TEXT-TO-VOTE SYSTEM FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDEES AT AREA BUSINESS MEETINGS**

*Submitted by the Voting Methodologies Task Force, Kathy Grinstead, Chairperson*

#### **Background:**

Prior to 2020 the Area primarily used paint sticks or counting off to vote. However, these were cumbersome and did not permit anonymity. Paper ballots provided anonymity but were time consuming to count.

The use of electronic voting by those on Zoom brought into focus the need for a more efficient and anonymous in-person voting method.

The Voting Methods Task Force investigated several options, but ultimately decided that a text to vote system was the best alternative, which would eliminate problems with overloading a venue's wi-fi. Using inexpensive cell phones provides for anonymous voting as no phone numbers would be stored on them.

The majority of voters have the capability of sending a text, but the Area can provide paper ballots for those who are unable to use this option.

As of September 2024, the cost to the Area would be a maximum of \$60 plus tax for three phones. In addition, there would be a \$50 approximate cost for each business meeting to activate all three phones. (At this time, the least expensive plan is \$15 per phone for 30-day unlimited talk and text). Because the phones will not be continuously activated, there will be different phone numbers at each event.

#### **MOTION THREE**

The Area will purchase three basic cellphones for use at Area business meetings.

#### **MOTION FOUR (To be presented only if Motion Three passes)**

The Group Records Coordinator will be responsible for purchasing and housing the cellphones, activating them before each business meeting (including purchasing and installing new SIM cards), and bringing them to the meeting. In addition, he/she will provide the voting phone numbers to voting members.

#### **MOTION FIVE (To be presented only if Motions Three and Four pass)**

The text-to-vote system will be used for a 3-year trial period and re-addressed at the November 2027 Assembly.

## **Motion Six**

### **RATIFY THE REVISED ALATEEN SAFETY AND BEHAVIORAL REQUIREMENTS (ASBRs) AS APPROVED BY THE WORLD SERVICE OFFICE (WSO)**

*Submitted by the Alateen Safety and Behavior Requirements Task Force, Meagan McLaughlin, Chairperson*

#### **Background:**

In late 2020, it was discovered that the Missouri Area Alateen Procedures which had been rewritten and approved by the Missouri Area in 2015 had not been fully reviewed and approved by the World Service Office (WSO) as required by the 2003 Alateen Motion.

The **2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Version 4** states on page 93:

***In order to use the Alateen name, each Area in the World Service Conference Structure must have Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements in place that meet, or exceed, the minimum requirements set by the 2003 Alateen Motion. Each Area's established Safety and Behavioral Requirements, as well as any revisions to those same Requirements, must be current, compliant, and on file with the World Service Office (WSO).***

Implied within this statement is the assumption that the WSO must approve any changes to Area procedures pertaining to Alateen. Only then may the changes be presented to the Area for acceptance. With that in mind, the 2015 Missouri Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (and all other procedures pertaining to Alateen) were submitted to the World Service Office.

After a thorough examination the WSO deemed them not compliant. The document was returned to the Missouri Area with several recommended changes from the WSO staff. The WSO allowed the Missouri Area to continue using the Alateen name while these recommended changes were made to the Missouri Alateen Procedures.

A Task Force was formed during Panel 63 to develop a new set of Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements to better serve Missouri Alateens, to meet the standards set by the Board of Trustees in the 2003 Alateen Motion, and to conform to the current laws of the State of Missouri. On July 25th, 2024, the WSO notified the Area that the new ASBRs had been accepted and approved.

## **MOTION SIX**

The Missouri Area ratifies the revised Alateen Safety and Behavioral Guidelines as approved by the WSO (World Service Office) on July 25, 2024.

## **Motion Seven**

### **BANNERS AT AREA MEETINGS**

*Submitted by the Missouri Area Service Digest Committee, Marge O’Gorman, Chairperson*

#### **Background:**

At the August 2009 Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meeting, it was voted that the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Service with Warranties be displayed at all Assemblies, AWSC meetings, Conventions and Alateen events. This motion was ratified at the November 2009 Assembly.

Since then, every effort has been made to adhere to this guideline, but during the COVID epidemic the need to meet electronically became necessary. Since then, a hybrid option has become the norm and the Group Representatives voted to conduct two AWSC meetings per panel entirely via Zoom. Our electronic attendees are unable to view the banners when displayed as part of an in-person meeting. Therefore, the current practice is to display these banners whenever possible.

### **MOTION SEVEN**

In the Missouri Area Service Digest 4/16/2024 Preface Chapter update the current wording to account for virtual meetings and meeting place requirements to read:

#### **Strike the following:**

~~The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Service with Warranties are to be displayed at all at Assemblies, AWSC meetings, Conventions and Alateen Events.~~

#### **Replace it with:**

**The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Service with Warranties are to be displayed whenever possible at Assemblies, AWSC meetings, Conventions and Alateen Events.**

## Motion Eight

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

*Submitted by the Missouri Area Service Digest Committee, Marge O’Gorman, Chairperson*

#### Background:

At the beginning of Panel 60, the officers and a group of trusted servants met with a lawyer to examine the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of the Al-Anon Family Groups of Missouri. The discussion confirmed that the intent of these documents was for the officers to serve as the Board of Directors of the Corporation and should hold regular Board of Directors Meetings as required in the Bylaws.

At the November 2019 Assembly a motion was passed to reflect this. Since then, a yearly Board of Directors Meeting has been held. The following changes clarifies the current practice of the Board:

Note: ~~strike through~~ = REMOVE, **bold and underlined** = ADD)

~~At least once a year,~~ **Between the November Assembly and the end of each calendar year,** the Chairperson shall call an official **Annual** Board of Directors ~~Meeting~~ with minutes taken by the Secretary and kept on file. **During that meeting contracts shall be reviewed, and any legal decisions may be discussed.** In a year following an election, both outgoing and incoming Officers will be **invited to** attend **the Board Meeting.** ~~In the future, should~~ **If** any legal action or business decision(s) be **are** required by the Board of Directors, an **additional** official Board of Directors meeting should **will** be called to ~~determine such action,~~ and minutes ~~should will~~ be taken and kept on file. **A report will be given by the Area Chair of all Board of Directors Meetings at the next Missouri Area Assembly** ~~These actions will be reported and entered into the minutes at the next Missouri Area Business Meeting.~~

### **MOTION EIGHT**

In the Missouri Area Service Digest 04/16/2024 Policies, Procedures & Guidelines Chapter, Area Business Meetings Section under Board of Directors Meetings make the following changes to reflect current practices and give guidance for future Board of Directors meetings.

#### Strike the following:

~~At least once a year, the Chairperson shall call an official Board of Directors meeting with minutes taken by the Secretary and kept on file. In a year following an election, both outgoing and incoming Officers will attend. In the future, should any legal action or business decision be required by the Board of Directors, an official Board of Directors meeting should be called to determine such action, and minutes should be taken and kept on file. These actions will be reported and entered into the minutes at the next Missouri Area Business Meeting.~~

#### Replace it with:

**Between the November Assembly and the end of each calendar year, the Chairperson shall call an official Annual Board of Directors Meeting with minutes taken by the Secretary and kept on file. During that meeting, legal contracts shall be reviewed, and any official business shall be discussed. In a year following an election, both outgoing and incoming Officers will be invited to attend the Annual Meeting. At other times, should any legal action or business decision(s) be required by the Board of Directors, an additional meeting will be called and minutes will be taken and kept on file. A report will be given by the Area Chair of all Board of Directors Meetings at the next Missouri Area Assembly.**

## **Motion Nine**

### **VOICE AND VOTE AT AREA BUSINESS MEETINGS**

*Submitted by the Missouri Area Service Digest Committee, Marge O’Gorman, Chairperson*

#### **Background:**

Who has Voice and Vote at Area Business Meetings is a matter of Area Autonomy. Currently all Missouri Al-Anon and Alateen members have voice and participate in the discussion at the Area Assemblies and Area World Service Committee Meetings. This is not reflected in the current Service Digest.

### **MOTION NINE**

In the Missouri Area Service Digest 04/16/2024, Policies and Procedures Chapter in the Area Business Meetings Section under Voice and Vote at Area Business meetings add the following to clarify who has voice at Missouri Area Business Meetings.

**All Missouri Al-Anon/Alateen members have voice at Missouri Area business meetings.**

## **Motion Ten**

### **SERVICE DIGEST COMMITTEE DUTIES**

*Submitted by the Missouri Area Service Digest Committee, Marge O’Gorman, Chairperson*

#### **Background:**

The Service Digest Committee was established when the Digest was adopted at the November Assembly in 2022. Since that time, the committee has continued to review the Digest and update it. While the Digest is a living document and subject to change, it also needs to reflect stability and consistency. The Committee has found that a yearly review of the document is redundant and does not add to the stability of the Service Digest. Of particular importance is to make changes that are not in keeping with our legacies and Al-Anon Principles as Area Business evolves and changes in current practices.

For the changes to be made in a thoughtful and consistent manner the following motion is proposed:

### **MOTION TEN**

In the Missouri Area Service Digest 04/16/2024 Committees Chapter in the Service Digest Committee section Duties subsection’s fourth bullet change the review and report process as follows:

#### **Strike the following:**

~~Develop an annual review process the Service Digest and provide a written and oral report the findings at the November Assembly~~

#### **Replace it with:**

**Conduct a review of the Service Digest and provide a written and oral report of the findings with any necessary motions at the May Assembly in the third year of each Panel.**