## **All Group Business Minutes Meeting 20140322**

Meeting opened with the serenity prayer

Acting minute taker agreed to take minutes and send them to Web Coordinator for posting on the web site.

Previous minute taker read the minutes from the February Meeting

Requested a timer – a member volunteered

Corrections to minutes:

A member stated we didn't have minutes in August and we didn't decide anything We are a small number of the groups registered

Motion was made to accept the minutes as read Motion was seconded Yes – 10 Opposed – 0 Abstentions – 4 Motion passes

Treasurer's report – PO Box and bank account were both closed due to lack of activity

Leader code was changed as an emergency due to muting and disruption on the line A member stated that there is no point in changing code because the interrupter has the code Another member stated that they wish to have agenda items posted to web before meeting

"All Group Meeting Chair" stated that she would like to cover two items during today's meeting

- 1. What to call the representatives
- 2. Should dual members serve?

## 2 different structures

- Technical decisions
- Al-Anon Information Service meeting

A member stated that she wishes to have agenda items posted to web before meeting Want to use a half an hour for this discussion and keep shares 2 two minutes "Phone Bridge Monitor" given 5-10 min to discuss monitoring of the phone bridge.

He stated that he has placed a Pdf on AlAnonphonemeetings home page (<a href="http://www.alanonphonemeetings.org/index.htm">http://www.alanonphonemeetings.org/index.htm</a>) called: "Process of Virtual Alano Club" The person disrupting has a spoofing application to display whatever phone number they want. He suggests that each meeting will have their own monitors, because "Phone Bridge Monitor" can't monitor all of the meetings. "Phone Bridge Monitor" discussed the content of the Process of Virtual Alano Club.pdf file.

Excerpt:

"Here is the proposed process

- 1. Next business meeting of your meeting (for example Tuesday noon meeting)
  - a. Elect a person to represent your meetings opinions at the All Group Meeting (on third Saturday of month)

- b. Elect a security Monitor to go on web and protect your meeting from sociopaths. (I can't keep up)
- c. Elect a backup security Monitor to fill in for the person protecting your meetings from sociopaths/misguided angels."

Chair stated that we need to give a name to the person who will represent the group. She has heard the following:

- Meeting reps
- Information Service Reps

Chair asked if group had objection to 2 minute shares for questions (anyone with disability is provided an extra minutes) – One Member objected

Can we limit the number of times a person shares? Yes We have 20 min for this discussion.

Member asked if 6 am or noon meetings (7 of them) could have a separate leader code. "Phone Bridge Monitor" said no technologically the system can't do it.

Next member, if we are dealing with psycho, how can we protect ourselves giving out phone numbers and email addresses? "Phone Bridge Monitor" suggested taking this back to each individual meeting. The group meeting needs to decide this. Need rep and a monitor for each group to consistently throw the disrupter off of the meetings. If you read the PDF it is listed there. Is a phone number safer than an email address? "Phone Bridge Monitor" says he doesn't know. This is up to the group.

3<sup>rd</sup> Member stated that we need to use the serenity prayer and not let the disrupter have the power. They have powerful informational. Can they be getting into our private phones? It is probably someone who led a lot on the bridge and not leading now. We need to not get into fear. We can handle the problem spiritually. We have regular people who disrupt, we can get their numbers and block them the person with the spoofing software we can't block. "Phone Bridge Monitor" doesn't know if they can get on our private phone numbers. In another program's phone bridge, they have people share the first 6 digits of phone # before sharing. This helps the monitor to see who you are. The dashboard shows the phone numbers. It helps people monitor the meetings, because you know the monitor is coming in and out.

4<sup>th</sup> Member stated sharing on first 6 digits sounds good. We can see the phone numbers, correct? Yes the monitor can see the entire phone number of people sharing. Can she contact "Phone Bridge Monitor" and share her experience with problems on the bridge. He said yes.

5<sup>th</sup> Member thanked "Phone Bridge Monitor" and "All Group Meeting Chair". These people are enemies and God is in charge. There are lessons to be learned and she keeps turning it over to the Lord. OA has a dashboard. "Phone Bridge Monitor" stated that is exactly what we have. And this crazy is bringing us all together.

6<sup>th</sup> member stated she would not share a home phone on the line and would make up an email

7<sup>th</sup> member stated the other programs have fewer problems because they have monitors. Re the leader code each line has each own line and access code and leader code. This is the only way to have security. Can we address each meeting have its different access code? Or maybe another phone number with off

digits. "Phone Bridge Monitor" stated we have 47 meetings. We have to remember 47 access codes. Having multiple numbers, you have to remember 47 different codes. Then you have to put it on a web site. Other groups aren't more secure. Gray Sheet is supported by world service conference. Getting organized will help us.

8<sup>th</sup> member stated I'd like to apologize to leader; we can't have a good meeting if we don't have a chair. She apologized for losing her temper. She stated that at her meeting she had everyone pray the serenity prayer when the disrupter interrupted the meeting. Maybe this is a spiritual challenge. I won't provide my number on a blind line.

Is it a felony to have porn on an open line? "Phone Bridge Monitor" wasn't sure, but he has blocked 3 of the numbers of the guy playing porn.

9<sup>th</sup> member stated she is familiar with other fellowships and other meetings. They have had the same issues we here at Al-Anon are facing. It has been able to be resolved and have quiet meetings. It has been happening on many other phone meetings. She will call "All Group Meeting Chair" to share her Experience Strength and Hope

There are 2 people on the leader code on this business meeting.

10<sup>th</sup> member stated thanks to "All Group Meeting Chair" and "Phone Bridge Monitor". What we is give out first 6 digits on the other meetings she attended. They didn't have 47 different meetings. We get 5-6 people to see dashboard to monitor the line. This is a great suggestion.

11<sup>th</sup> member thanked "All Group Meeting Chair" and "Phone Bridge Monitor". The other fellowship she attended. They had hecklers on the other phone bridge. We kept the access code. We had a choice to have meetings with hecklers, get organized and monitor, or not have meetings. They had to get volunteers from fellowship to be monitor. Monitor position lasted 3-6 months. There was someone over the monitors. We have to give area code and 3 digits of phone number. After we did that we stopped having hecklers. If there was any noise or interference from people un muted and they would get a message dropped from the conference. We had message that if you have a private number, you can't enter the conference. We have to get volunteers to monitor the board. We do have a choice. The question is, what is our choice?

## At 2:55 PM

"All Group Meeting Chair" read the "Here is the Proposed Process" of "Phone Bridge Monitor"'s PDF

A member shared that she suggested we have fewer meetings and have security.

Another member asked how would fewer meetings provide more security? Fewer meetings with monitors would provide quality meetings and protection. Being organized won't keep the hecklers at bay. How can we find enough people to fill these positions when we can't get secretaries for meetings? Another member stated that monitor is separate from secretary. Monitor could monitor multiple meetings. A member could monitor 5 meetings (for example). This would provide safety for the members.

Can I make a motion that we close the meeting since we are after 3 PM? "All Group Meeting Chair" is willing to stay an extra 10 min to discuss what to call representatives

There are huge numbers of meetings without chairs for years.

Another member shared that the meetings without people stepping up to monitor, people will know that those meetings will be interrupted. Let's get a name for these trusted servants. If not enough people are stepping up, people will go to more organized meetings. "Phone Bridge Monitor" has knocked off the super hacker from this meeting 3 times in the last few minutes.

Another member stated that as we take care of problems people will step up. Meetings that are not organized will wither up and die. She would like the name of the thing to be meeting rep. I would like people who come late to listen so we don't have to repeat things again and again.

Need to be able to snail mail "Current Phone Bridge Monitor's" Pdf to people without computers.

Another member stated we already have names for 2 of the positions Security Monitor Back Up Monitor

It's ok, meetings without leaders will have to suffer the fact that the meeting doesn't have committed service people. There may be more disruptions.

Motion that we have title be: Meeting Rep Phone Meeting Rep Special Rep

Can we have another meeting before 4 weeks?

We need to take this issue back to each of the autonomous group meetings. The groups will make a decision for noon Friday group for example. For this problem each group should make decision to bring this to the next All Group Business Meeting.

Sometimes another member chairs the special All Group Business Meeting and the results can be discussed at the next monthly group meeting.

Motion was made: Take back to Autonomous Meeting and the suggested names of the rep be brought there too. Then we discuss and vote at the next all Phone Meeting.

We should drop our meeting number down to 20 meetings. We could have good security on these 20 lines.

I thought we had a name for the person bringing out information to groups, i.e. Group Representative (GR). No we can't use that for telephone meetings.

We can't wait to take responsibilities at meetings until the problem is resolved.

Take this information back to Autonomous meetings.

Can dual members be part of this structure? We could get temp monitors/reps while we work out the details because we have problems right now. People can call group conscious at any time. Get the message out to all groups and call for a Group Conscious.

Motion to have the suggested guidelines for meeting reps have at least 6 months active time and dual members would be welcome to serve. Since phone meetings can't vote at World Service. If the phone bridge is embraced by WS then we would prevent them from doing this service above the phone bridge.

Motion was seconded

Member stated "Thank you "Phone Bridge Monitor" for your service". We tried to follow Al-Anon's structure. There are a lot of dual members in Al-Anon. There are a lot of people whose vote could be trusted. I like the name of meeting representative.

Another member would like to keep the 2 ideas be separate people with dual membership and the name of the reps. She thanks the dual members to help AlAnon go forward. But she would vote yes for one part and no for another.

If Member rep is similar to a Group Rep then she thinks a dual member should not hold this position.

World Service doesn't have an opinion regarding dual members doing service above the group level regarding to phone meetings. We are not part of WSO service structure.

**Amended motion** we welcome dual members to serve at the (to be determined) name (for example meeting rep) as long as they have 6 months on the phone bridge.

How are we going to separate out dual members from all the programs? Al-Anon Service Manual only considers dual members of AA and AlAnon. Al-Anon doesn't exclude members of other 12<sup>th</sup> step meetings. "All Group Meeting Chair" hopes we can affect policy for Al-anon

Right now World Service doesn't care if phone meetings have dual members serving. They only care about dual members of AA serving above the group level for meetings fitting into the service structure.

Name of service position will be cared for at a later time.

Aye-17 Nay-11 Abstention -0 Motion passes

Motion to close Closed with the serenity prayer (a little before 4 PM)

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Acting Secretary