

**GREATER GRAND RAPIDS
AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 17, 2008**

1. Opening
Earl opened the meeting at 7:00pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.
Richard was absent but forwarded a meeting agenda.
2. Reading of 12 Traditions
The 12 Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous were read by Matt.
3. Reading of 12 concepts
The 12 Concepts of Narcotics Anonymous were read by Dale.
4. Roll Call

ASC ROLL CALL

(Absent) Chair (Richard H.)
(Open) Co-Chair (open)
(Present) Secretary (Earl)
(Open) Co-Secretary: (open)
(Present) Treasurer (Kat)
(Open) Co-Treasurer (open)
(Present) RCM (Fred)
(Open) Alt. RCM (open)
(Open) H & I (open)
(Absent) PI (Michael B.)
(Present) E & F Ad-Hoc (Latonya)

GROUP ROLL CALL

(p) Courage to Change
(p) Downtown Resting Place
(a) Home Group
(p) Just For Today
(p) Just Hope
(p) Natural Life
(p) No Name
(a) Open For Change
(p) Principles Before Personalities
(p) Progress Not Perfection
(a) Saturday Night Calvary
(p) Saturday Night Candlelight
(p) Staying in the Solution
(p) TGIF
(a) Traditionally speaking
(p) We Qualify
12 Total number of groups present. Quorum was established.

Non-active meetings: Courage To Live, Keeping The Dream Alive, Literature Study, Next Phase, Men of Character, Work The Steps or Die

5. Chair Report/P. & A. Report
Chair was absent, but submitted meeting agenda. Co-Chair: Vacant.
6. Secretary's Report
Minutes from November's meeting were made available by Earl G.
7. Treasurer's Report

GGRASCNA Treasury Report December '08

GGRASCNA
Treasurer's report
12-16-08
Hello, Family,

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Checkbook beginning balance 11-26-08 | \$ 1109.60 |
| Area donations @ Nov Meeting | <u>+ 426.19</u> |
| | \$ 1535.79 |
| Debits | <u>- 185.05</u> |
| Checkbook balance 12-16-08 | \$ 1350.74 |

Group Donations:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| TGIF | \$ 56.19 |
| Prog not Perf | 50.00 |
| Just f Today | 45.00 |
| No Name | 20.00 |
| We Qualify | 5.00 |
| Stay in Sol | 30.00 |
| Courage/Change | 10.00 |
| Keep Dream Alive | 20.00 |
| Prin b Pers | 150.00 |
| Natural Life | <u>+40.00</u> |
| Total | <u>\$426.19</u> |

Check debits:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| #1601 Presto Print | \$ 66.47 |
| #1602 AT&T Adv & Publish | 40.10 |
| #1603 AT&T yellow pages | <u>+78.48</u> |
| Total | <u>\$185.05</u> |

I apologize to the *Keeping Dream Alive group* for crediting your donation in October to the *Next Phase group*. It is corrected. I received 2 separate billings from AT&T with separate account numbers. I will refer them to PI. I hope that Mike has some history on this. Please refresh me on rent amounts that need to be paid in January for the first quarter. We also need to decide ON THE Cross-town Communications re: bus signs. Thanks for letting me serve. I wish you all Happy Holidays! Stay safe, serene & clean, just for today.

Cat L

8. RCM report/Alternate RCM Report

Hello Family,

Thank-you for allowing me to serve in this position. The meeting was up in the North Country and a very slow drive in the snow storm. My wife made the trip with me and we had a pleasant week-end away from the chaos of our home life. I attended the event on Sat. and enjoyed the speaker very much (Wanda from Traverse City).

The meeting on Sunday was better attended than I expected and was very productive. They have a few things I need to ask the area how we feel about and what we want region to do. The first is about donations. Do we want to donate to the MZF and to the MSO, and if so how much (%) and how often? Second they want to stress that there are several service positions open and we need to bring this announcement to our home groups. Shared Services, MSO representative and H & I chair are all open. The next meeting is in Livingston so if anyone is interested in serving at a regional level please attend the next meeting.

The RD went to last MZF and was taught how to put on a workshop for effective leadership and is willing to mc an event in any area that would like to put it on. We also voted on making changes to our by-laws and procedures to update them to current times.

I asked about the world web site and meetings that are on it that no longer meet. Anyone can post the meeting doesn't exist anymore but that does not remove it. I was instructed that our web servant of PI chair must obtain a sign-in name and pass word that allows them to maintain the site. This procedure and I will inform Michael on what needs to be done. We should also change our PI guidelines to instruct further chairs on this responsibility.

Lastly I'm turning in an expense report for my mileage and my room cost for Sat. night. I also have to leave early tonight so if anyone has any questions for me I can answer them now.

In Loving Service,
Fred S.

9. Hospitals & Institutions (H. & I.) Report:
Vacant.

10. Public Information (P. I.) Report:
Chairperson was absent. He submitted the following report:

All is well, Susan informed me that the Web-site is up to date and new meeting list's will be available next month. Matt K has shown an interest in helping with the phone line, his help will be greatly appreciated.

ILS, Michael B.

11. Entertainment & Fundraising/Activities Ad-Hoc Committee Report:

12/17/08

The Activities Committee met this evening at 6pm, just prior to the ASC meeting. Five people were in attendance.

Hello Family.

What a wonderful, productive meeting!!! We attracted to newcomers who were excited about how NA works and, have two functions scheduled- Valentines and Prom Night. The flyers are going out in the next two weeks. Thank you to Mike K. who came out to lend a helping hand.

As for guidelines, we agreed to have me write them, present them to Activities Committee and then on to Area for approval. Fred informed me of a new workshop about Effective Leadership. Activities will look into that maybe for March.

Still looking into a meeting location but for now our next meeting will be at ASC at 6pm. Also we are looking for a new location for the Prom Night. We have Faith Lutheran but want a location that doesn't end at 10pm.

Until next time, ILS, Latonya J.

12. Forward Motions and Donations

13. Group Reports

Courage to Change

Next Phase Recovery House II
658 Worden SE
Saturday @ 11:00am
Business meeting 3rd Saturday of the month, 12:30-1:00pm

Total Attendees for the Month: 45
Average per Meeting: 10
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 1
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$?
Area Donation: \$0
Anniversaries Celebrated: 2

Hi Family, the Woman's Meeting is going smoothly, attendance I up, more newcomers are showing up. The women are really being supportive and helpful to newer members. I don't know too much, our business meeting is this Sat. I know we are still working on getting keytags and literature.

Downtown Resting Place

Heartside Ministries
54 S. Division SE
Monday, Wednesday, Friday @ 5:30pm-7pm
Business meeting is last Friday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 125-140
Average per Meeting: 15-20
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: Depends
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$40
Area Donation: \$20
Anniversaries Celebrated: Depends

Our meetings are still very low attendance but still we carry the message. Our 7th tradition needs a hold up or stick up of our members. I don't really have much to say. The Basement is still off limits to our meeting place. I don't know but it might be the economy.

Tommie Trusted Servant

Home Group

Burton United Methodist Church
100 Burton St. SE
Thursday @ 7:00pm-8:30pm
Business meeting is 4th Thursday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month:
Average per Meeting:
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month:
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$
Area Donation: \$
Anniversaries Celebrated:

Just For Today

Trinity United Methodist Church
1100 Lake Drive SE
Wednesday @ 12:00pm
Closed Meeting
Business meeting is 4th Wednesday of every month at 11:30am

Total Attendees for the Month: 27
Average per Meeting: 9
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 0
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$13.40
Area Donation: \$10
Anniversaries Celebrated: 0

Group is still running smoothly. This will be my last month as GSR. The group will be in the process of electing a new GSR. We are considering increasing our monthly donation to the church. No other changes to report.

MHK, GSR

Just Hope

130 Delaware SW
Tuesday @ 5:30-7pm
Open meeting
Business meeting is 2nd Tuesday of each month

Total Attendees for the Month: 20
Average per Meeting: 7
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 2
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$20.00
Area Donation: 5.00
Anniversaries Celebrated: none

Things are starting to pick up a little. Can you please bare with us on the donations? We are awaiting for "Just Hope" name to be placed on area's meeting list, so that more people will know and can attend our Tuesday night meeting.

Natural Life

Faith Lutheran Church
2740 Fuller Ave. NE
Tuesday and Thursday @ 7:30pm-9pm
Business meeting is 3rd Thursday of every month following the meeting

Total Attendees for the Month: 240
Average per Meeting: 40
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: ?
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$?
Area Donation: \$0
Anniversaries Celebrated: ?

Hi Family, I'm an addict representing Natural Life Group of NA. Everything is going well. Because of the Holidays we didn't have Dec. business meeting. No additional news to report at this time except this will be my last GSR report for this group to do the fact that my term is up.

Thanks for allowing me to serve, Jeff T.

No Name

Grace Reformed Church
100 Buckley SE
Monday through Friday @ 11:00am to 12:30pm
Business meeting is 3rd Friday of every month
Open meeting

Total Attendees for the Month:

Average per Meeting: 50

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 11

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$266.00

Area Donation: \$0

Anniversaries Celebrated: 4: Steve H. 1 yr., Marvin J. 1 yr., Gaytha G. 6 yrs., and April C. 1 yr.

Hi Family, Everything is going well at our group. Traditions are being followed, coffee is being made, after the doors are open on time we made a literature order this month. We are looking forward to the Christmas Marathon coming up. The business meetings are going well and topics are being discussed and voted according to the Principles and format of the Program. There is a multitude of anniversaries ranging from 1 to 6 years.

Open To Change

North Club
College Ave. NE, Grand Rapids MI
Monday @ 8:00pm
Business meeting is every 3rd Monday of the month

Total Attendees for the Month: 128

Average per Meeting: 33

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 1

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$135.00

Area Donation: 0

Anniversaries Celebrated: 7

Meeting is going well. Not making room rent every week but I made enough extra last week to purchase key tags and some IP's. I am hoping we continue to make room rent every week because it is \$30 but there is a great amount of people that show up every week. It has given a great meeting and I love the commitment and I just want to say thanks for allowing me to be of service to everyone.

Principles Before Personalities

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
1025 3 Mile Rd. NE Grand Rapids, MI
Sunday @ 7pm-8:30pm
Business meeting is 2nd Sunday after recovery meeting

Total Attendees for the Month: 230

Average per Meeting: 55

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 0

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$130.00

Area Donation: \$100.00

Anniversaries Celebrated: 3

Family, At our last business meeting on 12/14/08 discussion was on home group members attendance to our business meeting. I'm sure everyone is pleased with our growing numbers. Our pot luck went well and we thank Robert L. for a warm and heartfelt message of recovery. Joy is in the ears that hear.

ILS, Earl G.

Progress Not Perfection

St. Paul's Campus Parish

1 Damascus Rd. Big Rapids, MI

Tuesday @ 8pm & Saturday @ 10:00am

Business meeting is 4th Tuesday of every month @ 6:00pm before recovery meeting

Total Attendees for the Month: n/a

Average per Meeting: n/a

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: n/a

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$ n/a

Area Donation: \$0

Anniversaries Celebrated: n/a

Our treasurer was not present at the last Tuesday meeting so no data is available at this time. Overall, things are going fairly well with our group. Tuesday, 12/9/08, we had a snow storm, and attendance was very low due to the weather, but otherwise it's been rather good.

In Service, Ron T.

Saturday Night Calvary

Calvary Church

777 East Beltline NE, Room 112

Saturday @ 7:15pm

Business meeting is 4th Saturday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month:

Average per Meeting:

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month:

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$

Area Donation:

Anniversaries Celebrated:

Saturday Night Candlelight

Pine Rest Chapel

300 68th St. SW

Saturday @ 6:30pm to 8pm

Business meeting is 4th Saturday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 115

Average per Meeting: 23

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 1

Total 7th Tradition Collected: n/a

Area Donation: 0

Anniversaries Celebrated: 4

Meeting continues with steady attendance. We are gaining a few home group members from the clients from the treatment center. When they graduate, some stay involved with this meeting. We celebrated three anniversaries of 15, 9 and 8 years at the first meeting of the month. We will celebrate a 19-year anniversary at the last Saturday of the month meeting. Come and join us if you can. Plans for a summer fundraiser will continue after the first of the year. Once we get Ideal Park secured by us, we will have flyers and more information available. Merry Christmas everybody and have a safe & serene holiday.

In loving service, Cat L

Staying in the Solution

Church of the Holy Spirit
1200 Post Dr. NE
Friday @ 7:00pm
Business meeting is 3rd Friday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 34
Average per Meeting: 11
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 0
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$34.00
Area Donation: \$0
Anniversaries Celebrated: 2

Staying in the Solution continues to meet and serve the members in the Northern End of town. We see new members on a consistent basis and of those many return and continue to stay clean. We are current on rent to the church and have a fully stocked literature table. No area donation this month due to the short month because of the holidays.

TGIF

Trinity Reformed Church
1224 Davis NW
Friday @ 7pm-8:30pm
Business meeting is 3rd Friday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 143
Average per Meeting: 47
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 1
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$106.87
Area Donation: \$46.87 MRCNA \$40.00
Anniversaries Celebrated: n/a

No report.

Traditionally Speaking

Not currently on meeting list.

Total Attendees for the Month:
Average per Meeting:
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month:
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$
Area Donation:
Anniversaries Celebrated:

We Qualify

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
5333 Clyde Park Ave. SW
Wednesday @ 7:00-8:30pm
Business meeting is 3rd Wednesday of every month before recovery meeting

Total Attendees for the Month: 100
Average per Meeting: 25
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 2
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$80.00
Area Donation: \$10
Anniversaries Celebrated: 2

Hi Family. The We Qualify Group is doing well. Attendance remains steady. We elected a new treasurer, Serenity Mike, at our last business meeting. Currently all of our group positions are filled except alt. GSR. We had an opportunity to discuss the 3 motions from ASC. The results were as follows:

Motion #1 "Revise guidelines so that home groups vote on all area motions." This motion was passed only with the friendly amendment of replacing the word "all" with "pertinent".

Motion #2 "Groups who cannot attend Area meeting will sign a waiver for voting so as not to interfere with quorum. Waiver is in effect for up to 90 days." This motion was voted down.

Motion #3 "I make a motion that if a GSR from a new group or from an inactive group attends an ASC meeting, she/he will be penciled on to the group roll call agenda for that meeting and have voting privileges for that ASC meeting as they attempt to achieve/regain active group status." This motion passed.

We are planning to meet Wednesday, December 24, on Christmas Eve. Happy Holidays, Lisa M.

Not on currently on meeting list:

Keeping the Dream Alive: Hello, Keeping the Dream Alive is still meeting at Next Phase Recovery House for now, 1145 Alexander SE, everything is good with the exception that there's no trusted servants at this time. Grateful to serve, San C.

14. New Business/Issue Discussion

- A. Discussion of the accuracy of the current meeting list ensued, including several errors that were detected.
 - 1. Keeping the Dream Alive is meeting at 1145 Alexander (not 1042 Alexander), according to a report submitted by San C.
 - 2. The Just Hope group and the Courage to Change group have met all the requirements to be placed on the next meeting list (on the current one too) but they weren't put on the recent list.
 - 3. It was decided that the PI committee needs to double check the accuracy of the meeting list before printing new ones.
- B. There was discussion surrounding the ASC, PI and H. & I. subcommittee guidelines, their current location on disc. Jeff K. will be contacted to see if he still has them in electronic form. Otherwise, Lisa M. will retype them, so that the recent PI subcommittee guideline changes can be made, as well as the new Activities subcommittee guidelines to be added.
- C. Several items in the RCM report were discussed, and it was agreed that they will be tabled until next month's ASC meeting.
 - 1. PI guidelines need to have section added to add the responsibility of the Chair to acquire the password from WSO necessary to update the World meeting list, namely, taking off the meetings that no longer exist or have moved.
 - 2. How much/if Region \$ should be spent on MSO and the MZF was discussed.
- D. Activity Committee chair, Latonya, presented a Budget Submittal form for committee expenses. Motion passed, \$65.77 was approved.
- E. Matt K. made the following motion, seconded by Dale V.: I motion to lower the requirement for a group to get on the meeting list from 4 months to 2 months. *Intent:* To encourage groups to make the meeting list. Pros: Would help new groups and those trying to get back on the list, to increase attendance due to availability of meeting information. Cons: Decreases accountability of groups with regard to regular attendance and participation at the area level. Also, area guidelines would need to be altered.

15. Old Business

- A. ELECTION OF TRUSTED SERVANTS: Jeff T. was nominated and accepted the position as co-chair.
- B. Cat (Treasurer) needs to know if this committee wants to renew the contract for the bus advertising signs. This item is reviewed quarterly, and is due to be reviewed in January for possible February 2009 renewal.

16. **Please discuss at your business meeting:**

- A. The following ASC positions remain open, and nominations for these positions will continue to take place each month until filled: H. & I. chair, co-secretary, co-treasurer, and alternate RCM.
- B. The home group Principals Before Personalities made the following motion:
Revise guidelines so that home groups vote on all area motions. *Intent:* To restore home groups' as final say on motions, and therefore be in line with 12 Concepts of service. Earl agreed to make friendly amendment suggested by Lisa M. to replace the word "all" with "pertinent". Pros: The stated intent, and that home group members run area business to an extent. Cons: Opening can of worms concerning guidelines, home groups told us to take care of area business, and too much area business takes groups from primary purpose.
- C. Pepe made the following motion: **Groups who cannot attend Area meeting will sign a waiver for voting so as not to interfere with quorum. Waiver is in effect for up to 90 days.** *Intent:* Not interfere with quorum and maintain voting rights. Pros: To increase the ASC's ability to conduct business that requires a quorum be present to vote. Cons: Leaves groups with no accountability to attend area meetings, also, several ASC guidelines would have to be changed to accommodate motion.
- D. Lisa M. made the following motion, seconded by George: **I make a motion that if a GSR from a new group or from an inactive group attends an ASC meeting, she/he will be penciled on to the group roll call agenda for that meeting and have voting privileges for that ASC meeting as they attempt to achieve/regain active group status.** *Intent:* To remain aligned with the 12 Concepts of NA Service. Pros: According to the 12 Concepts for NA Service, particularly Concept 2, which states "The final responsibility and authority for NA services rests with the NA groups," and Concept 7 "All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participated in its decision-making processes," and Concept 8, "Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications," it is important to give the representative of a particular group the power to contribute the conscience of their group via a vote, and the responsibility to be the conduit of information from ASC back to the group. Cons: Knowing a group service representative will automatically be given the right to vote, groups might not be as motivated to regularly send a GSR to attend ASC.
- E. Matt K. made the following motion, seconded by Dale V.: **I motion to lower the requirement for a group to get on the meeting list from 4 month to 2 months.** *Intent:* To encourage groups to make the meeting list. Pros: Would help new groups and those trying to get back on the list, to increase attendance due to availability of meeting information. Cons: Decreases accountability of groups with regard to regular attendance and participation at the area level.

17. **Please announce at all regular meetings:**

- A. TGIF is hosting a volleyball night Friday, January 30, 2009, 9 to 11pm, at the Carpe Diem Volleyball Facility, 1010 Front St., 2 blocks south of Leonard, \$3 per person, please wear gym shoes!
- B. The No Name Group is hosting Holiday Marathon Meetings, Thursday, December 25, 2008 12:30pm-12:00am, and New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31, 2008 12:20pm to 1:00am at 100 Buckley SE (Grace Reformed Church). The regular 11:00am meeting will take place before the holiday marathon meetings.
- C. The GGRASCNA Activities Committee presents the Valentine Swirl, Saturday February 21st, 2009 at Faith Lutheran Church, 2740 Fuller NE. Doors open at 5pm, speaker at 5:30pm, dance from 7-10pm. Cost is \$6 single, \$10 couple, contact Latonya J. @ 616-819-9610 for more information.
- D. The GGRASCNA Activities Committee is hosting the 2nd Annual Prom Night, Saturday, April 25th 2009. Doors open at 5pm, speaker at 5:30pm, dance from 7-10pm, \$10 single, \$15 couple, contact Latonya J. @ 616-819-9610. **Location to be announced.**

18. Closing

- A. Closed at 9:30pm w/ Gratitude Slogan.