

Saginaw Bay Area Service Committee of NA

Minutes for February 18th 2018

Freeland, MI

Opening: Meeting opened at 2:15 pm with a moment of silence with Al L.

Readings:

12 Traditions- Greg

12 Concepts- Mike B

Purpose, Function, & Responsibilities of ASC- Greg

NA World Service Vision- John

Acceptance of Minutes: No objections or corrections.

Newcomers to Area: Pete, Patrick, Kayla, Travis, John, Amber, Jeff, Greg

Nominations and elections:

Chair- Al L., Co-Chair Matt F., Sec- Tom C., Co-Sec Varity P., Treas- Brooke B., Co- Treas- Brandon K., RCM Open Kim P has appointed interim for March., Alt RCM., PR., Open Karen A has appointed interim

Open Positions: RCM (2 years clean time req) Alt- RCM (1 year clean time req) PR(2 years clean time req)

Trusted Servants Report:

Chair: Good evening everyone, first off I would like to thank you all for letting me serve as area chair, I will do my best to follow the 12 steps and 12 traditions of NA and bring god into every decision made here. Second we had a PA meeting Saturday Feb 17th at St. Albans. Present were the Chair and Co- Chair. Attendance seems to be a problem and without the rest of trusted servants we are unable to conduct any kind of business. Lack of participation, next PA meeting will not be happening anytime soon. Third Matt Fair and myself visited the post office in Bay City, to resolve the P.O box issue. We had to re-apply in order to get our box back. Paid for 1

year \$6.00 will be rein burst to Matt Fair we used the check that was written and 6 dollars extra \$82 total and \$2.61 for the guidelines. Thank you for letting me share.

Treasurer: Previous Balance: 2,050.63

Assets: 145.00

Expenses: 308.86

Total: \$1,886.77

Direct deposit or paper checks available \$5 charge monthly if our account goes over \$1,000.

Direct payment to bills via online bill pay 10% monthly donation to RCM of all group donations.

Kim P will get me address of RCM treasurer, In Loving Service Brooke B.

Secretary: Good afternoon Family, wish I could of got minutes out earlier but couldn't, life on life's terms. Asking for \$9.70 reimbursement for copies printed off for area. Don't have receipt but I'm strapped for cash and could use the money. In Loving Service, Tom C

Subcommittee Reports:

PR:

I have been collecting contact info to update our contact list. Thus far I have St. Helen, West Branch, Hale, Tawas, Coleman, Gladwin, and have numbers but not confirmed Harrison and Standish. At this time I also have confirmed three Saginaw meetings, and will accept info from any other ASC members towards this project. Tom C has provided me with this grid that we used for updating. There was a Saginaw meeting brought to my attention that was somehow deleted from the meeting list, so I have that info so it may be put back on the list, Meeting list at March area. In loving service Karen A.

H&I:

Next Committee meeting immediately after ASC meeting, Ordered literature for H&I, submitting receipt today for \$199.00. Received leftover literature from Freeland prison volunteer(from past years). I am seeking volunteers for many facilities in our area. Bryan H

Literature:

All is well I brought a starter kit for the new meeting n Gladwin provided they are here.

Outreach:

Next committee meeting March 12th 6pm before unity meeting in Bay City. Our last outreach trip was scheduled for Tawas on 2/14/18 no one showed. We are scheduled to go to two meetings in March, Friday the 9th to St. Helen and Sunday the 25th in Clare. We need support on both the committee and with announcements at meetings. I am planning to bring a calendar to next month area to distribute to home groups. Also if others could announce it at meetings other than the ones I go to it would be appreciated. If we could have it posted on the website it would help as well. In loving service Bree K.

Next committee meeting March 13th 6pm before the Survival group in Saginaw, The retreat committee is submitting a motion to become a tax exempt corporation. (Greg W will present). This January Euchre tourney raised \$255.48 and at this time the committee is able to send 13 people financially impaired. Our next event is Trivia night being held on Feb 24th at the North Euclid Church of God in Bay City, doors open at 6:30 to assemble teams. The event starts at 7:00, In loving service Bill M.

Group Service Reports:

A Deeper Level: Next Business meeting 3/16, donation of \$10, Four home group members, changing venues meeting every Friday @ Alex Jack Wirt Public Library @ 3:15-400pm. alternating between meditation & step writing.

A Gathering of Men and Women:

Group donation of \$10. Finished Guiding Principles book, starting step working guide 1st step.

New Awakenings:

Next business meeting 3/17 donation of \$10, Meeting is held each Saturday at St. Albans in Bay City. Also, we have sweet tables and topic formats and donuts. All is well at the Saturday meeting.

12 Steps of Freedom:

Next business meeting 2/18, \$0 donation, Meetings are going well. Two H.G members celebrated clean time. 3rd Sunday of each month 3 speaker format w/ 15 min a piece, average attendance 8-10.

Attitude of Gratitude:

Next business meeting March 15th, \$0 donation, Things are going well attendance continues to be strong (50-60 Thursday night) (25-30 Saturday night) (10-20 daytime). We have had members celebrate 2 years and 18 months, and after only 2 months our open speaker meeting the 3rd Saturday of the month is proving successful.

Keep it Simple (Owasso):

Next business meeting 3/16, \$25 donation, Speaker every other month (March, May, July, Sept, Nov). Location 1st united Methodist church 1500 n. water St., Owasso, MI. Wednesday 6-7:30pm open how & why book, Last Wednesday of month Living clean book, Friday 7-8:30pm open basic text, plus every other last Friday of month open speaker meeting.

Unity:

Next business meeting 3/12, \$5 donation, Pizza social and spades tournament Saturday March 10th doors open at 5 tourney starts at 6. Trinity episcopal church 815 N. Grant Bay City Mi. 48708 Door prizes pizza 2 slices for \$3, drinks \$1, \$1 donation at the door no addict turned away. All proceeds go towards unity group annual picnic.

How it Works:

Next business meeting 2/19, \$0 donation, we are having a free event on March 10th at 5pm at Alders gate church in Midland. We will furnish sloppy joes, coffee, and water. Members are asked to bring snacks or dish to pass, we will be playing cards and other board games.

Survival:

Next business meeting 2/26, \$0, the first and third Tuesday of each month we offer a meditation meeting and a closed meeting. The second Tuesday of month we offer a open meeting as well a closed meeting.

Surrender our lives:

Next business meeting 3/5, \$20 donation, New location N. Michigan, Carrollton, Mon 7pm basic text, Saturday 11am Living clean book.

Common Desires:

Next business meeting 3/17 \$20 donation.

Living the Dream:

\$0 donation, we have 1 new H.G member. We had 1 H.G member celebrate multiple years clean. H.G unity is strong. We need support and member to visit as we usually have between 3-6 people at each meeting.

I Can't We Can:

\$0 donation, New address at 100 Houghton Ave, West Branch, MI, 48661, Meeting attendance is low and in need of more members.

Let Go and Let God:

Group Donation\$10, The group is going well, we have at least 5 people per meeting. Edward H.

Common Welfare:

Next business meeting 3/15, \$0 donation, Nothing to report attendance is strong.

H.O.W:

Next business meeting 3/13, \$20 donation.

Never Alone:

Next business meeting 3/11, \$10 donation.

Acceptance is Freedom &Serenity:

Next business meeting 3/13, \$0 donation, Steady attendance.

Old Business:

P.O box is not going through with our checks; the post office has not received it or cashed it. Matt F is going to check the P.O box and update us next month. A motion for a census for all meetings on the meeting lists to be present and active so there are no people going to a meeting that is closed. We will be bringing this up next month to examine the contact list and update it if needed.

New Business:

S.B.A.S.C.N.A. Area Motion

Date: February 18, 2018

Submitted By: S.B.A.S.C.N.A. Retreat Committee

Motion: To allow the S.B.A.S.C.N.A. Retreat Committee to become a Tax Exempt 501(c)(3) Corporation under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) IRS.

NOTE: Section 501(c)(3) is the portion of the US Internal Revenue Code that allows for federal tax exemption of nonprofit organizations, specifically those that are considered public charities, private foundations or private operating foundations.

Reasons for Motion:

Here are the reasons the Retreat Committee feels it is important to obtain a Tax Exempt status.

1. Legal Liability. Corporations provide limited liability protection to their owners (in our case Board & Committee Members). Typically, the owners are not personally responsible for the debts and liabilities of the business; thus, creditors cannot pursue owners' personal assets, such as a house or car, to pay business debts. Currently the Retreat Chair signs the contract with the DNR Center, thus making them legally liable for the provisions of that contract. This is an unnecessary burden that we place on the Chair Person and is somewhat irresponsible on our part to ask someone to put themselves and their personal finances at risk should an unexpected issue arise.
2. Being a "Corporation" by definition allows us to have ease of transferring "Board Members" without going through the whole process every time key Board Members are replaced.
3. Having the 501(c)(3) status relieves our worry every year that we will be asked to pay the 6% Sales Tax to the DNR Center, as stated in our contract. We currently have the anticipated tax money for a single Retreat of \$1,200.00 set aside should we be asked to pay it. This would ensure we can keep the cost of registration down for future retreats.
4. The new 501(c)(3) status would allow us to take other forms of payment such as a credit card for registrations, shirt sales and donations. Currently because we are not legally recognized as a "non-profit" organization, taking such payments would require using an individual member's personal information, such as their bank account and social security number, and would be considered personal income for that member's personal finances. This technically would show up as "income" for that member and they would be responsible for paying income tax on it.

Requirements for being Tax Exempt:

1. File with the State of Michigan for a Tax ID number. This is simple, takes just a few days and cost about \$20.00.

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S.B.A.S.C.N.A. Area Motion from Retreat Committee continued.

2. File that Tax ID number with the IRS. This is simple, takes just a week or so and cost about \$20.00

3. File for 501(c)(3) status with the IRS. This requires a very long and technical form to be filed out and submitted to the IRS. and could take several months to receive a reply from them as to their decision whether or not we would be granted “non-profit” status under a 501(c)(3) corporation. A non-refundable fee of \$500.00 is required by the IRS to file this form.

This form has such required info as:

- a. Name of Organization
- b. Purpose and function
- c. List of Board Members:
 1. President
 2. Secretary
 3. Treasurer
 4. Other Member(s)

We have been working with Alan Wazny, the CPA who worked with Region to become a non-profit organization. His CPA firm’s fee is \$600.00 for this entire process.

4. The Retreat Committee would be required to file annually a Federal Tax Return. This is something we could do ourselves and cost nothing.

Other Notables:

1. The Retreat Committee would still function using the 12 Steps & Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous.
2. We would still give the S.B.A.S.C.N.A. (Area) any moneys left over at the end of each Retreat, just as always been the case. However, it would be recorded within the Retreat’s financials as “Administrative Services”.
3. We would be using the existing \$1,200.00 we have put aside for the Retreat’s “anticipated” sales tax to pay for the organization of becoming a 501(c)(3).
4. The “Board Members” for the start of the new 501(c)(3) would be President- Greg W., Secretary-Karen A., Treasurer-Cathy H. and two active NA members of the Areas choosing.
5. For the last 30+ years, the Retreat has not paid sales tax. There is new management at the DNR facility and they have so far strictly followed the contract. The contract states: “Should your group fall under tax exempt status, please provide your state issued Tax Exempt Letter together with your contract”. It is only a matter of time before they request this letter and we currently do not have one. So we would be charged 6% Sales Tax, which would be around \$1,200.00. More than likely it will be asked for this year. Again, we have the money set aside for it, which was set aside years ago, but once that money is used the only way we would be able to account for it for next year’s Retreat and subsequent years would be to raise the price of registration, which we would rather not do. Getting our 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exempt status could take several months and our hope is that we would have this status by the time we receive the final invoice from the DNR Center.

In Loving Service

The 2018 Retreat Committee

Open Floor:

SBCNA CAR and CAT workshop, March 10th from 1-4, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Freeland, MI.

Meeting closed at 3:40pm.

Next SBCNA Meeting March 18th in Freeland, MI at 2pm