Greater Grand Rapids Area Service Committee Minutes  
April 27, 2016

- Opening: A moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer.
- Reading of the Twelve Traditions
- Reading of the Twelve Concepts
- A Vision of NA Service

ASC ROLL CALL

ADMINISTRATIVE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>(Dan P)</td>
<td>Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Chairperson</td>
<td>(Natalie S.)</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>(Alicia S.)</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Secretary</td>
<td>(Carlee W.)</td>
<td>Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>(Fred S.)</td>
<td>Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Treasurer</td>
<td>(Aaron M.)</td>
<td>Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCM</td>
<td>(Tom W)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-RCM</td>
<td>(Steve L)</td>
<td>Unexcused</td>
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SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON(S):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations Chair</td>
<td>(Vonnee K.)</td>
<td>Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Relations Co-Chair</td>
<td>(Gabe B.)</td>
<td>Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>(Ryan B.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities Co-Chair</td>
<td>(Yvonne)</td>
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GROUP ROLL CALL

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<tr>
<th>HOME GROUP</th>
<th>PFR</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Downtown Resting Place</td>
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<td>Just Hope Group</td>
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<td>Just For Today</td>
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<td>Keep Coming Back</td>
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<td>Keeping The Dream Alive</td>
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<td>Men of Character</td>
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<td>Natural Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Beginnings</td>
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<td>Open To Change</td>
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<td>Open Minded</td>
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*If your group is not on this list…please let the secretary know! Thanks!

New Business

Adhoc committee meeting

Adhoc committee has been meeting to revise and improve the area level guidelines. Copy of proposed guidelines for the following positions passed out to each person present: Chair and Co-Chair, Treasurer and Co-Treasurer, Secretary and Co-Secretary, RCM and Co-RCM.

Lora read Chair/Co-Chair guidelines aloud (See attached).

Q: Is the piece about "Verifies with the area treasurer that monthly deposits are made" new?
A: Yes.
Q: It is my understanding that the chair can be a GSR, so?
A: In our experience we find that the Chair needs to not be distracted at Area meetings.
   A: It is not new.
   A: We want it to be unbiased if it ever happens that the Chair is the deciding vote.
Q: Are all the qualifications for each position the same?
A: No. There are clean time requirements. The difference in this document is that the requirements are listed under each
Q: Is there a requirement for Secretary?
A: We did not discuss this at Adhoc committee and approved it for proposal, but that will be added. Thank you for pointing that out.

Lora read Treasurer proposed guidelines aloud (See attached).

Q: How long should the money stay in the account before sending to regional and world?
Q: How long should the money stay in the account before sending to regional and world?
A: There is specific information about that expected to be in the guidelines under "Budget" before we are finished.

A: Our goal has been to get the guidelines for the positions finished by the time we have elections. These other parts of the guidelines will be addressed in the future.

A: Please come to the Adhoc meeting to bring up ideas about what should be included in the guidelines. It would be greatly appreciated to have more minds there.

Fred comment: It is my opinion that bringing an official bank statement monthly should be required.
A: That is supposed to be on there. Thank you, it will be added. The Bank statement needs to be current from meeting date to meeting date.

Ex-Treasurer comment: I can also give feedback about some things that could have prevented what happened recently.
Q: Should we have a requirement that Co-treasurer must attend Area meetings during their term?
A: We will have a general description of all Co positions requirements including attendance and being trained.

Lora read RCM and Co-RCM proposed guidelines aloud.

Q: Wasn't there changes about the reimbursement for mileage this year?
A: Yes, we need to make sure that is fixed here. Thank you. Lora will look it up.

Lora Comment: The main change is that the RCM is not required to go to group business meetings. There is a PR person who does this.

Q: It should be written there that RCM needs to bring phone bill back from region and bring the donation to regional.
A: Lora wrote that down. Thank you.

Tom comment: The region has been discussing going back to meeting 6 times per year, which was one reason we moved the term commitment to 2 years.
A: We will bring that back to vote on changing it back if that happens.

Lora read Secretary aloud. (See attached).

Gabe comment: The only thing would be to flush out a clean time requirement. I suggest leave it at 18 months.
Q: Any opposition?
A: None. 18 months it is.

Lora read Co-Secretary aloud. (See attached)

Q: Is there a clean time requirement for Co-Secretary?
A: 18 months.
Q: Why not have 6 months and they will have 18 by the time they are Secretary?
A: The idea is that they are a minimum. In a perfect world Co would have 18 and Sec. would have more, but we don't always have a Co step up.

Lora comment: Overall the process went very well and we are very grateful for all participation.
Q: When is Adhoc meeting again?
A: This Sunday May 1 at 4:45 at St. Andrews Church on 3 Mile.

Former Treasurer’s Address to the Group:
Tearful throughout:
"I am so sorry for what I did. It was very wrong...."
"...I need to make amends to everybody..."
"I didn't mean for it to get so out of control obviously. Once I picked up I was completely out of control, and I'm really sorry."
"I am able to pay the money back in full.... I can pay it back tonight. I am willing to do whatever I can to make it right. I know that paying it back and apologizing isn't enough to make amends. I plan to continue doing service, obviously not as treasurer"
"I am grateful for the opportunity to apologize to everyone..."
"I have been going to meetings..."
"I do have accountability. I know people were concerned that I would not have accountability if I was not prosecuted, and I want you to know that I do..."
"I have to drop regularly for CPS."

Bill P. comment: I came specifically to hear the apology. I would like Bonnie to write a letter to send to everyone in the Area NA community to act as a formal apology.
A: We have been taking notes. Bonnie can come up to see the statement and add anything that was missed or misquoted.
Q: Did I hear it right that you will pay it back "if there is not prosecution"?
A: Yes that is all I have to pay the court fees and everything that would come up with prosecution.
Q: Who decides if we prosecute?
A: It is a group decision. We talked about this last month and we eventually decided to take the question back to the home groups to find a group conscience.
Q: Are you aware of the amount?
A: $1126
Q: I think the money should be given before the vote.
A: from Bonnie: I didn't mean it like that. It's just that that's everything that I have.
Fred comment: I think we should do a silent ballot vote.
Q: If a meeting is abstaining, just write abstain?
A: Yes.

Bonnie Comment: My mother gave me the money saying "I will give this to you if it keeps you from being prosecuted."
Comment from floor: I heard second hand about the issue and the actual thing we were voting on was unclear. I brought something from my group to bring up. (Not brought up)
A: We decided last month to vote this month after talking to home groups over the month.

Q: I want to make it clear that we are talking about filing a police report; it is not up to us to prosecute. Receiving restitution changes things totally.

Comment from floor: Take into account what your home group would do knowing that she has the money in her hand. They trust you to represent them.
Chair comment: Please write what your home group decided without trying to sum it up into a yes or no answer.
Comment from Lora: We can file a police report and ask them to hold it, unlike what we thought last month, which was that once we file a report the DA has prosecution in their hands.

Bonnie: I just turned the money in. I wanted to be able to pay it back tonight rather than later, which is why I borrowed it from my mother who made the comment about avoiding prosecution.

Chair comment: This is a tragedy that happened to you Bonnie, and it was a blessing in disguise because it gave us a chance to look at our policies and procedure, which we were
disguise because it gave us a chance to look at our policies and procedure, which we were getting lax on. We are addicts and we tend to lose sight of that. Everyday is a gift. I am glad that you are alive, and keep coming back.

Comment from floor: We all still love you.

General consensus is not to file, and a lot of groups had a condition that she had to return the money.

Chair comment: That was a great meeting. Thank you for handling all of that very well.

Secretary: Please write your name here if you would like to be added to the meeting list.

Chair: Pointed out the announcement sheet to circulate around the area about upcoming elections

Please announce at regular/business meetings

We are holding elections in May and there will be positions available for anyone interested in getting more involved with service work.

Admin & Sub-Committee Reports:

Chair:

Co-Chair:

If you see someone who wants to be Co-Chair, please send them here and let them know what the guidelines are. We need people.

Secretary:

Nothing to report.

ALICIA

Q: can I email my report so you don't have to type it?

A: Yes.

Co-secretary:

Please let me know before you start talking if you plan to turn in your report in a written format and that is not regular. Thank you for letting me be of service, love you all.

RCM:

Written Report:

“Hey Family, The CAR, CAT workshop went well about 25 people showed up. Our area donated $50.00. We spent a total of $53.62. on food and supplies. The event brought in a total of $44.00 in donations. The South West Area who co-hosted the event decided to reimburse the GR Area. The money was given to the treasure that day.

$53.62 spent
44.00 returned
= 9.62

(6 of area money spent, 3.62 donation)

Next Region-Traverse City, Sunday June 5th
There will be an event June 4th.
Thanks,
Tom W.”

Provided Hugger Volunteer form for MRCNA.

Alternate RCM Report:

Absent

Treasurer:

Written Report (e-mailed in):

Hello Family,

Been a very busy month but I was able to get a lot done with re-organizing the treasure position. I first went thru all the past years documents and separated the receipts, invoices, deposit slips, checks, and donations into separate envelopes. There is a lot of
Invoices, deposit slips, checks, and donations into separate envelopes. There is a lot of information there but also a lot missing. If we follow some simple guidelines we can keep our necessary documents and have them organized. I set up and organized all of 2016 paperwork into the carry along file box so it has everything that is needed for current business. I then started working on a excel spreadsheet to be used to itemize all transactions as the bank statement does not provide all details. I still want to tweak it before I say it is ready to be turned over but I will have that finished by next month. I was not able to print the statements from my computer. It opens 5/3 in a protected view and would not allow me to print from it. I hope to be able to correct this. I am understanding we are paperless with our account but would suggest that maybe we have the statements mailed to someone on the account for extra accountability. All funds that were handed over have been donated and I do not see any outstanding debts. The last piece of work I want to do is create a treasure duty sheet to be handed over but I have not finished that yet.

TY ILS
FRED S.

Oral Report Given at ASC:
Was very productive this month.
First went through past years documents and organized it.
There is a lot of info missing, bills, checkbook receipts, receipts, etc.
If we follow guidelines, we can keep it organized.
I have everything needed for current business in this box: (listed things). This is all the treasurer should need for these meetings.

I printed some example Excel spreadsheets that can be used. If I get a deposit slip, it doesn't itemize where money came from. The spreadsheet will include that info. Receipt numbers, cash/check, from. The spreadsheet does the math for you. I still want to tweak it; I will have it ready to turn over to the next person by next month.
I would suggest we have our statements emailed to someone, like the Chair or Secretary since we have a paperless account; that would be a counter-check on the treasurer.
All funds that were donated have been handed over. I don't see any outstanding debts.
I will have a duty list based on monthly, quarterly etc. for next month.

I have bank statement for secretary (turned in).

Action: Vonnie turned in phone line bill.

**Co-Treasurer:**
I regret to inform you that I am stepping down from the position. I have decided to move to Detroit. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Chair comment: This is more of a reason why we need to invite people to come to elections and step up for service. We have Fred who stepped up as a temporary Treasurer for a couple months. We will not have a Treasurer or Co-Treasurer.

**Public Relations:**

April 27, 2016
Public Relations Report
Chairperson
Hello everyone.
I have nothing new to say.
Thank you for letting me serve!
Vonnie K.
Website/Literature//Treasurer
Website
Meetings: Revised website listing Saturday Men of Character location change
Posted May-June meeting list.
Events:
Added June picnic.
Minutes posted:
March ASC.
March PR.

**Literature**
No literature ordered for facilities last month.

**Treasurer**
$81.04 expense for May-June meetings lists.
$19.82 expense for March phone line.

Craig K
Please provide meeting changes to PR chairperson so they may be updated immediately on the website and phone line and also marked for change on next paper copy printing.
If you have an event, please provide the information to the PR chairperson so it may be posted on the area website.

**Phone line/Meeting List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Billing Group</th>
<th>Calls</th>
<th>Call Secs</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>Common Area</th>
<th>Usage Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Grand Rapids</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2905</td>
<td>$3.62</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$6.62</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I updated the meeting list and printed 500 copies this month.
Jeff K.

Fellowship Development Coordinator
Nothing to report this month.
Thanks,
Lora V.

Community Outreach Coordinator Report/CoChair
Hi family,
Last month we had our first PR Panel at the Surrender to Win group. The panel went really well. We had four speakers: Tom W, Natalie S, Yvonne G, and Gabe B. We covered a range of PR topics and there was a question and answer period after each speaker. The audience seemed engaged, and hopefully we persuaded at least one member to do service work in PR. We put out signup sheets for the various service opportunities we have in our committee, but only a few people signed up. All in all though, I think the panel was a success.
Gabe B.

Treatment Facility Coordinator
Hi All,
This month has been both trying and beneficial as the treatment center coordinator for Turning Point. There were three weeks that the men did not attend and one week that the women did not attend during the month of April. I took it upon myself to call each point person individually. I expressed the importance of showing up and how our lack of attendance reflects upon Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. I also talked about following our traditions, the format that the committee has provided, and the list of dos and don’ts that are in the folder. Also, I feel there is/was some confusion from members who are going to speak at turning point on behalf of themselves, not our committee. I have spoken to Gilbert, our contact person at turning point. He apologized for the confusion and stated that from now on he will make sure that the speakers that he asks to speak on his own accord know that they are speaking on behalf of themselves not on behalf of Narcotics Anonymous. It was reported that a Turning Point staff member had mixed the men and women on a Tuesday night when the women came last month. I also spoke with Gilbert about this asking was or will this be a regular occurrence and if so I'd like to know so we could plan accordingly because right now we are sending women to speak to the women and men to speak with the men. He said that they would prefer to keep men and women separated and he will talk to the staff members at the facility. Aaron M has stepped down from his duties as the point person for the first Monday of the month, as he is moving. He has found a replacement for himself which will be Joe R. Joe did attend in his place during the month of April. Thank you for your service Aaron! I did try to contact Kevin McLaughlin, the executive director of Recovery Allies of West Michigan, the organization who distributes the living large magazine in which our meeting schedule is being printed. He has not responded. He has not responded either although. I have heard from one of their previous board members that the living large magazine has been put on hold.
Correctional Facility Coordinator

April
- Wed 6 / Tom W, Roger Thurs 7 / Aaron
- Wed 13 / Not covered Thurs 14 / Nick, Tom D
- Wed 16 / Tom W, Roger Thurs 17 / Aaron
- Wed 27 / Cory Thurs 28 / Pepe, Gabe

May
- Wed 4 / Tom W, Roger Thurs 5 /
- Wed 11 / Gabe, Cory Thurs 12 / Nick, Tom D
- Wed 18 / Tom W, Roger Thurs 19 /
- Wed 25 / Pepe, Thurs 26 / Roger, Bill Z

Aaron M.

Requested change to meeting list from the floor:
Q: Does the organizer for MDOC service calendar have to be a male?
A: It is helpful because ideally the scheduler can fill a space running a meeting that is not covered.

Activities Report:
Activities Co-Chair: Planning a Unity Ice Cream Social Picnic on August 27th. 6pm-11pm
Q: Do you have a flyer?
A: We will so it can be put on the website.

Comment from floor: Please take flyer for Recovery By The River Picnic to your home groups.

Comment from floor: I do a lot of outside events and I came here to find out what NA activities committee is doing because I want to do a BBQ and Comedy event. It is not NA related because I found it myself and give donations to people in treatment. I would like to offer to help NA with activities, because I have been doing this all myself.
A: Please attend Activities Subcommittee Meeting

New Business:
Q: Can I get my $20 back that I paid for rent for the Adhoc Subcommittee?
A: Fill out a form.

$60 total for Adhoc Subcommittee rent requested.
Approved

Fred: Request to donate $130 to both regional and world. There has been no donations made to them in the past

Q: I do not see anything for 1717 Madison meetings on the meeting list. Can I please have some information how to get excused?
A: Respond to email that sends out the minutes.
A: make it to the three meetings in a row in person first.

Q: Where are we supposed to be getting GSR reports?
A: Secretary puts them on the table.

Comment from floor: Let's welcome the new people!
Ladonna introduced herself, welcomed.
Julius welcomed back (second area meeting).
Welcomed Sara.
Welcomed Susan.
Welcomed Ken.

Comment from floor: Let's add welcoming new people to the agenda from now on.
A: Yes, Chair wrote down.

GROUP REPORTS:
Crystal Clear Group (NEW):
Downtown Resting Place:
NO REPORT

Home Group (Returning):
NO REPORT-Removed from List

Joy in Recovery (Returning):
NO REPORT-Removed from List

Just Hope Group (Returning):
NO REPORT- New Trusted Servant Reggie came as the GSR! Welcome Reggie. Added to the meeting list.

Just for Today:
7th Tradition: $40
Area Donation: $30
Report: (e-mailed) "Good Evening! Lisa is representing our group this evening. She has with her our $30 donation to the ASC. If you’re looking for a homegroup that is a closed NA meeting that meets for only one hour every Wednesday at Noon, with very comfortable furniture, and serves fun-sized candy, please drop in for a meeting. ILS Jeff K.”
Trusted Servant: Lisa K.

Keep Coming Back:
7th Tradition: $99
Area Donation: $0
Report:”going well”
Trusted Servant: Lisa K.

Keeping the Dream Alive:
7th Tradition: $n/a
Area Donation: $n/a
Report:”we will make up donation next month”
Trusted Servant: Margaret P.

Living the Dream (NEW):
7th Tradition: $0
Area Donation: $0
Report: “New meeting on Saturday @ Frontline Recovery. 1717 Madison SE.
Trusted Servant:

Men of Character:
NO REPORT

Natural Life:
7th Tradition: $ n/a
Area Donation: $ 0
Report:n/a
Trusted Servant: Yvonne Guerrero

New Beginnings:
7th Tradition: $ ?
Area Donation: $25

Report: “Change meeting format-1st Monday of the month is a IP literature. Our group is in the process of planning a service project. The main recommendation that appeals to the group is to complete a task for oakview church to express our gratitude.”

Trusted Servant: Rhonda S.

No Name Group:
NO REPORT

Open to Change:
7th Tradition: $20.95
Area Donation: $20.95
Report:n/a
Trusted Servant: Brooke B.

Open-Minded:
7th Tradition: $
Area Donation: $ “none @ this Time”
Report: “larger group lately” “closed” mtg at “St Pauls on Fuller Street, Sunday and Wednesdays @ 7pm.

Trusted Servant: Carson/Stephen

Path Begins the Journey (NEW/Returning):
NO REPORT

Principles Before Personalities:
7th Tradition: $ “not sure-don’t have the report”
Area Donation: $none
Report: “meeting is going well J “
Trusted Servant: Sarah F

Progress Not Perfection:
7th Tradition: $
Area Donation: $ “none @ this Time”
Report: “Had 3 new people last night usually a smaller group” “open meeting at St Pauls Campus parish library, Tuesdays @ 7pm.”
Trusted Servant: Carson

Saturday Night Candlelight:
7th Tradition: $72
Area Donation: $0
Report:”We continue to meet and follow the traditions to the best of our ability. We had 50 addicts attend in the month of March, did not welcome any newcomers had @20 in literature sales & $72 in the 7th tradition donations. We had to buy supplies, need to make a literature order and pay rent, thus we are not able to make an area contribution this month L”
Trusted Servant: Bill S.

Sisters of Serenity:
NO REPORT

Staying in the Solution:
7th Tradition: $
Area Donation: $ “No Donation at this time”
Report: “A pretty neat, diverse group lately. Some newcomers and new home group members.” Type-“Closed group except 4th Fri is open w/ speaker”. Meets-“Fri Nights @ 7-8:30 at Post/pine island church of the holy spirit”
Trusted Servant: Adam G.

Steps to Freedom(New):
New to Area this month! Welcome! See you in May and June and then we can add you to the meeting list!
7th Tradition: $0
Area Donation: $5
Report: “Steps to Freedom group meets every Wednesday from 5pm-7pm. We study out of the books (stepworking)”
Sunrise to Sunset:
NO REPORT

Surrender to Win:
7th Tradition: $n/a
Area Donation: $n/a
Report: n/a
Trusted Servant: Aaron M.

T.G.I.F.:
7th Tradition: $na
Area Donation: $80.00
Report: “good”
Trusted Servant: Josh P.

We Qualify:
7th Tradition: $91
Area Donation: $50
Report: n/a
Trusted Servant: Curt S.

Welcome Back (New):
New to Area this month. Welcome! See you in May and June and we will add you to the meeting list!

Young in Recovery:
NO REPORT