Greater Grand Rapids Area Service Committee Minutes
December 21, 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

Quorum 1:
GSRs: 15/23 present

Quorum 2:
GSRs: 10/23 present

ASC ROLL CALL
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Chairperson (Natalie S.) - Present
Co-Chairperson (Margaret P.) - Present
Secretary (Carlee W.) - Present
Co-Secretary (Dan W.) - Present
Treasurer (Barb) - Present
Co-Treasurer (OPEN POSITION) -
RCM (OPEN POSITION) -
Co-RCM (Sheldon S.) - Present

SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON(S):

Public Relations Chair (Gabe B.) – Present
Public Relations Co-Chair (Brooke) – Present

Activities (Yvonne) - Present

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*If your group is not on this list…please let the secretary know! Thanks!

New group:

**Chair**-

I did the deposit for 208.68 on Nov 18th. 1834.15 currently.
Met tonight for P&A. Once we get more consistent with these meetings we will announce at area so anyone can attend. We are planning to have one in March.

I got an email from Steve L, that he is formally stepping down from RCM position. We can talk about that position as well as co-treasurer after service reports.

**Co Chair:**
Nothing to report

**Secretary-**
Thank you for letting me serve. There are enough copies of the events that home groups have planned with the Activities Subcommittee on the table. Please take one and announce at your home groups.

**Co-secretary-**
Nothing to report

**Alternate RCM-**
RCM/RCMA Report December 2016

Hello family! This month I went to region in Midland, hosted by the Saginaw Bay Area. The trip was a total of 240 miles, and luckily I stayed with a friend so as to avoid hotel fees! This is what was sent back to me to report:

- The WSO is collecting input to shape 2 literature projects to be considered at WSC 2018;

  one is a meditation book, and the other is an IP on recovery and mental heath. There will be information posted on the WSO website regarding each project with input questions to fill out and use at local workshops. Please remember, more voices means better literature.

- The WSO has also just published a pamphlet for the PR subcommittee regarding medication/assisted treatment. It is intended for professionals who prescribe medication for
addiction and will be available online soon.

• Registration for MRCNA can now be done online at www.squareup.com/store/mrcna.

Please note that this year it is required that if you wish to participate in NA talent, you must either register at the time of convention registration or by that Friday evening at 5pm.

• MRCNA committees are in need of support. If you have a willingness to serve, please contact me or any member already involved in MRCNA service.

• NAWS holds Quarterly Web meetings for the PR subcommittee, and it should be stressed that the Area level chairs should be attending these regularly.

• Our regional PR rep has asked us to reach out at a local level regarding school systems and educating local counselors on addiction; if you have questions or concerns you may ask him for assistance.

• There are two open positions at the regional level: MSO Representative and Web Servant.

If you have a willingness to serve, please contact me or attend the next regional meeting in March. The clean time requirements are as followed:

◦ MSO: 3 year requirement

◦ Web Servant: 1 year requirement

That is all that was sent back with me from Region apart from flyers that I have brought with me.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service!

Yours,

Sheldon Skiver, RCM Alternate
Q: Are you going to give me details about quarterly web meeting?
A: Yes, it is on the website. Doug is also a good person to see about that.

Q: Is March elections for regional positions?
A: Yes at the next regional meeting.

Q: do you have some information about the Logo contest?
A: yes, submit via the square-up website, and you have until the 13th of January to submit a logo for MRCNA, and if you win you get a prize.

**Public Relations:**

**Chairperson**
Hi Family,

Things are going well in PR. We still have one vacant positions that we’re looking to fill, Secretary and Community Outreach Coordinator. Although we do have an active Webservant, Bill Z., I have been doing the web updates for now, until the new Regional Website goes live. I will make sure the website is up to date within the next week.

Thanks for letting me serve,

Gabe B.

**Cochair/Treatment Center Coordinator**
Hi All,

This month has had all time slots filled for the meetings at Turning Point except for the first Tuesday of the month. The women contacted me shortly before the start time stating they would be unable to attend. Turning Point was contacted. I have been in contact with our contact person, Gilbert, regularly as usual. Him and I speak once a week usually.

I did contact our chairperson, Gabe, This month and discuss a family crisis I have experienced as of recent. I do not feel overwhelmed with my commitments currently but will most definitely let our committee know if anything changes.

Thank you all for you support. Also, thank you for allowing me to serve.

Brooke B.
Still looking for a point person for most weeks for the men, and for the women at the 4th Tuesday of each month.

**Correctional Facilities Coordinator**

Hello Family,

Jail is going well, we had one issue with one of our members being turned away from entering the jail. I let the contact know about what happened and hopefully this will be resolved. Every meeting was covered.

Thanks,
Tom W.

**Phone Line/Meeting Lists**

Phone line for November was $18.47. Phone line for December (to date) is $18.19.

-Jeff K.

**Activities Report:**

Yvonne:
As of today, we are looking to barrow $350 for venue, food DJ and change for the New Years Eve Sock Hop.

There is an open position for Form Developer and Event Promoter.

TGIF Game Night is January 27th after the meeting at that meeting location.

Gabe: Our rotating budget is $300 and we would need an additional $50 for starting cash to make change. Maybe a larger rotating budget for ASC would be better.

**Treasurer Report:**
[see attached for full report]

balance was: 1834.16
donations in Dec. are: 296.44
written 4 checks tonight
81.04 PR meeting lists
129.60 to Sheldon for RCM milage
61.31 phone line
75.00 st peter and paul

ending balance: 1548.51

need to make quarterly donation to region and world

Q: is the balance always that high?
A: [gave summary of what will be used and prudent reserve]

**Old Business:**
Chair: Is there anyone willing to step up to the co-treasurer position?

Andrew K: yes I am.

Chair: [read treasurer duties and qualifications aloud]
ASked prepared questions

Andrew: 2.75 years clean. Relatively active mostly at home group level.
Serve as GSR, home group treasurer at YIR. I realized there is a need for co-treasurer
and I'm willing to step up and learn.

NA service structure is the only experience I've had, just at a home-group level. My
personal finances are in check and I am required to keep a budget at work. I am familiar
with a spreadsheet and everything.

Q: When does Barb’s position end?
A: May

Q: Are you willing to learn within 4 months?
A: Yes

Q: How long is the term?
A: The rest of the year as co, and one year as treasurer.

Andrew left the room.
Chair: Any opposition or discussion?

[discussion]

No opposition.

Andrew came back in and was invited to sit next to the Treasurer. He was congratulated.

Floor: We should be stressing out need for a new co-treasurer in May.

**New Business:**

Chair:
Nominations for RCM

Sheldon
Susan

Floor: Nominated Susan for Alternate RCM
Accepted nomination

Chair: [read qualifications and duties]

Sheldon:
I do not have 2 years clean (have 15 months) and only 7 months service as alternate RCM service at area level, but I do service at Turning Point (PR) for about 9 months and am a temporary sponsor for a couple minute. I have never been a GSR. I do service at home group level. I went to Regional myself this month and did pretty well.

Q: How long is the term?
A: 2 years

[discussion]

Q: If she is elected, are you, Fred, willing to give her guidance and voice?
A: Yes, she could sit by me too.

Chair: To summarize, we are being cognizant of following the guidelines and being mindful of clean-time requirement, and also hearing that she has done a very good job. Any opposition?

No opposition.
Sheldon came back in.

Chair: Sheldon, we talked about how Fred will be at area and would like him to sort-of mentor you. Would you be willing to let him mentor you?
A: yes.

Chair: Are there nominations for Alternate RCM?

Ryan B.- has willingness
Dave W.- has willingness
Susan B.- has willingness

Chair asked Ryan questions:

Ryan: Has read qualification and duties and meets qualification. 3 years clean in February. has sponsor, No misappropriation of NA funds. Chair Open-to Change and business meeting as GSR. Serve as activities chair for about 17 months and was successful. GSR for 26 months.

Chair asks Dave quotations:

24 years clean, has sponsor, no misappropriation of na funds. Treasurer of staying in the solution for 2.5 years. Chaired whenever I was in town. My willingness is that I am retired now so I don’t have to go out of town anymore and I would like to give back.

Chair asked Susan Questions:

15 months, sponsor, no misap. of na funds, have chaired a couple different meetings, treasurer of home group, have been the gsr since april, know majority of this fellowship because i’ve been in the rooms for almost 4 years, so I feel I know what they would say if they were there.

Questions for Ryan:
Are you willing to carpool with Sheldon?
yes
We only pay for one room. Are you ok with that?
I would buy my own room.
You know this is four weekends per year?
yes and willing
Why are you willing to do alternate, but not RCM?
Because i’ve never attended regional before, and I want to get more familiar with other areas. I started to get introduced to others by getting involved with MRCNA.
Do you feel like this would help you in your recovery?
yes. i feel a void after no longer doing activities and I felt willingness before
Questions for Dave:
Do you have transportation and willing to carpool?  
yes
Do you think this will help you in your recovery?  
yes, I have been wanting to participate for a long time, but wasn’t able to because of my job.
This is the first time I’ve seen you here. Has there been anything else that kept you from serving?  
no, just my job.
Have you been involved with service at area level before in your 24 years?  
no

Questions for Susan:
Willing to transport/carpool?  
yes
Are you willing to come back and serve in May if you do not get this position?  
yes. [Dave also answered yes, and Ryan said all except co-treasurer]

Chair: I got an email from James N. (Jim) and he said he has the willingness to do alternate or RCM. he says he commits and follows through with positions.

Nominees left the room

[Discussion]

Silent Vote

Ryan Announced new RCM and congratulated

New Business:
Newcomer Pack Proposal

Chair: introduced Gabe talking about the request last month for a homegroup to get funds for literature and keytags

Gabe: last year we voted yes to fund the group up to $150, and what she submitted was less than that with tax, without shipping. I did tell her we might not approve the entire list, so we can go through these items and pare down, or just approve this. I’m fine helping a new meeting get off their feet myself.

Written Proposal:  
“I propose that the ASC offer a starter pack to new meetings that have met the requirements to be on the meeting list, if they are in need and request it. Groups that have some kind of catastrophe
happen would also be eligible to get the starter pack. Before a group is on the meeting list and eligible to receive the starter pack from the ASC, we will recommend contacting WSO and requesting their starter kit.

The starter pack would be:

2 X Basic Text @ $11.55: $23.10
1 X Just for Today @ $9.00: $9.00
5 X Each Keytag (9) @ $0.53: $23.85
1 X Group Readings @ $4.50: $4.60
5 X IP #11 Sponsorship @ $0.24: $1.20
5 X IP #12 Triangle of Self Obsession @ $0.24: $1.20
5 X IP #14 One Addict's Experience... @ $0.24: $1.20
5 X IP #16 For the Newcomer @ $0.24: $1.20
5 X IP #19 Self Acceptance @ $0.24: $1.20
5 X IP #22 Welcome to NA @ $0.24: $1.20
5 X IP #7 Am I an Addict @ $0.24: $1.20
5 X IP #8 Just for Today @ $0.24: $1.20

Total: $70.15
+$4.21 tax = $74.36 + shipping

Comment: I suggest we change the numbers of keytages for more 10 white tags instead of 5.

Q: So they would be on the meeting list before we provided that?
A: yes, just to show that they will be around and not a waste.

Q: So area would order that rather than giving them a check to order them?
A: yes, PR could possibly be responsible for it.

Chair: There are two topics here: First, getting the literature ordered for Hope Not Dope.

Q: Did you say there are things that could be pared down?
Gabe: listed some things that a lot of homegroups in our area do not have.

Comment: Disruptive Behavior IP is very important and they should have it, based on my experience. I think we have a group around here that could donate one.

Comment: I would suggest giving then the 15 white and orange, even if it means less of the other colors.

Comment: I feel we should have something more structured so there is no favoritism moving forward and no need for a bunch of discussion.

Chair: Yes, that is our intention. [recapped what has been decided and action taken so far about Hope Not Dope getting their starter pack].

Q: Has their location been approved? And is it on the meeting list?
A: It is approved, and no its not on the meeting list yet.
Chair: Starter pack criteria proposal no, questions?

Q: This would go in ASC guidelines?
A: yes, voting on it here.

Comment: I suggest adding “If the funds are available”.
Comment: I think there should be a limit that we will do it once, and not again within a eyar or something.
Comment: I would be fine putting “one time only” and leave it at that.

Q: Can’t we do this at P&A in order to have detailed notes and changes to this?
Chair: We are not going to have time to talk about changing details, but we can vote yes or no on Gabe’s proposal.

Gabe: I will email the proposal to the Secretary to put in the minutes, and we can get your group’s ideas, then bring it back to vote.

Chair: Any other questions?

Q: $50 for ASC?

Chair: Any opposition?

No opposition.

Chair: Next month please submit any new business in writing.

**GROUP REPORTS:**

**BYOB (Bring Your Own Book):**
Trusted Servant: Andrew K.
7th Tradition Collected: “unknown”
donation to area: 0
Report: “Significant drop in attendance, probably due to holidays. Hoping to donate next month, still buying starting materials.”

**Downtown Resting Place:**
REPORT:
7th tradition collected:
Area donation:
Trusted Servant:

**Hope Not Dope:**
7th tradition:
Area Donation: $1
Report: “new location secured-address to be updated next month”
Trusted Servant: Margaret P.

**Just Hope Group:**
Report:
7th tradition collected: 30
area donation: $10
trusted servant: Reggie H.

**Just for Today:**
First Name, Last Initial of Trusted Servant Submitting Report/Donation:
Lisa M. (Jeff K. emailed report)

Total 7th Tradition Collected Last Month
$93.00

Group donation to Area Service Committee
$ 60 .00

MONTHLY GROUP PROGRESS REPORT (OPTIONAL):
Good evening!
We are donating $60 to the ASC this month. We will use the remaining money to pay our rent through June 2017.
If you’re looking for a home group 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,
JeffK

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**Keep Coming Back:**
7th Tradition: $100
Area Donation: $6
Report: “going great”
Trusted Servant: Lisa K.

**Keeping the Dream Alive:**
7th Tradition:
Area Donation: $20
Report: “going well!”
Trusted Servant: Margaret P.
Open to Change:
no report
Men of Character:
no report
Natural Life:
REPORT: “Need more members. We meet one day each month {business meeting}”
7th tradition collected: $60
Area donation: “0 next month”
Trusted Servant: Jose B.
No Name Group:
No report
New Beginnings:
Trusted Servant: Fred S.
7th tradition: $28
Area donation: 0
Report: “support has been consistent and has been able to pay our bills.”
Open To Change:
Trusted servant: Ryan B.
7th tradition: $65
area donation: $8.01
report: “n/a”
Principles Before Personalities:
trusted servant: Earl G.
7th tradition: 177.50
area donation: 73.75
report: “Family, all is well at PB4P. we received an updated [illegible] list”
Saturday Night Candlelight:
REPORT: The Saturday Night Candlelight Meeting continues to meet and follow the traditions to
the best of our ability. We are sorry to report that there was no meeting held on 11/26/2016 due
to a mix up in who was responsible to chair the meeting that week. We are very concerned that
this occurred – it was the first time in the fifteen year history of this meeting – and we do not
anticipate that this will happen again. We have decided to once again to host a summer picnic
at Riverside Park and hope to rent the Riverbend Pavilion on the third
Saturday in June again this year. We are still in need of additional homegroup members; we have been discussing the possibility of closing down or moving the meeting. Our rent is paid through January. We have literature available for sale and good selection of IPs for the taking. We are not able to make an area donation this month.

LOCATION/MTG TIME:
Pine Rest/6:30-8:00pm
Open
BUSINESS MTG:
Third Saturday

Total attendees:
25
Average Per Meeting:
8
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month:
1
Total 7th Tradition Collected:
$52.00
Area Donation:
0
Anniversaries Celebrated:
3

Sisters of Serenity:
REPORT: “sometime do good”
7th Tradition Collected: 20
Donation to Area: 0
Trusted Servant: Lisa M.

Staying in the Solution:
trusted servant: Dave W.
7th tradition: $19
area donation: $30
Report:

Steps to Freedom:
7th Tradition: $ 15
Area Donation: $ 0
Report: “Needs support!”
Trusted Servant: Susan F.

Students in Recovery:
7th tradition: $43
Area Donation: $0
Report: “Meeting is going well. We are closed for winter break currently and will resume January 10”
Trusted Servant: Gabe B.

Sunrise to Sunset:
7th tradition: $78
Area Donation: 0
Report: “doing good”
Trusted Servant: David M.

Surrender to Win:
Hi Family,
All is well within the homegroup. Still struggling to find members of the homegroup of itself, however attendance is strong. We also would like to clarify that our meeting is NOT planing to move come the first of the year, we have found out the church is being sold to new owners and the new owners are comfortable to maintain our arrangements on Wednesday nights.

Ps- Will discuss with homegroup making another substantial donation for the first of the year.

ILS - Bill P
Attendance avg: 30
7th: $50
Area Donation: $0

T.G.I.F.:
7th Tradition: $76.18
Area Donation: $ 50.18
Report: “Everything is going well. We will be hosting a game night Jan 27th.”
Trusted Servant: Lora V.

We Qualify:
no report

Young in Recovery:
REPORT:
7th tradition collected: $70
Area donation: $20
Trusted Servant: Amanda Z.