Greater Grand Rapids Area Service Committee Minutes
March 22, 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:
Met

Quorum 2:
Met

ASC ROLL CALL
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Chairperson (Natalie S.) - Excused
Co-Chairperson (Margaret P.) - Present
Secretary (Carlee W.) - Present
Co-Secretary (Dan W.)- Present
Treasurer (Barb) - Present
Co-Treasurer (Andrew)- Present
RCM (Sheldon S.) - Present
Alt-RCM (Ryan B.) - Present

SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON(S):

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

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NEW/RETURNING GROUPS:

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

Welcomed Erica, David, and Jared to their first Area meeting

**Chair:**
Hello, I apologize for my absence but I needed to attend my Wednesday night class tonight. We have nominations/elections for open positions in May. Margaret will read to you the details of the open positions. Thank you to Sheldon for putting together this “cheat sheet” for open positions! This is very helpful. Please take them to your home group and encourage individuals to step into a service commitment.

I have nothing new to report and have a great month!

**Co Chair:**
Thank you all for meeting here. Thank you for letting me be of service.

**Secretary:**
There are copies of the GGRASCNA elections announcement, please take it to your home groups and announce. There are also activity flyers on the table. Please take one and announce at your home groups.

**Co-secretary:**
nothing to report. Thank you for letting me serve.

**Treasurer:**
(See written report attached to this email)
I put treasurer reports on the back table.

[read amounts of deposits and expenses aloud.]

Total balance is 1866.76. That is a large balance, we may want to consider donating some of it up the service structure.

Q: When is our quarterly donation due.
A: I will be paying it after today’s donations. The previous amounts were 10%.

Co Treasurer:

We will have to buy some more receipts. Other than that thank you for letting me be of service.

A: I already bought some.

RCM and Alternate RCM:

Hello family! Ryan and I traveled to Adrian College this month and attended the Regional Meeting; the mileage traveled was 284 miles round trip. These are the notes we feel the need to report back. If you are interested in a more in depth explanation of the occurrences, feel free to reach out to me and I will get the minutes to you.

· Our phone line bill is $63.40 for the quarter.

· The cutoff date for discounted MRCNA registration is April 1st, however, any fundraiser from now until MRCNA will allow for discounted pricing.

· The cutoff date for room registration at a discounted rate with the Radisson will be June 25th.

· The committee meeting dates for MRCNA have changed for the month of April and June. The April meeting will be held on the 4th Sunday (April 23rd) and the June meeting will be held on the 2nd Sunday (June 11th). It is VERY important that this is communicated in your homegroup announcements.

· Our Regional PR Chair, Doug, would like to reiterate the importance of our PR chairs attending the quarterly H&I webinars hosted by world. I personally would like to inquire if Gabe has done any research into that?

· If we as an area are looking to outreach and get literature into our school districts (high schools in particular), Doug suggests contacting the RESAs in the area (Regional Education Service Agencies) to best ensure that literature is distributed. Region was granted a budget last quarter in regards to this distribution, and you can reach out to Doug for help and insight on this endeavor.

· Doug also would like to figure out a way to implement the “Intro to NA” booklet into all of the state prisons and last quarter was approved a budget to do so. It was brought to our attention that Ionia may or may not be a part of our area as it lies on the border of Capital Area and ours. He will be doing more research about it and in contact with me. Is this something we are willing to look into as an area?
· I will enclose in my web report to Carlee a list of upcoming events for other areas that have either requested support or are an opportunity for good fellowship.

[list printed and presented on table:
May 29th
Capital Area Memorial Day Pig Roast
MRCNA Fundraiser
4500 W. Willow Hwy
Lansing, MI
Noon - ???
$5 suggested donation]

· Elections were held for regional positions; if you would like me to read the results of the election, I can, but they will be included in the web report to Carlee for anyone interested.
  ◦ Facilitator Nominations: Todd (previous co facilitator); no commentary from the floor in opposition. Todd is Facilitator.
  ◦ Co Facilitator Nominations: Barb nominated—has willingness; no commentary from the floor in opposition. Barb is Co Facilitator.
  ◦ Secretary Nomination: Micha—has willingness; no commentary from the floor in opposition. Micha is Secretary.
  ◦ Co Secretary Nomination: Sheldon—has willingness; if there was commentary I missed it cause duh. Sheldon is Co Secretary.
  ◦ Treasurer Nomination: Fred Nomination—has willingness; discussed that it would be better than having him be co because our current co does not have enough experience; no opposition from the floor. Fred is Treasurer.
  ◦ Co Treasurer is Filled, but we still had to ask if anyone a willingness; no commentary from the floor; Arvilla stays Co Treasurer.

· Lastly, but probably most importantly: in light of Steven L’s recent departure, it has come to my attention that he was responsible for solving our Tax ID issue and was meant to personally use his information. Is there a willingness in his absence from another member to take that on?

All in all, Region was a smooth endeavor and we are grateful to serve.

In Loving Service,

Sheldon S, RCM
Ryan B, RCMA

Public Relations:

Chairperson
Hi Family,
There’s a lot going on in PR, as usual. We held an orientation for all our jail volunteers last month, with a jail staff member there to go over their guidelines with us. We also went over our PR do’s and don’ts for the jail with our volunteers. We have a good number of volunteers going into both the jail and Turning Point right now, but we could always use more.

Also, Tom and I went to a meeting of Families Against Narcotics this past month. It was impressive to see the amount of support they had for their first Grand Rapids chapter meeting. They invited us to come back, probably around August, for a meeting featuring various community resources for families, which we would be one of.

As always, we encourage anybody interested in serving at the PR level and helping to carry the message to still suffering addicts.

Thanks for letting me serve,

Gabe B.

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Hi All,

I was able to meet face to face with our contact person for Turning Point's (Gilbert) manager (Tracey) for a brief chat as I was at the facility for a different purpose. I asked her how the meetings this subcommittee facilitates to bring in were going from her perspective as she is the second shift person who is normally always on site during the times of our meetings. She told me they went well but it seems that she can never determine if people are going to show up or not. This was rather conflicting to me because I had assumed most weeks everyone was showing up, Gilbert does let me know when he knows if no one attends. She told me this could be a result of lack of communication from her, to him, which then gets to me. I asked her if she could text me the night of the meetings to verify if someone attends for the next month or so which she agreed to do and has been happening. That evening the two point people for men did not show up, I had sent each of them a reminder, I did not receive a response from Mark. Julius did respond, asked what time the meeting was but did not attend. I have found a replacement for a point person the first Monday of the month, Aaron Marshall, but he is unable to attend the 1st Monday of the month in April. He is planning to attend the second Monday of the month with that weeks point people to become oriented as he will be celebrating his six months that day.

I sent an email with the revised do's and dont's attached to each of the people serving at turning point who was not at last months pr meeting to review. I also included a reminder about how our attendance reflects on NA as a whole from the view of both the facility and the clients at the facility. I reminded them that it was their responsibility to let me know that they are unable to attend and try to find a replacement for themselves (if they are unable that is ok but please let this coordinator know).

I will continue to stay in weekly contact with Tracey to make sure we have a point person showing up to serve and report the results again next month.

Thank you for allowing me to serve

Brooke B.

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Phone Line/Meeting Lists

Phone line for February was $22.41. Phone line for March (to date) is $15.17.

-Jeff K.
Correctional Facilities Coordinator
Hello Family,

We had one no show this past month, only one person showed up, so no meeting was held. We think the problem is fixed, but time will tell. Otherwise all is good.

Tom W.

Q: Years ago at Calvin College in Spring, they hold a seminar with all treatment centers and other recovery institutions, and we used to have a table there. I was wondering if PR would like to do that. I’m sure they still do it. I attended it with Jeff K. so he may be a contact person.

A: That sounds like something we could do. Thank you.

Q: Did we ever get one of those blue table covers from Region?
A: We bought one ourselves.

**Activities Report:**
Brought in total of $735.50
Spend $125 extra after the $350

Net profit $260 for MRCNA

Yvonne has stepped down from the Chair position.

Chair: Ok, I will contact her. It says in the guidelines to resign at area or in writing to area.

We have open positions: Chair, possible co-chair, forms developer, secretary.

Please attend on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 in the Library at the North Club

Gabe: Our activities have been awesome, not to pat ourselves on the back, but we had a lot of newcomers and treatment centers show up, and it was just great, showing we can have fun in recovery. So, please come out and be of service!

Q: Has anyone in your committee heard of the Love and Basketball activity? I noticed it was not on the website.

A: Yes we just got the flyer Saturday.

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

**Old Business:**
Sheldon made a list of qualifications and duties of the positions. It is attached here.
Sheldon made a list of qualification and duties of the positions. It is a three page document, with copies on the back table.

P&A updates: Under nominations on page 7, we updated statements to show that RCM and Alternate RCM are 2 year positions, and will be elected in May of even years. [read specific statements aloud] election are May 24th, electing Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary, Co-Secretary, Treasurer and Co-Treasurer.

Contribution to WSO and MRCNA:
Treasurer: Rent is paid. Quarterly budget paid. Have not received literature from PR yet. [Gabe: earmark $500 for that]
We are left with about $800.

2175.70
-500 PR
-300 Activities
-500 Prudent reserve
= 875.70

Comment from prior activities chair: I think we need to take into account if an activity tanks, having twice the amount there to make up for it, to do the next activity.

Motion: donate $250 a piece for region, WSO, and MRCNA.

Comment from floor: I feel if an activity tanks, it would be what the prudent reserve is for. We can’t set aside money that is not part of the rotating budget. We would have to increase that budget. It is important to get rid of the money and not worry about “what ifs”.

Q: Is there a priority list?
A: That’s what prudent reserve is for.

Treasurer: I have not seen anything from presto print about meeting lists.
A: it is usually $81.04

Q: Does MRCNA still need money?
A: They always do
A: MRCNA profits go to Region and World, so it all ends up in the same place.

Q: Do we know how much the biggest donation to MRCNA from another area was? I would like to top that by $1. [Ryan B. possibly joking. ...but probably not. haha]

Q: to activities- what happened to the money from the MRCNA fundraiser?
A: It went straight to MRCNA

Chair: Motion on the floor- $250 to each
-No opposition
-Motion carries

New Business:
Quorum met
Proposals from RCM:

- If we as an area are looking to outreach and get literature into our school districts (high schools in particular), Doug suggests contacting the RESAs in the area (Regional Education Service Agencies) to best ensure that literature is distributed.
Gabe: This comes under the duties of the “Community Outreach Coordinator”. [the two will coordinate on getting the information to PR]

· 2. Doug also would like to figure out a way to implement the “Intro to NA” booklet into all of the state prisons and last quarter was approved a budget to do so. It was brought to our attention that Ionia may or may not be a part of our area as it lies on the border of Capital Area and ours. He will be doing more research about it and in contact with me. Is this something we are willing to look into as an area?

Comment: Contact Capitol area first.
A: It is in the 616 area code which is in Grand Rapids. Capitol Area does not know about the Ionia meeting.

Comment: Region has a map of the areas and that meeting fall on the line.
RCM Sheldon: I can contact them.

PR Gabe: There are a good 6 prisons in Ionia. It’s not that simple of a task.
A: Doug has a connections to prison leadership there.
Fred: Doug suggested we get ahold of the librarian because higher-ups just put literature in the closet.
A: Doug is contacting someone.

PR: We will handle it at our level.

3. With Steve stepping down, we no longer have a SSN to get a tax ID number or bank account. Is there any willingness?

[much conversation about the options for our bank account needs. similar point made to the last time this was brought up.] Sheldon said she would ask her lawyer about using her SSN.

GROUP REPORTS:
Action:
Trusted Servant: Kayla P.
7th:
donation:
report:

BYOB (Bring Your Own Book):
no report

Downtown Resting Place:
no report

Just Hope Group:
Trusted Servant: Reggie H.
7th tradition: $40
donation to area: $10
report:

Just for Today:
7th tradition: $60
donation to area: $14
Report: N/A
Trusted Servant: Lisa M.
Keep Coming Back:
7th tradition collected: $103
area donation: $10
report: “going well”
trusted servant: Lisa K.
Keeping the Dream Alive:
7th Tradition: -
Area Donation: $15
Report: “Planning event for early June”
Trusted Servant: Margaret P.
Keep it Simple:
Trusted Servant: David K
7th tradition: -
Donation to area: 0
report: “named group Keep it Simple”
Open to Change:
no report
Men of Character:
no report
Natural Life:
trusted Servant: Jose B.
7th tradition: $300
area donation: $50
report: “going great”
No Name Group:
no report
New Beginnings:
trusted servant: Fred S.
7th tradition: $64
area donation: 0
report: “Attendance has been awesome. It’s wonderful to see the meeting finally growing.”
Principles Before Personalities:
trusted servant: Earl G.
7th tradition: ?
area donation: “will forward later”
report: “All is well and our home elections are in April. I have a check but do not have it with me.”
Saturday Night Candlelight:
no report
Sisters of Serenity:
no report
Staying in the Solution:
no report
Steps to Freedom:
7th Tradition: $40
Area Donation: $1
Report: “doing good. lots of participation. always looking for more members”
Trusted Servant: Susan F.
Students in Recovery:
7th tradition: $11
Area Donation: $0
Report: “Attendance is 8-10, sometimes a little less. Need GR support. No donation since we don’t have a lot of income and need some key tags”
Trusted Servant: DW
Sunrise to Sunset:
no report

Surrender to Win:
7th tradition: $60
Area Donation: $0
Report:
Trusted Servant: Julie T.

T.G.I.F.:
7th Tradition: $161.32
Area Donation: $41.86
Report: “good”
Trusted Servant: Aaron S.

The Path Begins the Journey:
no report

Welcome Back:
Trusted Servant: Marvin T.
7th tradition: $500
area donation: $500

We Qualify:
Trusted Servant: Bill Z.
7th tradition: $106.88
area donation: $75
report:

Young in Recovery:
REPORT: “We bought a rack for our IPs”
7th tradition collected: 62.53
Area donation: $20
Trusted Servant: Erica V.