Greater Grand Rapids Area Service Committee Minutes
September 26, 2018

- 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
- Welcome Matt new to Area, Welcome Dave being trained to be a GSR

Quorum 1:
Met

Quorum 2:
Met

ASC ROLL CALL
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Chairperson (Reggie) - Present

Co-Chairperson (Erica V) - Present

Secretary (Carlee W) - Present

Co-Secretary (Linda R) - Present

Treasurer (Bill S) - Excused

Co-Treasurer (Dave W) - Present

RCM (Aaron M) - Present

Alt-RCM (Ian K.) - Present

SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON(S):
Public Relations Chair (Brooke B) – Present

Public Relations Co-Chair (Kaitlyn M.) – Present

Activities Chair (Dionna B.) - Present

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

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**Chair**
Thank you for letting me serve.

**Co Chair**
Remind everyone to maintain an atmosphere of respect and decorum. We will be calling names for sharing today.

**Secretary**
Read email from WSO:

“All Hello everyone,

We are writing with lots of news and announcements.

Issue Discussion Topics”
Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs) are subjects that encourage us to think more deeply about relevant topics and help build unity within our groups and service bodies. The IDTs for this cycle are Carrying the NA Message and Making NA Attractive, Attracting Members to Service, and Drug Replacement Therapy (DRT) and Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) and NA. Workshop material including Session outlines, PowerPoints, and handouts have been posted at www.na.org/idt. That page also has a section with general discussion/workshop tools. Please send the results of your workshops to worldboard@na.org. You can type up the responses and send them in or just send in pictures of the note sheets.

Membership Survey

Every three years, we conduct a membership survey to gather information about our Fellowship, in order to strengthen our public relations efforts and learn more about how and where we carry our message of recovery. The survey will be posted at www.na.org/survey until the end of the year. Please consider filling out the survey—which is anonymous—and forwarding the link to other members.

Spiritual Principle a Day Book Project

We need your help letting everyone know about our current book project. The book will explore a spiritual principle each day, in a similar style to the Just for Today daily meditation book. We just posted online forms as well as workshop materials for members to submit their writing. Check it out at www.na.org/spad and spread the word. Thank you for your service!

Yours in service,

World Board”

Thanks for letting me be of service.

Co-secretary-
No report

Treasurer:

Co Treasurer:
See attached for written reports.

**RCM and Alternate RCM:**
Had the region meeting second week of September.
$153.80 receipt returned for the travel expenses.

{reads highlights of written report - see attached}

Q: Did the money come out of MSO’s reserve or region’s?
A: MSO’s

Q: Was there any misappropriation, or was it money just not handled well?
A: There was a discussion of about half an hour and they stated it was just the delivery issue.

Q: Was this a member doing service or a special worker?
A: Special worker

**Public Relations:**
We had elections this evening and nominated Kaitlyn M. as Chair Person.
We have secretary open, community outreach coordinator, fellowship development coordinator, need a male and a female for jail and treatment center coordinators.

Come next month at PR to nominate please, we need support.

We are considering going down to two times per month at Turning Point from 4 because we are having such trouble with people showing up. We have about 4 male and 4 female going in regularly. We need more. Also in the jail, we have multiple meetings for men each week and we prefer to send two men but we have been having a lot of singles. For women in the jail we have had the same 3 women for about 3 years and I know there are more females that can go into the jail in this area. We did a trial run at Pivot and we do not have two committed members, a male and a female to go in there.
We can switch the day (to 11am Saturday) if need be to get some commitment.

Comment from floor:
Go back to your home group and tell people that if they have any willingness at all to please show up to PR next month.

**Written PR report:**

**SEPTEMBER 2018 PR REPORTS**

**CHAIR**
Hello Family,
Nothing new to report this month. I was unable to connect with our contact for the local jr high who may have an interest in allowing us to host a panel discussion to their school. I will pass that information to our new chairperson.
I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve as our chair this term. It has been a trying year for me personally and I am ever so grateful for all of the endless support.
In loving service,
Brooke B.

**CO-CHAIR/SECRETARY**
Nothing new to report.
Kaitlyn M.

**CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**
Hello Family,
Nothing much to report other than I will be looking forward to the next trusted servant taking over the position through our wonderful election process. I will provide a finish inventory, schedule and a list of names. I will also be available to help the new coordinator in whatever capacity required.
In loving service,
Adam Gee Dog McGruff

**FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR**
Hey family,
NATIVE CENTER
I am continuing to work with them. I anticipate they will be attending area in October.
This month I visited the men of character meeting. I was not warmly accepted. They would like in the future regardless of who holds the position to only have a man go. I could be wrong but by not allowing women to come that is a violation of traditions. Or at least how it was explained to me. I was under the assumption that if someone shows up for a meeting they can stay and not be turned away. If I did not hold a position I would have been. I am sorry about the delay in my report.

In loving service
Jennah R.

PHONE LINE/ MEETING LIST
Nothing to report

WEBSERVANT
Still trying to get together with Patti K. regarding needed changes to GGRASCNA website. Otherwise nothing new to report. A co-servant would be nice to train.

ILS
Bill Z.

TREATMENT CENTER COORDINATOR
Hi Family,
I apologize for not being at the meeting last month or this month. Family things! Turning Point needs some consistency from both men and women. I would suggest moving forward we do two meetings a month instead of four. Us no call no showing reflects poorly on Na, us as a subcommittee, and me as the treatment center coordinator. Aaron M. and Brooke Q went to Pivot August 20 to do a trial meeting. I heard good things from Aaron. The staff at pivot had nothing but excellent things to say about the meeting, Aaron, Brooke, and NA. I hope we can keep that going. One guy, one girl, once a month on Mondays at 7. Saturdays at 11 was also available.
I am not planning to continue my position after this month. I have too much going on at home. I appreciate everyone and thank you for letting me serve!
(I can make myself available to whoever takes over the position and help them moving forward!)
Alicia S.

Activities Report:
We hoped to be doing our elections today for Chair Person. Since we did not come to a decision at our meeting last month, we decided to table it to tonight.

Old Business:
None
New Business:

New Business written submission: In order to make meetings beneficial and accessible, we ask that everyone who speaks, speak in a loud and clear voice so that people who are hard of hearing can hear.

Next New Business:

Vote for Activities Chair

Chair: Are there any nominations?
Gabe nominated, seconded
Dionna nominated

Chair: Do you two accept?
Both said Yes

Chair: Asked Dionna standard questions.
A: has sponsor, no other service positions, pastpositions- GSR, service for MRCNA, chaired meetings, has served as activities chair here for the past several months, never left a service commitment before term was up, ability to lead group- (paraphrased) it takes leadership, in this process it is important to know the information and I believe I have it and the ability to not just apply principles to myself as an individual but also in a leadership role, responsible, committed, able to have fun, able to see the miracle of recovery. It is important I not forget the primary purpose. I have a responsibility to do that in my leadership role, not just my knowledge, but the compassion in my heart for the program as a whole

Chair asked Gabe standard questions:
A: 12 years 9 months clean, has sponsor, GSR at home group, never misappropriated funds, service experience: area co-secretary and secretary in other area, PR various positions, activities treasurer, home group positions, convention information chair MRCNA, never left commitment before term was up, abilities: general manager of 20 people in job, delegating, leading, learned a lot in NA service as well as PR chair and co-chair, familiar with concepts of consensus based decision making, keeping order, putting principles before personalities.

Chair: “Any questions for Dionna?”:

Q: are you willing to work with any and all members who are on the service committee?
A: Why did you ask me that?
Q: Just curious if you are willing with anyone?
A: We have not talked about the issues we have had and continue to have at area and one of those issues is working with people who do not have the qualifications to work with a group. I prayed about it and talked with other members {reading aloud from NA literature about: checking our judgement against those of others and needing to hear those different perspectives from ours the most, service should seek out all viewpoints for the group conscious. Encouraged to respect the lone voice and seek it out.} As we try to carry out our election, the young lady that was elected alongside me, nominated for Chair, was having some issues, one of which being misappropriating funds and the other was the inability to carry out the meeting because of conversations. Because of that I said I would not work with this young lady. I was not willing until our issues were able to be resolved. I will work with anybody that’s willing to work with me. We all have issues and difficulties but we also have a program to help with those things.

Q: What would be your approach if you get in a situation where you butt head with someone again in a few months? How would you approach and get past it?
A: Our primary purpose (reads from first concept). I think when we are having our elections...I think we failed to look at the individual as a whole and what they can bring to the table. I need someone who is willing to take constructive criticism. I think results count. I have worked alongside a lot of people. I would ask that someone alongside me give me a chance and get to know me first.

Q: For both, what is your thought on group conscious?
Dionna Answer: I have no problem with group conscious. We made several decisions in my time as chair. The issue was not in making decisions.

Gabe Answer: You are facilitating a group conscious. A good chair is not somebody who has a dominant opinion. I know that when I am in a chair role I need to dial down my passion and opinions for the group conscious. Facilitate the group conscious to go toward our primary purpose. “Is there anyone opposed to this? Could you live with it? If not, what would it take for you to live with it?”

Chair: Any other questions for Dionna or Gabe?:
None
Nominees both leave the room.

Vote taken
(reviewed that only GSRs can vote)

Gabe announced Activities Chair
Next New Business:

Nomination for PR Chair (decided by PR subcommittee) to be confirmed by area

Chair: Any questions for Kaitlyn M.?

Q: Do you know all the qualifications?
A: Yes and meets them

Chair read standard questions: 22 months clean time, has a sponsor, no other service positions now, no misappropriation of NA funds, experience: working with PR for a year, co-chair for a couple months, GSR in homegroup, active in activities committee, has sponsees, served at TP; may have left activities committee service early (went to jail for turning self in for wreckage of past); abilities: office manager at IOP facility and take leadership there, likes to have empathy towards people and hear all sides of the story, believe in having fun

Chair: Questions for Kaitlyn?

Q: Do you have any direction that you would like to see PR go in.
A: Yes, we are seeing a decline in H&I and I would like to see that get better, have consistency in meetings, looking forward to having a meeting in the Junior High to inform students.

Q: Diversity is very important; How do you propose to have cultural competence to make sure everyone is included and seek out participation?
A: We have open positions available right now. Anyone who comes in is welcome. I lived on the streets for a while and I just don’t see a difference in people. I have worked with some pretty rough people.

Chair: Any opposition?
None
Kaitlyn M. announced PR Chair. Congratulations!

Treasurer: Took in $219.16.
2 checks outstanding, Presto Print and Aaron.
$219.16 will be deposited.

GROUP REPORTS:
Action:
No report

Comprehensive Recovery:
No report

Home Group:
No report

It Works How and Why:
No report

Juntos Podemos:
7th Tradition: $18
Area Donation: $10

Trusted Servant:

Just Hope Group:
No report

Just for Today:
7th Tradition: $36
Area Donation: $15
Report: Good evening!
We discussed phone line issues, MSO’s current concerns & upcoming elections @ ASC. We are also continuing discussion about hosting a fund-raiser in the next few months.
Thanks for letting me serve

Lisa M.

Keep Coming Back:
7th Tradition: $60
Area Donation: 0
Report: 180 total attendees for the month, average 13 per meeting, 2 first step meetings.

Trusted Servant:

Keeping the Dream Alive:
No report

Keep it Simple:
7th tradition: $13.55
Area donation: $0
Report: “Attendance has been really low lately- pondering wether or not to even keep the doors open any longer.”
Business Meeting first Sat. after meeting. Average 8 attendees per meeting, 31 total in the month. 3 anniversaries celebrated

Trusted Servant:

Open to Change:
No report

Open Minded:
Men of Character:
7th tradition:
Area Donation: $10
Report: “The meeting is going well. Attendance is good. A few newcomers. The meeting is growing. In loving service, the Men of character Group”

Trusted servant:
Natural Life:
No report

New Beginnings:
7th tradition: $45
area donation: $0
Report: “Meeting attendance has been stable between 12-18 people. Once in a while we get the Wedgewood kids. Fred S. celebrated 12 years. We are also putting on the Chili Cook-off on 10/13.”

Trusted Servant:
No Name Group:
No report

Path Begins the Journey:
No report

Principles Before Personalities:
7th tradition:$70
Area donation:$11
Report: “Summer attendance has been somewhat low both meeting and home group members. Doors will always be open and all obligations are met. ILS, Earl S.”

Trusted Servant:
Saturday Night Candlelight:
7th tradition:
Area donation:
Report:”This meeting could use some support. Traditions are being followed.”

Trusted Servant:
Sisters of Serenity:
No report

Staying in the Solution:
7th Tradition: $34
Area Donation: 0
Report: “Attendance still up and down.”

Trusted Servant:
21 total attendees and average 5 per meeting, business meeting 3rd Friday, 60 day and 35 year celebrations

Sunrise to Sunset:
7th Tradition: $20
Area Donation: 0
Report: “A lot of newcomers”

Trusted Servant:

Surrender to Win:
No Report

T.G.I.F.:
7th tradition: $147.16
Area donation: $118.16
Report: Pepe V. celebrated 30 years

Trusted Servant:

Welcome Back:
No report

We Qualify:
7th tradition: $127.59
Area donation: $50
Report:

Trusted Servant:

Young in Recovery:
7th Tradition: 50
Area Donation: 15
Report: “Meeting attendance has been smaller but expected to pick up again. Still struggling for home group members.”