

February Area Service Committee

February 18th 4pm

Next Area Meeting: March 17th 4pm

Moment of Silence: Yes

Serenity Prayer: Yes

12 Traditions: Aba S,

12 Concepts: Tasha D.

Service Prayer: Christina R.

Open Positions: Co-Secretary, Co-Treasure

Minutes approved? Yes

Attendees: Zach W, Katy G, Jen S, Kari R, Tim C, Hannah B, Jim C, Brad S, Megan S, Rob C, Jared G, Christina R, Don C, Carol C, Melissa W, Aba Smith, Andrew B, Tasha D, Adam N.

Trusted Servant Reports:

Secretary Report:

Hi Family!! Good to be back! I have emailed out Januarys Area Minutes and they have been posted onto our website. Thank you again to both Jen and Melissa for taking Area notes over the last two months. With that being said, our current Co-Secretary has stepped down from her position, so we are now in need of a new Co-Secretary.

Thanks for letting me serve!

- Christina R.

Treasure Report:

Hello Area-

Area Account:

Starting balance: \$3,520.06.

Income of groups: \$640- \$182 from Recovery First, \$20 from Just for Today (Irons), \$25 from Lean on Me (Cadillac), \$100 from New Freedom (Cadillac), \$13 from Recovery @ 5/0, \$300 back from Public Relations.

Expenses: \$188.89- \$115 Rent payment to Faith Reformed CK#1506, \$40 to Katy G. for reimbursement CK#1504, \$33.89 to Copy Shop CK#1505.

Ending Balance: \$3,971.17

Activities Account:

Starting Balance: \$300

Expenses: \$200.00- Check Written to Jared G. CK#1509

Ending Balance: \$100.00
Retreat Account:
Starting Balance: \$2145
Expenses: \$6.85- Check Written to Melissa W. #1507
Ending Balance: \$2138.15
Literature Account:
Starting Balance: \$440.67
Income: \$357
Expenses: \$323.9- \$287.25 CK#1509, \$36.70 CK#1510
Ending Balance: \$473.72

Thanks for letting me be of service-
Hannah B.

RCM Report:

Treasurer

Total expenses for December was \$1,828.01. This paid for the rooms in Muskegon, all the mileage, and the phone line. Our total income was \$1,414.84. Our total expenses for January were \$3,047.56. \$3,000 was transferred to the MRCNA account for their down payment to the hotel and the was the phone line and bank fees. Our total income was \$200 from Livingston County. As of February 1st, our total available balance is \$9,189.60.

MRCNA

137 days until MRCNA! Saginaw Bay was working on a bid package to host MRCNA 40 & 41 but is no longer able to do so. Please announce to your areas that we need an area to host these conventions! If anyone needs help with how to create a bid package, please feel free to reach out to Brooke B.

Attached you'll find flyers for February planning meeting, call for speakers, call for logo, and a couple MRCNA fundraisers coming up. If your area would like to make an event a MRCNA fundraiser, please reach out!

MSO

The questions from the December Regional meeting were brought to the MSO meeting and they talked about the questions and worked on them over the next month. The MSO Board of Directors came to our Region meeting to discuss our questions we had asked and answered the questions we had for them. I brought the report from the MSO and his responses to the questions with more info about the MSO and what they do for our region. Here are his responses.

Question A:

Describe the nature of the relationship between MRSCNA and the MSO.

The MSO is a Regional Service Office as described in NA's Guide to Local Service page 102. It started out as an Area Service Office formed in 1986 called Detroit Service Office (DSO) back when the Detroit Area was part of Michigan Region. It developed as an extension of the Area's Literature Stockpile, giving local groups the ability to obtain NAWS literature & supplies without

having to send money orders to California. DSO filed as a corporation under Michigan's state laws.

When the number of local Detroit NA groups expanded, multiple Area Service Committees and the Metropolitan Detroit Region formed. DSO changed the corporation's name to MSO under new Bylaws giving Board of Director seats to representatives from both the Metro Detroit Region and the Michigan Region. MRSCNA currently has Grant H from Flint seated on MSO's Board.

Question B:

What is their function? What services do they provide to the Region and what value is added to MRSCNA for the financial investment? How may we better utilize them?

The function of a Regional Service Office is to serve as a resource to the local NA community. Specifically, MSO provides:

- Meeting Space for Groups or Service Committees
- NAWS Literature distribution to Groups, Individuals or Service bodies
- Specialty Merchandise including jewelry and artwork created by NA members
- Community Contact point including a wall of flyers for free distribution to the fellowship
- Announcing meetings, conventions and events
- Clerical assistance such as copying for Service Committees
- Central mail address for Service Committees
- On site sales for requested Conventions / Service Activities

The MSO currently operates with a 100% volunteer staff. We struggle to pay our bills while maintaining equivalent pricing on sales of NAWS materials. The Metro Detroit Region sees a clear advantage to having the MSO, (a "brick-and-mortar" store supplying NA materials on demand), and as such provides a percentage of utility bills & rent in a "shared services" payment every other month. In the past MRSCNA provided MSO with Shared Services funding as well.

Better utilizing MSO services could be to continue providing a Board Member, continue communication and encourage groups / areas to obtain literature locally from the MSO. We have a very convenient web store now and serve several groups / areas within MRSCNA. We can get NAWS literature to points inside Michigan faster than California can.

Question C:

Where do they exist in the current NA service structure? Do they mainly serve the Detroit region, not our region?

For the service structure question, see page 102 Guide to Local Services in NA. A link for this is: <https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/GLS.pdf>

MSO Board has seats from both Regions in Michigan. Literature distribution is done both walk-in "over the counter" and sent out by mail / shipping courier. Shipped orders come in through both telephone and our website "shopping cart". They go out to Individual Members, NA

Groups and ASC's throughout Metro Detroit, Greater Michigan and Out of State. Some ASC's

take advantage of our discounts for orders over \$500.

Question D:

Is it appropriate within our MRSCNA guidelines to reserve a position for the MSO representative?

As an autonomous NA entity, you may do as conscience sees fit for your Guidelines. Most service bodies with seats granted on an RSO board do include it as a position within their structure. The Metro Detroit Region has it in their Guidelines. It is surprising if MRSCNA does not include it as they have sent representatives in the past and currently still do. The current one being Grant H.

Question E:

In what ways would it be detrimental if MRSCNA ceased to maintain an MSO Representative position?

Detrimental Effects include:

Disruption of direct communication

Loss of Out-State perspective on MSO Board oversight

Diminished sense of participation / unity throughout the State

Question F:

What expenses do we pay to the MSO or for the MSO rep?

There are no expenses paid directly to MSO by MRSCNA.

We are not aware of any expenses incurred by Michigan Region's seated board member. We try to make serving on our board easy & cost effective by offering a zoom link for BOD meetings. It is an uncompensated service commitment.

Question G:

Why does the MSO keep asking for donations from our Region, without explanation? Who is initiating those requests and why?

There is one billed service that Michigan Region, Metro Detroit Region and MSO share. This is a link between websites all stored on the same server. These websites containing NA meeting directories throughout Michigan and MSO's online store include:

<https://michigan-na.org/>

<https://michigan-na.org/michigan-region/>

<https://michigan-na.org/metro-detroit-region/> <https://michiganserviceofficena.org/>

The service provider ("C U Local" out of Illinois) does a very good job interfacing with Michigan web servants and keeping local meeting directories current on their Internet Server.

Michigan Region needs to pay it's portion of the bills for their website. At one time this was paid by MSO and reimbursed by MRSCNA. We do not know, but perhaps mis-communication caused this to be considered "...asking for donations from our Region, without explanation...".

PR

ON 1/31/24 MDOC supplied me with a list of 22 State prisons with addresses/contacts at each facility. I will work with NAWS to fulfill NA Basic Text order. 10 books to 21 Prisons and 30 to 1(HuronValley/womens). Total of 240 Basis Texts....Hoping NAWS will provide some copies of

“Reaching Out” and other NA literature for these locations. I am planning to address a letter that would be put with each book order so they can have a Michigan point of contact if they have questions about NA!

New Business

I have three topics to discuss at this area meeting that we need to vote on to bring back to the Region.

1. Budget Proposals: Budgets for travel to the next Regional meeting in Livingston on April 7, 2024 have been approved by the Regional body and board of directors due to being time sensitive. Please view the link and bring the following budget proposals back to your areas to be voted on and brought back to the next Regional meeting.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AlxwqpyyGvGpSRst2ihCkGFuJUBD5OREBKi3S0pxG-c/edit?usp=sharing>

I have read all the budgets the Region service body have submitted and they are all consistent with each other and fairly priced.

2. Meals Per Diem Proposal: Members of MRSCNA Administrative team (Including RD, AD, Web servant and PR chair, along with others at the discretion of the Board of Directors) may receive reimbursement of expenses as the Board of Directors determines to be just and reasonable. Expenses for reimbursement include travel and lodging, along with \$15/meal for service commitments exceeding 24 hours as needed.

3. Proposed amendment to the Michigan Regional Service Committee by-laws: Three changes are proposed to the by-laws, which were last amended and adopted in 2019– We discussed these proposals at the Regional meeting February 4, 2024

a. Purpose: Change the definition of Regional Delegate Alternate (RDA) to Alternate Delegate (AD). Intent: This reflects the current common language as published in the Guide to Local Services in NA (GLSNA) and the Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA).

b. Purpose: Change the terms for the RD and AD from two 2-year terms (4 years) to one World Service Conference cycle. Intent: At WSC 2023, the conference approved a three-year World Service Conference cycle on a trial basis following WSC 2023 through WSC 2029. Following 2029, the WSC cycle would return to two years, unless another decision is made. This language is consistent with GLSNA and GWSNA. The work cycle of the World Service

Conference is significantly changed over the last two conference cycles and relies on regularly scheduled virtual meetings and an interim virtual conference for decisions that are legally necessary and those that conference participants choose to address.

Alignment of election of the delegates to the beginning of the conference cycle is important to ensure continuity of service through the conference cycle.

Rotation emphasizes that our efforts to help carry the message through service involvement is just one way of practicing our Twelfth Step, no more or less special or praiseworthy than any other. The practice of rotation is founded on this fellowship’s belief that service is more important than the servant, an extension of our tradition of spiritual anonymity. In the spirit of

rotation, term limits may not be extended. Because the AD has spent a conference cycle becoming familiar with the WSC, the AD should be affirmed by the committee to replace the outgoing RD.

Text change (markup):

Proposed removal

Proposed addition

6.1 Number.

The officers of the Corporation shall consist of a Facilitator, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Co-Facilitator, a Co-Secretary, a Co-Treasurer, a Regional Delegate (“RD”), an Alternate RD

Delegate (“AD”), and other officers as the Board of Directors may from time to time elect.

6.2 Election and Term.

The officers of the Corporation shall be elected by the Board of Directors. Such elections may be held at any meeting of the Board. Each officer shall hold office until his/her death, resignation, retirement, removal, disqualification, or until her/his term of office has expired. The

Board may elect and may authorize any other officers that the Corporation may require. Each officer so elected shall have the title, hold office for the period, have the authority, and perform the duties specified in these Bylaws or determined by the Board, provided, that no Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, Treasurer Co-Treasurer shall serve a single term of more than two (2) years without re-election, that no Secretary or Co-Secretary shall serve a single term of more than one

(1) year without re- election and that no Regional Delegate or Alternate Regional Delegate shall serve a two terms single term of more than two (2) years one World Service Conference cycle without re-election.

I have brought with me a copy of the Region minutes to the area for anyone who would like to review them or has any questions. Also in the region minutes is more information on the MSO. They have a financial statement they’ve submitted for the month of December thru January for transparency.

I’m happy to report our new area treasurer is doing a wonderful job in my opinion and has even sent bank statements and speed sheets of the region’s finances which I have copies of for anyone interested.

Our next Region meeting will be in Livingston County on April 7th, 2024 so I don’t have any budget requests this month.

Thank you for letting us serve Rob C and Zach W

Sub-Committee Reports:

Activities:

Average Attendance: 5

No open positions

Valentine's Day Dance ruled! Dekoskie came out. Brought in \$669.36

Next Event: Working on Newcomer Event, no date set yet, will go over at Activities next meeting in March.

- Jared

Literature:

Average Attendance 2

Open Positions? No

Previous Balance \$473.72

Orders (\$287.25+\$36.70)= \$323.95

Income \$558.00

New Total \$707.77

My dog ate part of the Literature order. I paid \$15 today to replace the damaged book.

- Jen S.

Public Relations:

Hey Family, an addict named Katy.

Our open positions we still have for PR are Co-Chair and Schedule coordinator. Please announce it to your homegroups.

The January Area Minutes and February PR minutes have been posted to the website.

GTCJ: Even though we are in a holding position we are (and need to be) actively recruiting more willing volunteers for this facility. Need to discuss with fellow addicts about willingness and commitment. Once we have more volunteers, we will be able to get scheduled for clearance.

WCJ: Having difficulty communicating with the administrator of this facility. We should discuss what the best way to move forward might be.

There has been talk of someone who will be taking a meeting into this facility representing NA that has not been cleared through the PR Subcommittee. We are looking into options for how we will be able to resolve this issue. It was suggested that we send a letter to the jail to make them aware this person should not be representing NA.

OAKS: All is well at this facility. Need more willing (male) volunteers for this facility.

Phoenix has closed due to staffing issues, bummer. Dakoske and Detox are going well. Could always use more volunteers. Contact Casey D. if you're interested.

Just an update on the BATA bus ads, we still have those. Tim C has connected with Wayne the coordinator at BATA for that and our ads are good until June of this year.

We need to talk about the meeting schedule and procedure for what to do when meetings are regularly closed but on our meeting schedule. I have been to multiple meetings lately where

people have shared checking the website or finding a schedule and getting to the meeting. I can't imagine if these people went and can't find the meeting. I looked all over the world website.

I couldn't find anything regarding this and wanted to bring it up and discuss.

We would like to add in a CO-Correctional Facility Coordinator to learn about Dos Don'ts and correct conduct of the Correctional Facility Coordinator before rotation of service and add that into the PR guidelines. We believe that is a position that would require a year of co service. Rockn Recovery has brought up the idea of doing a mini convention with the surplus of Area funds. Activities is on board and would like to collaborate with PR to execute this in April. I do not know much more about this but I have speakers on board from the speaker jam that I believe would be willing to participate in this.

Due to us hearing about people going into the Ludington and Cadillac Jails, our H&I coordinators would like to potentially hold a DOs and DONTs event in their area to attract more willingness and also see what is happening in our outlying areas. Meeting with Yon and Casey on the 21st to talk about this.

Create document card for PR requirements when someone offers willingness to serve to handout.

THIS IS JUST A CONCEPT RIGHT NOW —

Idea to bring Little Libraries that will be stocked with free Ips & Intro guides to NA, QR Code, and other NA literature that may be donated. 3 around town? (safe harbor, jubilee, the pines) we will

call to get the ok to do this on the owners of the establishment's property. Cost will be looked into for the set up/literature. The budget request will be made to Area through the trusted servants Katy G and Casey D. Would like to get a standing budget.

In loving service.

Katy G

Retreat:

At the last retreat meeting we went over the "reimagining" surveys results (attached). Although there seems to be some openness to holding the retreat at a retreat center or at a hotel, the results showed that 86% of people want to keep the retreat as a summer camp out. The top 3 favorite things listed about the retreat were the Saturday evening festivities, the fellowshiping, and the meetings/speakers. The least favorite things were Ranch Rudolf, the porta potty location, and sleeping in a tent. After considering the wishes of the fellowship we have reached out to Pat's RV Park where we held the retreat in 2018 and 2019. We have secured 25 campsites and 4 cabins for the first weekend in August (Aug 2-4). They have made improvements to the property and the amenities available and are genuinely excited to have us back.

The annual Talent Show fundraiser is set for March 16th and we are accepting 10-minute talents. There will be a taco bar, a speaker, and prizes. Also, we will be collecting “name the retreat” boxes and deciding the theme for the retreat. The flyers for this are out and on the website.

We have filled the Treasurer position, but still need a co-chair.

Retreat balance is \$2138.15, and I have 3 budget requests to make from the designated retreat funds.

1. \$500 deposit made out to Pat’s RV Park
2. \$100 made out to Church of the Nazarene for the talent show
3. \$500 made out to Lanae Bartz for food & paper products for the talent show (anything not used will be returned along with the funds raised afterward)

Also we are planning a Euchre Tournament and chili cook off for April 6th at Jacob's Well.

NWACNA “Reimagining” Survey Results

Time Span: 3 months

Total Respondents: 49

90% attended NWACNA in the past

86% prefer camping (10% do not, 4% no answer)

37% are open to a retreat facility with dorm rooms (53% are not, 10% no answer)

28% are open to a hotel (61% are not, 11% no answer) (3 cited too expensive)

Favorite Parts of Retreat:

Saturday evening festivities - 11

fellowship – 11

meetings/speakers – 8

fun activities – 4

location – 2

everything – 2

nature – 1

Least Favorite Parts of Retreat:

Ranch Rudolf – 8

porta potties – 4

sleeping in tent – 3

isolation – 2

bored – 1

too much structure – 1
not long enough – 1

When asked to dream:

more family fun activities – 4
more fellowship opportunities - 3
nature - 3
Camp Daggett – 2
Ranch Rudolf forever – 1
Great Wolf Lodge – 1
Lake Ann Camp – 1
Paddlebrave Camp -1 (Roscommon 1.5 hrs)
Michigan Adventure -1
more spiritual aspects -1
read clarity statement -1
Euchre/ card tournament -1
Silent Disco – 1
Cornhole -1
longer retreat -1

Thank you for letting me serve,

Melissa W.

Group Reports:

Group: Back to Basics

GSR: Adam N.

Average attendance: 3 (With two weeks not operating)

Donation to Area: None

Any open positions? NA

How is the group going? The group will be closing at the end of February. With not having people attend every week and one home group member group conscious has determined this meeting is no longer needed.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: The group has determined that the literature will be divided to Never Alone group literature and ATS The Porch (as they donated literature to Back to Basics when the meeting started. (This in staying with being self-sufficient) as there is not much money left, the money will be divided between ATS (to pay for rent) and the rest donated to literature.

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Clean in the County

GSR: Carol C.

Average attendance: 5

Donation to Area: \$60

Any open positions? No

How is the group going? Growing a bit. We miss Rick V.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Just For Today

GSR: Tim C.

Average attendance: 15

Donation to Area: \$50

Any open positions? GSR A, Secretary and CoSecretary

How is the group going? Going well, trying to find speakers from this Area Committee, anyone interested see me after the meeting.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Lean On Me

GSR: Brad S.

Average attendance: 15

Donation to Area: \$25

Any open positions? No

How is the group going? Really good, Tuesday 7, Friday 7, Saturday 6

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: New Attitudes

GSR: Jim C.

Average attendance: 6

Donation to Area: \$50

Any open positions? Yes

How is the group going? Group is doing well. We continue to have consistent attendance and have newcomers returning.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: We will be having a memorial for Rick V. in the spring to plant a tree in his honor.

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: New Freedom

GSR: Tasha D.

Average attendance: 15-20

Donation to Area: \$50

Any open positions? GSR Alt.

How is the group going? Going great, book study Living Clean.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Recovery @ 5/0

GSR: Kari R.

Average attendance: 10-20

Donation to Area: \$5

Any open positions? Co-chairs and Secretary

How is the group going? Group is doing well. A lot of early clean time being celebrated.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: We are still planning on an event, looking around June.

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Recovery First

GSR: Jared G.

Average attendance: Monday and Thursday around 8, Tuesday night 50

Donation to Area: None

Any open positions? Co-GSR and Co-Secretary

How is the group going? Good

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Rock'n Recovery

GSR: Jared G.

Average attendance: 10

Donation to Area: None

Any open positions? None

How is the group going? Great.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Rise and Recover

GSR: Kari R ALT

Average attendance: 10

Donation to Area: None

Any open positions? Yes, breakfast cook for Fridays.

How is the group going? Going as smoothly as possible

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Steppin in the Dune

GSR: Don C

Average attendance: 0

Donation to Area: None

Any open positions? NA

How is the group going? This group has had no attendance except Carol and I in over a year. We will continue to meet between Memorial Day and Labor Day at Empire Beach.

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Group: Woman in Recovery +

GSR: Melissa W.

Average attendance: 14

Donation to Area: \$10

Any open positions? No

How is the group going? Good

Decision on subject(s) presented to the Group: None

Subject(s) brought to Area from the Group: None

Budget Request:

Retreat \$500 Pats RV Park

Lanae \$500 for supplies for talent show

Church \$100 (being transferred from Retreats funds to the Area funds since \$100 already cleared from a past event that got canceled. The Books for Crooks

Old Business:

Ad-Hoc workshop still tabled

New Business:

- Our Area possibly hosing MRCNA 40-41

Two people with at least 10 years clean time requirement for bid committee

The bid, you put out a survey, provide a letter of need, we would need to review sites. The committees must put a history about our area. This would need to be done in March. Katy G is working getting a committee together to get this done. The Area body already stated they wanted to put this in motion.

- RCM Budget approval, we entrust RCM to approve budget. Rob just wanted to review the budget, but RCM took it as needing to send to the areas again. Miscommunication.
- Meals per diem Region clarified this- May receive reimbursement Travel and lodging and \$15 meal exceeding 24 hours. This is for administration required to go to Region. (Our Area votes no again that we are denying the new \$15 Per Diem change).
- Amendment of the Bylaws to change RDA-AD. (Not opposed)
- Change terms 1 world service cycle (every 3 years). The way the terms are now, they are not aligned with world service since Region has 2 year cycles. This will align with the cycle between world service and Region. (Not opposed)

PR- In general, the procedure we have in place when it comes to meetings not being open but are on the schedule. Right now the GSR has to come to Area to state the meeting is closed. Kalkaska's meeting has not been meeting and the outreach coordinator went out twice and the meeting was closed. (PR is going to work on updating the guideline for situations like this) Regarding the Kalkaska's meeting and the many times it has not been open when it should have been, Area has voted to remove this meeting from the meeting schedule and requesting the Kalkaska's group come to Area for 3 months in a row to get back onto the schedule.

Tabled PR topic of screening questions for service positions for PR and as well as Area.

- Meghan filling in tax exempt form to renew our status for Gordon Foods

Bayshore marathon contacted the Church at Jacobs Well wondering if the parking lot could be opened for parking for this. The Church was not interested in manning the parking lot so they were wondering if we would be willing to sit at the entrances to take the parking lot fees for this event. This could be a fundraising event but could go against the Traditions. This event will be Memorial Day Weekend. **(As an Area Body, with the concerns with breaking traditions, we will table this until March's Area meeting. As well as we are taking this to the Groups, is this in line with the Traditions. The funds have been suggested to be donated to MRCNA as well as thoughts of bake sale and water in the parking lot)**

Next Meeting: March 17th

Close

Thank you for letting me serve,

Christina R. Area Secretary