

## **Public Relations Subcommittee**

01/03/21 5 P.M. Zoom

Attendees; Casey J, Katy G, Krystal C, Sophie B, Megan S, Jen S, Lindsay H, Mike C, Sally S.

Moment of silence, serenity prayer.

12 Traditions – Jen S

12 Concepts – Casey J

### **Reports:**

#### **Chair Report.**

Hey family, I am an addict named Casey! If you are new to public relations, welcome, we are so glad you made it! At Public Relations, our purpose is to inform the public that Narcotics Anonymous exists, and that we offer recovery from active addiction. We do this by creating, distributing, and managing all communications regarding NA throughout the NW Michigan Area, in accordance with the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Narcotics Anonymous as well as the NA Guide to Public Information. Please follow along on our agenda. Our coordinators will give their reports and there will be time for questions and comments after. Diversity is our strength, and we are looking for all perspectives at PR. Often the newer members experience shared sheds a much-needed light on the topics we discuss here.

In discussing some community outreach ideas, I had the chance to reach out to someone at ATS in the interest of setting up a Q&A panel on one of their upcoming staff meetings. Hopefully, we will have more information on that soon. They thanked Narcotics Anonymous for being so accessible and available, having a user-friendly website, zooming H&I with the clients, having men's and women's phone lists, simply having contact people, having a literature committee, bringing in key tags and literature when they may have missed something, and overall being so welcoming and inviting. We do not do this for the accolades, but damn that is nice to hear. Thank you for the extra effort team!

Our region body is creating a public relations subcommittee. The regional PR chair and I will be sifting through guidelines of other regions that have done something similar between now and the end of February. We will present our proposed guidelines at Region on March 7<sup>th</sup>. It has been a busy holiday season, so we have not accomplished anything yet, so there is still time to be a part of it. Please contact me if you are interested.

Thank you so much for letting me serve, it is an honor to serve will all of you!

Casey J

#### **Co-Chair- Yon K.**

I have nothing to report. Thank you.

#### **Secretary – Katy G**

Hey Family! The minutes have been sent to Megan and have been posted to the website.

Thank you for letting me serve.

#### **Correctional Facility Coordinator – Yon K.**

Nothing to report.

#### **Treatment Facility Coordinator – Casey J.**

Hey family, I am an addict named Casey! Public Relations has its own zoom account again, the area treasurer, me, and Katy G zoomed and set it up! New codes start this week. Phoenix is going well. I am calling them beforehand to confirm the meeting time and meeting ID and password because there have been a few times where they have logged on way late or forgot.

Dakoske is going well. It helps to contact them the day of as well.

Detox is going amazing. That facility has been smooth like butter. They are on every week with no issues.

The ATS clients will not be attending in person meetings for a very long time. They (as well as 1016) attend our nightly meetings and then jump on when they get out (we hope!) With that being said our meetings are full of newcomers! It is truly something to celebrate and support.

Volunteers and getting subs is usually an issue with all three of these facilities. We are on zoom until further notice. If you would like to do this type of service or have any questions about it, please contact me directly!

In Loving Service,

Casey J

**Phone Line Coordinator – Sally S.**

Nothing to report.

**Community Outreach Coordinator – Katy G.**

Hello Family! Addict named Katy G.

Last month we decided a day for our phone line training! January 16<sup>th</sup> at 1 P.M. The flyer has been made and once approved here will be posted on our area website. Casey J. and I had a chance to speak with Madie B. from ATS. The goal here is to get a few individuals from the Public Relations subcommittee to join in on one of their staff meetings to serve as an informational panel with the opportunity of a Q and A with their staff. As we were discussing this, she told us to create an email to send to their HR director and include a brief summary of what we would like to accomplish. She had also mentioned she would love for us to do this with FAN (Families against Narcotics) as well as the Munson Treatment Center which is opening back up soon! Sally is helping curate this email and we will have more information next month. This next month my goal is to work with Sally and Casey on updating our letter to professionals to deal with the ongoing pandemic. I hope to be able to get that letter out along with a poster, meeting schedules, as well as a date for the event for professionals as soon as possible. We are hoping to use this to sort of replace the typical poster drive we would have around this time of the year and let people know that we are still here, still meeting, and what we do.

Thank you so much for letting me serve.

**Web Servant – Megan S.**

First, let me thank you for entrusting me with this position. Service has always been a strong part of my recovery which helps me stay clean and accountable. I am continuing to find this position exciting, enjoying and gaining more confidence with becoming the lead Web Servant and don't believe I've screwed it up too badly...YET!

- The December 2020 PR Subcommittee minutes were added to the site as of 12/29/2020. The December 2020 Area minutes have not been posted yet but will be on the website as soon as I receive them from our area secretary.
- The Zoom/Hybrid/In-person meeting changes on the website has calmed down quite a bit due to the month of December's "Big Gretchen's little state-wide pause". Phew!! It's a calm before the future storm!

know, but I'm enjoying it while it lasts!

- As of the end of December, I have received about 4-5 emails regarding requests for our meetings passwords. This seems like a great way for people to reach out and immediately get a response, as I have our Area email hooked directly to my cell phone. I have also been receiving A LOT of emails in the last month about our Area and specific home groups receiving 7th tradition via PayPal. This makes my soul smile! As I receive them I have been forwarding them directly to our Area Treasurer, Amanda K. I have also observed, at the Women in Recovery group, as well as other home groups, changes in chairing formats; having added specific language into their formats stating the continued need for 7th tradition donations to pay Zoom platform fees and some literature. Although I have noticed that fees have been deducted from people's donations and so I ask that possibly our PR chair person, Casey J., could please bring up the concern of groups/Area losing money via fee's.
- All future emails I receive from professionals will be directed to our PR's Community Outreach Coordinator. I apologize for answering these emails, I was told by the previous Web Servant that it is what he did, so I continued doing so. I believe this was simply because the Community Outreach Coordinator position had been open for quite some time. Now that that position is filled, I will be directing all professionals' emails to Katy G. and Sally S.
- Casey J. And I discussed adding the NW Area PayPal link to the homepage of our website. Can us as a committee discuss the best way to post the 7th tradition link without non-members donating? What language should be included in this section? Can we possibly add this item to new business? Just for a quick input of ideas on how to phrase this section to communicate our intentions clearly.

If we could please put the following item in new business for group discussion- Why is Pete M.'s phone number on the website?

Our PR Subcommittee guidelines state:

**PR Guidelines**

**section VI. Web Site-**

- *4. Privacy - Since information made accessible by the Internet can be accessed by the general public worldwide, we will not use complete names, phone numbers, home addresses or e-mail addresses of individual members, but only phone numbers of helplines, hotlines and NA service offices. E-mail addresses of trusted servants may be used with their consent.*

Do we choose to follow our subcommittees guidelines by removing the phone number and replacing it with his personal email or do we choose to leave his direct personal contact number on our website, should our guidelines be amended?

Thank you so much to those who have been in direct communication with me regarding website issues and updates! As always, please continue to notify me of any schedule changes and as always, I am open to constructive criticism, ideas and input regarding the website- this is OUR Areas website, not mine.

And remember, IT'S OK TO BE CLEAN!

Thanks for letting me serve!

Megan S.

**Fellowship Development Coordinator – Kelsie K.**

I went to Living in Harmony and there were a good 12 people there. Went well. Like a normal meeting. That is really all I have got. I am going to suck at this job. Oof. Ok Love you!

**Old Business**

Review of the Region Service meeting.

**New Business**

We decided to put the PayPal info on the website main page.

Lindsay H. came to the subcommittee meeting and suggested that we possibly reach out to the VA and see if they are interested in a panel like the treatment centers.

Sally suggested we do H & I training for all volunteers just as a reminder of the dos and don'ts. We decided 8pm on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Your match made in H& I heaven.

Katy G. dropped the ball on the phone line training and that is TBD.

Open Share –

Moment of Silence – Serenity Prayer.