

**GREATER GRAND RAPIDS
AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2008**

Bobby A. opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.
The 12 Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous were read by Cat L.
The 12 Concepts of Service were read by Jason O.

ASC ROLL CALL

Chair (Bobby A.): Present Co-Treasurer (Cat L.): Present
Co-Chair (Richard H.): Absent/Excused RCM (Michael B.): Present
Secretary (Barb P.): Present Alt. RCM (Fred S.): Present
Co-Secretary: Open H & I (James): Present
Treasurer (Dan L.): Present PI (Sally B.): Present
E&F AdHoc (Matt W.): Present

GROUP ROLL CALL

Courage to Change (P) No Name (P)
Downtown Resting Place (P) Principles Before Personalities (P)
Home Group (P) Progress Not Perfection (P)
Keeping the Dream Alive (U) Saturday Night Calvary (E)
Just For Today (P) Saturday Night Candlelight (P)
Seeking NA Recovery (P)
Literature Study (P) Staying in the Solution (P)
Men of Character (U) TGIF (P)
Natural Life (P) We Qualify (P)
Next Phase (U) Work the Steps of Die (U)

New Group (January) Courage to Live: (U)
New Group (February) Growing Up (P)

With 15 out of 20 groups present quorum was established.

AREA TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS

Chair.

Hello Family,

This month there is not too much to report. I would like to apologize if I upset or made anyone feel like I was leaving them out of the discussion last month. This month I will try to keep my eyes more open to make sure that everyone gets a chance, if time allows them to. I know and understand that stuff does not happen over night and this meeting is not going to run perfect with no problems, but as long as we can continue to move forward in improving the way this meeting is conducted, we are making progress. So please if you have any new ideas and would like to see this meeting run smoothly, please let me know, pull me aside at the end of the meeting or come to the next P&A meeting on 4/23/08. Everything is always subject to revision. I would also like to say that if you have any questions at any time, please ask. If I do not know the answer, I will find someone who does. What I cannot do alone, we can do together.

Thanks for letting me serve,
Bobby A.

Co-Chair.

Excused Absence. No report.

Secretary.

There was an omission error in last month's minutes. The minutes indicated that Work the Steps or Die was present, but under group reports they were reported absent, with no report. That group did not submit a written report, therefore per guidelines is considered absent for the January meeting. The Roll Call Report has been changed to reflect an unexcused absence.

Also, this month's minutes include 2 reports from Downtown Resting Place. One is for last month.

ILS
Barb P.

Treasurer.

A report was read at the meeting. I do not have a copy of the report to insert in the minutes at this time. I will amend these minutes to include this report as soon as I receive it from the Treasurer. I will also include a copy of it in next month's minutes.

RCM.

The MRSCNA meeting started a 9am, February 2, 2008, with the reading of the 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts and Roll Call. There were 9 of 13 board members present and 11 of 12 area representatives present.

Chair – No report

Secretary – short report, business as usual, another promise to get minutes out sooner. (I haven't received Feb. minutes yet and never did receive December minutes.)

Treasurer – No report, presented Bank Statement showing \$1,877.53 in 7th tradition money donated to Region from 12/02/07-12/28/07, \$507.64 paid out on 12/02/07, and an ending balance of \$9,438.62 on 01/31/08.

RD – reported that the CAR workshop held by the MZF went well even though the NAW's representatives did not show up due to canceled flights. They would like all areas to know that any area can hold a CAR workshop and get RD's help.

MSO – has found (4) hearing impaired convention Speaker tapes from previous conventions, but needs to check into converting them into a more conventional media format (I believe they are on beta format now). Also, there are service positions at the MSO, elections will be held soon for anyone who is interested.

Old business

1. State convention questionnaires are due back to Region in April.
2. What groups, areas will use the phone line. 10 of 12 areas will be using it to one degree or another. I believe Flint and Saginaw Bay are not going to use it at this time.

New Business

1. Elections:

Chair: Kevin R continues

Co-Chair: Patty from Kalamazoo

Secretary: Mary Beth continues

Co-Secretary: Lizzy from Muskegon accepted

Treasurer: Brian H continues

Co-Treasurer: Bob from Washtenaw

Open Positions: Web Servant

2. Sponsor Behind the Walls programs: Provides names of addicts on the outside to inmates. It is not an automatic sponsorship. They write a few letters and see how it goes. An addict who was present at the regional meeting started this program sometime back after being released from prison. He had a hard time finding recovery on the inside. He now has a list of male and female addicts willing to correspond with inmates. Other areas are interested in doing the same thing.

3. Drug Court Programs: Some areas judicial systems now have drug court in an attempt to get low level offenders help as opposed to entering the system. Some of these courts are actually contacting area service committees. I think to some degree to impose rules like not signing slips unless they attend the entire meeting.

4. \$460 donated to WSO

5. \$100 donated to MSO

6. Warning about purchasing 5th edition Basic Texts as the 6th edition will be available in September.

In Loving Service,
Michael B.

Hospitals & Institutions.

H&I held their meeting on the February 3, 2008

H&I is meeting at St. Andrew's Church the first Sunday of the month at 6pm. The committee is glad to announce that Dale V is running a Wednesday Kent County Jail meeting. We are talking to the church about rent for the facility for the H&I meeting. Last month we had four people attending the meeting. Present were James F (chair), Tom D (co-chair), Dale V (Kent County Jail) and Shawn V. We think everyone was enjoying the Superbowl. Congrats to the Giants! We are glad to be able of service.

Thank you,
James F.

Public Information.

Hello family I'm an addict named Sally.

For the month of January our phonenumber received 118 calls. We have received 78 calls as of yesterday for February. The Website is staying current, thank you Susan. She will be adding literature links on our website. Meeting lists have been updated. After finding that Keeping the Dream Alive was not absent for the specified number of times, they have been added back to the meeting list. A meeting has been restarted at the Lowell Serenity Club. They are looking for support. They were asked to attend area to be put on the schedule. We are currently checking into prices for advertising on buses. One bus runs \$175 per month which seems to be pretty pricey. There is an option of inside advertisement that seems to be considerably less. We will be back next month with info on that. We have proposed changing the guidelines to 2 meetings where you are present for roll call to be put back on the schedule. Thanks for letting me serve.

Sally B

Entertainment and Fundraising ad hoc Committee.

Hi Family,

All is well at the E&F. Next meeting is the 4th Wednesday of March at 6pm at Faith Lutheran Church. The fundraiser in February was well attended. Everyone had a great time. Flyers are here for the April fundraiser. Please announce it at your home groups. Please come and get involved or call me with any questions or ideas.

ILS,
Matt W.

MRCNA Chair.

MRCNAXXIV
Planning Committee

Hello, family,

The plans continue to progress. The fund raiser went well and it was great to see addicts from other areas attend as well. It appeared that everyone had a pleasant time.

The programming committee is still looking for speakers. Please encourage the addicts you know to submit tapes or CDs to the committee for review. They would like to contact Sumi so if any of you have contact info for her, please get it to the committee.

There is another fundraiser planned for April at the hotel. Please announce at your meetings and spread flyers for us.

The hugger/Serenity Keeper committee is still looking for logos for their shirts. This is being kept open for submission until the March meeting and will be voted on by the committee at that time. So if you have some ideas, please get them submitted by the 3rd Sunday in March.

We still have to decide how many and which banners from previous conventions to display at the hotel this year. There will be a video display set up for those of you that want to view the past history but some of the banners are deteriorating and we do not plan to display them.

The pre-registrations are behind where it was last year but now is when people start thinking of the summer activities. The money is behind where the convention was last year as well but the fundraiser did very well and that does bring the reserve balance up.

It is exciting to be a part of the convention planning process and I thank all of you who stay involved to make this year's event a successful one.

Any of you who wish a hotel suite, they are open now to first come first serve. Also, you may reserve a room now if you are planning to stay at the hotel during the convention. Be sure to mention the MRCNA code to get the special negotiated pricing.

In loving service,

Cat L.

GROUP REPORTS

COURAGE TO CHANGE

Next Phase Recovery House II

658 Worden SE

Saturday @ 11:00 am

Business Meeting: 3RD Saturday of the month

Total Attendees for the Month: 71

Average per Meeting: 4

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$35.00

Area Donation: 0

Anniversaries Celebrated: 2

Still struggling with the 7th tradition and rent, books and keytags. Group is growing. We had a speaker for this month. Discussed having a Women's Rap to raise funds for the group.

Shelia G.

COURAGE TO LIVE

731 Emerald NE

Sunday @ 7pm

Business Meeting: 3rd Sunday of the month

Total Attendees for the Month: -

Average per Meeting: -

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -

Total 7th Tradition Collected: -

Area Donation: -

Anniversaries Celebrated: -

Unexcused absence No report given.

DOWNTOWN RESTING PLACE

Heartside Ministries

54 S. Division SE

Monday, Wednesday, Friday @ 5:30 pm

Business Meeting: Last Friday of every month.

February

Total Attendees for the Month: 240-

Average per Meeting: 18-22

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: Depends

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$5-\$12

Area Donation: Depends

Anniversaries Celebrated: Depends

The beginning of the month we started the meetings the same way we always have. Downtown Resting Place members here but there can be more representatives needed. Our business meeting can be more attended by its members. This group needs more of its members to be at their own group. But the meetings is do what it supposed to do carrying the message of recovery. Our 10:00 meetings is carrying the message. The attendance is surprising for that time of the night. I'm glad to be a part of NA to keep this meeting for people like me. I am looking forward to the rest of the year because the unity that people are talking about. If you don't ask or become a part of the process, then you cry about spilt milk. So people get to business. One suggestion when is the Area going to have a Area Table Topics. It is badly needed.

Tommy W.

Trusted Servant

January

Total Attendees for the Month: 65-75

Average per Meeting: 18-25

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: Depends

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$35-45

Area Donation: Depends

Anniversaries Celebrated: Depends

It is possible if the Downtown Resting Place Candlelight meeting be added to the meeting list. We meet every Friday of the week from 10 pm until you leave (about 10pm-2am). The Downtown Resting Place meeting are still going on. Our meeting are starting later that they are plan, our business meeting. We haven't had on in three months. This group has issued that need attention quickly. I'm being patient with our members and praying for them. Also, I will be really, really praying for our members. I will keep coming and coming and coming and coming. Pray for me.

Trusted Servant

Tommie W.

HOME GROUP

Burton United Methodist Church
100 Burton St SE
Thursday @ 7:00 pm
Business Meeting: 4th Thursday of every month.

Total Attendees for the Month: 125
Average per Meeting: 40
Total 1st Step Meetings for the Month: 4
Total 7th Tradition Collected: 0
Area Donation: 0
Anniversaries Celebrated: -

We're doing fine at this time.

JUST FOR TODAY

Trinity United Methodist Church
1100 Lake Drive SE
Wednesday @ 12:00 pm
Business Meeting: 4th Wednesday of every month.

Total Attendees for the Month: 37
Average per Meeting: 9
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 0
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$25.95
Area Donation: \$20
Anniversaries Celebrated: 1

Our group is still running smoothly. Attendance is consistently about ten. No significant issues.
Format is still working well.

KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE

The Meeting Place
1042 Worden Street SE
Monday @ 7:00 pm
Business Meeting: 2nd Monday of every month before the recovery meeting.

Total Attendees for the Month: -
Average per Meeting: -
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -
Total 7th Tradition Collected: -
Area Donation: -
Anniversaries Celebrated: -

Unexcused absence No report given.

LITERATURE STUDY GROUP

1036 Alexander SE

Wednesday @ 7:00 pm

Business Meeting: 3rd Wednesday each month

Total Attendees for the Month: Unknown

Average per Meeting: 8

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -

Total 7th Tradition Collected: Open

Area Donation: \$0

Anniversaries Celebrated: 0

Nothing to report.

Terry J.

MEN OF CHARACTER

Hope House

1036 Alexander SE

Saturday @ 11:00 am

Business Meeting: 3rd Saturday of every month.

Total Attendees for the Month: -

Average Per Meeting: -

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -

Total 7th Tradition Collected: About -

Area Donation: -

Anniversaries Celebrated: -

Unexcused absence No report given.

NATURAL LIFE.

Faith Lutheran Church

2740 Fuller Ave NE

Tuesday and Thursday @ 7:30 pm

Business Meeting: 3rd Thursday of every month following the meeting

Total Attendees for the Month: 141

Average per Meeting: 30

Total 1st Step Meetings this month: 7

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$314.23

Area Donation: \$100.00

Anniversaries Celebrated: 3 – 18 months

1 – 18 year

Hello family –

We had a large turnout for our speaker this month and a lot of home group members attended our business meeting. Our groups decision was a “no” to the convention survey. Some format decisions were voted on and as a group we will not read the back page of the 12 Traditions, and we are going to keep our business meeting informal. We are also going to continue to make donations directly to the WSO. Next month we will have Curtis as our speaker. Please come and support him.

In loving service,
Fred S.

NEXT PHASE

Next Phase Recovery House
1145 Alexander SE
Tuesday @ 7:00 pm
Business Meeting:

Total Attendees for the Month: -
Average per Meeting: -
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -
Total 7th Tradition Collected: -
Area Donation: -
Anniversaries Celebrated: -

Unexcused absence No report given.

NO NAME GROUP

Grace Reformed Church
100 Buckley SE
Monday through Friday @ 11:00 am
Business Meeting: 3rd Monday of every month.

Total Attendees this Month: 576
Average per Meeting: 50
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 7
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$225.00
Area Donation: \$50.00
Anniversaries Celebrated: 3

Hi family,

Going good.
Thanks,
Dionna B.

PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

1025 3 Mile Road NE

Sunday, 7:00 pm

Business Meeting: 2nd Sunday of every month @ 8:30 pm

Total Attendees for the Month: 200

Average per Meeting: 50

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 1

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$150.00

Area Donation: \$75.00

Anniversaries Celebrated: 6

Family,

Principals Before Personalities has been meeting quite often to finalize everything for our fundraiser for MRCNA. Solutions are steadily being resolved.

We are meeting all requirements of NA to keep our meeting an NA meeting. Home group members have agreed to limit some readings to allow more time for sharing.

In Loving Service

Earl G.

PROGRESS NOT PERFECTION

St Paul's Campus Parish

1 Damascus Road

Big Rapids, MI

Tuesday @ 8:00 pm and Saturday @ 10:00 am

Business Meeting: 4th Tuesday of every month @ 6:00 pm before recovery meeting.

Total Attendees for the Month: 144

Average per Meeting: 18

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 6

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$111.18

Area Donation: \$50.00

Anniversaries Celebrated: 4

Our group is doing well with good attendance. We had 6 home group members in attendance at the business meeting last night.

Treasurer (Holly W) reports an ending balance of 120.08 with \$20.00 in rent due in a few days.

Literature (Arlene) will order key tags, coins, books, est. \$70.00 or so. GSR reported on Area positions recently filled an on going sub committee progress. Regional phone line going ahead with GGRASC on board.

Old Business: New group format presented for approval and was approved. Coffee pot situation is ongoing. Some think our pot is too large and don't like coming in early enough to get it done before the meeting starts. The purchase of used Basic Texts to be given to new comers. Joe was not present to report on his progress.

New Business: Area donation. Discussion on cross talking. Seems to be more under control.

In loving service,
Michael B.

SATURDAY NIGHT CALVARY

Calvary Church
777 East Beltline NE, Room 112
Saturday @ 7:15 pm
Business Meeting: 4th Saturday of every month.

Total Attendees for the Month:
Average per Meeting: -
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -
Total 7th Tradition Collected: -
Area Donation: -
Anniversaries Celebrated: -

Going well. Attendance is well. Nothing else to report.
In loving service,
Richard H.

SATURDAY NIGHT CANDLELIGHT

Roadbed Ministries
5010 S. Division
Saturday @ 6:30 pm
Business Meeting: 4th Saturday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 62
Average per Meeting: 14
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 1
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$67.00
Area Donation: \$0.00
Anniversaries Celebrated: 0

Hi family,

We are still in the process of determining a facility for this meeting to move to. We want to keep it on Saturday night and at the present time if possible. We have scheduled mini business meetings every other week prior to the meeting to discuss this and keep the process moving forward.

Roadbed Ministries will not have the space available for us to meet after May. As we know more, so will you and we plan to have flyers when the move is finalized.

Meeting continues to go well. WE have picked up another couple home group members as well which is a good thing.

Thanks for letting me serve,
Cat L

SEEKING NA RECOVERY

Westwood Community Church

2828 Richmond NW

Monday @ 7:15 pm

Business Meeting: 4th Monday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: Approx 25

Average per Meeting: 8

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 0

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$100.00

Area Donation: \$0.00

Anniversaries Celebrated: 0

This group is really struggling. They are in need of trusted servants. The last day this meeting is being held at this address is March 17th. The church has requested that we find a new facility. If we do not find a facility then we will not have a meeting place.

We did buy books for this group in hopes that we will be able to keep it going.

In loving service,

Susan S.

STAYING IN THE SOLUTION

Church of the Holy Spirit

1200 Post Dr NE

Friday @ 7:00 pm

Business Meeting: 3rd Friday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 53

Average per Meeting: 13

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 1

Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$48.26

Area Donation: \$30.00

Anniversaries Celebrated: -

Hello family,

Sustaining itself. Fully stocked literature. Reaching people not associated with the GR Area. Newcomers.

Continue to make announcements about events.

George N.

TGIF

Trinity Reformed Church
1224 Davis NW
Friday @ 7:00 pm
Business Meeting: 3rd Friday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 222
Average per Meeting: 45
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 2
Total 7th Tradition Collected: -
Area Donation: \$62.11
Anniversaries Celebrated:

Hi family,

TGIF is secure as always as attendance has been very good on a weekly basis.

We will be doing a function to bring together the Grand Rapids area. As well as a donation for the MRCNA convention.

We have been searching for a facility to start a volleyball night on a weekly basis. In the past, it was held at the Pine Rest campus, but due to them not having a gym anymore our search continues. Once again we will keep you informed as things progress.

In Service,
Jason O.

WE QUALIFY

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
5333 Clyde Park Ave SW
Wednesday @ 7:30 pm
Business Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of every month

Total Attendees for the Month: 30
Average per Meeting: 1035
Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: 12
Total 7th Tradition Collected: \$28.00-
Area Donation: \$5.00
Anniversaries Celebrated: 1

Low attendance due to the weather. Wrote new guidelines. We'll see how they go. Change in GSR. Need support from more experienced members.

WORK THE STEPS OR DIE

1509 Philadelphia SE

Thursday @ 5:30 pm

Business Meeting: not reported

Total Attendees for the Month: -

Average per Meeting: -

Total 1st Step Meetings this Month: -

Total 7th Tradition Collected: -

Area Donation: -

Anniversaries Celebrated: -

Unexcused Absence No report given.

OLD BUSINESS

OPEN POSITIONS.

Co-Secretary

Public Information Chairperson

Please announce that these positions are open at the meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

PI/AREA GUIDELINE CHANGE.

MOTION 1.

To change the definition of an active NA meeting (for meetings dropped from website, meeting list & phone line).

C. ... website, meeting list & phone line must be present at two consecutive area meetings to again be listed on the website, meeting list & phone line.

Intent – To shorten time period for groups removed from schedule and to be put back on. The motion was made by Sally B. and seconded by Michael B.

Motion passed.

COMBINING PI AND H&I SUBCOMMITTEES.

MOTION 2.

To ask the ASC for permission for PI and H&I subcommittees to move forward on creating guidelines for a combined Public Relations Subcommittee.

Intent – To better utilize Greater Grand Rapids Area trusted servants pool. Move forward on WSO's vision of the two groups working together.

The motion was made by Sally B, chairperson of the PI Subcommittee and seconded by Matt W.

The motion passed.

REQUEST TO SUPPORT COURAGE TO CHANGE GROUP.

MOTION 3.

To give the Courage to Change group enough money to stock literature and pay back rent to become current.

Intent – To support newcomers and an element of addicts that may not be reached

The motion was made by Cathy L. and seconded by Lisa M.

The motion failed.

BUDGET SUBMITTAL FORM FOR ACTIVITY –WOMEN’S RAP.

The Courage to Change Group submitted a budget requesting \$200 seed money for a Women’s Rap, Speaker Jam and Dance. The itemization is as follows: Facility rent - \$50, DJ - \$50, Food & Decorations - \$100. The event is to be held on May 3.

The budget was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open positions at the area level (Co-Secretary, Public Information Chairperson).

The MRCNA fundraiser to be held on February 16.

Activities to announce!!!

The Sweet Side of NA.

Sponsored by TGIF home group

When: March 28, 2008, following the TGIF meeting

Where: Trinity Reformed Church, 1221 Davis NW, Grand Rapids, MI

What to bring: Your finest dessert, games and cards

Cost: \$2

Rules: Children must be supervised!!!

Workshop/Dance (MRCNA Fundraiser)

Sponsored by Principles Before Personalities home group

When: April 19, 2008, Workshop 5-7, Dance 8-1

Where: Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, 5700 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI

What: Workshop – Applying the Spiritual Principles of the 12 Steps

NA Memorabilia Auction

Dance with DJ Richie Rich

Cost: \$5.00 donation, no addict turned away

Women's Speaker Rap/ Dance

Sponsored by the Courage to Change home group

When: May 3, 2008, Women's Speaker Rap noon – 6pm, Main speaker 7pm,

Dance follows speaker

Where: Olivet United Methodist Church, 1933 Buchanan SW, Grand Rapids, MI

What: Women's Speaker Rap and Dance

Lunch will be served.

Closing.

There being no further business, a motion to close the meeting was made by Sally B. and seconded by Matt W.

Bobby A. closed the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Barb P.