

Regional Meeting Minutes

1. **OPENING:** The meeting opened at 9:08am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.
2. **TWELVE TRADITIONS:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Julio O.
3. **TWELVE CONCEPTS:** The Twelve Concepts were read by Kevin R.
4. **WELCOME VISITORS:** The Regional Committee welcomed Chris from Livingston County, Leon from Capitol and Dave from MDR.
5. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** The minutes from October 2006 were approved.
6. **ROLL CALL:** Marybeth G.
7. **CHAIR REPORT:**

Hi Family! I'm an addict names Shawn. I would first like to thank the Livingston County Area for hosting the Michigan Regional Service Committee. Secondly, I would like to remind everyone that elections for Facilitator, Co-Facilitator, Secretary, Co-Secretary, Treasurer and Co-Treasurer will take place during our meeting in February. Please be sure to announce this at your Areas and if you or someone you know has the willingness to serve this body, please be sure that you/they are present at our next meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Shawn V.

8. **CO-CHAIR REPORT:**

Hi Family, I'm an addict names Danny. It is with a very heavy heart and a great deal of prayer and consideration that I submit my resignation. When I took this position of Co, I wasn't thinking of stepping into the Facilitator position when Shawn's term is up. Since my Higher Power has been guiding me into another form of service, I have become majorly overcommitted. I feel that for the good of this body that I should resign now, so as to allow someone else the opportunity to learn this position as to be ready when the appropriate time comes.

With love and thanks to all,

Danny S.

9. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Hi all,

I can't understand why the minutes that I sent out last month did not go through. I'm just now finding out that they didn't. Here they are - again (hopefully)!! I won't be at Sunday's meeting. I have been very ill for the past month. I developed pneumonia from Strep Throat and have been in the hospital for the past three weeks. There were complications and I developed fluid around my heart. I just got home yesterday. I'm not allowed to go anywhere, not allowed to drive, and I'm not allowed to do anything that will exert me at all. I can't even decorate my Christmas tree!! The kids have promised to do that for me. I get pretty tired if I am on my feet for more than 10-15 minutes anyway. I'm sending Marybeth everything she will need for the meeting on Sunday. If there is anything that I missed please email me - I'm not supposed to talk on the phone (go figure!?!). I can check my email every day for 20 minutes, and that's about it - pretty boring. Have a good meeting on Sunday. I'll miss you.

Lots of Love,

Lori

UPCOMING MEETING LOCATIONS

Sunday, February 4, 2007 - in Southwestern
Sunday, April 1, 2007 - in Northwoods
Sunday, June 3, 2007 - in Saginaw Bay
Sunday, August 5, 2007 - in Southern Mid-Michigan
Sunday, October 7, 2007 - in Northwestern
Sunday, December 2, 2007 - Washtenaw

10. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Hello Family, my name is Jo and I am an addict. Well, I would like to start off by my apologies for my lack of prompt addressing of receipts, as it has been chaotic at my new place of residence, and I was at the point of moving again, but have been able to get the insanity resolved therefore I won't be moving. Yeah!!!

I have been in touch with the lady from Detroit, in regards to the issue of insurance for the region. I have to fill out a form in order to obtain a quote of us and the computer system at the house is not capable of handling it, therefore I do not have an answer for you as of yet. I will have my system up and online within the next few weeks in order to fulfill my responsibility of the issue. I do know that it does not grandfather clause in the other groups/areas. Does this body wish for me to continue to pursue this issue? As far as tangible assets, the only thing

that this region has is its merchandise and the banners. We don't own any buildings pr property (i.e. office equipment or computers, etc.).

As far as the bank balance goes:

Admin Beginning Balance	8548.68	Prudent Reserve	3000.00
Deposits	3263.27		
Expenses	914.60		
Ending Balance	10897.36		

Since the last meeting, I have been very busy trying to resolve several banking issues that I was unaware of last time we met, due to not getting the bank statements from our CPA, who kept them in order to get our taxes for the IRS. Please note that the taxes have been filed and we owe the CPA \$1000.00 for services.

The bank has taken several charges out of the admin. Account in regards t the MRCNA 22 Conference for the credit card machine that was used. The credit card machine had to be tied to a bank account so that monies could be deposited and fee/charges taken out. As far as the charges go, there has been 5 different charges taken out for the use of the credit card machine and I thought that I had all of the errors corrected and was led to believe that they were taken care of, but, I have found out after receiving the bank statement that the bank still owes us for one more charge of \$295.00. My concern is that it took only one signature by the bank for this to occur, and I, as Regional Treasurer or Lacy as MRCNA Treasurer were not contacted in regards to this occurring. I, as Regional Treasurer, am supposed to be signing all checks/transactions per the guidelines and I was not notified or consulted at all regarding this matter. What concerns me is that one of the members has been a member of this body for over four years and was fully aware of the policies and guidelines of this body. I do have copies of the contract along with the signature of the two people who did sign the contract and only Brian H. was an authorized signer on the checking account at that time. What concerns me is that Brian was aware of all transactions regarding the checking account required a double signature and did not enforce this. I have spoken at length to the bank and the CPA in regards to the security of our bank account and how this could happen since we have required a double signature. The bank has informed me that while we may require two signatures, they do not enforce, therefore any one signer could access our funds. The bank and CPA have come up with a couple of solutions for this issue. 1) For a fee of \$25.00 a month, the bank would enforce the double signature, or 2) The other answer is to change the number of signers on the bank account. I have had complaints about the number of signers and the frequency we change signers. Our signers change about every six months. The bank has suggested that we limit our bank account to only two signers and Kara suggested it be Lacy and I as we have been on the account the longest. I am asking this body to consider the suggestion from the bank and the CPA. Another suggestion is that we require our money handlers to be bonded.

I have some questions. Why did Brian sign the contract? Why not Lacy since he was the MRCNA Treasurer? Why did Brian and Lisa G. who was not a signer on the bank account allowed to access the Regional bank account? I have spoken to Lisa regarding this matter and she claims that the bank wanted her signature since she was the one who set up this matter. That doesn't explain why she was allowed access to the Regional bank account when she was not a signer on it.

Please know that there is nothing personal, just a professional courtesy and ethics in regards to the business matters at hand.

In loving service,

Jo D.

11. RD REPORT:

Hello Family, I'm a recovering addict called Mike.

All has been fairly quiet other than I have registered with the Discussion Forums for the conference participants. I have only just begun getting involved with this. I have been trying to learn more about parliamentary procedure and what not, to be better equipped when we get back to the conference. Pass along to any past conference participants that they can be involved with this process also. All they have to do is go to <http://www.naws.org/wscbb-signup.htm> and sign up.

I have received registration flyers for the World Convention in San Antonio next year; unfortunately I cannot get you any of them as I am not there. You can also register online via na.org. I will pass them on when I get back in some fashion.

I hope you all have a good day and we will see you all in February.

ILS,

Mike T.

12. RDA REPORT: NO REPORT.

13. MCRNA REPORT:

Hi Family,

MRCNA XXII Planning Committee is working hard. They have submitted all sub-committee budgets so you can go over them. The biggest change you will see is E & F. That budget is cut in half and Convention Info is down a little.

Everything else is about the same. H & H will be just a little lower than actual budget as they will go with what was sold for banquet and brunch unless something unexpected happens. Also, Merchandising is planning not to order as much so their budget will be lower than projected. The total budget for MRCNA XXII is \$39,398.00. Last year it was \$43,586.00.

The program chair wants to know then to set time slots for anything the Region wants for this convention (H & I, PI, etc.). The H & H Chair has indicated that we can hang banners for no charge for the next three years (2007, 08 and 09). If this changes your decision not to hang banners in 08-09, please let that committee know.

We will be selecting logo for convention at our next meeting, which is December 17. That is it for now from the MRCNA XXII Planning Committee.

ILS,

Rich M.
Convention Chair

(I believe everyone was given a Projected Budget at the last Region. I do have additional copies if needed – MB)

14. SHARED SERVICES:

Hello,

My name is Dale V. and I am an addict. Very few things have transpired since we last met in the area of Shared Service. More will be revealed.

Website

Everything seems to be running smoothly. Livingston County is up and running. We had two areas that changed over web servants since we last met, and needed to gain access to the site. In Woody's absence, I got them a username and password to grant them access and they are up and running. I would like to hear back from the areas about our request in October to remove all unneeded files to reduce space. If not we will broom it out. We cannot afford to lose our hosting provider . . . they treat us very good.

Banner Preservation

I am still planning on photographing them when they are hung in Lansing at MRCNA XXII.

Love to love NA,

Dale V.

MRSCNA Shared Services

15. WEBSITE CONTACT:

There is little to report here in the Seattle area. My work project is winding down. By mid-December I'll finish with a few days in Texas and be home for the holidays. Chad from NW Area called me home looking for some email help. I've called his number (231-392-4311) a couple of times with no answer or no message.

Other than that, no NA stuff to report. See you all soon.

Hugs,

Woody

16. MSO:

Hello Family,

It feels really good to be back in action. Service is such a good feeling. One order of business to check on is, can Area H & I subcommittees use our tax exempt number for literature orders at the MSO? If so, we'll set up and account for this.

Another, is it possible to put Metro Detroit's activities on the Michigan Region Website?

We are currently updating bylaws/guidelines for board members responsibilities. One of the big things is to try and get board members to be more interactive at the office. Now that I am off for a few months, I've been volunteering at the office a few days a week. This helps reduce our office worker expense.

We now have 14 of 15 seats filled, and all were present at our October meeting. We filled the last vacant set at our November meeting, with 14 out of 15 present. We now have new clothing articles and many knickknack items to help supplement our operating expenses. We set up at MDRCNA and did fair. We had about \$3,500.00 in sales. Not as much as hoped for, but not bad either. It was fun working the booth during the convention. If anyone interested in applying for an office worker position, we may be looking for another part-time worker. I hope to have applications with me today. Not much more to report on, other than normal business problems, I guess. Furnace problems and water leaks and the likes of things like that. Anyhow, until we meet again.

In loving Service,

Les P.

17. H& I:

Hey Family,

Many thanks to the Livingston County Area for putting on the Learning Day, spaghetti dinner and speaker meeting. Their hard work was extremely appreciated. The Learning Day was successful. There is not much else to report.

ILS,

Jeff C.

18. PI:

Hello and a happy season to all. As requested, I was present yesterday at the Livingston Area's Learning Day. It went very well and the information was received with much open-mindedness! We focused on the PR Handbook, establishing a foundation for a PR/PI Committee, beginner projects, and public image issues. Several current examples were shared, too. It was a good experience for many, including myself.

I want to suggest again, that, we may look at the change in infrastructure that NAWS is recommending. I, as many I'm sure, received an email about the PR Handbook now being available to all. Now is the time for this body to service our areas and take this handbook to all areas in the form of a workshop. The PR workshop should include and cover PI, H & I, Phone Lines, Webmasters, Panel/Presentations and Activities Committees. This could be done host by host. With permission, maybe schedule with the Area as timing permits. In this case, the only cost I would as for would be half of the mileage.

I motion that:

- 1) We change the title of PI Contact to PR/PI contact better yet, Public Relations Contact.
- 2) That our H & I and PI contact be the same person, PR Contact, saving the Region half the cost in hotel/mileage. Many areas have already joined the two committees. (This would begin at the next election).
- 3) If the joining is not possible, include the PR Handbook in the H & I Contact's criteria to be used.

The time for change has approached us. Is the Michigan Regions ready for the

growth offered to us? I believe we are capable of meeting the challenge.

In Loving Grateful Service,

Julia O.

19. AREA REPORTS:

A) Battle Creek Area

Groups: 7
Meetings: 16/week
H & I: 1
Region Donation: \$50.00
RCM: Open
RCMA: Cathi Mince
Area Chair: Andrew H. /Dave R.
H & I: Shirlene S.
PI: Open
Web servant: Rob H.

Due to the Christmas Holiday season, Battle Creek NA Area Meeting will be held (in Dec. only) in conjunction with the PI meeting on Dec. 16 at 11:00 a.m. Normal meeting time is the 4th Saturday of each month. There are no Regional donations at this time. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Cathi M.

B) Capitol Area

C) Flint Area

Hello Family,

The Flint Area meeting was opened at 1:08 p.m. followed by a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. The Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts were read by Thomasina T. The Definition and Purpose were read by Debbie H. Introduction, roll call, and quorum were met. Our Thanksgiving Marathon Meeting was a success. Thomasina, the Activities Chair, is planning to put on a Learning Day. Funds were voted on and approved.

Ad Hoc and Admin Committees were formed to see why meetings and groups are not attending area. A lot of the groups don't have GSR's or other service personnel. Problems were discussed on sending a

monthly service person to area. Some groups are holding on to lots of money that needs to be dispensed to area.

Discussions were made on updating a new set of guidelines for area but not a condensed version, and, a way to do it without spending a lot of money to do it.

Discussions were made for H & to move racks from facilities that discontinued meetings at their facilities, such as Job Corp. Their racks are to be moved to Salvation Army.

Helpline has been having problems with the phone calls coming in from AA. Price has gone up on voice mail.

Elections were held. Derrick W. was elected as the new Co-Treasurer and Dennis C. as new H & I Chair. Still need RCMA.

Still need better attendance fro groups. Only 16 or 17 groups are supporting area out of 32 groups. The area chair and the entire board will be re-elected in January 2007. Regional donation is \$148.00

Yours Truly,

Forman

D) Greater Grand Rapids

Area Meeting Location: Faith Lutheran Church

Meeting Day/Time: 4th Wednesday @ 7-9 p.m.

Groups: 15

Meetings: 24

H & I: Open

PI: Open

RCM: Cat L.

RCMA: Michael B.

Area Chair: James F.

Hello Family,

I am sorry that I cannot attend the regional meeting in Brighton tomorrow. I have a problem with a leg infection, just left the ER and my doctor tells me to stay off my feet. I hope my report gets to where it needs to be in time for the meeting.

There have been two meetings that have shut down in the GR Area. One is looking for another place to rent and the MWF morning meeting

has no trusted servants to assist them while the GSR is undergoing cancer therapy so it is closed. The Sunday meeting at the same pace is closed for the same reason.

We have PI and H & I sub-committees without chair persons. The previous PI chair has been working with the Tennessee NA Region to assist them in converting to the same type of phone line that we have. It has been up and running now for 3 months and has helped them pare costs of the phone line from over \$500/month to about \$125-150/month. They are very satisfied so far and had only a few startup hiccups. If any area in MI wants to talk to Jeff about adapting their phone line to a similar model with Work Easy, you may contact Jeff K. thru the GR Website or at (616) 706-4427.

We are hosting a story study on January 13 at Faith Lutheran Church from noon to 7 p.m. with an activity to follow. Is there a regional person available to come and help us with this project for the stories in the back of the Basic Text? If so, please contact me. The address for the activity is 2740 Fuller NE, GR, if you would like to join us. This is being planned by an ad hoc committee of Earl G. and Bobby A. (616) 644-0623.

I did not get the minutes from the October meeting so I hope I am sending this to the correct individual.

ILS,

Cat L.

E) Greater Muskegon

Area Meeting Location: Bethany Parish House/MRC
Meeting Day/Time: Every other 3rd Sunday @ 1:00 p.m.
Groups: 10
Meetings: 32
H & I: 1
RCM: Marybeth G.
RCMA: Kevin R.
Area Chair: Amy F.
H & I: Open
PI: Open
Web Servant: Jeff C.

Greetings Family,

Sunday, November 19, 2006, the GMASCNA met in Muskegon for our Area meeting. Eight of the eleven groups were represented. Our secretary position has been filled, yet we are still in need of H & I and PI Chairs. New meeting lists are available.

The feeling from our Area on the subject of PR is that H & I and PI should remain separate. They would support a PR umbrella.

Road to Recovery's Annual Halloween Party was successful and well attended, as was the Gratitude Dinner. Plans are in motion for the Holiday Gala and flyers are available.

My best friend is the GM of the Quality Inn in Traverse City and has offered us rooms for the next Regional Meeting for \$59.00(Just mention NA).

Thanks for allowing us the privilege to serve,

Marybeth G. and Kevin R.

F) Livingston County

Area Meeting Day/Time: 3rd Sunday @ 2:00 p.m.

Groups: 7

Meetings: 7

Region Donation: 245.80

RCM: Marty D.

RCMA: Open

Area Chair: Chris B.

H & I: Open

PI: Open

Web Servant: Tom L.

I want to thank everybody who participated in the Learning Day and dinner. This should really benefit our Area. We still have seven meetings and all seem to be doing well. We're still in the process of getting a meeting in the County Jail. Also we're looking into what it will take to get a meeting into a local youth prison. Our Area has decided to have the Area meeting on the third Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. at Hardy Methodist Church. We also decided we're looking into an Area activity and have a survey going around the area to see that the members want. We are taking things slowly and more will be revealed.

Thanks,

Marty D.

G) Northwestern Area

Area Meeting Location: 5th and Oak, Traverse City

Meeting Day/Time: 3rd Sunday @ 4:00 p.m.

Groups: 13

Meetings: 32

H & I: 6

Regional Donation: \$90.00

RCM: Sally B.

Good Morning Family!

I'm an addict named Sally. Recovery is happening in Northwestern Michigan! The new meetings that have been established to reduce overcrowding are well attended. Traverse City welcomes its first men's group, "Men in Recovery." All positions are filled. Our Literature Committee has organized a Basic Text Review and Potluck event every other Saturday for the next two months at different member's homes. Our Christmas Marathon Meeting is quickly approaching along with other activities. Our Area Events Calendar can be accessed on our website. Northwestern Area has been designated as the February meeting location, but we ask that this be discussed as SWMACNA is the first weekend in February as well. If not, Quality Inn rooms can be reserved for \$59.00 and the meeting site will be posted on our web page.

ILS,

Sally B.

H) Northwoods Area

Area Meeting Location: Moving

Meeting Day/Time: 3rd Saturday of every other month

Groups: 10

Meetings: 18

H & I: 4

Regional Donation: \$128.77

RCM: Gene R.

RCMA: Robert M.

Area Chair: Robert M.

H & I: Open

PI: Open

Web Servant: Mike

Not a lot going on. Area switching to meeting every other month. Most of our positions are filled, with a few of us filling 2 positions at this time.

We are having a New Year's Eve get together at 406 East St. in B.C. It is a potluck type with meeting and games afterwards.

In Loving Service,

Gene R.

Hi everyone, I'm an addict named Robert.

Great things come in small packages. The small part is a short report and the great part is the web page.

Mike W. has received the password needed to update the web page. He also has contacted most of the groups that have been no-shows at area meetings. All but two have expressed interest in being involved in area, if not in person, by sending reports to area. The two I mentioned could not be reached. There will be 10 groups with 18 meetings with a total of about 111 recovering addicts in attendance.

Our next area meeting will be held on Dec. 16 in Petoskey at the Parr Memorial Baptist Church.

Grateful to serve,

Robert M.

I) Saginaw Bay Area

No report (Lori is RCM and her absence has already been explained).

J) Southern Mid-Michigan Area

Absent – No report.

K) Southwestern Michigan Area

Area Meeting Location: Vicksburg, Niles, Kalamazoo

Meeting Day/Time: 4th Sunday of month

Groups: 25

Meetings: 69

H & I: 10/week

RCM: Patti K.

RCMA: Open
Area Chair: Jack B.
H & I Chair: Al L.
PI Chair: Open
Web Servant: Jim B.

Hi Family,

Our Area Convention is coming along well. February 2, 3, and 4 of 2007 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Downtown Kalamazoo. Our area is reviewing the Basic Text December 11 at 5:30 at Beaners on Westnedge in Kalamazoo. We are having a New Year's Eve event. The info is on our web page. Our Area did vote to post our minutes on our web page. Thanks for your input. I was brought to my attention that the next Regional meeting was going to be in Traverse City and that they may want to switch with our Area due to our convention. I have investigated this if you all should want to do it.

ILS,

Patti K.

L) Washtenaw Area

Hello Family, it's great to be back together with you all again. Missed you all in October. Had a wonderful time on the cruise. Washtenaw is doing well. Our November ASC was well attended, with 19 addicts and 13 groups being represented. We have flyers for our December event with us today, and before I forget, we also have a \$340.20 donation for Region today. Our Area is doing two Review and Input Workshops on the 6th. Our first one was before our November ASC, and our next one will be before December's ASC next week. It went well, with eight addicts in attendance, and we have forwarded the input on to the world, as suggested. Is Region doing anything along this line? We had an activities issue that got real controversial, but didn't get a chance to happen. A newly elected Activities Chair went rogue on us and tried to put on an event that no one thought was appropriate. A letter was written to the hall that was going to donate the facility and they must have rescinded their offer. The addict never once contacted anyone and wouldn't return calls or emails from the day they were elected until now. They have since been removed from office. I know I drove by the place and it was vacant a couple of hours after the event was to occur. Da dit, da dit, da dit, dat's all folks.

In loving service,

Les P.

19. OLD BUSINESS:

A) Reminders to Area's – clean websites. Also, if and questions and can't get in touch with Woody – contact Dale. If Regional website does not have next Regional information, contact Woody or Dale.

B) PR Committee/handbook – At last meeting we were to take back to our Areas taking the direction from NAWS to implement Public Relations Handbook, and, to change name from PI to PI/PR Contact. Minutes reflect mixed views and confusion. Julia read email from NAWS reinforcing handbook and her view. We will change PI to PR/PI and use PR handbook as suggested criteria at the H & I and PI workshops. Suggested an Ad Hoc Committee to go through all material and decide what we need to use – will move to Issue Discussion section of our show. Brian suggested that the PR handbook is the best tool and we don't need to glean from H & I handbook. Dale offered that H & I Contact go over both documents and report back. Also, Julia recommended we all go to www.na.org.additions and access the PR handbook and read it.

C) Insurance – do we need it? We don't have tangible assets (i.e., buildings, office machines, etc.). Dave from MDR feels we are covered. Frank posed that if we are, what does it cover and are we paying our fair share for it? Tabled until more information is given.

D) Shawn reminded that in December we traditionally give an MSO donation. Will bring checks to the next meeting.

20. NEW BUSINESS:

A) Security of bank account. Jo reported that the bank has concerns about the rapidity of NA changing signatures on the account. Jo suggested locking in ID's and possible bonding of those on account. Dale said that it is a catch-22 of sorts. We can't lock people's ID's in and that is the role of trusted servants. If someone does steal our money, we prosecute. Jo informed that for \$25.00/month, the bank will secure signatures and cover liability. After MUCH discussion, this was tabled pending further investigation (what exactly will the bank cover) and report of that data.

B) Our next Regional meeting is scheduled for the Northwestern Area and is also the same weekend as SWMACNA. Patti K. (Southwest) and Sally B. (Northwestern) suggested that the two Regions switch dates (SW on October 7) so the Regional body could support the convention. There would be no cost to Region as the convention has secured the space and water service (coffee bar upstairs). The room rate for mentioning NA is \$89.00. This body happily agreed to change the location.

C) Is anyone from Region assisting in Basic Text story reviews? Grand Rapids has requested help from Region for their Text review on 1-13-07. Take back to Areas. Also, Dale suggested that we substitute H & I and PI workshop for

Basic Text review at the SWMACNA convention. Patti K. will ask Convention Committee.

D) Banners – (wait – this is NEW information and so cool) Dave from MDR informed us that while in the process of shooting their banners, digitally shot ours as well, and brought a book for us to review. This was at no cost to either Region!!!! VERY BIG THANKS TO DAVE (for reasons too vast to name). He also suggested that we never take out banners 1, 2, or 3 as they are falling apart. Recommended that we have the Holiday Inn in Lansing show the slide show on TVs all weekend long, possibly to music. On the issue of last names being on the banners, Dave inquired and was told that the minute someone signed their last name, anonymity was moot. Dale will take the disc and make copies. Take back to groups and ask for suggestions of what to do with the CD.

E) Co-Facilitator – Julia nominated Brenda. She respectfully declined as she can't take on the commitment. Chris G. nominated – not sure he has the willingness. Chris left room and after a lengthy discussion, decided to come back in two months and see if the Area's have any willingness or if Chris' has increased.

F) Les asked if H & I falls under a tax-free umbrella. Frank's interpretation is if we are reselling items we should pay taxes. Tabled until Les gets more information from MSO.

G) Do we need an AD Hoc Committee to review PR Handbook? No, please see Old Business part B.

21. TAKE BACK TO AREAS

- a) Suggestions on digital images of banners.
- b) Elections – February meeting
- c) PI to PR handbook.

22. MEETING CLOSED AT 12:20.