

Northwest Michigan Area Service Committee Minutes March 20, 2005

Opening: Co-Facilitator, Dave T. opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.
Terry S. read the 12 Traditions and Cathy T. read the 12 Concepts.

Attendance: Nichole C, Cathy T, Don O, Jeff B, Tim P, Dave T, Kitty, Terry S, Guy R, Carrie, Jo D,
Chad, Niche W, Kristy C, Rachel S, Scott W, Mike F, Melissa B,

Welcome New Groups: The Whiting group is planning to start on April 1st

Open Positions: The position of RCMA is open.

Area Trusted Servant Reports

Secretary: Report given by Melissa B.

I purchased Envelopes, copies, and stamps to mail Feb. minutes, totaling \$11.68. So I'm returning \$6.32 of the \$18 budget I received. This month's request is \$18 again; I'll be making additional copies of report forms, etc.

Treasurer: Report given by Melissa B.

starting balance \$799.96	new balance \$719.67
total income \$589	prudent reserve \$142.15
total expenses \$669.29	lit.com. Balance \$46.19

RCM: Report given by Jo D.

Budget Request of \$80 to attend Region

Sub-Committee Trusted Servant Reports

Activities: Report Given by Cathy T.

We had a pretty decent turnout at the last activities meeting. We're starting to get some regular attendees.

To recap what's been happening in our area:

The Annual sledding party in Cedar was another successful, fun activity. We had a pretty good turnout, probably around 30-40 people in all. Conditions ended up being pretty good, in fact, it was a very fast hill! There were many great feats of bravery and daring attempts down the hill and lots of great falls too! We even had judges, although the Russian judge was a little harsh. The chili was good and we even celebrated Brandon's 2 yr anniversary with cake. Another fun-filled event in Recovery!

We had a game night on March 5th which was also a huge success. Lots of people and kids attended. We had good food, good fellowship and some friendly competition. We do have fun in Recovery! We collected \$13.00 in donations, which I am turning in to the area.

Unfortunately, the St. Patrick's Day dance had to be cancelled. The hall had a mix-up somehow and double booked for that night. I didn't find out until I called to make arrangements to get the key. Apparently, the other group booked first so we had to cancel. We quickly got the word around with flyers and word of mouth so hopefully no one showed up and was disappointed. The guy ended up calling back on Wednesday night to say the other group had backed out and we could have the hall but I thought it would be too chaotic to try to get the word out again. We were going to try for April but the hall is completely booked so unless I find somewhere else, we won't be able to do that. I'm returning the 2 checks for the dance.

Some upcoming events in our area:

We are planning a bowling activity on Sunday, April 10th at 2:45 at Timber Lanes. They are giving us the same rate of \$3.00 per person per game and free shoes. We have 6 lanes reserved so I hope lots of people show up. It's another way to have some good, clean fun and maybe make some new friends.

We are planning on having the Clean up Campout the first weekend in May at Timber Ridge. I had heard that the campgrounds changed ownership, which they did, but the clean up weekend is unchanged. We will reserve some sites like we usually do. There will be a speaker one night and maybe a potluck meal on Saturday. Of course there are lots of fun activities for your kids too. Flyers will be out soon with more details.

On June 11th, we are planning a really big event. The NA Variety Show! This will be at the UAW hall and will begin with a speaker. The Karaoke people will be there. We just need lots of acts! Please sign up for something or talk to Paula. Any kind of act would be great – singing, dancing, juggling, comedy; whatever your talent is! Get your kids involved too. We all know what hams they can be. This event is also going to be a MRCNA fundraiser so they will have people from their committee here and we will donate a portion of the proceeds to them. We will need lots of help putting this on so if you want to get involved, please come to the next activities meeting on Wednesday, April 13th at 6:30 right here.

We have more of the area "Hugs Not Drugs" T-shirts for sale. The cost was \$198.60 which was taken from the T-shirt fund of \$208.00. We are selling them for \$10.00 or \$12.00 for XXL. I also ordered some Double Book Covers from the merchandise money. I ordered 5, and sold 1 so far. There are 4 left if anyone is interested. We are selling them for \$30.00 each.

That's it for now. Please show up at these activities – they can be very important to your recovery. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Cathy T.

Hospitals & Institutions: Report given by Rachel S.

All is going well. Women's Jail is up to every week now. Men's Jail is still short of help. Still looking for Jail Panel Leader. Rob M. has stepped down for now due to conflict with work. Munson, Phoenix, and Dakoski all going well. Terry has literature for outlying jails and will start delivering in the Spring. Budget Request of \$119.

Public Information: Report given by Guy R.

Attendance- 6

Meeting Schedules have been corrected; new schedules are out and available. Website is up and running; seems to be ok. Munson drug class; Dave T. and Nichole C. attended. Phone Line-working with John M. to make better use of our phone service. Drug Court- we have requested info. From World and will be working on putting together a format at next PI meeting on Apr.7th. Will be discussing voting in a cochair and secretary at the next PI meeting. Will be attending the Regional PI workshop in Gaylord on April 2nd.

Literature: Proxy Report given by Guy R.

The 5th Literature Committee meeting was held March 15th, 2005 with 5 members in attendance.

Accounting

\$ 646.00 deposited into the area bank account on February 21st.

\$ 95.28 deposited into the area bank account on February 26st.

\$ 741.28 total deposit

All group and sub-committee orders and a check for \$ 1061, signed by 2 signatures received on February 28th. Group order mailed.

\$ 33.36 remaining on account at Credit Union One

\$ 382.00 stock en-route

\$ 289.64 Stock on hand

\$ 705.00 total Literature Committee assets

(Please note that \$ 705.00 is the total raised thus far for the Literature Committee. All funds are accounted

The Lit Committee resolved to continue raising funds in an effort to purchase the following items:

\$ 361.00 (100 each of 19 Informational Pamphlets)

\$ 94.00 (2 each of Bronze NA Medallions, years 1 through 20)

\$ 250.00 (Materials for Secure Storage Container)

\$ 705.00 total Projected funds needed to be fully up and running

Bail Raising Efforts

1. The Literature Committee will conduct a fund raiser at Jacob's Well on Wednesday April 13 from 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm. This will be a Pot Luck, Card Playing, Movie watching, "Open Microphone" event. The event will be billed as a "preliminary" warm up/audition for the June Variety show. A \$ 5.00 suggested donation will be asked, a raffle will be held and soda pop will be sold. The first \$ 250 raised will be utilized to purchase materials and construct the storage container.

2. A Car Wash will be conducted in the May time frame (14th or 21st)

Group Order

A group order was placed on Monday February 28th. This latest order was placed by depositing all funds into the areas checking account, writing a check, and then mailing to the WSO. This order was received on March 16th and distributed. So far I have the following orders to include:

Literature Committee	\$ 382.00
Recovery First Group	\$ 210.09
Never Alone Group	\$ 36.00
Living Clean Group	\$ 95.38
Hospitals & Institutions	\$ 54.50 (carry over from Jan.)
<u>Hospitals & Institutions</u>	<u>\$ 307.00</u>
Sub-Total Order	\$ 1065.43
Total w/Shipping	\$ 1061.59

Group Orders

The "Group Order" system initially requested by the ASC, has not worked due to sporadic order submission from groups. The Literature Committee has resolved to discontinue group orders for the time being to re-focus on our original operating plan.

Guidelines

We have begun to develop guidelines for the operation of the Literature Committee.

A working document will be approx 2 months out, as it should reflect a stabilized and established set of operating procedures, that which is in the "Process" of being developed.

It has come to our attention that copies of our reports are being delivered to the Michigan State Police post here in Traverse City.

Retreat: no report given

Group Service Representative Reports

The Beach Meeting: no report given

Growth Through Recovery: Report given by Nichole C.

Average attendance this month - 20 Are all trusted servants positions filled? -yes

Area Donation - none

Decision on subjects presented to the group –Discussion regarding the MSO– We came to 4 conclusions: the MSO has provided poor service, they are trying to duplicate services already provided by the WSO, there has been poor management of funds, overall we don't see the need for the MSO.

Subjects brought to the Area from the group - none

Comments– none

Just for Today By the Bay: Report given by Niche W.

Average attendance this month - 15-25 Are all trusted servant positions filled? - yes

Area Donation - \$50

Decision on subjects presented to the group - No on the 7 mil prudent reserve for WSO and no problems with the MSO

Suggestions brought to the area from the group - none

Comments- none

Living Clean: Report given by Jeff B.

Average attendance this month - 48 Are all trusted servant positions filled? - yes

Area Donation - \$125

Decision on subjects presented to the group - MSO feedback– We are forming our own area literature committee. Our group originally quit ordering from the MSO due to cost savings and some incomplete orders. WSO/RCM feedback– No to increase of prudent reserve. Better reasons/explanations must be given if we are to support an increase.

Suggestions brought to the area from the group– none

Comments- none

Living in Harmony: no report given

Never Alone: no report given

New Attitudes (Manistee): no report given

New Freedom (Cadillac): Report given by Don O.

Average attendance this month - 7 Are all trusted servants positions filled? - yes

Area Donation - \$20

Decision on subjects presented to the group - none

Suggestions brought to the area from the group - none

Comments-none

Recovery First: Report given by Guy R, proxy for Robert V, acting GSR

Average attendance this month - Tue.40-55/Mon&Thur.30-35 Are all trusted servants positions filled? - yes

Area Donation - \$50

Decision on subjects presented to the group - Motion 1– FRG motions that the PI subcommittee addresses the issue of law enforcement officers entering NA meetings for non-emergency matters. We suggest a letter or other contact with GT Sherriff's Dept. and TC Police which educates these agencies as to our traditions and respectfully requests that they be observed. Education may be offered to our trusted servants and members on this matter.

Motion 2– RFG motions that the Area Service Committee regard all a) group service reports b) group correspondence to area and c)personal contact information of members should be regarded as "Internal and Confidential" documents. At no time should our area secretary or other trusted servants offer or surrender these documents to law enforcement agencies without a court ordered request for these documents.

Suggestions brought to the area from the group - none

Comments-none

Women in Recovery: Report given by Cathy T.

Average attendance this month - 10-12 Are all trusted servant positions filled? - need GSR, Treasurer & Secretary

Area Donation - none

Decision on subjects presented to the group - Issue #1– WSO increase Prudent Reserve to \$7million. Our group said "Hell, No!" How can that much money be necessary and how can holding \$7 million in an account help to carry the message?

Issue #2-MSO concerns– Our group started using WSO because it is cheaper and orders were messed up most of the time. We will continue to order from WSO until the Lit. Comm. Is up and running.

Suggestions brought to the area from the group - none

Comments-none

Sharing Session

Why does the Literature Committee balance not match the bank's balance? This is difficult to figure without the Treasurer or Lit.Comm.chair here. Possibly just a timing difference? Nooooo, the answer is: The Lit committee keeps its books on a computer and the treasurer uses an abacus.

Old Business

RCMA position remains open

RCM has feedback from the groups to take to the next regional meeting

Dave H. is not requesting reimbursement of \$60 literature committee—it has been taken care of through World.

New Business

Budget Requests:

Rent	\$50	
Phone	\$19.62	
Secretary	\$18	approved
H&I	\$119	approved
RCM	\$80	approved
Regional Donation	\$100	approved

Tim P. is planning to start a new meeting on Friday evenings at 6pm, beginning on April 1st at the Whiting Hotel downtown.

Can we retrieve any IP's, readings, etc. from the defunct Benzie Group?

In the past we have purchased a start up kit for new groups. But is there a free one possibly available?

Area reports going to the State Police (*notes)

We must keep the program out of personal issues.

Are the Area meetings considered anonymous or a matter of public record? They are posted online.

But the Area decided not to include these issues in the minutes, therefore not public record.

Part of upholding the tradition and spiritual principle of anonymity is to put the welfare of the NA fellowship above our own desires.

But what about the PPO violation where he wrote about her in the reports?

There are people who currently can't come to a meeting to seek recovery.

Police Coming into NA meeting

Anonymity can mean life or death to a newcomer

PI is putting together a letter to go to law enforcement to educate them on our traditions; will be discussed at next PI.

We have discussed this issue in the past of how to handle police coming to the meetings.

Educate our chairpeople on how to handle a situation like that.

Secretary will look up in archives and post in minutes.

Open Forum

(no notes)

Attention GSR's

Open Positions

-Area RCMA. This position has a 6 month clean-time requirement, though more is recommended.

Duties include: assisting the RCM in their duties as the primary liaison between the Region and our Area
attending both Regional and Area meetings
fulfilling the duties of the RCM in their absence

- Women in Recovery needs a GSR, Treasurer & Secretary

Announcements

-Bowling at Timber Lanes on Sunday, April 10th at 2:45. Cost is \$3.00 per person per game and free shoes.

-Clean up Campout is the first weekend in May at Timber Ridge. There will be a speaker one night and maybe a potluck meal on Saturday. Flyers will be out soon with more details.

-The NA Variety Show! Is being planned for June 11th at the UAW hall. We will begin with a speaker and the Karaoke people will be there. We just need lots of acts! Please sign up for something or talk to Paula. Any kind of act would be great – singing, dancing, juggling, comedy; whatever your talent is! Get your kids involved too. We all know what hams they can be This event is also going to be a MRCNA fundraiser so they will have people from their committee here and we will donate a portion of the proceeds to them. We will need lots of help putting this on so if you want to get involved, please come to the next activities meeting on Wednesday, April 13th at 6:30 at 5th & Oak.

Group Information

Found in the archives was procedures on how to handle a person who is a threat at a meeting.

Although it is not specific information on how to handle police officers specifically, it is still useful information for trusted servants and chairpersons.

“If there are threats at a meeting, the WSO suggests 1) the “elders” of the group approach the person In question prior to the meeting to get the fell for their ‘temperature’ 2)the person can be asked to leave prior to or during the meeting if they are being disruptive 3) the police cannot be called during the meeting, because it jeopardizes the anonymity of members 4) a complaint can be filed with the police after the meeting.” Feb.04 Area Archives

Next Meeting April 17th, 2005 at 4:00pm