

# Saginaw Bay Area Service Committee of Narcotics Anonymous Minutes

January 23, 2010 – New Life Church of the Nazarene – Saginaw, MI

**OPENING** - The Area Service Committee was called to order by the Chair, at 1:36pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity prayer.

**NEWCOMER(S)** – Dave (Common Desires), Vance (We’re Not Unique), and Kathy (Recovery Zone).

**READINGS** – Jennie read the Twelve Traditions, Linda G. read the Twelve Concepts, and Rob read the Purpose, Function and Responsibilities of A.S.C.

**ACCEPTANCE OF LAST MONTH’S MINUTES** – In the Solution group report was not in the minutes, report was made but not turned in. Original minutes emailed were misprinted as

**ROLL CALL**

Trusted Servants	
Chair	P
Co-Chair	P
Secretary	P
Co-Secretary	P
Treasurer	E
Co-Treasurer	P
RCM	P
Alt RCM	P

Subcommittees Chairs	
Activities	P
Literature	P
Public Relations	P
Retreat	R

Home Groups			
12 at 12	R	Just for Today	-
A Gathering of Men & Women	A	Keep it Simple	-
Clean and Serene	A	Learning to Live	A
Closing Optional	-	Let Go, Let God	A
Common Desires	P	Never Alone	R
Common Ground	P	New Attitudes	-
Common Welfare	P	New Awakenings	P
Conscious Contact	A	New Way of Living	-
Desire to Change	A	No Fear	P
East Side	A	Primary Purpose	P
Fishing for Recovery	P	Recovery Zone	-
Freedom Group	A	Recovery Zone II	P
Graciously Forgiven	-	Steppin Straight	A
H.O.W.	P	Survival	P
How it Works	P	Together We Can Do It	P
Hugs, Not Drugs	P	Twelve Steps to Freedom	A
I Can’t, We Can	-	Unity	P
If You Want What We Have	P	We’re Not Unique	P
In the Solution	P	Willing to Make the Effort	P
It Works, How and Why	P		

**ELECTIONS**

Congratulations to Al as our new chair, Linda as our new secretary, Grant as our new co-secretary, and to Steve, Melissa W. and Jason for continuing to hold their positions as treasurer, co-treasurer, and co-chair.

**GROUP REPORTS:**

**12 at 12:** Next business meeting: Jan 29

We are presently in our 4<sup>th</sup> week. The group started on Jan 1, the second week of the month we do a step study, the 3<sup>rd</sup> week we do traditions. This is a midnight meeting. And we encourage people to attend and support the new group. (location 3430 N Euclid Ave, Bay City) Also we are requesting a starter pack.

**Common Desires:** Donations: \$40

All is well at Common Desires. Attendance has been good. We have a few new home group members and Dave E. was elected as GSR Alt next month. G.T.B.O.L.S., Matt and Dave E.

**Common Ground:** Next business meeting: Jan 27 Donation: \$20

Attendance down. Election for treasurer next business meeting.

**Common Welfare:** Next business meeting: Feb 25 Donation: \$20

We meet at Holy Trinity on Wenona Street in Bay City. We meet on Tuesday and Thursday at 12:30 to 1:45, on Tuesdays we read and study the steps, on Thursdays we read and study the traditions. Thank you. Yours, Bryan M.

**Fishing for Recovery:** Next business meeting: Feb 13 Donation: \$20

All is well. Speaker meetings need support.

**H.O.W.:** *-Report read, not turned in-*

**How it Works:** Next business meeting: Feb 22 Donation: \$40

Voted on motions. Attendance has been good.

**Hugs, Not Drugs:** Next business meeting: Feb 19 Donation: \$10

Meetings going good. Attendance steady, a couple of newcomers.

**If You Want What We Have:** Next business meeting: Feb 20 Donation: \$11.90

Grateful to serve as the new GSR for this group. Attendance has been steady, and we're handing out a lot of key tags to newcomers. At the last business meeting we voted to split into two groups during the meeting. Our home group also discussed the issue regarding the RCM and Alt RCM being more conservative with Area funds.

**In the Solution:** Next business meeting: Feb 12 Donation: \$10

We had 75 people come last night. Our meeting is well attended. All is well.

**It Works, How and Why:** Next business meeting: Feb 25 Donation: The coffee you are currently enjoying

Attendance average about 40 addicts a meeting. We are excited to report that our home group membership has more than doubled. We are now at 5 members. Also, April 10<sup>th</sup> we will be holding a 12

**Never Alone:** Next business meeting: Feb 24

No donation, attendance is low.

**New Awakenings:** Next business meeting: Feb 20 Donation: \$10

Attendance continues to be steady with declining 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition. Children are more than welcome with parental supervision.

**No Fear:** Next business meeting: Feb 24 Donation: \$45

Clean date celebrations in our home group since the ASC: Bobby G. with 22 years, Manuel with 7 years, and Bob L. with 2 years. It Works: How and Why book study except the last Wednesday of the month is a meditation meeting.

**Primary Purpose:** Next business meeting: Feb 24 Donation: \$20

Everything good. Attendance is standing room only most meeting. We still need home group members.

**Recovery Zone II:** Next business meeting: Feb 23

**Survival:** Next business meeting: Feb 23 Donation: \$10

Everything is going fine. We have caught up on our bills and have a donation this month. Attendance has been good. We're still getting the residents of DOT. We've been giving out a lot of clean time key tags and coins.

**Together we can do it:** Next business meeting: TBD Donation: \$20

Average attendance 5 to 10 people surviving. Could use some support.

**Unity:** Next business meeting: Feb 27 Donation: \$20

Good attendance, a few newcomers. We are now reading the traditions out of the It Works: how and Why on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. We are still passing the 2<sup>nd</sup> basket around towards the end of the meeting for our annual unity picnic, scheduled for July.

**We're Not Unique:** Next business meeting: Feb 22 Donation: \$50

We're growing. Average 15-20.

**Willing to Make the Effort:** Next business meeting: Feb 26 Donation: \$75

We would like to see a financial breakdown in the RCM report for food, mileage, hotel and any other expense. Things are going well. Attendance is steady.

## **TRUSTED SERVANTS REPORT:**

**Treasurer Report:** There were minor clerical errors on last month's report. The totals were correct, but the rest needed to be fixed. The full report will be available at February's meeting.

**RCM Report:** As usual, not much to report on the in between months. However February Region will be held in Holland, MI. I'll be making that trip by myself because Willard will be in Florida during that meeting. Anyone is welcome to tag along with me. I'll be going down Saturday, February 13 for the 14<sup>th</sup> 9am Sweetheart Regional Meeting. I'm requesting \$160 for motel and food expenses for that day. Grateful to be of loving service, Matt F.

**Alt RCM Report:** Next Regional Meeting: Sunday, February 14 in Holland, MI

At the Region (MRSCNA) I am participating as a member of the AdHoc Helpline Project. On Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> from 10am to noon. I facilitated a phone conference at which 7 areas and the Detroit Region...along with the Regional web servant and secretary...discussed the current state of Helpline operations/committees. The purpose of the conference call was to allow each area to share what works (and what doesn't work) with its helpline. Staffing, costs, and effectiveness were discussed.

The next phone conference for the Helpline project will take place on Saturday, January 30 from 10am to noon. Jeff K. from Grand Rapids will provide an overview of a proposed single number (Helpline) for the Michigan Region. Each area will be able to explore the advantages and disadvantages of participating in a single member system.

Note: Because the Regional meeting has been changed from 2/7 to 2/14. I will not be able to attend. I will be in Florida on vacation.

**Secretary Report:** Good afternoon my lovely little addicted monkeys, minutes from December were emailed out on January 5 and mailed via USPS on January 12. The only cost incurred was \$19.46 for postage. I will be typing and sending out this month's minutes. Next month I will turn all left over receipts and balance of my prudent and all this paperwork and what not crap over to the new sucker, um..wait, I mean new secretary.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped out as I learned and grew in my Area service for the past 5 or so years. I would also like to thank my mom for all her support and questionable interest in my NA involved, I would like to say thank you to my dad, my number one homey that didn't make it. Most of all I would like to thank the voices in my head for keeping me occupied while the Area meeting becomes a massive cluster (insert expletive here). ILS, Your Supreme Being and Master, Jennie "Awesome Shit" Remer

<b>Date</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Left in Prudent</b>
12/19/10			100.00
1/5/10	Postage	19.46	80.54

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Activities:** Next committee meeting: January 30, St Alban's at 10:15am

Good afternoon NA family. Sanity Bash 2009 was a big success. Garfield gave a great talk on steps 1 – 3 and unity. I feel unity was met at this event and was told so by some NA members that been around a long time. I would like to thank everyone that helped out putting on such a large event and everyone in attendance. Our expenses where \$469.82 leaving us with a balance of \$30.18. Our door, 50/50 drawing (\$77) and pop sales brought in \$672.92. Adding together old balance and door, pop and 50/50 gives a total of \$703.10, minus the prudent of \$500 for a profit of \$203.10.

Mardi Gras activities meetings started December 28, also January 4 and 18 were held at Monday's 5:45-6:20 at Aldersgate in Midland. Planning meetings went well. This event is today at 100 N Saginaw Rd, at the Midland Reformed Church. Doors open at 5:30. \$5 donation, no addict turned away. Potluck, jambalaya provided. Dinner 6-7pm, Speakers 7-8pm (Roy O and Kim P.), and dance 8-11:15pm, music by Thom S.

Planning meeting for Valentine Dance was today at St. Alban's in Bay City, from 10:15-10:50 and on January 30, February 6. Please get involved. It's a potluck, hotdogs and condiments provided. Theme is "2 Love and Be Loved". Our speakers are Marty and Melissa W. from 7-8pm, dance from 8-11:15pm on February 13 at St. Alban's Church. Jesse talked with the secretary, myself and my co-chair met with her. Worked things out one more time. For any reason if we fall short talking care of this we will not be welcomed back ever again. Thank you for your time. In loving service, Rodney. Comments/Questions: Melissa C. states that she has crafts that she would like to do for activities and fundraisers for the Saginaw Bay Area. She is asking for 10% of what they are sold for. Members directed Melissa to get with which ever sub-committee she would like to do this with (i.e. Activities, Retreat).

Marty asked why the last event was a children free event. Members wanted to know if that decision was made from the committee as a whole or was it the chair's call. Rodney answered that after having made the decision he discussed it with the activities committee and there was a group conscience to try it out. Two reasons why there were no children invited was because the activity was at a new church and we wanted to be in good standing with them after the dance, also that some parents do not watch their children as much when at a function, and there were too many places to get around in the church where we were not able to go.

**Public Relations:** Next committee meeting: February 22, 6pm Aldersgate Church, Midland

Six people participated in a poster drive in Saginaw over the holidays. We are looking for more volunteers for the Helpline, please contact Cody, Jesse, or Bryan if you are interested. We will be confirming information (willingness, times available, etc) with all current Helpline volunteers. The PR chair participated in a statewide phone conference to discuss the current state of phone lines in MI. An audio copy of the discussion (MP3) is available for anyone who is interested in listening to it. A (statewide Helpline) follow up meeting is scheduled for January 30<sup>th</sup>, and our PR subcommittee will be represented and participating. The H&I literature supply (IP's and Intro Guides) will be made available to the volunteers who are currently carrying the NA message to local facilities. Currently we have 2 volunteers going into DOT (Thur. 7pm), 5 volunteers going into the Freeland prison (Thur 7pm), 2 volunteers going into Pathways (Sunday 7pm), 3 volunteers going into Kairos (Monday 6pm), and an open speaker meeting at the 1016 House (Wed 8pm). Any addicts who are interested in participating in H&I at these facilities or at the new Midland Jail please contact Cody, Jesse, or Bryan. We have a few more CD copies available of a NAWs Hospitals and Institutions "mock" volunteer orientation and H&I Panel presentation. These are also available for direct download at <http://www.na.org/handbooks/sidea-mockpanel.mp3> and <http://www.na.org/handbooks/sideb-mockorientation.mp3>. The statewide website transition to the new hosting service appears to have gone smoothly, though we still cannot delete old files that are in our folders (old fliers, old meeting lists, etc). The Saginaw Bay portion of the website is current to the best of our knowledge. I recently spoke with an addict from the Houghton Lake area to confirm the continued existence of NA meetings up there, and also confirmed the closure of the Tawas meeting (which was still listed at na.org). Two meetings in the thumb area had been assigned to Saginaw Bay Area by the folks at na.org, (in the na.org database) and as such I was able to delete one defunct meeting and confirmed the existence of the second meeting (after talking with the listed contact person). Please continue to email or call with meeting change information (time, location, etc), and thanks for letting me serve. Bryan H

**Literature:** Next committee meeting: TBD

I am registered on the website that is working on the "living Clean" project, which is a new text. It is anticipated for release in April of 2011. The project is well underway, and I am currently attempting to navigate around the discussion board. There is a lot of discussion concerning if such a text is really needed and who prompted the writing of this book. I still do not have a clear understanding concerning the politics of this issue. I encourage anyone to get involved and register for rights to this website @<http://naws.org/lc/index.php>. The chapters in this text include: practicing the principles in all our affairs, identity, living spiritually, relationships, our physical selves, and the journey continues.

The first three chapters are well underway, but the remaining is still on outline form. My goal is to complete my review of the current posting before the next area meeting, and then I can start contributing any ideas that we may have.

The 2010 Conference Agenda Report (CAR) has many items related to literaute. These include items such as adding a Spanish large print text. It also proposed that IP #24 “Hey, What’s the Basket For?” and IP #25 “Self-Support: Principle and Practice” are to be replaces with a new IP “Money Matters: Self-Support in NA”. There are other motions involving literature as well. The CAR report can be found @<http://www.na.org/?ID=conference-Index>. My prudent reserve remains at \$50. In Loving Service, Tammy R.

**Retreat: Next committee meeting:** February 6, 2010 before the Card Party (See Flyer)

Minutes from the last meeting are attached. Raised \$160 for Financial Impaired at card party held in January. Next fund raiser scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup>. Retreat flyers are completed and will be distributed.

### **2010 Retreat Committee - January 9, 2010 - Meeting Minutes**

Members attending the meeting include Greg W, Cathy H, Martha N, Mary H, Jay A., and Lisa C. Cathy H. called the meeting to order.

**Minutes from Last Meeting** – Distributed minutes from previous meeting.

**Treasurer Report** - Jay had no new report. The remaining balance is \$2,567.70

**Review of Design** - Design Approved. Martha will distribute prices next week.

**Fund Raising Idea** - First Card Party Held January 9<sup>th</sup>. Raised \$160.00 toward Financial Impaired. Drafted up Flyer for Second Card Party.

**Retreat Flyers** – Lisa drafted up the Retreat flyer for review. Need the prices to draft the merchandise flyer. Goal is to have the flyers completed to distribute at the next area meeting.

**Misc. Issues** - Coin for Bench, Name Badges-Martha volunteered to work on the name badges.

**Next Meeting –February 6<sup>th</sup> 2010 @ 6:00 before Card Party**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Rent:** A check for \$20 was written to New Life Vineyard Church
2. **Starter Kit:** A check for \$31 was written out Rob M., as he will be ordering online with his debit card and having a check written to M.S.O. would not be needed.
3. **Retreat Representative:** It was asked that if the Retreat committee did not send a representative, how can we have a discussion or answer questions. It was reminded of the committee that the Retreat Chair does send in monthly reports, and we also have her contact information if anyone would like to ask questions, we also have the information of the committee’s meetings if we would like to visit and ask questions then.

It was pointed out that our guidelines say a representative from a sub-committee needs to be present at an Area meeting, although to recourse for not showing up was not mentioned. Members mentioned that if the Retreat chair was not available for the Area meetings, then having a representative from that committee would be good.

Marty volunteered to attend the next Retreat meeting to discuss this idea with the Retreat committee. The entirety of the discussion was based towards ‘what can Area do to have the Retreat committee be a part of ASC meetings’.

4. **RCM/Alt RCM Report:** It was asked of the RCM and Alt RCM to write out a breakdown of their expenses, when they travel for the Regional meeting, in their reports. The Alt RCM said that he would. The RCM said a breakdown may be in the Alt RCM report, but he (RCM) will continue to turns in receipts.

It was suggested that while some Regional meetings are, maybe a set distance could be made so that closer meetings would be driven to the day of, instead of getting a hotel room for overnight. Maybe the A.S.C. needs to specify in the guidelines what this distance could be.

Another member stated that Regional minutes are on the Regional website, and after having read them has noticed that some Areas just send a report every other Regional meeting. This may be something Saginaw Bay could think about doing if money is becoming an issue. Maybe Region could support a web meeting so members may attend while at home.

Again, the topic turned back around and continued to discuss the Alt RCM and RCM writing out a breakdown of expenses in their reports. This would help the Saginaw Bay area members understand the costs involved with attending Regional meetings. The RCM stated that he is doing his part to be prudent with Saginaw Bay monies.

5. 'No Children' Policy at Activity: Members were still questioning why the Mardi Gras activity was 'no children allowed'. Although, at this point in the Area meeting, the Activities chair had left to set up the activity, members from the committee were still in attendance to discuss the issue.

A member suggested that if a particular venue is unwilling or not child friendly, then maybe a new venue needs to be sought out.

Another member stated they were in attendance at the last Activities planning meeting, and the idea to have a no children function was not a group conscience by the committee, but was a decision made by only one member. Although the topic was discussed at that activities planning meeting, the only group conscience that was taken was that they member reluctantly agreed to try out the no children idea.

It was stated that mistakes can be made, and that it is our responsibility to learn from them. The Activities chair has already agreed to be more open with these types of decisions and allow the subcommittee as a whole to make the decision.

### **OPEN FLOOR**

1. St Louis meetings: There is a meeting in St Louis Monday through Thursday at 5pm.
2. New Administration: With the new trusted servants starting next month, it was reminded that part of the duty for the new chair is to make up the meeting scheduled for the year, dates of when and where Area will meet. Also, the checking account needs to change, Al, Jason and Melissa W. need to be added, and Rob needs to be taken off.
3. Exiting Administration: Rob gave his farewell address as the Chair. Area members thanked the exiting trusted servants (Rob and Jennie) for their service.

### **CLOSING/NEXT AREA MEETING**

Meeting closed at 3:40pm with the Serenity Prayer.

Next meeting is Saturday, February 27 at 1:30pm, at St Albans Church in Bay City.

In loving service,  
Jennie R., Secretary