

MINUTES

Twin Cities Area Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous
July 18th, 2009
Sabathani Community Center – 3rd floor, Room J

Opened meeting with Serenity Prayer

READINGS

Jake read 12 concepts of NA
Jason read 12 Traditions of NA
Harry read 12 Steps of NA

INTRODUCTIONS

2 Newcomers
Quorum needed 15, 17 in attendance, quorum verified.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June minutes approved

OFFICER REPORTS

CHAIR – Pam S.
(Absent)

CO-CHAIR – Sally V.
Nothing to report. Thank you for letting me be of service.

SECRETARY – Charlie M.
(Absent)

CO-SECRETARY – Margret B.
Nothing to report. Thank you for letting me be of service.

TREASURER – Donna P.
(Absent)
Ryan filled in with nothing to report.

CO-TREASURER – OPEN

RCM – Ryan D.

RCM REPORT ON THE MINNESOTA REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Carry The Message Campaign

Northern Lights Area – Shelia & Robin

Northern Lights has been struggling with getting new trusted servants to their ASC. In order to help better carry the message, the members of the ASC have developed a signup sheet that the GSR carries back to the meeting, and the meeting member volunteers to be a courier of information to the location of their choice. The Carry The Message Committee puts together packets of info and literature for the meeting member who signed up and the GSR then brings the packet to the meeting member. The meeting member then distributes the packets to the predetermined location and keeps it stocked on a regular basis. This has been going on for a little less than a year.

The packets consist of: an 8 ½ x 11" tear tag sign, meeting lists, lit for facilities, and/or lit for addicts. The packets are tailored to the location itself. If the location is a grocery store, the tear tag poster might be all that's provided. If it is for an emergency room IPs and meeting lists might be provided. The IPs used: **Am I An Addict, Who, What, How, And Why**, and **For The Newcomer**.

They said that getting permission is key. Never assume that a facility will be ok with letting us leave our literature at their location. Shelia and Robin said that they have been turned down many times.

They have had a lot of luck with probation and parole offices. They found that many addicts who are on probation or parole are more than willing to drop the literature off.

They also said that hand delivery is key. When the lit is mailed, it is often time misplaced due to the fact that the person who receives the lit doesn't know who to give it to. Get a contact person and know who to deliver it to.

Emergency Room Project

Fellowship Services Team - Justin P. (Project Leader)

There have been only two meetings regarding this project to date. So this project is in its infancy.

What is the project?

- Compile a list of all ER's in the Region
- Organize ER's into an accessible database
- Gather information on how to contact ER's for the purposes of distributing literature
- Provide information and training to the areas regarding distributing literature in an ER

What is this Project not?

- This project will not coordinate distributing lit to ER's
- This Project will not directly distribute lit to ER's
- This Project will not "control" the ASC's distribution of lit in the ER's.

What do volunteers do?

- The region facilitates the ASC's distribution of literature
- Contact ASC's
- At this early stage, volunteers will recruit other volunteers
- Steer the project direction
- Writing: communications plans, operations manual, and succession plan.

How do you get involved?

- Use one of the many electronic resources provided
- Email: Justin.paro@gmail.com and he'll invite you to the newly created Google group.
- Come to the regional meeting.

Public Relations Events Coordination

Fellowship Services Team – Monte J. (Project Leader)

Monty is working on developing a "Leave Behind" for our PR Project. For example, instead of asking the same questions every year about how much money a PR event will cost, how much lit we need to buy etc., Monte has developed a spreadsheet to better track the events so that our trusted servants can go into the event next project manager will have a better idea of how to manage the project. This is a very cool, very useful tracking system. Monte gave a break down of how it works and it seems very thorough.

Monte also asked that any Area that is interested can send him their info for their PR events for him to keep track of. This is not to have the region manage those projects, or control them, but just to help keep all of that info in one place so that there is a master resource for everyone to use.

This will hopefully lead to using our financial and human resources more responsibly when it comes to PR. By being able to see over the course of time what events were the most successful and which ones weren't.

Basic Texts In Libraries

Fellowship Services Team – Jenny (Project Leader)

Project goal: To insure that addict, family member, professionals, or friends, can find out about our program of recovery.

This project will require the participation of every ASC to help contact and distribute the lit to the libraries. Areas should also report to Jenny which libraries have been stocked with Texts to ensure no overlapping.

BREAK

Guidelines Overview

Vice Chair – Jeff S.

Jeff gave a brief overview of the new guidelines and what has changed at the region as a result of their adoption.

Last Two Years Of Expenditures and Income

Fellowship Services Team - Justin P.

Income - Over \$20,000 in 2008 and under \$15,000 in 2007

Expenses – Every expense went up except for helpline because the yellow pages ads were discontinued.

Prioritizing Activities and Expenditures

Fellowship Services Team – Monte J.

A brain storming session was held where each table was given a stack of approximately 30 cards with services and expenses that the Region provides and we were asked to prioritize them on a scale of 1 to 5. We were then asked to tally the total score that we gave everything and then reduce that overall score to 30. We then had to reprioritize everything. This was a great exercise in that it help us to see how much we want to have done and how much value we put on different services, but realistically see that there are only so many resources (both human and financial) that we have at our disposal.

This exercise was done to help guide the Fellowship Services Team when planning the 2010 budget. It will also help them determine which projects need to be prioritized and in what order.

RCMA - Csonya
(Absent)

POLICY – Tony M.

Nothing to report. Thank you for letting me be of service.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ACTIVITIES – Stefan

Report given, not submitted.

BANQUET – AmberLynn

Banquet Report July 2009

The banquet committee is starting to get busier. Things are coming along quite well. I just recently scored a significant amount of decorations at a garage sale!! We really need help though, especially in the area of decorating. If you have any desire to help out, please contact me.

Tickets are on sale. Please purchase your ticket sooner than later. There are only 250 available and NONE WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. If you'd like to buy a ticket, see anyone on the banquet committee or call me. If no one from the banquet committee has been to your meeting with tickets, let me know and someone will come out right away.

I have printed more flyers. Please take them back to your groups and continue to announce the raffle for one free banquet ticket. There will be two more winners after today. One in August and one in September. Please only one entry per person.

As I said before, we could use some help on the committee. If you're interested at all please come to the next meeting which will be held Saturday, August 1st @ 1pm.

The location is:

Centennial Lakes Office Park
7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 700
Edina, MN 55435

With love and gratitude,
Amber Lynn and Banquet Committee

HELPLINE- Kimtynia

Report given, not submitted.

H&I – Jake V.

Report given, not submitted.

LITERATURE - Open

OUTREACH – Jason

Last Outreach sub-committee meeting was held:

Saturday, July 11th

One addict in attendance

Discussed / Working On:

A: Continue to visit all TCA meetings and touch base with groups' trusted servants.

B: Meeting of the Month for August:

It's About Time NA

Tuesdays @ 7pm

St Luke's Lutheran Church

1701 Old Shakopee Rd
Bloomington, Mn

Next Outreach sub-committee meeting:
No meeting planned for August

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.
Jason E. 612-558-4928 or jae.devildog@gmail.com

PR – Kit Egan

Public Relations Committee Report

July 18, 2009

Thursday, July 14 held a TCASC Public Relations committee meeting at my place.

We discussed progress with the Carry the Message Campaign.

We discussed the process of keeping the various locations stocked with materials.

We discussed a project to create credit card sized CDs with our literature on it for distribution to professionals. It's hoped this will become a Regional project.

Date for the next PR committee meeting at my home is **Thursday, August 13.**

Completed

Collaborated with the Region to have a booth at Loring Park for the Pride Festival. I want to thank all the volunteers for making this a huge success. We're all looking forward to next year's Pride Festival.

Collaborated with the Region in a tabling event in Bloomington where we had people sign up for the meeting list monthly electronic delivery.

Carry the Message Campaign has successfully formed relationships with

Abbott Northwestern Hospital's ER

Unity Hospital's ER

Delaware Street Clinic, U of M Hospitals

New facilities to add to the Carry the Message Campaign are

Hennepin County Medical Center

North Memorial Hospital's ER

Hennepin County Detox at 1800 Chicago Avenue

Mercy Hospital

Reformatted the Metro meeting list in two ways:

Because the August meeting list has 6 new meetings I had to shrink the font.

In order to best display the meeting list in the wall holders, holders that will offer our information in both English and Spanish, I redesigned the meeting list so it will say Narcotics Anonymous in English up one side and the same thing in Spanish down the other side. This allows the folded list to be displayed with either language facing the reader.

There'll be a motion offered today, I think, to change the email addresses of the TSs on the list. Already for the September list I have 20 additional meetings to accommodate. How cool is that?

Pending

Developed script for calling hospitals, food shelves, homeless shelters, and so on. Please see me if you or your group wants to adopt a site.

We're still awaiting return calls from the ERs that haven't signed on to the Carry the Message Campaign. I want to say that while it's not easy to get a response, not a single entity we've contacted has turned us down.

Terri and Lisa approached me after June's ASC asking for materials for the Carry the Message Campaign. Thanks so much. The committee needs all interested to join us.

Future

I need one native Spanish speaker to help me out on July 23 for a 2 ½ hour boothing event at **Waite House** in South Minneapolis. This event starts at 9 or so in the morning and ends about 1 PM.

The committee will continue to seek tabling opportunities with an eye toward September where we'll be at Dunwoody and MCTC during Recovery week.

OLD BUSINESS

Treasurer - Open
Co- Treasurer- Open
Literature Chair - Open

OPEN FORUM

- Update needed on TCA checking/bank account for all applicable positions.
- Bud K. still on account, only one current elected official on the account.
- Literature chair title removed or eliminated due to lack of commitment from area.

NEW BUSINESS

-Motion 180 - Made by Mike B. Pleasant NA, seconded by Steffon of Northside NA.

Eliminate the literature Subcommittee for TCA, because there is a lack of addict support to meet the commitment that is required to be filled. The literature sub committee has lost its utility with the advent of UMSO and online ordering.

- Please bring all new business back to your groups/meetings for commentary and voting next month.

Closed Meeting at 12:30 with the gratitude statement.