

CONNECTICUT REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2013

VISITOR INTRODUCTIONS AND QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION: No visitors introduced themselves

CALL TO ORDER

The CTRSCNA met in Bridgeport (CCAR, 49 Cannon St.)
The meeting was called to order at 2:04 pm by our vice-chair, Mary H.
After a moment of silence followed by the Serenity prayer, Al read the 12 Traditions and Mary read the 12 Concepts.

ROLL CALL

Eight areas were represented. The RSC Chair, Alternate Treasurer and Greater Waterbury Area were not present.

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

Adam read the Old Business, Elections and New Business sections of the October minutes.
Motion M/S Toby (GHA)/Mike (GDA): To approve the October minutes. **8-0-0 PASSED**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair – Leonard was absent.

Vice Chair – Mary read her report. She attended Public Relations and Writing Steps for Recovery this month.

Treasurer – Gail read the report. **(November 2013 report)**

Opening Balance:	\$ 2,106.22
Donations Received:	\$ 1,880.76
Misc. Donations/Funds Returned	\$ 818.27
Expenditures Total:	\$ 821.14
Donation to WSO:	\$ 157.11
Closing Balance:	\$ 3,827.00
Schedule Reserve:	\$ 3,000.00
Checkbook Total:	\$ 6,827.00

Motion M/S Samantha (SFCA)/Al (MSUA) To approve the November Financial Statement. **Passed 8-0-0**

Regional Delegate (RD) – Adam H. read RD report. Conference Agenda Reports (CAR) will be released on November 27, 2013. Adam & Dyan went to the Western Service Learning Days. There was lots of good information but mostly geared toward Public Relations/Public Information and Hospitals & Institutions. Adam recommends that RD/RDA not attend again but strongly suggests that PR and H&I add to their budget for it. Adam also registered for Mult-Regional Learning Event in Maine. That will be first CAR workshops with World Board members. Adam & Dyan are looking for assistance from RCMs in securing location for Regional Assemblies (CAR workshops). Adam also updated our meeting list with NAWS. Reminder that there's new Traditions Book Project mini workshop material available and the membership survey is available on na.org through December 31.

Q – was asked about the price of the CAR? A – We're unsure right now but probably in the \$8 - \$9 range.

Q – Who should continue to update the meeting list with NAWS? A – Groups can register themselves but most don't know they can. Since our web servant maintains the info for us, it is suggested that the web servant regularly update NAWS.

Regional Delegate Alternate (RDA) – Dyan F. read the report. Attended Western Service Learning Days. The report recapped the experience. No questions from the table.

Web Servant – Donna H. read the report. All meeting updates, calendar events and flyer links have been completed for the month. As a reminder to please send documents in PDF format.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

BOD – Phil D read the report. Phil received clarification that the At-Large seats are only for members with prior BOD experience. The BOD voted on the Stamford Hilton for the 30th (2015) and 31st (2016) Regional Conventions. Troy continued working on the penalty abatement with the IRS.

BOD next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on, November 17, 2013 at the Holy Trinity Church, 381 Main St, Middletown CT

Convention – LisaMarie O. read the report. All subcommittee are on task and are doing well. Lisa will confirm with all Regional Subcommittees that requested time slots at the convention as they will be reviewing the final draft of the program.
[Convention Committee meeting will be held November 17, 2013 at the Holy Trinity Church, 381 Main St, Middletown CT](#)

H&I – Dan E. read the report. Some areas brought their orientation packages for compilation. Still discussing next month. Secretary for the committee is OTF. The last remaining t-shirts are making their way to Area learning days (11 were sold this morning at SFCFA learning day for \$132.00). Dan asked if he can turn over the cash to the Treasurer or if he has to get a money order. Regional Policy is that business conducted at Region be in check or money order only.
[Next Meeting December 4, 2013 at New Britain YMCA, 50 High St, New Britain, CT 7:30pm](#)

Literature – Mary R. read the report. The Literature committee is in need of addict support. There was no meeting in October. Someone mentioned that the Literature Committee meeting is listed on the wrong day online.

- Starting inventory before print; 18,000
- No schedules sold outside the fellowship.
- 2,100 schedules sold within the fellowship for \$294.00
- 2,000 transferred to RSC Subcommittees for \$280.00
- Ending inventory 13,900

[The next meeting will be at the Meriden Public Library, 105 Miller Meriden Ct, Tuesday January 21, 2014, 7:00pm](#)

Public Relations – Absent (OTF) Positions OTF are Chair, Vice Chair. Spanish Phone Line Coordinator
[The next meeting will be December 11, 2013 at 7:00 pm at St. Andrews Church, Meriden CT.](#)

WSR – OTF. Gerry read the report. There were eight (8) members at the last meeting so it was as much of an information session as a business meeting. Turns out that two groups from MSUA sent subcommittee representatives to the committee. Recording Secretary position was filled. One new male step-writer orientated and past & future learning days were discussed.
[The next meeting will be December 12 at 7:00 pm, Holy Trinity Church 381 Main St, Middletown Ct, 06457](#)

Policy Ad-Hoc – Adam H. read the report. Only 2 members “attended” (via web conferencing). We continued the review of regional policy. Found possible issue with BOD At-Large seats. The RSC voted to remove those seats in March 1996 so should the BOD be allowed to add those back in without a vote of the RSC? Also, felt that the policy regarding financial emergency was fine and Treasurer/Alt. Treasurer maybe should wait until break time to write out checks (all possible disbursement requests should be in by then) and should be more aware of large disbursements that might cause an issue. The ad-hoc is on the last two sections of the regional policy... the rest of the document being subcommittee’s internal guidelines. Each subcommittee should review these themselves and bring any corrections/changes to the ad-hoc for inclusion. The ad-hoc can take a cursory glance through but the subcommittees are free to change their guidelines as they see fit.

Phil said that the BOD would look into that issue with the At-Large seats.

Q – When is the next meeting? A – some dates thrown out... it seems like December 15 is the best. So, December 15 at 1pm. Adam will send an email out.

Q – Since the policy ad-hoc will be done with the review after the last two sections, will it be automatically disbanded?

Adam believes that the ad-hoc should not be disbanded until the RSC votes on whatever suggestions are submitted. Then the work will truly be completed.

AREA REPORTS

Central Connecticut Area – Libby R. (RCM)

Positions Out to Area: Alternate Secretary

Activities: Feb 15, 2014 - Spiritual Breakfast 9:00am – 12:00noon – Immanuel Lutheran Church, Meriden

May 9 – 11, 2014 – Women’s Sponsorship Retreat – Incarnation Retreat Center, Ivoryton, CT

Step Brothers & Step Sisters now a co-ed step meeting – Immanuel Lutheran Church 6:45pm – 7:45pm

Fund Flow: \$498.02

Area Concerns: Two guests from Pigs in Space group here to support their motion. Also the Area is requesting to have the meeting schedule bold the town name and not the name of the group.

Greater Danbury Area – Mike Q. (RCM)

Positions Out to Area: Vice-Chair, Alternate RCM and Activities Chair

Activities: Feb 4, 2014 - Spiritual Brunch

Nov 28, 2013 – Thanksgiving Marathon – 7 Madison Ave. Danbury, CT – 9:00am – 6: 00pm

Dec 25, 2013 – Christmas Marathon – 7 Madison Ave. Danbury, CT – 9:00am – 6: 00pm

Fund Flow: \$0.00

Area Concerns: We will start our area inventory process this month.

Greater Hartford Area – Toby L. (ASC Vice-chair)

Positions Out to Area: PI PL Chair, vice chair, RCM and ALT RCM

Activities:

Fund Flow: \$ Fund Flow supposedly mailed

Area Concerns: Didn't meet quorum this month. ASC Chair and Vice-Chair will visit groups to see how the area can help.

Greater New Haven Area – Art K. (RCM)

Positions Out to Area: none

Activities: none

Fund Flow: \$ 0.00

Area Concerns: none

Greater Waterbury Area – absent

Mid-State Unity Area – Al W. (RCM)

Positions Out to Area: none

Activities: Nov 28, 2013 – Thanksgiving Marathon – Holy Trinity Church, 381 Main St. Middletown, CT - 9am – 6pm

Fund Flow: \$0.00

Area Concerns: Pig Roast check

Southern Fairfield Country Area – Samantha M. (RCM)

Positions Out to Area: Alt RCM and Policy Secretary

Activities: Nov 28, 2013 – Thanksgiving Marathon – Norwalk Hospital (Nash Auditorium) –

Dec 16, 2013 – “More Will Be Revealed” group 30th Anniversary – United Presbyterian Church, Seaside Ave. Milford, CT – 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Fund Flow: \$ 0.00

Area Concerns: GSR's representing more than one group – 1 addict, vote ?

Tunxis Valley Area – Omar P. (Alt. RCM)

Positions Out to Area: Alternate Treasurer

Activities: Nov 28, 2013 - Thanksgiving Marathon Meeting

Fund Flow: \$313.56

Area Concerns: need to know what legal insurance form or paper work needed for NA activities

United Shoreline Area – Howard O (RCM) absent

Positions Out to Area: RCM, Alternate RCM, Chair, Setup Person

Activities: Thanksgiving Marathon, Nov. 27, 2013, 10:00pm- Nov. 28, 2013 5:00pm, 10 Huntington St, New London CT

Nov 28, 2013 – Gratitude Dessert Meeting – 200 Hazelnut Hill Rd. Groton, CT – 6:30pm

Jan 15, 2014 – “Sounds of Serenity” 28th Anniversary – 170 Pennsylvania Ave. Niantic, CT

Fund Flow: \$46.21

Area Concerns: none

BREAK

SHARING SESSION

- **How to bring information to Region (business, activities, etc.)** – The basic question was “Who sends what information to where?” Asking the web servant to review. For example, activities should be sent in PDF format. Traditionally, information on subcommittee meetings went to vice-chair, but we've removed the policy that vice-chair maintain and update the business meeting calendar. We took a quick show of hands and everyone agreed that the web servant should be responsible for updating/maintaining the business meeting calendar because, right now, it only exists on the website. As for meeting updates, those also get sent it to the web servant via RCMs only. If someone fills out the paper form it has to be brought to Region by an RCM, and if someone fills out the online form the information gets forwarded to each Area's mailbox (@ctna.org) for the information to be verified and then forwarded to the web servant. As for Activities, anyone can send in information (to webservant@ctna.org) about activities to be put on the activities calendar. If there's a flyer also, that should be sent in PDF format.

- **How Literature is Distributed in Areas** – United Shoreline Area switched to a pre-order process and Howard wanted to know how other areas handle literature orders. Greater Waterbury takes orders 15 before ASC meeting or at the Literature committee meeting. Either way, the literature is delivered at the next ASC meeting. Greater New Haven Area has groups put in their orders at one ASC meeting and then pick them up at the next ASC meeting. Some groups around the region order directly from NAWS. Howard explained that they used to have a nice stockpile that was brought to the ASC meeting so groups could get their orders that night (*note – that is how Mid-State Unity Area currently operates). Southern Fairfield County Area has a vote before the groups right now to disband the Literature committee. The issue was with how to handle shipping. It was then pointed out that this would be a great issue for all of the area literature chairs (or whoever) to discuss at the Regional Lit Committee.
- **GSRs for Two Groups** – Samantha asked do any other Areas allow one member to be GSR for two groups at the same time? SFCA now allows one GSR to represent multiple groups based on the principle of group autonomy (who is Area to tell a group who they can or can not elect as GSR). GNHA has it in the policy to avoid confusion (and they did have an issue a couple of months ago and were able to just point to policy for clarity and make it about principle not personality). GWA and CCA also have policy that no member at Area can wear “two hats.” Greater Danbury Area used to have a policy about it but removed it because it was considered obvious. If RCMs could send Samantha their specific policies on this it would help them
- **Flyer Event** – What town is the event for the Orange flyer in? Meriden
- **Pig Roast Check** – Al from MSUA asked if any other areas turned away the check the Pig Roast sent them? MSUA voted to return the check... partially because it was from a corporation (Pig Roast, Inc) and not from the group (Pigs in Space) and they questioned the accountability. Also, there was concern that if Pig Roast, Inc. ever gets audited that may draw unwanted attention to the Area. Nick M. was in attendance at Region and is the treasurer for the Pig Roast. He stated that the Pig Roast, Inc. is indeed accountable to the Pigs in Space group and that the group directed them to split the money evenly amongst all of the Areas in the Region. The do this because to follow traditional fund flow would result in most of the money being sent to Region and then to World when there might be Areas in the Region that could use it. Someone stated that each Area gets to decide for themselves if the Pig Roast, Inc. is part of “Us” and if they should accept the check or return it.
- **Discussion on Idea of Jubilee** – Toby brought up the idea of a big learning event/celebration to try to get addicts involved in service. He doesn’t know how it would differ from our current learning days. But we need to get more members involved. Gerry mentioned that the Mid-Atlantic Regional Learning Conference is a learning convention (atmosphere of a regular convention but with more learning workshops than a regular convention). There’s also the Chili Cookoff that CCA recently had or the Luau that USA had. These types of events are working. Maybe our Regional Convention could look into more learning workshops or our subcommittees could do something different with their slots at the convention instead of what they do every year.
- **A Request from CCA to Have the Meeting Schedule Highlight/Bold the Town Names and Not the Names of the Groups** – A quick yes or no from the table was that Yes... we should go back to bolding the town names.
- **New England Symposium** – Adam asked if the Region would still be willing to support and participate in planning a Learning Conference/Symposium if it were only with the New England Region and not with the whole North East Zonal Forum? Lots of heads were nodding yes. Maybe smaller would be more manageable. Would it be self-supporting? We don’t know yet on that. That would depend on what we wanted to do. Western Service Learning Days is budgeted to be self-supporting but Florida Service Symposium uses Regional funds to make it lower cost to each Area to send members. We need a good theme (sponsor/sponsee?) to bring people in. Workshops geared towards newcomers too.
- **Shared BMLT** – Adam received an information email about possibly putting the CT meeting information into the Greater New York “Basic Meeting List Toolbox” (that the map search thing we have on our website). Sharing one database would enable members to search across state lines (very beneficial down near Greenwich/Stamford and out by Danbury). It would most likely not cost us any money. The basic consensus of the region is that we’re in favor of it in principle and to explore it further.
- **PR Conference** – Adam received an email from the Public Relations Manager at NAWS about a conference on Cape Cod and she would like to get in touch with our PR chair about possibly participating with the New England Region members. Adam will get the email/information to the Regional PR committee. Maybe there’s an Area chair with the necessary experience willing to participate.
- **Budgets are due at January RSC** – The annual budgets need to be submitted to the RSC in January. A question was asked of the Treasurer if we have a template that could be given to each subcommittee since they might not have experience with developing their budget. Something where they could just fill in the blanks, so to speak. Gail stated that we don’t currently have anything and all someone needs to do is look at the current financial statement for all of the information. (*Note – at this point I am unsure if Gail agreed to come up with a budget template. The notes/recording are inconclusive)
- **Convention Kickoff Location** – Where is the kickoff meeting for the next convention supposed to be held. This year’s kickoff was held in Greater Danbury Area so next year should be in Southern Fairfield County Area.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion# 2 (8/17/13) M/S: Mike Q (GDA-RCM) Libby (CCA-RCM)

Motion M/S: Mike Q. (GDA) / Toby (GHA): To substitute Policy Ad-Hoc recommended wording (below):

To replace Section III.B.5 (Format for CTRSC Meetings) of CTRSC Policy with the following:

“A” Month

CALL TO ORDER

Visitor Question & Answer Period
Reading of the Serenity Prayer
Reading of the 12 Traditions and/or 12 Concepts for NA
Service
Roll Call
Recognition of New Areas
Approval of minutes from previous meeting (additions
and corrections are made)

REPORTS

Executive Committee Reports
Resource Positions Reports
Subcommittee Reports
Ad-Hoc Committee Reports
Area Reports

BREAK

SHARING SESSION

OLD BUSINESS

ELECTIONS

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

“B” Month

CALL TO ORDER

Visitor Question & Answer Period
Reading of the Serenity Prayer
Reading of the 12 Traditions and/or 12 Concepts for NA
Service
Roll Call
Recognition of New Areas
Approval of minutes from previous meeting (additions
and corrections are made)
Approval of financial statement

Workshop/Presentation (*The Executive Committee,
Subcommittee Chairs, and RD/AD will be responsible
for selecting topics, to be approved by RCMs*)

BREAK

SHARING SESSION

OLD BUSINESS

ELECTIONS

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Substitute Passed 9/0/0 (in September)

Motion postponed for 30 days, twice (September and October)

MOTION PASSED 5-0-3 (November)

We will begin with the new policy next month. So December will be an “A” month.

Elections:

- ❖ **RSC Secretary** – Buddy was nominated but declined. **OTF**. 3 year clean time requirement. Record accurate minutes of the monthly CTRSC meeting and distribute them in a timely manner.
- ❖ **PR Subcommittee Chair** – **OTF**. 2 year clean time requirement and 6 months prior involvement in PR
- ❖ **WSR Subcommittee Chair** – **OTF**. 2 year clean time requirement and 1 year served on the WSR committee
- ❖ **RSC Alternate Web Servant** – **OTF**. 2 year clean time requirement and 6 months prior involvement in RSC
- ❖ **BOD seat for GDA** – **OTF**. 3 year clean time requirement. Term ends 3/31/2016
- ❖ **BOD At-large seat** – **OTF**. 3 year clean time requirement.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion #1 (11/16/2013) M/S Gail (Treasurer)/Mary (Literature Chair):

Move \$29.00 from Literature Rent line item to P.O. Box line item.

Intent: Keep budget accurate.

There was a question/comment that why don't we just leave line items and show at the end of the year that we were short on a line item? Maybe it would make for better budgeting in the future.

7-0-0 MOTION PASSED

Motion #2 (11/16/2013) M/S Libby R. (CCA)/Mike Q. (GDA):

To create a state of CT regional service schedule (sample attached) that can be sold with the other IPs. Please include where region meets, all service committees including PIPL, Literature, H&I, Regional Activities, Regional Policy, etc.

Intent: To keep addicts informed on the many ways they can get involved and give back. Not everyone has internet service and the availability of info is extremely hard to come by. Many subcommittees are in dire need of support.

Motion M/S/F AI (MSUA)/Howard (USA) To postpone for 30 days. 1-6-0 FAILED

Motion REFERRED to Literature Committee by the presiding chair after the following discussion (to be brought back in December).

Q – Do we have financial impact? A – The motion states that this can be sold so it would be a break even venture.

Donna believes this should be referred to Literature Committee. Mike questioned why refer it to Lit. For what purpose are we referring it to them? The Literature Committee can come back with exact costs, suggestions on how many to print and how often. And maybe the time involved to update it. Etc. Adam brought up that he picked up an Area written/approved IP from California on “Being of Service” that answers some questions about Why, How, etc. we serve. Adam will bring that to the Literature Committee. The RSC seemed to like the idea of having something like that and the schedule of committee meetings together.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The United Shoreline Area will be responsible for hosting Region for the months of February, March, and April 2014. Please bring information next month on the proposed location.

The next RSC meeting will be on December 21, 2013, at 2:00pm at the CCAR Building, 49 Cannon St. Bridgeport Ct. Please park on street - it's free on the weekends. DO NOT park in parking lot.

The meeting closed at 5:55pm.

Love to Serve NA,

Adam H.

Connecticut Region of N.A. Activities Calendar



EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	TIME	PLACE	HOSTED BY	CONTACT NUMBER
Marathon Meeting	11/27/2013 – 11/28/2013	10:00 PM – 5:00 PM	10 Huntington Street, New London, CT	USA Activities	Anissa M.
Thanksgiving Gratitude/Dessert	11/28/2013	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	200 Hazelnut Hill Rd., Groton, CT	Sesame Street Group	Howard O.
Group Anniversary Speakers/Pot Luck	1/15/2014	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Niantic Community Church 170 Pennsylvania Ave., Niantic, CT	Sound of Serenity Group	Stephen A.
Thanksgiving Marathon	11/28/2013	9:00 AM – 9:00 PM	YMCA 50 High St., New Britain, CT	Tunxis Valley Area	Omar P.
Thanksgiving Marathon Meetings	11/27/2013 – 11/28/2013	7:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Norwalk Hospital 34 Maple St., Norwalk, CT Nash Auditorium	Southern Fairfield County Area	Jerome R. Warren L.
More Will Be Revealed Group 30 th Anniversary	12/16/2013	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	United Presbyterian Church Seaside Ave., Milford, CT	More Will Be Revealed Group	Dave F. Alex W.
3 rd Annual Spiritual Breakfast	2/8/2014	11:00 AM – 5:00 PM	67 Stony Hill Rd., Bethel, CT	Greater Danbury Area	Robert M. Sue L.
Spiritual Breakfast	2/15/2014	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Immanuel Lutheran Church Meriden, CT	Straight From The Hip Group	Vicki B. Sue G.
Women's Sponsorship Weekend Retreat	9/11/2014 – 11/11/2014 ?????	4:00 PM Friday – 11:00 AM Sunday	Incarnation Retreat Center 253 Bushy Hill Rd., Ivoryton, CT	Straight From The Hip Group	Jaime C. Vicki B.

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATION (THE ABC'S OF NA)

ASC – Area Service Committee
BOD – Board of Directors (for the CRCC, Inc. – Connecticut Regional Convention Corporation)
BT – Basic Text
CAR – Conference Agenda Report
CAT – Conference Approval Track material
CBDM – Consensus Based Decision Making
CCA – Central Connecticut Area
CTRCNA – Connecticut Regional Convention of Narcotics Anonymous
CTRSCNA – Connecticut Regional Service Committee of Narcotics Anonymous
FIPT – Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust
FSS – Florida Service Symposium (service conference)
GDA – Greater Danbury Area
GHA – Greater Hartford Area
GLS (GTLS) – A Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous
GNHA – Greater New Haven Area
GWA – Greater Waterbury Area
GWSNA (GTWS) – A Guide to World Services in Narcotics Anonymous
H&I – Hospitals & Institutions
IW: H&W – It Works: How & Why (Green & Gold)
JFT – Just for Today daily meditation book
MARLCNA – Mid-Atlantic Regional Learning Conference
MRLE – Multi-Regional Learning Event
MSUA – Mid-State Unity Area
NAWS – Narcotics Anonymous World Services
NEZF – North East Zonal Forum
OTA – Out to the Area
OTF – Out to the Fellowship
PI/PL – Public Information & Phone Line
PR – Public Relations
RCM – Regional Committee Member
RD – Regional Delegate
RDA – Regional Delegate Alternate
RSC – Regional Service Committee
SFCA – Southern Fairfield County Area
SWG – Step Working Guides
TVA – Tunxis Valley Area
USA – United Shoreline Area
WSLD – Western Service Learning Days (service conference)
WSO – World Service Office
WSR – Writing Steps for Recovery