

Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for September 8th, 2014

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Open: 7:00 the meeting opened with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts and the Service Prayer.

Welcome to all new GSRs, Alternate GSRs and visitors! – **Marissa - Alt GSR for Whole Lava Love, Tonia C - GSR for New Freedom, Jeremiah K - Alt GSR for Basically Lit, and Ray C - representing for No Joke on Oak ...WELCOME to ALL!!**

Mail: Mail included ads from Comcast (discarded), bank statements for the treasurer, and a receipt for the PO Box.

Roll Call: 20 out of 24 groups present at roll call, 18 of which currently had voting privileges. Quorum of 2/3 (16) met. The representative from another group arrived a half hour after roll call, bringing the total number of groups present to 21.

Service Orientation: MSUA Policy Page 21 Commonly Used Motions (Rules of Order), K (Main Motion), L (Parliamentary Inquiry), and M (Point of Information).

Announcements: **Roberto C. (All about Change)** announced that as the Hilton Stamford has not yet set up their system to accept group rates for the CT convention, those calling are unable to book rooms for the special rate of \$99 a night yet. **Gary M (Sat night Sanity)** announced that the Pigs in Space flyer for the Pig Roast Operating Committee kickoff meeting should have indicated that addicts of both sexes may participate.

Secretary minutes – All received the minutes. Motion to accept made by **Michelle C (Stepping into the Weekend)**, 2nd by **Brian E (Living Clean)**. **Minutes accepted 17-0-0**

Treasurer report – **Adam H** gave written/verbal report. Adam mentioned that he made a couple of minor oversights in his report, and that he would have an updated report for this month available at the next ASC meeting. Motion to accept made by **Michelle C (Stepping into the Weekend)**, 2nd by **Ray C (No Joke on Oak)**. **Treasurer's report accepted 18-0-0.**

RCM – **Renee' M (RCM)** gave written/verbal report. A discussion was had regarding the mention that the Catholic Church in another area was requiring all groups meeting there to have their leaders participate in a special training course. Some expressed concern, while others thought it might provide an opportunity for positive interaction with the community. In any event, no real concrete information was yet available. **Jeremiah K (Basically Lit)** mentioned that his group had spoken to the church where their meeting is held and was offering to provide their meeting place a facility for the NEZF to use in April 2015. **Chris H (H&I)** asked where the literature chair of MSUA should go for guidance now that region has disbanded the literature committee and replaced it with a schedule handler commitment. The general consensus was that the literature chair could go to MSUA directly or to region for any needed guidance depending upon the issue. **Region will meet on September 20th at 2 PM at the 1st Congregational Church, 62 Colony St., Meriden Ct**

Subcommittee Reports:

Activities – **Alicia M (Chair)** gave written/verbal report. During her report Alicia mentioned that Activities needed to get their own key to open their meeting place as she is no longer the acting secretary of Basically Lit. She also asked for clarity about when rent was due as the records from the previous chair were incomplete. Adam (Treasurer) said he would help with these concerns.

Activities meets on the 3rd Saturday of every month at Faith Lutheran church located at 300 Washington St. at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Basically Lit meeting.

H&I – **Chris H. (Chair)** gave written/verbal report. A discussion was had regarding the fact that H&I changed the policy regarding the commitment terms addicts serve. The new policy is for addicts serving H&I to go into their facilities every week for three months rather than once a month for a year. It was clarified that according to MSUA policy subcommittees had to present policy changes to MSUA at the next ASC meeting, but that the subcommittee itself was responsible for creating its policy. When asked Chris indicated that there were approximately 20 addicts serving MSUA H&I and that he did not anticipate any problems with being able to get in touch with all of them in order to convey the new policy and terms them. **H&I meets the third Monday of every month at Holy Trinity Church, 381 Main St. Middletown. New member orientation begins at 6:30 followed by the regularly scheduled subcommittee meeting at 7:00.**

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Subcommittee Reports (Continued):

Literature – Dana R (Chair) gave written / verbal report. *MSUA Literature meets at the Portland Senior Center prior to the ASC meeting at 6:15, all are welcome.*

Public Relations – Gene F (Chair) gave written / verbal report. *Public Relations meets on the 4th Sunday of every month at Holy Trinity, 381 Main St. at 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM. New member orientation is at 6:00 PM following the regularly scheduled subcommittee meeting.*

Retreat – Jen K (Chair) gave written/verbal report.

Group Reports

21 out of 24 groups present

A New Awakening- Jim K – Wed Sec OTF, Addict Support	Off the Hook Freedom Book - Absent
After the Weekend – Keith W - AIW	Saturday Night Sanity – Gary M – Alt GSR OTF, Time Change
All About Change– Roberto C – All positions OTF, Addict Support	Serenity Check – Maureen F - Alt GSR , Treasurer OTF
Basically Lit – Jeremiah K – GSR OTF , EVENT	Stepping Free – Colin H - AIW
Came To Believe –Katie C – Alt GSR OTF, EVENT	Stepping Into the Weekend – Michelle C – AIW
Coming Alive- Lisa B – Addict Support	Stepping Thru it All – Van G – GSR OTF, EVENT
Living Clean- Brian E – AIW	Stepping Up –Orlando R – Alt GSR OTF
Miracles – Matt R – GSR , Treasurer OTF, Addict Support	Straight Lace – Absent
New Freedom – Tonia C – Alt GSR OTF	Surrender to Win- Lennie S - Addict Support
New Perspectives – Mari O - Absent	Where We are Going – George E – Alt GSR , Treasurer OTF
No Joke on Oak – Ray C - GSR, Alt GSR OTF	Whole Lava Love – Josh C – AIW
Over the wall – Dave – Sec OTF	Working the Steps – Janice G - AIW

Break for 15 minutes

Roll Call II: 21 out of 24 groups present, 19 of which currently had voting privileges. Quorum of 2/3 (16) met.

Sharing Session:

Brian E (Living Clean) brought up the idea that perhaps there ought to be an icon in the NA schedule showing which meetings allowed service animals. There was a discussion about just what service animals were vs. therapy or companion animals. Maureen F (Serenity Check) gave an account of her group's experience approaching the church where they met about service animals being brought into the facility. **Michael L (Chair)** suggested that groups follow this example, meaning that the owners of the meeting place should be approached first, and if they were ok with service animals being brought in, then the group could decide if they wished to allow it. There seemed to be some conflicting information regarding the extent to which service animals could not be turned away.

Adam H (Treasurer) reminded all present that budgets were due to the Treasurer next month at the ASC meeting.

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Old business: None

Elections: Three Positions were OTF during the past 30 days.

MSUA Secretary – Katie C (Came to Believe) volunteered. Katie qualified and answered questions. Brought to a vote. **Congrats Katie!**

Alt RCM – Al W Nominated **Roberto C 2nd** by **Renee' M (RCM)**. Roberto accepted, qualified, and answered questions. Brought to a vote. **Congrats Roberto!**

Literature Chair – Jeremiah K (Basically Lit) Nominated **Billy L, 2nd** by **Josh C (Whole Lava Love)**. Billy accepted, qualified, and answered questions. Brought to a vote. **Congrats Billy!**

New Business:

Ivan P (Vice Chair) – Brought up that in the future a GSR may want to make a motion to change MSUA policy to have the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary positions held for a specific calendar term rather than one year from election in order to prevent the positions from being filled out of sync. When asked, Adam H (Treasurer) indicated that it would make sense for the Treasurer Position to follow the same calendar term as the rest of the administrative body in order to facilitate changing signatories on the checking account as well as to facilitate rotation into other administrative positions. This rationale may apply to RCM and Alt RCM as well, but this is a matter for area discussion.

Gene F (PR) asked about the need for an alternate meeting place for the time that the Portland senior center is not available.

Michael L (chair) indicated that he had received a full schedule from the liaison at the senior center and that MSUA would have ample warning when we needed an alternate meeting spot,

Closed with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer.

Emergency or Temporary Group Cancellation or Relocation: *In the event that your group has to cancel or relocate on an emergency or temporary basis, as a GSR or other trusted servant you should make the effort to inform the fellowship. GSRs should use the Area c.c. E-Mail list to send a group E-mail with the cancellation or relocation information to all other GSRs who should then inform members of their various groups. GSRs or other trusted servants may also contact the MSUA secretary at (203)-435-2222 with the information, and the secretary will then use the MSUA Email and telephone lists to disseminate the details as soon as possible.*

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Upcoming Events / Changes

Group level changes:

“Saturday Night Sanity” Has changed their time from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM with a break to 7:00 PM– 8:15 PM with no break.

“Surrender to Win” Has indicated that without addict support their group will most likely fold in the near future.

“All About Change” Has indicated that without addict support their group will most likely fold in the near future.

Subcommittee Announcements:

Regional H&I will be hosting a learning day on Saturday September 27th from noon to 4:00 PM at Veteran’s Memorial Park in Middletown.

Public Relations will be holding a Poster Drive on Saturday October 11th, 2014 beginning at Church of Holy Trinity, Middletown CT 381 Main Street Middletown. The drive will last from 1:00 - 4:00 PM, followed by Pizza and Fellowship.

Upcoming Events:

Came to Believe will be celebrating their 18th anniversary on Sunday October 26, 2014 at Church of Holy Trinity, Middletown CT. Food fun and fellowship starts at 6:00 PM, followed by the meeting at 7:00 – 8:15. Food donations welcome!

Stepping Through it all will be holding the 24th ***Feast before the Feast*** on Wednesday, November 26th. More will be revealed.

The 30th annual Connecticut Regional Convention will be held January 2nd, 3rd, and 4th 2015 at the Hilton Stamford. ***Flyer available with registration information.***

The 30th annual Became Willing Retreat of MSUA is Being held April 10th, 11th, & 12th 2015 at 253 Bushy Hill Rd, Ivoryton CT – Conference Center. 60 registrations are available at a cost of \$180 up until February 1st, \$185 after Feb 1st 2015. ***Flyer available with registration information.***

The most efficient way to convey meeting changes to region is to visit regional website “ctna.org”, then proceed to “service subcommittees” (on left side of the page), click on the “CTRSC” link. Go to “RSC Forms” then click on the “Ct. Regional Schedule Meeting Information Form”. Please fill out form and at the bottom of the page it will say; “Choose Area to Send”. Once the MSUA has been chosen the information will be sent directly to our RCM.