

Greater Waterbury Area N.A. Hospitals and Institutions

August 3, 2017

Addicts in Attendance: 11

Voting Members: 7

Facilities Present: 4

Concept Read: 8

Minutes read and accepted: 7/0/0

Chair Report: OTF

Vice Chair Report: This subcommittee is in need of addict support. We need support especially on the panels of Help Inc. which meets weekly on Tuesday nights and MCCA which meets on Thursdays. MCCA has requested that we bring a presentation every week and the current panel cannot accommodate this request alone. Please pass this information along and announce our need for support at the meetings you attend.

Last month the Chair Person and Secretary of Public Relations, along with our Orientation Chair and I, gave a presentation to Wellmore Women's Facility. PR gave a history of Narcotics Anonymous and how the program works and H&I orientated the faculty on H&I policy and our structure of the panels. We are all set to start up on Fridays. We will have the positions open for election tonight and it is my hope that we may begin our weekly presentations there as early as tomorrow night at 7pm.

I am also pleased to announce that we have started back at Griggs St. Shelter on Monday nights. We now serve a total of 10 facilities in Waterbury Area.

I placed a small literature order this month. We needed pamphlets for our new panels and some for our larger facilities. If there are any panels that could use Spanish IPs, please let me know and they will be available tonight. I also purchased a new stamper for our IPs. Our old one was leaking ink and had the wrong P.O. Box number.

At the August Regional H&I meeting it was said that new H&I shirts and hoodies have been made and will be for sale only at the Regional Learning Day. The Chair asked us to please announce their Learning Day to try to stir up participation. It is my hope that many addicts from Waterbury Area will be present. It will be on September 17 from 12-4 at Ashlor Village Pavilion located on Masonicare campus at 74 Chesire Rd in Wallingford. WSR and PR will also be included in the Learning Day. The Vice Chair reported that the DOC has called for a meeting at their central office regarding Chesire and Enfield prisons. It will be decided there if we will be allowed to bring H&I presentations back to their inmate population.

Planning for our Waterbury Area Learning Day is underway. It will almost certainly be on October 7th at All Saints Episcopal Church, 262 Main St. Oakville. They have availability from 12-6pm on that day; the church contact says that their pastor has the final say and will be getting back to me on August 13th. There is a suggested donation of \$20 for rent. There are a couple pizza restaurants on the same street and it was suggested that we make our Learning Day into a pizza party. H&I Learning Day Budget, in conjunction with Public Relations Learning Day Budget, and after the expense of our rent, leave us with \$330 in spending money, plenty for food. I have reached out to WSR inquiring if they too would like to be involved in our Learning Day and they have agreed to participate. Hence our Learning Day will include speakers from Public Relations and WSR. Some months back it was suggested to call our Learning Day a "Carry the Message Breakfast". Since we will not be having it in the morning, I am in the process of making a flyer calling it the "Carry the Message Pizza Party". As soon as I get the ok from the pastor, I will print out flyers and will bring them to the Area table for GSRs. I will also reach out and contact our members to spread the word that everything is all set. I am looking for suggestions as to how long the Learning Day should be so we can plan how many speakers to invite. In new business we can further discuss the Learning Day. We may want to consider having a speaker on H&I history, someone speaking of their experience on an H&I panel and a speaker who heard the message of NA in a facility of some kind.

Facility Reports:

Carnes Weeks: *absent*

Griggs St. Shelter: *absent*

Help Inc.: 30-35 residents, 4 speakers, 2 panel members, in desperate need of panel members.

High Watch: *absent*

MCCA: 10-15 residents, 1 panel member and speaker, no issues.

The Morris House: *absent*

Mountainside: 60 residents, 2-3 panel members, in need of IPs

Renaissance West: 15-20 residents, 2 panel members and observer present. The literature was misplaced at the facility, need IPs.

Trinity Glen: 6-12 residents, 2 panel members and speakers, no issues at this time.

Old Business: There was much discussion about the Learning Day. The Subcommittee is eager to get it up and going. A list went around and several H&I members volunteered to be involved in planning. The Vice Chair got a suggestion to look into possibly holding it at a park such as Black Rock State Park, because it would be of no charge to the Subcommittee. She will look into further details regarding the process of securing a location and keep the volunteers updated as to her progress. Once our location is decided, further planning will be made including making a flyer, formulating a format, choosing speakers, food purchasing and preparation. The Vice Chair will also keep Public Relations Subcommittee involved in the event and contact WSR to ask for their support and participation.

There was considerable discussion of starting a new facility, the Women with children facility in Waterbury known as Wellmore. There are already women interested in joining the panel. Public Relations and members of H&I Subcommittee will be putting on a presentation for the facility's staff in the near future. A night and time for the meeting is still to be announced. Hopefully we will have the final details for our next meeting and officially get positions filled.

There was discussion on H&I policy. We are in the process of writing a draft and will add a section specifically pertaining to the process of starting a new panel so there will be no uncertainty in the future. Several copies of our draft were made and brought to the table for members to take home and contribute to the changes.

Next month our Subcommittee meeting will be moving to the Thomaston Savings Bank in Waterbury. It will still be held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30pm and will immediately follow the Literature Subcommittee meeting.

Our Subcommittee needs support desperately. We have many open positions on the panels and are still without an official Chairperson. Please pass the word along by announcing our great need for members at the meetings you attend.

Elections:

Panel Observers: none

Panel Members: Frank - MCCA; Liz B. - Wellmore

Panel Leader: none

Panel Coordinator: Michelle R. - Wellmore

Chairperson: OTF

New Business: The Learning Day date has been voted on for October 7th 2017 from 12-3pm. The Vice Chair discussed having a pizza party learning day with PR and WSR. This was voted in 6/0/0. Vice Chair has brought forth the location as All Saints Episcopal Church in Oakville. Voted 6/0/0. Vice Chair will get final confirmation on August 13th from the church that we have the location. If the church is available, the Vice Chair will make up a flyer; another addict has volunteered to print copies for area. The format for the learning day meeting has been discussed as one speaker per subcommittee speaking for a half hour each. The food will be served at approximately 2 pm in the hope of preventing addicts from leaving prematurely. There will be coffee and pastry out from the start of the meeting. There will be breaks for about 15 mins in-between the first and second speaker.

At their orientation, Wellmore women's facility asked if we can meet weekly on Friday nights. Voted and accepted 6/0/0. Michelle R. has been voted in as panel coordinator of that panel. 6/0/0/. Liz B. has been voted in as panel member 6/0/0. The panel leader position remains out to the fellowship. The format will be a presentation with a speaker followed by open discussion. The facility asked for our presence immediately, start-up date will be August 4th, 2017.

MCCA has requested an NA meeting weekly instead of just every other week. This was brought to the committee and it was decided that we need more support to accommodate this request. A new panel member took a position and we hope with another volunteer we may soon be able to do so.

Our Subcommittee needs support desperately. We have many open positions on the panels and are still without an official Chairperson. Please pass the word along by announcing our great need for members at the meetings you attend.

In Loving Service,

Michelle R.

Next Meeting September 7, 2017

Thomaston Savings Bank

985 Watertown Ave., Waterbury CT, 06708

7:30pm