

Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for Jan 9, 2012

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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 were read.

Mail: Both H&I and Retreat had mail

Roll Call: 20 of 26 groups present; Retreat absent

Service Orientation: **Marc (Vice Chair)** read Part V Subcommittee Policies, page 16, Section E. Retreat to gain better understanding as a fellowship to guidelines and financial responsibilities of this specific Subcommittee.

Open Forum:

- **Val (Straight Lace)**- Brought forth a concern as to why when elections take place are the numbers shown. Reason being that when there is more than one person nominated it has the potential of being offensive when a person is not voted in. Discussion opened up. **Jason (Chair)**- Responded that the tally numbers are just part of keeping precise documents if there were any future discrepancies or an audit to area minutes. **Alicia (Basically Lit)**- If the secretary keeps notes of the meeting then it does not necessarily have to go in minutes which the Gsr's receive. **Al (Alt RCM)**- Area minutes that go on the Regional Website should be precise because they will eventually become part of the archives. **Jason**- Will research this issue further, until then, no tallies will be included in the election portion of the minutes.
- **Brian E. (Whole Lava Love)**- Inquired whether area would be receiving updates to changes in policy as they occur. **Marc (Vice Chair)**- The revised copy of the policy that the Gsr's have already received only includes motions that were never added to area policy from the past. **Marc** will bring a list of those motions to area. Other than that as the Policy Adhoc works through the policy line by line inserts will be available as to what changes have been made so there does not have to be a new policy printed every time.
- **Brian E. (Whole Lava Love)**- Believes this area will be coming up on its 25 Year Anniversary. **Jason (Chair)**- MSUA was formed in 1986? Will look into it further in order to possibly hold a celebration.
- **Stacy (Secretary)**- Please fill out group reports for special concerns and positions which are OTF. Also Secretary has a new email address. Could everyone please send verification when receiving the minutes. Thank you!

Reports

- **Secretary minutes** – Motion to accept by Basically Lit, 2nd by The Other 23
Accepted 19-0-1

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- Treasurer report – **Gene (Treasurer)**-Provided written/verbal report. **Brian E. (Whole Lava Love)**- Inquired whether the expenditures for rent and copies for the Policy Adhoc and Marathons were pre-approved. **Gene** clarified. The issue of the outstanding Activities check from Dec 2010 came up and has not yet been resolved. **Kris (Activities)**- Will work toward a resolution with the United Methodist Church. Check cancellation was suggested by **Donna (RCM)**. **Donna**- Also asked why we needed to have the Retreat line items in Treasury report if they are fully self-supporting. **Jason (Chair)**- Read out of the policy that although Retreat has their own financial responsibilities they still need to be included in the ASC Treasury account.
Motion to Accept by Whole Lava Love, 2nd by Basically Lit- Accepted 17-0-1
- RCM –**Donna**- Provided written/ verbal report. Regional CAR Assembly flyers are out. See events page for more info. **Mike E.(Stepping Thru it All)**- Questioned whether or not we would still have the option to have a CAR assembly in our area considering it was brought back to groups for a consensus. See Old Business. MSUA will be hosting RSC meeting for the next three months, **Donna** requested contact information for churches in the area. Regional minutes can be accessed at **CTNA.org**
- H&I –**James**- Provided written/ verbal report. James announced “Free Pizza Party” which will be hosted by H&I. See events page for more detail. H&I has also sent a letter to the Rushford treatment team notifying them that the rogue speaker that has been visiting the facility has absolutely no affiliation with the H&I Subcommittee of NA in the MSUA.
Brian E.- (Whole Lava Love)Brought up the fact that the Pizza Party event is not “free” considering the money comes from the groups.
- Literature – **Michael**-Provided written/verbal report. New order forms will be out July 1 2011. A 5% increase will be assessed as of the first with regard to all Literature except
“The Basic Text” Please pick up a revised copy at area. Lit Sec OTF
- PI/PL –**Rik**- Provided written/verbal report. A 12 Step Volunteer List will be handed to Gsrs to bring back to their groups, filled out, and returned to the Feb ASC meeting. **Alicia (Basically Lit)** - It is very important that these lists are filled pout appropriately and do not end up sitting in announcement books. She stated the importance of having available males and females to do 12 Step calls depending on the gender of the caller.
Phone Line Coordinator and Spanish phone coordinator both OTF

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- Activities – **Kris**- Provided written/verbal report. **Marathon meetings were a great SUCCESS!!** There is a list below of the groups whom participated as well as the topics they chose. Thank you all for your participation! **Kris**- Clarified once again that the church is looking for a donation for rent. Discussion about this matter arose again. **Leonard (New Perspectives)**- Asked if the budget specified whether or not it would be rent or simply a donation. **Jason**- Line item reads marathon meetings with no specificity. Also stated that there are three separate issues dealing with two different churches in the area; United Methodist in Portland which is the outstanding check from 2010. And the donation for both 2011 Christmas and New Years Marathon meetings. **Gene(Treasurer)**- Made it known that 1/12 of all the budget monies from 2011 have just been fun- flowed to Region considering the fiscal year has begun. Discussion opened up regarding the donation amount. **Alicia (Basically Lit)**- Questioned the figure of \$35.66 on the Treasurer Report. That figure was for supplies. **Al(Alt RCM)**- Suggested we keep all the donations even, to add up to the \$225.00 allotted amount. **Gene**-Read off the figures from his report and explained them. Issue will be revisited next month.

| Time | Christmas | Time | New Years |
|------|---|------|--|
| 10p | Off the Hook-Gifts of Recovery | 10p | After the Weekend- Letting go of the Past |
| 11p | Basically Lit- Change | 11p | Uncover to Recover- Miracles of NA |
| 12a | Coming Alive- Staying Connected | 12a | Surrender to Win- Coming into the New Year |
| 1a | Where we are Going- Benefits of Recovery | 1a | All About Change- Change |
| 2a | ASC Vice Chair- Why Are We Here? | 2a | No Bull in Durham- Step 9 |
| 3a | No Joke on Oak- Gratitude | 3a | A New Awakening- Where you're at? |
| 4a | Stepping Into the Weekend- Never Alone | 4a | Stepping Thru it All- Step 1 |
| 5a | Stepping Thru it All- Acceptance | 5a | New Freedom- Showing up for Service |
| 6a | New Freedom- Happiness | 6a | Straight Lace- No show |
| 7a | A New Awakening- Family | 7a | Basically Lit- No show |
| 8a | All About Change- Staying Clean | 8a | Sat Night Sanity- Showing up no matter what |
| 9a | After the Weekend- Never Alone | 9a | No Joke on Oak- Gratitude |
| 10a | No Bull in Durham- Coming to Believe | 10a | Stepping into the Weekend- Step 1 |
| 11a | No Bull in Durham- The Ties that Bind | 11a | No Limits- JFT Reading |
| 12p | Came to Believe- Where are you at today? | 12p | Came to Believe- Spirituality |
| 1p | Straight Lace- JFT Reading | 1p | The Other 23- "the Other 23" |
| 2p | Uncover to Recover- What does NA mean to U? | 2p | Stepping Free- Making new connections |
| 3p | Over the Wall- Doing the next right thing | 3p | Over the Wall- Taking Commitments |
| 4p | The Other 23- Showing up | 4p | Where we are Going- How it Works, Steps 1,2,&3 |
| 5p | Off the Hook- Perspective | 5p | Off the Hook- New Beginnings |

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- Retreat –Absent- **Marc(Vice Chair)**- read report. Noted that February is an extremely busy month for Retreat Registration: if interested in registering for the Retreat coming up in April it is **important that you register as soon as possible!**
- Adhoc Policy Chair- No report at this time. The Policy Adhoc is open to all. It is held the first and third Sunday of each month at 5:30pm at Holy Trinity in Middletown. Come and get involved in the solution.

Group Reports: 20 Of 26 present

| | |
|--|---|
| A New Awakening-Jaime-Alt Gsr OTF | Saturday night sanity-Absent |
| After the Weekend –Lois-Event | Serenity Check –Mari-Gsr, Alt Gsr OTF |
| All About Change-Santo-AIW | Stepping Free –Absent |
| Basically Lit –Alicia-Event | Stepping into the Weekend –Ken-AIW |
| Came To Believe –Paul –Gsr possibly Alt Gsr ?OTF | Stepping thru it All – Mike E-Gsr, Sec., Treas. OTF |
| Coming Alive-Absent | Stepping Up – Absent |
| Miracles –Absent | Straight Lace –Valerie -AIW |
| New Freedom –Karlene-Event | Surrender to Win-Mary-Alt Gsr OTF |
| New Perspectives –Leonard-Alt Gsr OTF | The other 23- Mike A- Time change, Alt Gsr OTF |
| No Bull in Durham-Absent | Uncover to Recover -Sara –New Format, Alt Gsr OTF |
| No Joke on Oak – Janice-AIW | Where we are Going –Anthony-Gsr, Alt Gsr OTF |
| No Limits-Justin-Alt Gsr OTF | Whole Lava Love – Brian-AIW |
| Over the Wall-Brian-AIW | |
| Off the hook freedom book-Lauren-Alt Gsr OTF | |
| | |

MSUA-Positions out to the Fellowship:

Lit Secretary, Phone Line and Spanish Phone Line Coordinator OTF

Regional and area Activities can be viewed on our website calendar at CTNA.Org

Please, all secretaries and GSRs announce these positions in your groups!

GSR's please review your policy as to the clean time requirements for the positions above. If you do not have a copy please see your old GSR for one.

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Elections: ASC Treasurer OTF. **Marc** read requirements for position. **Anthony (Where we are Going)**-Volunteered and qualified. **Gene (Treasurer)**- Volunteered and qualified. Anthony rescinded. **Donna (RCM)** Asked if there was a Alt Treasurer position. **Jason**- As of now, it is not a position. **AI (Alt RCM)**- Can we create a position for Alternate Treasurer? **Brian E.(Whole Lava Love)**- Also inquired whether the Executive Committee was going to do an audit of treasury records to uphold newly changed financial section of MSUA Policy. **Gene** was voted in as ASC Treasurer.

Break- Motion to suspend the order of the day made by Where We are Going, 2nd by Stepping into the Weekend. **Motion passes 12-4-0**

Old business:

Discussion opened up regarding the CAR assembly for MSUA. It was brought back to groups last month as a general inquiry on whether MSUA could have their own CAR Assembly. **Donna (RCM)**- Announced that it would be easier for the area to attend the assemblies announced on the flyer. Consensus to have CAR Assembly in this area 8-3-8. Simple Majority not met. **Donna**-The 2nd Monday in April is when all the votes need to be in to go back to World.

New business:

- **Motion made by Whole Lava Love, 2nd by New Perspectives-** Motion reads to have Executive Committee develop and maintain a group registry with all the group names and start up dates **Intent:** To fulfill the first Tradition and create unity. **Jason(Chair)**- Read out of policy the responsibilities of the Chair and rule the motion out of order. **Brian (Whole Lava Love)**- Challenged the Chair. **Jason(Chair)**- Can we amend this motion to read that the Chairs qualifications will include maintaining a registry for all groups and start dates to adhere to the First Tradition. **Jason**- Suggested it go back to the groups then be added to policy. **Brian**- Why are we bringing this back to groups when a change in policy requires 2/3 majority from the Area table? **Called to vote Policy change. Accepted 19-0-0. Revision to policy (Jan 9, 2012).**
- **Rik (PI/PL)**- Is requesting that the **12 Step Volunteer** list go back to groups and returned at the **Feb ASC** meeting to fulfill the primary purpose of helping the addict who is suffering. **Thank you!**
- **AI (Alt RCM)**- Questioned what the process is when a person willfully steps down from a position? Does the Alt. automatically step in for the rest of the term and then be voted in again at a new term? For example, if the RCM steps down does the Alt fill in and then be voted in? **Jason (Chair)** and **Rik (PI/PL)**- Offered clarification that the Alt does not always get voted in for that position. **Marc (Vice Chair)**- There is nothing in the policy that states that is

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the proper way of filling a position. Situation with Lit and Vice Lit chair was brought forth as an example. **Leonard (New Perspectives)**-Brought forth the fact that it is unfair to others, considering it was not open to the fellowship for consideration. Concern will be revisited for clarification and a possible resolution.

- **Brian E. (Whole Lava Love)**- Having an Alternate Treasurer position would not be necessary, considering there is a one month overlap. **Al (Alt RCM)**- Thought the position would be helpful to promote accountability. **Jason**- Stated that would be something the Vice Chair could fill in for until it is brought back to groups and revisited at ASC..
- **Executive Budgets are out! They should be brought back to groups and voted on. Please bring results back to Feb ASC meeting.** **Gene (Treasurer)**- Noted that the prices for the CAR reports went up temporarily however, they will go back down. **Brian E. (Whole Lava Love)**-Does this include the shipping cost? **Marc (Vice Chair)**- Yes. **Leonard (New Perspectives)**- *Motioned to suspend fun flow to Region, 2nd by Karlene (New Freedom).* *Motion passes 16-0-0*
- **Brian E. (Whole Lava Love)**- How long will the Policy Adhoc be going on for? **Marc(Vice Chair)**- Until the policy is read, revised, and all changes have been made.

Upcoming Events

H&I will be hosting a **Pizza Party** on January 21st from 1-4p at 345 Main St., Trinity Episcopal Church in Portland. There will be an H&I presentation as well as on sight orientation. Come get involved and have some fun!!

CT Regional Assemblies has scheduled **Car Assembly** on 3 separate dates and 3 different locations. This will be an informational session in regards to the Conference Agenda Report. To have a better understanding of the CAR report, please attend one of the following sessions.

- **Sat., Feb. 4,2012 from 12n-4p @ St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 71 River St., Milford, CT**
- **Sat., Feb 18,2012 from 12n-4p @ Meriden Public Library, 105 Miller St., Meriden, CT**
- **Sat., March 3,2012 from 12n-4p @Grace Episcopal Church, 124 Maple Hill Ave., Newington, CT**

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After the Weekend will be celebrating its Anniversary on Feb 6th. Food, fun, and fellowship before meeting, followed by the regularly scheduled meeting. After the Weekend meets at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1 West High St., East Hampton, come on out!

Over the Wall will be celebrating its Anniversary on January 31st Food, fun, and fellowship starting at 6p. Meets at Portland Methodist Church on the corner of Main and Church St. Come join in the fun!

Basically Lit is having a **Philly Cheese Steak Teaser** on Feb 18th from 6:30-8 will be food, fun, and fellowship followed by a Double Speaker Meeting from 8-10:15. This will be held at 300 Washington St in Middletown. Come get involved and have some fun!!

Became Willing Retreat to be held April 13, 14, and 15th of 2012 in Ivoryton, Ct. Registration forms are available. Deposits for a bed will be accepted until January 1, 2012. All registration including full payment must be in by March 1st 2012. Reminder Feb is an extremely busy month for registration.

New Freedom will be hosting its **Annual Pancake Breakfast** on Sunday, April 22. Stay tuned more to come!

Meetings Looking for Info

Both Saturday Night Sanity and All About Change are looking for a start date for the meeting. Please bring back info if you have it.

Meetings In Need of Addict Support

No Limits, The Other 23, Surrender to Win, Uncover to Recover, and Where we are Going

Format and Time Changes

Uncover to Recover is a Beginners Step Meeting on Steps 1,2,&3 With a speaker on the last Tuesday of the month. Is **now meeting** from **8:30-9:30** at United Methodist Church in Rocky Hill @ 623 Old Main Street

The Other 23 is a topic discussion meeting with the topic chosen from a wheel. Special format on the first Thursday of the month. The Other 23 meets at 24 Old Church St in Middletown at United Methodist Church from **8:30-10:00!**

