

# Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for October 13th, 2014

Page 1 of 5

**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! **Toby R.** - GSR for **New Freedom**, **Van G.** - GSR for **Stepping Thru It All**, **Keith W.** - GSR for **After the Weekend**, **Andy C.** – GSR for **Came to Believe**, **Ray B.** filling in for **Surrender to Win**, **Lisa B.** GSR for **Coming Alive** and **Dave R.** just visiting ...**WELCOME to ALL!!**

**Mail:** Mail included information for the RCM and H& I.

**Roll Call:** 19 out of 24 groups present at roll call, all of which currently had voting privileges. Quorum of 2/3 (16) met.

**Service Orientation:** MSUA Policy Page 22 Commonly Used Motions (Rules of Order), N. (Point of Order), O. (Postpone), and P. (Previous Questions or Close Debate).

**Announcements:** **Ryan B.** announced he is trying to start a meeting in East Haddam and is looking for support. He asked anyone willing to help to contact him.

**Secretary minutes** – All received the minutes. Motion to accept made by **Michelle C. (Stepping into the Weekend)**, 2<sup>nd</sup> by **Jim K. (A New Awakening)**. *Minutes accepted 19-0-0*

**Treasurer report** – **Adam H** gave written/verbal report. Adam mentioned that he attached a copy of last month's report with the appropriate corrections. **Alicia M. (Activities Chair)** questioned Adam on the purpose for Activities Special Reserve line in the report. Adam replied the intent of that line is for budget proposals. Motion to accept made by **Mari O. (New Perspectives)**, 2<sup>nd</sup> by **Van G. (Stepping Through It All)**. *Treasurer's report accepted 17-0-0.*

**RCM** – **Renee' M (RCM)** gave written/verbal report. **Chris H. (H & I Chair)** asked why there was no Chair report. Renee replied that the Chair was absent and came at a later time, but did not give a report with no reason as to why. **Brian E. (Living Clean)** Asked **Roberto C. (Alt. RCM)** why he didn't go to the RCM meeting, and clarified that MSUA policy states the Atl. RCM must attend all Regional meetings. Roberto stated he couldn't go. **Region will meet on October 18<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at the First Congregational Church, 62 Colony Street, Meriden, CT.**

## Subcommittee Reports:

**Activities** – **Alicia M (Chair)** gave written/verbal report. During her report Alicia asked GSR's to bring marathon meeting schedule back to their groups for a vote on whether to participate in the marathon meetings or not. **Adam H. (Treasurer)** mentioned the **Off the Hook** group will be using the church on Christmas Eve until 10:30pm so the marathon meeting should start at 11pm that night. **Ivan P. (Vice Chair)** asked if **Stepping Through It All** can have the 7:30 time slot for the Thanksgiving marathon meeting, since that is the same time and day their meeting would begin. Alicia said she would look into it and decide when to start the marathon meetings based on when other meetings in the area are scheduled. **Renee M. (RCM)** asked if it would be possible for individuals to get time slots to chair meetings also, that way more people can be involved if they would like to. Alicia said she would setup the schedule so individuals and groups can have more than 1 time slot if they asked for it. *Activities meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. He added to his minutes stating they decided to have all Panel Coordinators contact members to tell them about the policy change. A discussion was had regarding the change of policy. **Maureen F. (Serenity Check)** asked if panel members still go in every week without even if there is no panel leader. She also had concerns about asking people to go in every week for 3 months may be burning people out and doesn't help to encourage members to re-commit or new members to join H&I. Chris responded it was no different than committing to attend your home group every week. **Adam H. (Treasurer)** likes the change because he thinks a 3 month commitment is more manageable than a 1 year commitment. **Jim K. (A New Awakening)** stated he doesn't see the problem because other area's policy is similar with no issues. Chris mentioned that people can call him directly with any concerns they may have. . *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.*

## Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for October 13th, 2014

Page 2 of 5

### Subcommittee Reports (Continued):

**Literature** – Billy L. (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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 a written/verbal report.

### Group Reports

19 out of 24 groups present

A New Awakening:- Jim K. – <b>Mon/Wed Sec OTF, Addict Support</b>	Off the Hook Freedom Book : Absent
After the Weekend: Keith W. - AIW	Saturday Night Sanity : Absent
All About Change: Absent	Serenity Check: Maureen F. - <b>GSR OTF</b>
Basically Lit: Jeremiah K. - AIW	Stepping Free: Colin H. - AIW
Came To Believe: Andy C.- <b>Sec. &amp; Alt. GSR OTF, Addict Support</b>	Stepping Into the Weekend: Michelle C. - AIW
Coming Alive: Lisa B. - <b>Addict Support</b>	Stepping Thru it All: Van G. – AIW
Living Clean: Brian E. - AIW	Stepping Up: Absent
Miracles: Matt R. – <b>GSR OTF, Addict Support</b>	Straight Lace: Absent
New Freedom: Toby R. - <b>Alt GSR OTF</b>	Surrender to Win: Ray B. – <b>GSR &amp; Alt. GSR OTF, Addict Support</b>
New Perspectives: Mari O. – <b>Alt. GSR OTF</b>	Where We are Going: George E. - <b>Treasurer OTF</b>
No Joke on Oak: Ray C. - <b>GSR OTF, Addict Support</b>	Whole Lava Love: Marissa G. – <b>GSR OTF</b>
Over The Wall: Dave W.- <b>Sec. OTF</b>	Working the Steps : Janice G - AIW

**Break for 15 minutes**

**Roll Call II:** 18 out of 24 groups present, 19 of which currently had voting privileges. Quorum of 2/3 (16) met.

### Sharing Session:

- (1) **Dave W. (Over the Wall)** asked how to get group members involved in the home and how to get new addicts involved in subcommittees. **Michelle C. (Stepping into the Weekend)** suggested taking an inventory within the home group as well as home group members welcoming new comers and suggesting involvement in the group when talking after the meeting. **Gene F. (PR)** suggested watching the new comer, compliment them and encourage them to work towards taking a long term commitment after some time in the fellowship. **Roberto C. (Alt. GSR)** suggested announcing at other meeting if your home group is struggling and needs support.
- (2) **Brian E. (Living Clean)** wants our area to look into having a Web Portal available to post area information, like minutes and notifications for upcoming events, so it is easily accessible to people who want access to all types of information. His opinion is since our fellowship is evolving, this would tie into our first tradition on unity. He would like it to be brought to region to see what can be done. **AI W.** (former RCM) replied that our area minutes are on the CTNA.org website, along with a calendar of events. Region also started google groups in order for people to ask questions and get answers faster, and the google groups would be the best way to go about this, but those google groups will probably cost money.
- (3) **Gene F. (PR)** brought to the areas attention that it is in our MSUA Policy that subcommittees should be holding a Learning Day every year. (pg. 10 A1) This is not actually happening in our area, but all subcommittees budget for this learning day.

## Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for October 13th, 2014

Page 3 of 5

Since this budgeted money is not being used, the money may be better off if used elsewhere. **Alicia M. (Activities Chair)** added that all subcommittee's budget different amounts of money, so all subcommittees should be working together for an annual learning day to help each other, although doing them separately is an option.

- (4) **Adam H. (Treasurer)** Warm Body Syndrome- Shaming Trusted Servants is a topic Adam wanted to discuss. His opinion is that meetings are throwing people into trusted servant's positions just to have the position filled, when it is really ok to leave the position open if no one is qualified to take the commitment. How we are treating our trusted servants, through shame and guilt, is why we aren't able to get people to serve. **Mari O. (New Perspectives)** stated through her personal experience, taking a trusted servants position created a lot of chaos. **Maureen F. (Serenity Check)** discussed home group members should support new trusted servants in their positions so they are comfortable, especially when someone's clean time is waved in order for them to fill that position. **Ray C. (No Joke on Oak)** added that he was always helped along the way in his commitments and makes an effort to do the same for others.
- (5) **Brian E. (Living Clean)** wanted to discuss roll call policy. If you miss roll call at the beginning of the meeting, then you cannot be added and vote until second roll call after break, the roll call is formatted this way for a reason. **Michael L. (Chair)** stated that the next roll call, beginning of November Area meeting, will be enforced correctly. If you walk in late, you don't get a vote until the second half of the meeting. **Al W.** mentioned if people get to area late because of circumstances beyond their control then it is unfair to punish them by not allowing them to vote. He thinks only those who are consistently late should have to wait to vote. **Adam H. (Treasurer)** suggested that we change the format of the meeting so that roll call is directly before the first vote, to allow for unforeseen lateness.
- (6) **Alicia M. (Activities)** added clarity to the marathon meetings by suggesting that someone from the executive board be at present at the marathon meeting.

Old business: None

Elections: There were no elections this month.

**Activities Chair: OTF NEXT MONTH!**

New Business:

**Motion #1:** (10/13/14) "That the changed section of H&I policy regarding panel members chairing weekly for 3 months instead of one time per month for a year be tabled to groups for discussion and approval." Intent: "Subcommittee accountability to groups."  
**Made by: Michelle C. (Stepping into the Weekend) 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Marissa G. (Who Lava Love) Brian E. (Living Clean)** brought it to area's attention that policy states if a motion is made pertaining to a subcommittee, that motion goes back to the subcommittee for 1 month (pg. 4).

**\*This motion is now postponed for 30 days to allow for Subcommittee consideration \*\***

**Motion #2:** (10/13/14) "Amend MSUA policy III.D.3 (pg. 5) by adding that the Retreat Subcommittee shall submit their budget to the MSUA Treasurer no later than two months after the annual retreat (and not in October). The exact wording and placement in section III.D.3 shall be left up to the Administrative Officers." Intent: "It makes the most common sense for the Retreat's subcommittee's budget to be based on the "event year" and not the calendar year (or ACS's fiscal year). **Made by Jennifer K. (Retreat Chair) 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Adam H. (Treasurer)**  
**Vote: Passed 15-0-2**

**Motion #3:** (10/13/14) "Amend MSUA policy IV.A. (Pg. 6) as follows:

IV.A.1 All Administrative Officers and Subcommittee chairs shall be elected by GSR's only at the ASC meeting. Subcommittee chairs shall serve for only year from date of election.

IV.A.2 Elections for Administrative Officers shall begin on the day following the ASC meeting in January and end the day of the ASC meeting in January the following year. If an administrative officer resigns or is removed from office before the completed term, the position will be out to the fellowship for one month and an election will be held to fill the remainder of the term

## Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for October 13th, 2014

Page 4 of 5

Intent: "To align all of the administrative officers terms of office so we only have to change our signatures on the bank accounts once a year and also to assist in rotation of service commitments (all of these trusted servants would then be available for other positions). **Made by: Ivan P. (Vice Chair) 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Brain E. (Living Clean)**

**Motion made to table to groups for 30 days (Ivan P. /Second Brain E.) 11-2-3 Motion to table passed.**

**\*This motion is now postponed for 30 days to allow for groups consideration\*\***

Meeting 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.*

### 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:

Activities Chair is out to the fellowship next month (November).

#### Upcoming Events:

**Came to Believe** will be celebrating their 18<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> ***Feast before the Feast*** on Wednesday, November 26th. More will be revealed.

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

## Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for October 13th, 2014

Page 5 of 5

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