

January Area Minutes

Area met on Monday, January 13th. It was opened at 7:02pm by chair, Frank A. with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. The 12 Traditions were read by Jordan and the 1st Concept was read by all. There were 15 voting members and 3 newcomers present at the area table. All introduced themselves.

Open Forum:

- The Recovery in the Woods group is having a holiday party on Tuesday, Jan. 14th from 7:30 to 9:30.
- The Just for Tonight group on Friday nights will be celebrating their anniversary sometime at the end of February, beginning of March. More will be revealed soon.
- Recovery in the East is celebrating their 24th anniversary on Jan. 20th from 6:30pm to 9pm. Food, fun and fellowship.

The Secretary read last month's minutes. Accepted 14-0-0

Reports:

- Chair: Frank picked up the mail from the Area's P.O. Box. He also noticed at the last area meeting that there was mail left on the table. Please help us get the group's bank statements to the respective groups. If there are any sub-committees that need help, it is the sub-committee's responsibility to bring that to the area table's attention. Accepted 14-0-0
- Vice Chair: Joyce picked up the key for tonight's meeting. She also attended the basketball shootout meeting. She has nothing else to report. Accepted 14-0-0
- Treasurer: John reported that a check for a literature order for \$53.78 was returned with a return check fee of \$15.00. We will ask the group to pay for the order plus the fee. He will write a check for any balance over prudent reserve of \$865.83 and give it to the RCM for Regional Fund Flow. Accepted 14-0-0
- RCM: Region wants to print a list of all areas' subcommittees times and locations. Basically, a regional service schedule. This idea is still undecided because the literature committee has opposed the idea. A regional policy review by an ad hoc is complete. All suggested changes to be received by RSC in January. There is going to be a CAR workshop for the Greater

Waterbury Area on March 8th at the North Congregational Church in Woodbury. There was discussion of buying a projector for use by PI and the convention. This issue will be addressed during budget proposals. The next RSC meeting will be Saturday, January 18th at the CCAR office in Bridgeport. Accepted 14-0-0

- H&I: Last meeting was Tuesday, Dec. 3rd with 11 addicts in attendance. MCCA needs a panel leader and Carnes Weekes needs a panel coordinator. Secretary is OTF and region is still looking for yellow card holders. Next meeting is Jan. 22nd. Accepted 15-0-0
- PR/PL: Last met on Dec. 18th with 4 addicts in attendance. They did the mail out to educational institutions and discussed upcoming events. They will be having a presentation on Feb. 19th at Northwestern in Winstead. They will also be doing another mail out on Feb. 19th at 7:30pm to government institutions. Their next meeting will be Feb. 19th at 7:30pm at the TSB in Watertown. Accepted 15-0-0
- Literature: Last met on Dec. 19th with 11 addicts in attendance. The Literature Vice Chair is still OTF. CT Regional Delegate, Adam H. was invited by the GWANA Literature Committee to attend the Dec. subcommittee meeting. Adam gave a presentation on the Twelve Traditions Workbook Project presented by world. They passed a motion that the Literature Subcommittee will participate in the Twelve Traditions Project by doing one tradition each month. They will hold a 20 minute workshop each month. Beginning Jan. 1st there are increases in the literature prices. Copies of the increases are available until the GWANA Literature order forms can be updated. Accepted 15-0-0
- Policy: The Policy sub-committee meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 16th from 6pm to 7pm at the First Lutheran Church at the corner of Cooke and Grove in Waterbury. Secretary is still OTF. Accepted 15-0-0
- Campout: Last met on Dec. 16th with 6 addicts in attendance. They successfully voted on a logo for this year's campout; Eric J. won. They discussed the registration flier so it would be ready to take to the convention. They also discussed the upcoming Winter Speaker Jam that will be held on Jan. 25th at 88 Cooke St. in Waterbury from 12 to 6pm. Eliza also has this year's budget to go out to groups to be voted on. They are asking for an increase of \$425.00 from last year because they need to purchase more walkie talkies, but it was suggested to look into renting walkie talkies instead to save money and guarantee that they work. There are still many commitments OTF: Secretary; Food Chair and Vice Food Chair; Registration; Activities Chair; Hugs-not-Thugs Chair; and Coffee Chair. The next meeting will be Jan. 20th at the TSB in Harwinton. Accepted 15-0-0

- Basketball Shootout: Last met on January 11th with 7 addicts in attendance. The dates for the shootout have been set and will be April 26th and 27th. There are still a couple commitments OTF. They need a registration chair and a policy chair. Their next meeting will be February 8th. Accepted 15-0-0
- Web Liaison: In Decmeber, we received two messages from area members. The first was a request for a flyer posting, which was the second request. The second message was for the GSR Orientation Guide updated version posting. The email address link on our site is now valid. They created a new email account for us that matches the link on the site. The new email address for our area is: gwa@ctna.org. Accepted 15-0-0
- Ad Hoc: They were able to host a 12 hour marathon meeting at the Hillside Covenant Church in Naugatuck, CT on Dec. 24th starting at 6pm and went until Dec. 25th at 6am. Approximately 30 to 40 people attended and \$22.00 was collected from the 7th Tradition. \$50 was donated from the Just For Tonight meeting for coffee and supplies. The leftover supplies were donated back to that group. Accepted 14-0-1

Elections: All positions are filled!!!!

Old Business: N/A

Key Pick-up: Joyce R.

Mail Pick-up: Frank A.

The next Area meeting will be Monday, February 10th.

BREAK

Agenda/ New Business:

- Campout Budget: There is a proposed budget for the 2014 Campout that needs to go back to all the groups. Motion: To pass a budget to hold a successful campout. Intent: To be financially responsible. Made by: Eliza L (campout chair) and seconded by Todd D. (H&I Chair). The budget is \$425.00 over last year's budget because some costs were increased and in case they need to purchase new walkie talkies because they found that their old ones did not work last year.
- Diana from the Mid-State area visited the area table to let us know about the CAR report. Diana encourages us all to attend the CAR report presentations because it needs to be reviewed and voted on. Fliers will be passed out at the next RSC meeting for when they will have their CAR report presentation.

- GSR Handbook Changes: There are changes for the GSR handbook that have not been taken care of yet. The changes will be made if needed once the motions for the changes are found.
- There are PI/PL 12th step volunteer fliers on the table. The same people have been taking care of the 12th step calls for quite some time and Chris is urging others to please sign up to help the still sick and suffering addicts when they call.
- We received a check for \$889.00 from Pigs in Space last month that was deposited. That money should have been fund flowed directly to region, but instead, we can take some of this extra money and donate it to new meetings and other areas that may need help. It was decided that this money will go to region because the new meeting packets have never been an issue.

A motion was made to extend the meeting for 20 minutes. Accepted 14-0-1

- John S. brought a motion to the area table that area GSR's and Alt. GSR's should not be on drug replacement therapy. Motion: This is in reference to the World Service Bulliten #29 which states the "group autonomy does not justify allowing someone who is using to lead a meeting, be a speaker, or serve as a trusted servant. Group autonomy stands only until it affects other groups or NA as a whole. We believe it affects other groups and NA as a whole when we allow members who are not clean to be a speaker, chair a meeting, or be a trusted servant for NA." Intent: To keep a clear message of NA "that an addict, any addict can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use and find a new way of life." Our fellowship must be mindful of what kind of message we are carrying if a still using addict leads a meeting, or becomes a trusted servant. We believe that under these circumstances we would not be carrying the Narcotics Anonymous message of recovery. Permissiveness in this area is not consistent with our traditions. Made by: John S. (GSR Recovery in the Woods) and seconded by Steve C. (GSR Just For Tonight).-- Jessica D. stated that every group can make their own decisions about this controvertial issue. Steve C. stressed that NA has a message that you can get complete freedom from drugs including replacement drugs. JC stated that he has been clean for a while, but had to go onto pain management, which included methadone. He believes that for this issue to be addressed there would have to be stipulations for each situation. Debbie made a motion to table this motion to groups and it was seconded by Cyndee G. Cindy P. spoke about the fact that she is on drug replacement therapy with Suboxone and wants to know what she is doing wrong sitting at the area table, when she is doing what the others who are not on drug replacement therapy are doing. She also stated that there really aren't people lining up to take commitments. Jason S. spoke about how he was on drug replacement therapy at one time and was practically rejected. He was not even allowed to take a coffee commitment. Any addict should be welcomed. Derek P. wanted to

clarify that this motion is not about the newcomer, it's about the GSR's and Alt. GSR's. Doug shared that the program of NA is a program of complete abstinence. Phil shared that he was once on the methadone program and knew that if he missed his dose one day, he would be sick. He could decide to use or go to detox and get help. Art shared that he was on Suboxone at one point and it was extremely difficult for him to get off of it, maybe harder than heroin. Complete abstinence was the only way he could get clean. Jay stated that we could sit and debate who it worked for and who it didn't all night, but he believes that this motion is just to bully people and not for the clear message.-- This motion was tabled to be brought back to groups to be discussed on. Accepted 12-0-0

A motion was made to extend the meeting another 15 minutes. Accepted 9-1-0

- The Secretary of Progressive Recovery on Thursday nights at Trinity Church in Torrington from 7 to 8:30 has come to the area table stating that they have no GSR, Alt. GSR, Treasurer and Chairperson. Andrea stressed that she is really the only trusted servant right now and really needs help, especially since their 34th anniversary is coming up this year. It was suggested that she make a flier asking for support.
- Glenn S. wants to discuss making the Ad Hoc committee a permanent committee. We will table until next month. Louise bought refreshments out of pocket for the marathon meeting and would like to be reimbursed.

Group Reports:

- All group reports were handed into the secretary.

Fund Flow:

- Elevator's Broken, Use the Steps: \$100.00

Area closed at 9:38pm with a circle and serenity prayer.

In Loving Service,

Kelly K.