

Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for Oct 8, 2012

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Open: 7:10 p.m. the meeting opened with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts and the Service Prayer were read. (Meeting opened late due to last minute location change)

Mail: No mail due to holiday

Roll Call: 20 out of 26 groups present

Service Orientation: Section IV, Part B Trusted Servants, number 7 The Executive Committee and Adhoc Responsibilities

Open Forum: Kris (Activities) – The “Off the Hook Freedom Book” which meets on Wednesday from 9 p.m. to 10:15 p.m. has changed its location from 190 Court St. Recently we have been meeting in the parking lot due to the hot temperatures, however; with cold weather approaching we figured it would be a good idea to find a permanent location. We will now be meeting at the church of Holy Trinity at the regularly scheduled time.

Brian K. (No Bull in Durham) - The ‘No Bull in Durham’ group which used to meet on Sunday nights in Durham has folded due to lack of support. We have donated our literature back to the ASC and we have fund flowed the remaining finances.

Reports

Secretary minutes – Renee (Coming Alive) - Did not receive minutes via email. **Marc (Chair)** - Suggested to check spam email and to send secretary a email to establish contact. **Motion to accept minutes made by Dave (Over the Wall) 2nd by Adam (In Loving Service).** No further discussion. **Minutes accepted 19-0-1**

Treasurer report – Gene read report. **Motion to accept treasurer’s report made by Adam (In Loving Service) 2nd by Greg (Whole Lava Love).** No further discussion. **Treasury report passes 19-0-0**

RCM –Al read report. As of November the CTRNA will be meeting on the 3rd Saturday of every month versus the last Saturday of the month. **Gary (Came to Believe)** - Why did they change the day on which region meets? **AI (RCM)** - There was some conflict with the NE Zonal forum meetings and also confusion regarding the last Saturday date especially when there was 5 Saturdays in a month. **VERY IMPORTANT: 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.** At the regional level, the entire **Executive Committee** is **OTF**. Show up at the next RSC if interested. **Note: Adam (In Loving Service)** - Just to make everyone aware that the *Living Clean; the Journey Continues* book is out and available for purchase however, it is not yet available for electronic download. All of our other literature is (*NA Basic Text, It Works How and Why, and Sponsorship*). **Jason (Alt RCM)** - Does Amazon profit from the sales of our literature? **Adam (In Loving Service)** -Yes they do. Also to reiterate from last month: **** When hosting an event with any type of sports it should be known that we are not covered by insurance, it is play at your own risk!!** Regional minutes can be accessed at **CTNA.org**

H&I – Eve read report. Budget has been submitted to ASC secretary. There were a few changes in line items to accommodate prices as well as need. We are looking to compile a list of all those who hold a Yellow Card. **Leonard (New Perspectives)** - If there are panels that serve in the prison system, how come they do not have a list of who has a yellow card? **Eve (H&I)** - The first thing to go when D.O.C. does budget cuts is the Addiction Services Program; therefore it would be difficult to keep current. **Nikole (Basically Lit)** - How does one obtain a Yellow Card? **Eve (H&I)** - Visit the website there will be an application online to fill out and return to the subcommittee for submission. The Regional Unity Day was successful. **H&I meets the first Monday of every month at First United Methodist Church located at 24 Old Church St. New member orientation begins at 6:30 followed by the regularly scheduled subcommittee meeting at 7:00.**

Literature – Michael gave written/verbal report. Budget has been submitted to secretary. **Adam (In Loving Service)** – Now that the *Living Clean: the Journey Continues* book is available for purchase will we be getting updated literature order forms? **Michael (Lit Chair)** –Yes, that is in the works. **Michael (Lit Chair)** - What are the responsibilities of the Lit Sub-committee when literature inventory has been returned from a group that has folded? **Marc (Chair)** -My suggestion would be to distribute it among the facilities in the area. **Eve (H&I)** - The Literature should be redistributed; it is already paid for. **Karlene (New Freedom)** - What about

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the groups in our area that are struggling? **Marc (Chair)** - I can foresee this being a lengthy discussion that should be revisited later in the meeting. ***MSUA Literature meets at the Portland Senior Center prior to the ASC meeting at 6:15, all are welcome.***

Public Relations – Alicia read report. Public Relations is in need of addict support. We have been meeting outside for the last four months. Our last chairperson misplaced the key. We do have a key now yet it does not work for all the locks. Therefore the church will not accept the key. **Gene (Treasurer)** – I will talk to the church. ***Public Relations meets on the 4th Sunday of every month at Holy Trinity, 381 Main St. 5:00pm is new member orientation followed by the regularly scheduled subcommittee meeting. Spanish phone coordinator OTF***

Activities – Kris read report. The MSUA 25th Anniversary was a success. Chili cook-off is on hold until we can secure a location. **Thanksgiving Day marathon meetings will be held from 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. Holy Trinity church.** There are sign-up sheets on the table. Please remember it is difficult to carry out these meetings without group representation. Activities simply hosts the event; it is up to the groups to fill time slots in order to carry the message to the still sick and suffering addict. Please show your support. Please bring volunteer forms back to the November ASC meeting and time slots will be chosen randomly. **Gene (Treasurer)** – Do we have the financials from the events that have been held. **Kris (Activities)** – Brian has all the information it will be presented at next month's ASC. **Gene (Treasurer)** – I would just like a follow up regarding the open check written to Middletown Park and Rec. **Kris (Activities)** – What happened was that Brian had used a personal check to secure the location and we had written out a check not knowing this. That check was literally destroyed. **Al (RCM)** – When will your subcommittee be paying rent for the marathon meetings? **Kris (Activities)** -Rent will be paid next month. ***Activities meets the last Tuesday of every month directly following the Over the Wall group in Portland located on the corner of Church on Main St.***

Retreat – Briana read report. April 5th, 6th, & 7th are the dates of the 2013 Retreat. Report will be emailed after ASC due to the fact the Sub-committee meets on the same night.

Policy Adhoc – **Adam (Policy Adhoc Secretary)** - We are going to be holding a learning day on Sunday October 21, 2012 from 1 p.m. till 4 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church at 300 Washington St. (Same location as Basically Lit which meets on Saturday nights). **Marc (Policy Adhoc Chair)** – Attending this Learning Day would be a great idea if you have any questions or comments regarding the proposed changes within the policy. **Adam (Policy Adhoc Secretary)** –The copies that were handed out of the revised policy were missing the financial statement in Addendum A. The GSRs all received a copy of the sample form. **Adam (Policy Adhoc Secretary)** - The 'In Loving Service' group voted at their last business meeting to offer a learning day during one of their regularly scheduled meeting (10/24/12).

Please see next page for group reports.

Elections: None at this time.

Break for 10 minutes.

Opened 2nd half with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer

2nd Roll Call: 20 out of 25 groups present

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Group Reports: 20 out of 25 groups present

A New Awakening- Absent	Off the Hook Freedom Book- Absent
After Lunch Bunch- Absent	Saturday Night Sanity-Steve- EVENT
After the Weekend – Megan- AIW	Serenity Check – Absent
All About Change-Joe – Alt Gsr OTF	Stepping Free –Tanya- AIW
Basically Lit –Nikole- AIW	Stepping Into the Weekend –Jerome-AIW
Came To Believe –Gary - EVENT	Stepping Thru it All – Charles – EVENT
Coming Alive-Renee- AIW	Stepping Up – Toby – Sec, Alt Gsr OTF Needs Addict Support!
In Loving Service- Adam- Needs Addict Support!	Straight Lace –Gail – Alt Gsr OTF EVENT
Miracles –Tim K- AIW	Surrender to Win-Lennie- AIW
New Freedom –Karlene-AIW	The Other 23- Kate- Alt Gsr, Alt Sec OTF Needs Addict Support!
New Perspectives –Leonard- Gsr, Alt Gsr, Sec, & Tres OTF	Where We are Going – Absent
No Joke on oak – Van- Alt Gsr OTF	Whole Lava Love – Greg- AIW
Over the wall- Dave- AIW	

Discussion opened at the 2nd half of the meeting regarding 'No Bull in Durham's literature inventory and what should be done with it. This discussion began under the assumption that the "Sharing Session" portion of the revised policy had been implemented. **Steve (Saturday Night Sanity)** -Began discussion with requesting the donated literature for the 'Sat Night Sanity' group of NA. He stated that his group mainly needs literature and key tags. **Megan (After the Weekend)** – Steve, do you know approximately how many newcomers are attending 'Saturday Night Sanity'? **Steve (Saturday Night Sanity)** – There is approximately 1 newcomer per week. **Michael (Lit Chair)** – I think it would be a good idea if I take an inventory of exactly what was brought back from the 'No Bull in Durham' group; then we can make an informed decision about what to do with the literature. **Jason (Alt RCM)** – I am just wondering does the 'Saturday Night Sanity' group still purchase coffee? **Steve (Saturday Night Sanity)** – No, we no longer buy coffee, recently it has been donated. **Gene (Treasurer)** – The last time I attended that meeting, there was a 2 month Prudent Reserve as well as a \$30.00 Literature Reserve, does that still exist? **Steve (Saturday Night Sanity)** – We have used both the Prudent Reserve as well as the Lit reserve, we covered rent last month and used the funds from last week to replenish the prudent reserve. **Al (RCM)** – How many other groups are struggling to purchase literature? If this group is struggling why can't we just give him the left over lit for the group? **Toby (Stepping Up)** – I handed out key tags at that meeting recently. The group hardly had any key tags. Plus the clients from Stonehaven attend that meeting regularly, so it's important to have key tags and literature. **Adam (In Loving Service)** –We don't use key tags for H&I or P.R. those could very well be donated to a group. Also; remember, that H&I orders literature with basket money so it should be a consideration to donate lit to these subcommittees. Some of our IP's are of more importance than others when it comes to carrying the message to the newcomer. When a group is struggling it is usually in the group's best interest to take a look at where the group's money is being spent. This is the first time that the ASC has been made aware that 'Saturday Night Sanity' is struggling. **Eve (H&I)** – Our subcommittee uses only select IP's because there are guidelines we have to follow. **Gary (Came to Believe)** -Isn't the Other 23 also struggling for supplies? **Kate (Other 23)** – We are struggling for attendance, we are all set with literature. **Larry (Lit Sec)** - I still think that we should take an inventory and bring back to Nov ASC. **Marc (Chair)** –Were there schedules in that literature that was donated? **Michael (Lit Chair)**- Yes. **Marc (Chair)** – No meeting should ever go without white key tags or schedules. I feel very strongly about this. I suggest we give 'Saturday Night Sanity' the schedules and the white key tags. **Leonard (New Perspectives)** – Why are we going back and forth about this issue, why can't 'Sat Night Sanity' just take the literature? **Alicia (PR)** – Because the subcommittees use basket money to fill lit orders and sometimes it is difficult to afford it.

Old business:

"After Lunch Bunch" and "Stepping Up" are the last two groups we need start dates for to complete the MSUA registry. Can everyone please try to find information regarding when these groups began? Once this information has been obtained, it will be kept in the archives to access and update as groups change. Thank you.

Motion made by **Al (Alt RCM)** to ensure that all flyers for events maintain the proper formatting, for example 2 contact people, 2 NA logos, time, date, and place. Region will not accept flyers from the area without these Requirements. Motion will be **tabled for another 30 days**.

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New Business:

After all of the discussion, there was a **Motion made by Leonard (New Perspectives) to donate literature and key tags from the 'No Bull in Durham' group to the group which is struggling (Saturday Night Sanity). Motion was 2nd by Renee (Coming Alive).**
Intent: To help carry the message to the addict who still suffers. Discussion regarding motion opened from the floor. **Gail (Straight Lace)** -Why are we giving them all this literature? I don't agree with this. We should itemize within the motion to figure out exactly what the group needs. **Adam (In Loving Service)** –Does your group have schedules? Per policy the lit subcommittee should have 200 schedules reserved for groups in need of schedules. Is it the group's responsibility to ask for those schedules? **Steve (Sat Night Sanity)** - We are all set with schedules. **Leonard (New Perspectives)** - Steve, does your group sell literature? **Steve (Sat Night Sanity)** –Yes, we do. **Jason (Alt RCM)** -What does it matter if the group sells the literature or not? The literature sales at the group level help to sustain the group and therefore carry the message to the addict who still suffers. **Gail (Straight Lace)** - I was only asking because not every group sells literature and if it is not a meeting topic derived directly from our literature than the group would not need to have all of the books that were given back to the ASC by 'No Bull in Durham'. **Adam (In Loving Service)** – There should be an amendment made to this motion because another concern is that many of the books which were brought back from 'No Bull in Durham' were stamped with the group's name. **Adam (In Loving Service)** - **Made amendment to motion to change the word "Literature" to "IP's"**. **Dana (Lit Vice Chair)** - Steve, It may be a good idea to go back to your group and take an inventory to figure out exactly what you have on hand. **Jason (Alt RCM)** - Why does this body meet? We are here to serve the groups so why has this become an argument? **Eve (H&I)** -We reach the sick and suffering addicts before they even make it out to their first meeting. We cannot fill our lit order tonight because of finances. **Jason (Alt RCM)** -Yes but how do we get money to H&I, basket money.
Motion called to a vote. Motion passes with Amendment 20-0-0

AI (RCM) -I am just wondering, if Public Relations has been meeting outside because of the key issue, is the subcommittee still paying rent? **Karlene (New Freedom)** – We are paying rent. There is another group that meets there, so we actually do have the option to go upstairs.

Sub-committee budgets are to be brought back to groups, voted on, and brought back to the November ASC meeting.

Literature Subcommittee Annual Budget

Expense Line Item	Current Approved 2012	Expenses To Date Thru 10/12	Proposed 2013
Monthly Reports & Lit Order Forms (Copies)	\$110.00	\$80.11	\$110.00
Rent	\$120.00	\$90.00	\$120.00
Shipping	\$390.00	\$243.29	\$300.00
Workshop/ Learning Day	\$110.00	\$0.00	\$110.00
Receipt Books	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Sales Order Books	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Notebook (Subject)	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Staples and Paper Clips	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Totes and Storage Bins	\$45.00	\$36.81	\$0.00
Totals:	\$805.00	\$480.22	\$670.00

In Favor _____

Against _____

Abstain _____

Pass/Fail _____

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Activities Subcommittee Annual Budget

Expense Line Item	Current Approved 2012	Expenses To Date Thru 10/12	Proposed 2013
Rent	\$300.00	\$270.00	\$250.00
Marathon Meetings	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Marathon Supplies	\$150.00	\$56.76	\$150.00
Copies/ Flyers	\$50.00	\$31.84	\$50.00
Learning Day	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Revolving Seed	\$750.00	\$570.00	\$750.00
Total	\$1475.00	\$928.60	\$1,440.00

In Favor _____ Against _____ Abstain _____ Pass/ Fail _____

Public Relations Subcommittee Annual Budget

Expense Line Item	Current Approved 2012	Expenses To Date Thru 10/12	Proposed 2013
Literature	\$300.00	\$81.40	\$300.00
Learning Day	\$150.00	\$21.64	\$150.00
Postage/ Copies	\$250.00	\$11.31	\$250.00
Rent	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Posters/ Mailings	\$130.00	\$50.89	\$130.00
Phone	\$150.00	\$106.34	\$150.00
Public Awareness	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Total:	\$2,600.00	\$271.58	\$2,600.00

In Favor _____ Against _____ Abstain _____ Pass/Fail _____

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Hospitals and Institutions Subcommittee Annual Budget

Expense Line Item	Current Approved 2012	Expenses To Date	Proposed 2013
Copies	\$50.00	\$30.30	\$100.00
Rent	\$300.00	\$195.00	\$250.00
Postage/ Flyers	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Literature	\$500.00	\$307.55	\$750.00
Learning Day	\$150.00	\$114.96	\$150.00
Total:	\$1,020.00	\$647.81	\$1,270.00

In Favor _____ Against _____ Abstain _____ Pass/Fail _____

Retreat Annual Subcommittee Budget

Expense Line Item	Current Approved 2012	Expenses To Date	Proposed 2013
Rent	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00
Mailings	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Copies/ Flyers	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00
Food	\$325.00	\$0.00	\$325.00
Comp Packages	\$510.00	\$0.00	\$525.00
Totals:	\$1,380.00	\$60.00	\$1,380.00

Note: The comp packages increase is due to the increase of the Retreat cost

In Favor _____ Against _____ Abstain _____ Pass/Fail _____

******Please do not forget to bring votes back to November ASC meeting.**

****Just a reminder:** the November ASC will be meeting at United Methodist Church in November. We are unable to use the Senior Center facility due to election activities. United Methodist (where Over the Wall meets on Tuesdays) is located on the corner of church St. and Main St. in Portland.

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Upcoming Events

Attention: Stepping Thru it All group which meets on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:30 p.m. of NA has moved from the Exley Science Center room 121 to room 508 which is downstairs until December 12, 2012.

Also please be aware that the **Off the Hook Freedom Book** meeting will also be meeting at a new location. The meeting will meet at its regularly scheduled time at Holy Trinity (right across the parking lot).

Straight Lace will be celebrating its **28th Anniversary** at United Methodist Church in Portland located on the corner of Church and Main St. Food, Fun, and Fellowship begins at **6:30** followed by a **Double Speaker** meeting at **7:30**. Food donations are greatly appreciated. **All are welcome!!**

Saturday Night Sanity will be hosting a **Anniversary/Halloween Party** on Saturday Oct 27th...more information to come...stay tuned.

Came to Believe will be celebrating **16 Years** of recovery on Sunday Oct 28th at Holy Trinity church in Middletown from 6-7 will be food, fun, fellowship, followed by a double speaker meeting. All are welcome come help us celebrate!!

It's that wonderful time of year!! The **Feast Before the Feast** will be held on **November 21st** (the day before Thanksgiving Day). This event is an **Anniversary** celebration for the 'Stepping Thru it All' group in the form of a Thanksgiving Feast!! More information to come...

The **28th CTRNA Convention** is approaching. ***Just Believe; That We Believe*** will be held on January 4th, 5th, and 6th of 2013 at the Hilton in Stamford located at 1 First Stamford Place (151 Greenwich Ave.) in Stamford CT. Please get your registration in as soon as possible by mail or online at www.ctnac.org. **Pre-registration and purchase of a full package offers eligibility for a random drawing for a free room at the convention.**

Became Willing Retreat flyers are out. The Retreat will be held in **Iroyton Ct.** on **April 5, 6, and 7th of 2013**. To reserve a bed a deposit of \$85 will be accepted till January 1, 2013
MSUA has a brand new meeting....

"In Loving Service" meets on **Wednesdays** from **7p-8p** at **Trinity Episcopal Church** (Brownstone) in Portland. This meeting's format rotates each week and is primarily based on Service in NA. Beginning in November, there will be a change to the format. We will be reading from the new book, Living Clean; the Journey Continues. We will also be changing the groups name from "In Loving Service" to "Living Clean".