

Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for March 10th, 2014

Page 1 of 4

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! – Lisa S - GSR for New Freedom, and Kay – just visiting ...WELCOME to ALL!!

Mail: Mail included bank statements for the treasurer, Mail for the retreat, and NAWS News.

Roll Call: 17 out of 25 groups present, all of which currently had voting privileges.

Service Orientation: MSUA Policy Page 10, V. Subcommittee Policies Sections E (Public Relations) and F (Retreat).

Announcements: Gene F (PR) announced that as the Church of the Holy Trinity (AKA Squeaky Floors) in Middletown has had a change in leadership, Public Relations will do a presentation to explain and clarify what NA is and what we do.

Marc L (Chair) thanked the RD for hosting the CAR workshop in the area on Sunday 3/9/2014. Marc also reminded the attendees that the votes on the CAR report are due back on the next scheduled MSUA meeting on April 14th, 2014. (See RCM report)

Secretary minutes – All received the minutes. **Adam H (Treasurer)** noted that in the Sharing Session portion, his announcement regarding the need to have someone at the meeting place during the scheduled time of the meeting applied to temporary “one shot” time changes such as for an event or party as well as to permanent meeting time changes.

Motion to accept made by **JRob C (Lava)**, 2nd by **Orlando R (Stepping Up)**. **Minutes accepted 16-0-2**

Treasurer report – **Adam H** gave written/verbal report. Adam noted that there was a \$75 difference in the shipping costs in his report and the literature subcommittee’s reports which seemed to be due to incorrect shipping costs on last month’s literature report. Adam pointed out that no money was actually missing, and that all funds are in one account, the discrepancy is simply a matter of whether the funds are allocated to literature or the general ASC fund. Adam said that he would look into the discrepancy and get clarification from the literature chair upon her return.

Treasurer’s report accepted 16-0-0.

RCM – **Al W (RCM)** Reported that Region did not meet this month due to inclement weather. Al handed out tally sheets to the GSRs and reminded the GSRs to bring back the total “one addict one vote” CAR Report votes to area, rather than a group level pass/fail result. **Voting on the CAR Report should be done by members of the groups of MSUA and the tallies brought back to the April meeting of MSUA.** Al mentioned that Region will be held in the Midstate unity Area on the 3rd Saturday of this month (3/15/2014), and was supposed to be held in the MSUA three times. Due to missing one meeting of Region, it was unclear if Region was to meet in the MSUA for three consecutive times in total, or simply be scheduled to meet here for three consecutive months. Al also announced that there was a design contest for H&I T-Shirts (Details in the “Upcoming Events” section of the minutes). The deadline for submission is April 1st, 2014. **Brian E** (Living Clean) asked if the H&I T-Shirts fell under merchandising in the Regional budget - (*it was clarified that they do*), and if so, why would regional H&I put out a design contest now - (*and why would MSUA include this contest in their minutes*) - before they know that their budget is approved?

Subcommittee Reports:

Activities – **Alicia M.** gave written/verbal report. Flyers were distributed to promote the upcoming game night (See subcommittee announcements at the end of the minutes). Activities plans to bring a detailed budget for a proposed volleyball picnic in July. When asked Alicia mentioned that the hike originally proposed for May had dates conflicting with another NA event, but that it was still in the planning stage and had not been abandoned entirely. The report also included a subcommittee level motion to create a \$150 prudent reserve with the intent to be fully self supporting as a subcommittee to throw events. A discussion followed. During the dialogue it was pointed out that the 4th tradition did not apply to subcommittees and that Activities is neither autonomous nor self-supporting. It was also revealed that the budget for Activities is simply operating expenses and is not intended to reflect the actual cost of hosting any events. At one time the Activities budget included seed money for starting events, but this was taken out. Brian E (living clean) mentioned that the new policy of activities having no seed money but rather having to submit for approval for funding for each event was a direct result of Activities having events and losing money on a consistent basis. Brian voiced that there was not

Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for March 10th, 2014

Page 2 of 4

a true conscience on the past proposed events – even though people voted “yes” at area they would not show up to the events themselves. Brian mentioned that this was the first time that the MSUA had a functioning Activities subcommittee try out the new policy. Adam apologized for not putting the \$25 approved for the game night into the special reserve on the Treasurer’s report.

Activities meets on the 3rd Saturday of every month at Faith Lutheran church located at 300 Washington St .at 7:30 p.m. prior to the Basically Lit meeting.

H&I – Chris H. (Chair) gave written/verbal report. Chris clarified that “Serving while in treatment” referred to the question if it is appropriate for those in long term treatment (such as those who live at a halfway house) to serve H&I. He indicated that this was a only a discussion at regional H&I at this point. When asked, Chris clarified that the open panel coordinator position were both at Merritt Hall. **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.**

Literature – Billy L (Vice 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. When asked, Gene Clarified that a Mobile Chair coordinated the method by which meetings were brought to addicts who could not otherwise travel to meetings. **Regional Chair, Vice Chair, phone line coordinator, Spanish phone line coordinator and Mobile Chair are OTF. 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.**

Retreat – Stacy M (vice chair) and Briana L. (Chair) gave written / verbal report. The retreat committee met at 6:45 PM, March 10th, 2014 prior to the MSUA meeting. 3 addicts were in attendance. The expense report and budget were reviewed and there was no old business. 19 packages were sold during the month. 33 packages have been sold to date. 5 applications for indigent packages have been submitted, any approvals are still pending.

Beginning Balance:	\$3,174.89	Expenses:	\$0.00
19 New Registrations:	\$3,344.00	Current Balance:	\$6,518.89

Group Reports

21 out of 25 groups

A New Awakening- Jim K – AIW	Off the Hook Freedom Book - Kris V. – AIW
After Lunch Bunch- Absent	Saturday Night Sanity – Absent
After the Weekend – Keith W - AIW	Serenity Check – Maureen F – AIW
All About Change- Absent	Stepping Free – Sean H - GSR OTF
Basically Lit – Billy L - EVENT	Stepping Into the Weekend – Walt K - AIW
Came To Believe –Katie - AIW	Stepping Thru it All – Gerry P – Alt GSR OTF
Coming Alive- Lisa B – Addict support	Stepping Up –Orlando R – Alt GSR OTF
Living Clean- Brian E – Alt GSR OTF	Straight Lace –Kristine M - Treasurer, Alt GSR OTF
Miracles – Absent	Surrender to Win- Ray C - Alt GSR OTF, EVENT
New Freedom – Lisa S – Alt GSR OTF, EVENT	The Other 23 - Absent
New Perspectives – Maribel O - Alt GSR OTF	Where We are Going – Jill F – GSR, Alt GSR OTF, Addict Support - EVENT
No Joke on Oak – Absent	Whole Lava Love – JRob C - AIW
Over the wall- Steve R - GSR OTF	

Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for March 10th, 2014

Page 3 of 4

Break for 15 minutes

Roll Call II: 18 out of 25 groups present

Sharing Session:

Brian E (Living Clean) asked about the whereabouts of the 40-50 T-shirts left unsold from the MSUA 25th anniversary event. **Kris V (Off the Hook)** indicated that he had them and would make them available to MSUA so that activities or another part of the body could sell them.

Alicia M (Activities) – Mentioned that the announcement books of many groups do not contain the flyers distributed at area, and that perhaps we need to do a better job of maintaining those books at the group level.

Old business: Regional Budgets were brought to a vote. Results were as follows: Executive Committee 17-0-1, RD and Alternate RD 18-0-0, Web Servant 17-0-1, H&I 17-1-0, PR 18-0-0, WSR 18-0-0. Results will be brought to Region. .

Elections:

MSUA H&I Chair was put out to the Fellowship for 30 days. At the MSUA H&I meeting Chris H was nominated for a second term after the vice chair indicated that they were not interested in filling the chair position at this time. **Jill F (Where We Are Going)** – Nominated **Chris H** for a second term as H&I Chair. 2nd by **Maureen R (Serenity Check)**. Chris accepted, qualified, and answered questions. Brought to a vote. **Congrats Chris!**

MSUA PR Chair is up in May and has been put out to the Fellowship for 60 days.

New Business: None

Closed with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer.

Mid State Unity Area of NA®

Area Minutes for March 10th, 2014

Page 4 of 4

Upcoming Events / Changes

Group level changes:

"The Other 23" Group which meets on Thursdays 8:00 PM – 9:15 PM at the First United Methodist Church, 24 Old Church Street in Middletown will be folding due to lack of addicts willing to accept trusted servant positions. The group will meet for the last time on Thursday, March 27th 2014.

Upcoming Events:

The deadline to return the survey handed out in February regarding the CT convention is April 30th, 2014.

Regional H&I is holding their 3rd annual **H&I T-Shirt logo design contest**. Original artwork only. Designs must be submitted by April 1st, 2014. Submissions must include name, contact number, and e-mail. E-mail submissions can be sent to hospital-institutions@ctna.org. Mail submissions can be sent to CTNA - Attn: Regional H&I – PO Box 1817 – Meriden CT 06450. Direct any questions to Tami-Jo S. 860-733-2422, or Omar P. 860-302-6498

The 29th annual Became Willing Retreat of MSUA is Being held April 4th, 5th, & 6th 2014 at 253 Bushy Hill Rd, Ivoryton CT – Conference Center. 60 registrations are available at a cost of \$175. ***Flyer available with registration information.***

Where We Are Going has an 7th Year anniversary party for the group on Sunday April 6th, 2014. Food fun and fellowship 7:00-7:30, and a meeting at 7:30-8:45. 615 Main St Middletown – St Vincent De Paul Soup Kitchen.

Activities is hosting a **Game Night** Sunday April 13th, 2014 from 1 PM - 5 PM at Church of the Holy Trinity (squeaky floors) – 381 Main Street Middletown. Board Games and Fellowshiping from 1-4, and speaker meeting on fun in recovery from 4-5. The event is family friendly with tables for children's board games and coloring books. Games will be provided but feel free to bring your favorite board game. Contacts: Alicia M 860-575-3206, or Gene F 860-770-7667.

Basically Lit is holding a dinner fundraiser for the 2014 History of NA conference on Saturday, April 26th at 300 Washington St, Middletown. Tickets are \$10. Dinner will be at 6:00 PM followed by a speaker at 7:30. A raffle of NA memorabilia will also be held.

New Freedom is holding their 29th anniversary with their annual Pancake Breakfast. Sunday April 27th, 2014. 9:00 AM-10:15 AM Food fun and fellowship, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Meeting. 615 Main St Middletown – St Vincent De Paul Soup Kitchen. Food donations welcome.

Surrender to Win is celebrating its 24th anniversary Saturday May 3rd, 2014 from 9:00 AM-11:00 AM at Church of the Holy Trinity (squeaky floors) – 381 Main Street Middletown. Continental breakfast donations gratefully welcome.

Basically Lit is hosting the 2014 History of NA conference - Sept 12-14 2014 at the Sheraton Stamford in Stamford. Ad Hoc meets the 4th Saturday of the month at 7:30 PM at 300 Washington St, Middletown. Registration meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at 130 Marlborough St, Portland. Programming Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at Portland United Methodist Church following the over the wall group (after 8:30 PM).

Surrender to Win is hosting its annual Independence Day picnic on Saturday July 12th, 2014 (Rain date July 13th) at Veteran's Memorial Park in Middletown. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the gate. Children 12 and under are free and there are free t-shirts for the first 50 kids.

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.