

Connecticut Regional Service Committee - Service Committee Minutes

Date: July 30, 2011 Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 5 Washington Ave.; Sandy Hook, CT

Meeting

Opened at 2pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer –
12 Traditions - 12 Concepts were read

Attendance was taken:

Chair – Absent (Bob F.)
Vice Chair – Present (Steven J.)
Secretary – Present (Lisa C.)
Treasurer – Present (Woodsy)
Alt. Treasurer – Absent (Keith T.)
Regional Delegate- Present (Jimmy C.)
Regional Delegate Alternate – Present (Adam H.)
Web Liaison – Absent (Rich G.)
Board of Directors – Present (Carl H.)
Convention Chair – Absent (Diane F.)
Hospitals & Institutions Chair – Present (Dan E.)
Literature – Out to Fellowship
Public Information – Present (Debbie D.)
Writing Steps in Recovery – Present (Gerry P.)
Central Connecticut Area of Narcotics Anonymous – Absent (Alt. RCM Bill S.)
Greater Danbury Area (GDANA) – Present (RCM Gay H.)
Greater Hartford Area (GHANA) – Present (Alt. RCM Cindy C.)
Greater New Haven Area (GNHANA) – Present (RCM Lou D.)
Greater Waterbury Area (GWANA) – Present (RCM Robert H.)
Mid-State Unity Area (MSUANA) – Present (RCM Jennifer K.)
Southern Fairfield County Area (SFCANA) – Absent (RCM Tommy B.)
Tunxis Valley Area (TVANA) – Present (RCM Stephanie B.)
United Shoreline Area (USANA) – Present (Alt. RCM Gail S.)
Visitors/ New RCMs:
 Beverly H – Visitor
 Stephanie B RCM TVA
 Jeff – Policy Chair (GWA)

Minutes:

Lisa C. Secretary read the Old Business, New Business and Elections for May

Discussion: - Woodsy (Treasurer) wanted to clarify that the correction in last month's minutes made by Steve J. (Vice-Chair) regarding the amount on check # 2697.

Steve J. (Vice Chair) - stated the amount on the check was wrong it should be \$19.41 not \$19.49 but Woodsy reviewed her statements and reported that it correct.

Motion to accept treasurer report – seconded – passed 6/0/1

Executive Committee Reports

Chair – Verbal report by Steve J. (Vice Chair)

Stated: Requested insurance certificates for the month. Spoke with our insurance agent in regards to the two meetings on our schedule that are located in Rhode Island and would our insurance policy cover these meetings as well. Ed (the agent) informed him that they are covered. Need to discuss the Unity Day Event. Made contact with Southern Fairfield Area to let them know that they are hosting Region for the next three months. Bob is having trouble contacting Tunxis Valley Area and is asking for contact information and to e-mail it to him.

Discussion: Adam H (Alt. RD) –spoke with RD from tri-state area who stated he was having an issue getting insurance for meetings. So he had inquired with Bob to find out if our insurance covers our area meetings that are out of the state and they are.

Motion to accept 7/0/0

Vice Chair – Report read by Steven J.

Stated: He printed out the Schedules for August. Filled in for the Out to the Fellowship Regional Literature Chair this month; and submitted to Adam the meeting change requests for web updates.

Treasurer’s Report - Read by Woodsy Treasurer

Stated:

Opening Balance:	\$2,284.85
Donations:	\$812.07
Misc. Donations/ Funds Returned:	\$82.00
Expenditures Total:	\$192.63
Donation to WSO:	\$0
Closing Balance:	\$2,986.29
Prudent Reserve:	\$3978.67
Special Reserve:	
Total Reserves:	\$3,978.67

Motion to accept treasurer report – seconded – passed 7/0/0

Regional Delegate and Regional Delegate Alternate – Read by Jimmy C. - RD

Stated: The Service System webpage is online @ www.na.org/servicesystem

World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous will be held in San Diego CA September 1-4, 2011, some changes to one of the hotel room prices and with part of the registration price.

“Living Clean” book has been released as an approval draft; you can download or purchase a copy for \$8.50. The information is online at www.na.org/?ID=Living_Clean_Project & will be voted on at the WSC in 2012

WSO has a list of 4 Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs) for the upcoming cycle they are “A Vision of NA Service”, “In Times of Illness Revised”, IP#24 Money Matters/Self Support”, & IP #28 Funding NA service

The World Board released a draft of a new service pamphlet on Anonymity in Social Media for delegate review, they have 90 days to review the material and if there’s no significant changes needed the pamphlet will go to print.

Adam H. and Jimmy C. attended the NEZF workshop in Sturbridge, MA on July 22 – 24, 2011. Saturday was the Zone Wide Workshop with the morning session discussion on Fellowship Development within the Zone. The afternoon session discussed Anonymity in Social Media and both were informative. There will be a report on each topic after a summary is distributed by the NEZF.

There was a proposal from the New Jersey Region for the NEZF to institute subcommittees.

We decided that the topic for the next NEZF will be the Conference Agenda Report (CAR). The next NEZF will be Dec. 2-4 2011 in Manchester, NH and is being held together with the Multi-Regional Learning Event (MRLE)

They also discussed the NEZF website and the associated discussion board. . There is very little participation on the forums and we’d like to see this resource get used more. If you want to participate go to www.nezf.org and click on the link for the Discussion Board.

Adam’s expenses Lodging \$119.52 Food \$45.94 Transportation \$0

Jimmy’s expenses Lodging \$119.52 Food \$50.00 Transportation \$0

Discussion: Adam H. (Alt RD) – was very disappointed that not more people from the Region body attended the NEZF workshop

Sub Committee Reports

Web Liaison – Absent, report read by Adam H. (Alt. RD)

Stated: Apologized for not being able to make it this month. He has been finalizing the changes on our webpage which went live as of 7/18/11. Ran into problems with contact person at Image-works and once he had been replaced things moved along a lot more smoothly. The meeting finder was not quite ready to go live, but was put online for the first weekend which meant that there was no schedule on the webpage for that weekend. Tried to get in touch with Image-Works on Friday afternoon but did not reach them in time and first thing the following Monday morning it was addressed and the temporary meeting schedule was back on line. We are continuing to work on getting the meeting finder function working but are running into some issues with importing the information into the new application. Only received information from two areas to place on their pages as well as one activity to place on the calendar and the updating process is working out well. Rich also officially taken on the responsibility of the web servant and would like to thank Adam for all the help he has provided him over the past year. Rich requested any information being sent into the web page be in a pdf format, and anyone who has questions as to how to do this he would be glad to help. He e-mailed everyone that he could the e-mail login information so that various sub-committees and areas start checking their e-mails. The only one that didn't have someone to send the information to was the TVA. Rich also sent in the checks of the balance of the redesign as well as the hosting maintenance contract and check and attached a copy of the maintenance contract for Bob to archive.

Discussion: Woodsy (Treasurer) – Couldn't search for a meeting and wanted to know if anybody else had the problem.

Adam H. (At. RD) – Explained that the meeting finder went live with no meetings in the database so they put a static listing in place and when they uploaded the excel spreadsheet every meeting was on Sunday. He also stated that on Monday morning (8/1/11) it will be fine.

Lou D. (GNHANA) – inquired about clicking the New Haven Area and finding just New Haven Area meetings.

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – stated that the new one has an advanced search option and can also search for different days and time etc. and asked all the RCMs to double check their area

Debbie (PI&PL) – asked if we have to sign in and she needs a password

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – directed her to log into the web mail.

Steve J. (Vice Chair) – asked if the calendar was still in the same place

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – said yes

Board of Directors – Read by Carl H. BOD Chair

Stated: Meeting opened on 7/17/11 at 3:10pm 10 out of 14 directors were present along with the Tech Director.

Minutes were accepted. The Tech Dir. Reported that the website is updated with programming information and getting bids for computers and walkie-talkies. Under new business talked about requirements for the program draft needs to be sent to hotel by 1st week in September, final draft 1st week in November. A motion was made and passed to have director from Southern Fairfield removed due to lack of attendance and lack of notice. We set the package prices and accepted a bid for the registration forms. At this time we have vacant position out to the areas for Danbury and Southern Fairfield. A motion was made and passed to suspend business until September. Next meeting will be held 3pm, 9/18/11 @ Grace & St. Peters Church 2927 Dixwell Ave. Hamden, Ct.

Discussion: Gerry P. (WSR Chair) – questioned Carl about e-mail he received regarding some online vote to get PayPal instituted.

Carl H. (BOD Chair) – stated it was something that had come up after the meeting

Convention – Absent – No Report

H & I – Read by Dan E. Chair

Stated: Met on 7/6/11 and making 100 presentations in our region. All commitments are full. Volunteer Phil D. reported that there is a new contact @ Cheshire, Brian Buffard. Phil needed to be brought up to speed regarding the requested H&I presentation at that institution. This presentation was originally supposed to be for the work release program, but now looks like it will be held somewhere else on the Cheshire campus. Phil will work on a time and date with the new contact. They are requesting a list of names (First, last and DOB) of people who are willing to go in and

serve. Old Business: looking into dates and a location for our annual learning day. Appears we have four tentative dates in October most likely @ Community Lake Park in Wallingford.

No New Business & no problems or major concerns.

Next meeting is scheduled for 8/3/11 7:30pm @ 10 Cooley Ave.; Middletown.

Discussion: Steve J. (Vice Chair acting as Literature Chair) asked questioned Dan about number of schedules taken from Cooley Ave.

Dan E. (H&I Chair) replied he was allotted 2,000 a month.

Literature – Report read by Steve J. (Vice Chair acting as Literature Chair)

Stated: Committee met on 7/20/11 with one addict present. No one from the church opened the door so the meeting was held in the parking lot. The only discussion was around the possibilities of moving the meeting to another location should no one step into the commitment this month. The Acting Chair is going o look for possible alternatives. Steve was in contact with the previous literature chair Donna H who still has the key to the OB box, but is going to go to see if there are any outside orders. Went to Cooley Ave to count inventory on July 20th and presently there are 12 full boxes of schedules and 500 unboxed schedules. He took 6 boxes of schedules so he could fill orders and at the meeting filled an order for WSR for 100 schedules; therefore the ending inventory is 13,400 (the original report was @12,400 but Steve was under the impression that H&I took 4,000 but H&I only took 3,00 for June and July)

Total Sold to areas	707	\$99.00
Sold to sub-committees	3,600	\$504.00

Next Regional Literature Meeting will be on September 21, 2011 at 6:30 pm50 Court St.; Cromwell CT 06416 **All ADDICTS URGED TO ATTEND SUB-COMMITTEE NEEDS SUPPORT!!!!** ☺

Discussion: Gail S. (Alt. RCM USA) – inquired if anyone fixed the misspelling of the word principles under the 12 steps and wondered if it will get fixed.

Steve J. (Vice Chair acting as Literature Chair) – stated no but now he will now

PI/PL – Read by Debbie D.

Stated: Met on Wednesday, July 13, St. Andrews Church, in Meriden. There were 7 addicts in attendance and 4 out of 9 areas were present. Reviewed the phone bills for June and July and did not see any problems and gave the treasurer copies of the invoices for June \$332.95 and July \$31.95. Created a new position at Region PI/PL for a Mobile Meeting Chair. The intent is to be accountable and attend monthly PI/PL Regional meetings. Discussing and reviewing PI/PL website options and looking into a 30 minute PSA for public televisions. Help support PI/PL in all areas especially Danbury. Open positions: Vice Chair, Spanish Phone Coordinator

Discussion: Jill (RCM USA) – 30 Min PSA?

Lou D. (RCM GNA) – inquired about what came about the 9,000 budget review

Debbie D. (PI/PL Chair) – said it was review no changes because they needed the money and the budget was passed

Debbie D. (PI/PL Chair) – asked Gay H. (RCM GDA) how the Danbury area of PI/PL is going due to the no show or report from that area. Gay H. responded no news.

Writing Steps in Recovery – ready by Gerry P.

Stated: met on 7/21/11 @ 7:30pm @ ST. John’s Evangelical Church in New Britain with 5 addicts in attendance. 2 New female step writers assigned, 5 female continuing step writers, 7 female letters, 4 new male step writers assigned, 15 continuing male step writers and 19 total male letters. 5 out of state letters from inmates, 5 responses sent to those inmates and distributed 5 letters to local H&I committee. Vice Chair OTF yr clean & 1 yr exp., Coordinating Secretary OTF 2yrs clean & 1 yr exp., Out of State Correspondent OTF 2ys clean & 6 mos.exp. Submitted multiple receipts for posting. Had two male step guides resign and one new female orientated. Attended Learning days in CCA & TVA but got no recruits. Gave a workshop at the ECCNA in New London and got 1 new female and 3 new men. Gerry P. participated in a service speaker Jam in Binghamton, NY on 7/23/11 and no one was oriented but there was sincere interest in our service. They have a “pen pal” committee but never considered doing step work with the inmates. On Aug 6, 2011 @ 6pm there will be a presentation in New London at the Second Congregational Church, 45 Broad St. where the Clean & Serene group meets to kick off their Anniversary that will include food, a meeting and a dance.

Area Reports

Greater Waterbury Area Narcotics Anonymous

RCM: Robert H. **Alt. RCM:** Out to area
Positions out to Area: Alt RCM, PI/PL Chair, Policy Chair, & Web servant
Activities: None **Fund Flow:** \$180.00
Area Concerns: none

Greater Hartford Area of Narcotics Anonymous

RCM: Alfred D. **Alt. RCM:** Cindy C.
Positions out to Area: Vice Chair, Alt. Treasurer, & Activities Chair
Activities: None **Fund Flow:** \$0.00
Area Concerns: None

Greater Danbury Area of Narcotics Anonymous

RCM: Gay H. **Alt. RCM:** OTF
Positions out to Area: Vice Chair, Literature Chair, Secretary, BOD seat, PR Chair, Alt. RCM, & RCM
Activities: Spiritual Brunch 9/10/11 11-4 & LaQuinta Inn & Suites 116 Newtown Rd. Danbury
Fledging Meeting Mon, & Thurs. 12-1 First Congregational Church Deer Hill Ave. Danbury
Fund Flow: \$0.00
Area Concerns: None

Mid-State Unity Area of Narcotics Anonymous

RCM: Jen K. **Alt. RCM:** JRob C
Positions out to Area: PI/PL Chair
Activities: Became Willing Retreat
Fund Flow: \$0.00 **Area Concerns:** None

Southern Fairfield County Area of Narcotics Anonymous (Absent)

RCM: Tommy B **Alt. RCM:** Kipp A.
Positions out to Area: GS Liaison, Policy Chair, Web Servant, Activities Support Committee
Activities: None **Fund Flow:** \$48.38
Area Concerns: None

- Discussion : Also in need of a BOD Seat

Central Connecticut Area of Narcotics Anonymous

RCM: **Alt. RCM:** Bill S. (Absent)
Positions out to Area:
Activities: none **Fund Flow:** \$0
Area Concerns: positions out to the fellowship

Greater New Haven Area of Narcotics Anonymous

RCM: Lou D. **Alt. RCM:** Out to area
Positions out to Area: Alt. RCM
Activities: August 14th Fun Day at the Lake; Chatfield Hollow State Park 11am
Annual Comedy Night & Ziti Dinner Sat. 9/24/11 @ Annex Club 554 Woodward Ave. New Haven CT 7pm
Fund Flow: \$0.00 **Area Concerns:** None

United Shoreline Area of Narcotics Anonymous

RCM: Jill T. **Alt. RCM:** Gail S.

Positions out to Area: Alt. Treasurer

Activities: Recovery Rock Fest 9/11/11 12-6 McCooks Point Niantic

Fund Flow: \$0 **Area Concerns:** none

Tunxis Valley Area of Narcotic Anonymous

RCM: Stephanie B **Alt. RCM:** Jeff J.

Positions out to Area: Vice Chair, Secretary, Alt Treasurer & Activities Chair

Activities: None **Fund Flow:** None

Area Concerns: None

Break

Sharing Session:

1. Unity Day: By Jen K. (RCM MSU)

Discussion: Jen K. (RCM MSU) – Found a location in central area and Adam found out about the technical side. She has flyers and needed to talk about refreshments. – Moved to New Business

2. Policy of Absentees – by Adam H. (Alt. RD)

Discussion: Adam H. (Alt. RD) – read policy and it states that upon missing 2 or more consecutive meetings RCM members may be asked to step down.

Jen K. (RCM MSU) – asked to please reread the exact policy

Lou D. (RCM GNA) – stated that in the minutes from last month it was written that Bob F. (Chair) was to contact the convention chair, and wondered what happened with that.

Steve J. (Vice Chair) – cannot answer that

Buddy O. (Vice Chair H&I) – why we have the “may” in our policy because we can understand if a member cannot make it but hey here is a report and/or contact someone. We had a problem here before we call, we don’t just not show.

Gay H. (RCM GDA) – we elect a vice chair would fill in it chair couldn’t make it. So if the vice chair shows up that subcommittee is represented.

Lou D. (RCM GNA) – stated things should happen 1. Notify the executive committee, 2.e-mail report.

Adam H. (Alt RD) – personal feeling is even if the vice chair is here the chair still needs to be here up to body to decide.

Lou D. (RCM GNA) – attendance is taken every month so we can go and check

Steve J. (Vice Chair) – will contact the people who are absent

Cindy C. (Alt RCM GHA) – Bob needs to report that

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – Vote now to tell them next month

Gay H. (RCM GDA) – bob stated he was going to contact them that he should say there commitment is in jeopardy and then vote next monthly

Buddy O. (Vice Chair H&I) – agreed with Gay

Cindy C. (Alt. RCM GHA) – wanted clarification on if we had the right to vote out convention chair due to the vice treasurer and our web servant are responsible only at this body, but convention chair reports to the convention meeting.

- Yes we have the right to vote the convention chair out of her seat

Gerry P. (WSR Chair) – and therefore if we do we are also directing the BOD to remove her from the chair there. The history is that people have missed before.

Lou D. (RCM GNA) – remind this body, in service, we should have some person to fill that position before removing a person

Jen K. (RCM MSU) – as we talk we need to make 3 separate motions and vote

Jill T. (RCM USA) – before she votes wants to know exactly what has been reported to this body

Gail S. (Alt. RCM USA) – service is no longer we fill the position just for the body we are all volunteers and we don’t know if the people have been contacted.

Adam H. (Alt RD) – the process and may be appropriate to make the motions then table them for 30 days that way it will be documented and we can find out what the details are then vote on it next month.

Dan E. (Chair H&I) – yes we don't know the details but when you take on one of these commitments we are asked what their meaning of commitment is and is it fair to keep this body in the dark. We have to make precedence.

Steve J. (Vice Chair) – will contact the chair, document this as old business

3. How to Handle Policy Review - By Steve J. (Vice Chair) & Adam H. (Alt. RD)

Discussion: Steve J. (Vice Chair) – wanted direction as how to proceed, stated that going through the policy has already found many discrepancies.

Gay H. (RCM GDA) – Sub-committee went through motions to see if policy has been changed

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – did the committee come back with the recommendations in one lump sum and states that there is so much and is unsure if to do it that way.

Jeff (Visitor) – stated he is his policy chair for his area and over to see if anything has changed brings it back to area.

Lou D (RCM GNHA) – does this body have a policy chair

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – No policy chair for 10 years and service committee could do

Jen K. (RCM MSU) – suggests that we should bring the result to us

Steve J. (Vice Chair) – yes next month so it is manageable

Gail S. (Alt. RCM USA) – Wanted to know what the policy on policy changes are, and next month on any changes will we be able to vote on it?

Steve J. (Vice Chair) – said most changes are with wording / document names terminology changes

Jill (RCM USA) - Policy Facilitator is a clerical position and goes in updates the policy

Jeff (Visitor) –Waterbury meets once every 3 months

Lou D. (RCM GNHA) – would we have to make a motion to create a policy chair and believes it works well

Jill (RCM USA) – passed on RCM Vote to take back to area

Cindy C. (Alt. RCM GHA) – does next month's meeting facility know we need the place 1 hour earlier.

Tommy B. (RCM SFCA) – Yes

4. Database for Meeting Changes – by Debbie D. (PI/PL Chair)

Discussion: Debbie D. (PI/PL Chair) – is having a hard time keeping up with literature and the web page and believes the best way is to create a shared database

Jill T. (RCM USA) – wasn't there a motion addressing this suggested motion to create an ad-hoc

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – we now have a database that can send to you in going forward we can update the phone line the problem is the literature chair was going to get the meetings changes then e-mail them to PI/PL but stopped sending monthly updates due to no one updating the phone lines, and they haven't been updated in 2yrs.

Steve J. (Vice Chair) – said he has to send Adam the updated new meeting schedule changes then Adam can send the database to Literature and PI/PL (Then some tech talk I really didn't catch), but Steve will work with Adam

Lou D. (RCM GNHA) – area is currently reviewing schedules and meetings in new haven due to preparation of making their own schedules

Adam H. (Alt. RD) – part of PI/PL responsibly was to update their areas

5. Policy for Flyer – by Cindy C. (Alt. RCM GHA)

Discussion: Cindy C. (Alt. RCM GHA) – wanted to how many flyer are we to bring to region

Gay H. (RCM GDA) – from experience makes 500 flyers 2 for every group

Lou D. (RCM GNHA) – set policy

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Carl H. (BOD Chair) – Announced the Danbury Area BOD Seat is out to area to 2013 & the Southern Fairfield BOD seat is out to area to 2012

Motion 1 – “Accept time & Place for Unity Day & Disburse flyers to RCMs”

Intent: To participate in World Unity Day

Name of Maker: Cindy C. (RCM GHA) 2nd By: Jennifer K. (RCM MSU)

Voted: 8/0/0 – Passed

Motion 2 – “To ask Web Liaison to step down from the commitment”

Intent: Compliance to Region Policy

Name of Maker: Jen K. (RCM MSU) 2nd By: Lou D. (GNHA)

***Tabled for 30 days**

Motion 3 – “To ask Convention Chair to step down from the commitment”

Intent: Compliance to Region Policy

Name of Maker: Jen K. (RCM MSU) 2nd By: Lou D. (GNHA)

***Tabled for 30 days**

Motion 4 – “To ask Vice Treasurer to step down from the commitment”

Intent: Compliance to Region Policy

Name of Maker: Jen K. (RCM MSU) 2nd By: Lou D. (GNHA)

***Tabled for 30 days**

Motion 5 – “To provide seed money for Unity Day in the amount of \$125.00

Intent: Financial Responsibility

Name of Maker: Jen K. (RCM MSU) 2nd By: Tommy B. (RCM SFCA)

Voted: 8/0/0 - Passed

Elections:

Literature Chair – Out to Fellowship (Need Support) Commitment has been out to fellowship for 4 months!!!!
Clean Time 3 yrs Chair 2 yrs Vice Chair 1 yr Secretary

Announcements:

Fun Day @ The Lake - Chatfield Hollow State Park – hosted by Greater New Haven Area on 8/14/00 @ 11am

7th Spiritual Breakfast – St. Andrews, 20 Catlin St.; Meriden, CT – hosted by CCA – 8/27/00 @ 9am – 12pm

Café NA - at the Pavilion, 108 Pennsylvania Ave.; Niantic, CT 06357 – hosted by USANA

Spiritual Brunch – La Quinta Inn & Suites 116 Newtown Rd. –hosted by GDA – 9/10/11 @11am – 4pm

Recovery Rockfest – McCook’s Point, Niantic – hosted by USA – 9/11/11 @ 11:30am

Annual Comedy Night & Ziti Dinner – Annex Club 554 Woodward Ave., New Haven – hosted by GNHA – 9/24/11 @ 7:00

World Unity Day – Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main St., Portland – hosted by CT Region – 9/4/11 @ 1pm