

Mid-State Unity Area of NA
Minutes for September 9, 2019

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Open: The meeting opened at 7:01pm with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts and the Service Prayer.

Welcome all new GSRs, Alt GSRs, and Visitors: Muriel R. (GSR – Whole Lava Love), Kate D. (Retreat), Sean (Activities), Sef M. (Alt. GSR – Till the Wheels Fall Off), Brittany L. (GSR – No Joke on Main), Kevin C. (GSR – Saturday Night Sanity), Ivan P. (visiting).

Mail: The only mail was NA Way Magazines for each group. Plus, extras if others want one.

Roll Call: There are 21 groups in MSUA. 17 currently have voting privileges so quorum is set at 12 (2/3 of 17). 17 groups answered roll call, 16 of them with voting privileges so quorum was met. The Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, H&I Chair, and Literature Chair were not present at roll call. The Secretary notified the chair via text that she was stepping down.

Service Orientation: No Service Orientation this month.

Announcements:

- Came to Believe group is having their 23rd Anniversary on October 20th. Food, Fun, Fellowship from 6-7pm, Speaker Meeting from 7-8pm
- Stepping Into the Weekend is thinking of having a chili cookoff and is asking whether other groups would be interested in participating. If so, see Don or Richard from the group.

Secretary Minutes – August Minutes were approved **15-0-1**.

Regional Committee Member (RCM) – Tommy F. read the report. There was a proposal from the Regional Delegate (RD) that we participate in a New England States Service Symposium. This was postponed pending further information. There were three motions... to move \$250 in Public Relations budget to cover cost of having pens printed (passed), to join the New England States Service Symposium (postponed – no vote needed at this time), and to increase funding for the Strategic Planning Workgroup to include \$125 for rent and \$500 to host a regional sponsorship day (passed).

Someone asked what the Strategic Planning Workgroup is, and Tommy explained that they are an ad hoc committee that put a survey out to our region and trying to come up with different ideas for service. They want to become a full subcommittee and a motion on that should be coming in a few months.

There was also a question about the New England States Service Symposium. Tommy explained that we're a part of the Northeast Zonal Forum (NEZF) and it's costly so they want to set one up just for New England but there were a lot of questions at Region, so they want to discuss it some more and then come back. This is not back to groups at this time, just wanted to make everyone aware of it.

The CTRSC meets on the 3rd Saturday of every month in the Bengtson-Woods Building across from the main entrance of Middlesex Memorial Hospital, 28 Crescent St., Middletown at 2:00pm.

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Activities – Sita R. read the report. There is low attendance at the committee. They are talking about having a vice-chair who isn't a GSR so if the chair can't make it then the vice-chair can represent the committee. Need support for Backyard Olympics or will cancel it. Trail of Terror... wants to buy tickets in advance because it sells out. How many slots do you think we can do? Karaoke event planned. There was also a financial report from the Volleyball tournament submitted. The event lost \$69.35.

There was a question about the tubing event. How many people? How many newcomers? There were about 30 people and 4 newcomers which was all the money that was donated for newcomers.

There was also quite a bit of discussion about the Trail of Terror... that it sounds complicated to buy tickets in advance, only buying what you can sell in advance, etc. We put the item in the sharing session for further discussion.

Activities meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at Bethany Lutheran church located at 50 Court St., Cromwell at 9:00 p.m. after the all about change group.

Hospitals & Institutions (H&I) – Andy C. absent. No report.

H&I meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Church of the Holy Trinity, 381 Main St., Middletown. New member orientation begins at 6:30pm followed by the regularly scheduled subcommittee meeting at 7:00pm.

Literature – Billy L. absent. No report.

Literature meets the 2nd Monday of every month at the Waverly Center, 7 Waverly Ave., Portland prior to the ASC meeting at 6:15pm.

Public Relations (PR) – Mark R. read the report. There was 1 call on the phone this past month. Rushford IOP presentation going well. Orientated 1 new member. Mark had the new placemat with our ad and passed it around to show. Region is ordering pens, got the new tablecloths, is having a booth at the CCAR Recovery Walk on Sept. 21, and is planning their workshop for the convention.

Public Relations meets on the 4th Sunday of every month at Church of the Holy Trinity, 381 Main St., Middletown. at 5:00 PM. New member orientation follows the subcommittee meeting.

Retreat – Kate D. gave a verbal report. Stated the next retreat is scheduled for April 3,4,5.

Retreat meets the 2nd Monday of every month at the Waverly Center, 7 Waverly Ave., Portland prior to the ASC meeting at 6:30pm.

Ad Hoc for Gathering of Gratitude – Briana H. had nothing to report. No meeting tonight. Thinking in the next month to reach out to church and get that done. Will meet next month before Area.

Someone asked whether the ad hoc was supposed to meet at 6:30pm and Briana apologized for not getting here until 6:40pm

Will meet again next month at 6:30pm before Area.

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Treasurer report – Tonia C. read the July Treasurer’s report. We are short of prudent reserve and haven’t been able to put anything aside for Conference Agenda Reports (CARs). Tonia handed out budget sheets to those subcommittees that were here since budgets are due to the Treasurer next month. A comment was made that the dates on the top of the report say 2018 and it was confusing. Tonia saw that and will correct them. The report was approved **16-0-0**.

Group Reports:

Group	GSR/Alt.	Concerns	Positions OTF
After the Weekend	Brian M.	Changed meeting time to 1 hour with no break. Change was submitted online.	Alt. GSR
All About Change	Ann P.	26 th Anniversary on 9/18/19 FFF from 6-7, speaker mtg 7-9	Speaker Seeker
Basically Lit	Renée M.	Dire need of addict support	Alt. GSR, Alt. Treasurer
Came to Believe	Lisa M.	23 rd Anniversary on 10/20/19	None
Living Clean	Gene F.	All is well	None
Miracles at Trinity	Absent		
New Freedom	Karlene D.	All is well	None
New Perspectives	Absent		
No Joke on Main	Brittany L.	All is well	GSR
Over the Wall	Denise L.	All is well	None
Saturday Night Sanity	Kevin C.	All is well	None
Serenity Check	Stacy D.	All is well	None
Stepping Free	Briana H.	New GSR but couldn’t be here tonight.	Alt. GSR
Stepping into the Weekend	Don D.	All is well	All up in October
Stepping Through it All	Sol S.	10 addicts average	None
Stepping Up	absent		
Straight Lace	Jazmine B.	Motion on the table to remove the break. Struggling for addict support.	None
Till the Wheels Fall Off	Sefer M.	Motion to extend the meeting to 1 hour 15 minutes.	None
Where We Are Going	Absent		
Whole Lava Love	Muriel R.	moving to 2nd floor instead of 3rd floor. Lots of newcomers.	Alt. GSR
Working the Steps	Stacy M.	Looking at changing the meeting format. Need addict support.	Treasurer, Alt. GSR

Break: 7:59pm - 8:12pm

Roll Call II: 16 groups answered roll call, 15 of them with voting privileges so quorum was met. The Vice-Chair, Secretary, H&I Chair, and Literature Chair were not present.

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Sharing Session:

- Trail of Terror – There was more discussion about the risk of buying tickets in advance and then possibly not selling them. The treasurer was asked how much is in the account. We're probably up to prudent reserve. Concern that people don't buy tickets in advance, waiting to see if something better comes along. There's a lack of participation overall. Some people volunteered to buy tickets right now. There's a motion in New Business.
- Leadership & Trusted Servants – A concerned addict in the area brought up that we are all leaders sitting at the table tonight. But we have issues with people taking leadership positions in groups. That's how we had an issue with a person becoming treasurer in multiple groups and stealing the money. As leaders we have a responsibility to step up and say something. Same thing with predatory behavior... if we see something we need to speak up. We owe it to the newcomer.
There was a lot of discussion on this. Some of it specific to the recent thefts and some to the overall issue of not ignoring inappropriate behavior. It was stressed that those of us in leadership positions (trusted servants) have a responsibility to speak up to those participating in the inappropriate behavior and steering the newcomers away from those addicts.
- Meetings and Locations – The New Perspectives meeting wasn't opened last week. We have meetings in the area that are struggling. Only 11 groups have contributed to Area this year, which means the others are struggling if they can't fund flow. We need to find out what's going on and if they are struggling for too long, they need to be shut down. We (addicts) need to be in strength at the Soup Kitchen meetings. That's where the disease is rampant. Maybe we have too many meetings on the same nights. We're not serving the addict who still suffers. Another member shared that they were contacted by the old director of the Soup Kitchen looking for contacts/key holders again because they don't have a complete list.
- Traditions Issues Being Tabled for Group Feedback - checked July's minutes. Motion about helping the Sunday night group. Wondering why Traditions questions (7th Tradition) weren't tabled. Chairperson explained that it was a time sensitive issue and the Area voted to help the group. The discussion sort of got back around to GSRs having a responsibility to better inform the groups about what's going on at Area. Take better notes. And if something isn't in the minutes that should be, speak up otherwise it will never be included.

Old Business:

Regional Motion #1 (07/20/2019): To accept the 2019/2020 Schedule Facilitator budget.

	2018-2019	2019-2020
Copies	60.00	60.00
Supplies	40.00	40.00
Postage	100.00	100.00
Workshops	0.00	0.00
PO Box	100.00	100.00
Total	300.00	300.00

Maker: Schedule Facilitator 2nd by GHA

15-0-1 PASSED

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Elections:

- Retreat Chairperson – Kate D. was the committee’s nomination. She qualified and was elected. CONGRATULATIONS KATE!
- Alternate RCM - 3 years’ clean time and prior ASC experience required.
- Secretary – 1 year’s clean time and prior ASC experience required. Takes minutes and distributes them no later than one week after the ASC meeting.

New Business:

Motion #1 (09/09/19): To walk the Trail of Terror on October 19th in Wallingford. \$180 for tickets, \$19 fees. Total \$199.00

Intent: To have fun and get spooked in recovery.

Made/Seconded by: Sita R. (Activities)/Renée M. (Basically Lit)

Chair stated that policy requires this motion to go back to groups. There was discussion about the time issues, the money we have, the policy and whether it’s necessary.

Motion: Made/Seconded: Brian M. (After the Weekend)/Briana H. (Stepping Free): To suspend the policy and vote on this tonight. **8-2-4 FAILED** (needed 2/3 majority – with 14 voting, 2/3 would have been 10).

Tabled to Groups for 1 month

Closed at 9:27pm. Next MSUA Meeting will be October 14, 2019 at the Waverly Center, 7 Waverly Ave. Portland, CT 06480.

In Service,
Adam H.
Chair, MSUASC

Upcoming events:

- September 22, 2019 - MSUA Backyard Olympics – 1:00pm – 5:00pm - McCutcheon Park, Crystal Lake, Middletown. Cornhole, Can Jam, Horseshoes, Laddertoss, Food, Fun, and Fellowship. \$5.00 per person. \$4 per team (of 2) to enter tournament.
- October 20, 2019 - Came to Believe Group 23rd Anniversary – 6:00pm – 7:00pm will be a Halloween themed party with food, fun, and fellowship. 7:00pm – 8:00pm will be a speaker meeting. Church of the Holy Trinity (aka Squeaky Floors), 381 Main St. Middletown, CT 05457

The most efficient way to convey meeting changes to region is to fill out the Meeting Change form on our Regional Website. Go to ctna.org, scroll to the very bottom of the page, and click “Meeting Change”.

Emergency or Temporary Group Cancellation or Relocation: *If your group must 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 or other trusted servants should contact the MSUA chair at (860) 704-9899 with the information, and the chair will then use the MSUA email and telephone lists to disseminate the details as soon as possible*