

# Mid-State Unity Area of NA

## Minutes for October 14, 2019

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**Open:** The meeting opened at 7:02pm with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts and the Service Prayer.

**Welcome all new GSRs, Alt GSRs, and Visitors:** Vance G. (Alt. GSR – Stepping Into the Weekend), Scotty (GSR – Where We Are Going), Josh C. (GSR – Stepping Free), Wondtresia H. (GSR – New Perspectives)

**Mail:** We received a new literature catalog from NAWS. There were also some leftover NA Way Magazines for any group that didn't get one last month.

**Roll Call:** There are 21 groups in MSUA. 17 currently have voting privileges so quorum is set at 12 (2/3 of 17). 18 groups answered roll call, 16 of them with voting privileges so quorum was met. The H&I Chair and PR Chair were not present.

**Service Orientation:** The vice-chair read from our Policy, page 6 - Financial Responsibilities - # 11-12

### **Announcements:**

- Straight Lace 35th Anniversary - October 25<sup>th</sup> - All are welcome. Food 6:30. Speaker 7:30-9:00.
- Came to Believe 23rd Anniversary - October 20<sup>th</sup> – Food 6:00, Speaker 7:00-8:00
- Stepping into the Weekend Anniversary - December 27<sup>th</sup>

**Secretary Minutes** – September Minutes were approved **16-0-0**.

**Treasurer report – Tonia C. read the report.** She got a call from Bethany Lutheran Church that the church would be closed on January 1 and that Activities committee won't be able to meet. Activities meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday so that doesn't affect them. But All About Change is now notified as well. The report was approved **16-0-0**.

**Regional Committee Member (RCM) – Tommy F. read the report.** Tommy explained what the Conference Agenda Report (CAR) is and what the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) is. He is also submitting a motion to have a CAR workshop.

A question was asked if Tommy had anything in writing to give to the GSRs about what he just shared about the CAR and FIPT. He doesn't... it's all just information. All of this is also available on the website.

World Service Conference information - <https://na.org/?ID=conference-index>

Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust - <https://na.org/?ID=legal-bulletins-fipt>

***The CTRSC meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.***

**Activities – Sita R. read the report.** Trail of Terror sold out so throw away those flyers. Asking groups to scout out talent for karaoke/talent show/open mic night. They also want to know if Area provides funds for coffee and supplies for Marathon Meetings. The answer to that is Yes.

Some discussion about getting tickets for events out early and selling them around the area. Also, some feedback from someone that the karaoke did really well last year and they might want to consider just having a karaoke night now and plan a talent show later with more time to plan and find talent.

***Activities meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.***

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**Hospitals & Institutions (H&I) – Andy C. absent.** He dropped off a report. Tonia read it. If people don't show up to serve they will be considering merging with Central Connecticut Area H&I. Someone asked to explain how H&I works and Tonia did that. It's for addicts that can't addicts that can't get out to regular meetings... we serve treatment centers in our Area (Merritt Hall, Rushford, and CVH). Clean time requirement is 6 months. Someone asked how to advocate for H&I at their group, and then went on to say how important it is, etc. The overwhelming response was just to share that very sentiment with your group.

***H&I meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. read the report.** Balance in the literature reserve is \$1033.18

***Literature meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. absent.** He dropped off a report. Adam read it. Had poster drive on September 28<sup>th</sup> and the pharmacy in the North End wants us to have a table in front of the store.

***Public Relations meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.** The next retreat is scheduled for April 3,4,5. Only 1 person in attendance for the meeting (Kate). Current balance is \$32.44.

***Retreat meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. gave a verbal report.** 3 addicts in attendance. Discussed budget and food donation list. Putting motion in tonight for budget. Going to pick out of a hat for food contributions like last year.

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

### **Group Reports:**

Group	GSR/Alt.	Concerns	Positions OTF
After the Weekend	Brian M.	1 hour meeting now.	
All About Change	Ann P.	All is well	
Basically Lit	Renée M.	We need of addict support	Alt. Secretary, Alt. GSR, Alt. Treasurer
		23 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary on 10/20/19. Found out in Feb. that the group was behind in rent due to funds taken. The back rent was paid by the individual but there's still \$104 unaccounted for.	
Came to Believe	Lisa M.		Alt. GSR
Living Clean	Gene F.	All is well	None
Miracles at Trinity	Absent		
New Freedom	Karlene D.	All is well	None

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New Perspectives	Wondtresia H.		Secretary, Treasurer, Alt. GSR
No Joke on Main	absent		
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	Josh C.	All is well	Alt. GSR
Stepping into the Weekend	Gregory B.	Group Anniversary December 27 <sup>th</sup> . 6:00pm – 8:00pm	None
Stepping Through it All	Sol S.	Accepting food donations for Feast Before the Feast	None
Stepping Up	Benjamin C.	Celebrating 36 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, October 24 <sup>th</sup> . 6pm.	Secretary, Alt. GSR
Straight Lace	Jazmine B.	35 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary October 25 <sup>th</sup> . Changed meeting time to 7:30pm - 8:30pm.	None
Till the Wheels Fall Off	Sefer M.	Changed the format to the rotating format with wheel	None
Where We Are Going	Scotty		Alt. GSR
Whole Lava Love	Muriel R.	All is well	Alt. GSR
Working the Steps	Stacy M.		Treasurer, Alt. GSR

**Break:** 8:10pm - 8:22pm

**Roll Call II:** 19 groups answered roll call, 17 of them with voting privileges so quorum was met. The H&I Chair and PR Chair were not present.

**Sharing Session:**

- Gathering of Gratitude Donations – After some discussion we decided to go down the list of groups and randomly pull food items out of a hat. If your group can't bring what's been assigned then come back next month and let the ad hoc know.

Group	Food Item	Group	Food Item
After the Weekend	<i>Drinks (not water)</i>	Stepping Free	<i>Chicken</i>
All About Change	<i>Rolls or Biscuits</i>	Stepping into the Weekend	<i>Dessert</i>
Basically Lit	<i>Ham</i>	Stepping Through it All	<i>Vegetable</i>
Came to Believe	<i>Vegetable</i>	Stepping Up	<i>Chips or Snacks</i>
Living Clean	<i>Side Dish</i>	Straight Lace	<i>Turkey</i>
New Freedom	<i>Water</i>	Till the Wheels Fall Off	<i>Side Dish</i>
New Perspectives	<i>Dessert</i>	Where We Are Going	
Over the Wall	<i>Salad</i>	Whole Lava Love	<i>Cheese &amp; Crackers</i>
Saturday Night Sanity	<i>Side Dish</i>	Working the Steps	<i>Stuffing</i>
Serenity Check	<i>Mashed Potatoes &amp; Gravy</i>		

- Announcements – We try to get more support for Activities, but many groups don't have announcements in their format. Wondering why groups take announcements out. It was shared that some groups did it to trim time as meetings started getting shorter. Some groups have the secretary read the announcements. It was mentioned that anyone can share about something during the meeting (when they share).

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- Marathon Meetings – We need to plan for Thanksgiving Marathon. We were all reminded that Area is responsible for the marathon meetings and Activities only coordinates them. We're all responsible. Also, groups need to be responsible. If the group says yes then everyone at the group that agreed needs to show up. Every group needs to come back next month with a Yes or No whether they are willing to do time slots on Thanksgiving (only 8 slots), Christmas (12 midnight – 5pm), or New Year's (10pm NYE – 5pm NYD).
- No Calls, No Shows at H&I – There's been a lot of no shows lately with H&I. We always have a speaker ready to go in but if there's only 1 person on the panel that night and the speaker doesn't show then we can't go in alone. And we have to notify the facility, not just walk away. H&I in this Area has a possibility of shutting down.

### **Old Business:**

Motion #1 (09/09/19): To walk the Trail of Terror on October 19<sup>th</sup> 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)

**This motion was dismissed as moot because the Trail of Terror sold out.**

### **Elections:**

- 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.
- Hospitals & Institutions Subcommittee Chair – 2 years' clean time and 1 year prior experience on H&I required. Must attend all ASC meetings, all Area H&I meetings, and all Regional H&I meetings. (see pages 10 and 14 in the MSUA Policy document for complete requirements)

### **New Business:**

Motion #1 (10/14/19): To have Karaoke Night/Talent Show @ Brownstone Church on 12/7/19, 8 PM - ???. Asking for \$85 from Area. Tickets will be \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door.

Ticket Printing	\$ 20.00	
Flyer Printing	\$ 15.00	
Rent	\$ 50.00	
Food/Beverages	\$ 0.00	donation
Equipment at Church	\$ 0.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 85.00</b>	

Intent: Have fun and sing your little heart out/rock out/jam/bust some dope rhymes in recovery.

Made/Seconded: Sita R. (Activities)/Benjamin C. (Steppin' Up)

**Motion tabled to groups for one month**

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Motion #2 (10/14/19): To have a double feature movie night (kids movie / regular movie) on 1/18/20 from 6pm – 10pm at Brownstone Church, Portland. Asking for \$185.00 from Area. Tickets will be \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door. Kids 12 and under free. Popcorn, soda, & candy provided.

Licensing	\$ 90.00
Rent	\$ 50.00
Popcorn	\$ 10.00
Ticket Printing	\$ 20.00
Flyer Printing	\$ 15.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 185.00</b>

Intent: To get entertained in recovery.

Made/Seconded: Sita R. (Activities)/Benjamin C. (Steppin' Up)

**Motion tabled to groups for one month**

Motion #3 (10/14/19): Asking for \$170.00 for expenses for the Gathering of Gratitude.

Rent	\$ 100.00
Utensils	\$ 20.00
Decorations	\$ 30.00
Coffee, Cream, Sugar	\$ 20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 170.00</b>

Intent: To provide a holiday party available to all addicts

Made/Seconded: Briana H. (Gathering of Gratitude Ad Hoc)

**Motion tabled to groups for one month**

Motion #4 (10/14/19): To hold a Conference Agenda Report workshop in late January or early February.

Budget:

Rent	\$ 75.00
Coffee & Refreshments	\$ 75.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 150.00</b>

Intent: To allow addicts to participate in the Worldwide Fellowship process

Made/Seconded: Tommy F. (RCM)/Karlene D. (New Freedom)

**Motion tabled to groups for one month**

Motion #5 (10/14/19): That the Strategic Planning Workgroup be nested under the Public Relations Committee.

Intent: Convergence of experience, strength, and hope resources provide continuity of services to our Fellowship.

Made/Seconded: Gene F. (Living Clean)/Muriel R. (Whole Lava Love)

This is a motion that our RCM would bring to the Regional Service Committee (RSC). There was some discussion about what this is and whether the Strategic Planning Workgroup could solve our H&I problems (not really). Some groups had members from the workgroup come and explain what they're doing. They did the Regional Survey that's on the website. They helped get the email notifications for information and events set up with the website. This isn't about whether or not this is needed, just whether it becomes part of PR or stays separate.

**15-0-2 PASSED**

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**Closed at 9:13pm. Next MSUA Meeting will be November 11, 2019 at the Waverly Center, 7 Waverly Ave. Portland, CT 06480.**

In Service,  
Adam H.  
Chair, MSUASC

#### **Upcoming events:**

- October 20, 2019 - Came to Believe Group 23<sup>rd</sup> 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
- October 24, 2019 – Steppin’ Up Group 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 6:00pm – 7:00pm will be food, fun, and fellowship. 7:00pm – 8:00pm will be a speaker meeting. St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen, 617 Main St, Middletown, CT 06457
- October 25, 2019 – Straight Lace Group 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 6:30pm – 7:30pm will be food, fun, and fellowship. 7:30pm – 9:00pm will be a double speaker meeting. Portland United Methodist Church, 381 Main St. Portland, CT 06480
- November 27, 2019 – The 29<sup>th</sup> Feast Before the Feast – Steppin’ Thru It All Group Anniversary and Pre Thanksgiving Dinner. 6:00pm – 7:15pm will be food, fun, and fellowship. 7:30pm – 9:00pm will be a speaker meeting. Shiloh Baptist Church, 346 Butternut St., Middletown, CT 06457. If you wish to contribute any food, please contact Karlene D. To be of service for set-up and clean-up, contact Jim K.
- Stepping Into the Weekend Group Anniversary – 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Zion Lutheran Church, 183 Williams St., Portland, CT 06480

**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](http://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*