

**Sunday November 04, 2007**  
**Rock River Area Group Service**  
**Held at 2300 West LeFevre Road Sterling, Illinois**  
**Hosted by: Reality Check**  
**Business Minutes**

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## **ATTENDANCE: 18**

Rob K., Eric B., Eric D., Linda F., Katrina K., Amy I., Marla M., Chris K., Allie H., Rich M., Phil C., Barney W., Lauren J., Sterling M., Mike C., Maggie I., Laurie L., Mark B.

- a.) Eric B. opened the meeting at 1:00 pm with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer.
- b.) Volunteers read the Twelve Traditions of N.A. and the Service Workers Prayer.
- c.) Chair read statement of purpose.
- d.) Welcomed Newcomers.
- e.) Roll call of Trusted Servants and GSRs. (9 of 17 GSRs reporting)
- f.) Recognized new groups.
- g.) Explained voting procedures.
- h.) Reviewed minutes from last month – *Motion* to accept as presented; accepted.

## **OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Chairperson:** Eric B. (*present*) – Thank you all for allowing me to be of service. In order for us to accomplish everything we need during these Area meetings, it is imperative that we do not have everyone speaking out of turn whenever they wish. In an effort to maintain order during this and future ASC meetings, I would like to request that if anybody wishes to speak, please raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Chairperson. If it looks like it may be some time before you can be recognized, then I will let you know that I have seen your hand up. Please wait to speak until after you have been recognized. If you have a question about something procedurally, please ask the Policy & Procedure Chairperson quietly off to the side. If you have a question about the topic, please raise your hand, state “point of information” and wait to be recognized by the Chairperson. If you feel that procedure is being violated, please raise your hand, state “point of order” and then wait to be recognized by the Chairperson. From time to time, I will make periodic rulings. Any member in attendance may appeal the ruling of the Chairperson by raising your hand, stating that they appeal the ruling of the Chairperson, and wait to be recognized. Only the person making the motion to appeal and the Chairperson may speak on the issue at this point, but the GSRs will make the final decision to either uphold the Chairperson’s ruling or sustain the motion. I will do everything I can to ensure that every voice and viewpoint is heard on all discussions. If we could all strive to maintain order, I am sure that we will accomplish all that needs to be accomplished. In loving service, Eric B.

**Announcement:** RRAGS History – In November 1982 several groups in Rockford, Freeport, Beloit, Janesville, Fort Atkinson, and Milton formed an Area Service Committee known as Southern Wisconsin And Northern Illinois (SWANI). In March of 1983, the name changed to Rock River General Services (RRAGS). In February 1986, the name changed to Rock River Group Services, Thereby remaining RRAGS. *Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary RRAGS!*

**Vice – Chairperson:** (*open*) –

**Secretary:** Mark B. (*present*) – Please turn in your reports to me by the end of the meeting if you want your information to be included in the Area Minutes, as I want your information to be included. GSRs, Trusted Servants, and Subcommittee Chairs; please check the information on the contact listing to make sure it is correct. If it is not correct, please let me know so that I can correct it. Instead of getting the minutes copied where I usually do, this month I did them on my printer to save Area a little money. I am normally charged \$0.07 a page. I am charging \$0.035 a page. The cost for copying October’s minutes is \$12.74. I have turned a receipt in to the treasurer and am asking for reimbursement. Don’t forget to sign in on one of the attendance sheets going around the room so that I may get an accurate count and so that you will be included on this month’s attendance listing. Lastly, there are flyers over on the table announcing the next Area Service Meeting. GSRs, please take one back to your group. Again, thank you for allowing me to be of service to Narcotics Anonymous. Your Secretary, Mark B. Peace!

**Alternate Secretary:** () – At the November ASC, Allie H. was elected to Alternate Secretary.

**Treasurer:** Rich M. (*present*) – Chair handed out copies of and explained the financial report. **Q:** Do we need to include a bank statement with the monthly report? **A:** It would be nice especially with our current financial situation. **MOTION:** To accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. **PASSED.**

**Announcement:** After this month’s bills are paid, we have \$869.43 left (does not include Literature replacement). In addition, If GSRs have any 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition that they have not yet turned in, please do so at this time. Thank you.

**Alternate Treasurer:** (*open*) –

## FINANCIAL REPORT:

*Beginning Balance From: October 07, 2007* ..... **\$1,772.74**

### *INCOME*

**TOTAL INCOME** ..... **\$1,431.10**

### *EXPENSES*

**TOTAL EXPENSES** ..... **\$1,799.23**

**CHECKBOOK BALANCE** ..... **\$1,404.61**

**STATEMENT BALANCE** ..... **\$1,404.61**

**PRUDENT RESERVE** ..... **\$3,041.20**

**WORKING FUNDS** ..... **-\$1,636.59**

## TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS:

**Regional Committee Member:** Chris K. (*present*) – The November WRSC will be November 17-18, 2007 in Racine, Wisconsin. The Saturday Focus Forum will be on Youth Issues in recovery. We are asking for the following monies to attend Region: *Hotel* \$133.44; *Gas (200 Miles)* \$30.00; *Per Diem (RCM)* \$60.00; *Per Diem (RCMA)* \$60.00. **Total** \$283.44. In loving service, Chris K. and Marla M. (RCMA).

**Regional Committee Member Alternate:** Marla M. (*present*) – See above report.

**Literature Stockpile:** () – At the November ASC, Maggie I. was elected.

**Literature Stockpile Alternate:** Katrina K. (*present*) – This month’s sales are \$481.80; the reorder

amount is \$454.07 (including 6%). Thank you for allowing me to be of service, Katrina K.

**Note:** RRAGS owes WRSO \$125.44 due to the 6% not being added to previous orders.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Functions:** Maggie I. (*present*) – I received lots of positive feedback about the Halloween Dance. It was well attended and I thank those of you from Area who came and supported this function. I have printed out copies of the expense report to go over with the body. The cost for putting on the Halloween Dance was \$659.37; the total income was \$552.55 (including \$90.63 unused funds); leaving a net loss of \$197.45, (*a small price to pay for recovering addicts to have fun and stay clean while doing so*). The next function will be the Gratitude Dinner on November 17, 2007 at the Millennium Center 220 South Madison Street Rockford, Illinois. I'm in desperate need of help with this function selling pop and setting up. Please come support your Area function. I have made flyers for the GSRs to take back to their groups. I would like to request \$185.00 to give to the Millennium Center for the Gratitude Dinner. I have already given them the \$50.00 deposit. I would also like to request \$400.00 for food. I am unsure of how much the main dishes will cost. Thank you to all those involved in helping put on this function. It was an honor and a privilege to have such an opportunity to give back what was so freely given to me. In addition, it was decided not to do a dance for the Gratitude Dinner, but to do a book study instead. In loving service, Maggie I.

Concerns were brought up about the Gratitude Dinner as RRAGS does have the funds for rental of the Millennium Center, but does not have the funds at this time for the food because of our current financial position. After brief discussion, an addict offered to donate a ham and another addict offered to donate two (2) turkeys. **Note:** Functions Chair will have a subcommittee during the ten minute break to discuss this further.

**Literature Review:** (*open*) –

**Hospitals & Institutions:** Mike C. (*present*) – I have gotten together with the H&I Chair, Cindy, from BASIC Area to get together on where we overlap Areas. We had a mini learning day before the ASC today for the people here in Sterling, Illinois.

**Public Relations:** Rob K. (*present*) – P.R. activity for the month of October 2007:

**1) Additional Subcommittee Meeting:** Held October 20, 2007 at Freedom To Grow, a total of four (4) were in attendance. **Summary In Brief:** Agenda was as usual. Updated those in attendance regarding October ASC events, discussed open action items, and delegated some activities to PR members.

**2) Facility Activities:** **A) Rosecrance River District (Rockford, Illinois):** In response to an e-mail, the Chair and another committee member gave a PR Presentation at this facility on October 24, 2007. We explained to the staff various options from an NA presence, made them aware of the website as a source for information, etc. Staff response was highly favorable. Facility conducts numerous outpatient groups, seeing over 120 clients per week. Staff would welcome H&I panels into several groups. For some groups, facility specifically requested one year + cleantime. We will work with H&I to follow up with facility to get panels set up. **B) Mercy Hospital (Beloit, Wis.):** E-mails correspondence has continued resulting in an appointment for a PR Presentation to staff set for November 09, 2007. At that time, we will assess the facility's needs and return to confer with H&I as to how best support them.

**C) Sterling area facilities: Sinnissippi Centers, Recovery Zone (Rock Falls):** A committee member supplied detailed staff contact information from these facilities. Chair has action to follow up. H&I / PR have coordinated with Sterling members to hold a special subcommittee session prior to this month's (*November*) ASC, in order to provide H&I orientation in anticipation of setting up (*H&I*) panels at Sterling area facilities.

**3) P.R. Goals / Proposed Activities ("to do list") for the Month of November 2007 and**

**forward: A) Meeting Directory updates:** Update Region, WSO website, Region 888# recording, etc.  
**B) Revised “Drug Problem” Flier:** Follow up on idea to add local tear-offs for Belvidere and Freeport.  
**C) Community Outreach (Belvidere, Freeport):** Continue to explore ideas as to how to grow awareness of the fellowship in these communities. Any inputs would be welcome.

**4) Monthly Mid-Month P.R. Subcommittee Meeting:** The PR Subcommittee meets in conjunction with H&I on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Saturday of every month. The next combined PR / H&I meeting is Saturday November 17, 2007 at Freedom To Grow @ 11:00 am.

**5) Committee Activity Prior to November ASC: November 04, 2007 @ Noon: A)** PR participated with H&I to present information about H&I to Sterling area members. Included a mock presentation, which can count as one (1) of three (3) required panels for H&I participation. Meeting went very well, attended by eight (8) addicts from the Sterling area. Discussed support for future H&I activity in Sterling.

**Policy & Procedure:** Chris K. (*present*) – Not much to report, looking to remove mailing of minutes from policy. Looking into world pamphlets with consensus. More will be revealed.

**Convention Committee:** Barney W. (*present*) – We met on Friday November 02, 2007 at Clean @ 7:30 pm. (7 pm for subcommittees) We are talking with the hotel and still working out the details. We are meeting at Clean @ 7:15 Friday November 09, 2007 and at Clean on Friday November 30, 2007 @ 7 pm for subcommittees & 7:30 pm for the meeting. In loving service, Barney W.

**Newsletter Committee:** (*open*) – At the November ASC, Eric D. was elected Vice-Chair

**NOTE:** *The Chairperson stepped down in order to give the Digital Information report and turned the Chairperson duties over to the RCM*

**Digital Information:** Eric B. (*present*) – Nothing new to report. Last month’s schedule of events did not make the website due to time constraints and the failure of my laptop, however this will be fixed soon as well as the time constraints. Henceforth all updates to calendar of events per ASC will be achieved within 7 working days of the ASC. Always grateful to be of service, Eric B.

**Q:** Could D.I. add a little banner ad to all web pages on [www.ragsna.org](http://www.ragsna.org) affiliated with open positions? **A:** Chair will look into it.

**NOTE:** *The RCM turned the Chairperson’s duties back over to the Chairperson.*

**Youth Issues Ad-Hoc:** Allie H. (*present*) – Only 2 were in attendance at the ad-hoc meeting on October 21, 2007 at 90 IN 90. We discussed options on how to hold a meeting, the goals and needs for the ad-hoc meeting, and the future fro the committee meeting. The biggest issue we talked about was the lack of respect towards youth. We also talked about unity in NA as a whole, bringing members together to spread the message. The next ad-hoc committee meeting will be on Sunday November 18, 2007 at 90 IN 90 @ 2 pm.

**Ten.....Minute.....Break**

**NOTE:** return to Functions – *There will be enough food for the Gratitude Dinner, all I need is \$185.00 for the rental of the Millennium Center.*

**Open Forum Discussion: 15 Minutes – RCM opened: Topics: 1)** Discussion of the financial aspect of RRAGS. **A) Q:** Do we always donate one lump sum after convention and struggle the rest of the year? **A:** Yes, generally, but not always this early. **B)** Making a motion that would lead to financial stability. **C)** The addict should not suffer because we were irresponsible with our finances.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Continuing **RRAGS Elections**: positions remaining **OPEN**: **Vice-Chairperson, Vice-Treasurer, Alternate Secretary, Literature Stockpile, Newsletter, and Literature Review.**

**Alternate Secretary**: Allie H. volunteers; stated qualifications; discussion; **VOTE**: (7 GSRs voting) unanimous Allie H. elected.

**Literature Stockpile**: Maggie I. volunteers; stated qualifications; discussion; **VOTE**: (8 GSRs voting) unanimous Maggie I. elected.

**CHAIR**: *Ruling to turn this into a quick Newsletter subcommittee meeting* – no one objects.

**Newsletter Subcommittee**: ASC Chair asked if there were any objections to Eric D. becoming the Vice-Chair of Newsletter, there were no objections. Eric D. is the Vice-Chair of Newsletter. It was also asked if anyone objects to the newsletter being electronically transmitted instead of hardcopy (especially due to our financial situation)? No one objected. The Newsletter will be transmitted electronically.

*Newsletter subcommittee closed, the meeting returned to an ASC Meeting*

## NEW BUSINESS:

**MOTION**: Assuming that Convention Committee makes a donation following it's annual convention, that the ASC forward any excess funds to Region incrementally over 12 months, each month to be dispersed only if Prudent Reserve is met. **Intent**: to ensure our Area's fiscal responsibility.

**MOTION**: To table the previous motion for further review by Policy & Procedure. **VOTE: PASSED.**

## GROUP REPORTS:

### **90 In 90**

**Reporting member**: GSR – James W. (**not present**), GSRA – Allie H. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition**: \$61.00

**Literature**: \$0.00

**Attendance**: 10 – 30

**Meeting changes**: Sunday night 11 pm meeting is now open / smoking. (Not a meditation meeting)

**Functions**: At the next business meeting on November 25, 2007 @ 2 pm, there will be a potluck followed by the meeting.

**Speaker Meetings**:

**Report**: Nothing to report.

### **Anonymous Group**

**Reporting member**: GSR – Randy S. (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition**: \$0.00

**Literature**: \$0.00

**Attendance**:

**Meeting changes**:

**Functions**:

**Speaker Meetings**:

**Report**:

### **Awakening**

**Reporting member**: GSR – (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition**: \$0.00

**Literature**: \$0.00

**Attendance**:

**Meeting changes**:

**Functions**:

**Speaker Meetings**:

**Report**:

### **Clean**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Teresa C. (**not present**) Acting GSR Rob K. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:** 4 – 10

**Meeting changes:** None

**Functions:** None.

**Speaker Meetings:** None

**Report:** All is well. We will make a 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition donation when our new checks arrive.

### **Dope to Hope**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Jeff B. (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:**

**Meeting changes:**

**Functions:**

**Speaker Meetings:**

**Report:**

### **Footprints**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Linda S. (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:**

**Meeting changes:**

**Functions:**

**Speaker Meetings:**

**Report:**

### **Freedom To Grow**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Marla M. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$43.75

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:** 7 – 15

**Meeting changes:** None.

**Functions:** None.

**Speaker Meetings:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 7:30 pm – Brian K. 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday @ Noon – Kevin M.

**Report:** Motion to establish a Youth Issues meeting failed, but the group will be looking at other ways to attract youth to our group, make them feel welcome, and address their needs.

### **Home Group**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Tara J. (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:**

**Meeting changes:**

**Functions:**

**Speaker Meetings:**

**Report:**

### **It Works**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Eric D. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:** 3 – 5

**Meeting changes:** None.

**Functions:** None.

**Speaker Meetings:** None.

**Report:** Nothing to report.

### **Just For Today**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Paul B. (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:**

**Meeting changes:**

**Functions:**

**Speaker Meetings:**

**Report:**

### **Monday Night Prime Time**

**Reporting member:** GSR – Sterling M. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$20.00

**Literature:** \$73.00

**Attendance:** 8 – 20

**Meeting changes:** None.

**Functions:** None.

**Speaker Meetings:** None.

**Report:** Read motion from MNPT (See New Business).

### ***New You***

**Reporting member:** GSR – Chris K. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:** 15 – 25

**Meeting changes:** None.

**Functions:** None.

**Speaker Meetings:** None.

**Report:** Hope to see ya soon.

### ***Reality Check***

**Reporting member:** GSR – Amy I. (**present**) & GSRA – Lauren J. (**present**)

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:** 8 – 12

**Meeting changes:** None.  
2008

**Functions:** Winter Blues Recovery Rules Saturday January 19,

**Speaker Meetings:** On the last Sunday of every month at 6:00 pm.

**Report:** We're moving! Thursday November 08, 2007 to 10 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Sterling, IL. We have a new GSRA – Lauren J.

### ***Road to Recovery***

**Reporting member:** GSR – Laurie L. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$30.70

**Attendance:** 8 – 15

**Meeting changes:** None.

**Functions:** None.

**Speaker Meetings:** None.

**Report:** Nothing to report. In loving service, Laurie L.

### ***The Group***

**Reporting member:** GSR – Steve R. (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:**

**Meeting changes:**

**Functions:**

**Speaker Meetings:**

**Report:** None.

### ***There Is Hope***

**Reporting member:** GSR – Bill N. (**not present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$0.00

**Literature:** \$0.00

**Attendance:**

**Meeting changes:**

**Functions:**

**Speaker Meetings:**

**Report:**

### ***Westside Family***

**Reporting member:** GSR – Linda F. (**present**).

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$20.00

**Literature:** \$109.00

**Attendance:** 19

**Meeting changes:** None.

**Functions:** Potluck before Speaker meeting on Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. Next Chairperson Workshop on Nov 17<sup>th</sup> @ 1:45 pm. Marathon Thanksgiving Day meetings on Nov 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am – 9 pm. Next Business meeting on 12/01/07 @ 2:00 pm. **Speaker Meetings:** Nov 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm – Rochelle. Nov 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm - TBA

**Report:** December 22, 2007 – Anniversary Celebration, details TBA. The Speaker Meeting / Fashion Show Dance was a great success. Over 100 in attendance. We have a new Treasurer – Robert and a new GSRA – Renaldo. Humbly Submitted, Linda F.

The next RRAGS business meeting will be on Sunday December 02, 2007 @ 12:00 pm at 90 IN 90, 7914 Scott Lane Machesney Park, Illinois.

**Motion:** To close, seconded.

The Area Service Meeting closed with a group hug and the 12<sup>th</sup> Tradition.

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