Sunday January 06, 2008
Rock River Area Group Service
Held at 2222 East State Street – Suite 209 Rockford, Illinois
Hosted by: Clean
Business Minutes

ATTENDANCE: 30

Rob K., Eric B., Rich M., Katrina K., Tara J., Eric D., Chris W., Mike C., Marla M., Chris K., Kevin M., Laurie L., Barney W., Kerri M., Maggie I., Sterling M., Lauren J., Thomas H., Renardo W., Stefanie H., Christian P., Paul B., Amy I., Mary W., Marvin W., George D., Jannifer W., Eddie R., Nick F., Mark B.

- **a.)** Chairperson 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.)** Chairperson read statement of purpose.
- **d.)** Welcomed Newcomers.
- **e.)** Roll call of Trusted Servants and GSRs. **(**16 of 19 GSRs reporting**)**
- **f.)** Recognized new groups.
- **g.)** Explained voting procedures.
- **h.)** Reviewed minutes from last month. **MOTION:** To accept minutes as presented, seconded, no one opposes – accepted as presented.

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 addition, if anyone feels that I am out of control or out of line, you can always make a motion to remove me for the remainder of this meeting. In loving service, Eric B.

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. In an effort to save RRAGS some money, this month I did the minutes on my printer, instead of getting the minutes copied where I usually do. I'm normally charged $0.07 per page. I'm charging $0.035 per page. The cost for copying December's minutes and flyers is $11.20. 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 fliers 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: (*open*) –

Treasurer: Rich M. (**present**) – Handed out financial figures data packet gathered since the December business meeting. Asked if there is any other group 7th Traditions to be turned in. Last month we had two (2) checks returned because they had the wrong account number written on them. They were temporary checks. The two (2) returned checks have been replaced, along with the returned check fee ($5.00 ea. X 2 = $10.00). In loving service, Rich M.
MOTION: To accept Treasurer's report as presented, seconded, no one opposes – accepted as presented.
Alternate Treasurer: (*open*) –

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Beginning Balance From: December 04, 2007 ..... ***$1,419.52***

INCOME

TOTAL INCOME **$1,012.19**

EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES ***$1,075.42***
CHECKBOOK BALANCE **$1,356.29**
STATEMENT BALANCE ***$1,356.29***
PRUDENT RESERVE ***$3,041.20***
WORKING FUNDS ..... **-$1,684.91**

TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS:

Regional Committee Member: Chris K. (**present**) – The next WRSC cycle will be held January 19 & 20, 2008 in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Hotel costs $123.28 per night with tax. Breakdown of projected expenses are as follows: Hotel - $123.28 X 2 = $246.56 + $30.00 X 2 (Per Diem) = $60.00 + $30.00 (Gas) = $336.56 Total monies requested to go to Region. We also need to order CARs (Conference Agenda Reports) at this time, so they can be distributed to groups as soon as possible. Policy states that we purchase one (1) CAR for each group in our AREA, the RCM and RCMA, and five (5) extra for

individual sale. We have been asking groups to provide the $11.00 to purchase / reimburse ASC for the CAR due to the financial instability of the AREA at this time. **MOTION:** For $268.18 to purchase 23 CARs ($11.00 ea. + 6% S&H) for the groups, RCM, RCMA, and five (5) extra. ***VOTE:*** **PASSED.** Groups – you will need several hours to go over the CAR report. AREA CAR review will be March 09, 2008 @ Noon at Freedom To Grow. In loving service, Chris K. and Marla M. (RCMA).

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

Literature Stockpile: Maggie I. (**present**) – This month's sale are $746.15; the reorder amount is $652.52 + $39.15 S&H (6%) = $691.67; the H&I order amount is $93.02. The Total reorder is $784.69.

From Treasurer: We only have $390.05 in available funds until incoming checks clear. Either order a lesser amount, or get approval from body to write a check once the money has posted at the bank, or do not order until next month. Treasurer's personal recommendation is to wait until next month.

MOTION: To write a check outside this meeting, once the deposit has been posted, in the amount of $784.69 for literature prior to Region. Discussion; ***VOTE:*** **PASSED.**

Literature Stockpile Alternate: Katrina K. (**present**) – See above report.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Functions: Maggie I. (**present**) – I am working on a Valentine's Day Dance for February 9th and need to request money to get a place (either the Millennium Center or Rock Valley Center in Beloit, Wisc.). The pop and water I had was stored at my old place, which was broken into. I have not been over there yet to take inventory and do not know if it too was stolen. In loving service, Maggie I.

MOTION: To suspend the Valentine's Day Dance from Policy. Discussion; ***VOTE:*** **PASSED.**

Literature Review: (***open***) –

Hospitals & Institutions: Mike C. (**present**) – Everything is going well. Tara J. and Marcus (from Home Group) have volunteered to be contacts for the Beloit and Janesville Mercy Options. Chair was contacted by Marco from PHASE (Rockford) about starting a Monday H&I Panel. Chair was also contacted by PHASE (Belvidere) – they want to start an H&I Panel there.

Public Relations: Rob K. (**present**) – P.R. activity for the month of December 2007:
1) Additional Subcommittee Meeting: Held December 15, 2007 at Freedom To Grow, a total of six (6) were in attendance. *Agenda was the usual*: **A)** Updated those in attendance regarding previous month's ASC activity. **B)** Discussed the open action items. **C)** Delegated some activities to PR members.

2) New Activity (post Mid-Month Subcommittee Meeting): A) Regional Schedule Update**:** Latest changes (known as of December ASC) were forwarded to the Regional PR Committee for schedule update. **B)** Rockford Housing Authority**:** Followed up on a contact request from this organization. PR Committee representatives are to meet with them on Monday January 07, 2008. At this time, we will try to assess their needs and our ability to meet them. **C)** Mercy Options (Beloit and Janesville)**:** Worked in conjunction with H&I to support start up of presentations in these facilities. Should be able to start in the next month. **D)** PHASE Belvidere**:** Facility has a desire for an H&I Presentation once a month in the evenings. Groups meet from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Staff contact at the facility is Cheryl. PR is working with H&I and It Works group to determine the best way to support. **E)** Group Contacts**:** Chair contacted the GSR for There Is Hope (Rochelle) to make sure group was still in existence prior to Regional Directory update. Bill N. indicated that the group continues to meet as scheduled. Chair extended an invitation expressing that it would be great if the group could send a representative. (Conversation seemed to

indicate that this was unlikely). **F)** PR Budget**:** With RD, discussed the idea of a budgetary forecast for PR; to include estimates for all known PR related expenses (telephone number, answering service, schedule printings, literature distribution, etc.). This is definitely possible, given time and attention.

3) Facility Activities: A) Rosecrance River District (Rockford, Illinois)**:** We have a Panel coordinator; pending response from the facility to confirm time slot. Chair has action to check on follow up. **B)** Sterling Area Facilities (Sinnissippi Centers, Recovery Zone (Rock Falls)**:** Chair still has the action to follow up on this effort. H&I Presentation are underway at Recovery Zone thanks to Sterling Area members.

4) P.R. Goals / Proposed Activities (*"to do list"*) for the Month of January 2008 and forward: A) Follow up on open action items (Sterling area, PHASE Rockford, Rosecrance River district, Rosecrance Adolescent, other facility leads, etc.). **B)** Meeting Directory updates**:** Get changes as of January ASC to Region, WSO website, Region *888#* recording, etc. **C)** Revised "Drug Problem" flier**:** Follow up on idea to add local tear-offs (Belvidere, Freeport). **D)** 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.

5) Next RRAGS Meeting Directory Printing: At present, the stockpile of directories is running low (under 500 going into the January ASC). The "Convention Edition" will be required to be available prior RRCNA (target date: 3rd week of March) for distribution at Registration. PR Committee's recommendation is to do an interim printing of 1,000 (instead of the usual 5,000) to be available at the February ASC, to cover the months of February and March in a prudent manner. We would like to request a vote of confidence from the GSRs on this action.

-**MOTION:** To have an interim printing of 1,000 schedules. Discussion; ***VOTE:*** **PASSED.**

-**MOTION:** To include the group A New Beginnings on this schedule printing. Discussion; Policy & Procedure Chair has no objection to placing A New Beginnings on the schedule; ***VOTE:*** **PASSED.**

Note: Chair passed out a handout containing every group's meeting listings to the GSRs for review. Asked the GSRs – Are your listings accurate? If not, please make the necessary changes and get them to me ASAP.

6) Monthly Mid-Month P.R. Subcommittee Meeting: The PR Subcommittee meets in conjunction with H&I on the third (3rd) Saturday of every month. The next combined PR / H&I meeting is Saturday January 19, 2008 at Freedom To Grow @ 11:00 am.

7) Committee Activity Prior to the October ASC: *January 06, 2008 @ Noon* (8 in attendance)**:** Had an informal discussion of current activities. **A)** Discussed ideas on how best to collect and distribute information on AREA and Group functions, etc., to be read at announcements at groups. (Use web site calendar? Newsletter? Etc.). **B)** Discussed Sleazer House in Freeport.

There is no PR literature order this month.

Policy & Procedure: Chris K. (***present***) – Printed off two (2) copies of the policy for new groups. Took a look at what other Area's do for fund flow, and was shocked to see that a lot of other Area's have a prudent reserve of only $200 – 600. The way they work this is that each subcommittee works within a preset budget. I have talked to Public Relations and Digital Information about going this route as well as the Treasurer, and I think we have come to the idea that this may work as a way to make sure that the subcommittees are fully funded as well as the fund flow upwards. At this time, I would like to ask this body and the subcommittee chairs' input. As a reminder, AREA's Prudent Reserve is to be for emergencies. In addition, I ask that all subcommittees please bring me a budget. In loving service, Chris K.

Announcement: *From Treasurer* – There was $55.00 in 7th Tradition collected today that goes to Clean group.

Convention Committee: Barney W. (**present**) – We have met twice since the last ASC. All is going very well. We have 30 rooms blocked. Need to keep booking rooms to keep the block moving. Register! We are having a function at the Alano club on March 15, 2008 (Last Chance Dance). We had to change

the logo due to printing problems (too complicated). We had a dance that went well. It brought in $233.00 at the door, and Hotels & Hospitality brought in $220.00 for a total of $453.00. The dates and locations are wrong on both the World and RRAGS websites. The RRCNA 17 Committee Meeting will be January 18 and February 01, 2008 at Cliff Breakers Rockford, Illinois. Subcommittees will meet @ 7:00 pm and RRCNA 17 Meeting will start @ 7:30 pm. We got $750.00 back from our deposit with Ramada Inn and we gave $2,000.00 to Cliff Breakers as a deposit. In loving service, Barney W.

NOTE: The Ramada Inn was given a $1,000.00 deposit earlier this year.

Newsletter Committee: (***open***) **Vice-Chair** Eric D. (**present**) – Newsletter activity for the month of December 2007**:** Mid-Month subcommittee Meeting**:** The Newsletter Subcommittee meeting was held on December 18, 2007 @ 6:00 pm at Clean In The Park. A total of two (2) were in attendance. Some items to be published as part of each edition**: A)** Discussed statement of purpose, agreed on the following**:** "To provide a forum for the discussion of NA related issues, information and events in the RRAGS Area". **B)** Discussed the need for and wording of a disclaimer statement**:** "Content reflects the opinions of the individual writers and not of NA or the RRAGS Area, etc." Agreed to research this further. **C)** Discussed the need for identification (by first name and last initial) of the editors of each issue. **D)** Discussed editing process; submissions may be edited for potentially offensive or harmful content, per the judgment of the editors. **E)** A calendar page, containing local event information**:** ASC and group functions, subcommittee meetings, etc. Any other information made available by submission to the newsletter. Also, coordinate this with the www.rragsna.org website calendar. **F)** Contributors to the newsletter have the option of identification by first name and last initial, or as "anonymous". **G)** Contributions to be open to anyone interested and to be encouraged in the RRAGS NA community, subject to editing process. **H)** Discussion of deadlines for submission**:** need to have enough lead-time to collect function information, etc. in a timely manner. Need material 6-8 weeks in advance of events.

The next Newsletter Subcommittee meeting to take place on January 22, 2008 @ 6:00 pm at Clean In The Park.

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**) – **1) Updates: A)** Changes for the date of the Convention (RRCNA 17) and the Convention flyer have been posted to the website. **B)** Changes for the Clean group have been updated. **C)** The newest groups have not yet been added to the website, but the updates will be done within the week. ***Note:*** *from Convention Information Chair* – There is nothing on the Regional calendar yet for the Convention in April. *DI Chair* – Submit all information and flyers to the RCM or RCMA to take with them to Region. Always grateful to be of service, Eric B.

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

Ten……Minute……Break

Open Forum Discussion: ***15 Minutes – RCM opened*: Topics: 1)** How to increase attendance at functions**:** idea of texting with function information when a function date gets close. **2)** Idea of a functions game – capture the flag, to increase meeting attendance. **3)** Consider suspending policy for functions for the remainder of this election year with hopes of starting out fresh with functions that are already planned. Also, look at spacing of events. **4)** One Area flyer with all events and subcommittee meetings listed – Secretary will do. **5)** PR Chair will make a copy of Functions Ad-Hoc from 2005 for review next month. **6)** Who do we get with on support in a small town that combines their AA with NA

meetings? The message is being so blurred! Suggestion – go to World Services, find the nearest Region and Area in that state and let them know what is going on and where.

RCM closed Open Forum.

OLD BUSINESS:

Continuing RRAGS Elections: positions remaining OPEN: Vice-Chairperson, Vice-Treasurer, Newsletter, Alternate Secretary, and Literature Review. No volunteers, no nominees. Elections closed.

MOTION: To change AREA in April from April 6th to April 13th at It Works due to RRCNA's new date. ***VOTE:*** **PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: To suspend function calendar for the remainder of the fiscal (election) year. ***Intent:*** to reduce expenses and allow for the pre-planning of future functions. Seconded; discussion; ***VOTE:*** **PASSED.**

GROUP REPORTS:

90 In 90

Reporting member: GSR – Stefanie H. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $40.66 ***Literature*:** $0.00 ***Attendance*:** Avg. – poor attendance at Tuesday 2 pm women's meeting. ***Meeting changes*:** No youth meetings @ 9 pm Fridays.
***Functions*:** H&I Learning Day on January 13 @ 2 pm. ***Speaker Meetings*:** None.
Report: Group will read a monthly Area functions report and post a calendar of events.

A New Beginning

Reporting member: GSR – Christian P. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $0.00 ***Literature*:** $14.70 ***Attendance*:** 8 – 10
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker Meetings*:** None.
Report: No report turned in!

Anonymous Group

Reporting member: GSR – Chris W. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $10.00 ***Literature*:** $29.95 ***Attendance*:** 5 – 10
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker Meetings*:** None.
Report: None.

Awakening

Reporting member: GSR – Mary W. (**had to leave**)
***7th Tradition*:** ***Literature*:** ***Attendance*:**
***Meeting changes*:** ***Functions*:** ***Speaker Meetings*:**
Report: No report turned in!

Clean

Reporting member: GSRA – Nick F. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $0.00 ***Literature*:** $0.00 ***Attendance*:** 4 – 10
***Meeting changes*:** None ***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker Meetings*:** None
Report: We have moved to 2222 East State Street Suite 209 Rockford, Illinois.

Clean In The Park

Reporting member: GSR – Kerri M. (**had to leave**).
Report: No report turned in!

Dope to Hope

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

Footprints

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

Freedom To Grow

Reporting member: GSR – Marla M. (**present**) & GSRA – Kevin M. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $65.56 ***Literature*:** $179.35 ***Attendance*:** 2 – 15
***Meeting changes*:** No more 7:30 pm meetings. There is now a 6 pm meeting on Tuesdays.
***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker Meetings*:** 4th Tuesday @ 6 pm & 4th Wednesday @ Noon
Report: We are able to purchase the CAR ourselves and have given the $11.00 to the ASC Treasurer.

Home Group

Reporting member: GSR – Tara J. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $0.00 ***Literature*:** $65.50 ***Attendance*:** 2 – 15
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** February 23rd at RVCP in Janesville – free family fun night and speaker. ***Speaker Meetings*:** Last Friday of each month, January 25th in Beloit (need a female) and February 22nd in Beloit (need a male).
Report: Attendance low on Monday – Thursday. We need support!

It Works

Reporting member: GSR – Eric D. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $19.50 ***Literature*:** $21.50 ***Attendance*:** 2 – 3
***Meeting* changes:** Sunday has been canceled. Maybe change Tuesday to 7:30-8:30, will call Rob K. with definite. ***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker Meetings*:** None.
Report: Spoke to PHASE Belvidere to let them know we are next door. Calling probation department to let them know we are there.

Just For Today

Reporting member: GSR – Paul B. (**had to leave**).
Report: No report turned in!

Monday Night Prime Time

Reporting member: GSR – Sterling M. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $20.00 ***Literature*:** $35.00 ***Attendance*:** 7 – 20
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker* Meetings:** None.
Report: No changes to schedule.

New You

Reporting member: GSR – Chris K. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $0.00 ***Literature*:** $12.00 ***Attendance*:** aprox. 40
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker Meetings*:** None.
Report: Nothing else to report.

Reality Check

Reporting member: GSR – Amy I. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $0.00 ***Literature*:** $62.25 ***Attendance*:** 10 – 12
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** Potluck on the 4th Sunday of January at 5 pm. Winter Blues Recovery Rules Speaker / Dance on January 19, 2008 – Doors open at 6 pm.
***Speaker Meetings*:** On the 4th Sunday of January at 6:00 pm.
Report: Nothing else to report. In loving service, Amy I.

Road to Recovery

Reporting member: GSR – Laurie L. (**present**) & GSRA Thomas H. (**present**).
7th *Tradition*: $11.29 ***Literature*:** $37.80 ***Attendance*:** 7 – 10
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** None. **Speaker *Meetings*:** None.
Report: Meetings are going well. In loving service, Laurie L.

The Group

Reporting member: GSR – Steve R. (**not present**). Acting GSR – Barney W. (**present**)
7th *Tradition*: $15.00 ***Literature*:** $0.00 ***Attendance*:**
***Meeting changes*:** None. ***Functions*:** None. ***Speaker Meetings*:** John F. on January 26th at 7:30 pm.
Report: Nothing to report.

There Is Hope

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

Westside Family

Reporting member: GSR – Linda F. (**not present**) & GSRA – Renardo W. (**present**)
7th *Tradition*: $0.00 ***Literature*:** $39.75 ***Attendance*:** Avg. – 20
***Meeting changes*:** All meetings are now non-smoking. ***Functions*:** Game night every Friday at 9:30 pm. ***Speaker Meetings*:** 1st Sunday @ 6:00 pm – Katrina from Rockford, IL. 3rd Sunday @ 6:00 pm – Sandra from Rock Falls, IL.
Report: Next business meeting February 02, 2008.

***Announcement*:** The next RRAGS business meeting will be on Sunday February 03, 2008 @ 12:00 pm at The Group, 3223 North Main Street in Rockford, Illinois.

Motion: To close, seconded.
The Area Service Meeting closed with a group hug and the 12th Tradition.