

Sunday February 03, 2008
Rock River Area Group Service
Held at 3223 North Main Street Rockford, Illinois
Hosted by – The Group
Business Minutes

ATTENDANCE: 24 +

Rob K., Eric B., Rich M., Katrina K., Tara J., Eric D., Chris W., Mike C., Marla M., Chris K., Laurie L., Barney W., Kim M., Sterling M., Stefanie H., Gary T., Linda F., Bill B., Rich H., Mark R., Josh E., Renardo W.(?), Christian P., and Mark B.

Note: I am sure I, your Secretary, forgot some names on this month's attendance listing and I apologize. An addict took the 2nd sign in sheet by mistake and I am going from memory.

- 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. (13 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 of no confidence 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 \$0.04 per page. The cost for copying January’s minutes and flyers is \$12.80. 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. Subcommittee Chairs, as I have begun putting the subcommittee meeting information on the monthly flyer, please let me know by February 23rd of your March subcommittee meetings so that I can put them on the March flyer! Lastly, there are fliers over on the table announcing the next Area Service Meeting. There has been a change to the PR / H&I Subcommittee meeting time. That subcommittee now meets at Noon instead of 11 am. 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 January business meeting. Asked if there is any group 7th Traditions yet to be turned in. Explained that on the bank statement, checks #4047 and #4048 did not print and gave those numbers and amounts to GSRs to fill in on their reports. In loving service, Rich M.

NOTE: from RCM – We owe Gene (WRSO) \$230.00 for the CAR Reports as Gene purchased the CARs separately from World. We now have a \$268.18 credit for Literature with WRSO as Gene had already deposited the check we gave him for CARs in the WRSO account.

MOTION: To accept Treasurer’s report as presented, seconded, no one opposes – accepted as presented.

Alternate Treasurer: (*open*) –

FINANCIAL REPORT:

<u>Beginning Balance From: January 06, 2008.....</u>		<u>\$1,356.29</u>
	<u>INCOME</u>	
TOTAL INCOME.....		\$1,335.66
	<u>EXPENSES</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES.....		\$1,750.93
CHECKBOOK BALANCE.....		\$941.02
STATEMENT BALANCE.....		\$941.02
PRUDENT RESERVE.....		\$3,041.20
WORKING FUNDS.....		-\$2,100.18

TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS:

Regional Committee Member: Chris K. (present) – The WRSC was held January 19 & 20, 2008 in Brookfield, Wisconsin. **1)** The Regional Delegate Alternate gave a long report on the recent Midwest Zonal Forum and CAR Report.

2) WRSO: New items for sale will include a flashdrive, clock and pens. In addition, they are looking into a possible move to a new location.

3) WSNAC: **a)** On-line Registration for the Convention will be available soon. **b)** A financial report should be available soon. **c)** They would like groups to present service related workshops at their Conventions. **d)** WSNAC 25 is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and WSNAC 26 is in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. **e)** Should WSNAC look into investing their reserve in CDs? The fellowship agreed. **Note:** Both WSNAC and WSO is not affiliated with Narcotics Anonymous, they are a business – a not for profit. RRAGS had a brief discussion on this matter. RRAGS disagrees with what WSNAC is looking to do with their reserve! **f)** WSNAC has been offered a deal from a hotel to stay multiple years and have discounted prices. This is not what policy now says. Policy says that we rotate to different parts of the state each year. We need input on this! GSRs please take this back to your groups.

4) Activities: Chair planning a retreat in spring.

5) H&I: Regional H&I Chair has received no reports from AREA H&I Chairs! They are making great strides in Wisconsin Department of Corrections due to PR being at conferences.

6) Policy: New guidelines due next cycle.

7) Additional Needs: Wants to get information returned on each group. **a)** Does your group have handicapped parking spaces? **b)** Does your group have handicapped accessible ramps? **c)** Does your group have doors wide enough for wheelchairs? **d)** Does your group have well lit walkways and parking lots? **e)** Does your group have handicap accessible restrooms (rails, etc.)? **f)** Is your group willing to allow an interpreter into all meetings?

8) Elections: Facilitator – Kerry; January Secretary – Linda; Regional Delegate – Doc; Alt. Regional Delegate – John H.; Activities – Frank; Additional Needs – Chris K.; WSNAC Rep (even) – Cindy; WSNAC Rep (odd) – Trish; WRSO Pool – Rich M.; WSNAC Pool – Willis, John, and Frank. Remaining open positions – Vice-Treasurer, Literature, and July Secretary.

9) WRSC Budgets: Secretary - \$690 per year, \$115 per meeting; PR - \$7,235 per year, \$1,207 per meeting; H&I - \$1,500 per year, \$250 per meeting; RD / RDA - \$2,400 per year, \$400 per meeting; and Administrative - \$3,372 per year, \$562 per meeting.

The next WRSC is in March at Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Reminder that the 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: (open) – As of February 03, 2008 Maggie I. has resigned this position due to personal reasons.

Literature Stockpile Alternate: Katrina K. (present) – Sales this month are \$592.05; I do not have my laptop with me this month so I cannot calculate the reorder amount.

NOTE: RRAGS has a \$268.18 Literature credit with WRSO. The reorder amount should not exceed \$323.87 (\$592.05 - \$268.18).

-MOTION: To write a check for \$323.87 to WRSO to cover literature. Discussion.

-MOTION: To table the previous motion until we here back from Gene (WRSO). **RCM** – Gene is out on the road. **Motion originator withdraws the motion to table.**

-Original MOTION: To write a check for \$323.87 to WRSO to cover Literature. Discussion,
VOTE: PASSED.

Announcement: From Treasurer – There was \$27.00 in 7th Tradition collected today that goes to The Group.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Functions: (open) – As of February 03, 2008 Maggie I. has resigned this position due to personal reasons. **Note:** Maggie turned all function supplies including leftover pop and water over to Katrina K.

Literature Review: (open) –

Hospitals & Institutions: Mike C. (present) – We are in PHASE (Rockford) on Mondays from 6:30-7:30 pm. We are looking into working together with Rosecrance and addicts who are just leaving treatment. Still waiting to hear back from Rosecrance River District. Tara J. to have a schedule for Mercy Options.

Public Relations: Rob K. (present) – P.R. activity for the month of January 2008:

1) Additional Subcommittee Meeting: Held January 19, 2008 at Freedom To Grow. A total of three (3) were in attendance. **Agenda was the usual:** Discussed the open action items and delegated some activities to PR members.

2) Facility Activities: A) Mercy Options (Beloit and Janesville): Successfully handed off to H&I. Presentations should be underway soon. Much appreciation to the Home Group for stepping up to make this happen! **B) PHASE Belvidere:** Successfully handed off to H&I. Presentations should be under way soon, first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Much appreciation to It Works for stepping up to make this happen! **C) Rosecrance River District (Rockford, IL.):** PR has continued attempts to reestablish contact with this facility. We have sent several e-mails and left several voice messages with director, but have received no response. **D) Sterling Area Facilities (Sinnissippi Centers, Recovery Zone, Etc.):** Chair still has the action to complete follow up on this effort. **E) Discovery House – Rockford, IL.:** This facility was contacted in response to a member's request. A voice message was left for the provided contact, but call has not been returned. **F) Rockford Housing Authority:** Chair and another member met with RHA on Monday January 07, 2008. RHA director and several staff members were present. We presented what NA is and sought to understand what they were looking for by contacting us. Basically, this organization desires NA meetings in their facilities. We explained the typical process by which Narcotics Anonymous groups are formed, suggested that we supply literature to be made available to residents, and agreed to do a PR Presentation for the next "resident council meeting" at one of their locations. Clarified that the focus of the presentation would be informational, as opposed to personal sharing. Staff indicated that they understood the distinction. **Action:** PR Presentation is scheduled for February 21, 2008 @ 3:00 pm at Brewington Oaks. **For the GSRs:** We would like to ask that you inform your members of the desire to initiate NA meetings in RHA facilities. Are there members willing to support this effort? PR will need your input on this question. If you have any questions, we can explain further. Thanks.

3) P.R. Goals / Proposed Activities ("to do list") for the Month of February 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:** Latest changes to Region, WSO website, Region 888# recording, etc.

4) Next RRAGS Meeting Directory Printing: As a reminder, note that the schedules available today represent a short run, interim printing. The next printing will be the "Convention Edition",

required to be available prior to RRCNA 17 (target date: 3rd week of March) for distribution at Registration. Please review the latest printing for accuracy and submit any changes to PR in writing as soon as possible. Last date for changes will be the next ASC on March 02, 2008.

5) Monthly Mid-Month P.R. Subcommittee Meeting: The PR Subcommittee meets in conjunction with H&I on the third (3rd) Saturday of every month. Note that we have changed the start time to noon. The next combined PR / H&I meeting is Saturday February 16, 2008 at Freedom To Grow @ 12:00 pm.

6) Committee Activity Prior to the February ASC: February 03, 2008 @ Noon (5 in attendance). Had an informal discussion of current activities. **A)** Discussed ideas for possible distribution of information about H&I and PR at RRCNA. RRAGS needs more addicts willing to be contacts for the phone line. **B)** Discussed possible contact with local TV stations to refresh rotation of Public Service Announcements. **C)** Discussed other contact activity. There is no PR literature order this month.

Policy & Procedure: Chris K. (present) – No real notable information other than: still looking for budgets and input.

Convention Committee: Barney W. (present) – We have met two (2) times, January 18th and February 1st. Our treasurer, Teresa C. (Treasurer) has stepped down due to moving to Phoenix, Arizona. We have a recommendation of Nancy M. as our new Treasurer. Earl P. has stepped down as Secretary as he will not be coming back from Florida. We as a committee have a strong recommendation of Eric D. as Secretary as he has filled in for Earl P. for the last two (2) meetings. We need people to pre-register. We also need people to book rooms at Cliff Breakers. We encourage all GSRs to get there group involved in chairing Marathon Meetings and get with Program Subcommittee Chair Ron C. We have all the Treasurer's reports from this year so far! There are fliers for the Last Chance Dance (March 17th) over on the table. The next RRCNA meeting is February 15, 2008 and February 29, 2008 at Cliff Breakers @ 7 pm for Subcommittees and 7:30 for Convention Committee meeting. In loving service, Barney W.

-MOTION: For Nancy M. as Treasurer of the Convention Committee. Discussion, Note: we are in crunch time with the Convention and Nancy was last years Vice-Treasurer. **VOTE: PASSED.**

-MOTION: For Eric D. as Secretary. Discussion.

-MOTION: to table previous motion. **VOTE: PASSED.**

Q: We were told by Cliff Breakers that all the rooms have been filled. **A:** Chair will follow up.

Q: Has there been anything else on the refund from Ramada Inn? **A:** No, not yet.

From Policy & Procedure: Recommendation to create an Alternate secretary position for convention Committee or remove requirements for Secretary to be co-signer of the checking account for remainder of Convention term. Discussion.

-MOTION: That for the remainder of this Convention term, the requirement of co-signer of the checking account be removed from Secretary position. *Intent:* That an addict willing to serve can. Discussion, **VOTE: PASSED.**

-MOTION: That for the remainder of the year, we change the clean-time requirement of Convention Secretary from two (2) years to one (1) year. Discussion, **VOTE: PASSED.**

-MOTION: That for the remainder of the year, the Merchandise Chair be made a signer of the Convention checking account. Discussion, **VOTE: PASSED.**

Back to Convention Committee Chair:

-MOTION: That Eric D. be elected as Convention Secretary. Addict stated qualifications, discussion, concerns – endorsed by Convention Committee, **VOTE: PASSED.**

Newsletter Committee: (open) Vice-Chair Eric D. (present) – We will be working on a layout and getting submissions for the next month. The next meeting will be held after the next ASC meeting and I will bring fliers to the next area meeting.

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) – There were 2 in attendance at the Subcommittee meeting.

1) Updates: **A)** In cooperation with PR, we have updated the meeting schedule, placed it on the website in pdf format, and updated the website meeting schedule. We have added the two (2) latest groups to the website. **B)** Website platform change – explanation. Our hosting service startlogic.com was moving our website from one physical location to another; in the process, we lost our archives. **C)** Have been running tests on a newsletter subscription form on the website. It has recently passed two (2) of three (3) tests. **Q:** How is it going with doing Literature orders on-line? **A:** It is still in the works for GSRs to pre-order their monthly Literature orders on-line. In the future, it is hopeful that we will be able to order Convention Merchandise, etc. as well. 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)** Socializing and service can be an intricate part of our meetings.
- 2)** Subcommittee budgets: **a)** Not spiritually sound? **b)** Is the Convention then just a fundraiser for Area? **c)** From text – If it’s not spiritual, it’s not practical!
- 3)** Donations to Area: **a)** Some groups have high overhead. **b)** A look at the Treasurer’s report shows that only six (6) of nineteen (19) groups donated last month for a total of \$39.50! **c)** We need to find a way to keep RRAGS self supporting. **d)** RRAGS really struggles to be self-supporting.
- 4)** Maybe we need to look at why we have so many groups, pay so many rents, pay high rent, etc. Remember that recovery did not come from money, but rather donations come from how grateful am I to be clean!

-MOTION: To extend Open Forum by ten (10) minutes. Discussion, **VOTE: FAILED.**
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.

NEW BUSINESS:

-MOTION: That all Subcommittee Chairs submit a budget to the Policy & Procedure Chair for information purposes only! Seconded; **(Point of Information) Q:** Do other Areas do budgets? **A:** Yes. **Q:** Does our Convention Committee do a budget? **A:** Yes. Discussion, **VOTE: PASSED.**

GROUP REPORTS:

90 In 90

Reporting member: GSR – Stefanie H. (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$10.00

Literature: \$206.70

Attendance: regular.

Meeting changes: New Men's meeting 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month @ 5:30 pm.

Functions: February 10, 2008 – CAR Review.

Speaker Meetings: 1st Friday of the month TBA.

Report: Nothing else to report.

A New Beginning

Reporting member: GSR – Christian P. (**left abruptly**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 7 – 18

Meeting changes: We now go around the room and introduce ourselves. We also read the Just For Today.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: We have been seeing an overwhelming amount of support. A good amount of newcomers, which is the lifeblood of NA. We also have a ten (10) minute break halfway through which encourages people to socialize. The Secretary's report after that stresses the importance of service.

Anonymous Group

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

7th Tradition:

Literature:

Attendance:

Meeting changes:

Functions:

Speaker Meetings:

Report: No report turned in!

Awakening

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

Clean

Reporting member: GSR / GSRA – (**not present**). Report turned in by Eric D. – It Works.

7th Tradition: \$200.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 5 – 10

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Nothing to report.

Clean In The Park

Reporting member: GSR – Kim M. (**had to leave**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature:

Attendance: 0

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: 1st and last Saturday of every month @ 2 pm.

Report: Need support!

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. (**not present**).

7th Tradition: \$63.26

Literature: \$21.85

Attendance: avg. – 10

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: 4th

Tuesday @ 6 pm – Alicia & 4th Wednesday @ Noon – Chris M.

Report: Things are OK.

Home Group

Reporting member: GSR – Tara J. (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$9.68

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 2 – 15

Meeting changes: There is a new meeting in Evansville, Wisconsin on Saturdays @ 6:30 pm; open, non-smoking; 1 ½ hour long, at St. Johns Church 3rd Street.

Functions: February 23rd at

RVCP in Janesville – free family fun night, potluck, DJ, and speaker.

Speaker Meetings: Last Friday of each month, February 22nd in Beloit (need a male).

Report: H&I starting in Beloit and Janesville February running once a month (every other month at each location).

It Works

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 2 – 5

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Nothing to report.

Just For Today

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

Monday Night Prime Time

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

7th Tradition: \$20.00

Literature: \$7.75

Attendance: 7 – 11

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: No changes to schedule. Purchased CAR report (\$11.00).

New You

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$33.80

Attendance: 20 – 40

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Reforming the group Trusted Servants, more to be revealed.

Reality Check

Reporting member: GSR – Amy I. (**not present**), acting GSR – Gary T (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance:

Meeting changes:

Functions:

Speaker Meetings:

Report: No report turned in.

Road to Recovery

Reporting member: GSR – Laurie L. (**present**) & GSRA Thomas H. (**not present**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$5.80

Attendance: 10 – 15

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Meetings are going good and the group is really growing. At our business meeting, we voted to join with New You group and help chair marathon meetings at the Convention. On Sunday February 24, 2008, our group will be meeting at the Freeport Public Library @ 1:00 pm to vote on the CAR Report. Sterling M. has graciously offered to come and guide us through the process. In loving service, Laurie L.

The Group

Reporting member: GSR – Rich H. (**present**) & GSRA – Mark R. (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$18.00

Literature: \$4.00

Attendance: 5:30 pm avg. 15-20; 7:30 pm avg. 5-10

Meeting changes: None. **Functions:** None. **Speaker Meetings:** February 23, 2008 at 7:30 pm – Kris.

Report: Our 5:30 pm meetings are doing well. Our 7:30 pm meetings are being looked into for possible changes. We purchased CAR Report (\$11.00). New GSR – Rich H. and new GSRA – Mark R.

There Is Hope

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

Westside Family

Reporting member: GSR – Linda F. (**present**) & GSRA – Renardo W. (**present**)

7th Tradition: \$50.00

Literature: \$156.65 (including CAR Report).

Attendance: 15 – 20

Meeting changes: None

Functions: Game night every Friday at 9:30 pm.

Speaker Meetings: 1st and 3rd Sundays @ 6:00 pm.

Report: Group inventory meeting on February 09, 2008 @ 1:45 pm. Chairperson Workshop on February 16, 2008 @ 1:45 pm. There is a possible St. Patrick's Day dance in the works (possibly with the Last Chance Dance). We have several open positions – Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Alternate secretary, and Alternate Chair.

Announcement: The next RRAGS business meeting will be on Sunday March 02, 2008 @ 12:00 noon at West Side Family, 326 College Avenue Rockford, Illinois.

Motion: To close, seconded.

The Area Service Meeting closed with a group hug and the 12th Tradition.