

Sunday March 02, 2008

Rock River Area Group Service

Held at 326 College Avenue Rockford, Illinois

Hosted by – West Side Family

Business Minutes

ATTENDANCE: 29

Rob K., Eric B., Rich M., Linda F., Katrina K., Tara J., Gary T., Brett L., Mike C., Marla M., Chris K., Laurie L., Barney W., Sterling M., Stefanie H., Eric D., Scott A., Tom C., Rich H., Mark R., Debbie H., Renardo W., Jeff Z., Paul B., Kim M., Ron R., Yvette M., Shawn W., & 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.) Chair read statement of purpose.
- d.) Welcomed Newcomers.
- e.) Roll call of Trusted Servants and GSRs. (15 of 19 GSRs reporting)
- f.) Recognized new groups – “A Way Out” group from Dekalb, Illinois, GSR Brett L.
- g.) Explained voting procedures.
- h.) Reviewed minutes from last month. **MOTION:** To accept as presented, seconded, no one opposes – 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 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 and your group’s 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 may get your information corrected. In an effort to save RRAGS some money, this month I did the minutes on my printer, instead of getting the minutes done where I usually do. I am normally charged \$0.07 per page. I am charging \$0.04 per page. The cost for copying February’s Minutes and fliers 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 that are going around the room. The attendance sheets assist me in getting an accurate count and ensure that you will be included in the monthly attendance listing. Subcommittee Chairs, as I have begun putting information about your monthly Subcommittee Meetings on the monthly announcement flier, please let me know by March 22nd of any planned subcommittee meetings for the month of April! Thankyou. Lastly, there are fliers over on the table announcing all planned Subcommittee Meetings and the next Area Service Committee Meeting. GSRs, please take one back to your group. Your Secretary, Mark B. Peace!

Alternate Secretary: (*open*) –

Treasurer: Rich M. (**present**) – Handed out financial figures data packet gathered since the February business meeting. You will note that there is another returned check + check fee, it’s been taken care of. In addition, I will not be able to be at the April ASC due to previous commitments. In loving service, Rich M. **MOTION:** To accept report as presented, seconded, no one opposes – accepted.

Note: RCMA, Marla M., offered to act as Treasurer for the April ASC.

Alternate Treasurer: (*open*) –

FINANCIAL REPORT:

<i>Beginning Balance From: February 03, 2008</i>		<u>\$941.02</u>
	<u>INCOME</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		\$1,076.49
	<u>EXPENSES</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$632.39
CHECKBOOK BALANCE	\$1,385.12	
STATEMENT BALANCE	\$1,385.12	
PRUDENT RESERVE	\$3,041.20	
WORKING FUNDS	-\$1,656.08	

TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS:

Regional Committee Member: Chris K. (**present**) – The WRSC will be held March 15 – 16, 2008 in Appleton, Wisconsin. Breakdown of projected expenses: Hotel (\$99.00 X 2 nights + tax) = \$220.00 + Per Diem (\$30.00 X 2 people X 2 days) = \$120.00 + Gas \$40.00 = \$380.00 Total needed for WRSC attendance. There was no WSNAC representative available to come answer our questions. We hope to

have someone here next month at noon. We will contact GSRs and let them know. In loving service, Chris K. and Marla M. (RCMA). There were questions about CDs and central point location for WSNAC. **MOTION:** Are groups OK with WSNAC looking at a central location for three (3) consecutive years? (Stevens Point, Wisconsin) Discussion, **VOTE: PASSED.**

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

Literature Stockpile: () – At the March ASC, Katrina K. was elected as Literature Stockpile Chair.

Literature Stockpile Alternate: Katrina K. (present) – Report given at end of meeting! This month's sales are? The reorder amount is \$847.71 + \$50.86 S&H (6%) = \$898.57, this does not include H&I's reorder or PR's order.

NOTE: From Treasurer – RRAGS only has just over \$695.00 in its checking account right now.

Discussion among those who remained: to avoid writing a check outside of RRAGS business, like we had to do in January 2008, it was decided that it is better to cut the reorder amount than to get in the habit of doing business outside of the monthly RRAGS Meeting! It might be an unpopular decision, but maybe groups need to look at a way to raise there 7th Tradition donations to Area so Area can meet all of it's bills! Maybe we need to look at the amount of literature ordered each month!

MOTION: For Literature Stockpile to purchase only \$675.00 worth of literature this month. (7 GSRs voting) **VOTE: PASSED.**

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Functions: () – At the March ASC, Marla M. was elected as Functions Chair.

Literature Review: (open) –

Hospitals & Institutions: Mike C. (present) – No report turned in! Everything is going fairly well. The men at the Saturday morning panel at the jail need support (2 years cleantime). Get a hold of Freddie.

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

1) Mid-Month Subcommittee Meeting: Held February 16, 2008 at Freedom To Grow, a total of nine (9) were in attendance. Discussed the open action items and delegated some activities. **Highlights:**
A) Discussed ideas for leveraging RRCNA to increase PR awareness, specifically: to get more volunteers for the phonenumber. Conclusion was to schedule a Phonenumber Learning Day for shortly after the Convention; prepare fliers / posters to get information out at the Convention. Tentative details for Learning Day: April 19, 2008 at Freedom To Grow @ Noon (combine with regular mid-month subcommittee). Actions: create flyer, poster, etc. **B)** Check with local media on several ongoing issues: Public Service Announcements, media contacts, etc. Members took action items.

2) Facility Activities: **A) Rosecrance Adolescent (Rockford, IL):** We have been successful at tentatively scheduling a PR Presentation with this facility for Friday March 07, 2008. We will investigate possibilities for H&I or other NA presence at this facility. **B) Rosecrance River District (Rockford, IL):** PR has continued attempts to reestablish contact with this facility, but (as of preparation of this report) have no knowledge of the outcome. **C) Discovery House (Rockford, IL):** A member took an action item to make another contact attempt with this facility. As of this report, Chair has no knowledge of the outcome. **D) Sterling Area Facilities: Sinnissippi Centers, Recovery Zone, etc.:** Chair still has the action to complete follow up on this effort. **E) Rockford Housing Authority:** In a response to a request from this organization, the Chair and another member did a PR Presentation at the Brewington Oaks facility on February 21, 2008. Presentation was to the resident council meeting, attended by staff,

council officers, and some members of the general population. We gave a brief presentation as to who, what, why, and where, with emphasis on the close proximity of the West Side Family meeting place. Response could basically be summarized as “none”. (No questions asked, etc.) We left meeting directories, thirty (30) White Books, thirty (30) each of all PR IPs with the facility.

Some background on this facility: PR Chair was first contacted in December 2007, with the information that Rockford Housing Authority (RHA) was open to hosting NA in their facilities; details were somewhat open. PR met with RHA Director and some staff in January 2008. We explained the typical processes by which Narcotics Anonymous groups are formed, suggested that we supply literature to be made available to residents, and scheduled the PR Presentation for February. Meantime, we requested the GSRs to take the issue to their groups as to whether support for this effort existed in the fellowship. Thus far, we have heard from two (2) individuals who expressed willingness to support a meeting in the Blackhawk or Concord facilities. We would like to thank these people for their willingness.

Going Forward: Not sure how to proceed from this point, but some ideas include: **a)** Depending on response from the fellowship, pursue the possibility of a meeting or meetings in RHA facilities. **b)** Pursue the possibility of literature distribution in RHA locations. **c)** Generally keep communication open with this organization for future possibilities. Ultimately, more will be revealed...

3) RRAGS PO Box – reimbursement request: When checking ASC mailbox on February 12, 2008, PO Box contained a note to the effect that the rent was due, required to be paid by the end of the month or service would be cancelled. Chair paid the yearly fee from personal funds. Chair is requesting reimbursement in the amount of \$56.00.

4) P.R. Goals / Proposed Activities (“to do list”) for the Month of March 2008 and forward:
A) Follow up on open action items (Rosecrance River District, Rosecrance Adolescent, Sterling area facilities, other facility leads, etc.) **B) Meeting Directory updates:** **a)** Printing. **b)** Forward latest updates to: Region (website and printed), WSO website. **c)** Revise Region 888# recording.

5) Next RRAGS Meeting Directory Printing: A reminder: the next printing will be the “Convention Edition”, required to be available prior to RRCNA (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. Chair will attempt to contact any absent GSRs for changes, but will have to cut off by Friday March 07, 2008 to meet printing deadline. (List of known changes as of Thursday – 5.) Quantity will be a full 5,000 per literature stockpile guidelines (500 – H&I, 250 – PR).
Note: Convention edition was previously understood to be funded from Convention Committee; cannot locate this in Policy Package.

From Policy & Procedure: Policy states under *RRAGS Convention Committee Guidelines, Section 6, Line O*, that Convention Committee will fund the printing of the Convention Edition of the Area Meeting Schedule.

Q: *From PR:* Should we add the new group, A Way Out, to the schedule? (ASC Chair asked, A Way Out’s GSR, how long has group been in existence? **A:** over 2 years.) **A:** *To PR:* Yes.

6) Mid-Month P.R. Subcommittee Monthly Meeting: The PR Subcommittee meets in conjunction with H&I on the third (3rd) Saturday of every month. **Note:** We have changed the start time to Noon. The next combined PR / H&I meeting will be on Saturday March 15, 2008 at Freedom To Grow @ 12:00 noon.

7) Committee Activity Prior to the March ASC: March 02, 2008 @ Noon (7 in attendance): **A)** Rockford Public Library needs IPs and schedules. **B)** Discussed the creation of print PSAs (print version of Public Service Announcement), member took action to create and bring to committee for discussion. PR literature order for this month is \$60.37.

Policy & Procedure: Chris K. (present) – I would like to start off by thanking the Subcommittee Chairs for getting their budgets to me, it shows that it can be done...

MOTION: That page 6, Line W, be changed to read: Area has established a budget as set by the Subcommittee Chairs. This years budget is set at \$_____ as well as a Prudent Reserve of \$500.00 to

cover any unexpected expenses. At the end of business, the Treasurer will look at budgets versus money on hand and make a recommendation of money to be sent to Region. **Intent:** When NA members contribute service funds, they expect their money to be used carefully, and to be used for the sole purpose of furthering our primary purpose. By accepting those contributions, our groups, service boards, and committees make a commitment to use those funds to carry the NA message, and to manage them responsibly. Discussion.

MOTION: To send previous motion back to groups, **VOTE: PASSED.**

Convention Committee: Barney W. (present) – We have met twice since the last Area. The hotel is almost fully sold out. The Saturday night banquet is a plated dinner, not a buffet. We are putting out fliers and calling pre-registered addicts. The Last Chance Dance is March 15, 2008 at the Alano Club. We will be meeting every Friday until the Convention at Cliff Breakers. Beginning Balance as of February 15, 2008 - \$4,323.88, ending balance as of February 29, 2008 – \$4,322.08.

Newsletter Committee: (open) Vice-Chair Eric D. (present) – Attendance at our last subcommittee meeting was 3. Our next meeting will be Tuesday March 08, 2008 at It Works @ 8:00 pm. We are hoping to have enough submissions to put out the first edition in April.

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) – Attendance at subcommittee meeting was 3. Web hosting bill comes due March 05, 2008 for \$83.40. The account is linked to my debit card and I request reimbursement for \$83.40. 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)** Literature Stockpile has been short on Basic Text for the last few months, thus groups have had to wait for supplies! **a)** Since we now have more groups, maybe we need to look at raising the number of Basic Text we carry in stock. **2)** Currently, we have set in stone cleantime requirements for serving Area, like to see suggested requirements instead. **a)** Wording is iffy. **b)** In the past, Area has waived cleantime requirements via a motion. **c)** From an addict who has had cleantime waived – suggested guidelines idea is good. **d)** Need to look at an addict’s desire. **e)** Money issues need looked at where position is for a required signer.

RCM closed Open Forum.

Announcement: *From Treasurer:* There was \$39.81 collected in 7th Tradition today that goes to West Side Family.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

One (1) volunteer for Literature Stockpile; stated qualifications, discussion, concerns, **VOTE:** Katrina K. elected.

One (1) volunteer for Functions; stated qualifications, discussion, concerns, **VOTE:** Marla M. elected.
Elections closed.

Note: GSRs please take back to groups that Alternate Literature Stockpile is now an open position.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: To change Chairperson to Facilitator and Vice-Chairperson to Co- Facilitator.
Intent: To keep in step with World and Region. *Seconded;* discussion; **VOTE: PASSED**

GROUP REPORTS:

90 In 90

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

7th Tradition: \$10.00

Literature: \$107.35

Attendance: Decreased slightly.

Meeting changes: Women's meeting Saturdays @ 3:00 pm. Men's meeting now every Sat. @ 5:30 pm.

Functions: At the Millennium Center on April 26, 2008 – Speaker meeting, Dinner, & DJ Dance. 5 pm – speakers Dave E. and Greg W., 6:30 – 10 pm Dinner and Dance.

Speaker Meetings: March 07,

2008 – Correnna N. @ 7:30 pm. (13 years clean) April 11, 2008 – Randy S. @ 7:30 pm. (3 years clean)

Report: 90 IN 90 chose to abstain from feedback to WSNAC on location, however they said yes to CDs. Yes to interpreters to closed meetings.

A New Beginning

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

Anonymous Group

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

Awakening

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

7th Tradition: \$133.99

Literature: \$106.50

Attendance: 21

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: We are purchasing \$106.50 in literature and have a donation of \$133.99 to the ASC.

A Way Out

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

7th Tradition: \$10.00

Literature: \$50.60

Attendance: 2 – 8

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: None.

Clean

Reporting member: GSR – Tom C. (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: –

Meeting changes: The Friday inventory meeting has been merged with the Friday 5:30 pm meeting at The Group

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None

Report: Our 7th Tradition donation was locked in a room not accessible to us this weekend. It will be with next month's donation at the next ASC meeting. Thankyou, Tom C.

Clean In The Park

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 4 – 10

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: Clean In The Park is throwing their first NA Dance

at the Log Cabin March 22, 2008.

Speaker Meetings: 1st and last Saturdays of every month.

Report: I'd like to thank everyone who has been attending the meetings, and to all the speakers I've had. "Thanx" Still need support. "Clean In The Park"

Dope to Hope

Reporting member: Acting GSR – Jim. (**had to leave**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance:

Meeting changes:

Functions:

Speaker Meetings:

Report: No report turned in!

Footprints

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

Freedom To Grow

Reporting member: GSR – Marla M. (**present**) & GSRA – Kevin M. (**not present**).

7th Tradition: \$74.14

Literature: \$160.40

Attendance: Avg. 5 – 15

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: 4th

Tuesday @ 6:00 pm & 4th Wednesday @ Noon.

Report: Nothing to report.

Home Group

Reporting member: GSR – Tara J. (**had to leave**).

7th Tradition: \$14.05

Literature: \$88.00, \$57.55, \$83.25

Attendance: 3 – 17

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: Last Friday of each month.

Report: New Evansville, Wisconsin meeting going strong. Free function we had on 2/23/08, over 50 addicts attended. Business meeting last Friday of each month. Tara J. – GSR term is up, last Area is April 2008. Open positions – GSR, Alt. Treasurer.

It Works

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

7th Tradition: \$42.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 4 – 5

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: The doors will stay open so that addicts in Belvidere can find us!

Just For Today

Reporting member: GSR – Paul B. (**had to leave**).

7th Tradition: \$50.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 60

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: None.

Monday Night Prime Time

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

7th Tradition: \$20.00

Literature: \$23.05

Attendance: 7 – 11

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Nothing else to report.

New You

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$22.25

Attendance: 20

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: Dave E. March 30th.

Report: Nothing else to report. Thanks for the fun!

Reality Check

Reporting member: Acting GSR – Gary T. (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: Yes.

Attendance: Yes.

Meeting changes: None.

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

Functions: None.

Report: Nothing to report.

Road to Recovery

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 8 – 10

Meeting changes: None.

Speaker Meetings: May 10, 2008. **Functions:** Potluck 5/10/08.

Report: Thanks to Sterling M. for guiding us through the CAR Review. Meetings are going well. We will have a potluck speaker meeting on May 10, 2008. In loving service, Laurie L.

The Group

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

7th Tradition: \$10.00

Literature: \$40.95

Attendance: Same, 7:30 still small!

Meeting changes: None.

Speaker Meetings: Chris M. @ 7:30 pm on March 29, 2008.

Functions: None.

Report: Nothing new to report.

There Is Hope

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

Westside Family

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$41.20

Attendance: 10 – 14

Meeting changes: None.

Speaker Meetings: Katrina K. @ 6 pm tonight. Lauren on the 3rd

Sunday @ 6 pm.

Functions: None.

Report: Group inventory part 2 on 3/22. Business meeting on 3/29. Some of our members attended Freedom To Grow's CAR Review. Open positions – Chair, Alt. Chair, Alt Treasurer, & Alt Secretary. We need trusted and committed Chair people! Humbly Submitted, Linda F.

MOTION: For a ten (10) minute break to give Literature more time. No one opposed – **PASSED**.
(See Alternate Literature Stockpile Report)

Announcement: The next RRAGS business meeting will be on Sunday April 13, 2008 @ 12:00 pm at It Works, 2026 North State Street (Foundations Center) in Belvidere, Illinois.

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