

Sunday August 03, 2008
Rock River Area Group Service
Held at 615 North 1st Street Dekalb, Illinois
Hosted by – A Way Out
Business Minutes

ATTENDANCE: 21+

Eric B., Chris K., Marla M., Mike C., Sterling M., Stefanie H., Danielle I., Scott A., Brett L., Nancy M., Rich M., Debbie H., Lauren J., Eric D., Rich H., John L., Earl P., Angie P., Corey B., Mike, & Mark B.

- a.) Co-Facilitator 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.) Co-Facilitator read statement of purpose.
- d.) Welcomed Newcomers.
- e.) Roll call of Trusted Servants and GSRs. (9 of 18 GSRs reporting) – **MOTION:** to continue to due business as meeting has already started even though we do not have quorum (2/3 required). Seconded, **VOTE: PASSED.**
- f.) Recognized new groups. – New Group, Second Chance 501 West 3rd Street in Dixon, Illinois (in existence aprox. 4 – 6 weeks). **MOTION:** to admit Second Chance group, seconded, **VOTE: PASSED.**
- g.) Explained voting procedures.
- h.) Reviewed minutes from last month. **MOTION:** To accept as presented, seconded, no one opposes – accepted.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Facilitator: (*open*) –

Co – Facilitator: Eric B. (**present**) – 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 Co-Facilitator. 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 Co-Facilitator. If you feel that procedure is being violated, please raise your hand, state “point of order” and then wait to be recognized by the Co-Facilitator. From time to time, I will

make periodic rulings. Any member in attendance may appeal the ruling of the Co-Facilitator by raising your hand, stating that they appeal the ruling of the Co-Facilitator, and wait to be recognized. Only the person making the motion to appeal and the Co-Facilitator may speak on the issue at this point, but the GSRs will make the final decision to either uphold the Co-Facilitator’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.

Secretary: Mark B. (present) – July was a very stressful month for me at work and as a result, I did not get the minutes to Digital Information Chair (Eric B.) when I should have. I apologize to anyone who did not receive a copy of the “unapproved” ASC Minutes in a timely fashion. The month of August should not be as stressful and I will do my best to get the “unapproved” version of ASC Minutes to the Digital Information Chair by August 18th. 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 \$0.08 per page. I am charging \$0.05 per page black & white and \$0.08 per page for colored fliers. The cost for copying July’s Minutes and fliers is \$16.60. 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 been putting information about your monthly Subcommittee Meetings on the monthly announcement flier, please let me know by August 28th of any planned subcommittee meetings for the month of September! 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. Thankyou for allowing me to be of service to NA. Your Secretary, Mark B. Peace!

Alternate Secretary: Stefanie H. (present) – Thanks for letting me be of service. Nothing else to report.

Treasurer: Debbie H. (present) – Handed out financial figures data packet gathered since the July ASC. I just found out today that the checks I ordered last month did not come yet! I may have to wait until the checks arrive to write some of the checks as I have only five (5). The Secretary said he could wait until next month for reimbursement. **MOTION:** To accept report as presented, seconded, no one opposes – accepted. In grateful service, Debbie H.

Alternate Treasurer: (open) –

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Beginning Balance From: June 29, 2008..... **\$4,690.68**

INCOME

TOTAL INCOME..... **\$735.63**

EXPENSES

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$2,342.95 |
| CHECKBOOK BALANCE | \$3,083.36 |
| STATEMENT BALANCE | \$3,083.36 |
| PRUDENT RESERVE | \$3,041.20 |
| WORKING FUNDS | \$42.16 |

TRUSTED SERVANT REPORTS:

Regional Committee Member: Marla M. (present) – WRSC was held July 19-22 in West Bend, Wisconsin. **1) Treasurer:** Reported that the Region is low on funds. Expenses have been greater than 7th Tradition income for several cycles. The Region has now dipped two thousand dollars into its general reserve. **2) Wisconsin Regional Service Office:** They are now purchasing literature from the Show-Me Region due to changes in the Chicago Service Office. They also have a new jewelry vendor. The WRSO has received donations in order to replace NA Literature for groups affected by the recent flooding. Contact Gene or myself if your group has been affected and you need to replace literature.

3) Public Relations: There have been problems with the website related to server migration. PR is in desperate need of web-servants as only 3 people are currently working on the website. Anyone interested is asked to write a letter of intent with service resume and experience with writing code, databases, and web pages to the web servant’s e-mail.

4) Policy: Open, ad-hoc committee in place to update guidelines. **5) Activities:** Open.

6) Hospitals & Institutions: No report. **7) Additional Needs:** Nothing to report, position is now open. **8) Elections:** Policy – John H. nominated; Public Relations – Mike F. nominated and elected; WRSO Pool – Chris K. volunteered and elected; Activities – open; July Secretary – open; Vice-Treasurer – open; Additional Needs – open; WSNAC Pool – no members volunteered or nominated.

9) To be taken back to ASC: MOTION: to remove the words “mans entire” from chapter We Do Recover in the Basic Text. Discussion – pros and cons. **VOTE: FAILED.**

How does the area feel about gender specificity and GOD specificity in the Basic Text? Do we want these references to be more (gender) neutral? The Additional Needs Committee was disbanded and removed from the guidelines. Any future needs in this area will be handled by work groups / ad-hoc committees. \$56.28 was not used and was given back to RRAGS. In loving service, Marla M.

Regional Committee Member Alternate: Nancy M. (present) – Nothing to report as I was on vacation. Nancy M.

Literature Stockpile: (open) – Scott A was elected at August ASC.

Literature Stockpile Alternate: Scott A. (present) – Report given after Group Reports.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Functions: Marla M. (present) – The RRAGS Picnic is next Saturday! Please talk this up at your groups so we have a good turnout. I have been unable to locate any Function supplies from past Chairperson – will keep trying. Still don’t have definite plans for Halloween, but keep November 1st open on your calendar. Will have definite plans and flyers at next meeting. In loving service, Marla M.

Literature Review: Rich M. (present) – No notable information at this time. Rich M.

Hospitals & Institutions: Mike C. (present) – July 19th H&I and PR had a subcommittee meeting. On July 13th we had a Transition Workshop, about 11 people attended. Eddie R. is the new Panel Coordinator for Sojourn House. The H&I Subcommittee would like to approach Region about using Transition elsewhere. H&I is now going to start a new program called Writing Steps To Recovery. Marla is going to be the Panel Coordinator. The purpose of this is to provide written NA Step guidance to any incarcerated addict who desires recovery within NA. In loving service, Mike C.

Q: *form an addict* – Can you help me with trying to help the driver of the Rosecrance Women's facility in keeping them coming on Saturdays to the women's meeting @3 pm? **A:** Get with me later to discuss further.

Public Relations: Eric D. (present) – P.R. activity for the month of July 2008:

1) Phonline: We have 2 more women interested in the phone line. I will be sending them information and adding them.

2) Justice Center Tour and Exchange Program: No one could attend, Rob K. sending an e-mail with thanks and a request that they keep us on the mailing list.

3) Other Activities: **A)** Mark R. double checking meeting schedule to ensure accuracy. **B)** I will apply for WSO administration privilege so I can update our meetings on the world website. **C)** Nation Wide Inbound – good meeting, hopefully we fixed the rotation issue. **D)** Mike C. (H&I) and I will be doing a PR Presentation at Monarch House, time to be decided. Eric D.

Policy & Procedure: Mark B. (present) – Thank you for showing patience with me as I learn what it takes to fulfill being the Policy & Procedure Chair, however due to a very stressful month at work I did not get a chance to get fully up to speed as I was hoping to on Policy & Procedure. I hope to be fully up to speed by the next ASC. I will have the new Literature Stockpile information for everyone, which consists of replacement of pages 45 – 48 in the revised Policy packet, next month. If you are a GSR or Trusted Servant of RRAGS and did not receive a new Policy packet last month, I have a few on hand and you can get one during the ten-minute break or after the meeting. Like wise, anyone may request a copy and I believe it is available for downloading from the website, www.rragsna.org. Thank you for allowing me to be of service to Narcotics Anonymous, Mark B.

Q: Is there a policy that groups can be non-reporting? **A:** There has been a history. Chris K will work with Policy & Procedure Chair to get something by next ASC.

NOTE: *The Co-Facilitator stepped down in order to give the Convention Committee and Digital Information reports and turned the Co-Facilitator duties over to the RCM.*

Convention Committee: Correnna N. (absent), **Vice-Chair** Eric B (present) – Convention Committee met this last Friday (August 01, 2008). Over 25 were in attendance. Things are progressing quite fine. Several Subcommittees are meeting elsewhere and at different times. Please see the various flyers, or look at the events calendar on the Area website. **1)** Merchandise has been looking into competitive pricing from various vendors, however the majority of their work will come after the logo is chosen. **2)** Arts & Graphics subcommittee has several submissions completed. During their next two (2) meetings, they will narrow down their choices and refine them for presentation to the entire committee next month. **3)** Registration has been doing inventory of materials and house cleaning of older stuff, which we expect to utilize at upcoming events. **4)** Hotels & Hospitality has presented a formal proposal from Cliffbreakers to host the Convention the first week of April (2009). After extensive review of this proposal, the belief that we would not get a better proposal elsewhere, and the desire to get this stage of

preparation wrapped up, the Convention Committee has accepted the proposal. Every complaint about last years convention has been addressed and we felt confident that Cliffbreakers is trying hard to accommodate us. We will not officially announce the convention until a contract has been formalized and signed. **5)** Convention Information is moving along and will be getting with PR to establish a list of Treatment Centers and organizations to send our convention information to. **6)** Funding & Entertainment has prepared two (2) upcoming functions. Please see the various flyers. **7)** Serenity Keepers are gathering names and providing members at the functions. **8)** Program has been reviewing speaker tapes and CDs and has gotten a proposal from Tape 2 Tape that they will turn over to Merchandise. **9)** Lastly, we have a motion that we should have made last month. This motion is intended to give all Subcommittee members immediate voting rights at the Convention Committee meeting. Convention Committee has accepted this motion, however since it is a change in the Area Policy; we need it ratified by the GSRs. In loving service, Eric B. **MOTION:** that all members of Convention Subcommittees get immediate voting rights at the Convention Committee meeting. Discussion – pros and cons; the motion has already been accepted by the Convention Committee; **VOTE: PASSED.**

From Convention Treasurer: Beginning Balance (6/27/08) \$8,421.41; Income - \$416.35; Expenses - \$650.00; Ending Balance - \$8,187.76.

Newsletter Committee: Eric D. (present) – **MOTION:** That Newsletter be subsumed into the Digital Information Subcommittee. **Intent:** To facilitate more participation and action on newsletter. Discussion – pros and cons. **VOTE: PASSED.**

Digital Information: Eric B. (present) – We have done a complete redesign of the website. For the most part, you will not notice any change. When our host company changed our website over from one computer system to another, there were some errors in code and all these errors have been fixed. While doing it we changed the name of some of our pages for example: rragdna.org/page3.html is now rragdna.org/meetings.html. This will eventually help us to make our website more search engine friendly. The changes will also make it easier to update the website with meeting changes and so on. We have also added a new events calendar. This events calendar is hosted by another company that specializes in events calendars. However, it is integrated into our website seamlessly and would appear as if it is on our website. It is a free calendar service, but since this company handles thousands of free calendars, the Digital Information Subcommittee is looking into paying for the hosting service. This cost would amount to \$3.00 per month for the first year and \$2.00 per month each year thereafter. The benefits to paid hosting are that the service is faster because of being on a dedicated server rather than a shared server. We would also no longer have to have a link back to the free calendar hosting company's website. In addition, they would have no right to post advertisements on our calendar. As for paying for this, we intend to take care of this out of working reserve funds. The calendar is very easy to use, has color-coded categories for postings such as Area events, Convention events, Regional events, Subcommittee events, and so on. Upon the recommendation of a member, we have simplified the filing system on the website for filing of pdf flyers for the calendar so that they can easily be uploaded and placed into the calendar of events. It is also our desire to utilize the calendar of events to jumpstart a RRAGS Newsletter. We have been posting the Area minutes to the website, but had not been posting the RRCNA minutes to the website. We did not realize it was already in our responsibilities, but prior to actually doing it, we discussed it with the Convention Committee and they have no objection to the minutes being posted. The nice feature of posting the minutes for both the Area and the Convention to the website is that it creates a digital archive on the website. In loving service, Eric B.

MOTION: to approve a \$36.00 expenditure for hosting of the events calendar. Discussion – pros and cons. **VOTE: PASSED.**

NOTE: The RCM turned the Co-Facilitator's duties back over to the Co-Facilitator.

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

Meeting resumed with Co-Facilitator asking for a moment of silence.

Open Forum Discussion: 15 Minutes – RCM opened: Topics: 1) Concerns about meeting quorum every month. **2)** Concerns about groups that do not show up consistently.

RCM closed Open Forum.

OLD BUSINESS:

On-going RRAGS Elections: Positions open: Facilitator, Vice-Treasurer and Literature Stockpile.
(9 GSRs present)

1) Literature Stockpile: Nominee Scott A accepts; stated qualifications; questions or concerns were asked; nominee left room; additional concerns. **VOTE:** Scott A. elected.

2) Vice – Treasurer: Volunteer Marla M. accepts; stated qualifications; questions or concerns were asked. Volunteer ruled out of order due to already being a signer on the RRAGS checking account.

Announcements: from Co-Facilitator - The Alternate Literature Stockpile is now an open position; GSRs please take back to your groups. From Secretary - GSRs please add Alt. in front of Literature Stockpile and change 2 years to 1 year in clean-time requirements on the monthly flyer.

Elections closed.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION #1: to revisit the motion (presented by Convention Committee June 29, 2008) that RRAGS ASC approve the use of Pay Pal checkout on the website to facilitate the sale of Convention Registrations. **VOTE: FAILED.**

MOTION #2: That RRAGS and it's Committees shall not hold "fundraisers" at the Alano Club.

Intent: According to the Basic Text Tradition 6, a related facility is any place that involves NA members. It might be a halfway house, a detox center, a counseling center, "a clubhouse", or any number of such places. The Alano Club is a clubhouse. As long as "any" group has a problem holding functions at the Alano Club, and we have many options, why would we entertain the idea?

MOTION #3: to take previous motion (#2) back to groups. Seconded.

MOTION #4: to table motion #2 – ruled out of order due to motion #3 still being on table.

Back to MOTION #3 – Second was rescinded by person who seconded the motion.

MOTION #5: to table motion #2: as your Regional Delegate, I asked World Services and ask that this be tabled until World gives me more information (next month). **VOTE: FAILED.**

Back to MOTION #2: That RRAGS and it's Committees shall not hold "fundraisers" at the Alano Club. Intent was restated. Discussion – pros and cons were stated.

MOTION #6: to take motion #2 back to groups. Seconded, **VOTE: PASSED.**

MOTION #7: That RRCNA cease fundraising activities, other than the actual convention.

Intent: With the current Prudent Reserve at \$7,500.00, we no longer need to raise funds to hold the convention. Also, the RRCNA fundraisers drain resources and unity from our ASC. Also, fundraising was the only subcommittee to lose money last year. Discussion – pros and cons were stated.

MOTION #8: to take motion #7 back to groups. **VOTE: PASSED.**

MOTION #9: to extend business no later than 5 pm. Seconded, **VOTE: PASSED.**

MOTION #10: that any funds over prudent reserve at the end of business May 2008 ASC should be donated to WRSC (Region). *Intent:* to follow Policy. *Motion ruled out of order.*

MOTION #11: for a ten (10) minute recess. No one opposed - **PASSED.**

Meeting resumed with Co-Facilitator asking for a moment of silence.

GROUP REPORTS:

90 In 90

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

7th Tradition: \$20.00

Literature: \$185.65

Attendance: 5 – 25

Meeting changes: None.

Speaker Meetings: 9/5 Denise N. (15 years) @ 7:30 pm.

Functions: Picnic on September 6th from 12-6 pm at Rock Cut State Park Prairie Shelter.

Report: Nothing else to report.

A New Beginning aka New Beginnings

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

Awakening

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

7th Tradition: \$6.27

Literature: \$147.00

Attendance: Avg. 20

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Nothing else to report.

A Way Out

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$27.25

Attendance: 6 – 8

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Nothing else to report.

Clean

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 4 – 8

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Nothing to report.

Dope to Hope

Reporting member: GSRA – Jim. (**not present**).

Freedom To Grow

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

7th Tradition: \$68.11

Literature: \$68.25

Attendance: Noon's Avg. 14,

2:30 Avg. 6, & 6 pm's Avg. 9.

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: Freedom To

Grow Gratitude Picnic on August 17, 2008 at Bowman Park in Cherry Valley from 2-6 pm.

Speaker Meetings: Rob K. Sunday 8/17 at Bowman Park, Renee L. from Rockford Tuesday 8/26 @ 6:00 pm & Frank M. Wednesday 8/27 @ Noon.

Report: We will be having a gratitude Picnic on August 17, 2008 at the Bowman Park in Cherry Valley, Illinois. We will have Rob K. as the speaker. Bring a dish to pass. Brat / Hamburger with chips will be sold for \$1.50. All are encouraged to attend. Question from our group – Is there a policy that groups can be non-reporting? (Asked during Policy report.)

Home Group

Reporting member: Acting GSR – Marcie M. (**not present**).

It Works

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

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: \$32.30

Attendance: 7 – 15

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: All going well.

New You

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

Pride

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

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: 3 – 4

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: We are still struggling, but we are here.

Reality Check

Reporting member: GSR / GSRA – Lauren J. (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$31.65

Attendance: Avg. 5

Meeting changes: None.

Functions: 4th Sunday potluck.

Speaker Meetings: 4th Sunday

Report: Nothing else to report.

Road to Recovery

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

Second Chance

Reporting member: acting GSR – Mike (**present**).

7th Tradition: \$0.00

Literature: \$0.00

Attendance: a few.

Meeting changes: 8 pm Fridays. **Functions:** None.

Speaker Meetings: None.

Report: Were new and still struggling. Doors open ½ hour prior to meeting. Need start-up package.

The Group

Reporting member: GSR – Rich H. (**present**) & GSRA – Mark R. (**not present**).

7th Tradition: \$35.00

Literature: \$47.50

Attendance: 10 – 25

Meeting changes: The monthly speaker meeting has been moved from 8 pm to 5:30 pm.

Speaker Meetings: August 30th Debbie M. @ 5:30. **Functions:** Unity day cookout on 8/30 @ 3 pm.

Report: Next business meeting Aug. 30th @2 pm. Nothing new to report.

There Is Hope

Reporting member: **Non-Reporting.**

Westside Family

Reporting member: GSR – Linda F. (**not present**) & GSRA Renardo W. (**not present**).

Literature Stockpile Alternate report: This month's sales are \$606.35, the reorder amount is \$637.84. There was no H&I or PR order this month.

Announcement: *From Treasurer:* There was \$?.?? collected in 7th Tradition today that goes to A Way Out.

Announcement: The next RRAGS business meeting will be on Sunday September 07, 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.