

June 2013 Midwest Region GSR Teleconference Minutes June 15, 2013

Chair opened call. Delegate lead group in recitation of the Serenity Prayer. Chair read Tradition 6 and Concept 6.

Attendees: Elmhurst IL
Shawnee KS
Maryland Heights MO
Homewood IL
Naperville IL
Rockford IL
Springfield IL
RSC Members: Chair
Vice Chair
Delegate
Outreach Committee Chair

Teleconference Minutes: Minutes will be available for review once transcribed.

Treasurer Reports: Treasurer Reports were unanimously approved as submitted.

Delegate Report: As part of Nar-Anon 36, Steps 1-3 are published and available for purchase through WSO. The Literature Committee has forwarded proposed Steps 4-6 for fellowship review and comment. The Literature Committee is seeking reviews, changes, corrections from members by July 31, 2013. SESH is now available for purchase and download to iPhone and apple products. It will soon be available through Amazon for android devices. The link is listed on WSO website. Equalized expenses for the 2014 Nar-Anon World Service Conference will be provided by June 30, 2013. Motions for any changes in structure or literature are due in rough draft form by September 4, 2013. The Region is planning to host a teleconference for members to discuss all pending Motions, CAR and CAT before formal voting is taken within the region. A similar conference call was held during the 2012 Conference cycle, with more detailed information, and an open discussion held. There was much to learn about the Nar-Anon program and the Conference. A date for this informational teleconference will be discussed in future GSR meeting.

Chair asked that GSRs remind all members of the availability of the Serenity Connection via email – go to WSO website to sign up for this quarterly publication.

OUTREACH CHALLENGE: Mike Z presented the July Monthly Outreach Challenge - to provide Nar-Anon information to area public libraries. Please ask at your local library if Nar-Anon information can be placed in their literature racks. Suggestions for literature include: Meeting lists; any Nar-Anon literature; copies of the Serenity Connection. Ask if copies of SESH can be placed in their inventory. Many people ask

at their local library for information on addiction or family assistance with addiction.

Discussion was held on how new members found their first meeting. The various ways included: internet search; referral by family programs; Nar-Anon.org; on-line searches; references by current or former members; and, addict recommendations. Talk show websites often list Nar-Anon as a resource for families and friends.

If Craig's List is being used to list meetings – please be careful of spam, wording of the announcement, and possible charge for listing.

NA CONVENTIONS:

- SLACNA - St Louis Area Convention for Narcotics Anonymous, St Louis
Nov 15 – 17, 2013 – Joseph reported that a Literature Table is confirmed
- GIRCNA, Galesburg, IL Nov 15 – 17, 2013
 - An individual from GIRCNA (the Convention Chair) visited the Nar-Anon literature table at the Cabin Fever and expressed his desire to have Nar-Anon support this meeting. Home Groups in surrounding areas are urged to consider providing and staffing a Literature Table.

WORLD CONVENTION: Nar-Anon's World Convention is held every 2 years in conjunction with Narcotics Anonymous' World Convention. These conventions will be held in Philadelphia PA August 29 – September 1, 2013 at the Convention Center. The last conventions were held in San Diego CA with over 18K in attendance representing multiple countries around the world. The next World Convention will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The World Convention Committee is seeking speakers for the Convention. Luanne requested all GSR to ask their groups if they would like to consider providing a basket to the World Convention. The basket could be from the region or the home group level. Gift baskets are one way of donating to Nar-Anon, as they are raffled off with all contributions paid to the fellowship.

REGIONAL WEBSITE: Rod reported that many people are coming to the regional website to search for NA Conventions. Area NA websites have been linked to the regional website, with a disclaimer provided according to the Traditions. Rod also sat in on the WSO Website Committee meeting. Currently they are in the process of developing a handbook for regional websites. Use of Nar-Anon material requires giving credit for the literature. WSO has reviewed both Kansas City's website and the Regional website. Please notify Rod of any meeting cancellations or special events so that the website can be accurate. This is especially important when holidays cancel a meeting.

4th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY: Bill reported on a joint meeting held by several area groups for planning the Assembly in the Chicago area. Pam (Chicago) and Monica (Homewood) are working on a flyer and registration. Information provided by

Joseph and Mike Z from the 3rd Annual Assembly was used. Ron & Donna are researching area hotels. Catering and other options are being researched to keep the costs down. A speaker has been selected who is a long time member of Nar-Anon. The speaker is also a long time member of Narcotics Anonymous, as well as a drug and alcohol counselor. Workshops need to be finalized with the major theme of Change and Happiness/Joy. Elmhurst and Munster groups are also assisting in the planning. Presently, they are anticipating 50 people (44 attended in St. Louis last year). Due to the cost of parking in Chicago, it would be advised to park in this remote location and take a metro service into downtown Chicago. Our thanks to all who are assisting in the planning of this event.

Please remind all your members to Save the Date of October 19, 2013 for the Assembly!

Rod reported on a trip to St. Joseph, MO to attend their meeting. No meeting was held that night. Contact was made the next day with the GSR, who said that meetings are held approximately every other week, with the alternate. Her phone number can be used to determine if a meeting will be held. Luanne and Rod will again hit the road and attend Wichita's meeting June 15th. Plans are being made to travel to Joplin, as soon as confirmation can be made with that group.

Jan discussed that when she started Rockford, it was strongly suggested that 2 people commit to holding the meeting every week, so that the responsibilities could be shared. The commitment of time for new groups is generally 6 months to 1 year for regular attendance. We want to ensure if a meeting is listed, that it be available each week (unless another designation is made on the websites). Bill discussed his similar experience with beginning the Munster meeting (which was an offshoot of Homewood's group).

Chair discussed the RSC's agreement that a copy of the Welcoming Letter to New Groups, the Regional Fact sheet and service structure be emailed to each and every group within the Region. The purpose of sending this information is to inform each Home Group about the Region, and the advantages for participating in region service and activities. Chair asked for a Motion, which was seconded, and a discussion was held.

Jan asked to discuss several items concerning the website. First, awesome job in creation and development of the region's website. On-line meetings are listed as: Forum; and, Serenity Seekers. Jan will check with WSO, as it was her understanding that Serenity Seekers was not supported by WSO. Jan asked that there be a link for on-line purchase of SESH. She also asked that other methods of displaying the calendar be considered so as to de-clutter the calendar. Rod will continue investigation.

The above Motion was presented for vote. 6 votes for, 1 abstain.

Our prayers continue for Cyndee and her family.

Motion to close made and approved.

Please forward all Midwest Region Donations to:

Donna D.

Treasurer-Midwest Region

19542 Division Street

Mokena IL 60448

Please make checks payable to **Midwest Region Nar-Anon**

Next meeting: Saturday, July 20, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Luanne K

Secretary Pro Tem