

December 2014 Midwest Region GSR Teleconference Minutes

December 20, 2014

Chair opened call.

Delegate lead group in recitation of the Serenity Prayer.

Chair read Tradition 12 and Concept 12.

Attendees:

Groups:

Van Buren AR

Elmhurst IL

Homewood IL

Rockford IL (Thursday)

Indianapolis IN

Shawnee KS

Maryland Heights MO (Also Gwen, who will be taking over GSR position)

Chesterfield MO

Columbia MO

RSC Members:

Chair

Vice Chair

Treasurer/Webmaster

Delegate

Alternate Delegate

Teleconference Minutes:

No minutes ready to approve at this time

Treasurer's Report:

(Full Document Sent by Chair on 12/15/14 Re: agenda dec2014)

- Starting Balance: 833.92
Revenue: 1425.07
Expenses: 0.00
Ending Balance: 2258.99
- Treasurer reports that the Region made a huge turnaround thanks to the proceeds from the Assembly, we are close to being on track at this point
- It was noticed that the treasurer's report indicates that the region is planning on sending a delegate and alternate delegate to the WSC, this is not required so why are we saving up money to send both? The response was that while it is true that we are not required to send both, but the presented budget was to try to send both. We will not put the region in financial hardship to send both
- The November Treasurer's Reports were unanimously accepted as submitted

Outreach Challenge:

We do not have an Outreach Chair, but there are an archive of prior outreach challenges on the Midwest Region Website for use (<http://www.naranonmidwest.org/member-services/outreach-monthly-challenges/>). We are currently looking for someone to fill the Outreach Chair Position.

Delegate Report:

Nothing to report but is excited for the next year and hoping we can really unite as a group and move forward.

Old Business:

- Secretary Position:
 - Shannon is willing to step down from her position as GSR to step into the Secretary Position
 - GSR's do not believe that a re-vote is necessary and Shannon was accepted unanimously as Regional Secretary
- Outreach Chair and Convention Chair position are still open, please pass this on to your group
- 6th Annual Assembly Update:
 - Branson has offered
 - Elmhurst is considering, needs to discuss with their group
- 2015 Theme for the Midwest Region
 - Outreach
 - Recovery
 - Principles of Service
 - Please take back to your groups to get group conscience and we will vote on January GSR call
 - Question was posed about how groups do to carve out time to conduct business
 - Responses:
 - (Maryland Heights MO, Chesterfield MO, Homewood IL): Utilize the "announcements" portion at the beginning of meetings to get a quick group conscience with a higher number of votes versus having a separate business meeting
 - (Rockford IL, Thursday): Business meetings before the regular meeting, as well as utilize announcement portion of meeting, especially to announce what will be discussed at the business meetings

New Business:

- Region will try to get the Agenda out to the groups as soon as possible so that the groups have enough time to discuss before the next call
- Tradition 2 Workshop (Alternate Delegate)
- Alternate Delegate is willing to continue doing Traditions Workshops
- Thank you to Chair for their help with the Secretary Position until the position was filled
- Thank you to Maryland Heights MO for their service as they step down from their GSR position and passes the torch to Gwen
- Thank you to everyone for your service
- Contact RSC with discussion topics you would like considered for future GSR call agendas
Agenda

Tradition 2 Workshop:

(Full Document Sent by Chair on 12/20/14 Re: tradition 2)

For our group purpose there is but one authority, a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants -they do not govern.

- Questions:
 - How do you see your Higher Power at work in our group structure?
 - (Elmhurst IL) Our Higher Power helps us override our human nature. We are respectful when people are talking. We aren't judging them, or thinking about what we are going to say.

- (Shawnee KS) The phone call format on the GSR call forces us to be quiet and helps us practice our respectfulness and courtesy, even on a discouraging phone call.
- (Chesterfield MO) Focusing our interest in others in a way that allows them to bring out the best that they have to offer without considering ourselves allows the group to be in a better place with our higher power.
- (Rockford IL) We are all equal and each have our own Higher Power. We each have the freedom to choose what our Higher Power is leading us to and we can allow others the same freedom. This applied to service within the group and beyond.
- Has there been a time in your group where you have had a group conscience? Was everyone who wanted to speak given the opportunity to thoughtfully contribute? Were people given the opportunity to think about their choices and contribution?
 - (Shawnee KS) Our group does quick announcements as needed through the year, but have two group-conscience meetings a year to discuss how things are going in the group.
 - (Rockford IL) Our group allows up to 3 weeks for big decisions so people have enough time to consider it and make sure they can be at the business meeting to participate in the group conscience. No one makes judgment calls, everything is a group conscience. If we rush things, people tend to go along with whoever speaks up.
 - (Homewood IL) Group conscience is situational and can be taken as the need arises. We bring things up during the announcements and then vote on it at the next meeting. If there is an immediate need, we go straight to a group conscience to handle it right away.
- How did it feel? Did you agree or was there conflict...
 - (Alternate Delegate) We are running out of time. Everyone in the group should be given an opportunity to speak, we are all equal. Group conscience should be a safe place, even if you have a different opinion. Sometimes the thoughts of a differing opinion is what the group really needs to hear. Our Higher Power works through each of our consciences. Even if the result is agreeing to disagree, at least it was a well thought out and discussed decision.
- Do you rotate leadership in your group? Why or why not?
 - (Indianapolis IN) Our group does rotate leadership. We pass around a sign-up sheet for chairing meetings.
 - People enjoyed the workshop very much and would like a copy sent out or maybe put on the website.
 - Facilitator responded that they are not conference approved literature, so might not be appropriate for the website.
- What have other groups done to encourage participation in group service?
 - No time to answer

Action Items:

- Please get a group conscience regarding 2015 theme and we will vote on January GSR call
- Elmhurst is going to take the idea of hosting the 6th annual assembly back to their group and let us know their group's decision on the January GSR call
- Please share with your groups that the Outreach Chair and Convention Chair positions are still open for the Midwest Region and need to be filled
- Contact RSC with discussion topics you would like considered for future GSR call agendas

Documents Referenced:

(Please contact the RSC to request any of these documents)

- Treasurer's Report, Sent by Chair on 12/15/14 Re: agenda dec2014
- Traditions Workshop, Sent by Chair on 12/20/14 Re: tradition 2