

July 2013 Midwest Region GSR Teleconference Minutes

July 20, 2013

Chair opened call. Delegate lead group in recitation of the Serenity Prayer. Chair read Tradition 7 and Concept 7.

Attendees:	Fairbury IL	Rockford IL
	Glen Carbon IL	Springfield IL
	Homewood IL	Shawnee KS
	Naperville IL	Maryland Heights MO

RSC Members: Chair
Treasurer
Secretary
Delegate
Outreach Committee Chair

Teleconference Minutes: Minutes for April, May and June were unanimously approved as submitted. Minutes for the 3rd Annual Assembly were approved as submitted (6 approval votes, 2 abstain votes).

Welcome of New GSRs. Fairbury IL, Glen Carbon IL, Rockford IL and Naperville IL GSRs joined the monthly teleconference for the first time. Welcome! We are glad to have you – and look forward to your continued active participation in the MidWest Region!

Treasurer Reports: Ending balance of \$3281.54. The July Treasurer Reports were unanimously approved as submitted.

Delegate Report:

- Literature Committee: GSRs were encouraged to review Steps 4 – 6 document with groups and determine if there are errors or missing information (have been sent out by the World Literature Committee for pre-review). If there are corrections or suggestions for edits, GSRs are asked to share the group's consensus with the Delegate. Any feedback is requested to be submitted by the end of July. There will be a vote to approve Steps 4 – 6 at the World Service Conference.
- World Service Conference: Equalized Expenses. This is a process by which all estimated attendee expenses are added together and then divided by the number of expected attendees. The goal is to make the cost/expense burden more equitable for all attendees regardless of point of origin. The amount for the May 2014 Conference is \$1800/person. This expense is borne by the region.
- Tradition for the Month. Chair asked GSRs if there was interest in adding 'Tradition of the Month' to the monthly GSR teleconference agendas. There was generally reluctance in adding this to the monthly call – but it was suggested that perhaps this might be addressed in another venue. Chair tabled the topic and indicated venue alternatives will be discussed during the next RSC teleconference.

COMMENTS by "New Choices" GSR:

- Contact with groups regarding accuracy of meeting and contact information, their participation in MidWest Region activities.

- Discussion: Work has been done to contact the groups. Delegate is maintaining a 'flow sheet' of the conversations held to date. The delegate committed to share this information with the GSRs.
- Discussion: Open Communication. There was some discussion as to whether communication sent out by Regional Secretary as bcc's could potentially reduce open communication among GSR and GSR Alternates. A GSR reminded the callers a complete list of email addresses for all GSR and GSR Alternates (who have been willing to share them) are available on the Roster which is distributed on a monthly basis with updates.
- Timing of agenda dissemination. Requested GSR teleconference agenda be created and distributed no later than 4 days after the RSC teleconference. This would allow sufficient time for the family home groups to review and secure group input as appropriate.
 - Discussion: There was agreement that having the agenda and the documents to be discussed on the call a bit earlier could be helpful.
- Chair asked that due to time constraints, GSRs please review the comments sent out to all GSRs by the "New Choices" GSR, give consideration to the issues as raised and plan to discuss more fully on a future teleconference.

OUTREACH CHALLENGE: Mike Z presented the August Monthly Outreach Challenge. Members are to post Nar-Anon meeting information on Craig's List. The challenge details how listings can be posted for the convenience of those choosing to participate in this challenge. Frequent updating is easy and requires little time or effort. (A GSR shared that there have been individuals attend MidWest Regional family group meetings because of information found in a Craig's List posting.).

4th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE by Assembly Host:

- In final update stages on the creation of the flier and registration form. Once completed, they will be sent to RSC for review. After RSC review, documents it will go to Web Committee in order to be placed on the web site.
- Fund raising activities for this meeting will include sale of book covers, a 50/50 and silent auction of gift baskets (which will be created and donated by MidWest Region family home groups).
- Goal is to keep costs under tight control so as to optimize meeting proceeds that will go back to the region.
- GSRs were asked by the Chair to give further consideration to workshop topics. List of possible topics (refer to teleconference agenda) should be taken back to the home groups for input.
- Chair asked that GSRs encourage NFG members to save the date: October 19th.

WEBSITE UPDATE by Web Committee:

- There is a new meeting in Glenview IL. This was found through a review of the WSO website. If any of the GSRs hear of new meetings formed or date/time/location changes of existing meetings, they are asked to send an eMail to the Web Committee Chair as well as the Regional Secretary.
- Regular meetings have been removed from the default calendar to de-clutter the calendar. The information is still available on the website but just doesn't automatically pre-populate on the calendar.
- A link has been added on the "Books" tab for eBooks (to include SESH Book).
- Maps have been made of the major metropolitan areas within the region to help individuals more easily find our meetings.
- Seeking volunteers to be on a website committee. Major responsibilities would be to review any proposed changes.

- Fairbury IL GSR volunteered to participate on the website committee.
- Chair asked GSRs solicit input from home group members regarding what the meetings have meant to them. These comments would then be included on our website. The rationale is to inform those who do not know what our meetings are about what they might expect and what the program can do for them.
- Web Committee Chair indicated the WSO Web Committee is very interested in gaining greater insight into social media and how Nar-Anon might be able to create awareness in that space. They are seeking individuals who might have great interest or knowledge in this area. If there is someone in your group who fits this criteria, please forward their name and contact information to the Web Committee.
- Chair asked the GSRs to consider for possible motion whether they felt it appropriate to add a new page to the website which addresses how to start and/or maintain a meeting.
- Chair asked for GSRs to consider becoming a volunteer mentor to a new group.
- Chair asked for GSRs to consider for possible motion if the region should help fund the new group literature packet cost for starting a new group and if so, what suggestions or requirements should be put in place.

OPEN FORUM

- Fairbury IL GSR. **GSR Phone Chain.** GSRs would commit to calling and staying in contact the person below them on the roster. This would help us insure the roster information is accurate, allow GSRs to encourage participation on monthly GSR calls, encourage open communication among the group and offer up mentoring opportunities.

Motion to close the meeting. Vote was unanimous.

ACTION ITEMS

- GSRs are to review World Literature Committee Steps 4 – 6 document with their NFG and determine if there are errors or missing information (refer to document forwarded to GSRs per Jan's request). If there are corrections or suggestions for edits, GSRs are asked to share the group's consensus with the Delegate. Feedback is requested by August 1st.
- GSRs are asked to review document forwarded by Secretary to GSRs (message sent July 19, 9:53pm) per Joseph L's request regarding contact with MidWest Region group GSRs as well as timeliness of distribution of teleconference materials. This will be discussed further on a future call.
- GSRs should share details of the August Outreach Challenge with their NFG (details in message sent July 15, 8:35pm).
- GSRs were asked for input on workshop topics for 4th Annual Assembly. List of possible topics (refer to July teleconference agenda) should be taken back to the home groups for input.
- GSRs should encourage NFG members to save the date of the 4th Annual Assembly: October 19th.
- If GSRs hear of new meetings formed or date/time/location changes of existing meetings, they should immediately contact the Web Committee Chair as well as the Regional Secretary.
- GSRs are asked to give consideration to serving on the website committee. Major responsibilities would be to review any proposed changes to the MidWest Region website. Interested GSRs should contact Web Site Lead (Rod S – Shawnee KS).
- GSRs are asked to solicit input from home group members regarding what meetings mean to them. Comments from group members should be forwarded to the Web Site Lead (Rod S – Shawnee KS).

- GSRs are asked to check with their NFG for individuals who have great interest and some level of expertise in social media. Names and contact information should be forwarded to the Web Committee.
- GSRs are asked to consider for possible motion the addition of a new page to the website which addresses how to start and/or maintain a meeting.
- GSRs are asked to consider serving as a volunteer mentor to a new group. Interested individuals should contact an RSC Member.
- GSRs are asked to consider for possible motion if the region should continue to help fund the new group literature packet cost for new groups.