

September 2013 Midwest Region GSR Teleconference Minutes

September 21, 2013

Chair opened call. Delegate lead group in recitation of the Serenity Prayer. Chair read Tradition 9 and Concept 9.

Attendees: Elmhurst IL
Homewood IL
Naperville IL
Rockford IL
Topeka KS
Des Peres MO
Kansas City MO
Maryland Heights MO
Cincinnati OH Visitor -- Lynn

RSC Members: Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Delegate
Outreach Committee Chair
Region Mentor

Teleconference Minutes: Minutes for August were approved (7 yes, 1 no).

Introductions: **Topeka.** Terri is participating in her first GSR call. Meeting was established in August 2013. **Des Peres.** Cynthia is participating in her first GSR call. Group is attended by 5 or 6 regular attendees. Has been meeting for approximately 12 years. Group has not had a GSR for some time and Cynthia has stepped up to serve in that capacity. **Visitor.** Lynn is a member of a local group in Cincinnati. Have been meeting as a group for 29 years. There is currently no regional structure in place in the state, though there are 32 meetings ongoing in OH. Lynn is attempting to gather information for the purpose of determining next steps (from our call as well as soliciting feedback from the OH NFGs). Welcome, all!!

Treasurer's Reports: The August Treasurer's Reports were unanimously accepted as submitted.

Delegate Report:

- Of the Nar-Anon 36, 7 and 8 are now out for review in DRAFT form (Delegate has sent these documents out for GSR and family group comment). These steps are not approved for use at this time but are in the process of review and edit.
 - Comments can be written into the original DRAFT, scanned and forwarded to the Delegate. If the committee wishes this to be done differently, the Delegate will inform the GSRs of the revised process.
- The Midwest Region's Draft Motion was submitted by the deadline. Final Draft is due October 14th. Have received no response from WSO as to our submission.
- Serenity Connection. Is downloadable from the website. GSRs are encouraged to take this back to the groups and challenge members to download the newsletter that new issues will automatically be sent to the individuals' eMail.

- Attended the world convention in Philadelphia. Nearly 300 participants were present. There were some excellent breakout sessions and speakers.
- SESH and 31 Days. Both are available from iBooks (the Apple Store). This offers a convenience factor for those with iPhones.

Chairman Comments:

- Nar-Anon 36. This will replace the Alanon's "Paths to Recovery". All 12 steps are anticipated to be completed prior to May, 2014. Release dates have been stepped up.
- Attended a workshop at the World Conference on the path of a motion. Motions are submitted to World. Once received, regions are paired with others proposing the same material motion. This allows the two with a common cause to collaborate on a motion with the goal of having an actionable motion for the next World Conference (World Conferences occur every other year).
- World Outreach Committee. All information gathered will be forwarded to Midwest Region Outreach Chair. There are efforts underway to produce a public service announcement (ie, PSA) which can be used in local media outlets. The World Committee will be setting up a bimonthly Outreach Challenge that will be posted on the national website.

OUTREACH CHALLENGE: The October Monthly Outreach Challenge is to post Nar-Anon information on the web page of the local cable company. Members are encouraged to participate. The challenge details suggested language for this posting (please refer to Mike Z's challenge document for specifics).

4th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE by Assembly Host:

- Assembly will begin a 9am on October 19th. Two (2) hours are set aside for the business session. Allowing 1 hour for the speaker. There will be breakout sessions as well. The day will end with a standard Nar-Anon meeting for those choosing to attend.
- Menus have been finalized.
- Committee has held final organizational meeting.
- 15 individuals have pre-registered. Anticipate there will be approximately 50 attending (many of which will register at the door).
- GSRs are challenged to take fliers to their group meetings and invite all members to attend the Assembly.
- Business Portion
 - The GSR meeting in October will be done in person at the Assembly (there will be no October teleconference).
 - Each RSC member will provide a brief presentation.
 - Treasurer will provide the usual monthly report in addition to a proposed budget for 2014.
 - Election of Officers will occur at this Assembly. If anyone is interested in pursuit of one of the open positions, this should be communicated to the RSC. Positions available for election include
 - Chair
 - Treasurer
 - Alternate Delegate
 - Convention Committee Chair
 - Minutes from the Assembly must include a vote of confidence for our Delegate.
 - Any GSR who has a Motion for consideration by the Assembly is asked to forward those as soon as possible to the Chair and Meeting Host to insure they are included in the agenda.

- Proxy Votes. Chairperson posed the question as to whether there a vehicle by which groups having no one attend the Assembly can pair up with another group so that they, too, can have a voice and a vote. There was discussion. It was brought up that we have interpreted the guidelines to limit any individual to represent a single group with a single vote. It was also mentioned that proxy votes require advance notification and detail on the items up for vote. This is not always easy given the fact we do not currently have a ballot populated with names of individuals interested in the open RSC positions – much less other topics that might arise as a course of the Assembly. There was discussion as to the types of proxy voting (compared and contrasted) and how this overlays with Roberts Rules of Order (the way the region voted to conduct our business meetings). There was discussion of how technology (teleconferencing or Skype) might be used to wrap additional individuals into the Assembly Business Session. Unfortunately these means are cost prohibitive or limited in their ability to effectively include those unable to attend in person. It was suggested if a group was unable to participate in the Assembly, they could write their position on a given issue and submit it to an RSC member. This would allow them a voice but not a vote.
- Regional Website – including a “how to” page for those setting up new meetings. There was some support but it was emphasize that this page needs to include unique information that is not already shown, available on the site. **MOTION:** the region will identify a group to begin work on creating a step-by-step guide on how to start a new NFG, the results of which are subject to GSR approval prior to implementation. The motion was **passed** unanimously. Topeka KS GSR has volunteered to support the group efforts on this initiative.

Conventions

- St Louis Area Convention for NA – November 15 - 17
- GIRCNA (Greater IL Regional Convention for NA) – November 15 – 17
Best Western Prairie Inn, Galesburg, IL
 - There is a need for someone to volunteer to support this convention with their presence and a literature table. Feel free to contact Joseph L for details or follow up directly with the association contact:
 - <http://www.oopsna.org/Gircna%202013.pdf>
 - Convention Chair: Kiervan D (Phone: 309-265-3110 or eMail: khsonofivan@yahoo.com)

ACTION ITEMS

- GSRs are asked to provide group feedback on Steps 7 and 8 to the Delegate.
- GSRs are asked to insure group members are aware the **Serenity Connection** is downloadable to member's electronic devices.
- Chairperson will forward all information from the World Conference specific to outreach to the Midwest Region Outreach Chair.
- All GSRs are encouraged to engage their NFG members in the October Outreach Challenge.
- All GSRs are asked to take flier for the 4th Annual Assembly to their meeting and invite members to attend.
- Any individual who has interest in pursuing one of the open positions on the RSC is asked to contact a current RSC member so that their name can be placed on the ballot.
- Any group having a motion for consideration at the Assembly is asked to provide that motion to the RSC as soon as reasonable so that appropriate time can be allocated in the agenda.

- Representation of Nar-Anon is needed for GIRCNA XVII. Any GSR who is willing to volunteer to support this NA convention should either contact Joseph L, Maryland Heights MO GSR, or the association directly (all contact information is included in the notes above).