

July 2012 Midwest Region GSR Teleconference Minutes

July 21, 2012

Chair opened call. Serenity Prayer recited in unison. Chair read Tradition 7 and Concept 7.

Attendees: East Alton IL
Homewood IL
Naperville IL
Springfield IL
Muncie IN
Munster IN
Shawnee KS
Kansas City "First Call" KS
Maryland Heights MO
RSC Members: Chair
Treasurer
Secretary
Delegate
MidWest Regional Mentor

Teleconference Minutes. Corrections to Minutes from Maryland Heights, MO; from Delegate. **MOTION** to approve the Minutes as amended. Role call vote was taken. Accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. Starting balance (as of June 16): \$1,901.33 Ending balance (as of July 21): \$1,887.33. **MOTION** to approve the report; seconded. Role call vote was taken. Report was unanimously accepted.

Showcasing Our Home Groups – Naperville (presented by GSR). This FHG is 18 months old. Current average attendance is 15. Use electronic communication (weekly for three weeks in advance of the guest) to highlight meetings when there is a guest speaker (attendance tends to be higher for these meetings). Meeting place is a hospital. They use sign outside the front door to alert attendees of the meeting – but seeking permission to post signs inside the hospital lobby to help guide attendees to the meeting room. All literature is displayed in the meeting room. The only item attendees are expected to purchase is the SESH books. There is a contact list attendees are given the opportunity to sign. This is updated weekly and is made available on the literature table. There is a core group of regulars. This group provides a newcomers packet to any new attendee. They are welcomed warmly. They are seated next to a meeting regular to help create greater comfort. If there are large numbers of newcomers, the meeting content is focused on Step 1. Most newcomers find this meeting from the internet or from referrals from counselors inside the hospital. There is some concern about the time consumed by introductions when the group exceeds 12. Interested in ideas from others as to how they handle this meeting component. They have developed a signup sheet for anyone who would like to lead a future meeting. Have begun efforts in Outreach. Trying to determine of those identified through Outreach efforts, who is interested in the program and then what materials should be sent to those parties.

FOLLOW UP ACTION: 2nd Order of Literature for New Groups -- to be sent to Naperville and East Alton groups

Asked for volunteers to showcase their group for August call. No volunteers came forward. If none step forward, one will be identified by Chair.

Open Positions. Vice Chair, Alternate Delegate, Outreach Chair, and Convention Chair positions are currently open or will be open as of October. Also, volunteers are needed for Outreach and Convention

committee members. If anyone is interested in filling in the position between now and the Assembly, please contact anyone on the RSC.

3rd Annual Regional Assembly

- October 20th
- Maryland Heights, Zion Lutheran Church
- Host group: “New Choices”
- All day meeting and will include presentations, workshops and regional business
- Theme. Discussion of the themes as proposed by various individuals within the region. There is some time sensitivity in order to allow for appropriate pre-Assembly pieces to be produced. There was a commitment and confirmation any fliers created would not include names of speakers or topics. “Gateway to Growth” role call vote; unanimous acceptance.
- Site and Facilities. Easily accessed. Will be using cafeteria located on lower level of the church and will accommodate as many as 70 attendees. Kitchen is immediately adjacent and we will be able to use. There are some breakout spaces that are available as well. There is sufficient parking. There are several hotels in immediate proximity and work is being done to secure negotiated discounted rates on sleeping rooms.
- Topics for Workshops and Business Meeting.
 - Topics. There was some discussion about reducing the number of topics for serious consideration by the home groups. No final decision, vote was taken.
 - Speakers
 - Mr. Duncan. Discussion regarding appropriateness of including this speaker in the Assembly. GSRs and RSC members voiced opinions (some were quite impassioned) both pro and con. Called the question. Role call vote was taken to determine if Mr. Duncan and his presentation on “Heroin Addiction”. Final vote count was 5 accept, 4 opposed.
- Chair’s Challenge to All: GSRs should go back to home groups for discussion on Assembly topics. This will be a significant part of August GSR call agenda.