

ASC MINUTES
October 20, 2007

Robin opened the meeting at 2:10 p.m. with the Third Step Prayer.

Introductions

Val read the 12 Traditions.

Tony read the 12 Concepts.

Open Forum:

Caleb brought up that Woodland Hills is demanding that H&I come every Monday and he doesn't know what to do. Robin offered to help Caleb draft a letter explaining our purpose and what we can offer them.

6th Tradition:

Scott, Marvella, Jimmy, Jason and Matt presented the 6th Traditions with a skit; showing us what not to do.

7th Tradition:

Assigned to Marvella, Scott, and Keith for November.

Group Reports:

Read and received.

- NA Safe Harbor has visited the local probation officers and this has drawn an influx of new members to the meeting; they seem to be having positive feedback from placement of meeting lists at probation office.
- 7-11 Group has started a split meeting format, giving members the option to attend a 12 step study group during the regular meeting. The meeting would like their name changed to "7-11 Group & Step Study". The group is also working on starting up child care. 7-11 Group is also planning 2 events; a Spring Dance and a Camp Out and Picnic.
- Thursday Night NA is putting on a Bowling Night in November; exact date has not yet been decided.
- NA Basics is focusing on building a strong home group; calling members when they are absent and announcing fellowship after the meeting. (\$10 newcomer donation for Halloween dance)
- Friday Night NA making a \$10 newcomer donation for Halloween dance.
- Monday New Beginnings in Walker is excited about the 800 number. They also asked how to get people involved in service at group area and area level.
- T.G.I.F. Friday night meeting has moved locations to: Seventh Day Adventist Church at 1330 E Superior Street in Duluth. It is an open meeting.

Elections – Literature Chair and Public Information Chair:

Qualifications were read to the ASC.

Caleb nominated Joe from I. Falls for Literature Chair. Joe accepted the nomination. Motion carried.

Terrie voiced an interest in Public Information Chair, but she can not run until January because she is the current Vice-Chair for the area. No other nominations. Election held open until November. MaryKay will work with Terrie on the PI committee until a new chair is elected.

Admin Committee Meeting:

Matt T. gave a summary of the Administrative Committee Meeting held earlier this month and one held just before the ASC meeting (see separate minutes).

Next Administrative meeting will be November 17th at 12:30 p.m. in Hibbing.

GSRs, please bring back to your groups to ask ***"What are the primary forms of service that the Area should focus on to support our groups? Meeting lists, phone lines, distribution of literature, website, etc."***

Administrative Committee Reports:

Public Information:

It will be proposed at today's area meeting for individuals to come up with innovative ideas for the 1-800 name, such as 1-800 REC-OVER as an example. The ideas will be presented to the area and a vote will be put in place as to who has the best option. The winner will receive an anniversary edition of the Just For Today. Mat will update the phone line after the 1-800 number is implemented. The rest of the meeting was used to separate and count out all meeting lists for distribution.

Hospitals & Institutions:

I would like to report at this time that we are going into the St. Louis Co. Jail hopefully starting next month. We are also currently working on going into Woodland Hills and NERC. I want to thank those that are stepping up and helping go into these places. I would

also like to announce that at the next ASC I will have 2 dates and places for an H&I meeting. One will be held in Duluth/Superior and the other in Virginia. I would like to thank those from I. Falls for the willingness to join us in Virginia. The reason for these meetings is to see how many people are out there that are willing to get involved with H&I. There are more than just panel leaders needed. H&I needs a vice chair, secretary, panel coordinator, literature coordinator and most of all panel leaders and some panels. If you would like to know more about these positions feel free to speak to me. I would also at this time, like to apologize to the Area. I took this position in good faith and in hopes to build this subcommittee to the proper working function for the area and the addicts who suffer in hospitals and institutions. I did not know all of the job descriptions. Once job that I ran across is the panel coordinator; the requirement for this position is one year clean and the main one, 6 months previous involvement with H&I and I believe the Chair of H&I should have the same. I did not have this involvement. At this time, I am not stepping down, but I have identified the problem. This has been brought up several times about how we elect our trusted servants. The solution that I have come up with is that I am going to do the best I can with what I have. This is going to be a learning experience for most of us so let's have some patience and hopefully do this together. I would also like to mention that I have talked to the regional H&I Chair and he is willing to come up and do a learning day for us. He said that he has a budget they would be willing to pay for the building and everything provided we find a place. So I am at this time asking the Area on everyone's thoughts about this. Your trusted servant, Caleb B.

Outreach:

Hello everyone, I followed up on calling a few meetings. At Walker, talked to Duane and his sentiments were to stay in the Northern Lights area. He is wondering also how to get people involved in meeting and area service structure. He did not specify the time, but would try to attend the ASC in the future. I appreciated our conversation and will keep in touch. Both meetings are functioning. Also touched base with Kenny a while back; he said meeting is well attended and going good in Cloquet. The Virginia meetings are attended and well. Plans; to call every meeting with respective committee chairs approval to offer IPs from their respective committees. Jason S.

Activities:

The Activities committee had its first meeting on 8/18 prior to the ASC as scheduled. There were 5 people who participated. We discussed some possible upcoming activities such as Halloween, Fall Ball, New Year's and briefly discussed some other ideas for the upcoming year. Since Halloween was the first event for us to put together, we came up with a budget and decided on having this event in Duluth since the Fall Ball will be in Hibbing. The activities committee met again on 9/28. There were 5 people who participated. We discussed the details of the Halloween event. I explained to the committee all the different places that I had checked into for holding the event. At this point in time I had reserved the Lafayette Community Center on Park Point. I had received a copy of the rental agreement and brought it to the committee. We discussed that it wasn't what we had originally agreed to and wasn't going to meet our needs. I told the committee I would try a couple more places before we committed to it. They all agreed. We made some decisions regarding food/beverages we would sell at the event and came up with a list. We decided on a speaker and a back up that would be asked. Marvella agreed to be in charge of the cleanup crew and said she would get people to volunteer to help. Dean is going to be our DJ and help decorate for the event. Michelle and Lou agreed to help with food prep and decorating. That following week we secured the First United Methodist Church (coppertop church) in Duluth. It is on the corner of Mesaba Ave and Central Entrance. This place has lots of parking, on a bus-line, close to downtown, is handicap accessible, has a huge room for our use, kitchen facilities, and was available for the date. I also secured a speaker who will be Jason S from Superior. The event will start at 5:30 with food for sale and social time. The speaker will start at 7:00 and then the dance to follow. There will be a costume contest and cash prizes. We will be having a raffle throughout the event. We will also be doing a "jail and bail" throughout the event as well. It is \$5.00 for speaker and dance. The next event will be the Fall Ball hosted by the Hibbing NA group. There are flyers already printed and it is on the NA website. Please take flyers back to your meetings and pass the word. In Loving Service, Sheila.

Service Pamphlet Ad Hoc Report:

I am more than a little embarrassed to report very little progress on this project. While I have not had the opportunity to do service with many of you, I assure you that this is not typical of how I approach service responsibilities. My biggest challenge has been in connecting with folks doing service in the Area and not being able to attend the ASC. Vermilion campout helped with the first, but once again, I will not be able to attend the ASC. The good news is that starting in November, I will be able to attend for several months. Here is the progress I can report: I sent an email to the list of willing people that Robin provided before the Vermilion campout. I was hoping to have an initial meeting at that event. I received no responses, and I did not make it happen at the event (although I did really enjoy the campout). While attending the World Conference, I became aware of several new service pamphlets created by the World Board. These are now available from the NAWs website in the Service Materials area (www.na.org/service/mat/service_material.htm). Two of those pamphlets touch on some topics that could be included in a Service Pamphlet. I have attached a copy of both (*Group Trusted Servants* and *Group Business Meetings*). Lastly, I have started to work some ideas for the pamphlet based on my own experience, but I am hesitant to share them until we are able to have an AdHoc committee meeting. With that said, I would like to schedule an AdHoc meeting for before the November ASC. In order to keep from conflicting with the standing subcommittees, I will suggest 11:30 a.m. Since you will better know the schedule at this ASC, please feel free to adjust the time to avoid conflicts. In Service, ToeKnee K. (ToeKnee@draguns.net)

Vermilion 2007:

(See attached).

Motion made by Sheila, 2nd by Marvella to allow an additional \$100.00 to the \$500.00 budget for the Halloween Dance due to the high cost of renting space. Motion passed.

Service Pamphlet Adhoc Report from Tony K. read to ASC. It was agreed to ask Tony to attend the next Administrative Meeting and that we delay this project until January.

Upcoming elections – January:

Please encourage your group members to consider running for one of the following offices. Groups should begin discussing the upcoming elections, thinking about who they would like to support for each office and encourage group members to run for an office. All Officers positions are for a one-year term elected in January, beginning in March.

So far the following addicts have expressed an interest in running for office:

Robin is interested in running for Chair for a 2nd term.

Patti is interested in running for Treasurer for a 2nd term.

Bryan is interested in running for Vice-Chair.

Thursday Ladies' Night Group supplies were donated to Thursday, Safe Harbor Group in Two Harbors and Monday, Virginia meeting.

Meeting was closed at 5:00 with the Addicts Prayer.

Excerpt from NLANA Guidelines

Article V.

Section 5.01

Qualifications and Duties of Elected Participants

Elected participants should have prior experience and/or related skills respective to their position. Trusted servants must have a willingness to give the time and resources necessary to do the job as well as the ability to work independently as part of a group. A working knowledge of the Twelve Steps, Traditions and Concepts is essential. Trusted servants should have demonstrated leadership ability as discussed in Concept Four:

“Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.”

“And one of the first things we look for when selecting trusted servants is humility.”

“We depend on those who serve us to report on their activities completely and truthfully.”

“Any NA member can be a leader, and every NA member has the right to serve the fellowship.”

“In some positions, trusted servants need specific skills in order to act as effective leaders.”

“Other responsibilities, while requiring certain specific skills, depend for their fulfillment far more heavily on the trusted servant's spiritual maturity and personal integrity. Willingness, spiritual depth, and trustworthiness are strong demonstrations of the kind of leadership valued most highly in Narcotics Anonymous.”

Section 5.02 All elected participants are directly responsible to the groups of the NLASC.

Section 5.03 Newly proposed committees shall act as adhoc committees until the NLASC Guidelines can be amended to include the new committee.

Section 5.04 All Sub-Committees shall have a set of Sub-Committee Guidelines and keep an updated copy filed with the ASC Secretary.

Section 5.05 Chairperson

(a) Clean time: four (4) years continuous abstinence from all drugs.

(b) Presides over the ASC meeting.

(c) Maintains order by recognizing participants who wish to address the ASC.

(d) Provides the ASC Secretary with the upcoming meeting agenda for distribution two (2) weeks prior to the ASC meeting.

(e) Is a primary signer on the ASC checking account.

(f) Abstains from all voting and maintains a neutral position on all issues during the ASC meeting.

(g) Maintains a good working relationship with all elected participants of the ASC.

Section 5.06 Vice-Chairperson

(a) Clean time: three (3) years continuous abstinence from all drugs.

(b) Performs the Chairperson's duties in the absence of the Chairperson.

(c) Maintains an index of motions passed at NLASC business meetings.

(d) Makes available at each ASC a set of current guidelines. Distributes updated copies as necessary.

(e) Conducts a GSR orientation 15 minutes prior to each ASC meeting in accordance with the Group Handbook.

- (f) Retains a current list of all items held in storage.
- (g) Assists with the responsibilities of any administrative committee member in their absence.
- Section 5.07** Regional Committee Member (RCM)
- (a) Clean time: three (3) years continuous abstinence from all drugs.
- (b) Performs the Chairperson's responsibilities in the absence of both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- (c) The primary responsibility of an RCM is to work for the good of NA providing two-way communication between the Area and the Region.
- (d) Attends all regularly scheduled MNRSC business meetings.
- (e) Participates in the MNRSC as the voice of the NLASC and receives a vote of confidence from the NLASC to vote on items not on the agenda, or where a specific discussion has not been conducted, evaluating each item with the needs of the Fellowship in mind.
- (f) Provide a written report at each ASC on the business conducted at the MNRSC and upcoming MNRSC business and events.
- Section 5.08** Regional Committee Member Alternate (RCMA)
- (a) Clean time: two (2) years continuous abstinence from all drugs.
- (b) Performs the Chairperson's responsibilities in the absence of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and RCM.
- (c) Performs the RCM's responsibilities in the absence of the RCM.
- (d) Attends all regularly scheduled MNRSC business meetings.
- Section 5.09** Secretary
- (a) Clean time: two (2) years continuous abstinence from all drugs.
- (b) Performs the Chairperson's duties in the absence of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, RCM and RCMA.
- (c) Takes accurate minutes for each ASC meeting to include all elections, motions, and reports from elected participants of the ASC.
- (d) Distributes such minutes no later than two (2) weeks before each ASC to elected participants of the ASC and all NLA GSRs.
- (e) Retains a current contact list of all GSRs and Administrative Committee members.
- (f) Has on hand a copy of the past twelve (12) months of ASC minutes at each ASC meeting.
- (g) Is the primary key holder of the post office box and retrieves the mail no less than bi-weekly distributing as necessary.
- Section 5.10** Treasurer
- (a) Clean time: three (3) years continuous abstinence from all drugs.
- (b) Presents a written financial report at each ASC business meeting making all journals and ledger available for review.
- (c) Is a primary signatory on the ASC bank accounts.
- (d) Is the secondary key holder of the post office box and retrieves the mail when the Treasurer is unable to do so.
- (e) Serves as chairperson of the budget committee.
- (f) Serves on the Vermilion Committee and provides oversight of all fiscal transactions of the committee.
- (g) Provides oversight and review of the fiscal aspects of the Literature Committee.
- (h) Receipts all income.
- (i) Issues payments for all bills and other debt.
- (j) Tracks income and expenses and compares to the approved budget reporting any overages.
- (k) Signs a Financial Responsibility Statement for the NLASC to be kept on file with NLASC minutes.