

South Suburban Fireside Area Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:02pm with Serenity Prayer by Brian, with 15 addicts in attendance.
Motion by Garrett, seconded by Brian to approve the minutes from November meeting, passed.
Matt read the 12 Concepts of NA service.
Collected 7th tradition of \$9.68, which was given to the church as rent.

Hospitals and Institutions Subcommittee

James read the H&I Dos and Don'ts.
Literature Report (James reported): We have IP's for the taking.

Panel leader reports:

Dakota Co. Jail (James reported): It's going okay; we have a couple more people cleared. Ten total at this point. There was a discussion about bringing females into the jail. There was also discussion about checking in; the jail would like us to all check in as a group because it might go smoother. Brian asked about what the current process is and why there are issues now. James explained that we used to be the only one and now there are several programs going in. There has been an issue with people just showing up that are not cleared and it leaves us in a weird situation because should we be responsible for the other programs and what they do? How should we go about addressing this and should we? We are supposed to be there at 12:45 and there have been times when the other programs don't have enough people there so should we be waiting for them to get enough people to show up. James has brought it up to the guards but this is still a concern because the other groups are not prepared to check in. If there are issues the jail would be able to double check to see who is with which program. Todd asked if we had a list of people who are cleared and James does. The main thing is to make it easy for the guards because it's their show. The best way would be to have our contact for the jail facilitate check in. Rick feels that we are responsible productive members of society and if we are ready then we should check in. If they are not, then we are not responsible for them. James is concerned that if someone from another program breaks the rules it might be detrimental on all of the programs going in. Brent stated that we've spent a lot of time getting into the jail and now we are being asked to be responsible for another program's actions which might be a poor reflection on our program. It is the jails contact's responsibility to take care of the other programs. Erica asked if James has talked with our contact about this issue and he has. In the last past they've allowed us to check in separately but lately they've had an issue with it. Chad wanted to know if there was a way to go around our contact, but we've tried that in the past but it back fired on us horribly, basically it was make it work with this contact otherwise this won't work.

Detox (Beth reported): We had three addicts attend and three or four clients there because it was Thanksgiving.

Haven in Woodbury, adult group (Garrett reported): Small group also, two addicts spoke to six or seven clients. It went really well.

Haven in Shakopee, morning (Brian reported): Lisa and Brian did switch commitments due to their schedules.

Haven in Shakopee, evening (Brian reported): Changing to the fourth Monday because of New Year's Eve

Journey Treatment Center (Todd reported): They only go every other month so they didn't go last month. Set up to go the 26th of this month. Still looking for a female addict to come and share.

Cochran Recovery Center (Matt reported): We are good. But could use more support and Todd suggested that they ask around and get people to go.

Other H&I business:

- Brian has commitment sheets and no contact meeting lists for the jails and detox.
- James wants to revisit the check in issue at the jail. Brian agrees that we have to do our own thing and not wait around for the other programs to show up on time. There should be at least two people for each group. Matt states it that the jail must be viewing it all as one program rather than three separate programs and if someone ruins it the jail will take it away from all of us. James stated that the programs are viewed separately but it gets lost in translation with the guards. Brent suggests that we should allow another group to check every one in because then we are taking the responsibility off of ourselves. Erica wonders if we do everyone's check in is there any reason why we can't say something to another program member if they see an issue. James responded that it's up to each individual to obey the rules and we should not have to be responsible for their actions. Brent stated that we've built a great reputation with the jail and if someone messes up then we would all be booted out of there. Erica wanted more clarification of the check in process. Brent's concern is that everyone is lumped in as NA members because we've been going in there for years and the other programs have only been going in for the last couple of months, maybe a year. Brent suggests that we make a motion to just do the group check in. Brian made a motion to take this issue to the jail that we don't want to be responsible for the check in of other groups but we are okay with being part of the group. Chad seconded it. Motion passes.
- Chad brought up the fact that we don't allow females into the jail and he wants to know why they are not allowed. Brent replied that it's suggested in the H&I handbook and that it's the same as the sponsor/sponsee theory. The focus of the message would be distracted by the female being around all of the male inmates. James quoted the handbook about how it's best to have same sex members participate in facilities where there is only one sex there because we are there to further our primary purpose, not create attraction by bringing in other sex members. The jail has informed us that we are allowed to bring females into the jail but we have referred to our guidelines and have not allowed females. Not because they are not qualified but because it would be best for the commitment. There are several commitments that allow women to go and we are struggling to get women in. Kristie wanted to know if all areas follow the guidelines and James stated that it's up to each individual area to make their choices. Some areas only have certain people to go to commitments but we are not struggling to have people go to the jail commitment. Kristie shared that she would like to go to the jail because she wants to share her message and that this is the most convenient for her with her home life. Matt shared that he could use more females at the Cochran and the Detox could also use more females go in.

Outreach Subcommittee (Todd V.)

Meeting of Month – For January will be Midweek NA on the January 16th at 7:00pm located at Old Langdon School 8839 96th Street South, Cottage Grove, MN

Activities Subcommittee (James)

James doesn't have anything planned at this point because his father is very ill. Brian reminded him that he does have a co-chair. James shared that we now have snow so tubing could certainly be a possibility. At Trap Farm in Eagan it is \$105 in advance for twenty people, they have a warming house. There is also Badlands in Wisconsin. Melissa suggested that we check out Como Park but there are no tubes. Brian suggested we could get that going for after the P&I Learning day. Rick said there is another place that is strictly tubing - him and James will discuss it later and work out the details.

Public Relations Subcommittee (No Chair)

Matt stated that the Back to the Basics area called and left a message about how they just had their learning day and they were going to call back. They are currently playing phone tag and hopefully Matt will be able to touch base with them soon. Todd asked if we have gotten any other responses from other MN areas and we have not. Erica asked about the emails she shared with James and he did touch base with Lucy but she referred him to someone else who has not responded. Kori asked about the date and time. Garrett did print off the PR Basics and it came out pretty good so he would be able

to print them for 10 cents a copy. If we don't get any speakers we could just do a round robin about the PR booklet. Brian stated that we've have Monte coming to our area meeting and have we asked them for any assistance. Matt stated that they discussed it but felt that they would do something different than we would. Brent suggested that we gather one more time to finalize details about the event. James suggested that maybe we get a flyer put together and try to get them to the meetings before the event. Erica asked if GSR's had brought back their flyers about the social media information. Brent relayed that the pamphlets are world approved not area approved. Brian asked about a date and time for the get together - it was suggested that they get together on the December 29th around 2:30 at Brent's house on West 5th Street & Forest in Hastings.

Other Old/New Business

James asked if he has permission to come up with flyer. Brent made the motion that James makes a motion, Rick seconded it. Motion passed.

Northern Lights Area is going to have their version of MNNAC in Duluth - he has flyers to distribute.

Meeting closed at 7:33pm. Todd made a motion to close, Garrett seconded it.

South Suburban Fireside Area Subcommittee Meeting Agenda January 10, 2013

- Opening
- Introductions
- Approval of minutes
- Reading of 12 Concepts of NA Service
- 7th Tradition
- Hospitals and Institutions Subcommittee
 - H&I Introduction/Dos and Don'ts
 - Literature Report
 - Panel Leader Reports
 - Dakota Co. Jail
 - Dakota Co. Detox
 - Haven (Woodbury) – adult
 - Haven (Shakopee) – morning and evening
 - Journey Treatment Center
 - Cochran Recovery Center
- Other H&I items
- Outreach Subcommittee
- Activities Subcommittee
- Public Relations Subcommittee
- Other old/new business
- Adjournment