

South Suburban Fireside Area Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:00pm with Serenity Prayer by Area Vice-Chair Erica, with 13 addicts in attendance. Motion by Donnie, seconded by Todd to approve the minutes from February meeting, passed. Todd read the 12 Concepts of NA service. Collected 7th tradition of \$11, 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 very few IP's. He will go soon to restock. He has H&I meeting lists from spring of 2011. Requested master copy of tear off meeting list from Kevin. Todd was able to supply a copy. Brian asked if there is an electronic version of the H&I commitments. Garrett will create one.

Panel leader reports:

Dakota Co. Jail (James reported): It is going good. Went last week with two members who shared a little bit. The inmates shared and got involved. Not doing the 7100 unit so 2100 will be replacing the slot. This Saturday we will potentially be doing the 2100 unit. It will be a different setting. Four members are cleared and able to go.

Detox (Donnie reported): 4 recovering addicts attended and 6 clients at the meeting. It went well. He will be stepping down due to medical reasons. This commitment is on the fourth Thursday of the month. Beth is willing to temporarily cover until we get someone to fill in. She is currently doing the Cochran commitment. Once we find a male member to fill that commitment she will do both. She does not need to bring literature to this commitment.

Haven in Woodbury, adult group (Garrett reported): Has not heard from them so he will be giving them a call.

Haven in Woodbury, adolescent group (John reported): With the change in counselors it has been hard to fulfill this commitment. 3 members attended with 2 clients, it went pretty well. They requested we go every Wednesday but we will not be able to fulfill that request.

Haven in Shakopee, morning (Brian reported): It went just fine but he needs more people to commit to go.

Haven in Shakopee, evening (James reported): 3 members went and things went well. They have basic texts available free for the taking. James also dropped off flyers.

Journey Treatment Center (Todd reported): Will be going this month. Has new people from other areas to go.

Cochran Recovery Center (Beth reported): Went well. She did confirm it is an all male treatment center and they don't mind if Beth keeps going. But she would like to follow the handbook guidelines. There is no male interest at this time.

Other H&I business:

- Brian received an email from Paul's Place (men's only facility) requesting we bring an H&I commitment to them. He suggested we could bring in speakers once a week or month. They come support our meetings and Brian would like to support them. James is concerned about two people going to follow the guidelines. Todd questioned if they wanted once a week or once a month. We would need to decide if we are doing speakers or meetings. Donnie suggested we bring speakers because Paul's Place already goes to a lot of meetings. Todd commented that when we do a presentation we do share our experience, strength and hope. Brent suggested we follow the guidelines of the handbook. Erica was curious about if there should always be two or more people at a commitment. James read from the handbook to answer people's questions concerning what format we should use. We would have a panel leader for speaker commitments? Brian agreed that we do need a panel leader to coordinate the commitment. Brian suggested we bring this back to our groups to see if there is interest. The available commitment times are first Wednesday of the month anytime between 1:30 - 3:30 and the third Thursday of the month between 6:30 - 9:00 pm.

- Bridging the Gap is asking panel leaders to bring post cards into our commitments. They have supplied us with an informational form and the cards to use at the institutions. We are asked to get permission from commitments to bring them in and distribute the cards.

Outreach Subcommittee

Todd asked for suggestions for the April meeting of the month. James asked if there were any concerns from meetings at the Area meeting. Maybe do Never Alone, Monday Night Round Robin... John said Cottage Grove is doing very well. Erica reminded us that the meeting of the month is not just for struggling meetings but any meeting to show unity. She asked about sending reminders on Facebook.

Meeting of Month – March meeting will be NA 101 on March 17th, April meeting will be Monday Night Round Robin on April 16th.

Catie brought the outreach frustrations to the open forum at the Regional meeting. Some ideas that were suggested include renting a van to bring people to the meeting of the month with gas reimbursement, make phone calls to groups, outreach is also tied to public relations so go to struggling meetings, post flyers with meeting information around town, go to H&I commitments to talk about local meetings near the facility, try to spread the work to the general public, carry the message campaign, using Bridging the Gap as an option to bring people in.

Todd wanted to know who is in charge of the newsletter. Brent stated it is the outreach chair. John is willing to help out with the task, but it might take some time to create. Brent said to contact Kevin to start receiving any electronic submissions. Todd suggested we hand out more submission forms, to be returned via GSR's to the outreach committee. James talked about the expense of printing forms and the lack of return. Submissions can always be submitted via email at ssfanews@naminnesota.org

Activities Subcommittee

Rick: Pizza/Game night for the middle of the month. Trying to do a game night at different churches of the area to help promote people to go to other parts of our area. James asked for game suggestions: bean bag toss, battle of the sexes, catch phrase, ladder ball, bocce ball softball games.

Public Relations Subcommittee

Catie said that at area she brought the idea that we contact MVTA to display our message on the buses to attract newcomers. She drafted an email to send and read it out loud for opinions. Brent suggested she look at NA.org for examples of letters to use. James asked about meeting lists, John & Garrett are currently doing this task. James also stated that people called him about meetings at Hope Church. Catie informed him that the lists are currently being updated at World, Region & Area.

Other Business

The discussion of removing the 11th concept from our format was brought up. Donnie made a motion to remove the statement from our format and Rick H seconded the motion. It will be removed from the format starting next month.

Brian asked that we bring back to our meeting the willingness to take on another service commitment at Paul's Place.

Meeting closed at 8:20 pm.

South Suburban Fireside Area Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
April 12, 2012

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 and adolescent
 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