

South Suburban Fireside Area Subcommittee Meeting Minutes September 12, 2013

Meeting opened at 7:00pm with Serenity Prayer by H&I Subcommittee Chair Brian, with 8 addicts in attendance.

Motion by James, seconded by Todd to approve the minutes from August meeting, 6 – Approved, 0 – Opposed, 2 – Abstained, passed.

Todd read the 12 Concepts of NA service.

Collected 7th tradition of \$7.00, which was given to the church as rent.

Hospitals and Institutions Subcommittee

Eric read the H&I Dos and Don'ts.

Literature Report (James reported): Has IPs with him, take them if you need them.

Panel leader reports:

Dakota Co. Jail: (Mike reported): Still looking for more people who are cleared to go. Were not able to go last week, but are set to go this week.

Detox (Beth reported): All is going well.

Haven in Woodbury, adult group: Went 2nd Monday last month. Have issues which needs to be discussed (see new business below). 5 addicts attended.

Haven in Shakopee, morning (Brian reported): Missed due to Labor Day (they did not reschedule).

Haven in Shakopee, evening (Brian reported): 3 addicts went and shared, the commitment went well. 6-7 clients attended.

Journey Treatment Center (Todd reported): Going every month now, had 4 other addicts to share. Looking for at least 1 more person to share (Brian volunteered).

Cochran Recovery Center (Matt reported): Going well, commitment next Thursday.

Other H&I business:

- Met with Haven at Woodbury to re-introduce ourselves. Will continue to do the 2nd week of even numbered months. The counselor was upset at us, he only wants us to read 1 or 2 readings. (and was very adamant about it) Ended up doing 4 for the commitment last month (Who is an Addict, What is the NA Program, How It Works, 12 Traditions). NA Handbook doesn't set anything "in stone" as to what we read. Looking for input.
Matt: We are doing an introduction to NA, and the readings are our program. Nothing else gives a better introduction than the readings.
Todd: Was there; counselor said that the clients "get lost in all the readings", assuming that they can't concentrate that long. He especially didn't want "How It Works" read. None of the clients wanted to read, either. The counselor wanted to control the format of the meeting.
James: In H&I Handbook, there's a similar situation outlined. The handbook states that the format of the H&I meeting is up to the subcommittee. That said, an introduction doesn't have to include everything at once.
Brian: The counselor (Kyle) stated the he thinks the most important thing we can do is bring our stories. If we can't come to an agreement, we may need to look at a different commitment.
Mike: This is how we learn these things – there are no wrong decisions here. We should start with "Why Are We Here", and the steps. We don't want to compromise spiritual principles, so it needs to be more explaining what we are trying to accomplish and approach it as an issue of understanding.
Brent: It's not set in stone anywhere what readings we do at any meeting. We should give them an explanation of our format and panel, and the literature carries that message better than any of us individually. We need to focus on what is important to us, how we communicate that, and where we go from here.
Todd: Summary: we just go back to talk with the counselor ahead of time and come to an understanding; we should set up a time outside of the planned commitment for this discussion.
Brian asked for volunteers to go meet with the counselor; Todd and Mike stepped up. Brian will set up a time.
- Mike: Is there an age requirement for Dakota Co. Jail? Brent answered the minimum age requirement is 18; the jail doesn't have any minimum clean time, but the subcommittee has always recommended 1 year. We haven't had clear guidance from the jail on whether or not being on probation prohibits participation.

Outreach Subcommittee (Todd V.) – New Chair Needed!

Never Alone has been struggling, so has been suggested for next month. All agreed – will be October 20, 7pm, in Lakeville. For September – Monday Night Round Robin; will be on Monday, 9/16, 7pm at First Presbyterian Church in South St. Paul (same place as PIG/ASC meetings).

Other struggling meetings: Never Alone has had a decrease in people with significant clean time, could use people with more clean time attending. Rock Solid NA in Northfield has had no shows 2 weeks in a row.

Activities Subcommittee (Co-chair James reported)

Kickball event on Labor Day (9/2) was very successful – Cochran House brought 3 vans, had about 60 people attend. Game show (MnNAC awareness event) on Saturday, 9/21 – dinner at 5pm, speakers at 6pm, game show starts at 7.

Other ideas have been expressed for a pancake breakfast or taco dinner, nothing is ready to go at this time.

Public Relations Subcommittee (No Chair)

We still need a chair!

Other Old/New Business

None

Meeting closed at 7:45pm. Motion to close made by Eric, seconded by Beth, all 9 approved.

South Suburban Fireside Area Subcommittee Meeting Agenda October 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