



Area Service Committee Meeting Minutes May 5, 2011

Meeting opened at 7:00 PM by Area Chair, Catie O.

Introductions: 21 members in attendance, with 1 newcomer.

Readings: 12 Steps read by Todd V.; 12 Traditions read by Joe C.; 12 Concepts read by James M.

Call for quorum: 10 voting members present (minimum for quorum is 7).

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Todd V. to approve the April, 2011 ASC minutes; seconded by John K.; vote: favor – 8; oppose – 0; abstentions – 1; motion carried.

7th Tradition: collected: (see Treasurer's Report)

Subcommittee Reports

Meetings for the Activities, Hospitals & Institutions, Outreach, and Public Relations Subcommittees are held at 7:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Faith Methodist Church, 1530 Oakdale Ave., West St. Paul, MN.

Region: (RCM: Melissa)

- See attached report. [pp. 11 – 15]
- Kevin asked if Melissa can vote at Region as both SSFA's RCM and a member of the FST (Fellowship Services Team). She will check; if not, she will give up the FST position.

Activities: (Chair: Tim B.)

[Secretary's note: Time announced during Open Forum that the Taco Feed brought in \$500 before expenses, with \$40 paid for rent and \$460 returned to area.]

Upcoming events:

- Sat. May 7: Theme Park @ Nickelodeon Universe
- Sat. May 21, Horseback riding @ River Valley Ranch
- Sat. June 11, Barbeque, Comedy, and Dancing
- Sat. June 25, Tubing @ Welch, \$9/person, bring your own for BBQ

Concerns & Needs:

- \$ for events to carry the message.

Public Relations: (Chair: Kevin M.)

- Working on meeting lists with "tear off" hotline phone number tabs which can be posted around the community.

Hospitals & Institutions: (Chair: Lisa F., Co-chair Brian F. reported)

- H&I Learning Day, Sat. June 4, 3pm-7pm
- **Concerns & Needs:**
 - Need more people to carry the message for H&I commitments.

Current H&I commitments:

Every Saturday: Dakota Co. Jail 1-2pm (Need pre-approval to participate, call contact for info.) Contact: James M. 612-716-4449
1 st Monday of every month: Haven in Shakopee 10:00am Contact: Brian F. 612-209-6358
1 st Thursday of every month: Cochran Recovery Center Contact: Jocelyn G.
2nd Tuesday of every month: Avalon Treatment (Eagan) 5:30-6:30pm Contact: Todd V. 651-285-1789
3rd Monday of every month: Haven Treatment (adolescent) 6-7pm Contact: Sage S. 651-315-6007
4 th Monday of every month: Haven in Shakopee 7pm Contact: Lisa F. 952-688-3655
4th Thursday of every month: Dakota County Detox. 7-8pm Contact: Matt T. 651-304-0304
Last Monday of "odd number" months: Journey Treatment, Farmington, 7-8pm Contact: James M. 612-716-4449
Every 3 months: Haven Treatment Center (adult) (Please call contact for exact date and time) Contact: Garrett L. 763-360-8151

Outreach: (Chair: James M.)

- Newsletter published this month, please distribute at meetings.
- Meeting of the Month: NA 101 in Hastings at 7pm on Saturday, May 21.

Concerns & Needs:

- Newsletter submissions – please send experience, strength & hope for newsletter, either via hardcopy or e-mail to ssfanews@naminnesota.org

PIG (Chair: Sage S.)

PIG committee meets first Thursday of every month at 6pm (one hour before ASC).

Current PIG account balance is approx.. \$3000.

- May 21 – PIG fundraiser @ Old Langdon, 9pm, \$5 admission

Concerns & Needs:

- None.

Literature (Chair: Heather J.)

- Please call Heather with a heads-up of items needed before the 4th Thursday (for meetings that hold business meetings after the last Thursday, please give a call with an estimate if possible).

Group Concerns & Announcements

[Note: written GSR reports are now at the end of the ASC minutes.]

- Addicts in Recovery needs more male sponsors.
- Young People in Recovery has changed the group name to Hudson Hillside NA and has moved to Prospect Park for the summer; group could use more support.
- Peace of Mind has raised \$313 for PIG so far this year by “passing the piggy”.

Open Forum

1. Catie O: Inter City Unity Convention (ICUC) discussion

Catie reported on the correspondence with Region (and Region's correspondence with World) concerning ICUC. The organizers of ICUC have been stating that they are “sanctioned by World”, which is not the case. ICUC is not (currently) responsible to any local NA service committee, and therefore are not a Narcotics Anonymous event.

[Secretary's note: copies of correspondence are attached after the minutes, pp. 16 – 18.]

Catie asked if anyone wanted to make a motion. James stated that it would be appropriate for the groups to review the information, and then if a group wanted to come back with a motion that would be appropriate to do so. Tim asked if support them; Kevin stated that we did give them \$100 in the past when ICUC came and asked for support. James suggested that in the future we should do some additional research when someone comes and asks for money before we approve it.

2. Melissa W: Region service volunteer form

There is a signup form on the region website (www.naminnnesota.org) for people interested volunteering for service (such as answering the new region-wide helpline); follow the Volunteer Opportunities link on the home page to access it. There is also a paper version of the form available (which Melissa distributed to GSRs). Melissa is willing to enter the information for people who return hardcopy forms, or groups can enter the information themselves on the website for their members who complete hardcopy forms.

3. Melissa W.: Fellowship Services Team

Melissa reported on the Region's Fellowship Services Team, of which she is a member. Please see the attached information [pp. 19 – 20]. There is a helpline orientation being held on May 14.

4. Tim B.: Activities

Tim forgot to mention in the Activities report that Taco Feed brought in \$500; \$40 was given to the church for rent, with \$460 returned to the area. Brad asked people to mention at their groups that he is going to need help as Activities Chair (after Tim steps down), please call him or come to the subcommittee meeting.

Elections

- Kevin M. announced that he may need to step down as Public Relations Chair if he gets a job about which he's waiting to hear.
- Sage nominated John K. as RCM Alternate; John said that he was not ready to accept, but would think about it.

Open Positions: Vice-Chair, RCMA, Co-Treasurer, Co-Secretary, Public Relations Subcommittee Co-Chair, Literature Subcommittee Co-Chair, PIG Concessions Chair (new position).

Old Business

1. Heather was only able to get 9 of the 12 softcover basic texts approved for the H&I subcommittee last month (as that was all UMSO had in stock). She will get the remaining 3 for next month.

New Business

1. Motion by Tim B. Title: \$210 for 10 admissions to theme park at M.O.A.
Tim stated that he was originally told by the theme park that people could pay at the gate, but then was told that he had to buy them all at once. He has enough people confirmed on Facebook to cover the 10, so would like the money to be able to pre-purchase the 10 tickets.
Motion seconded by Steve P.
Discussion: Several people asked for clarification that the money would be returned to the area. Melissa suggested that instead of having area provide the money, people attending meet at a specified time so Tim could collect the money from them and buy the tickets.
Vote: Support – 0, Oppose – 7, Abstentions – 1, motion failed.
2. Motion by Tim B. Title: \$70 for Barbeque, Comedy, and Dancing event.
Tim spent more than planned on the Taco Feed due to additional people attending and increases in food prices, but the event ended up returning \$460 to the area. Tim also went ahead and purchased \$18 soda on sale for events coming up. Due to these two items he is short on money needed for the BBQ Comedy and Dancing event.
Discussion: James asked about the money remaining from the Taco Feed and suggested that the extra purchases should have been taken out of these funds before returning the “net” to the area, as that would be less confusing. Todd asked how much the Taco Feed went over budget. Melissa reminded everyone that Tim has been organizing and purchasing everything for the events, and he's been doing it on his own for almost a year. Angie stated that only \$14 was spent on copies this month.
Vote: Favor – 2, opposed – 0, abstentions – 7, motion failed.
3. Motion by Mary M. Title: Books from activities.
Motion to see a full accounting (books) from activities, as there are a lot of requests for area to fund various activity events and confusion over how money has been spent.
Discussion: Mary stated that doing lots of events is good, but this month is the only time any money has come back to the area. Steve stated that it's not all about money; addicts are coming back due to the activities. Garrett mentioned that the new bylaws specify that monthly committee reports are supposed to include an accounting of all funds spent or received. Because this is already in the bylaws, Mary withdrew the motion.

Tim went to get his ledger; the Taco Feed supplies cost \$189.11 where only \$135 had been approved. James mentioned that since we told the comedian for the BBQ Comedy and Dancing event that we would pay him \$125, the area should make sure this gets done. Tim mentioned that we can handle it next month as the event is after the next ASC meeting.

4. Motion by Melissa W. Title: Treasurer Report change

Motion to have the Treasurer's Report listed in the next month's minutes instead of waiting for it to be reported at the end of the meeting. Intent: Reduce the chaos at the end of area meetings and reduce the amount of waiting time at the end of the meeting. Motion seconded by John K.

Discussion: Garrett mentioned that we have waiting in the past in order to know how much to donate to Region, but we could just do the donation based on how much was left after the previous month. Melissa noted that we haven't donated anything to Region since she has been RCM.

Vote: Favor – 8, opposed – 0, abstentions – 0, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

4/7/2011

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$1562.80	
Cash in (+)	ASC	OTHER
7 th Tradition	\$9.00	\$ 0
Ties That Bind Us	\$70.00	\$ 0
NA Day	\$529.84	\$ 0
Woodbury Freebirds	\$100.00	\$ 0
Step By Step	\$35.00	\$ 0
TNT	\$25.00	\$ 0
Peace of Mind	\$31.95	\$ 0
Literature Sales	\$454.20	
TOTAL DONATIONS:	\$1254.99	\$ 0

Cash out (-)		
Rent – 1 st Presbyterian Ch.	-\$30.00	
MNRSC (Region)	\$0	
Activities (Tim B.)	-\$396.00	
Copies (Kevin M.)	-\$41.25	
Literature (UMSO)	-\$474.48	
CASH OUT TOTAL:	-\$941.73	
ENDING BALANCE:		\$1876.06

5/5/2011

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$1876.06	
Cash in (+)	ASC	OTHER
7 th Tradition	\$7.31	\$ 0
Monday Night Round Robin	\$40.00	\$ 0
Step By Step	\$33.42	\$ 0
Lakeville Basic Text Study	\$22.30	\$ 0
Peace of Mind	\$34.80	\$ 0
Ties That Bind Us	\$35.96	\$ 0
TNT	\$30.00	\$ 0
NA Day	\$131.09	\$ 0
Activities (Taco Feed)	\$460.00	\$ 0
Literature Sales	\$360.86	\$ 0
TOTAL DONATIONS:	\$1155.74	\$ 0

Cash out (-)		
Rent – 1 st Presbyterian Ch.	-\$30.00	
MNRSC (Region)	\$0	
Activities (Tim B.)	-\$36.50	
Copies (Kevin M.)	-\$46.80	
Receipt book (Angie M.)	-\$6.90	
Receipt book (Heather)	-\$6.90	
Literature (UMSO)	-\$579.83	
CASH OUT TOTAL:	-\$706.93	
ENDING BALANCE:		\$2324.87

Motion to adjourn by Brad, seconded by John K. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

GSR Reports

<i>Woodbury Freebirds</i>	<i>6:00pm Sunday</i>	<i>Stable</i>
GSR	: John K.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 20-25	
Avg. Newcomers	: 2-3	
H&I Activities	: announced	
ASC Donation	:	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

Step by Step	7:00pm Sunday	Stable
GSR	: Rick	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 15-20	
Avg. Newcomers	: 1-2	
H&I Activities	:	
ASC Donation	: \$33.42	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

Never Alone	7:00pm Sunday	Stable
GSR	: NOT PRESENT	
Avg. Attendance	:	
Avg. Newcomers	:	
H&I Activities	:	
ASC Donation	:	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

Monday Night in The Grove	7:00pm Monday	Stable
GSR	: Joe C.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 18	
Avg. Newcomers	: 1	
H&I Activities	:	
ASC Donation	:	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

Monday Night Round Robin	7:00pm Monday	Stable
GSR	: Steve P.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 10	
Avg. Newcomers	: 1	
H&I Activities	:	
ASC Donation	: \$40.00	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

Ties That Bind Us	7:00pm Monday	Stable
GSR	: Shane K.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 10-20	
Avg. Newcomers	: 2	
H&I Activities	: announced	
ASC Donation	: \$35.96	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

Tues. Morning Women's Rec.		10:00am Tuesday	Stable
GSR	:	NOT PRESENT	
Avg. Attendance	:		
Avg. Newcomers	:		
H&I Activities	:		
ASC Donation	:		
Scheduled Activities	:		
Concerns	:		

TNT: Tues. Nights Together		7:00pm Tuesday	Stable
GSR	:	Todd V.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	:	10-15	
Avg. Newcomers	:	1-2	
H&I Activities	:	announced	
ASC Donation	:	\$30.00	
Scheduled Activities	:	announced	
Concerns	:		

Addicts in Recovery		7:00pm Tuesday	Stable
GSR	:	Zoe L.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	:	15	
Avg. Newcomers	:	2	
H&I Activities	:		
ASC Donation	:		
Scheduled Activities	:		
Concerns	:	Need more male sponsors.	

Midweek NA		7:00pm Wednesday	Stable
GSR	:	NOT PRESENT	
Avg. Attendance	:		
Avg. Newcomers	:		
H&I Activities	:		
ASC Donation	:		
Scheduled Activities	:		
Concerns	:		

Gaylord Serenity Seekers		7:00pm Thursday	Stable
GSR	:	NOT PRESENT	
Avg. Attendance	:		
Avg. Newcomers	:		
H&I Activities	:		
ASC Donation	:		
Scheduled Activities	:		
Concerns	:		

Hudson Hillside N.A.	7:00pm Friday	Stable
GSR	: Luke	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 6	
Avg. Newcomers	: 1/month	
H&I Activities	:	
ASC Donation	:	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	: Changed name from Young People in Recovery to Hudson Hillside N.A.; meeting in Prospect Park for the summer.	

Peace of Mind	7:30pm Friday	Stable
GSR	: Paul F.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 27	
Avg. Newcomers	: 2	
H&I Activities	: mentioned	
ASC Donation	: \$34.80	
Scheduled Activities	: announced	
Concerns	: Piggy passed every week; have collected \$313 so far this year!	

NA Day	7:30pm Friday	Stable
GSR	: NO REPORT	
Avg. Attendance	:	
Avg. Newcomers	:	
H&I Activities	:	
ASC Donation	: \$131.09	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

Keep It Simple	9:00pm Friday	Stable
GSR	: Garrett rep.	NOT PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	: 12	
Avg. Newcomers	: 1	
H&I Activities	: announced	
ASC Donation	:	
Scheduled Activities	:	
Concerns	:	

NA 101		7:00pm Saturday	Stable
GSR	:	NOT PRESENT	
Avg. Attendance	:		
Avg. Newcomers	:		
H&I Activities	:		
ASC Donation	:		
Scheduled Activities	:		
Concerns	:		

Lakeville Basic Text Study		9:00pm Saturday	Stable
GSR	:	Brian F.	PRESENT
Avg. Attendance	:	20	
Avg. Newcomers	:	1	
H&I Activities	:		
ASC Donation	:	\$22.30	
Scheduled Activities	:		
Concerns	:		

Attachments follow:

1. Melissa W., RCM Report: pp. 11 - 15
2. Catie O., ICUC Correspondence: pp. 16 – 18
3. Melissa W., Fellowship Services Team, pp. 19 - 20

MNRSC Report from 04/02/11

Quorum

- All areas were represented except Voyageurs.

Old Business

The following are some of the motions presented, voted on, and their status:

- Motion 300: Approve 02/12/11 Minutes - Passed
- Motion 301: To amend the Regional Guidelines about the MNNAC hosting area submissions – Passed
- Motion 302: To approve the Temporary Contact Project Idea – Passed
- Motion 303: To approve the Service Mentorship Project - Passed

New Business

There was none since this meeting was held at Creating our Common Welfare and we wanted to keep it short.

Open Forum

A discussion was held regarding the Region meeting remotely. Last December we attempted an impromptu remote meeting due to a snowstorm preventing us from meeting face to face. A consensus decision was made to meet remotely for the December 2011 RSC.

Elections

The following people were elected into service positions:

Fellowship Services Team – Melissa W. & Cole C. (there are several positions still available on this team)

RD-Alternate – Anthony B

UMSO Board of Directors Representative – Pam S.

Inner Cities Unity Convention (ICUC)

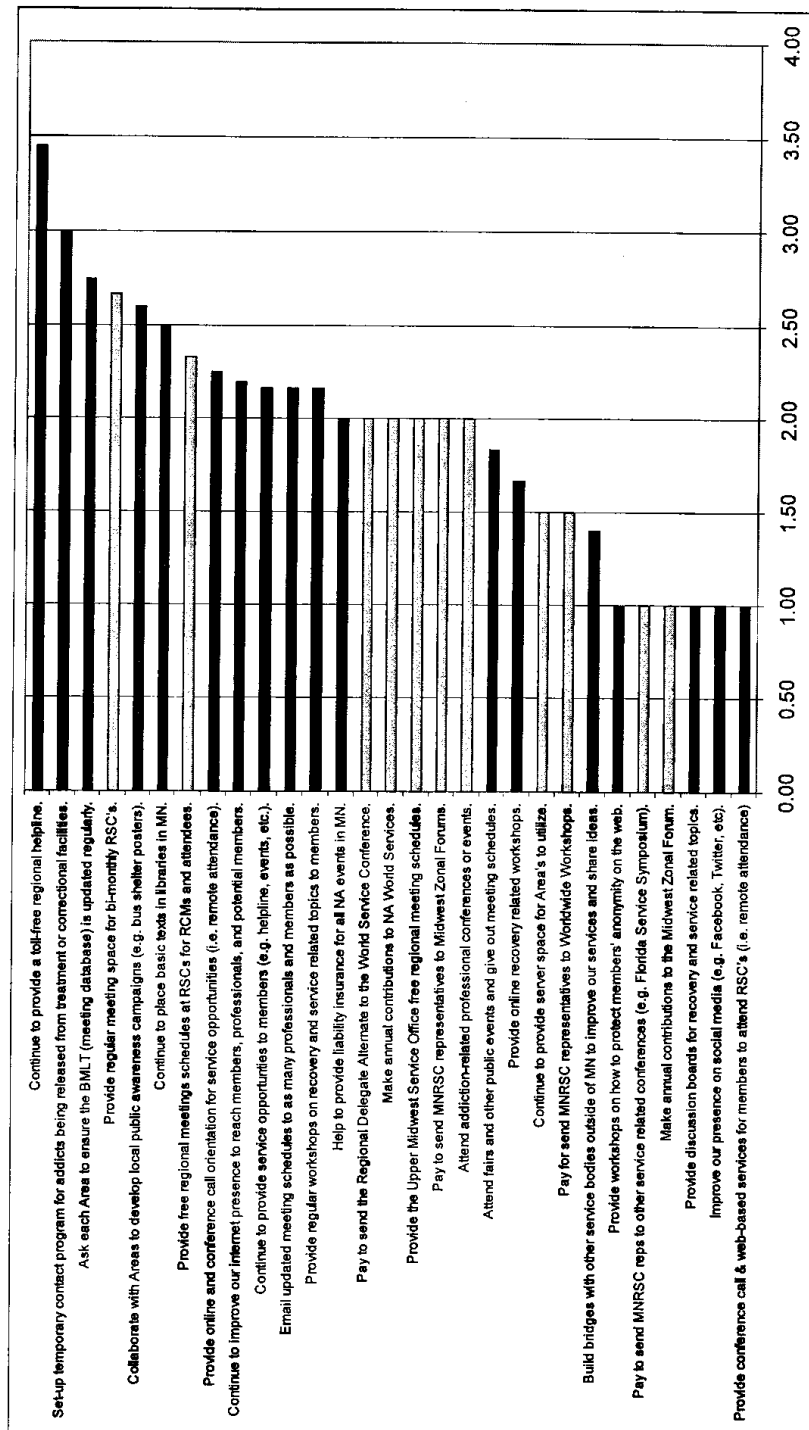
At our February meeting we had a thorough discussion concerning this event. Unfortunately, once again the discussion ended with more questions than answers. The FST decided to seek guidance from NA World Services. All the correspondence between NAWS, the FST and ICUC are attached to this agenda.

Based on the information that we received from the Fellowship Services Team Leader at NA World Services, in order for the Inner Cities Unity Convention to be considered a Narcotics Anonymous convention, it must be accountable to a local NA service committee, in accordance with our ninth tradition.

Since that is not the case, the MNRSC has no opinion on ICUC; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy, in accordance with our tenth tradition. However, once the ICUC is “conducted and overseen by a local NA service committee”, we will wholeheartedly support it.

Priority exercise tabulated ranking results – color coded by resources COCW – April 2, 2011

Nine teams of six or more were asked to rank service related items from 0 to 5 (five being high priority). The following is an average of the rankings by all the teams. Each graph line is color coded based on the general resources needed for its achievement: orange is a combination of financial and human resources; green is largely a financial resource; and blue is primarily a human resource activity. Of course, the degree of human and financial resources needed for each activity depends on the actual scope of each activity.



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A new site for a new era

For professionals and the general public

- Introductory information about Narcotics Anonymous
- Easy access to the helpline
- Frequently asked questions for both professionals and newcomers
- View recovery sharing by NA members
- Read the Just For Today meditation of the day
- Find a meeting in your area or anywhere in Minnesota or the world
- View upcoming events in Minnesota and the world
- Register for MNNAC
- Introduction to the Upper Midwest Service Office
- Order literature online
- Request a monthly updated meeting list
- Print a custom meeting list based on multiple criteria
- Contact Area or Regional trusted servants

For NA members

- All of the above plus . . .
- A clean-time calculator
- Schedule an upcoming event
- Volunteer for service opportunities
- A schedule of all service committee meetings and workshops
- Current trusted servants listing
- Trusted servant responsibilities, requirements and elections
- Share your recovery
- Share your service experience
- Online document archive for your Area's bylaws, minutes and reports
- Submit your service report
- Subscribe to the NA Way
- Access to NA world-wide issue discussion topics

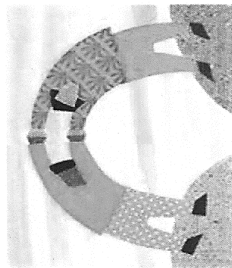


Volunteer to be a Temporary Contact

3 Ways To Sign Up

Text: "TEMP CONTACT" to 612-562-6609
Email: BridgingTheGap@namnnesota.org
Click on: "[Volunteer Opportunities](http://namnnesota.net)" at <http://namnnesota.net>

- Help addicts transition from institutions to the rooms of NA.
- Two to three weeks—short-term, temporary.
- Meet the newcomer at their first couple of meetings.
- Introduce them around to others in the program.
- Give them a hand finding a home group.
- Encourage them to get a permanent sponsor.
- Help them feel welcome.

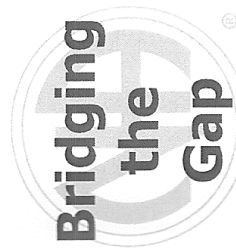
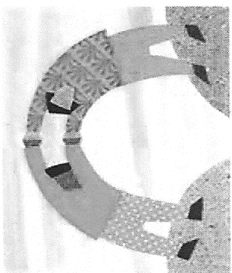


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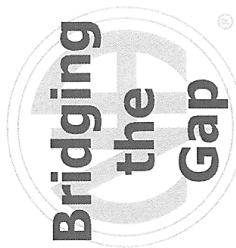
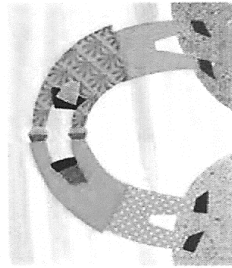


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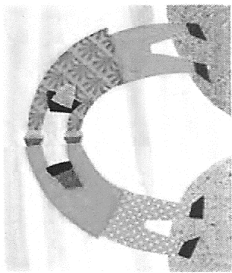


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SmartZone Communications Center

catie1898@comcast.net

± Font size -

ICUC correspondence

From : Kit Egan <kitegan@msn.com>
Subject : ICUC correspondence
To : catie1898@comcast.net
Cc : mnisc-fst@googlegroups.com <mnisc-fst@googlegroups.com>

Mon Apr 25 2011 9:52:12 AM

📎 1 attachment

Catie,

I'm not sure when someone will be able to get to the SSF Area's meeting. I believe Melissa W. is intending to be the Fellowship Services Team member who'll be paying you a visit.

Keep in mind that a convention is many things. One of these things is that it's a business intending to make a profit. Without a profit they can't continue to exist. MNNAC must make a profit each year to produce the seed money for the next MNNAC.

In the meantime attached is the document I distributed at the Area of Hope ASC.

Essentially it's the note the RSC Chair sent to Narcotics Anonymous World Services and the NAWS response.

The ICUC has been saying from day one that they're "sanctioned by the World" and that "the World is our single point of accountability."

As you'll read in the NAWS response, neither of those statements is true. There is no such thing as being "sanctioned" by the World. The World is NOT the single point of accountability for the ICUC.

NAWS says that "It may be helpful to remember that local NA events are created, conducted, and overseen by local NA service committees."

Because the ICUC is NOT overseen by local NA service Committees, because they're not accountable to any part of NA, they are NOT a Narcotics Anonymous event.

We hope they decide to become an NA event by being accountable to the local service structure, but until that day they are not permitted to use our Fellowship's name and logos to sell tickets to their private, for profit business event.

Kit

📎 ICUC correspondence.doc
68 KB

MNRSC Chair Report

April 2, 2011

Inner Cities Unity Convention (ICUC)

Based on the information that we received from the Fellowship Services Team Leader at NA World Services, in order for the Inner Cities Unity Convention to be considered a Narcotics Anonymous convention, it must be accountable to a local NA service committee, in accordance with our ninth tradition.

Since that is not the case, the MNRSC has no opinion on ICUC; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy, in accordance with our tenth tradition. However, once the ICUC is "conducted and overseen by a local NA service committee", we will wholeheartedly support it.

Correspondence concerning the ICUC

From: Jeff Spencer [mailto:jeffrey.spencer@msn.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 8:51 PM

To: Elaine Wickham

Cc: mnrsc-fst@googlegroups.com

Subject: Questions Concerning the Inner City Unity Convention in Minneapolis

Dear NAWS Board of Directors,

We are looking for clarity regarding your relationship with the Inner City Unity Convention here in Minnesota. This event has been held in Minneapolis for the last two years, and their third convention is scheduled for October 7-9, 2011. This convention is organized by several NA members here in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. As the convention is being held in the heart of the Minnesota Region, we are very interested in ensuring that this event is both successful and that it remains within the bounds of the Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous and Twelve Concepts for NA Service. We have reached out to the convention's executive committee on numerous occasions to determine their point of accountability to the NA groups. Their responses have consistently been that they report to "the World" and are sanctioned by "the World". Not understanding what that means, many questions continue to be asked by local NA members. "Is this an NA event?" "What are they doing with the money?" "Where's the accountability?" "Why is the convention committee resistant to local accountability?" "If they're not sponsored by the Region, an Area or the NA groups, why are they using the NA logo?"

"While the MNRSC is not seeking a "ruling" by Narcotics Anonymous World Services on the disposition of ICUC we'd appreciate any guidance you can give us in this matter."

- As far as NAWS is concerned, are you the single point of accountability for the Inner City Unity Convention?
- Has NAWS sanctioned the ICUC as an NA event? If so, what does it mean when you "sanction" an event?
- By what process does a body go through in order to receive NAWS sanctioned status?

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- Is there a list we can receive of other, similar, NAWS sanctioned events?
- Has ICUC been providing regular reports to NAWS. If so, can you please provide those reports to us.

Please let me know if you need further details.

Jeffrey Spencer
MNRSC Chair
612-799-0664

From: [Steve Rusch](#)

Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 6:45 PM

To: jeffrey.spencer@msn.com

Subject: FW: Questions Concerning the Inner City Unity Convention in Minneapolis

Hello Jeff - Thanks for writing to NA World Services, and for your service to NA. In response to your inquiry, we are happy to help in sorting out our role here. Sometimes members believe that here at NAWS, we oversee or "license" various events in NA, but this belief is incorrect. It may be helpful to remember that local NA events are created, conducted, and overseen by local NA service committees. With that said, we do not have any role in the Inner City Unity Convention. We do not provide oversight, we do not receive reports, and we do not sanction the event. We are happy to be a resource in the same way we are to other local NA events, offering our perspective when asked, but we have no authority or relationship with the convention beyond that.

Thanks again for writing. Feel free to follow-up with any additional thoughts or questions.

Warm regards,

Steve Rusch
Fellowship Services Team Leader | NA World Services
Tel: +1 818-773-9999 x173
steve@na.org | www.na.org

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ASC Visit Outline

South Suburban Fireside – May 5, 2011

Introductions

- Thanks for inviting me to attend your ASC meeting
- Face to face is still the best way to communicate

Website

- We've designed the website to be easy to use for professionals, and the general public seeking recovery for themselves and for their loved ones.
- On the public section people can get:
 - Introductory information about Narcotics Anonymous
 - Easy access to the helpline
 - Frequently asked questions for both professionals and newcomers
 - Most recent Twitter feed
 - Sharing by NA members
 - The Just For Today meditation of the day
 - Meeting lists in your area or anywhere in Minnesota or the world
 - NA events in Minnesota and the world
 - MNNAC convention information
 - Order literature online
 - Contact us
 - Translation of any page into 58 different languages
- NA members can:
 - Schedule an upcoming event
 - Volunteer for service opportunities
 - View a schedule of all service committee meetings and workshops
 - View current trusted servants listings and trusted servant responsibilities and requirements
 - Share their recovery
 - Share their service experience
 - Store documents in an online file cabinet like Area bylaws, minutes and reports
- Each ASC needs to assign a web publisher who can update their section of the website
 - Can be a new position or the responsibility can be added to a current position
 - All Area Web Publishers meet on the 3rd Monday of the month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on a conference call; (218) 339-2409 | Attendee PIN: 1851749 & webinar

Volunteer Form

- I have several volunteer forms here.
- They are exactly the same as the online form on the website
- If you fill out the form now, I'll enter it into the website for you when I get home.
- This is how you volunteer to be on the helpline, a temporary contact, or lots of other activities to help us carry the message.

Social Media

- NA members can get meeting list updates and event reminders on their phone
- Follow us on Twitter @naminnesota
- Find us on Facebook: NA Minnesota

Helpline

- We've combined five helplines in Minnesota into one.
- We're saving the fellowship \$10,000/year with this new technology
- NA members volunteer for 1 or more 2 hour slots a week
- When someone calls the helpline, everyone's phone rings, who signed up for that time slot
- Whoever answers the phone first gets connected and takes the call
- You must go through a helpline training session to get a time slot

Bridging the Gap

- We are planning to launch this program for temporary contacts in June
- We need NA members from all over the state to volunteer to be temporary contacts for newcomers coming out of institutions.
- The process works like this
- A professional contacts the Bridging the Gap coordinator seeking a temporary contact for their client.
- The coordinator contacts volunteers in the area where the newcomer will reside.
- Whoever says "Yes" first becomes the temporary contact for the newcomer.
- The TC brings the newcomer to 3 or 4 NA meetings, introduces them to lots of people, gets them a bunch of phone numbers, meeting lists, literature, and fellowship after the meeting. (That's the end of the official commitment)
- Just because you volunteer doesn't mean you'll ever be called.

Service System Project

- There are over 130 regions in the world, 68 of them from the United States.
- As you can imagine, the WSC is very expensive and quite unmanageable.
- They're working out a way to lower the number of regions, especially in the U.S. That won't affect us, because they're doing it state by state, and the state of Minnesota is already region.
- The local service structure will be changing as well and that will affect us. The ASC as we know it will no longer exist.
- Currently, ASC's have two major focuses; internal, supporting the groups, and external, carrying the message.
- Historically, we haven't been able to do both well. While we're focused on the groups, we don't carry the message well. And while we're focused on professionals and institutions carrying the message, we're not supporting the groups.
- The new proposal will split these responsibilities into two types of committees; small committees of groups who've joined together to support each other, and Larger Local Service Committees to carry the message.
- How the Larger Local Server Committees will be organized is yet to be determined, but we do know that it will be broken down by county.
- We'll need to all get together and group the counties in the state into Local committees.
- We all have to let go of our preconceived notions and ask ourselves, "If I were a professional, how would I expect Narcotics Anonymous to be organized?"