

MNRSC Report for September Area Meeting

Regional Report

Attendees - Nine areas were present along with the Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Regional Delegate, RD Alternate and one FST Member.

Open Forum –

- Currently the Region's bylaws are silent on whether or not RCM's are permitted to be a FST member. The Regional bylaws are silent on this matter because it's a decision the Areas need to make for themselves. The consensus is that the FST will craft a sentence or two to be offered in October to amend the bylaws making it clear that the RCM position is whatever the Area wants it to be.
- There was discussion about a treatment center asking NA to bring recovering addicts in to listen to addicts 5th steps, offering a genuine NA experience, one addict to another, rather than having it heard by a non-member. The Region's final decision is that this is not a good idea because most treatment centers are AA based and why should we give them something for free when they have staff being paid to do this currently.
- UMSO came to the Region asking for a \$3000 donation. There was much debate about this and in the end the motion did not pass.
- Due to lack of volunteers the UMSO will be eliminating office hours on Thursday s from Noon to 2:00 PM.

Motions – the following motions were brought up at Region

- To approve minutes for June 13th region – PASSED
- To approve the Virtual MNRSC project plan as presented – PASSED
- To approve the project plan for our interactive attendance at the 2011 MAARCH Conference – PASSED
- To approve Moose Lake Transition Fair project idea – PASSED
- To approve a \$10,000 donation to NAWS – PASSED
- To approve a \$3,000 donation to UMSO – FAILED

Committee Reports Summary –

- Chair – Jeff S.
 - FST Membership – we currently have six openings for the Fellowship Services Team along with the **Vice Chair position needed**. Please consider stepping up and taking on leadership responsibilities.
 - Jay S was voted onto Fellowship Services Team.
 - ICUC – The ICUC is now officially a Narcotics Anonymous event. They are accountable to the Twin Cities Area Service Conference.
 - Bridging the Gap – The pilot phase of this project is underway.
 - Website Presence – 408 Members have registered on our website, 136 NA members have volunteered to help with meeting lists, be a temporary contact speak at H&I meetings, answer the helpline, or sit at a table at PR events, 1087 friends of NA Minnesota on Facebook
 - Completed this month – Updated the Volunteer form, increased the response time of the website from 30 seconds to 2 seconds, website moved to our new webhosting company BlueHost, began updating from Joomla 1.5 to Joomla 1.6
- UMSO B.O.D – Pam S.
 - Not present at the Region due to personal obligations in Clear Lake, IA

- Volunteers are always needed – 1 year or more clean time.
- New Bookkeeper Melissa W is almost trained in.
- Pocket sized readings are no longer available – similar to the ones given at previous years banquet
- Ordered 200 rubber bracelets to say "Surrender to Win"
- FST – Melissa W.
 - BTG – we currently have more than 100 volunteers spread throughout the state, but more is always better. Please take a flyer back to your groups for more information on becoming a volunteer.
 - We have 64 professional emails that will be utilized by sending out information to them. Post cards will also be sent to the other professionals.
 - Bridging the Gap will be officially rolled out at two upcoming events – Moose Lake Transitional Fair & the MAARCH Conference.
 - Pride Festival was a success and all of the documents from this year have been saved in a file on our website for the next project manager to use.
- Regional Delegate – Caleb B.
 - A visit to Voyageurs ASC was very nice and they were presented with current projects & information.
 - Email was received concerning a private meeting with only the US Delegates to talk about our service structure and other topics. As a Region we have decided to decline this invitation because it does not promote unity within our fellowship.
 - Suggest that we attend the Midwest Zonal Forum in Feb 2012 and bring the RDA with him – no final answer was given at this point.
 - Wee Are Here ASC will be hosting a Proposed Service System Workshop on Sept 17, 2011.
 - The Living Clean Project "The Journey Continues" last draft is out and up for review. You can get for free at www.NA.org or at the UMSO for \$11.00 for a soft cover copy. There will a workshop for this because as a Region we will need to vote yes or no to approve this book next year at the WSC.
- Regional Delegate Alternate – Anthony B.
 - RCM commitment ends with the B2B Area in September. Starting in September he will be able to devote his full attention to being the RDA.
 - Learning the NAWS website, talking with Caleb, and studying the new Service System Proposal.
- SWMN GSU – Amanda
 - Marshall, Granite Falls, Worthington and Pipestone groups met in July and will meet again in Sept, hopefully with Redwood Falls and Woodstock.
 - A group conscience was taken to decide which direction we wanted to take our GSU. We decided to take small steps and focus on specific goals/projects when we meet and, most of all, to build a community!
 - Our plan is to meet the 24th of September in Pipestone again to review goals from the previous 2 months and see what our next project will be.
- Secretary – Kit E.
 - Spikes in calls to the Helpline in July – nearly double from June.
 - Monte & I made a 3 hour PR presentation in Iowa about our helpline & regional project based structure.
 - Monte & I are working closely with two areas in SW Missouri to launch their own helpline.
- Treasurer – Monte (See attachments)
 - It's that time of year again where we need to think about our budget for next year. After some discussion the Region is going to try and provide us with a list of prospective PR projects we can be involved in next year along with the ones we've been involved with previously. This way the groups can decide where we'll share the message of recovery.

Projects –

- Bridging the Gap - The purpose of the Bridging the Gap (BTG) temporary contact project is to provide a “Bridge” between Narcotics Anonymous meetings and people reentering their communities from in-patient treatment or incarceration. Bridging the Gap is a group of addicts helping other addicts. We are part of NA and are not connected with any treatment facility or correctional institution. Bridging the Gap should be thought of as basic twelfth step work. The idea is to accompany a new member to several of their first outside meetings and introduce them to NA members in the community. Once a patient or an inmate has expressed an interest in NA and would like to attend meetings after being released, the Bridging the Gap program offers a solution to support this important adjustment.
- Virtual MNRSC Meeting – The purpose of this project is to find a backup plan for when inclement weather happens like it did in December 2010.
- Mankato Bus Bench Posters –The purpose of this project is to expand our public relations efforts to out-state Minnesota; this project will utilize the helpline number and web site as a way to direct addicts to our meetings.



Things to bring back to the Area/Groups:

- As an area we agreed to have the Regional Delegate come to our area to teach us more about the Proposed Service Structure System. I have talked with the RD & RDA and they are willing to put on a workshop for our area, but we need to provide them with a list of dates that would work for us so they can choose from them. They are currently scheduled to put on a workshop in the Wee Are Here ASC on **September 17th**.
- Unfortunately I neglected to submit the letter that Lisa brought to the previous Area meeting so I sent it to the Regional Google group email. It can now be discussed before the next regional meeting via email and hopefully be brought up for discussion at the next Regional meeting.
- I have submitted the Regional budget draft in this report and they would like any input from our area to be sent back to the next region.
- We need to supply Kit with a list of our trusted servants at the Area level so their names can be added to the email distribution list – info.ssf@naminnnesota.org
- September 10th is the annual NA Banquet for Minnesota – more information can be found online.
- MNNAC has requested we send them a list of what we want to see at the convention.
- Flyers have been distributed about the Bridging the Gap program to be brought back to the groups for distribution.
- The Living Clean Project “The Journey Continues” last draft is out and up for review. You can get for free at www.NA.org or at the UMSO for \$11.00 for a soft cover copy. There will a workshop for this because as a Region we will need to vote yes or no to approve this book next year at the WSC.
- Due to lack of volunteers the UMSO will be eliminating office hours on Thursday s from Noon to 2:00 PM. Volunteers are needed for any of the following shifts – Monday/Thursday 6:30 – 8:30 Saturdays 10 – 12 (2nd & 3rd Saturdays 10 – 2)