

CVANA Service Meeting Minutes 07/09/2016

Hosted at Central Lutheran Church, Chippewa Falls, WI

Meeting called to order by: Rob Y@ 9:44am

Attendance: April B, John M, Theresa L, Jeff SH, Nichole M, Justin H, Joe F, Rob Y

Introductions

Moment of Silence

Service Prayer: All

12 Traditions: April B

Roll Call:

Groups:

EC Friday night: Mike D – absent / Joe F -- here

EC Wednesday night: ??? – absent,

Chippewa Tues & Sun: Angel G – absent,

EC Tues. & Thurs.: Kevin E. - absent,

Black & Blue Basic Text, Chippewa: Justin H.- here

BRF Mon & Fri Night: John M. - here,

EC Monday Night: Dean L - absent,

EC Saturday morning Jia P – absent,

EC Tues night: Jimmie L – absent,

Menomonie Wed, Thur, Fri & Sun night: John B.- absent /April B - here

Oasis of Hope, Thurs EC, WI: Josh J – absent,

Ego Check, Menomonie, Monday: Jerry K.- absent,

Vision of Hope, Chetek, Tuesday; Shannon S - absent/ Dave R – absent,

Dopeless Hope Fiends, Rice Lake, Mon, Wed: ??? - absent

Surrender Group, Rice Lake, Friday, Saturday: Jeff S.H.- here

KISS, Ladysmith, Thursday, Sunday: Dan S – absent

NA Meeting, Arbor Place, Menomonie, Sunday: ??? - absent

Freedom Group, Thursday, Rice Lake, -- Mike D (Coach) – absent /Michelle M – absent,

New NA Meeting, Chetek, Thursday: ??? - absent

Administrative Trusted Servants:

Chairperson: VACANT

Vice-Chairperson – Rob Y - here

Regional Committee Member: John M - here

Regional Committee Member-Alternate: VACANT

Treasurer: Nichole M - here

Treasurer-Alternate: Rob Y - here

Secretary: Theresa L - here

Secretary-Alternate: VACANT

Web Servant: Theresa L - here

Web Servant-Alternate – VACANT

Subcommittees:

Activities: VACANT, Activities-Alternate: VACANT,

Literature Chair: April B - here, Literature-Alternate: VACANT,

Public Relations: VACANT, Public Relations-Alternate: VACANT

Hospitals & Institutions: Nichole M - here, Hospitals & Institutions-Alternate: VACANT

Policy & Procedure: Jeff S.H - here. Policy & Procedure-Alternate: VACANT,

Outreach: VACANT, Outreach-Alternate: VACANT

Motion made to accept June minutes by: John M Seconded by: April B

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chairperson Report: VACANT

Question/Comment:

Vice-Chairperson Report: ***spoken aloud***

Nothing to report. Literature audit was completed.

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Regional Committee Member Report: ***spoken aloud***

Question/Comment: Someone wanted to know if we were represented at the last Regional meeting. The answer was yes.

Accepted

Treasurer Report: emailed/spoken aloud

Good morning family. Rob and I met at RCU yesterday and he is now listed as a signer on the bank account. Although the bank still has me listed as the responsible party; We can change that at the end of my term.

6/4/2016

Beginning Balance:	\$621.18	
Income:		
7th Tradition	\$14.00	
GSR Contributions	\$55.00	
Literature Income	<u>\$314.39</u>	
TOTAL INCOME:	\$383.39	deposit 6/7/16
Expenses:		
Ck# 1307	\$15.00	Facility
Ck# 1308	\$17.08	Nichole M - Treasury Supplies
Ck# 1309	\$314.39	NAWS Inv# 0517606-IN
Ck# 1310	<u>\$200.00</u>	Rob Y - Activities Fund
TOTAL EXPENSE:	\$546.47	
Increase to Bank	-	
Balance:	\$163.08	
New CVA Balance:	\$458.10	

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Treasurer Alternate Report: ***spoken aloud***

Nothing to report.

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Secretary Report: written/spoken aloud

Jeff sent me some updated GSR Orientation Packets in which he edited the trusted servant duties to reflect our current Policy and Procedure document. I have printed those off. There are some copies available.

Not much else to report.

I didn't have to buy any supplies this month. Beginning balance was \$131.39. Ending balance is the same.

Thank you for letting me serve.

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Web Servant Report: written/spoken aloud

We had one email this month from a guy named Joshua moving to this area. I forwarded that to our trusted servants list. Not sure if anyone responded. I did get an email from Greg C who said that someone named John from Stanley tried to send an email from the website to get a starter pack. I never got his email from the website, and I told Greg that. Greg responded and said he would try to get the guy's phone #. Hopefully, more will be revealed.

I worked with John and contacted Carl at region by phone and via email. Ladysmith now has our number listed for information on region's website. Carl said the same database on the website is used for the printed lists. He also said he would send me a "preview copy" of the printed list via email before it went to production. That I never got. Perhaps he forgot. I also mentioned there is no longer a Northern Lights area in this region. He acknowledged that and said it would be removed. I guess we will see what happens with the printed lists....

The website was viewed 146 times by 140 different people. About 94% of these were new visitors. Our visitors stayed about an average of eight seconds per session and viewed a little over one page per session.

Your ever faithful web servant.

Question/Comment:

Accepted

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities Report: VACANT/ Report submitted by Rob Y

After expenses there was \$89.00 and change left over from the original amount of \$200.00, which I rounded up to \$90.00. Through donations of \$137.00 at the July 2nd picnic, that leaves us with a profit of \$27.00. Based on that, I will be surrendering back \$227.00 to the Treasury. Through our auction, we raised \$321.00, which I will also be surrendering. Receipts will be submitted.

ILS

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Literature Report: emailed/spoken aloud

Morning,

Literature on hand is \$707.94

Cash on hand is \$ 104.73

Naws invoice #0628605 was \$180.25 which has been handed over to the treasurer.

I did get a hold of Naws on the mistake with the last order and the decision made was to leave it as is.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Public Relations Report: VACANT/ Jerry K's report read by Theresa L

Hi all,

We received 12 calls from 9 different numbers on the Halloo Information Line in the last 30 days. The average time on the system was 2 minutes per call. No one left a message. As far as i am aware, the system is currently up to date. But please if your group is making changes let me know personally either by email or text, so i can keep it accurate. I don't always have time to read the minutes in a timely manner.

I would like to have the GSR's ask the groups to see if they would like us to change the options on the Halloo System from pressing a number for each day to switching it to pressing a number for each town/city. Right now it asks you to press, 1 for Monday, 2 for Tuesday, 3 for Wednesday, and so on. We could change it to , Press 1 for Eau Claire, Press 2 for Chippewa Falls, Press 3 for Menomonie...And so on. We currently have meetings in 8 cities. Even if in the future we grow to double digits the system does allow for double digit options.

Each way has its benefits and down falls. For example by leaving it as it is, pressing a number for each day, they hear every meeting within the Chippewa Valley Area on that day. So even if there isn't a

meeting in the town they are in they still hear all of the other options for that day. But if they are only interested in a specific city they have to listen to every day in order to find out all of the meetings in each town.

If we change it to ,Press a number for each city, they would have to listen to the entire recording to find out what the other options for that day in each city. But this would make it simpler for someone just looking for meetings in a specific city. Feel free to discuss, there may be other benefits and/or downsides i haven't thought of. Let me know your thought and group's conscience.

Thanks,

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Hospitals and Institution Report: emailed/spoken aloud

We were contacted by a couple facilities this month. Stanley Correctional is requesting 5 sets of literature to share with the inmates. I am drafting a motion to purchase that literature and more for other facilities for your consideration later today. The other facility contacted me directly, Barron County. They would like NA meetings to be an option for the inmates. Sandy did not give me an application yet, not even sure if that is their process. She was going to order literature for the facility too. I directed her to NAWS for that order since she had been approved to purchase I thought it was best for her to get it directly from World. She sent me the schedule for the facility and the Saturdays are wide open. I feel that Saturdays would be best for our population but am at your direction. Any interested persons willing to help carry this meeting please write your name on the list I just sent around. Thank you.

I have not received any more completed applications for Eau Claire Jail. I have a bunch here that you can complete. Please do not disqualify yourself from this process without an attempt. I would like the jail to have a stack to process if at all possible. We will be supplying them more literature as well.

Jackson County, Chippewa Treatment Prison & Arbor place continue to be served regularly by a few loyal NA members. Please talk with me or John M if you are willing to help with these efforts. Chippewa Treatment Prison is a men only commitment. We have an application for that facility too.

In reviewing my other H&I notes there has further been no more interest in serving Chippewa County Jail. Since we have not had any formal contact with them, I am not as concerned about us failing that attempt.

Additionally the new Reaching Out is here.

Thank you for helping still suffering addicts find a new way of life.

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Policy and Procedure Report: emailed/spoken aloud

At the last ASC, I volunteered to investigate the feasibility of printing Regional Meeting Directories. There are several members including myself, who think that having more copies than those that Region distributes would be useful. I took the Jan 2016 PDF from the WRSC website on a flash drive to University Printing at the U.W. and had a test copy printed. They did an excellent job and the copy looks identical to those produced by Region. The cost is .20 cents a piece or 100 copies for \$20 plus an extra \$4 for mechanically folding them, which I think is worth it because trying to fold them manually would be challenging. I can write up a motion if we want to do this. We'd have to wait until the updated July 2016 PDF becomes available.

Thanks:
ILS:

Question/Comment:

Accepted

Outreach Report: VACANT

Question/Comment:

GSR REPORTS

United Survive Eau Claire Wednesday submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Black River Falls Monday & Friday NA Group submitted by John M.

Donation \$15.00 Avg Grp Size: 3 Newcomers: Yes They return: Sometimes
We are anxiously anticipating the restart of drug court to increase attendance

Together We Grow Eau Claire Monday Night submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They Return:

Miracles Are Us Eau Claire Friday submitted by Joe F

Donation \$20.00 Avg Grp Size: 35 Newcomers: Yes They Return: Sometimes
Initial phase of planning an event for next summer. Possibly a camp out.

All Day Long Eau Claire Tues. and Thurs. submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Bridges to Recovery Chippewa Falls submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Black and Blue Basic Text Chippewa Falls submitted by Justin H

Donation \$0 Avg Grp Size: 10-12 Newcomers: Yes They return: Sometimes
The Black and Blue Picnic will be August 27th at the Bear Pavilion. Flyer coming soon.

Silver Lining Eau Claire submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

It Works Eau Claire submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Attitude of Gratitude Menomonie submitted by April B.

Donation \$0 Avg Grp Size: 10-15 Newcomers: Yes They return: Sometimes

Oasis of Hope, Eau Claire Thursday submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Ego Check, Menomonie, Monday submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Vision of Hope, Chetek, Tuesday submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Dopeless Hope Fiends, Rice Lake, Mon, Wed submitted by:

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Surrender Group, Rice Lake, Friday, Saturday submitted by: Jeff S.H.

Donation \$0 Avg Grp Size: 7 Newcomers: Yes They return: Sometimes

There have been concerns and complaints expressed recently and over the years about the Rice Lake NA meetings. These range from, simply disliking the meetings, personality conflicts and disruptive behavior to accusations that the Groups violate the Traditions by incorporate a mish-mash of AODA counseling, other 12 step programs and religious dogma, etc.; which if true, would make them something other than real NA meetings. I also heard that there really weren't any meetings at all; that the GSR invented them in order to have a position on the ASC. I even heard a rumor going around which I jokingly started, that we wore black hooded cloaks and made chicken sacrificed while walk around in a circle, chanting.

Given that I've been attending NA meetings at Grace Episcopal in Rice Lake over the past 10 years, I can testify that they are indeed Real NA meetings that follow the 12 Traditions. Although, like with any Group, there have been a few inappropriate instances and problems with disunity and 'personality before principles' but flagrant disregard of the NA program is not the rule. The Group as entity, does not endorse, neither overtly nor by implication, any outside enterprises such as other 12 step programs or religions. We read only NA approved literature and discussion topics are focused on recovery from the disease of addiction as it pertains to many areas of life. Unlike some meetings, we do not adhere to a strict opening format and rather than doing all the usual readings, we will sometimes read an I.P., the Basic Text or It Works, etc. instead. Cross talk is allowed, there is no 1 hr time limit and sharing is not required to be brief.

This might be confusing and unfamiliar to visitors who are accustomed to a certain way that they think a meeting should be run, but by Group Conscience and Group Business the format has been decided on, as each group is autonomous and NA asks for unity not uniformity. We usually have social fellowship at the same location after the meeting closes; this of course, is not an NA meeting. Occasionally a non-addict will attend and is allowed to share, when this happens we always have a Group Conscience to declare an Open meeting, if any member objects, then the visitor is asked to leave. There are AA and CMA meetings held at this location and you will see bookshelves and wall hangings with their program material out in the open. There is also an unaffiliated religious recovery program held at a church a few blocks away and occasionally these individuals will attend NA meetings and either be seeking recovery, ignorant of NA's distinction or intentionally try to proselytize and remake the Group over in their own image. This latter type of intrusion has been a problem in the past and it's difficult to identify those with an agenda but this behavior is not tolerated and given the fortitude of our NA Group, it has not morphed into something other than NA as a result.

The Group does not purport to have any opinion on outside issues such as the legal system or medical treatment for instance, although individual NA members do have opinions and diverse points of view on various matters such as a Higher Power. I don't believe that it's possible to dictate or censor what individuals talk about or what words they can't use while sharing, except to remind everyone that addiction is all-encompassing or that 'were not interested in what or how much you used', etc. Nor is it the Groups prerogative to confiscate personal belongings such as books, which members choose to bring to meetings except to say, that no drugs or paraphernalia are allowed and to please turn off your cell phones. The reading of material from outside sources however, such as a pleasant poem or Confucian proverb, is prohibited and it is the responsibility of the Chairperson to enforce the 12 Traditions and regulate other disruptive behavior such as individuals who are 'under the influence'. Therein lies part of the problem, that is, involving relative newcomers in Group level Service such as chairing a meeting, which is good. Many do not fully understand the unique qualities of NA, or have the experience and wherewithal to quell disruption.

There have been legitimate concerns raised and in my time, I have seen some outrageous things go on in NA, but most of the 2nd hand anecdotal claims made against the Rice Lake Groups are farfetched. The most recent was a phone call to the Area help line by someone who I gathered, wanted to start a new meeting on someone's private property. This in itself discredits his understanding of NA's strong recommendation to hold meetings in public places. I know that Outreach has sent at least 3 Trusted Servants to Rice Lake over the years and several others have visited. It's unfortunate that one time, the doors were locked because nobody showed up, Gene did however attend a meeting on a 2nd occasion. Another time there was a church activity and although the meeting did occur that night, the pastor misinformed Dean about the days the Group met. Keri attended a meeting but apparently was unimpressed and Deidra went up there and even though nobody showed up with a key, they managed to have a meeting anyway. This was during the time when meetings were scheduled every day of the week. Since then, we have cut down to 4 a week which is more manageable for a town of that size.

I have several friends on the program who have visited and are regular core members; that really like our NA Groups and find good recovery and a solid message being carried. Last week we had another 1 year anniversary of another fellow that I sponsor and my sponsor celebrated 32 years clean last night. I think it is important to keep in mind that many old timers started out in AA and may still reference some lingo from that program and there are those who are also members of other fellowships. My sponsor however has been exclusively an NA member for some time now. I'd encourage everyone to come and support the Rice Lake Groups and to see for yourself what goes on instead of relying on hearsay and innuendo. We look forward to seeing you.

ILS

KISS, Ladysmith, Thursday, Sunday submitted by:

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Arbor Place, Menomonie, Sunday submitted by:

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Freedom Group, Rice Lake, Thursday submitted by

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

New NA Meeting, Chetek, Thursday submitted by:

Donation \$ Avg Grp Size: Newcomers: They return:

Break for Serenity

15 Min. Open Forum: (began: 11:06am ended: 11:30am)

There was considerable discussion about how many “sets” of literature to donate to Stanley, Eau Claire County, etc. It was decided that soft covers would probably be best. We finally decided to get 20 *Basic Texts*, 20 *It Works, How and Why*, 10 *Just for Today's* and 10 *Step Working Guides*. Someone wanted to know if the Hospitals and Institutions Committee gets a discount. One person said that he gives out the little white booklet to people who need it.

Old Business: (began approximately: 11:30am ended: 11:34am)

The two motions from last month that were tabled were withdrawn, due to the fact that the issues can be addressed in a written report from the Regional Committee Member.

Elections:

Alex S volunteered for Activities – Alternate in June – ELECTED

John M nominated for Regional Committee Member -- ELECTED

New Business:

Motion 1: Jeff SH 2nd: Theresa L

Motion: To print 100 Regional Meeting directories of the July 2016 updated version at University Printing at a cost of \$24.00 plus tax & write a check to University Printing for that amount

Intent: To have more meeting lists available

Financial impact: Yes – \$25.32

VOTE: 4 aye 0 nay 0 abstain PASSED

Motion 2: Nichole M 2nd: Joe F

Motion: To purchase 20 Basic Texts (softcover) 20 It Works How & Why (softcover), 10 Just for Today, and 10 Step Working Guides.

Intent: To provide literature to facilities

Financial impact: Yes – \$656.32

VOTE: 4 aye 0 nay 0 abstain PASSED.

Group Concerns/Announcements:

Key points to share with Groups

1. *Black River Falls Monday and Friday night meetings need support*
2. *H&I needs support from members with six months or more clean time.*
3. *The area Halloo Phone line was discussed. Should we divide the menu up by city or leave it by day? Please take back to the groups to discuss.*
4. **Black and Blue Basic Text Meeting is having their annual picnic at the Bear Pavilion in Irvine Park in Chippewa Falls on August 27th from 1:00pm to approximately 5:00 pm.**

SERVICE SAVES LIVES

Elections to be held at August ASC meeting

Current Vacant Positions: Chairperson, Regional Committee Member – Alternate, Secretary-Alternate, Web Servant - Alternate, Activities, Literature - Alternate, Public Relations, Public Relations – Alternate, Policy & Procedure-Alternate, Hospitals and Institutions – Alternate, Outreach, Outreach – Alternate

August 2016 Area Service: 9:30am, August 6, 2016, Central Lutheran, Chippewa Falls, WI

September 2016 Area Service:

October 2016 Area Service:

Motion made to close meeting: John M Seconded by: Joe F Time: 12:16pm