

Anchorage Area Service Committee of Narcotics Anonymous
September 13, 2010

Moment of Silence to reflect on who and why we serve followed by the Serenity Prayer by Shelly at 6:39pm. Service Prayer read by Tami, Decorum Statement by Carol, 12 Traditions by Deidra, and the 12 Concepts by Tricia.

Roll Call – Vice Chair 14 of 23 GSRs present

Recognition of new groups – none

Amendments to the Agenda - none

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS (written reports on file)

Chair – First, I have to say what a function. The Fish Fry for Service embraced the spiritual principle of unity which is the focus of our first tradition. The Area Vice Chair, Hospitals and Institutions, Public Information and Activities worked together collaborating this event for months, and every person that was present Saturday was a result of their dedication, passion, and commitment to their service position and their vision of that path. Second, thank you for allowing me to serve you in this capacity. It has been a year of learning, mistakes, and remembering my place and moving out of the way. I am grateful, Shelly

Vice-Chair – no report

Secretary – Motion to approve minutes by Frozen, seconded by Lifesavers

Treasurer – Our August 31st checking account balance was \$1,344.32 making our 1% donation to World and Region \$13.44 each. In the month of August we collected \$510.00 in 7th tradition group donations and \$524.08 in literature sales for a total of \$1,034.08 in deposits. A literature order for \$541.48 was placed and has been paid. Our \$213.59 monthly ACS account is paid through 09/30/10. Our \$112.00 monthly Best Storage account is paid through October 12, 2010. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns, In loving service, Eileen R.

GROUP REPORTS (written reports on file)

Clean and Serene – Joe: we are prepared to vote on all motions and we donate \$150.00 to Area this month.

Dynamite Thursday Night – Dan: We have \$15.00 to Area.

Eagle River Group – absent

Life Savers – Donna: Our average attendance is 10-12 addicts, we are financially solvent and we are donating \$20.00.

NA at the VA – absent

No More Excuses – Tricia: We will not be meeting September 30th due to the Convention Kickoff. Our business meeting and speaker meeting is next Thursday. Kami will be speaking this month. We have 15+ in attendance and the treatment centers have been showing up. We are ready to vote on all matters and have \$30.00 to donate to Area. ILS

No More Bend Blinds – absent

Nothing in the Windows – Al: We would like to apologize for not attending Area the last 2 months; we are in dire need of support and service workers. Our attendance has been small the last couple months with that we are unable to donate to Area. Thank you for allowing us to be of service. ILS

Our Gratitude Speaks – absent

Out and About – Mary: For the month of August, we had 134 in attendance of which included 7 newcomers, averaging 27 addicts at each meeting. We met only 3 times last month due to other NA events. For August, we celebrated 5 years, 6 months and 28 days between 12 addicts. We had \$77.22 for August 7th tradition. Our rent was \$37.00, our cake expense was \$17.99 and coffee supplies \$43.83. Our total expense was \$98.82, a loss of \$21.60. Our balance is \$87.91. We have \$50.00 to ASC donation which will make our balance \$37.91. ILS

Rainbow Recovery – not meeting

Recovery Connections – Jason: Attendance has been 4-12 people; we have \$8.00 for Area. Jason

Recovery First – absent

Round About – Renee: I have been promoted from alternate to GSR since last area meeting. I have nothing new to report; our meetings remain strong and well attended. The new format is working well at this time. We are donating \$100.00 to Area this month. Thanks for all of your service.

Saturday Night Live – Glen: We still meet twice a week, all bills are paid, we are still trying to fill some positions in the group and averaging about 20 people a meeting. We have \$15.00 for Area this month and are ready to vote. ILS

Soul II Soul – absent

The Frozen Chozen – Howie: Things are well. We have steady attendance of treatment centers and newcomers. We have nominations for Area positions. Doug is our icicle award winner. We may have a motion for the floor.

The Gong Show – Amy: The Gong show held its monthly business meeting on August 30th. We abstain from the motion brought by Doug P. due to not understanding the motion itself. We have an average of 10-30 addicts who attend. We have \$90.00 in prudent reserve, however after attending the Fish Fry for service and hearing Tony L.'s presentation, I will take back to my group, the situation with World Services. I strongly will recommend that we make regular donations to World as well as Area. We would like to donate \$20.00 to Area this month. I wish to thank those of you who are regularly attending the Gong Show to support that meeting. We have an average of 3 newcomers per meeting and I would encourage those who can sponsor to attend the meeting as a treatment center has been coming to our meetings. Thank you, ILS

The Morning After – Sean: We are attended by most home group members weekly. We have a strong message of recovery and we have between 10-20 addicts attending meetings. We are always looking for support and welcome the newcomer. We have \$120.00 to donate to Area, ready to vote on motion and have one nomination. ILS

The NA Way – Jeff: Attendance is about 30; we had a monthly business meeting and are ready to act on all action items. We have \$50.00 for Area. ILS

Valley NA Nooners – absent

Walk Your Talk – Carol: 10 -20 people per meeting, with 1 -2 newcomers. \$50.00 to Area, \$50.00 to World. Ready to vote. ILS

WTSOD – absent

SUBCOMMITTEE AND ASRC REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (written reports on file)

Activities – The Fish Fry for Service was well attended with all subcommittees represented, except for Newsletter. I would like to thank everyone for their support. Currently, Activities is working on the Halloween Dance and Thanksgiving Narathon. I would like to ask that GSR's ask one of their home group members to attend our subcommittee meetings which are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Kaladi Brother's Coffee on Brayton from 6:00 to 7:00. It would be wonderful to be able to have a group conscience. In Loving Service, Tami M

RCM – The Regular Fall meeting of the Regional Service Committee (RSC) is October 2nd during the course of our Regional Convention. I plan to vote yes to the following items: Vote for the Anchorage nominee for V. Chair, Kathy W; Vote for: "That (Alaska) Region gives 10% of profits (after expenses and seed money have been paid) from all future conventions to NA World Service. This would be a Regional Guideline change. Intent: to have the Alaskan Region become self sustaining." As your trusted servant, I plan to introduce a motion to form an ad hoc budget committee to develop our regional budget for the next two years. If we can adopt a new budget in 2011, then we can better deal with the Conference agenda in 2012. Essentially, I hope we can follow the budget outline in the draft budget amendment. (see motion 2 – regional budget formation guidelines.) As your trusted servant, I would move that we form an ad hoc committee to plan an Assembly in Spring of 2011. Purpose: The purpose of the GSR assembly is to bring representatives of NA groups together with Regional Service Committee to develop a collective conscience concerning issues affecting Narcotics Anonymous in Alaska and worldwide. It is important that our groups "own" region – it should not be "they" but "us" when our membership speaks of Region. The richness of our fellowship is in the diversity of our membership, and an Assembly of GSRs enhances participation of all groups. Intent: The committee would develop an agenda, handle logistics, and develop the budget. Possibly Anchorage Area could help host it. Hopefully we could couple it with a dance or something. This year's agenda item would be "what is our purpose at Region?" "What justifies this level of service?" Can we develop a Regional Vision Statement? Membership: RCMs, PI committee persons and at large members could be involved. Intent of the Motion: [It establishes an assembly of GSRs to enhance the formation of ARSC conscience regarding World and Regional issues. Pros – Consistent with the 2nd concept, it brings the groups (GSRs) together to directly form a conscience about our biggest issues. The 2nd concept states – "the final responsibility and authority of NA services rests with the NA groups". Quoting from the essay on the 2nd Concept in the *Guide to Local Services*, "The most important resource contributed to the service structure by an NA Group is almost exclusively spiritual: its ideas and conscience. Without the voice of the groups, the service structure may not know what kinds of services are needed, or whether the services it provides are ones the groups want. The groups provide the ideas and direction needed to guide the service structure in fulfilling its responsibilities." Quoting the *Guide to Area Service*, "At least once a year, usually two or three months prior to the annual meeting of the WSC, the RSC organizes an Assembly of GSRs." In other words, our GSRs assemble periodically because the *Guide to Local Services* includes it as part of our service Regional service structure.

An Assembly promotes unity by involving all of the groups, even those from unorganized area. An Assembly enfranchises groups which do not belong to an organized Area. An Assembly preserves the power of the group against dilution by virtue of the one vote per each area. Cons – An Assembly poses logistical difficulties – travel expenses for those on the roadway, who may travel to the assembly. Participation by Non-roadway communities with an Assembly poses technical difficulties. Can we get Skype to all of our rural communities? Would it be possible to participate in an Assembly telephonically? The RCMs would bear the responsibility of informing their local Area groups both several months in advance and again several weeks before the Assembly, and distributing information, etc – Are all of the RCMs willing. The Assembly would require considerable cost and effort.

H&I – Our last business meeting was on August 26th with approximately 20 persons in attendance. Another great turnout! Our next business meeting will be on Wednesday, September 29th, rather than Thursday, September 30th. This is due to the Convention Kick-Off Party being on the same night. We currently still have a negative balance of -\$2.64. All 10 of our facilities are doing well. I appeal to all GSR's to announce at their business meetings that H&I needs service positions to be filled. We are in need of a Literature person, Panel Leader's for Clithroe Center Women Only, Cordova Center Men Only, Parkview Center Men Only, and there is rumor that Clithroe Center may want a Men Only H&I meeting as well. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Fish Fry Service Event on Saturday, especially our H&I members who performed in our Mock Panel Presentation Skit which I thought went extremely well, and to Ross for supplying the "GET GRATEFUL" banner. Thanks to everyone with H&I for making a difference in the lives of many addicts! As always I am grateful and honored to be a part of this committee and continue to grow with each passing month. ILS, Jeff

Convention – All is well at the Convention committee. We are having a kickoff on Thursday, the 30th at the Alano Club. This is a free event to meet and greet the speakers. We have a van to shuttle people out to Alyeska and back. It will pick up at the Alano Club at various times. We will get the schedule posted online soon and you can contact Marie for more information. I look forward to seeing you all at the convention. Meals need to be in by the 15th. Please register for the Convention with the committee members or online.

PI - absent

Literature – absent

Action Items

Motion to use the proposed guideline changes for the regional budget introduced by the RCM. The guideline change is under section 12 Regional Finances of the Regional Guidelines. Made by Frozen, seconded by Recovery Connection. (Motion is attached)

Nominations

Terri B for Treasurer

Qualifications : I have 24 years clean, participate in regularly in my home group, work with a sponsor and have a working knowledge of the 12 steps and the 12 traditions, as well as a willingness to serve. AASC – H&I Chair, ARSCC- Convention Treasurer (two separate terms), GSR – Work the Steps and Live Group, Entertainment Subcommittee Chairperson - Work the Steps and Live Group, ARSC – Region Secretary (2 terms), ARSCC – Convention Chairperson (2 terms), AASC – Chairperson (2 terms), AASC – member of Entertainment committee, coffee maker – Clean and Serene, ARSCC – Convention Programming Subcommittee Chairperson, AASC – Secretary, Secretary/ GSR – Clean and Serene, ARSC – Secretary, ARSCC – convention Vice Chair, ARSCC – Convention Registration chair, Treasurer – Morning After Group.

Eileen for Treasurer

Qualifications : First I would like to start off by saying thank you. Thank you for the awesome honor of serving as your Area Treasurer this past year and as your Alternate Treasurer for the year prior to that. I spent the year as Alternate, training with Josh so I would be prepared to take on the position as Treasurer. When I accepted the responsibility of this position I did so with the intention of fulfilling the two-year term. I mention that for the simple purpose of clarifying my intention. I am honored to serve in whatever capacity our group conscience sees fit, as I believe my higher power will work through you and direct my path. I look forward with excitement to the unknown journey my higher power has in store for me. My qualifications are as follows: 1). I've been acting as Treasurer this past year and definitely feel like I've got it down much better than I did when I started. My report alone used to take me four hours and now I can complete it in one. The duties I carry out are now second nature to me and I no longer have to pool over my notes to be sure I didn't miss anything. 2). I am an accountant in my professional work career so this stuff in definitely up my alley. My Recovery: 1) I have had the same sponsor for the past 5 years and she recently celebrated

25 years. 2) On October 8, 2010 I will celebrate 4 years clean. During that time I have been a coffee maker, greeter, and GSR for two different groups. I was clean from 1986 to 1997 and an active member of Narcotics Anonymous, holding several service positions including Area Rep for the Western Slope Region of NA in Colorado. 3) I have sponsored approximately 25 different women if not more over the past 4 years. 4) I pray constantly and meditate on a daily basis. I work the steps with my sponsor, call my sponsor regularly, attend meetings on a regular basis and talk with my sponsees daily. I apply the steps and our spiritual principals in my daily affairs as well as practicing principals before personalities. 5) I help out wherever I can, whenever I can. I truly love you all and will be completely fine with whatever direction you all see fit for me. Thank you again for the incredible opportunity you all have afforded me this past year as your Treasurer. Humbly yours in loving service

Mary for Vice Chair

Qualifications : I have 11 years clean as of July 21st, 2010. At the group level, I have helped on convention subcommittees, merchandise and registration. In 2007, I was subcommittee chair for area entertainment after that I continued to help in that area. I was also on the convention committee for the 2009 NA convention as subcommittee chair for Merchandise. They were very good learning experiences for me. I learned about the Traditions and how they can work when being of service, and I also learned that when you ask for help especially with the convention committee, for 2009 that when I asked for help they pitched in and helped with no problem when I asked them and did not interfere unless I asked them to. I didn't do everything perfect and wasn't afraid to ask question and for help. I have a sponsor and am working the steps. I am currently GSR of my home group Out and About and am ready to step down if given the opportunity to be of service at Area level. ILS

Shelly for Chair

Qualifications : Secretary home group 4 plus years, Secretary Regional Convention 2 years, Area alternate Secretary 1 year, Area Secretary 1 year, Vice Chair 1 year, Chair 1 year, Entertainment Chair for Area 1 year, work steps, study Traditions, Concepts and Precepts of NA, call sponsor and work steps on a regular basis, work on phone line from Hawaii no less, and 20 years clean.

Sean for Chair

Qualifications : 7 years clean, have a sponsor, sponsor others and I love NA. Literature chair –Frozen, GSR – NWOL, GSR – Frozen, GSR – Morning After twice, RCM – Area, Vice Chair –Area, Treasurer – Region, and Convention Arts and Graphics – Region.

Announcements

Activities meeting will be on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Kaladi Brother's Coffee on Brayton from 6:00 to 7:00.

H&I meets on Wednesday, September 29th at the Westmark Hotel

ARCNA Convention October 1-3 Alyeska Prince Hotel

Motion 2 – add a part 2 “Budget” under “Section 12 Regional Finances” of the Regional Guidelines.

1. Budget

- a. Purpose: The purpose of the bi-annual budget is to have a prudent and balanced spending plan, which protects the fellowship from capricious and unreasonable expenditure. The purpose of the review process is to give all members in the Alaskan Regional fellowship the opportunity to participate in our budget formation and adoption.
- b. Budget Formation and Adoption:
 - i. It is a basic principle that the initial draft budget comes from the RSC and is sent to the Areas for approval.
 - ii. The Area groups review the budget, making suggestions to revise the budget, and providing direction and conscience to their Area RCM.
 - iii. The RCMs bring their area’s suggestion(s) and conscience back to the RSC. The RSC revises the budget according to Area direction.
 - iv. The revised budget is then returned to the Areas for approval/disapproval. The draft budget is not amended at this point except for serious flaw or omission.
 - v. A majority of Areas must approve the budget in order to adopt.
- c. Budget is adopted in of the first half of odd years. It is reasonable practice to amend the budget in the second year.
- d. Budget Schedule:
 - i. October - At the regular Fall RSC meeting during even years, the RSC will form an ad-hoc budget committee to draw up the initial draft budget.
 - ii. November - Before the end of November, the ad hoc budget committee will provide the draft budget to the RSC for review. When the draft budget is approved by the RSC by a simple majority vote, the draft budget will be distributed to the Areas for review and comment.
 - iii. December - RCMs will distribute the draft budget to their Area groups for review and comment.
 - iv. January - GSRs will discuss proposed changes to the budget with their RCMs at their ASC meetings.
 - v. February – After their ASC meetings, the RCMs will meet with the Budget ad hoc committee or RSC to work out budget revisions.
 - vi. March - The RSC will approve the revised budget for disbursement to and approval by the ASCs. RCMs then present the revised budget to their Areas and the revised budget goes back to the groups for approval or disapproval
 - vii. May - The RSC will convene to vote on the budget. If approved, budget is finalized.

Intent of the Motion: Adopt a budget process for RSC.

Pros:

- Developing the budget establishes a cap and limit on Committee expenditure based on available funding. It allows the Region to prioritize expenditure in accordance to our primary purpose, traditions, and concepts, and it allows a donation to NAWS in light of that priority.
- The budget development process requires the committee chairs, RCMs, and the executive committee to identify their respective budgetary needs.

Cons:

- It takes effort and it is slow. Each of our Areas meet at different times of the month, early, middle, and late, so it takes a full month just to present a motion to all the groups through the Areas. Then it takes another month to obtain a response to the request for feedback or approval.
- Why not routinely approve expenditures in increments of \$500 or less (which is the Regional Housekeeping limit).