

Southwest Iowa Narcotics Anonymous January 13, 2008

- I. **Open with prayer** –Mike V.P.
- II. **Reading of**
 - A. Service Motivation –Sari M..
 - B. Twelve Traditions – Peg S.
 - C. Twelve Concepts –Mick B.
 - D. . **Roll Call / Visitors:**

Roll Call:

Executive Committee:

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Chairperson | Mike VP |
| Vice Chairperson | Absent |
| Secretary | Anita T. |
| Treasurer | Bart W. |
| RCM | Sari M. |
| RCM Alternate | Mick B. |

Subcommittees:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Literature Chairperson | Open Position |
| Activities Chairperson | Mary R. |
| H&I / P.I. Chairperson | Open Position |
| Phoneline Chair | Monica T. |
| Guidelines Adhoc | Bart W. |
| Web Servant | Dave |

Visitors:

| | |
|---------|----------|
| Tim | Michelle |
| Clayton | Angelo |
| Dave | George |
| Jason | Nate |
| Matt | Everett |
| Melanie | Stacy |
| Tim | Mike |

Peg

Groups

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Reaching Out | Absent |
| New Way | Tim C. |
| On the Right Track | Jeff |
| Stairway to Freedom | Absent |
| Visions of Hope | Dana W./alt. Rusty S. |
| Clean & Free | Absent |
| Miracle on High | Barry B. |
| Straight & Grateful | Gary |
| Never Alone | Gina |
| Nobody's Group | Jen |
| Miracles of Recovery | Jim |
| Clean & Serene | Jim |
| Discovery Group | Todd B. |
| Just For Today | Collene/Jennifer |
| Living Clean | Mike R. |
| Saturday Serenity | Lynn F. |
| Roosters in Recovery | Don |
| New Freedom | Carol |
| Straight Edge | Shawn |
| Straight Friends | Lori |
| Simple Recovery | Brian |
| Let It Be | Troy |
| We Do Recover | Absent |

Corrections & Approval of Minutes: MOTION: Gary, 2nd Gina C. Approve December 2007 minutes with the following corrections. VOH was present- Rusty S. Correct Thursday 6:00 p.m. meeting closed not noon in report for VOH. New way should read Tim C. instead of Todd B. 17/0/0 Passed.

Executive Committee Reports:

Chairperson: Verbal Report , ILS Mike VP ASC Chair

Vice Chairperson: Absent

Secretary: I am delighted to see so many groups at area. Things are going as well as can be expected. If you do not have your name and address correctly listed on the contact list can you please write in in where it belongs. Also if you did not get a copy of the group update form let me know they need to be returned as soon as possible Thanks, ILS, Anita T.

Treasurer: (See addendum 1) ILS Bart W.

RCM: Hello Area, I attended the CAR in McPherson KS last weekend. There was a lot of information discussed. The PR handbook is available online. It was suggested that a PR committee can not begin until the committee understands the handbook. The five service pamphlets that were created have been pulled until further review. There was much discussion on the difference between recovery intended material and service material. The new IP's are coming out. There was discussion on why we are replacing the current IP's and not just adding to. It is a consensus based decision making. Items on the CAT will be listed online for those interested in reviewing @<http://www.na.org/conference>. This year the CAT will contain a number of revisions to a Guide to World Service. A workshop on the question posed at the CAR will need to be performed in February and sent to either region if it is done in time or directly onto World. The 6th edition of the basic text is up for approval. If it is approved it will be 1 inch wider, thicker and taller. All other revisions will not be NA approved. The new text will be the only approved Basic Text. At the CAR we work-shopped building strong home groups, Our Service system, Who is missing from our meetings and why, Sponsorship book. Also Targeted Literature- Youth IP and Parents or Guardian IP. There are 12 motions. I will not read them all but will submit a copy for the minutes and send this copy around for review. Otherwise more will be discussed for those interested at the workshop. ILS Sari M. PS: My expense was shared with 4 other addicts. Mary has the receipts for reimbursement from area for \$48.50.

RCM Alt: No Report

Sub-Committee Reports:

Literature Chair: Open Position

Literature Treasurer Report: Report given by ASC Treasurer

Activities Treasurer Report: Requested but not received by the time of this mailing.

Activities: Verbal Report (requested written copy but not available at the time of this mailing.)

H&I/P.I.: Position vacant.

Phone Line Chair: Dear ASC, ILS, Monica T. Had a little confusion and miscommunication regarding the closing of the few Visions of Hope meetings. This has been taken care of. No-one showed for the Learning Day on Sat January 12, 2008. We still need a few more carriers for the phone line. The book that calls are recorded in has come up missing. It was passed on to a carrier and that carrier can't find it. I need it for my archives. I have the ENNA/ASWINA Guidelines That passed ENNA ILS Monica T. (See Addendum 2)

Guidelines Adhoc: No Report

Web Servant: No Report

Group Reports:

Clean and Serene Group: Hi my name is Jim and I'm an addict. From Carroll Clean and Serene we're glad to be back at Area. Our attendance in Carroll fluctuates this time of year. It runs between 3 and 10 people at any meeting. It will pick back up in the summer that's sad but that's the way it is. In the last month we've had a new couple arrive from Ft. Dodge a 9 mo. and a 19 yr. chip went out. Again we're glad to be back, ILS Jim

Friday Night Discovery Group: (see flyers 1&2) Meetings have been going well. A good message of recovery. Out meeting is moving to 714 Benson Street at the Church of Christ at the same time as before. ILS Todd B.

Just For Today Group: Greetings Area, From the Just For Today group Red Oak. We have had some changes since we were here last. We have voted Collene in as our alt GSR and Jennifer as our secretary. Our Monday and Friday night meetings are growing more everyday they average 10 -17 members. We are happy to announce two new additions to our family, Haley born Dec. 14 to members Terry and Sean, and Dayton born Dec. 28th to members Dusty and Matt. We have an area donation of \$30.00 and a lit order this month. ILS Collene

Living Clean Group: Greetings from Shenandoah. Recovery is alive and strong in Shenandoah. Saturdays 8:00 meetings range from 10-20 addicts. All are welcome to join us. ILS Mike R.
01/15/2001

Miracles Of Recovery Group: Hi my name is Jim and I'm an addict. From the Miracles of Recovery Group in Manning, we're glad to be back at Area. Out attendance is good in Manning we have 10-30 addicts at every meeting. We give away a lot of newcomer tags and plenty of 30 and 60 day tags. After that a lot of them hook up with their own home groups. ILS Jim

Miracle on High: (see flyer 3) Greetings Area. Meetings are going good. 7-12 addicts per meeting attendance is up. Thursday and Saturday nights attendance are low. We have given away 2 Basic Texts to newcomers this past month. We give away Basic Texts to addicts that can not afford one. If you attend our meeting on a regular basis. Come check us out. As described last month we are alternating members to represent our groups. ILS, Barry B Representative for the Miracles Group.

Never Alone Group: Greetings Area from the GSR of Monday Night Never Alone in Harlan. As I reported last Area, I would be leaving for Colorado to care for my parents. I have just returned as of the 11th of this month therefore I have no report. However the alternate GSR has prepared a report as he has been in attendance in my absence therefore I will turn it over to Kevin. ILS Gina C.

Alt GSR Report: Greetings from Harlan's Monday Night Never Alone Group. Attendance has been good with a few newcomers. We are going to hold off on an area donation and lit order at this time. ILS Kevin.

New Way Group: Greetings Area from New Way Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Attendance has been steady on an average of 10-15 addicts. We are working out of the Step Working Guide and are on step 3. We encourage and welcome your attendance. The New Way Group has an \$40.00 Area donation and is in need of 3 Step Working Guides. On a corrections note my report for last Area was finished off with LIS Todd B. Thanks for the ability to serve Tim C.

Nobody's Group: We have had an interesting month in Harlan. We've had many clean time celebrations ranging from the "days" to multiple years and gave out some welcome chips. I apologize for not getting the count of how many of what was given out. I was voted as interim GSR at our last business meeting Thursday until we can find someone that can make the commitment for a full year. We have been struggling with finding a GSR to represent this group, and also with finding addicts with the willingness to chair meetings. We have no donation to area at this time. ILS, Jen H.

Saturday Serenity: Greetings SWINA from Saturday Serenity in Harlan. This has been a trying month for me both personally and in my recovery but I am back on track now with my life and my recovery. Thanks to people in this program and my higher power. Out attendance is averaging 3-7 people at this time. We continue to carry the message, despite low attendance. I'm grateful to be clean and alive today. ILS Lynn F.

On The Right Track Group: Hi everyone, my name is Jeff S. and I represent the Sat. On The Right Track Meeting at Family Services in CB Iowa. Meeting attendance has been averaging between 10-15 addicts per meeting during the last month. Last night we had three newcomers. We've been getting some positive feedback from our members and, overall the meetings are doing well. I would like to thank those in attendance here today who have supported us. ILS, Jeff S. GSR

Simple Recovery Group: Greetings Area from Simple recovery group in Tabor Iowa. Our groups are small but recovery is alive and well. Come join us in the recovery. ILS, Brian

Straight Friends: Greetings from Straight Friends Villisca, Mondays @ 6 pm. We've had 8-10 addicts in attendance every week celebrated 2-6 yr, 1-8 yr, and 1-2yr. birthday within the last few months. Recovery has been alive & well. Sorry for our lack of attendance to Area meetings-us addicts are busy! ILS Laura W.

Visions of Hope: (see flyer 4) Greetings From The Visions Of Hope Group. As of February 2, 2008 - all of our Visions Of Hope meetings will be permanently moved out of the Lite House. Our new location of meetings, beginning with our Sunday night meeting on February 3, 2008 will be at: Our

Savior's Lutheran Church, 313 Story Street. All meetings will be non-smoking. Also, our Monday night 8pm meeting is now a "It works: How and Why" text study, and our Sunday night meeting will now be a "Just For Today" meditation book study. Our Sunday night meeting will be a speaker meeting on the first Sunday night of the month. We have a motion to suspend the business of today's ASC meeting (January 13, 2008) (see motion listed in sharing session). Next we would like to request that an audit of the Literature Sub-committee Checking account be done by a member outside of the SWINA Area. We also have a motion to remove John B. from the position of ASC Vice-Chair (see motion listed in sharing session). We would like to ask if the ASC meetings, because the Treasurer's report does not show the ASC 7th Tradition income each month. ILS, Dana and Rusty
Moved to Break: Sari M., 2nd Todd B. 17/0/0

VI. **Financial Requests:** Request of \$48.50 RCM. for expenses, Request for \$16.88 by Secretary.

V. **Sharing Session:** Chairman of SWINA stated that he had 3 motions before him which needed immediate attention. They were discussed as follows.

1. Motion by Visions of Hope Group.

Motion: To remove John B. as the ASC Vice-Chairperson position

Intent: We ask that John B. be removed as the ASC Vice-Chair due to his lack of Attendance at our ASC meetings, as well as John not over seeing the ASC Sub-committees when needed, as required in the responsibilities of our ASC Vice Chair position.

Discussion of the motion: Motion tabled until next Area due to the next 2 motions on the floor.

2. Motion from Visions of Hope Group.

Motion: To suspend the Business of Today's ASC meeting (January 13, 2008)

Intent: That today's ASC meeting time be spent in a sharing session of GSR's discussing the needs and wants of the groups that can strengthen and unify our SWINA Area. It is our hopes that through this sharing time we will find a way to heal some of the hurt that has been experienced at our ASC and amongst our members.

Discussion of the motion: Chairman of SWINA we have another motion that states almost the exact same thing do we want to put this motion aside until we have heard the other motion. All groups agreed to listen to other motion and decide which version to go with.

2. Motion from RCM Motion listed below; 2nd all of the GSR's of Area. 16/0/1

Motion: To suspend Area Business until resolution of the Division of Area has been completed.

Intent: To bring about change and organization to Area Service and bring back the desire to more successfully carry the message of recovery to the addict that still suffers and stop the internal strife that is crippling our fellowship and preventing growth.

Discussion of the motions:

GSR for Roosters in Recovery stated that motions needed rewording because suspending all Area Business means no bills paid to anyone.

Representative of Manning Group stated we won't have subcommittees if we don't deal with Underlying issues.

Decided to combine both motions into this one motion.

Motions were reworded to read the following:

Motion: To suspend the Area's agenda for today except for the financial business

required and using today's Area time as a sharing session to address and resolve the Division of Area.

Intent: To bring about change and organization to Area Service and bring back the desire to more successfully carry the message of recovery to the addict that still suffers and stop the internal strife that is crippling our fellowship and preventing growth.

Representative of Manning called the vote: 16/0/1 motion passed.

GSR from Visions Of Hope asked that RCM facilitate the sharing session. Chairman of SWINA agreed.

RCM opened with a letter written to the Area:

Hello Area,

I have with a heavy heart come today to allow the voices of the collective groups that do not currently support our Area to be heard. Before I begin, I would like to read page 93 from the Basic Text from the Just for Today chapter. I attended the CAR in McPherson Kansas this last weekend and learned more than what I had anticipated. Other than the discussion on the 6th edition Basic Text the service pamphlets and the 12 motions that are set to be voted at World, I learned that service is what we do for the greater good of all addicts in recovery and that lack of unity will destroy our fellowship. We discussed the Area Service Learning Tool and why we weren't using it. I realized the need for a solution was great. I asked for direction from the RD and RDA for the state of Iowa and was provided some direction. I spoke of the power struggle and the magnitude of experience and knowledge that some individuals held in our Area and how it adversely affected our Area Service. How the disorganization and lack of new members has stagnated our area and driven groups away. They asked if we were servicing the still suffering addict with our H&I PI efforts, as helping the addict who still suffers is the greatest gift life has to offer. My response was no. We have no H&I or PI Committees. We are denying our members that experience to grow. The following was their suggestion: First, go back to the groups that no longer support Area and find out why. Ask what they want to see happen and gain a collective conscience. If they are willing to come back if change is made then ask the individuals that continue to insist on their way divide the Area to voluntarily step away from Area Service and allow the Area to restructure and heal. If this does not work it may be that a new Area will need to be formed. In speaking with the groups, we have come to one clear solution. It is imperative that there must be a change. Most of the groups have sided on setting aside the options to ask individuals to step aside and just go forward with a new area, the decision is up to them. As you RCM, I have done what has been asked of me and that was to attend the Zonal and CAR and learn. I am sure that bringing this matter to light will bring a great personal loss. I am fond of all that are involved and feel very torn, but again I know I have to do what is right. From here I would like to let the groups that have come today voice their groups decision. I would like each representative at this time to come forward and provide their group conscience. In Loving and Guided Service, Sari M.

- **Group discussion began:**
- Letter from visitor from Manning explaining some of the problems.
SWINA ASC,

I have stepped back from SWINA Area for the last few years mostly to live my own life. In the back of my mind, I was hoping the Area would get back on track to its purpose. It is supposed to be here to help the groups better carry the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers. The newcomer that walks into the meeting needs information on how to live a better life. This is supposed to be achieved through the Basic Text, Activities, Workshops, Literature, etc. We (the Area) carry the message to the groups, who carry the Message to the addict. It's called "Service Structure." The rest has been conflict. The Manning group attempted to purchase books; I.P.'s and key tags but was told the lit stock did not have them. I found out that the misappropriated money was not returned to the Lit. Treasury. I was told that they can no purchase anything because they don't have any money.

Services were traded for the misappropriated funds and this was satisfactory to the Area. Ever tried to purchase something with services? It takes money. Funds were misappropriated years back that did not get resolution. Nobody owned up to it & nobody paid it back. At that time it did not hurt the functioning of this Area or any sub-committee monetarily. This time it has hurt and Lit. Stock is not able to function. As a past member of this ASC, I would like to return. As an old-timer, I would like to say that I am no longer willing to step back and hope the problems will resolve themselves. I would like to be part of the solution. We need to get back to the "How" which not only applies to the individual addict but to every aspect of recovery. ILS Peg S.

- GSR Alt. Council Bluffs- Can someone please put options in black and white so we can see them?
- GSR Atlantic- Reason groups are asking for a new area is because of the distance they travel to get to Area.
- Nobody's Group- If you want change show up and ask for it. It's silly to run before you try.
- Visitor Manning- Could not get lit order due to miss-appropriated funds and group was told no lit would be ordered until issue was resolved.
- Other GSR's stated they would be willing to travel to outlying areas for Area meeting.
- .Visitor Creston- I travel the furthest and it is an issue
- GSR Atlantic- Issue of H&I and how we squashed it without working on it.
- GSR Atlantic- There have been arguments the last several Areas' and that is our "bitch." The solution people with more clean time need to step up to service positions to stop it, and work on helping the Area.
- GSR Harlan- Trying to understand what the issues are.
- GSR Shenandoah- Our principles before my personality.
- Visitor Manning- We need a commitment to show up and fix area. I have the brass ones to show up and tell anyone no matter how much clean time you have this is what I want and I deserve my say.
- GSR Council Bluffs- I want GSR's to take back power at Area and stop giving it away. Many personal attacks have been run "Bitches Of Hope" is what we are called. It hurts when personal attacks are constantly run and maybe that's why GSR's don't show up for Area. We need to fix this.
- GSR Council Bluffs- My basic text says insanity is repeating the same thing expecting different results.
- Visitor Harlan- We don't need to bail on the Area we need to train. Go back to group level and train GSR's how to do their job. We can't blame everyone else get off our asses and get our GSR's accountable for our Area.
- Motion to extend Tim C. 2nd All voting members 17/0/0 passed
- RCM- Like a mother with a child if we treat our children badly they will treat us the same way. We need to love our kids even when they come to us with a complaint because we love them thru everything no matter what.
- Chair- We need to work on outreach because we do the crappiest job of outreach of anyone anywhere. We all need to work for change in this Area.
- Activities Chair- Sit down, shut up, and show up!

Nobody's Group Motion:

Motion: To have only GSR's speak and not executive committee members or visitors 2nd Miracle on High.

Intent: To put the GSR's back in control of the discussion at Area.

Vote taken early because no-one heard that

Discussion was requested: after discussing motion it was tabled.

RCM called for point of order: Back to discussion of issues at Area.

- GSR Atlantic- So what are we going to do?
- Visitor Carroll- We need to focus on discussion not griping. We can't keep extending Area over nothing. If we don't get it handled in time it should go at the top of the next Agenda for next Area.

Nobody's Group Motion:

Motion: to rotate location of ASC each month. 2nd Mike R.

Intent: to bring back unity in this Area.

Discussion requested: GSR Roosters in Recovery- Do all groups have a place to meet.

Several Outlying groups stated they would have facilities to meet in available each month.

Motion tabled until we can determine who has adequate meeting facilities available.

Never Alone Motion:

Motion: to make a six month commitment to come to Area to solve issues and promote unity. 2nd mike R.

Intent: To solve current problems before abandoning the Area.

Call the vote.13/0/3 motion to passed

VI. **Announcements / Flood Meetings:**

January Red Oak: **Faith Community Church - [2701 N. 8th St.](#) - Red Oak, IA**

VII **7th Tradition: \$27.00**

XIV. VIII. **Adjournment: Lyn F. 2nd Gina C. 16/0/0 motion passed (note one GSR had to leave early so vote is off by one)**

XV. **Next ASC February 10th, 2008**

XVI. **Motion to Close**

If you would like copies of the addendums and flyers please email me and I will get them to you by US MAIL, however most of them can be found on the website. I will have hard copies of them at the next Area but to eliminate the supposed confusion with the attachments unless you request them by mail they will not be sent by email.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anita T.