

## Southwest Iowa Narcotics Anonymous February 10, 2008

- I. **Open with prayer** –Mike V.P.
- II. **Reading of**
  - A. Service Motivation –Peg S.
  - B. Twelve Traditions – Jim B.
  - C. Twelve Concepts –Monica T.
  - 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	Absent

#### 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:

Stacy  
Nate  
Tasha S.  
Mike  
George R.  
Tim L.  
Jennifer  
Michelle B.

#### Groups

Reaching Out	Absent
New Way	Tim C.
On the Right Track	Jeff S.
Stairway to Freedom	Absent
Visions of Hope	Dana W./alt. Rusty S.
Clean & Free	Absent
Miracle on High	Emily B.
Straight & Grateful	Gary R.
Never Alone	Gina/Alt. Kevin
Nobody's Group	Matt O.
Miracles of Recovery	Peg S.
Clean & Serene	Jim B.
Discovery Group	Dave
Just For Today	Jennifer P.
Living Clean	Mike R.
Saturday Serenity	Lynn F.
Roosters in Recovery	Absent
New Freedom	Absent
Straight Edge	Shawn K.
Straight Friends	Lori W.
Simple Recovery	Brian V.
Let It Be	Troy F.

**Corrections & Approval of Minutes:** MOTION: Gina C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lynn F. Approve January 2008 Minutes with the following corrections. Activities report given not sure where it went. Could not get a replacement copy. Also Activities Chair said statement in sharing session was incorrect. 17/0/0 Passed.

#### Executive Committee Reports:

**Chairperson:** Greetings Area, I would first like to read something I wrote to our RCM and then her response and finally the rest of my report.

Sari, I am just a little disheartened for a couple of reasons; First I was really encouraged about this months agenda because after months of squabbling over things that could not possibly make any difference, although we did not still have an approval form for the guidelines, we were going to elect willing accountable people to positions that either did not have any direction at all or were grossly mismanaged. We had a motion on the floor to centralize ASC. I like the stability that having Area in a

consistent place every month gives us. I knew when we moved back to Council Bluffs it was a mistake. If we decide to rotate, so be it. I will go where I need to go. We need to reopen nominations for Vice Chair because even though John has not approached me directly he must have other obligations that take precedence. Mary needed an answer about a Memorial Day Campout. I went to the Red Oak meeting on Monday and those folks were very excited about the prospect of a campout. Because I take Labor Day weekend off every year I usually get stuck working Memorial weekend which means I do not attend Run for Fun and quite frankly I think it is far enough away that if that is where you want to go more power to you but I like the idea of having something close in our area that our members can enjoy. I think there is plenty of interest. We just have to get the word out. ILS Mike VP

From Sari M.: Mike, I understand and I agree that there were items on the agenda that needed to be discussed and were not. In looking at the bigger picture, I truly felt guided to listen to our Area as a whole and try to bring back what has been so terribly divided. If we would not have listened to the folks that came on Sunday the division would have been permanent. With that in mind, if it is only the CB groups, some of the items on the agenda would have been mute. There is never a good time to make a change, but before a time of regret is the best time. I think that we are on the right track. Maybe we can get more people interested in serving again. As far as the camp out, I am in agreement. I was confused why it would even be an issue. I had asked Mary if it was submitted on the activities agenda to area and she said it had been. It was also asked of those that attended last year if we should make it an annual campout and I believe the vote was unanimous. I am not sure why anyone would be upset if it did coincide with another function as that sometimes happens. The people that went camping could not attend that ride anyways so it takes nothing away. It gives those left behind something to do. Looking forward the next area should have a good agenda again as it will be the same with more participation. I appreciate your candor and with god's guidance, we may be on the right track. ILS Sari

I also attended the Annual Valentines Dance in Manning hosted by the Carroll and Manning NA groups with my wife and a couple of addicts who went with us. We had an awesome time. I was aware that there was some controversy over the fact that "NA" was not specified on the flyer. My experience there was that readings were done out of the basic text. All but a few of the raffle items had NA themes and of the ones that did not they were absolutely generic. It eludes in our basic text in the preface to members of another fellowship having great faith in us and in the program giving us support. I think that in a metro area where meetings are abundant and the fellowship is large it is easy to lose sight of the fact that in the smaller communities where meetings are sparse and the fellowship is small that efforts to be more inclusive are necessary for these folks. In fact that is how I became a member of NA being that my primary addiction is to alcohol. ILS Mike VP ASC Chair

**Vice Chairperson:** Brothers and Sisters:

It is with great sadness that I must resign my position as Vice-Chair of SWINA. Please accept this letter as my official resignation. It is with even greater sadness that I must attest that I have been remiss in my responsibilities in this position for some time. I did not want to simply resign without detailing the reasons for my inability to fulfill my obligation.

I was asked by a large charitable organization to accept to a position as Director within their organization. Their membership exceeds 25,000 in the state of Nebraska. They are currently struggling with assimilating the Hispanic populace into their organization. I honestly thought that I could fulfill my position with SWINA and this organization simultaneously. It is certainly apparent that I miscalculated. The position as Director has caused me to travel nearly every weekend (distances). This position is a voluntary position and I am not compensated monetarily. I have been very effective in this position to date. I have prayed for some time over what to do. It is evident that I am able to help, in a very unique way, a large number of immigrants, and help change and better their lives. I feel I am plugging a huge vacuum which previously existed and am making a big difference. I realize that no

person is indispensable, but that charity comes in three forms, "time, talent, and treasure". I truly believe that my charitable values which are unique to me, are being utilized in a most special way in helping a large cross section of people utilizing this organization. I really didn't seek out or want the position of Director. It was one of those times where God placed it in front of me and said, "Here you go be of service".

One of the most incredible gifts that SWINA has been blessed with are addicts who have significant clean time and who have served at very high levels within NA (including world levels of service). SWINA has also been blessed with a cross section of young addicts who appear eager to serve. I feel that my position as vice chair was completely and totally a privilege. I had mentioned previously that no person is indispensable. I feel that this is most true in regard to my position as Vice Chair. I have not been devoted to my position as I should have due to factors I have previously mentioned. I do recall that for many months I had acted as both Vice Chair and Chairperson for SWINA due to the chair position not being filled. This was quite an honor and privilege. I must say we are certainly blessed to have Mike as Chairperson. He has added stability and wisdom which due to my lack of knowledge and experience, I did not possess. I guess what I am trying to say in a nut shell is there are addicts who are qualified to assume my position who would do a much better job. I have also taken the liberty to speak to a few members, who are qualified to fill this position, so that if they are willing to serve, might be scrutinized by the body and placed in a position to serve. I do not want to simply resign and not leave alternative candidates.

I would like to apologize if I have offended or harmed any person or my Area by my premature resignation. This was not my intention. I feel that I would cause more harm by not resigning. I will look forward to seeing all of my brothers and sisters at our upcoming functions. If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me at your earliest convenience. My cell number is 402-699-7713. My office number is 402-551-4582. ILS John Andrew Blaiotta

**Secretary:** Thanks, ILS, Anita T.

**Treasurer:** (See addendum 1) ILS Bart W.

**RCM:** Hello Area, We have a few items that need discussed for Feb. Region. The first is on the motion to amend policy 12 on finances. The recommendations for treasurer have been provided. I would like to see this added to today's agenda. There is also a motion to amend policy section 14 for Clean Time requirements and term of service for IRCNA committee. We need a straw poll vote yes or no to continue to research and seek insurance policy. It would cover Area /Region functions and activities only and exclude transportation and group functions/activities. Lastly do we as an Area want to workshop the CAR? I am requesting \$30 dollars for gas expense to Area 180 miles x 20 miles to the gallon @ \$3.00 per gallon. This will be my last region before my end of term. I will report to Area on Region and be available to assist anyway I can but with the passing of my mother and having to disburse her things and estate I will be extremely busy. It has been a huge growing experience for me and I want to personally thank Charlotte, Dana and Michelle for all their support and encouragement to take on the position and especially Michelle for being such a resource. P.S. The activities chair has asked that for the Chili-cook off learning day- it was suggested the learning day be a GSR learning day. ILS Sari M.

**RCM Alt:** No Report

### **Sub-Committee Reports:**

**Literature Chair: Open Position**

**Literature Treasurer Report:** Report given by ASC Treasurer

**Activities Treasurer Report:** Included with Activities Report.

**Activities:** Good Afternoon ASC, Things are going well. We are looking at a CAR workshop on March 8<sup>th</sup> @ 313 Story flyer with the time will be online by Tuesday. April 19<sup>th</sup> Service Learning Day in Shenandoah @ Isaac Walden noon-until.?? Anniversary Dance hosted by New way and Visions of

Hope. May 23-26 Memorial Day Campout. June 14<sup>th</sup> ENNA/SWINA baseball game. July 15<sup>th</sup> Luau. Bank account started at \$504.00 last month. \$100.00 to Camp Aldersgate \$50 for SWINA \$50 for Memorial Day. \$75.00 to Isaac Walden for Chili Cook-off in Shenandoah Balance \$329. The committee would like to know how the activities audit went. ILS Mary

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

**Phone Line Chair:** Dear ASC, We are having problems getting phonline carriers to commit to carrying the phone. There are a few that are extremely committed, but most are not. We could definitely use more people that have the desire to share experience, strength and hope with the community. I am passing out flyers so those that are interested in joining the phonline but cannot make it to a meeting can call me and set up a time to get together and be trained. Hopefully this will help. The log book from last year still has not been located. I do not know exactly what to do about this problem. I will seek advice from Past Chairpersons. That is all for today. ILS Monica T.

**Guidelines Adhoc:** No Report

**Web Servant:** No Report

**Group Reports:**

**Clean and Serene Group:** Hi my name is Jim and I'm an addict. The Carroll group says hello to everyone at Area. Our friends in the fellowship are starting to return to the group now that the weather is warming some. We had no new comers this month and no birthdays were celebrated. Our Valentines Day dance was a success and were now looking forward to the Spring Fling in June. It will be the first weekend in June in Auburn Iowa, in Grant Park. ILS Jim

**Friday Night Discovery Group: (4 motions listed in sharing session)** Greetings Area from Friday Night Discovery. We've recently moved into our new meeting facility at 714 Benson. The Church of Christ. Go to Avenue G from any direction; go west to Benson Street (almost the end of Avenue G). There we are. Friday Night at 8:30. Meeting format and usual suspects are the same. Meetings have been there for 2 weeks. They have been robust, with great recovery being shared. We look forward to another 20 years at the new facility and hope to see everyone there. ILS Dave R.

**Just For Today Group:** Greetings Area, From the Just For Today group Red Oak. We have had a great start to the New Year. We have had an average of 10-15 members on Monday and Friday nights and have given out 7 key tags last month. We also had 5 newcomers in attendance. We do not have a lit order or a donation at this time. ILS Jennifer P.

**Let It Be:** Hi everyone, I'm Troy, alcoholic, addict. I'm the GSR for "Let It Be", here at the Litehouse. Our group started in January of this year with noon meetings on Tues. and Wed. Since then we have been fortunate to have those whom meet the criteria for chairpersons, and they now chair meetings on Monday Thursday and Friday at 11AM. Our group is doing well and brings serenity to an average of 7 to 15 addicts per meeting. Regular attendees have accomplished 90 day and 6 month birthdays, along with a handful of 1 and 2 years, and a couple of 4 and 5 year celebrations. Through the insight, and abundance of knowledge from experience, present in various group meetings held here at the Litehouse and abroad, it has become the privilege of 3 recovering addicts to co-facilitate during early recovery and relapse prevention classes, at the Heartland Family Services Center, here in Council Bluffs. We feel this is practical for one addict can best understand and help another addict. For the Group "Let It Be". We hope to infuse the area with new blood, new faces, and a renewal of commitment to the fellowships and addicts of NA primarily in this Area. Respectfully, Troy F.

**Living Clean Group:** Greetings Family, Living Clean Group is looking forward to hosting the chili cook off Learning Day in April again this year. ILS Mike R. 01/15/01

**Miracle on High: (see flyer 1)** Greetings Area. I'm Emily; our group is choosing representation monthly. Meeting attendance is 6 to 12 with a few newcomer members who are thinking of staying. Our meetings are going very well. Our Area donation is 25 dollars and we have no lit order at this time. ILS Emily B. Representative for the Miracles Group.

**Miracles of Recovery Group:** Greetings from Miracles of Recovery. Meetings have been well attended. The treatment center has been at full capacity which means we have a lot of newcomers & 30 days. It's nice to see some of those faces keep coming back even after they are out. NA is working and addicts are staying clean. We have no lit order or donation at this time. I went to the ENNA jailhouse rock. I learned a lot and heard a good speaker. A fellow addict & I were able to go to the Fri. Atlantic meeting. It was good to hear different people share. I attended the Manning Carroll Valentine Dance. My apologies to Area for there not being flyers at Area. NA was not on the flyer & I thought I was following guidelines when I said not to bring them. I am working on not being so anal. I have a ways to go. ILS Peg S.

**Never Alone Group:** Greetings Area from Monday Night Never Alone in Harlan. Attendance is good as always we have an Area donation of \$25.00 and no literature order at this time. I would like to report I had the opportunity to attend the H&I learning day on 1-19-08. I learned a wealth of inspiration including the importance of sponsorship and working steps in only the NA fellowship. I have used this information as a stepping stone in my recovery and started working with Tami from Omaha a sponsor. I would also like to clear up a matter that was brought to my attention. As you are all aware, I have currently been nominated for position of H&I chair, there has been some confusion as to my getting college credits for this position. I would like to rest your minds on this matter as I have waited 2 years for this position to be apart of my recovery and I still have to earn my degree the hard way with math, science, and english not NA. Thank you-- ILS Gina C.

**New Way Group:** Greetings Area from New Way Group. Things are great with New Way. Attendance has been steady on averaged of 8-15 addicts in attendance! Our positions are full and we continue to come to Area with group conscience. We have no area donation this month and are in need of no lit this month. We are currently on the 4<sup>th</sup> step of the Step Working Guide, and encourage your attendance. Thank you for the Opportunity to serve Tim C. New Way Group.

**Nobody's Group:** Greetings Area from Harlan's Thurs. Nobody's Group. Really nothing to report. Attendance has been good. Lit order of 53.50 & donation of 60.00. ILS, Matt Oleson

**On The Right Track:** Greetings Area, from Sat. night on the right track group. Meeting attendance is up; we've been averaging between 15-20 this past month. I apologize for not having an accurate count. I will in the future. Our group is really thriving, thanks to all who support our group and the entire NA program. ILS Jeff S.

**Saturday Serenity:** Greetings SWINA from Saturday Serenity in Harlan. Attendance has been good during this last month. I attended the H&I Learning day and learned a lot. We gave out 1 newcomer and 1-6 month key tag. We have a small lit order & a \$25.00 area donation. I'm grateful to be clean and alive today. ILS Lynn F.

**Simple Recovery Group:** Greetings Area from Simple recovery group in Tabor Iowa. We don't have much to report at this time, we do have a twenty-five dollar donation. ILS, Brian

**Straight Edge Group:** Hi I'm Shawn; there have been an average of 5 in attendance. We are trying to move due to the fact that our meetings are in the basement of the police department and low attendance. ILS Shawn K.

**Straight Friends:** We don't have too much to report this month – still ranging 6 to 10 addicts per week – not letting the cold get us down! Thanks for having us! ILS Villisca Straight Friends!

**Straight n Grateful:** Tuesday night meetings are suffering from seasonal attendance problems. 1-2 addicts per week. Friday is strong 15-20 per meeting. There are not potlucks scheduled. We have no literature order and no area contribution. Sorry. ILS Gary R.

**Visions of Hope:** We made our final move into our new facility last week (Feb. 3, 2008). Our Savior Lutheran church is a beautiful facility with a lot of space. Our meetings attendance is high with a lot of great sharing. We hope that you'll come join us at the Visions of Hope Group. On a personal note: Thank you Anita for the beautiful work you did on the January 2008 ASC Minutes. It was a hard ASC to record and you did great. ILS, Dana and Rusty

Moved to Break: Sari M., 2<sup>nd</sup> Todd B. 17/0/0

- VI. **Financial Requests:** Request of \$30.00 RCM. (approved operating expense), request for \$34.34 by treasurer for office expenses (motion Gary 2<sup>nd</sup> Gina to pay treasurer expenses Unanimous motion carried.) Request for \$37.50 by Secretary (approved operating expense).

V. **Sharing Session:**

Discovery Group proposed that we take back to our groups the following motions:

**Motion 1-** The Area would be extended only by a unanimous vote by the GSR's

**Intent:** To put Area Service back in the hands of the GSR's and keep with the time frame set up by area for the service meeting.

**Motion 2-** The agenda for New Business for every Area meeting would start with whatever was unaddressed at the last month's meeting.

**Intent:** To prevent changes in the order of items listed on the agenda.

**Motion 3- Motions** can only be discussed by regular Area Members. This would include GSR's, Executive Committee and Subcommittee Chairs.

**Intent:** The Area Service meeting is intended for our elected officials to conduct the business of our Area. Visitors although encouraged to attend are asked not to participate.

**Motion 4-** All motions should be properly submitted in writing before the Area meeting.

**Intent:** This would promote clearly written ideas to be presented that had been thought out before presentation for discussion.

Discussion of the motions was as follows:

Treasurer: If only GSR's talk we will lose lots of valuable experience.

Activities Chair: I agree with the whole purpose of it.

Living Clean- Whole purpose of our GSR's is to decide things.

Group decision to table all motions so we can take them back to our groups and be ready at next Area.

Discussion by RCM about C.A.T. (Conference Agenda Track). It lays out what world will do in next cycle in more detail. C.A.R. (Conference Agenda Report). Less detail on what world is doing during next cycle. RCM trying to explain so all will know what we are going to be discussing at C.A.R.

Workshop in March, since some people did not understand what words meant.

Motion to extend Sharing Session Lynn 2<sup>nd</sup> Gary 0/8/9 motion failed.

VIII. **Unfinished Service**

A. Open Positions:

a. H&I PI Chairperson

1. Motion to approve Gina C. for H&I PI Chairperson 16/0/1 motion passed **Congratulations Gina!!**

b. Literature Chair

2. Motion to approve Tim L. for Literature Chair.

Discussion requested.

Activities Chair: **Question-**Are you willing to resign as vice chair of phoneline to become Lit. Chair?

**Answer:** YES

New Way: **Question-** Are you willing to put up with condition of Literature now?

**Answer:** NO

Miracles of Recovery: **Question-** What about audit that was requested?

**Answer:** I thought it was already done.

Straight-N-Grateful: **Question**-Will you make sure audit is done & report back to Area results?

**Answer:** NO

Activities Chair: **Question**-Are you willing to work with an Adhoc committee to see what's been done and make sure its right?

**Answer** YES with and Audit I would be willing to take over as Lit. Chair.

Straight-N-Grateful comment: If you are gonna accept nomination be ready to fix it or take it now.

Miracles of Recovery comment: Not Tim's responsibility so we should take care of it.

**Chairman called the vote:** Vote on Tim L. for Lit. Chair 1/11/5 motion failed **Sorry Tim.**

Nominations still open for this position. GSR Straight-N-Grateful expressed a willingness to chair Adhoc committee to find a person to audit Literature. Chairman asked if GSR's agree to him running Adhoc. All said yes. Chairman appointed GSR Straight-N-Grateful Literature Audit Adhoc Chair.

C. Motion to approve phonline guidelines listed in last Area Minutes Tim C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Gina 17/0/0 motion passed.

D. Motion to approve Guidelines as listed in November 2007 Minutes Tim C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Gina 10/5/1 motion passed.

E. Motion presented last Area by Miracles on High to meet in Griswold Iowa 14/0/1 motion passed.

Motion can be found in January 2008 Minutes.

Address for next months ASC will be as follows: **United Methodist Church**- go down I-92 to Griswold and turn left on Cass street go up 2 blocks and your there. Sorry couldn't find a proper map. -

Motion D: To rotate Area listed in last months minutes removed due to passing of previous motion.

Motion to remove John B. as Vice-Chair removed because he resigned.

Motion by Nobody's Group to have only GSR's speak at ASC removed by group due to vagueness of content.

## IX. **Current Service:**

A. To have RCM vote yes on finance changes 14/0/1 passed.

B. To have RCM vote yes on Clean Time requirement 14/0/1 passed

C. To have Region continue work on Insurance question.

Discussion requested by chairman pro's vs. cons

Visitor: Pro-We could but it might get us sued more.

Webmaster: Con- We do not have enough info to make decision need to consult a lawyer.

• Vote on continuing work on this issue 14/0/1 passed

• Note motions for regional finance policy as follows for clarification:

### Attachment A: Treasury Review - Finances Policy Motion

Made by: Jeff McD.

Second by: none yet.

### Motion

To amend Regional policy section 12. Finances

To Add:

**12. XXI.** The deposits are to be entered separately into the check book.

Intent:

Without the donations being entered separately, there isn't any verification of the total deposit.

**12. XXII.** That the money be deposited into the bank with in 5 business days, after Region.

Intent:

Limit the chance of the money being loss are stolen and to have sufficient funds to cover the checks written the day of the IRSC

- The following is the motion from the Regional agenda for clarification:

**Attachment B:** IRCNA Standing Motion – Policy Clean Up

Made by: Charlotte S. IRCNA Standing Subcommittee

Second by: none yet.

Motion: To amend the Iowa Regional Service Committee Policy Section 14 Titled Iowa Regional Convention Committee of NA page 14, to read as follows:

B. Vice-Chairperson:

d.) Clean time requirement shall be 3 years.

C. Secretary:

c.) Clean time requirement shall be 2 years.

D. Treasurer:

k.) Term of Service shall be two years.

Intent: The intent of this motion to amend the Iowa Regional Convention Committee guidelines to be more consistent with clean time requirements and specify length of service for Standing Treasurer

- The following is the motion from the Regional Agenda for clarification:

A) Insurance Ad Hoc – Straw Poll Yes or No to continue with these Parameters:

- a. A policy costing \$2000.00 or less per year.
- b. To cover Area/Regional functions and activities only.
- c. Excluding transportation and group functions / activities.

D. Do we want to work shop C.A.R. /C.A.T.? vote Yes 14/0/0 passed.

Motion to extend Area Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tim C. 11/2/1 passed

E. Motion to Nominate Stacy M. for Vice Chair Tim C., 2<sup>nd</sup> V.O.H.

Called for vote by Chairman tabled at request of GSR's.

Discussion requested. RCM: Question- Stacy would you be opposed to GSR's taking your resume back to their groups to make an informed decision?

Answer: NO

Visitor: Question- Term ends in May does this mean you want position until May and then want to run for Chair next Area?

Answer: Maybe or for another term as vice-chair

F. Motion to make a Regional Donation of \$1,000- Gina, 2<sup>nd</sup> Peg

Discussion requested. Treasurer: We have \$1,500 in account  
Webmaster- we should wait.

Vote 3/6/6 motion failed.

VI. **Announcements / Flood Meetings: none chosen**

VII **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:**

VIII. **Adjournment: Gina C., 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave 15/0/0 motion passed (note two GSR's had to leave early so vote is off by two)**

XIV. **Next ASC March 9th, 2008**

XV. **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.