

Wyo-Braska Area Service Committee

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Date: January 11, 2009 Time: 1:09 pm Location: Laramie, WY

Ray B. opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer
Willy O. read the 12 Traditions of N.A.
Gail W. read the 12 Concepts of N.A.
Richard M. read the 12 Values of the WBASC

Group Response to Concept _4_ & Question _2_ from last meeting:

Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.

The trust necessary to confidently delegate authority is founded on the careful selection of trusted servants. Leadership is very important to the welfare of our fellowship. True, our leaders are but trusted servants, not governors; yet we also expect our trusted servants to lead us. If we select them carefully, we can confidently allow them to do so. The essay on this concept describes an array of leadership qualities to be considered when selecting trusted servants.

Study and discussion question:

2. Does your group have leaders? If so, who are they? In what sense can they be called "leaders"? Could your group do without leaders? Could a service board or committee do without leaders?

C&S – Yes. Whoever chairs a meeting and keeps the focus on recovery, otherwise any trusted servants. They can be called leaders because they lead by exhibiting desired behaviors – they lead by example. No way could we function without members accepting responsibilities to get things done that need done. Without leaders there would be chaos and little or nothing might get done.

Most members of service committees, by the nature of the committee itself, are leaders.

Reading/Study/Discussion of Concept _5_ using chapter questions.

*For each responsibility assigned to the service structure,
a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.*

In defining a single point of decision for each service assignment, we eliminate confusion about who has authority to do what. We also clarify accountability for our services: whoever is given the authority for a particular task will be held accountable for the fulfillment of that task.

Study and discussion questions

1. Does your group assign particular tasks to particular people? Does this help ensure that important jobs actually get done?

GSRs -- take this question back to groups for input.

2. Does anyone in your group know of a situation, either in the group or in a service board or committee, where more than one person or subcommittee were given responsibility for the same task? What happened?

In one instance another member undertook a task that had been assigned to another without any communication. This resulted in some unnecessary confusion even though the task was accomplished.

3. If three different people are all given equal authority in a particular service matter and the work is not done, who can be held accountable?

Either all of them or none of them. A true NA service catch 22.

Roll Call: Chair, Secretary (acting), RCM, RCM2, PR Chair, Literature Chair, Activities Chair, Webservant

GSR, Alternates and guests: Deb B. (GSR – On Life’s Terms), Willy O. (GSR – Clean and Free), Ray B. (GSR – Vision of Hope), Mistie W. (GSR – Saturday Nite Live), Scott M. (GSR – Clean & Serene), Mac B. & Rory G. (GSR & Treasurer – Live from Laramie) Jason K. & Brett.

Absent: Vice Chair, Treasurer (vacant), UD Chair (vacant), & Staying Clean in Sidney.

NA Recovery Birthdays: Jason K. – 6 mths. & Brett – 6 mths. Congratulations all !!!!!

Recognition of new groups: See Secretary’s report.

Approval of last month’s minutes:

Gail W. moved and Misty W. 2nd the motion to accept the minutes as presented – carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Beginning Balance: \$3160.91

Serenity Break: 1:35 – 1:50 pm

Officers Reports:

Chair: Given and filed as follows:

Hello A.S.C. members & friends,

Welcome back. Hope your holiday season went well, it did for me. Glad the weather turned favorable this weekend so that we can get on with some business. If we stay on track we can still be done on time. I would like to remind this body to place principles before personalities & also the importance of knowing your duties & following through. I attended both the events this area hosted & I had a great time. Good job for all that helped in putting them together. The Chair’s account balance stands at \$100.00.

In loving service
Ray B

Vice-Chair: Given by Ray and filed as follows:

Hello Family,

Sorry that I could not be there today.

I want to remind you that our main function as a committee is to take to t he region what the groups in our area would like to be happening within our region. I received an e-mail from a member in the Wyo-western area about our region’s convention and how they would like the region to consider in the tough economic times since Wyo-Braska and central area have brought in the most at this function that they consider having it rotate between those two areas. I would like GSRs to take these kind of things in consideration and give our RCM some direction for the region’s discussion on these kind of issues. The region will meet before we do again. If there is anything you need me to do, please contact me by phone or e-mail.

In Loving Service
Les F.

Treasurer: Vacant. Willie O. is in the process of reconciling our records with bank statements, but does report the following:

Ck # 1348 Freedom Voice	\$13.21
Ck # 1349 Quest	\$12.96
Nov. service charge	\$ 6.00
Dec. service charge	\$ 6.00

Secretary: Report given & filed as follows:

Hey all,

The contact and meeting lists have been updated with info taken off of the sign-in sheet as well as the group report forms and corrections given to me at the last meeting. If any of this info is illegible then the list won't be right so please print clearly. Also, everyone please check your information to make sure it is accurate and up to date. Because the contact list has more personal information on it, it will not be posted on the web site or anywhere else. Its purpose is for ease of communication among members of the area. It is intended for internal use only.

Again, thank you for typing up your reports. I'm sure the next secretary will appreciate it too. It does really make it handy to scan the reports and insert into the minutes.

After I e-mailed the last minutes out I received a response from the Chadron, NE folks who have decided to avail themselves of the area services from South Dakota mainly because to the travel distance.

Budget remains at \$125.

ILS

Richard

RCM: Given and filed as follows:

Hello,

Wyo-Braska area held another successful fundraiser on New Year's & all proceeds went to URMRCNA – \$440. Next month is the region meeting (Feb 7th). We will be electing next year's convention chair @ this time.

In Loving Service
Willy O.

RCM 2:

Mac B. stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

Group Reports:

On Life's Terms:

Concerns: Would like to see GSR Deb B.s e-mail on the Wyo-Braska Area Service Committee [contact list]

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: Nov. – \$47.78, Dec. – \$39.86 Other: None

Clean & Free:

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: 0 Other: None

Vision of Hope:

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: \$30.00 Other: None

Saturday Nite Live:

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: \$50.00 Other: None

Clean & Serene:

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: \$30.00 Other: None

Live from Laramie:

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: \$34.59 Other: \$27.67 to URMRS

Free Bird:

Concerns: None

Needs: People to support service.

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: \$30.00 Other: None

Staying Clean in Sidney: Absent

Concerns:

Needs:

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: 0 Other: None

Sub-Committee reports:

Activities: Submitted and filed as follows:

The totes have been delivered, inventoried and sorted out and now reside in Ray's garage along with the podium. There are plenty of supplies except for forks and spoons, which need to be purchased before the next event. The excess decorations for New Years were thrown away as they were old and been recycled too many times, so when the time comes to put on another event for New Years, the decorations will need to be replaced. There are plenty of decorations for Valentines Day.

Speaking of Valentines Day, the convention committee has asked the activities for area if they could put on another fundraiser event in cooperation with area as the last two events have been very successful. This request will come in the form of a motion today. Another form of a motion will be that area donates the supplies used to date and further supplies to be used to the convention committee instead of the convention replenishing the supplies at the end of fundraising events. We can bring this up in sharing if need be.

The New Years party was fun; we had about 20 addicts from the Off the Wall Area join in the celebration and have been asked to attend their dance next Saturday the 17th. I would strongly encourage as many of us as possible to attend as it promotes the unity and fellowship that N.A. has to offer.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

JFT-
Gail W
WBASC Activities Chair

UD: vacant

PR: Given and filed as follows:

The PI panel on December 15 and 16 went very well with 10 addicts from all over the Wyo-Braska area sharing their experiences of addiction and recovery to about 200 students at Carey JR High in Cheyenne. I brought 15 copies each of the pamphlets: By young addicts for young addicts, Welcome to NA, and Am I an addict. By the end of day one there were very few left. I ordered 15 more of each and Jason will deliver those pamphlets and 15 meeting schedules to the school.

Tommy O has assured me that the phone line will be updated today to reflect changes in meetings in Scottsbluff and to correct info for Laramie.

I received a reply form Corporal Wilken in the Albany County Jail and there are 2 basic texts and 20 introduction to NA books in there; also they have some white booklets which are not allowed in because of the staples. I will be trying to pick those up so perhaps we could use them somewhere else. We still have a need for volunteers for jail meetings in Laramie and when I talked to Steve in Cheyenne last month he told me the situation is the same there.

Rory G.

H&I component: See above.

PI component: See above.

Phoneline: See above.

Web site: Given and filed as follows:

Hey All,

General – The online meeting list and the printable Winter 2008 meeting list are both updated. Please check them to make sure they are accurate. Information is taken from the group report forms so if these are inaccurate the web site will be inaccurate. The latest minutes and guidelines are also available.

Remember, GSRs can download motion, disbursement and report forms from the “Archives” page.

NOTE: In order to open these PDF files the free Adobe Reader 5.0 or greater is needed.

I received a couple more e-mails requesting reciprocal web site linking. However, neither were official NA web sites so I cannot add their links to our site as per NAWS bulletins and our web site guidelines. We cannot prevent others from linking to us – we just can't link to them unless they are NA and comply with traditions and guidelines.

Technical – In December we had 2208 hits representing 562 hits for the month of November. This past month, December, we recorded 2740 up another 532 hits. Within the last seven months we have fairly consistently exceeded 500 hits each month except October which was still respectable at 454.

As part of an annual review I checked out our search engine results placement when certain key words were entered into each of four major search engines – Google, Yahoo, Alta Vista and Dogpile. Dogpile is actually a search engine that compiles listing from several other engines so by using this search a more complete, overall picture of our placement can be assessed.

Of course when Wyo-Braska NA, or Narcotics Anonymous, was used we were at the top of the search results, but those looking for a meeting are more likely to use either Wyoming or Nebraska NA so these terms were used in the search engines as well. As mentioned above, several professional and self-help web sites link to our site so in the following list I have listed these sites first and official NA web sites second.

Key Word	Google	Yahoo	Alta Vista	Dogpile
Wyoming NA	#3 listing #2 official NA listing	#5 listing #2 official NA listing	#5 listing #2 official NA listing	#5 listing #2 official NA listing
Nebraska NA	#5 listing #4 official NA listing	#7 listing #4 official NA listing	#7 listing #5 official NA listing	#9 listing #5 official NA listing

In most cases, when Wyoming NA was used as the key word, the Wyoming Western area web site returned as one of the first search results and when Nebraska NA was used Nebraska region or area web sites came up first. Our placement high on each list, regardless the key words, indicate that the html coding used in our invisible header is doing its job and this in spite of the lack of specific meta tags. So, in short, anyone looking for a meeting within our area will find it.

FINANCIAL: All fees paid for through September 2009

And finally, ". . .wherever we go, we always represent NA to some degree. If we are seen acting poorly while we prominently display an NA logo, . . . we carry a distinctly unattractive message . . ."

"It Works: How and Why", Tradition 11, pg. 206.

In Loving Service,
Richard M.

Literature: Mistie W. reported sales of \$288.78 and will be placing an order for \$517.75. The order reflects the purchase of 25 6th edition *Basic Texts* in order to supply an increased demand for the new books. Hence, there is no 3% going from sales into the general fund.

Lookin' good! Thank you Mistie.

Break: 2:17 – 2:30 pm

Sharing Session:

- 1) LFL campout – Craig H. is going to be reserving the Pole Creek camp ground. The state was not excepting any reservations until after January 1.
- 2) Unity Days – Ray B. appointed Mac B. as Unity Days chair. Mac will get with Craig and check out plans for a Pole Creek campout and he will also explore the Oliver Reservoir west of Kimball, Neb. and a lake near Hawk Springs, WY. The Hawk Springs lake may work if the facilities and landscaping are suitable. It is a little further north and maybe a bit more centrally located and it is lower in elevation for those with problems with higher locations.
- 3) Valentine's Day events – Misty W. Is going to check with LCCC as a location for a Cheyenne dance and then members from Cheyenne groups will put together a URMRCNA fundraiser/dance. Scottsbluff already has a dance planned (fliers available) and will be voting at the Feb. group service meeting on making it a convention fundraiser or not. By putting on two dances it was thought that more people would likely attend their respective events and therefore end up with more fun by more.
- 4) E-mail from Tony S. re. URMRCNA

In looking at the bigger picture of NA and this region and thinking of the 10th Annual Regional Convention coming up which by the way is a big accomplishment. Several ideas and facts came to me today so I will share them with you so you can have something to think about in the new year.

The potentially tough economical times facing our society and our NA members it is going to be tough for our NA groups and meetings in supporting the NA service structure. Though this is nothing new to us it is and has been and is a real issue.

I got off the topic well dam.

Back on track. Just the facts ma'm

The URMRCNA rotates to a different area every year. It is a Regional Convention. So it is the RSC's full responsibility and not any one ASC's responsibility to host it alone. The URMRCNA convention committees have all been successful in their efforts to put on the past 9 conventions growing through many difficult situations. Traveling many miles to committee mtgs. An working very hard to put this function on.

Would a change be in order?

The conventions held in Casper and Cheyenne areas have had the most attendance and have seemd to come out in the black financially more so. That is not to say that the other conventions did not do good job or did not provide just as good of recovery mtgs and functions. We now have a working draft of URMRCNA guidelines to follow

Question Would centralizing the convention on probrationary basis 2-3 year peroid in the Central Area or the Wyo- Braska Area Cheyenne be an idea for discussion?

PRO.1 This would eliminate some travel costs for committe members. And having to travel in bad weather long distances.

PRO. 2. It would in time allow committees to do better job in accomplishing their tasks related to the convention this would not mean we would have ingrained service committee but better rotation of servants as the Local guide to Service says we need to keep that in mind always. In past each new committe was starting over with members who really did not know how much work and commitment this task for hosting a convention is. That doesn't mean new people should not get involved We would still need members from other areas to serve.

PRO 3. Casper and Cheyenne also have more large hotels to host the convention and have major airports. Plus travel on interstates is a plus.

PRO 4. It would allow the RSC and the Convention Chair to get the committee up and running sooner giving the committee better chance to get flyers out sooner and the other tasks involved. This the type of committe that does need organization and accountability.

CON 1. The convention would become centralized in the Central and Wyo-Braska areas. Out lying Areas and the NA members there would have to travel to those towns to serve on the committee. NA members would have travel to the convention to support it. A pro to that would be chance to get away and go to the big city plan a family weekend etc. Eat at some good resturants.

CON.2 The convention becoming burden on the Central or Wyo Braska Areas. Taking Trusted servants away from H&I PR and group ASC service. This I have observed has happend to the outlying Areas that have been hosting the URMRCNA. Would it become a problem in these two Areas?

CON3. If our NA groups and NA meetings are not strong than having a NA convention in Area that is struggling is not going to solve the problem its going increase the problem. The idea that the convention will be an asset to a area"s growth is a legit point on the the other hand it could also be a negative thing. Keeping in mind to ask addicts from out lying areas to come and share would still be very important thing to practice.

So think about this and talk to other NA members to get more info. Please do not reply or send me an email on this. Discuss it with your trusted servants. That's why you elected them to serve your NA fellowship. And if you forward this to 7 of your NA friends immediately you still will only be promised freedom from active addiction Just for Today. I don't have 7 NA friends so I am shit out of luck.

Love and service Tony S

- 5) Greeley, Off the Wall area functions – We had a great turnout at the New Year's event from Greeley members with around 20 making the trip. It would be nice to reciprocate by having a couple of car loads make the trip to Greeley for a Valentine's event they have sent fliers for. Heck, some adventurers could hit the Greeley shindig and then head back to Cheyenne to finish off the evening.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Motions ~ Motion #1 (Hold) Valentine's Day party with convention (URMRCNA X) committee.
Intent: To join forces w/ convention committee to put on another convention fundraiser.
Passed unanimously

Motion #2 To donate all supplies used so far & in the future to the convention for use.

Intent: To assist in putting on the convention.

Ruled out of order simply because the totes are to be restocked from an event's proceeds before final disbursement of funds.

Elections ~

Secretary – Misty nominated Deb who respectfully declined at this time. Jason K. was nominated but with less than 18 months clean time and minimal service experience and understanding of the Twelve Traditions and concepts of NA service it was suggested that maybe he could work with Richard for a while to learn the duties and responsibilities and then decide from there. Current secretary to continue filling in. Otherwise position is again tabled.

Treasurer – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled

Disbursements:

Ck # 1347 – ?????

Ck # 1350 – URMRS – cash in and check out \$27.67

Ck # 1351 – Voided

Ck # 1352 – Meeting announcement for *Branding Iron* \$ 4.20

Ck # 1353 – NAWS for literature order \$517.75

Ck # 1354 – 1st United Methodist for meeting rent \$ 20.00

Transferred \$11.22 from PR to literature for pamphlets.

Will postpone NAWS donation until treasury straightened out next month.

Closing Treasury balance: \$3,143.79

Area 7th Tradition of **\$26.00** to LFL

Adjourned at 3:30 pm

Next mtg: February 8, 2009 – 1pm @ LCCC, rm 336, Cheyenne, WY

WBASC/rlm