

Wyo-Braska Area Service Committee

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Date: September 13, 2009 Time: 1:07 pm Location: Cheyenne, WY

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

Group Response to Concept Study from last meeting: Concept 10, Q 3
*Any member of a service body can petition that body
for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.*

The Tenth Concept encourages us to treat each other with respect in the service environment, and provides us with a means of making amends when we wrong others. The essay describes ways in which an individual who feels he or she has been wronged can go about seeking redress of his or her grievance.

Study and discussion question:

3. When is it appropriate to apply the Tenth Concept? When is it not appropriate?
It is appropriate when after due consideration it is determined that an actionable wrong has been committed. It is not appropriate when the wrong is between individuals that have little or nothing to do with NA.

Reading/Study/Discussion of Concept _11_ using chapter questions.

NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly.

The Eleventh Concept establishes the sole absolute priority for the use of NA funds: to carry the message. The importance of that priority calls for total fiscal accountability. Direct contributions to each level of service help us focus on our primary purpose and enhance accountability.

Study and discussion questions:

1. What is money used for in your group? Your area? Your region? Your world services?
In general, all funds are used to further our primary purpose via a plethora of means and methods, mainly through development and distribution of literature. Group funds are used to provide an atmosphere of recovery. Area funds are used in furthering services such as phonelines and web sites. Regional funds are mostly used in paying for travel to send representatives to meetings throughout our large region, zonal forums and to World Service Conferences. World services funds are used for the development and dissemination of literature and other informational services throughout the world wide fellowship.

2. Rank the following group budget priorities: NA literature
refreshments
meeting-hall rent
group reserve
service donations

Why did you rank them in the order you did? Does your group have standing budget priorities, or does it handle such questions from month-to-month?

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

3. Do you know of instances where NA money has been spent frivolously at the group level? In an area or regional committee? In world services? What was "frivolous" about the way that money was spent? How should it have been spent instead?

Several conventions at all levels have lost money that could have been spent on other services or literature.

4. Are NA funds well-accounted for in your group? Your area and region? In world services? If not, what kinds of financial reports would you like to see instead?

For the most part group, area, region and world funds are accounted for and treasurer reports and minutes detail all credits and debits. NAWs reports could be detailed more, but given the budget current reports are usually adequate. Once in a while small group reports may not have the detail and on occasion large areas are so large that funds are easily lost track of especially with unscrupulous or forgetful persons.

5. "Direct group contributions to our service structure encourage responsible management of service funds and help our services maintain their focus on NA's primary purpose." Does your area or region depend on NA fundraisers for a significant portion of its income? Is that wise? How does it affect the relationship of the ASC or RSC to your group? Would that relationship be any different if groups contributed directly to each level of service? Would our service boards and committees be able to operate solely on income from direct group contributions?

At one time our area found that an annual Unity Days celebration generated enough funds to support an entire year's generous budget. Whether or not this was depended on remains to be seen. At the point when the receipts did not amount to enough for a full budget, the budget was trimmed somewhat and groups stepped up with enough in donations to support the area with only an occasional fundraiser. However, most fundraisers are not fundraisers per se, but celebrations often have generate a little extra funding.

Roll Call: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Literature Chair, Activities Chair/UD Chair, PR Chair, Webservant

GSR, Alternates and guests: Gail W. (For Deb B. – On Life's Terms), Gail W. w/ report for (Clean and Free), Ray B. (GSR –Vision of Hope), Wayne W. (GSR – Saturday Nite Live), Richard M. (GSRA – Clean & Serene), John S. (GSR – Live from Laramie), Bob M. (GSR – Free Bird), & Rick M. from Laramie.

Absent: Vice-Chair, RCM (vacant), RCM2 (vacant), & Staying Clean in Sidney.

NA Recovery Birthdays: John S. – 9 yrs.!! Congrats!!!

Recognition of new groups: None.

Approval of last month's minutes:

Closing balance amended to read \$2,483.86.

Gail W. moved to accept the minutes as amended , John S. seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Beginning Balance: \$2,462.82 – Reflects two payments between meetings,

Auto debit	GoDaddy domain name registration	\$ 8.88
Ck # 1385	Freedom Voice	\$12.16

Serenity Break: 1:50 – 2:00 PM

Officers Reports:

Chair: Given and filed as follows:

Hello A.S.C. members & friends

I really don't have anything to report on at this time. I will say that I am very grateful to have been able to work with such an awesome group over the last couple of years I think we still have the best Area in the World & we are only going to get better. As the outgoing Chair I have a few suggestions to the incoming Chair start & stop meetings on time, keep the meeting flowing & don't be afraid of ending a discussion if it is going on & on with no new input, always keep on open line of communication. Something I have learned over my term is to plan meetings around Mothers & Fathers day as when I didn't attendance was way down Have fun don't take to much on & keep an open mind. The Chairs budget stands at \$100.00

In Loving Service

Ray B.

Vice-Chair: Absent – may e-mail report.

Treasurer: Report given and filed as follows:

**Cheyenne WY
September 13 2009**

The opening balance according to the telephone banking as of this morning is 2800.48. The last transactions were as follows:

Deposit:	410.32
Check 1379	120.00 cleared
Check 1380	18.90 cleared
Check 1381	50.00 cleared
Check 1382	45.74 cleared
Check 1383	20.00 cleared
Check 1384	90.00 cleared
Auto Debit	8.88 cleared

There is still an outstanding check of 63.18 to URMRSR check number 1378. One check was written by the chair and I to Qwest:

Check 1385	12.16	Freedom Voice
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I have the new signature card to be signed at today's meeting, and am waiting for the bank to email me the information for the on-line accounting. The final paperwork was initiated at the time of procuring the signature card.

After much support from the secretary I was able to get a grasp of the actual balance from the last meeting and we ended with 2483.86. After the check to Qwest our opening balance is 2462.82, this is minus the banked funds for literature and the outstanding Region donation. I cannot believe that for once in my entire time of ever being the treasurer, now and before that I actually balance, so don't bust my bubble guys, I think I may have it!

JFT-Gail W
WBASC Treasurer

Secretary: Report given and filed as follows:

Hey all,

Not a whole lot to report this month. However, part of the Secretary's duties is to have available any documents that help the groups or subcommittees do their thing. In particular, besides stuff on the web site, I have copies of the *Group Booklet* which guides new group formation. These have been downloaded from the NAWS web site and hard copies are available for anyone wishing one.

The contact list has been updated and the minutes posted on our web site. The minutes were e-mailed to everyone last month except for the one group which were snail mailed to them.

Info is taken from the sign-in sheet and group report forms so if any of these are unreadable the lists will be inaccurate. Everyone please check your information to make sure it is correct and up to date.

Please remember that because the contact list has personal information on it, it is intended for internal use only. It will not be posted on the web site or anywhere else. Its purpose is for ease of communication among members of the area. Copies of the guidelines, values, contact lists, meeting lists, order of annual elections and all other forms have been printed out and available here today.

Again, thank you for typing up your reports or even better – e-mailing the files to me. It sure makes it easier to prepare the minutes. Budget starts at \$125.00.

ILS
Richard

RCM: Vacant – no report.

RCM 2: Vacant – no report.

Group Reports:

On Life’s Terms: Gail W. reports for Deb B.

Concerns: None

Needs: Literature

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: 0 Other: None

Clean & Free: Absent – with report via Gail W. For Tommy O.

Concerns: The group has no GSR, no GSRA, and no group secretary. We have a group opener, Mike, and a group treasurer, myself.

I just put in a lit order (of over \$100) with NA World Services because we have no group representation at Area. We once again re-did our formats using the *Group Booklet's* sample format as a guide so we can be and sound more inclusive; but also to not relinquish our identity as a strong NA group with no affiliations to any other outside organizations, including other fellowships or other fellowship language.

While our attendance has been outstanding, averaging over twenty members at each of our two meeting nights, all the members that attend are unwilling to serve, instead only willing to take and not give back which is in my opinion stealing from NA. We continue to welcome any interested members, directing non-members to "open" NA meetings in town.

Needs: GSR / GSRA / Secretary Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: 0 Other: None

Vision of Hope: Ray B.

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: **\$10.00** Other: None

Saturday Nite Live :Wayne W.

Concerns: None

Needs: Literature

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: 0 Other: None

\$10.00

\$15.00

\$33.96

Clean & Serene: Richard M.

Concerns: Lack of participation in service.

Needs: None.

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: **\$15.00** Other: None

\$10.00

\$68.96

Live from Laramie: John S.

Concerns: All is well one day at a time.

Needs: All T.S. positions are filled

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: **\$33.96** Other: \$27.17 for URMRS

Free Bird: Given by Bob M.

Concerns: None

Needs: None

Votes and /or motions: None

7th Tradition: **\$10.00** Other: None

Staying Clean in Sidney: Absent no report

Concerns:.

Needs:

Votes and /or motions:

7th Tradition: Other:

Sub-Committee reports:

Activities: Given as follows:

Nothing much to report. Probably won't do anything for Halloween or Thanksgiving, but will concentrate on maybe doing something for New Year's.

JFT-

Gail W

WBASC Activities Chair

UD: Absent w/ no report, however **\$31.00** was turned in from UD 2009 receipts.

PR: Given as follows:

John S. reported that the Wyoming Governor's office was contacted about being allowed to take NA meetings into the jails, in particularly the Laramie County Corrections facility. John said that county jails were under the purview of the county sheriff and not the state. Each sheriff would need to be met with individually.

Richard reported about the status with the Scotts Bluff County Corrections in Nebraska. Since the new jail had been built several new procedures and policies had gone into affect greatly enhancing the ability of NA to have a presence in the unit.

First off, with the help of fellowship members on the staff, a new program had been started called "Introduction to Twelve Step Fellowships." This program is essentially non-fellowship specific and utilizes literature and guest speakers from both locally represented fellowships. There are weekly handouts, assignments, meetings and about once a month a guest speaker shares his or her story with the participants.

As for literature, the hard cover restriction has been lifted and the library system revamped. Now it is far more difficult to "leave" with the books. About a year ago the Scottsbluff Clean & Serene group was able to donate 20 Basic Text 5th editions. Since there is a large Spanish population represented in the jail five of the books were the Spanish version. Also, every month or so, some of the *Introductory Guides to NA* or JFTs are donated. So they have lots of NA literature.

Volunteers need only apply for clearance and pass a complete background check. The only real restrictions are that the volunteer cannot have been in that jail within the past year nor have a relative currently in that jail. And of course it probably isn't wise to apply if there are any outstanding warrants.

Both men and women from the Clean & Serene group go in once or twice a week to hold meetings. There is a need for more volunteers so attendance is more regular, but mostly the meetings are going ok.

H&I component: See above.

PI component: See above.

Phoneline: The PR Chair is looking into developing an expanded phoneline from the current info line to an actual help line. More in the sharing session.

Web site: Report given and filed as follows:

Hey All,

General – Our web site is mostly updated. The latest minutes are available on the “Archives” page. No new e-mails received except on a Florida convention.

Still working on developing the training aid. A similar document from 2004 was discovered and it is substantially simpler than the one being drawn up. After reassessing the two, the new one will be toned down a little and made less expansive.

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.

Technical – We registered a total of 2999 hits on the web site for the last month. This is up from 2400 for a total of 599 hits. This traffic is consistent with normal usage.

Financial: The domain name registration was automatically deducted from the area bank account on September 3rd for \$8.88. The hosting fee will be automatically deducted sometime around the 20th for approximately \$97.00. We pay annually to qualify for a 10% discount.

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: Given by Rory G. as follows:

There were \$229.90 [~~\$229.89???~~] in sales for this month of which \$176. 43 was a transfer from the PR budget. A total of **\$53.46** was turned in and an order will be figured and placed after this meeting.

Thanx Rory.

Break: 2:35 – 2:50 pm

Sharing Session:

1) Activities – As mentioned above, resources will be kept in reserve for a New Year’s party of some kind. Good chance that there will be something going on in Colorado for Halloween so a road trip might do the trick (or treat??). See Chapter 10!

2) Phonenumber – John, our PR Chair, would like to explore the feasibility of enhancing the phonenumber by making it a true help line so that a suffering addict who calls in can speak to another addict for some immediate relief. This in lieu of joining up with the Region since we already have the infrastructure in place, i.e. a phone line, listings in several phone books, a contact list and hopefully enough volunteers to answer calls when needed. If the Region’s situation should change we can always reassess our position and adapt accordingly.

Currently we are getting on average 10 to 12 calls per month. Some of these may be repeat callers attempting to push the right buttons to get to the meeting list section they want. This issue may be helped by redoing the menu selections to somehow make it easier to get to the right list. Along these lines it was pointed out to the PR chair that our policy and guidelines permit him, as Chair, to make any changes needed to improve this service. It was thought that since the volunteer currently making changes to the phonenumber rarely attends ASC meetings that it may improve communication and changes response time if this duty could be assumed by someone else who does regularly attend the meetings. John will check into this.

He is also going to check with our provider, Freedom Voice, to see if they offer any kind of answering and call forwarding service and how much it will cost. Right now he would like us to ask around and see if some of our members who aren't otherwise involved with Area activities will volunteer to answer calls on occasion.

One member shared how a group had at one time had a help line which was forwarded to a volunteer's house and that person reported that maybe one or two calls every couple of months was all they received. Another member mentioned how little involvement we currently have with area business and wonders if there would be enough people willing to answer any calls. It seems the adage that "90% of the work is done by 10% of the people" holds pretty true within our area at the group level and area. Once again though, it was pointed out that our primary purpose and means to accomplish it are of paramount importance.

So, we would like each GSR to take this back to their groups for discussion and input.

Old Business:

- 1) Directional NA signs – Les is absent and nothing has been heard of on any signs.

- 2) Regional meeting & assembly rotation – Most feel that the fairest and best thing to do with hosting the assembly meetings is to rotate all of the regional meetings. In this way members would not always have to drive extreme distances to attend and each area who wanted to host these meetings would have the opportunity. Those who are unable to host such a meeting can always opt out of the rotation one time or more often as needed.

- 3) Phonenumber – See sharing #2

New Business: None

Motions ~ None

Elections ~

- RCM – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled
- RCM2 – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled
- Chair – No volunteers or nominations. Tabled

At the next meeting we need to hold elections for the above tabled positions and the Vice-Chairperson position so

GSRs, please be sure to let your groups know we are looking for volunteers – Pleeease??

Disbursements:

Ck # 1386 – Cash in, ck out for LFL to URMRS	[\$ 27.17] doesn't affect balance
Ck # 1387 – Quest	\$ 12.96
Ck # 1388 – Annual NAWS donation	\$ 63.18
Ck # 1389 – LCCC for meeting room rent	\$ 10.00
	(\$ 86.14)

Closing Treasury balance: \$2,300.21

Area 7th Tradition of **8.00** to the SNL grp.

Adjourned at 3:50 pm

Next mtg: October 11, 2009 – 1pm @ 14 W. 17th St., Scottsbluff, NE

WBASC/rlm