

## **Portland Area Service Committee Meeting of Narcotics Anonymous**

**Location: 17200 SE Stark Street Portland, OR**

**Date: June 27, 2009**

Meeting called to order at 2:00pm and opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Twelve Traditions were read by Linda R. and the Twelve Concepts were read by Teresa.

**Roll Call of Officers:** 10

**Roll Call of Groups:** 38

**Quorum:** 18 (22)

### **New GSR/Alt GSR and new group recognition**

- I. New GSRs
  - Aaron: Hugs Not Drugs
  - Mike: What It Is
  - Paula: Lost and Found
  - Stephanie: Thursday Night Podium
  - Brian: Doing Life
  - Lisa: Freedom in the Flats
  - Josh: Free to be Me
  - Linda: Towanda
  - Rainbow: Late Night
  - Shawn: Rise and Shine
- II. Returning GSRs
  - Scott: Rockwood
  - Joe: Time to Change
- III. New Groups
  - Lane: Rainbow Coalition

### **Announcements**

1. Victoria: The OSP group, Hole in the Wall, is selling t shirts as a fundraiser for literature for the Hole in Wall group.
2. Dan: New Journey is having a summer dance Friday July 24<sup>th</sup> from 7-10pm in the space where they have the regular meeting at 34<sup>th</sup> and Gladstone. It is a free event. At the regular meeting prior to the dance and DJ Drew will be taking 4 years. Flyers are available.
3. Lane E: Flyers available for an HIV positive meeting that meets on Fridays at 11:30am at the HIV day center.

4. Amy: Serenity Sisters has a new meeting location at Church on 39<sup>th</sup> and Steele and will start meeting there July 30.

### **Administration Reports**

#### **Secretary: Mike R in place of Ana H.**

1. Motion to amend the minutes by Melanie from Freedom Fighters – The May minutes state that Freedom Fighters seconded motion 9-09 to ratify Vera as chair of PR and also made the motion to close the PASC meeting. However, Freedom Fighters did not have anyone representing them at last month's PASC.
  - a. Nannette from Thursday Night Podium provided the second for motion 9-09.
  - b. Ana H. will amend the minutes and the correct version will be posted on the website.
2. Motion to accept minutes as amended by Troy from Outreach and seconded by Theresa from SE Serenity

#### **Treasurer: Maggi G (See attached)**

PASC will be sending \$160 to region this month.

#### **Chair: Travis B**

Thank you to the GSR's for participating in our ASC business meeting. The groups that you represent have asked you to be here today so that you may carry their input to this body, and take information to them regarding what we as a body are doing on their behalf. As you may know the service structure is designed to work in a way that allows us to perform the basic functions of business as trusted servants. The guidelines that we follow are : The Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous, The PASC bylaws, The Twelve Concepts of Service, A Guide to local services in Narcotics Anonymous, and Robert's Rules of Order. I highly encourage all participating GSR's to thoroughly read all of these materials so as to better understand them. I would like to see GSR's and/or groups get together with the intention of furthering their understanding of the Twelve Concepts of Service. It appears that some of the issues that have come up over the last couple of months could be resolved best not by explanation from this body, but by a better understanding of the aforementioned materials. A Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous also explains quite a bit about how the service structure works and covers just about any question you may have. I encourage any GSR that does not have a copy to request that their group purchase one for them. If you have a copy I highly recommend that you read it, it is a very informative piece of literature and will certainly help you to better serve your group as a GSR.

As a Chairperson I have been charged with a serious and important task. I am obligated to make decisions based on the guidelines I mentioned earlier in my report. There are situations that arise where a motion may be put forth that conflicts with one or more of these governing principles and it is my duty to make a decision. The decision of the Chairperson can be challenged, and debate toward a clearer understanding is encouraged. I would like to see our ASC move away from arguing, anger, resentment, and fear. We are a group of individuals who are coming together to better serve Narcotics Anonymous, our only hope for group change is to change as individuals. This means that we cannot change each other's behaviors, we can only change our individual behaviors. In the course of the Area Inventory we have seen quite clearly that the

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most common issues are ones that must be addressed by each of us as an individual. I cannot over-emphasize this, it is of utmost importance.

We are in the process of change as an ASC. I can tell you with certainty that the way we have done things as an ASC for years has been unhealthy and incongruent with not only the spiritual principles of our personal program, but also our guiding principles as a service body. I am here to be of service to Narcotics Anonymous, I will continue grow and change as an individual regardless of the direction we as an ASC take. I would like to see the PASC support growth and change as an area. We have some hard work laid out before us. I am doing my part to the best of my ability and I would like to thank the groups for allowing me to be of service to the PASC. I am available to help in any way that I can. I can be reached either by telephone or e-mail, if you need my number or e-mail address please speak to me during the break or after the meeting and I will gladly accommodate you.

In Service, Travis B.

**Vice Chair: Mike R**

I attended the hotline and PR subcommittee meetings this month. I'm always available to attend any subcommittee or any meeting that anyone has where you want some assistance from this body, it is my job. My job is to participate and show up wherever you need me as you're vice chair and to provide any assistance I can wherever you want me to. I provided whatever help I could and I hope I was of help to Hotline and PR and I will continue to be available to anyone who needs my help. Thanks.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### **I. Activities: Gene L**

Upcoming events:

- 1. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic (Sellwood River Front Park):** Hotdogs, sodas, and water 50 cents and hamburgers are a dollar.
- 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fort Steven's Campout July 10-12<sup>th</sup> (Fort Stevens State Park):** There are no camp sites left. Speakers are Chris M with 8 years and Vicki B with 9 years.
- 3. Unity in the Streets Saturday July 18, 2009:** Will be held at the Plaza at the Portland Coliseum (300 Winning Way). Activities will include marathon meetings, music, kid's events and fellowship. Free parking at West Broadway garage from noon to 9pm.
- 4. Beverley Beach Campout July 31<sup>st</sup> – Aug 7<sup>th</sup>** (198 NE 123<sup>rd</sup> Newport, OR)
- 5. Annual Tub Float August 15<sup>th</sup> (Float from Barton Park to Carver):** Meet at Barton Park at 10:30 to buy and fill tubes and the cost is \$13 per tube.
- 6. Government Island Campout September 4-6<sup>th</sup>:** Meet at Chinook landing. To pay for the cost of gas to boat owners adults \$15 and kids under 12 \$10.
- 7. Picnic in the Park:** started this month and is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month from noon to 5pm with free hot dogs and sodas for 50 cents. Laurelhurst Park at SW 39<sup>th</sup> and Stark

Activities has submitted a motion for insurance coverage for activities and Portland Area groups. Some groups have expressed interest in donating money for the insurance. Thanks for your support. The Activities treasurer has stepped down and Bee N has stepped up to fill that position, as interim treasurer.

In service, Gene L

### **II. H&I: Lawrence J**

Possible commitments: 56

Missed commitments: 0

Cancelled: 3

Total addicts seen: **807**

- 1.) Several motions to keep people on the phone list that haven't been able to fulfill commitments. 1 passed, 1 did not. Another motion was to allow an injured member in a wheel chair to sign up for a commitment without attending the meeting. Motion passed.
- 2.) The 18 books that were donated by Literature were distributed (4 to Clackamas Co. , 4 to Hooper, 4 to Salvation Army, and 2 to Letty Owings).
- 3.) We talked at great length in our general meeting about missed commitments. The bylaws were reiterated. Our dedication to make these commitments a priority was agreed upon.
- 4.) The budget may be modified because of the new distribution system for literature.

- 5.) Staples may be a problem in clearance facilities if our PASC meeting schedules go to 2 pages.

In service, Lawrence Johnson (H&I Chair)

### **III. Hotline: David G**

Hotline met on Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup> two new volunteers went through orientation; all current volunteers have gone through orientation except one. Future orientations will be held monthly immediately preceding the subcommittee meeting. The next meeting will be held on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and orientation will be at 3pm here at the URS club. At the last sub committee meeting Lane E was nominated and elected as the new Vice Chair and Lance was appointed to the reach out and touch someone person. We currently have 3 open shifts that are being filled by trained volunteers: Monday 9pm-6am, Wed 5pm-9pm and Saturday 7am- 12pm. If you are interested in any of these shifts please see Lane or myself. If you are interested in filling a shift you will need to attend an orientation prior to manning your shift. We formed an ad hoc committee jointly with PR to find a new meeting location for our sub committee meetings since the current meeting location is a temporary solution. We should have information on the new location for this body by next month. We are also still working on changing guidelines for Hotline.

In Service, David

### **IV. Public Relations: Vera K**

Public relation meets last Sunday and four new members joined our subcommittee. We are still looking for a Media Coordinator, Presentation Coordinator, Alternate Webhost and a Booth Coordinator. These are very important positions on this committee and we need people who are dedicated and professional with a year or more clean time and some experience would be helpful. We have a rough outline for the 12th Step volunteer training packet for Hotline if you are interested in working on that project please contact David G. or me. One idea is that we can have is a Public Relations/Hotline workshop to inform people in the fellowship about Public Relations and 12 Step calls on the Hotline. We will be also working on the guidelines for both Public Relations and the Hotline committee in the next coming months and we hope to have them ready for approval from the PASC before the end of the year.

I attended the Activities subcommittee meeting and the ad-hoc committee meeting for Unity in the Streets this month to address that Public Relations committee is available to have booths at events and to give a PR statement about how to deal with the public and the media.

Unfortunately our committee is rather small and we will not be able to have a booth at all the events this year we need to allow some time for training new people. Our hope is that we will definitely have it set up for next year. We are in collaboration with GWVA and TVA Public Relations committees to have help with booth sitting as well.

So to clear things up about the web-site I decided to make a statement about what can and cannot be posted on the web-site. Per our web-hosting guidelines from World Services we

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can't post on the web any personal phone numbers on flyers, documents, reports, etc..... Please help us out with that by using your email addresses just for things on the web-site. Thanks we would really appreciate that. We understand the confusion about this because this has not been enforced in the past. However, if you're unaware of the Public Relations committee are the ultimate rule followers or try to be that is.

Okay saved the best for last. Last month we brought to Area about the schedule needing to go to two pages because we are out of room on our current schedule. Since then we have a solid quote in writing from Kinko's that the schedule will cost .15 per schedule including the staples and to collate. So our motion will reflect that price not what was originally planned. The good news is it won't cost .25 to print, staple, and collate the bad news is that it will cost us a penny for the staple so it's .15 cents instead of .14 cents but that includes the printing, collating, and stapling. We are working hard to keep the cost at a bare minimum. However, we feel that the schedule is one of the most important pieces of information that we have so we are asking for the approval to go ahead with this temporary solution to go to the second page. We encourage and welcome anyone's input and or opinions at the subcommittee level and we are open minded to new ideas.

In loving service, Vera K. (Public Relations Chair)

#### **V. Literature: Carolyn G-E (no report)**

#### **VI. Outreach: Troy J**

We are continuing to support the new meeting in Woodburn and they could really use support. There are flyers available with information about this meeting for you all to distribute. It would be great if as an area we could support this meeting as we have done with others. This would be awesome. Outreach has made changes to our by laws again. We added clean time requirements for the Chair (2 years) and Vice Chair (1 year). We removed the Area Service Representative since this service is fulfilled by the Chair. In addition, we changed the elections section to be in accordance with Area by laws to hold nominations in February and elections in March. I will be submitting these changes to the temporary secretary to go out in the minutes. Finally, there is a motion that I have submitted to ratify the amendments to the bylaws.

In service, Troy J

#### **RCM Report: Michael McD**

Good Afternoon,

I am happy to be back at the ASC this month. I was participating in the San Francisco to Los Angeles Aids LifeCycle ride last month and want to thank you for your understanding and support.

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Since the April ASC I have attended the last two Rose City Metro meetings as well as the Activities Committee meeting this month.

The Metro Committee meetings were interesting and Portland was well received there. I talked to them about where we were at this time in regard to Metro and asked about their plans and accomplishments. I have been receiving their minutes as well as several past months to get caught up with their progress. At the moment they are working on putting together an 800 Phonenumber and this is still in the preliminary stages. TVA is also pursuing this and there seems to be some confusion and concern about what is actually being done on this project. It seems that they have had several setbacks and leadership for this project is not filled at this time. I have been trying to learn more about their guidelines and budgeting for this service but it seems there is little hard information available right now. Metro has also disbanded their plans to have a Metro H&I and it seems that the PASC H&I committee has turned a significant amount of facilities over to the respective areas. It sounds as though the committees in the other two areas are starting to provide these services, with TVA being quite further along than GWA in all committees. There is also not a PR function being provided at Metro. At the last meeting some discussion was held about finding a way to do more work in a shared service model for most of the services we all provide in our local areas. There was some disagreement about how to coordinate shared services model for Phonenumber. More will be revealed and I will keep you apprised on my attendance at Metro.

As was discussed in the Inventory report the Administrative committee members have been attending different subcommittee meetings to observe as well as discuss issues that arise in these committees. Because of that effort to audit the sub committees I attended the Activities meeting and participated in their discussions regarding insurance as well as Unity Day and the issue of fundraising for activities. I am sure that these issues will be reported in more detail by the activities committee.

I would like to mention that there has been a lot of talk although not to me about my supposed manipulation and control of the executive committee as well as being accused again not to me that I am trying to undermine the group's role in the decision making process at the ASC. Some uninformed person has even alluded to me as some new guy from AA who is trying to control the area. I had to laugh at that one. If anyone has questions or complaints about or for me I welcome them. My phone number is 360-772-2692 and I may also be reached by email at either [RCM@portlandna.com](mailto:RCM@portlandna.com) or [mtmcd@comcast.net](mailto:mtmcd@comcast.net)

I will be missing one more ASC in August as I will be at the World Convention in Barcelona. There is going to be a Unity Day phone hook up again this year at the World Convention and as usual it is available for, I believe around 50.00, for this you can hook into a two hour listen only phone link of the Saturday night meeting and Unity Day celebration. If anyone is interested in

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putting together a local event around this event please get in touch with me or the World Service Office soon to arrange this phone link.

I am hoping that Steve and I can produce the plan for the Regional Assembly to be held this winter that we agreed to host at the April meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Michael McDermott

### **Alternate RCM Report: Steve**

We are looking for a place to hold a 2 day event for a regional service assembly. If anyone has any ideas please speak with myself or Michael. This space would need to be available on a Sunday, have enough space for 150 people, and be cheap.

There are also still some regional positions available: Policies and Procedures Chair (need previous regional experience), Activities Chair, Literature Chair and Vice Chair, and Secretary. The positions require meeting 4 times a year and facilitating the regional sub committee meetings for the committee. Clean time requirements are posted on posted on PCRNA.org.

### **Break**

Reopened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer at 3:00 pm. Quorum was reestablished at 18.

### **Unfinished Business:** None

### **New Business**

*(Please discuss the motions (in red) they will be voted on at next month's PASC.)*

#### **1. Motion 10-09**

- a. Motion submitted and withdrawn by Troy

#### **2. Motion 11-09 (No audiotape for this motion)**

- a. Motion submitted by the PR subcommittee and seconded by Freedom in the Flats to increase the budget line for printing of the schedules. The schedule will now be printed on two pages and be collated and stapled for a cost of 15 cents per schedule. The intent of the motion is to stay in compliance with Area wishes to add new groups to the schedule and continue to list all meetings in the Portland Metro Area
- b. Sent back to the groups for vote

#### **3. Motion 12-09**

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- a. Motion submitted by PR and seconded by Towanda. Motion asks for a bylaw change to remove a line in section 7.01 item 2 in article 7 that states, “that the vice chair will distribute schedules to all subcommittees and Area”. The intent is to move all the schedule responsibilities to PR. The Vice chair would no longer be responsible for distributing the schedules and PR would print and distribute the schedules.
- b. Sent back to the groups for vote

**4. Motion 13-09**

- a. Motion Submitted by Portland Area Activities subcommittee and seconded by SE Serenity. Motion: to approve the purchase of an insurance policy to insure all the PASC groups, all PASC activities and the officers of the BOD. The PASC and the Portland area activities subcommittee will share equally in cost which is \$1600 annually; each event may also require an additional rider of between \$50-100. Intent: provide insurance for all groups and events and will indemnify the officers of the BOD.
- b. Lengthy discussion
- c. Vote: For: 25 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

**5. Motion 14-09**

- a. Submitted by Troy J and seconded by Harold Street Blues (Wes S) to approve changes to the Outreach bylaws. Intent of motion to be in accordance with Area bylaws.
- b. The new Outreach bylaws were not provided to the secretary and are therefore not provided with these minutes. However, the following changes were made:
  - i. Changed the date on the back page to 6-27-09
  - ii. Removed the position of Area Service Representative since this is already being fulfilled by the chair.
  - iii. Amended section D covering elections, changing the date from Jan to Feb/March to be consistent with area bylaws
  - iv. Added clean time requirements for the chair (2 yrs) and the vice chair (1 yr)
- c. Sent back to the groups for vote.

**6. Motion 15-09**

- a. Motion submitted by What It Is and withdrawn

**7. Motion 16-09**

- a. Submitted by Troy J seconded by Theresa from SE Serenity. Motion to change section 5.04 D which, “states that any motion that requires a onetime expenditure of area funds in excess of \$50 dollars or any motion requiring a

- recurring expense to Area shall require a 2/3 majority to pass” to read “that any motion over \$50 be required to go back to groups as well as be passed by a 2/3rds majority to pass to *exclude Portland Area Activities (added as friendly amendment)*. The intent of the motion is that PASC be accountable to groups.
- b. Maker of the motion speaks: feels that money motions that affect the body should go back to all the groups not just have the 20 GSRs who attend vote.
  - c. Discussion: Travis: we can send information out to as many groups as we want but we will still only get votes from those who show up.
    - i. For:
      - 1. Brad - important to remind the groups that they are the collective conscious and are the governing body.
      - 2. Melanie – her group wants to know what is going on with money at area
      - 3. Gene – with the addition of the friendly amendment it no longer impacts his sub committee so he is in favor.
    - ii. Against:
      - 1. Frank – this will be a choke hold on financial concerns
      - 2. Gene – this will affect activities the most and could hold business up so proposes a friendly amendment to exclude activities.
      - 3. Dan – this motion would remove from the bylaws the section stating that a motion requesting a recurring expense would require a 2/3rds vote to pass.
      - 4. Michael – this will make doing business more difficult and is not what will encourage groups to attend area. Most major money motions are sent back to the groups unless business requires an immediate vote.
  - d. Sent back to the groups for vote

## **Open Forum**

David G.: The Hotline sub committee has been discussing changing the name of the NA Hotline so as not to attract crisis calls. Most calls to the Hotline consist of addicts trying to find a meeting but they also receive a number of crisis calls. The primary purpose of the hotline is to help get the addict to a meeting. They are brain storming other names that would be more appropriate, such as “NA phone line”. If anyone has any ideas please contact David or anyone on the Hotline sub-committee. Hotline is also working with PR to develop a more formal relationship. An adhoc committee has been formed to facilitate this process. This is just to let people know about what is going on and if you are interested in participating in Hotline please attend their next meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July at the URS club.

## **Close the Meeting**

Motion to close by Tuesday Night Freedom Fighters, seconded by Amy from Serenity Sisters, motion passed and the meeting closed at 4:20 pm.