

Volunteer Regional Service Meeting
December 4,2011

Meeting opened at 9:30 with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Reading of the 12 Concepts.

Reading of the purpose of an RSC (ARTICLE III).

All visitors and new members were welcomed and recognized.

ROLL CALL and Establishment of a quorum.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Chair	present	Treasurer	vacant
Vice-Chair	vacant	Alt-Treasurer	present
Secretary	present	Regional Delegate	present
Alt-Secretary	vacant	Alt-Regional Delegate	present

SUBCOMMITTEES:

	Present/Absent		
Hospitals & Institutions	vacant	Exploration Adhoc	vacant
Policy & Procedures	present	VRC 29	absent
VRC Oversight	vacant	VRC 30	present
Financial Legal Adhoc	present	ITCC	vacant

AREAS:

	Present/Absent		
Chattanooga	present	MidWest Tennessee	present
Greater Nashville	present	Middle Tennessee	present
Greater Smokey Mountain	absent	Southern Middle	present
Knoxville Area	absent	West Tennessee	present

Quorum - established

SECRETARY REPORT:

I have nothing much to report. After having issues obtaining a new bank card, I am glad to report that we now have a new bank and it has been activated. Since the last VRSC meeting I have worked with Lucy and Craig to order the CARS which you will receive today.

ILS,

Luke H.

Motion to accept minutes was accepted unanimously

TREASURER REPORT:

Had to step down; Alt-Tres Mike R is now interim treasurer.

Questions: What does the ATT charge include?

Answer: We will find out who knows since no one here knows. Interim treasurer will find the info.

Statement: Would like to see the history of the amounts we have held back.

Statement: Interim tres will do an audit and present the info at the next VRSC.

Request: Be more detailed in the tres reports

Suggestion: Send out tres report with the agenda

Question: Do we have the VRSC merchandise here today to distribute?

Answer: The VRC chair is not here today so we do not have any merchandise.

Statement: The P.O. Box was lost due to thinking it was an annual payment not a bi-annual, however we do have the P.O. Box again.

Motion to accept was accepted unanimously

\$25,381.96 total gross income for year

AREA REPORTS

Chattanooga Area:

Chattanooga Area is putting on a "Winter Bash," December 17, 5pm-til, First Christian Church, 650 McCallie Ave, Chattanooga, TN, 37403; covered dish dinner, speaker, resentment piñata, candlelight meeting; no addict will be turned away

At the October VRSC meeting on the liability insurance issue, I volunteered to look into getting a Region-wide liability insurance policy. I am working with Jack Robbins in Chattanooga of the J. Smith Lanier & Co. His phone number is 423.424.2824, and his email is jrobbins@jsmithlanier.com. His local company is a representative of the Cincinnati Insurance Company, the company that underwrites the liability policy for the Ohio Region of NA. I have been in contact with a Mark R. who has been the point of contact for the insurance company with that Region for the past 6 years. His email is markroberts@columbus.rr.com, and his phone number is 614.270.1274. Many of Jack Robbins' questions are directed at trying to understand what type of organization we are and how best to insure us. I have given him the "The Group" IP and the 2010 version of "NA: A Resource in Your Community." I have tried to give him the basic info he needs to determine how best to insure us, while at the same time trying not to be a "spokesperson" for the fellowship. In response to the info I gave him, he has given us 2 applications to fill out that will allow the underwriter to develop a policy for our needs. In reviewing the applications, it is clear that we really don't fall into the usual categories for insurable entities and most of our answers on these applications will be "N/A" (no pun intended!). He stated that these applications should be returned with a cover letter that basically describes that we are a non-professional group. He also said that we need to give them a breakdown of how many meetings are held where. In the beginning he said that we would need to give a list of every meeting location address in the state, a task that I told him would be time consuming and also be out of date or incorrect practically on the day we give it to him. So he now is saying let's just get a count of locations. It may be expanded to every meeting location but for now they are not requesting this. I have brought the applications and this information to the VRSC for input on how best to proceed.

Greater Nashville Area:

We had a member express her concern about our Halloween dance and the fact that it was not handicap accessible. This addict had a difficult time getting up and down the stairs. The activities subcommittee is looking into a solution.

H&I have been very prudent with their money and have not asked for a check in months. They have asked for \$300 of what is in their budget to pay their insurance. It was agreed upon at one area but not the other and more will be revealed.

PR is in need of help and is offering to come to home groups to do phonline orientation.

No policy & procedure or newsletter sub committees.

Nomination going back to groups for Outreach chair.

Unification ADHOC's final meeting next weekend. Members of both executive committees will be present.

Kiss Kampout is updating guidelines and is in need of help.

Greater Smokey Mountain Area: (Will not count as quorum next cycle) absent

Knoxville Area: Absent

Midwest Tennessee Area: Requesting 30 paperback for H&I. Will have to request for the funds with a motion form and payment voucher.

Middle Tennessee Area:

Greeting from MTA. We have for the first time in a long time, all service positions filled. This is not only good for the present time but also fosters better continuity and rotation for the future. Our Outreach sub-committee in addition to continuing the GSR orientation each month has scheduled a Learning Day on Group Inventory for the month of December. Our new Policy and Procedure chair is in the process of gathering members for the sub-committee and updating of the Area's guidelines is finally progressing forward. Thomas G. has been elected as Unity chair for the 2012 Unity. H&I, PR, and Activities are all sub-committees are shared with the Greater Nashville Area. Financially we are in the black. The money we have above our prudent reserve is being held until there is a resolve on the sales tax issue.

Southern Middle:

On Feb. 25 our area will conduct an area inventory. All activities are still being voted on so I will know more at the next VRSC. Our 3 groups are doing well. Sorry, we have no funds to donate to region due to our ending balance being \$173 as of our last ASC.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Ed S.

West Tennessee Area:

Hi family,

Greetings from the West Tennessee Area of Narcotics Anonymous. Our Area is functioning with approximate 70 meetings per week occurring. All Area Subcommittees are chaired and we are still seeking an ASC Vice-Chair and a Treasurer to complete our Administrative Committee positions, as well as an RCM Alternate.

We once again have a functioning Policy Subcommittee, which is in the process of reviewing our Area Guidelines. H and I commitments are being met. Our PR subcommittee is chaired and functioning. NA in May 2012 has begun having fundraisers and is on track. Activities is holding events regularly, the Halloween function was a huge success, largely due to our now almost world famous haunted house. We have a new Outreach chair, Chad R., and Policy and Outreach are planning a series of joint workshops such as GSR Workshop and Meeting Chairing Workshop.

Our financial discrepancy has been resolved, and we are meeting all obligation. In October we contributed \$375 each to VRSC and to NAWS, and in November \$250 each.

A number of members of our area braved the 400 mile jaunt to attend VRC, and the even worse in-the-pouring-rain return trip. Thanks to the committee for all your hard work.

That's all for now. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

In loving service,

Chris M.

WTA RCM

Delegate Report:

I do not have much to report. I want to thank Lucy and Tom for stepping up and making our survey work at VRC. Lucy will report more on the results we have so far in her report.

The CAR Reports are here. I am reading through it now and we will be going to SZF in January for the workshop.

We are planning a Workshop in February on the 4th for RCM'S and anyone how would want to attend. I would hope the following week we could do the Eastern Workshop in a central location and it would be beneficial to us to have some RCM'S to help us do the workshop. We are still planning on doing 3 Workshops 1 west 1 central and 1 east.

Thanks

Pete

Question: Where in Jan are you going?

Answer: Louisiana

Question: Where would you do a regional workshop?

Answer: Sat Feb 4 where the Regional subcommittees meet,

Regional Delegate-Alternate Report:

Dear family,

First news is the CAR is available! We have ordered copies for the region. You can also go to na.org/conference and download or print out a copy. Username CP2012 Password WSC2012

Attached with my report is the NAWS News Lite that just came out.

I attended the Southern Zonal Forum in Lexington KY the last weekend in October. When the minutes are available I will forward them. I brought up the issues we talked about during our October VRSC .I'm restating them below, along with responses.

1 - The disappointment in the presentations and topics in Nashville. We did pick the topics. On a similar note, I had a major concern about the workshop I was volunteered for - fund flow - because we had not prepared.

2 - I asked the question of the benefit of the SZF and was directed to the "solutions" pamphlet that can be found at <http://szfna.org/archives/resources/solution-pamphlets.html>

3 - How does something get on the agenda? For the workshops, region picks 1 topic... zf body picks other 2 topics.) If its on business session - rd/rda - just asks, limitation of being finished by noon.)

4 - The concerns about the website - Kristin will contact Steve, the webmaster.

5 - Will the CAT definitely be work-shopped at the SZF in the last weekend in January in Louisiana? Yes and we will also have WB representation there.

6 - I asked which regions have insurance for Tom and Kentucky Survivors Area has insurance, Louisiana region does. Oklahoma has it. Southern California has it, Tejas bluebonnet also looking into insurance.

There were 3 workshops.

The State service body used the material (powerpoint and handouts) on the NAWS Service System page. Discussion occurred mostly around Texas and Kentucky since they are states with multiple regions. The workshop on the Social Media draft included the reading of the draft and invited comments after each section read. The workshop on Fund flow used the material on the NAWS service System page. Comments questions and discussion followed each section read.

Sunday's Business Session

Dickie nominated as co-facilitator for the conference

Upcoming forums were discussed:

Next forum is in West Monroe at Trinity Church. TSs will move people from hotel to meeting.

The Summer 2012 forum is in Arkansas. They will have an event to pay for facility and negotiating Sunday's price since its half a day. We discussed topics. The following were chosen.

What is the SZF? Dickie and Rodney- maybe webmaster will help.

Medication and Service - using ITOI, Medication & Recovery Service Pamphlet,
and PR Handbook Henry, Lucy, and Matt.

Wrap up from Conference. Cathy, Ron, and Mike

Go back to regions and ask if they want Ussc idea discussed.

The Fall 2012 forum is in the Kentuckianna region. They'd like to do it in western KY - maybe Paducah

Treasurers report passed out

There was an issue with the bank and signatures. Some checks were returned and its all straight now. It was agreed to reimburse Kristin the \$7 bank fee she was charged.

When making a donation to SZF, mail to Dickie.

Criteria discussed for getting hotel & meeting space for the Zonal Forum weekends

At the next meeting, need willingness for Secretary, duties/responsibilities listed below.

1 room nite funded and travel funded for weekend

Minutes done/sent to facilitator within a week.

Selection Process

- Nominations from participating regions; Nominations from SZF

Length of Term

- 2 year term; 2 term limit

Clean time requirements

- 5 years clean time

Election process

- Must be present for election; Election to be held at fall session (October/November mtg.)

Duties and Responsibilities

- Maintains Database for SZF
- Take minutes at the SZF business meetings/sharing sessions
 1. Attendance list w/supporting communication information
 2. Accurate account of the discussion that takes place
 3. Compilation of all pertinent information discussed and relevant to the forum
 4. Mail out minutes within four (4) weeks following meeting
- Provides open link for communication between regions during the quarter between meetings
- Coordinates the gathering of information prior to upcoming forums

Time, Resources, and required experience

- 30-40 hours per quarter for compiling of minutes and coordination of communication
- Administrative and technical background in organizational structure / Team based organizational environments
- Demonstrated aptitude for performing secretarial obligations from previous service positions or work related responsibilities
- Time available to attend each SZF meeting
- Phone, fax and computer with internet access

Announcements at the Zonal forum:

2nd Annual Winter Retreat on Red River & Easter weekend, Lonestar Regional Convention.

This ends my report on the SZF

I'm turning in receipts to be reimbursed \$362.74 for the Zonal Forum.

\$10 registration cost of the forum

Meals for Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 62.01

1/2 of hotel: 90.73

840 Miles: \$210

I'm also including a reimbursement request for paying the monthly website fee since last meeting.

Sept - Dec: $12.95 \times 4 = \$51.60$

I'll also turn in a request for the December meeting. It's possible I'll ride with our RCM and so all I'll need will be the hotel reimbursement. Will update report that will be included in the minutes.

In loving service

Lucy O

VRC survey: most responses want a 4 day convention

Question: Do you want the SZF to have a workshop on a US service body?

Straw Poll: Yes- Unanimous

Question: Website payment seems to be an issue, has something been done to set up recurring payment?

Answer: Yesterday the regional dc was set up to pay for the website. **We need someone for IT Coordinator urgently.**

Question: Discussion of USCC?

Answer: Almost every Region says it is being brought up.

Question: Has SZF work shopped the Leaving Clean project?

Answer: Believe they have.

Policy and Procedure:

We met with 6 addicts in attendance. We had no motions that were deferred to to us and no new motions to consider. We then continued on into the Administrative Committee.

ILS,

Melvin

Tentative date for inventory is the weekend of June meeting.

Financial AdHoc: Attended boot camp for nonprofit groups. We still have our nonprofit status. We have to write a letter of ruling to the state to find out our literature is tax exempt.

Question: Since the government looks at the region over the groups, does that make the region accountable if taxes are not paid?

Answer: It's possible, will find out.

VRC 29 Report: Absent

VRC 30: Get Report

Statement: Need the chair here at the December meeting

Statement: Have some questions for VRC 29 unfortunately they are not here and did not send a report.

Question: IN the past the VRSC met the last day of VRC at the convention, why does it not do that anymore?

Answer: It required the members of the body to not be able participate in the convention.

Statement: VRC 29 was disappointed that many VRSC body members were not at the convention.

Chair Report: Please let areas know that subcommittee chairs are reimbursed .25 a mile for coming to subcommittee meeting. If interested contact Admin body so we can contact other area subcommittee chairs and set up a time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Liability Insurance Report: Hunted and found several other regions that has insurance that blanket all the groups. Looked closely at the Ohio region. They post their policy on the Regions website. Got local names and reached out. Supplied the company with NA: A Resource in your Community and the group IP. Was sent two applications and will fill them out to get possible prices.

If need to order more CARs all RCMs voted that up to 10 more can be purchased.

The slot for the USCC representative will be around 11:30 during lunch on Feb. 5. All RCMs agreed.

Motion 1-10-2-11

Motion by: RDA

Second by: West TN Area

The Motion reads as follows: To approve the Regional Delegate budget submitted in August.

Intent: To follow proper procedure

Chattanooga	yes
Greater Nashville	no
Knoxville Area	yes
Mid-West Tennessee	yes
Middle Tennessee	yes
Southern Middle	yes
West Tennessee	yes

Voted on the floor. Motion Passes

Motion 2-10-2-11

Motion by: RDA

Second by: West TN Area

The Motion reads as follows: To approve the Alternate Delegate budget submitted in August.

Intent: To follow proper procedure.

Chattanooga	yes
Greater Nashville	no
Knoxville Area	yes
Mid-West Tennessee	yes
Middle Tennessee	yes
Southern Middle	yes
West Tennessee	yes

Voted on the floor. Motion Passes

Motion 3-10-2-11

Motion by: RCM West TN

Second by: RCM Middle TN Area

The Motion reads as follows: To order 125 copies of the CAR, which is 25 over the 100 already approved.

Intent: To provide each Home Group and RCM in the Region with the valuable information in the CAR

Chattanooga	yes
Greater Nashville	yes
Knoxville Area	yes
Mid-West Tennessee	yes
Middle Tennessee	yes
Southern Middle	yes
West Tennessee	yes

Voted on the floor. Motion Passes

Motion 4-10-2-11

Motion by: Policy & Procedure

Second by: MTA

The Motion reads as follows: To send our Chair to the non-profit boot camp at the cost of \$99.

Intent: So our Chair can gain more knowledge of our non-profit status.

Chattanooga	yes
Greater Nashville	yes
Knoxville Area	yes
Mid-West Tennessee	yes
Middle Tennessee	yes
Southern Middle	yes
West Tennessee	yes

Voted on the floor. Motion passes.

Motion 5-10-2-11

Motion by: SMTANA RCM

Second by: Knoxville Area

The Motion reads as follows: We request 4 basic texts (paperback) for Giles County, Marshall County, Lewis County jails. Total 12 books. We thank you so much. Total \$132 plus S&H.

Intent: To carry a message of Recovery to addicts who are incarcerated.

Chattanooga	yes
Greater Nashville	yes
Knoxville Area	yes
Mid-West Tennessee	yes
Middle Tennessee	yes
Southern Middle	yes
West Tennessee	yes

Voted on the floor. Motion Passes.

NOMINATIONS:

Nomination 1: Christina W for Alt Sec

Chattanooga	yes – 8 no – 0 ab- 0
Greater Nashville	yes – 18 no – 4 ab- 0
Mid-West Tennessee	yes – 4 no – 0 ab- 0
Middle Tennessee	yes – 14 no – 0 ab- 0
Southern Middle	yes – 3 no – 0 ab- 0
West Tennessee	yes – 22 no – 0 ab- 0

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion 1-12-4-11:

Made by MidWest

Seconded by WTA

Mid-West H&I requests 30 paperback basic text for H&I to take to jails. Funds are available.

Question: How many meetings in the jail?

Answer: One facility once a month that houses at least 150 people.

Voted on floor passed unanimously.

Motion 2-12-4-11:

Made by P&P

Seconded by MTA

Reimburse RCMs half or \$75 for hotel room for Feb CAR/CAT workshop. Funds are available.

This is a onetime event. If possible ask area to reimburse.

Pro: It allows all RCMs to be able to participate.

The workshop will be Feb. 4 at 11AM with the subcommittee meetings following.

Voted on floor passed unanimously.

Question: Concern over the amount of info coming in next session.

Answer: Feel that the info can be broken down into 2 months so they won't get overwhelmed.

Motion 3-12-4-11:

Made by P&P

Seconded by WTA

Reimburse RCMs half or \$75 for hotel room for any event held by region such as CAR/CAT workshops, Regional Assemblies, and Inventories.

Deferred to P&P

Nominations:

Nomination 1: Melvin S for P&P Chair

Clean Date: 12/05/1988

Please list all group, area, regional and world service positions you have held within the past five years and

approximate dates for each period of service: Step By Step Treasurer, Step By Step GSR, Greater Nashville

Area Policy & Procedures Chair & Vice Chair, Volunteer Regional Convention Alt-Treasurer, RCM-Alt for

the Greater Nashville Area, VRSC Vice-Chair. Currently serving as VRSC Chair. All of these positions were

held in the last five years.

If you have not completed a term as a trusted servant or have been removed from a service position in the past five years, please explain: I have completed every service position that I have held with the exception of

RCM-Alt for the Greater Nashville Area. I left this position when elected as VRSC Vice-Chair. *What resources and experience (school, work, volunteer, etc) do you believe you can bring to the position for*

which you have been nominated: I have served as Policy & Procedures Chair for the VRSC, Middle Tennessee Area and Greater Nashville Area.

Please include any other information which you consider relevant to your nomination: I have been Middle

Tennessee Area's Chair & Vice-Chair for two terms each. I have also held the Chairperson position for Policy & Procedures for the Middle Tennessee Area, the Greater Nashville Area, and the Volunteer Region.

Floor Opened for Discussion

Question: Due to concern over counties not covered by any areas on region website should we divvy up the colorless counties and assign an area to them?

Answer: Belief that every county should have an area assigned to them whether they have meetings or not.

Comment: Feels that we should send it to the groups in case an area would not be able to handle the phone calls.

Comment: It will be created by Tom and Lucy so RCMs can take it to areas so groups can vote.

Question: MidWest was wondering if getting money for a convention from region was plausible.

Answer: You can request and purpose and need will be discussed by RCMs.

Question: Do we have to have a license to use NA logo?

Answer: Only vendors have to have license and the logo has the registered trademark.

Announcements: Vice-chair, Alt-Tres, Information Technology Communication Coordinator, PR chair, Outreach chair, Exploration ADHOC chair, H&I, and Oversight committee are vacant.

USCC representative will be here in Feb. to present information.

Question: Was asked who the representative is?

Answer: Would like to keep principles before personalities.

Final Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance \$8,156.03

Review of Day's business

Motion to close, seconded, passed

In loving service, Luke