

Volunteer Regional Service Meeting April 3, 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	here
Vice-Chair	here
Secretary	here
Alt-Secretary	here
Treasurer	here
Alt-Treasurer	absent
Regional Delegate	here
Alt-Regional Delegate	vacant

SUBCOMMITTEES:

	Present/Absent
Activities	vacant
Hospitals & Institutions	absent
Outreach	vacant
Policy & Procedures	vacant
Public Relations	vacant
VRC Revision/Advisory?	absent
Financial Legal Adhoc	present
Exploration Adhoc	absent
VRC 29	absent

Represented by:

AREAS:

	Present/Absent
Chattanooga	present (pre Feb Dec)
Greater Nashville	present (pre Feb Dec)
Greater Smokey Mountain	present (pre Feb Dec)
Knoxville Area	present (pre Feb Dec)
Mid West Tennessee	present (Abs Feb pre Dec)
Middle Tennessee	present (pre Feb Dec)
Stones River	abs (pre Feb abs Dec)
West Tennessee	present (pre feb Dec)

Represented by:

Quorum - established

SECRETARY REPORT:

Just a reminder: go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/natennessee/> and push the "Join this Group" button it will take you to a yahoo sign in page for the VRSC email list/group. You can create an account or sign in. The natennessee domain expired, and since we don't currently have a web servant (it currently falls under the PR subcommittee and we have no PR subcommittee) we weren't aware this was about to happen. After an ordeal, I finally got it paid and am turning in an invoice for \$13.95. Having been unaware that the VRSC Chair has a debit card made this more difficult to get paid. Maybe we will remember in a year when its time to pay again!
Motion to accept minutes by WTA area, GNA area seconded. Passes - unanimous

TREASURER REPORT:

Question: AT&T bill is \$90 a month
Answer: Yes; broken down to around 25 calls a month
Motion to accept the Treasurer's report by GNA area, 2nd WTA area. Passed - unanimous
See Attachment: April2011TreasurersReport.pdf

AREA REPORTS

Chattanooga Area:

Tom B., mindful.yogi.tom@gmail.com

Area Subcommittee News

H&I – new chair Larry C.; PI – Purchased a sign to display on the side of local metro bus; design is finished
CASCNA asking outlying rural home groups if reimbursement for gas \$ would increase their attendance (didn't come back up at the March Area meeting)

Surrender Under the Stars – beginning to plan with new committee; tentatively planned for Sept 30-Oct 2; Angela R. new chair; motion has been made to drop “VRC fund-raiser” from the purpose of the event, however, any funds above the seed would still be sent on to Region (this has not been votes on yet)

Outreach – visited new meeting in Trenton, GA; noticed a large # of women in attendance; plan to make a map of the Area and all the meetings; new Chair – Kimberly S.

New RCM – Tom B.; New Secretary – Sara G.; New Treasurer – Angela R.

Treasurer reports that our Area is unable to make a donation this month

Open positions - Chair, V-Chair, Alt Sec, Alt Treas, and PI Chair, Activities, RCM Alt

CASCNA supports the nomination of Pete F. for Regional Delegate

Additional News

Turning Point group in Cleveland, TN – hosting “Picnic in the Park” June 11, 2011, in Cleveland, TN
Dayton, TN “More Will Be Revealed” group has lost their meetings space, Outreach is helping them find a new place

Two new meetings in our Area:

Trenton GA - “ A New Turn:” Monday nights @ 12500 N. Main St Trenton, Ga, 7:30pm

Chattanooga TN -”Spiritual Awakenings:” Thu 7am @ 118 Woodland Ave, Chattanooga, TN:

Topic Discussion

Updated Area schedule (minor changes but more attractive)

56 people called the phone line last month

Next CASCNA meeting is April 17, 2011

Question: What was the fee for bus sign?

Answer: \$350 for one sign and we cannot pick the route it is also a month to month contract

Question: Attendance of 7AM meeting? Answer: 5-10 people

Greater Nashville Area:

Things are going well. Activities, being a comm of only 3 for a while had 6 people at their last mtg. 24 ppl at assembly, most were from Chatt. PI recently got several positions filled. We are having an 1.5 service learning day followed by 32 anniversary celebration of NA. H&I asked for money for the 1st time in 3,4 months and say they are going to start setting up a booth at more functions. Kiss Kampout May 608. flyers. Unification Ad-hoc has created 4 different task groups and is moving right along. Hanz O

Greater Smokey Mountain Area:

Have several positions open on Admin. Committee. Treasurer's duties are being fulfilled by chair and vice chair. Donna V our new secretary began serving at the last ASC meeting. ROR has now become the responsibility of Activities s/c. Date for ROR will be in September this year. There is an activity scheduled for June, summer kick-off. Site and rate to be determined. Discussion on revising guidelines has been ongoing and will be addressed in the future.

Steve C

Knoxville Area:

Everything is going well for our Area. The convention is just a few weeks away and we're looking forward to having a successful event. The H&I subcommittee reports that they have good support at St. Mary's and Centerpointe. All committee positions are filled with the exception of Alt. Secretary, Alt Treasurer and Alt. RCM. The proposal of the consolidated meeting schedule for the Knxoville Area, GSMA and ETROR Area was made and accepted by all 3 Areas, the first one will be out next month. We have a new group, "Hope in Halls" which will bring the message of recovery closer to Union County where there currently aren't any NA meetings;p they are located at 7535 Maynardville Hwy. Knoxville TN, Christ United Methodist Church on Thursdays at 7:30 pm. Hope to see you at the Area Convention - April 22, 23 and 24 - Crowne Plaza.

ILS, Karen T.

Question: East TN Ridges of Recovery was it a split?

Answer: It was a newly formed area some groups left and some new groups were formed.

Midwest Tennessee Area:

Verbal Report

Question: Concern from Paris Groups do they sell or give literature away?

Answer: We are still working on it a meeting has been scheduled and more will be revealed.

Middle Tennessee Area:

All is well in the Middle Tennessee Area (MTA). We are continuing to assist our groups in carrying the message of the Narcotics Anonymous Program. Although we share sub-committees (Activities, H&I, and PR) with the Greater Nashville Area (GNA), we recognized our responsibility to have more participation from our Area members. This problem will be addressed in the immediate future. We have a number of vacant positions but we continue to progress each month in getting positions filled.

Outreach and Unity sub-committees report that all is well. Outreach is planning a Group Booklet Learning Day on April 30th 9:30am-4:00pm. Our ad hoc sub-committee on unification is excited about the cooperation it is receiving from Area members. Financially, MTA is getting better financially but we are not out of the woods yet. There is still an air of caution as we forge ahead in the working of the Area.

Yours in loving service,

Julius H. - RCM

Stones River Area:

absent

West Tennessee Area:

Hello,

Our outreach had a service learning day that was poorly attended ;(, but we do have some people stepping up to fill chair, vice-chair, alt-treasurer. Our H&I committee is having a learning day April 9th. PR has finally been filled & is getting up & running. NA in May will be held the 3rd weekend in May! I have a motion from our area. Last but certainly not least we would like to nominate Lucy O. for RDA!!

ILS,

Hannah

Get Honest or Die Home Group, GHOD, West Tennessee Area Service Committee

Our group unanimously and respectfully submits the following Motion to be considered and sent onto the Volunteer Regional Service Committee and back to the Areas for a vote with the intent of this motion being added to the WSC Car Agenda Report, 2012.

(See attached, NAWS p. 10, section entitled, Proposed Trial Plan for 2012, the deadline for submission is 1, August 2011.)

MOTION:

- 1) Discontinue the work under the Service System Project, Service System.
- 2) STOP any proposed changes to existing service including the names of the following service bodies:

MEMBER

GROUP

AREA

REGION

WORLD

INTENT:

- 1) STOP all efforts of the SERVICE SYSTEM PROJECT.
- 2) Leave the existing structure in place that has served as a working model.
- 3) Leave open the option to for the Service bodies themselves to address current flaws and improvements in these service bodies for themselves. Each service body should be allowed the freedom to devise solutions that they see best fit to improve their primary purpose. These solutions might include efforts directed at;
 - Better communication, participation, and unity
 - the sharing of ideas from the individual member, to the groups, onto the region and the world the sharing of ideas from

Delegate Report:

Thank You to All for allowing me to serve;

We had the Assembly about 25 -30 addicts supported the meeting and for that I was grateful. It is still a sad representation of our Region to have such a low attendance. As the RD I would like to ask the Areas what you want from your region. We are here to support the needs of this region. This might not even be my responsibility to ask, however I do so out of concern for region I serve. Why would we vote as a group to have a Regional Assembly once a year to exchange information and then not show up to get the information nor voice our thoughts for OUR fellowship. Our Guidelines say the assembly is for GSR's we had 5-8 in attendance. I am not sure what to do or how to change it I would only ask that we consider a change in the future so we can better serve our needs. Our Guide to Local Service says Regional Assemblies are a key ingredient in the maintenance of NA group's final responsibility and authority for our fellowship's services, spoken of in our 2nd Concept. We had a workshop on the new Service System Project which created a lot of dialogue about change. I received 2 input sheets that I will share at the Regional meeting. I am including all the questions I have forwarded to the World Board and hope to have a response to those questions.

Questions and Concerns of new Service System Proposal

- 1) Will we have to change all our literature where it say's "Service Structure to Service System"?
- 2) It is stated the current structure was created before the adoption of the 12 Concepts in 1992. If we change our literature to say "Service System" would that change the Concepts?
- 3) How does info get back to Groups? If GSU does not include business. How is business discussed to bring back to groups?
- 4) If the LSU coordinates services separate from GSU how are they remaining accountable to the groups?
- 5) If geographically isolated groups are new and inexperienced, how are they able to receive group support if the LSU is only there to conduct business?
- 6) Why separate business from group support? Experience comes from business and why are we making it separate? Don't we KID GLOVE things enough already?
- 7) Will the Guide to Local Services as an option in some form?
- 8) Will a task oriented service structure cut out being able to share our experience and provide support to a new and struggling Group/Area?
- 9) If some LSU's have an intermediate body that sends a representative to the Region Do these Areas now lose their individual vote on the Regional level?
- 10) If the WSC has less seats will the World Board still keep their votes? (i.e. 12)

We also went over Taxes and our Responsibility and came up with more questions that will be answered by our CPA that the Financial Adhoc Committee will follow up on.

We had a workshop on World Services we looked at pages 2-36 in a Guide to World Services and went through some Q &A on those topics.

Thank You
Love & Respect
Pete F

New service system draft handed out. Attachment: Service_System_Proposals_Report_March2011.pdf

Question: Isn't the proposal going to be work-shopped at the forum?

Answer: Yes it will be at the SZF

Comment: RCMs should spread the word that the SZF will be in Nashville.

Regional Delegate-Alternate Report: Vacant

Sub-Committee Reports:

Activities: Vacant

H&I: absent

Policy and Procedure:

Verbal report given by Melvin

VRC Guideline Revision/Oversight:

To VRSC Region:

First I would like to make and amends for my delay in communicating with the region. My second amends is to the interested members of the fellowship who would like to participate in reviewing and revising the VRC Guidelines.

My current work schedule finds me with less time available to devote face to face time for this ad hoc committee. I am posting this to the group in hopes that it will be read at the meeting tomorrow if need be. I am unable to attend the Region due to a prior family commitment.

If the Region would allow me to chair and operate this ad hoc committee by email and this group forum I will still be able to chair. I would also ask that we be able to report to the regional meeting on a every other meeting schedule. I would also ask to not attend the sub-committee meetings on the Saturday before the Region.

I am very willing to help the fellowship and Region with this matter however my current work schedule requires more of my time than I first anticipate when accepting this position.

ILS,
Chuck P.

Clarification: VRC oversight temporary committee (previous VRC chairs, who are also the same members who have brought suggestions year after year) they were also given the task with bringing changes to the guidelines. It's a temporary committee to determine guidelines for the temporary committee.

Question: Convention chairs only? Anyone who has served on a VRC committee can serve on the committee.
Comment: one responsibility is to create their own guidelines. Anyone interested get with chuck and give him your ideas.

Financial AdHoc:

Hello family,

We started discussing writing a letter to the State of Tn. regarding our literature sales and the possibility of having it approved to be tax-exempt, but then determined, based on the previous ad-hoc committee's report, that we have already made this request.

We decided to make an appointment with Stan Dunlap of the Audit Division and follow up from the previous ad-hoc's correspondence with the State. The State stated that their legal counsel would review our information and get back with us. We have not heard anything from them yet, and are going to inquire about our literature sales tax and NA in Tn.

Our interpretation is that the previous ad-hoc committee has already requested tax-exempt status for our literature. Once confirmed, if a request letter needs to be written, we will write one. More will be revealed!

We would also like to say that we understand there is a concern about what we need to be doing as far as our literature sales are concerned. As of today, there is not an emergency situation that is taking place that requires us to make an immediate decision. Please be patient with us as we are finding out all the factual information that we will need in order to make an informed decision. Decisions made in haste can cause us further problems.

ILS, Financial Ad-hoc subcommittee

Outreach Report: Vacant

VRC 29 Report:

From Maarja: I will be sending the VRC 29 report with the VRC 29 Secretary, Karen. Of course, she is a member of the admin committee for VRC. I am sorry I can not attend. Karen and Steve C are both on the committee and can answer questions. Not there will be any..... Please pass my notice to the VRSC Chair.

Verbal report given by Karen

Question: Can the report be sent and then the chair show up every other month?

Answer: Guidelines say no plus there more will than likely be question only the chair can answer.

Request made to put current VRC Guidelines on web. Lucy will do this when she gets the most recent guidelines.

Exploration Adhoc Report:

Below is a report for the Exploration Ad Hoc Committee's portion of the Regional Assembly. I hope to plan a teleconference within the next two weeks (you will hear from me again concerning such an endeavor). Love you guys and thanks for serving. Zach

At the Regional Assembly the Exploration Ad Hoc Committee performed three functions. We solicited responses for the Fellowship Literature Survey 2010, receiving 12 responses, many members had previously filled out the survey. I will collate that information before mailing them to NAWS. This will give our RD a glimpse of our Region's conscience concerning literature development. As well we surveyed all those present (18) concerning a regional newsletter, regional meeting list, teleconferencing and the general purpose of the VRSC. I have not yet collated those survey's but will send a written report with the findings. Lastly, we choose to spend the majority of our time studying how NA World Services is structured and how it operates. As a group, we read from "A Guide to World Services 2010," covering the it basic purpose and structure. We looked at the relationship between the World Board, World Service Office, the Regional Delegate and the World Service Conference. We focused on project development, the WSC meeting and the work cycle between each Conference, highlighting the role of each World Board publication (NAWS News, Annual Report, The Conference Report, The Conference Agenda Report, and the Conference Approval Track). We also spent some time explaining our Fellowship's various literature approval processes (Fellowship, Conference and World Board). I believe the workshop was helpful for the GSR's present and I think similar workshops would serve our Fellowship well. It will demystify the World Service level and provide greater clarity on the Group's, Area's and Region's roles and responsibilities concerning NA World Services. I could see each RCM benefiting from such a workshop.

In Loving Service,

Zach A.

Question - what is the exploration ad hoc committee for. I was under the impression it was to explore new ideas.

* How to get more people involved in the region.

* We've had several ideas that came to the regional floor but fell thru the cracks. This was part of their responsibility to follow up on these ideas.

Chair Report:

Administrative committee report, given by Craig

Subcommittee chairs, all admin trusted servants, are encouraged to attend admin committee meetings on the Saturday before. RCMs welcome to attend.

Vice Chair Report:

Hello Family,

We reviewed the information collected from the two recent surveys. The first thing I would like to say is that we had a remarkable response to these surveys! Thank you to all the RCMs that gathered responses for us! You made a difference! We've been wondering what we could do to connect with our members and maybe even have a better inventory of what we can do to be of service to the Areas and groups within the VRSC and this seems like it might be a good start.

The first question we asked was if the members felt like the VRSC was serving its purpose. We had a lot of positive responses, however, there was a large number of responses that stated the Region seemed disconnected or that they were unaware of what the Region was supposed to be doing or how to get involved.

We also asked a couple of questions regarding member's participation at the Regional level. The most overwhelming responses for the lack of participation were related to the distance that had to be traveled. This is part of the reason we suggested the ideas in the Administrative Committee report. Our suggestions came as a result of the responses that individual members gave us. We, the Administrative Committee, have absolutely no desire to tell the Region what needs to be done. Once again, our suggestions come as a result of what our members told us.

I would also like to take this time to remind everyone that "the Region" is not the Administrative Committee. The "Region" is the Regional Committee Members. The RCMs have the authority over the Region and can overrule any decision that is made, other than ones voted on by the groups. Several of the responses of the survey indicated that a solution to the disconnect would be to have members of the Region visit the Areas. Your RCM is a member of the Region as well as your Area. Regardless of anything else going on, your RCM is your voice and connection with the Region. They provide a valuable service and I am certain that they would be more than happy to help you with any questions or concerns you might have.

Thanks again to all those who participated in the survey and please feel free to fill one out if you haven't already done so. We will continue looking to these for guidance.

Thanks for allowing me to serve,
Craig G.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motions:

#2-12/5/10

Made by Secretary, seconded by GNA RCM alt.

The motion reads as follows: Dissolve activities subcommittee.

Intent: Save funds; temporary committee can be appointed when need arises.

Amended to read as follows:

Dissolve activities subcommittee. Amend guidelines and adjust lettering/numbering.

1) remove: listing in table of contents,

2) remove: "Activities" under **ARTICLE XII: Section 1: Establishment Of Subcommittees.**

3) remove: **Section 8A. Activities:** This committee deals with ...

Intent: To apply the 11th concept by managing NA funds responsibly; temporary committee can be appointed when need arises.

THIS MOTION passed

Chattanooga abstain

Greater Nashville yes

Greater Smokey Mountain abstain

Knoxville yes

Middle TN yes

Mid west yes

Stone's River absent

West Tennessee yes

Motion #5-2/6/11

Made by Vrc29 chair, 2nd by Chattanooga

The motion reads as follows: To raise seed money for VRC NA from the current \$4000 to \$6000

Intent: Events to raise money to fund VRCNA have decreased. Past profit made this VRC have decreased. The convention is held to carry the message of Narcotics Anonymous. Additional funds are needed to host the convention.

THIS MOTION passed

Chattanooga abstain

Greater Nashville yes

Greater Smokey Mountain yes

Knoxville yes

Middle TN yes

Mid west yes

Stone's River absent

West Tennessee yes

Nominations and Elections:

Nomination #1 was made by WTA and seconded by GNA.

The nomination is for Lucy O for VRSC Regional Delegate Alternate (RDA).

Clean Date: 1/21/87

Please list all group, area, regional and world service positions held within the past 5 years and approximate dates for each period of service: Homegroup Membership (07-09) and Literature (09 to present) trusted servant, RCM alt (07), RCM (08), VRC 27 Registration chair (08-09), VRSC alt Sec (09), VRSC Sec (10)

What resources and experience (school, work, volunteer, etc) do you believe you can bring to the position for which you have been nominated: Interest and love of NA service experience in various levels of service.

Please include any other information which you consider relevant to your nomination: I would like the opportunity to serve in this position, as a link between the group/area and world services.

Question: Am I willing to adhere to the Region's wishes/votes when I get to the WSC.

Answer: yes.

Nomination #2 was made by MTA seconded by GNA.

The nomination is for Luke H for VRSC Secretary.

Clean Date: 6/15/07

Please list all group, area, regional and world service positions held within the past 5 years and approximate dates for each period of service: Alt-Sec for VRSC 2/11-present, member of PSA/Bulletins, Alt Treasurer for No Matter What 8.10-present, GSR Mother Group 7/09-7/10, Alt GSR/Literature Chair for Tearing Down the Walls, 10/07-4/08.

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: Alt GSR/Literature Chair for Tearing down the Walls - My personal schedule changed preventing me from attending home group business meetings causing me to step down.

What resources and experience (school, work, volunteer, etc) do you believe you can bring to the position for which you have been nominated: I am a student so taking notes is not foreign to me, skilled in Microsoft Office, I have school deadlines that I meet weekly therefore I feel I can meet the deadline on sending out the minutes.

Please include any other information which you consider relevant to your nomination: Work steps and traditions with my sponsor.

Question: Explain about not fulfilling the commitment - what was it from?

Answer: work

**Nomination #3 was made by GNA and seconded by WTA.
The nomination is for Callie G for VRSC Treasurer.**

Clean Date: 2/1/05

Please list all group, area, regional and world service positions held within the past 5 years and approximate dates for each period of service: Group Sec "By the Book 2010-2011, Mtg Sec, Group Treasurer Night owls and By the Book, Literature Chair for H&I, GNA NA Treasurer, VRSC Alt Treasurer, VRSC Treasurer, activities subcommittee, Unification adhoc member.

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: no

What resources and experience (school, work, volunteer, etc) do you believe you can bring to the position for which you have been nominated: experienced in Treasurer position for Groups, Area, and Region.

Please include any other information which you consider relevant to your nomination: I have never misappropriated NA funds, I have a sponsor that I work steps with. I actively learn and study about traditions and concepts.

Question: Have you ever misappropriated na funds. *Reply:* no

**Nomination #4 was made by GNA and seconded by WTA.
The nomination is for Craig G for VRSC Chair.**

Clean Date: 2-17-04

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: Alt-GSR & GSR for Rutherford Co. Night Owls '05 – '06, Temp GSR for A New Beginning '05, Temp GSR for By the Book '08, Alt-Treas. For By the Book '09, Treasurer for By the Book Jan '10 to present, GNA Activities Chair '07 – '08, GNA Lit Chair Jan '09 to Aug '10, VRSC Alt-Sec. from end of '07 to end of term in '08, VRSC Secretary from '08 to '10. Vice-Chair of VRSC from August '10 to present, Chair of VRSC Financial-Legal Ad-hoc October '10 to present, have been chair/meeting secretary for every group I have participated in.

What resources and experience (school, work, volunteer, etc) do you believe you can bring to the position for which you have been nominated: I believe I can work well with others in service settings, I am teachable, I have been active in the Region for the last 4 years and have a fair idea of what is happening in Narcotics Anonymous in our Region.

Please include any other information which you consider relevant to your nomination: I have worked the 12 Steps and I'm currently working them again, I have a sponsor and I am sponsored. I study the Traditions and the Concepts. My home group is a Step, Tradition, and Concept study.

**Nomination #5 was made by MTA and seconded by GNA.
The nomination is for Mike R. for VRSC Alt. Treasurer.**

Clean Date: September 28,2000

Please list all group, area, regional and world service positions held within the past 5 years and approximate dates for each period of service: Treasurer: Ghost busters Group 2009 to current; Area vice chair Long Beach Ca 2004-2006; GSR Downtown Happy Hour Group 2003-2004

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: Completed all Terms of service

What resources and experience (school, work, volunteer, etc) do you believe you can bring to the position for which you have been nominated: BA Marketing Masters in Divinity

Opened My own Business build it to annual Revenue of 6.5 million dollars with 28 employees and sold it at a profit; currently Executive Director of a Non profit organization with a \$200,000 annual Budget, Working knowledge of Quick Books accounting soft ware which is the software used for region

Please include any other information which you consider relevant to your nomination: Never misappropriated any NA funds; Have a Sponsor who has a Sponsor
Have worked all 12 steps and Traditions more once

**Nomination #6 was made by Chattanooga and seconded by MTA.
The nomination is for Pete F for VRSC RD.**

Clean Date: 01/13/1989

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: RDA 2009-2011 ,VRC Chair 2008, Surrender 24 Treasurer 2010

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: Not Applicable

What resources and experience (school, work, volunteer, etc) do you believe you can bring to the position for which you have been nominated: Willingness to serve the Fellowship to the best of my ability with an understanding of our Guiding documents.

Please include any other information which you consider relevant to your nomination: I have served as RDA and would like to complete the rest of my commitment,

**Nomination #7 was made by GNA and seconded by MTA.
The nomination is for Melvin S for VRSC Policy and Procedure 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.

New Business:

Motion #2-2/6/11

Made by VRC29 Chair, seconded by GNA

The motion reads as follows:

To modify the Volunteer Regional Convention (VRC) from a five (5) day event, to a four (4) day event. Eliminating the entire day of Wednesday. Changing start date to Thursday. This will amend following changes under Program, page 21, of the VRC Guidelines.

- Wednesday *eliminated*
- Thursday NA meeting 8pm-9pm. Workshops and banquet eliminated.
- *Please note:* Friday and Saturday workshops will remain the same.
- *Please note:* Friday, Saturday, and Sunday main speaker meetings will remain the same.
- Effective VRC 30, 2012

In February this motion was deferred to Policy and Procedure, to be discussed at their April meeting.

We were about to vote to send to groups, questions arose:

Question: when going to a city - any idea how many attend from home cities where VRC is held?

Reply: When talking about local support, yes it would be less in smaller cities because there are fewer addicts in the program there.

Comments: Hate to see us get rid of Thanksgiving meal since it was the biggest number there. If we're raising seed money, why have efforts to cut events.

Suggestion: to table/defer to VRC oversight committee

Comment: reason for increasing seed money was to take pressure off of having fund raisers.

Comments: Since VRC chair isn't here.... Although he's interested and willing to do it, couldn't be here today because of job overextended. Most committee stuff will need to be done by email/by conference call.

Chattanooga didn't bring up at their area because it was deferred to P&P - need more information.

Since VRC chair/VRC oversight committee chair aren't here to answer questions....

Vice Chair made motion to table and it passed.

MTA seconded

All in favor - 6

No - 1

Note: someone will need to make a motion at a future date to remove it from the "table"

Craig will contact Chuck about the status of this motion.

This motion (#2-2/6/11) will NOT go back to groups. It is tabled because there was no one from either VRC subcommittee present to answer questions.

Motion #6-2/6/11

Made by RD, 2nd by RCM Chattanooga

Motion reads as follows: To stop all subcommittees except VRC and operate with resource pool.

Intent: To better serve this body and spend resources when necessary.

In February this motion was deferred to Policy and Procedure to be discussed at April P&P. P&P says motion is out of order because details of guideline changes were not spelled out in motion.

Pete spoke to the motion:

We have an admin committee that meets Saturdays...

Usually 6 on Saturdays at subcommittee meetings, yesterday 4.

Standing subcommittees have little to no attendance, providing no services. H&I chair in place didn't show up yesterday/today. We're trying to provide services that it seems the Region (Areas) don't want. Change is what excites an addict. We're trying to get dialogue going about this idea. This will change a lot of policies and procedures. Would like to see us go towards resource pool and task oriented. Would like RCMs to go back to Areas and ask: What do you want from Region. Region wants to know how to serve you better. Folks in Florida/Minnesota to name a couple of Regions, have gone to this approach. What we're doing is not working. Better ways to spend resources. Believes the new service system, if/when happens, will solve a lot of our issues. Not sure whether to withdraw/table motion, but for sure we want to know from Areas, how can we serve the groups.

Comment: Since P&P said its out of order, it's a moot point, but in Craigs discussion from the admin committee meeting, one idea written down was discontinue subcommittees.

Question: How does a resource pool work?

Reply: Say someone from Knoxville needs H&I help... We'd have asked members to fill out 'applications' to become part of resource pool, listing their strengths/how they would like to help, ie treasurer/financial, H&I, PR, etc. We'd draw from that resource pool to help Knoxville with their H&I... establish a work/task group to help.

Comment: We'd like to look at other Regions and how they are doing this. We'd also have continue to the Admin Committee meetings the Saturday before Region. It would involve more planning. Admin Committee could possibly oversee this resource pool.

Question: How was the Activities motion not out of order and this one to do away with all subcommittees out of order?

Answer: Every place that Activities is listed in the guidelines was listed with motion. We need more details about how this would work before spending a lot of time/effort to put this together. We want to know from Areas if they would like us to proceed.

This motion, #6-2/6/11, is out of order.

Motion #4-3-11:1

Made by WTA, 2nd by GNA

MOTION:

- 3) Discontinue the work under the Service System Project, Service System.
- 4) STOP any proposed changes to existing service including the names of the following service bodies:

MEMBER

GROUP

AREA

REGION

WORLD

INTENT:

- 4) STOP all efforts of the SERVICE SYSTEM PROJECT.
- 5) Leave the existing structure in place that has served as a working model.
- 6) Leave open the option to for the Service bodies themselves to address current flaws and improvements in these service bodies for themselves. Each service body should be allowed the freedom to devise solutions that they see best fit to improve their primary purpose. These solutions might include efforts directed at;
 - Better communication, participation, and unity
 - the sharing of ideas from the individual member, to the groups, onto the region and the world the sharing of ideas from

Would WTN like to speak to motion?

Reply: This motion was proposed by a WTA homegroup. They don't want the new Service System. They want their motion put in the CAR report.

No pros/cons

Vote to consider

All in favor of sending to groups....

2 yes.

5 no

The RCMs voted NOT to allow this motion (#4-3-11:1) to go back to groups.

Motion #4-3-11-2

Made by GNA, seconded by MTA

This motion reads as follows: To have all Regional motions be counted with a group vote, as CAR motions are done, to ensure a more accurate group conscience.

Intent: To ensure an accurate group conscience and to allow all the groups in the Volunteer Region to have an equal vote in all business that directly affects them.

This motion, #4-3-11-2, changes guidelines and is deferred to P&P for input.

Instead of each area getting 1 vote per area, every single group vote will be counted.

Comment: Some areas have lots of groups, some 2 groups. It's not a true group conscience the way we do it now by counting Area yeses/nos/abstains. This new way would be more representative.

Motion #4-3-11-3

Made by VRSC Secretary, seconded by ____ (forgot to write down who seconded... does anyone remember)

This motion reads as follows:

Remove the position of Web Servant from PR subcommittee guidelines and create the position of "Information Technology and Communications Coordinator" (ITCC) as a trusted servant position of the VRSC.

Changes to the VRSC Guidelines are as follows:

Under Article VI, Section 1 add "Information Technology and Communications Coordinator" to list of VRSC Officers.

Under Article VI, Section 3A, #2 add "Information Technology and Communications Coordinator" to list of VRSC Officers to be elected in June.

Under Article VIII, add the following: (Please note this will change the numbering of positions in the rest of this "Article")

H. Information Technology and Communications Coordinator

1. Qualifications

- a. One year commitment
- b. Two years continuous abstinence from all drugs
- c. Previous service experience in NA
- c. Knowledge of and access to a computer, printer, word processing software, scanner, access to the internet, and HTML/FTP/CMS software

2. Responsibilities

- a. Maintain VRSC website, email list, and online event calendar
- b. Forward any correspondence received thru the website to the proper channels
- c. Set up Web/Tele Conferences as requested by the VRSC
- d. Digitize the VRSC archives
- d. Before end of term, train incoming ITCC.
Incoming ITCC will be reimbursed travel expenses for one cycle if needed.
- e. Attends all VRSC meetings from opening to closing;
encouraged to attend Saturday Administrative Committee meetings
- f. Other IT and communication related duties as requested by VRSC

Under Article IX, Section 11, add the following: (Please note this will change the numbering of positions in the rest of this "Section")

H Information Technology and Communications Coordinator Report

Intent: The VRSC needs a trusted servant to maintain the website and handle other IT and communications needs as they arise.

Comment: It would not be a sub-committee it would be an administrative position.

Comment: For it. We need someone who understands IT to handle the domain.

Comment: We do have interested people in this position.

Comment: It would help to make continuation easier ie Passwords and other Account information.

Question: There are people that are willing so we are not making a position that will not be filled?

Answer: We have had numerous people state they might be willing.

Question: Where are the archives?

Answer: In a storage compartment off Nolensville Rd. Chair has the key.

Vote to consider?

7 yes unanimous

This motion, #4-3-11-3, goes back to groups for a vote.

Question on floor about the RCM's voting not to consider sending a motion back to groups on a previous motion. The guideline was explained.

Answer: Guidelines Article 10 section 3 a and b: we took a vote on to send it back to groups and the body decided not to; suggested to change guidelines

Article X. B. Issues of controversy may be subject to a straw vote - decided by a simple majority of those eligible to vote on the matter at the time or send the motion back for a "Group Conscience" which will automatically put it on the next regularly scheduled meeting agenda under old business.

Past VRC Merchandise for 50% passed (merchandise is going back to areas)

Motion #4-3-11-4

Made by Treasurer, 2nd by MTA

This motion reads as follows: to purchase a computer (laptop) solely for the purpose of Treasurer functions.

At a maximum of \$600.00

Intent: To have one computer with all the account information. To be passed to the next Treasurer. Also will ensure that anyone may hold service position.

Callie speaks to motion...

How many computers over the years have Regional business on them (financial affairs)

It would be a good idea to have just one computer with all our info on it to go from treasurer to treasurer, etc.

Question: Does this include license for Quickbooks? Reply: Yes

Comment: We do this in our area (WTA) for Treasurer.

Comment: Back ups are good. External hard drive might be nice. Ditto. And do we also have hard copies.

Reply: Yes we have physical reports.

Comment: Want computer insured. Reply: It will come with extended warranty

There will be potential fees about upkeep; Software agreements.

Comment: Still need to change password.

Comment: If Memphis is already doing it - can they speak to questions?

Reply from WTA Expense - laptop donated. Only concern was the treasurer quit and it took us 4 months to get laptop back.

Comment: ongoing upkeep is not a significance cost. Since ONLY used for VRSC treasurer purposes there shouldn't be an issue with much upkeep.

Question: Any other areas do it?

Question: Treasurer only? Reply: YES

Our guidelines state: Any expenditures in excess of \$500.00, outside of normal operating expenses, shall be sent back to areas for a Group Conscience.

Chair said it's under normal operating expenses.

Comment: Not normal operating since it' not ever done yet. Requests motion to go back to groups.

Chair replies: Make a motion to overrule the chairs ruling and request that the motion go back to groups since it's over \$500.

VRSC Secretary made the motion to overruling the chairs ruling. Second - WTA

Pros/cons for overruling chairs decision

Pro: Groups need to be able to give their voice.

Maker of motion says if it needs to go to groups first, that's fine.

All in favor - 4

Opposed - 2

Abstain 1

I was ruled that the motion did NOT pass because didn't pass by 2/3 majority.

Vote was taking to purchase computer.

Yes 3

No 2

Abstain 1

Motion fails.

Comment:

G. If a motion is taken back to Home Groups, the same, or similar, motion should not be resubmitted for six months from the date the motion was originally submitted.

Worth taking time to reconsider and send back to groups....

Read from GTLS about appealing decision of the chair.

Ruling on the motion about repeal was wrong. It's not 2/3 but simple majority

Revoted:

All in favor to send motion back to the groups: unanimous

This motion, #4-3-11-4, goes back to groups for a vote.

Announcements:

Final Treasurer's Report:

(doesn't include any money coming in today.)

16,238.46 - 2 cycles = \$7,239.46 Suggested to ear mark \$600 for lap top which leaves...\$6,539.46

Question - should we save the \$2000 in case the current VRC wants the money now, or send it to WSC.

Treasurer's reply: yes

Attachments:

April2011TreasurersReport.pdf
Service_System_Proposals_Report_March2011.pdf
contactlist.pdf

Review of Day's business

Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/natennessee/> and push the "Join this Group" button

Motion to dissolve activities subcommittee: passed
Motion to raise VRC seed money: passed

Nominations - take back to groups to vote on

VRSC Regional Delegate Alternate: Lucy O
VRSC Secretary: Luke H
VRSC Treasurer: Callie G
VRSC Chair: Craig G
VRSC Alternate Treasurer: Mike R
VRSC Regional Delegate: Pete F
VRSC Policy and Procedure Chair: Melvin S

Motion made to table the motion about VRC going from 5 to 4 days
Motion ruled out of order to do away with subcommittees: Please back groups HRP/work group system

#4-3-11:1 Motion to Discontinue SS project work: RCMs voted NOT to send to groups

#4-3-11-2

Motion about Regional motions counted by groups instead of Areas (similar to how we count CAR votes)
Deferred to P&P

#4-3-11-3

Motion to establish Information and Technology Communication Coordinator Trusted Servant Position
Groups need to vote on this.

#4-3-11-4

Motion to purchase laptop for treasurer functions - maximum \$600
Groups need to vote on this.

Offer ideas in Vice Chair report to your GSRs and ask them WHAT DO THEY WANT REGION TO DO

Motion to close, seconded, passed
In loving service, Lucy