

**Marietta Area Service Committee of NA  
Meeting Minutes  
July 28th, 2019**

**Next Meeting Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 2:00 PM**

**Ridgeview Day Hospital**

P.R. Subcommittee meeting is held @ 1:00 PM

WSR Subcommittee meeting is held @ 1:00 PM

H & I subcommittee meeting is held @ 12:00 PM

Quorum calculated to be 15 groups - Quorum met @ 2:09 PM

The Purpose of the Area was read by Bryan J

The 12 Traditions were read by Michael C

The 12 Concepts were read by Alvin L

Motion to accept June minutes: Alvin L

Motion Seconded: Michael C

Previous month's minutes were moved to acclimation: Jocho B.

Motion seconded:

<u>Group</u>	<u>GSR</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Addicts in the Attic	Asa	XX	
Another Chance	Megan	Present	
Architects of Adversity	Bryan	Present	
Back to the Basics	Jerry	X	
Chosen Frozen	Bradley	X	
Dopeless Hope Fiends	Marco	Present	
Easy Does It	Scott	Present*	
End of the Road	Jan	Present	
Hold On to Hope	Sheila	Present	
It's Never Too Late	Saleem	X	
Just for Sunday	Michael	Present	
Ladies Night	Lyz	Present	
Living the Program	Amanda	Present	
Lost Dreams Awaken	Tim	X	
Mimosa	Geoff	Present	
NA at Noon	Alvin	Present	
A New Way of Life	Laura	Present	
The Rose Group	Marcia	XX	
Serenity on the Square	Myra	Present	
Spiritual Awakenings	Dennis	Present	
Surrender on Sunday	Nick	Present	
Unity Group	Jocho	Present	
Warriors in Recovery	Robert	Present	
We Group	Robert	Present	
We Recover Together	Abigail	Present	

*\*Came in Late, does not count towards total. \*\*First meeting back, does not count towards quorum.*

### Homegroups Removed:

- The following groups will be removed from the Attendance/Quorum list due to two consecutive absences:
  - Addicts in The Addict
  - The Rose Group

### Homegroups Added:

- The following groups will be counted towards Quorum with one more consecutive meeting:
  -

## MASC Admin & Subcommittee Roll Call

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Report</b>
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Katey</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Felix</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Attached</b>
<b>Alt. Treasurer</b>	<b>Richard</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Alt. Secretary</b>	<b>Melissa</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>RCM</b>	<b>Rodney</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>RCMA</b>	<b>Stephen</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Policy Parliamentarian</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Lit Distribution</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Alt. Lit Distribution</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Activities Chair</b>	<b>Christian</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Written</b>
<b>H&amp;I Chair</b>	<b>Julie</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Written</b>
<b>PR Chair</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Written</b>
<b>WSR</b>	<b>Louis</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Written</b>
<b>24hr Room Chair</b>	<b>Joe B.</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Written</b>

- Open Forum: 2:12pm - 2:57pm

**Jocho B:** I'm an addict named Jocho. I know we don't have a literature rep right now, correct?

**Katey G:** Correct.

**Jocho B:** Alright, so, by the end of this meeting will we be able to purchase literature or do we still need to purchase it from NA World?

**Katey G:** So, to my knowledge, somebody was going to make a motion at the end of open forum to go ahead and do those votes now, so if that passes they could get started on getting groups literature if they need it.

**Jocho B:** So we have a supply now?

**Katey G:** We don't have a supply, what happened was last month we did go back to the groups and say that because nobody had run for the position that groups were responsible for ordering their own [literature], but however since we do have someone running, someone came up with the idea that we could probably vote them in earlier and then if someone needed some stuff, since we'd rather groups have basic texts and keytags than not, he could go ahead and fill based on what he has, although he does have a limited supply. He did not order because he was not elected.

**Jocho B:** Yeah, I gotcha. So, best bet, if we need something now, for this month, to be on the safe side, is to go through world?

**Katey G:** Um, well you could see what he has. If he gets voted, if we let, if we approve the motion to change and he gets voted in, you could see if he has it. Right?

**Jocho B:** Okay.

**Megan S:** Megan, addict. Well, wait, were we about to vote on that?

**Katey G:** No, I think the motion has to be made at the end of open forum.

**Megan S:** Okay. My homegroup was wondering if we made a donation to region, and if not, like what are our plans to do so?

**Katey G:** Rodney, do you have something for that?

**Rodney W:** Yeah, well, if your group wants to make a donation to region-

**Megan S:** No, the Marietta Area has not made a donation in a while, and we have quite a high balance, they noticed.

**Rodney W:** Right, I had planned to bring that up at the Area ASC meeting, prior to going to region to get a check for a donation.

**Megan S:** Okay.

**Rodney W:** And that would be next area.

**Megan S:** Okay, so you're going to get a check next area.

**Rodney W:** Yeah. I'm going to ask for it.

**Megan S:** Okay, and just curious, is it a percentage, or how do we decide how much to give?

**Stephen R:** I'm Stephen, I'm an addict. We just decide as an area, because our policy doesn't tell us to make a donation to region and it doesn't even tell us the percentage, if we wanted to-

**Robert B:** There's a formula in there.

**Stephen R:** I'm sorry?

**Robert B:** There's a formula in there.

**Katey G:** Yeah, there's a formula where we take out 3 months of bills, we take 3 months of bills and what upcoming expenses would be and the rest goes back to region, yes, prudent reserve, that's the word I wanted. So what happened was there was a miscommunication with treasury and RCM where nobody knew like to ask for the check or give the check, so nobody gave [Region] the check. You know what I mean?

**Stephen R:** We asked for it.

**Katey G:** Well, if you asked for it, it should have been given to you. So you asked the treasurer for a check and it wasn't given to you? 3 months ago?

**Stephen R:** I asked for it for the last region, he said he would do something about it, and I never got a check.

**Katey G:** Okay, well that's a problem.

**Megan S:** Well, did you officially ask for the money?

**Stephen R:** I asked for it in open forum, and then she asked the treasurer at the time and he was like "Alright, what do I do," and then we moved on.

**Katey G:** Well, that's weird, okay, sorry. Alright, so we dropped the ball. But it will go, next region we will be sending the balance. And we may want to recalculate that since we don't have the phone bills, but we'll figure that out. Thank you.

**Chris B:** I'm Chris, I'm an addict. I'm going to be passing around this form, if you are a

GSR or a GSRA, please find your homegroup on the form and write your email as legibly as possible, because I got a lot of bounce backs on the last minutes, and I wasn't sure if, like I thought more people would be like "I didn't get the minutes," but I just want to make like a, be sure about the directory for the area, so I'm going to pass this around and if you're a GSR or GSRA, write your email and then give it to your GSR/GSRA and have them write their email. That's it, thank you.

**Katey G:** Anybody else? Alright, nothing else for open forum?

**Jan L:** Grateful recovering addict named Jan. Some of you who are on Facebook have seen that I have some issues with some of the stuff involving our convention, so I brought it up at our group conscience and there are several members of my homegroup that have issues as well. So, in that thread the chair of the board of directors volunteered to come to our area and I didn't say "Yes, come," because I don't feel that's up to me, you know, that should be our decision. Now, apparently, he's already decided that he's going to come to our August ASC meeting and claims that he will answer any questions we have, so, I know my homegroup for sure is going to take advantage of that, but you know, anybody who wants to read up on, you know, their report and their by laws et cetera, because like some of the questions that our group has is like "Who are they accountable to?"

**Dennis P:** Nobody.

**Jan L:** They're their own higher power, right, they're their own ultimate authority. And another issue that we have is that I and other members have is like according to their report and what our RCM reported, you know, next year for [GRCNA] 2020 they want to, they want everybody to be registered, and that is not an issue in itself because you know, registration means that we show up. Registration means you're put on a list and you show up, or beforehand you say "Hey, I want to come," and you get proof whether it's a wristband, lanyard, you know, whatever. However, they're also, apart from newcomer packages, enforcing pay, and looking at the board's report which was included in the most recent RSC, they made \$20,000, or almost \$20,000. Their expenses were like \$29,000, their income was \$49,000. So, you know, some of the comments of those people, some of the arguments that were made were like, you know, no addict turned away might be easy for an event where you have a couple hundred people, not when you have a couple thousand. Yet, from their own numbers, 470 people registered for the last convention. By their own count, over 900 people were in the room for the main speaker on Saturday, by their own admission from the clean time countdown there were very few newcomers, so at least several hundred people were there that did not register and subsequently did not pay. So for all practical purposes, May was, the convention this past year was a "no addict turned away" one and yet they still made \$20,000 so... Moreover, we're supposed to do like fundraisers for them, we're supposed to, you know, give them items for the auction for free, all the speakers, whether it's main speakers or workshops do that for free. Right, so, they get a lot of stuff for free from us, so it doesn't feel spiritual and right that everybody that doesn't qualify

as a newcomer and has 30 days, that if somebody shows up and has more than 30 days clean who cannot afford it gets turned away. Especially since in their bylaws it states that their purpose is to carry the message to the addict who still suffers, not the addict who still suffers and can afford it. So, you know, I would... Oh and then they're also going to hire security to enforce that nobody who's not registered comes in, which also feels questionable one [inaudible], two, how is that not surveillance, et cetera et cetera. So, our homegroup has a bunch of questions and I would suggest that you read their report, the RCM report, read the thread and see how they respond. Same thing, occupancy limits, fine, I understand that, fire marshal, you can only allow a certain number of people, that's fine, that's why you have that registration, but that registration doesn't mean anything more than somebody saying "Hey, I want to come," without paying. You force them to pay, so far from their responses is in line with what RCM stated verbally at our previous area, which was that they're going to enforce it and hire security which was because last year people complained about "Why do we have to pay and those people don't?" That sure as shit doesn't sound spiritual to me. That sounds like, "Oh, I need to keep my side of the street clean, you're not, so let me enforce you keeping your side of the street clean," and that's not what I've been taught in this program. You know, I only get to decide about keeping my side of the street clean, I don't get to decide anything about your side of the street. So, yeah, I would suggest that you educate yourself and see if you have questions about it, because it's supposed to be our convention, right? So shouldn't we ultimately get to decide what does and does not happen, or at least have a strong say? So, anyways, that's all I have.

**Katey G:** Thanks Jan. Go ahead Lyz.

**Lyz F:** Susan, do you mind if I go before you? Do you mind if I speak before you, or would you like to go?

**Susan F:** It's irrelevant.

**Lyz F:** Thank you Jan, I'm an addict named Lyz, thank you Jan. I agree with a lot of the points you made and a lot of the points on social media and the going back and forth and I was involved in the committee somewhat when it was at Jekyll Island and I've sat in front of those committees and I felt rubbed the wrong way, I didn't feel the unity in the meeting. I think Rodney and I attended, and it was just very, and Susan kind of like guided me a little bit to let me know what their purpose was and that... They are their own private entity, right, that has put the Narcotics Anonymous name on it right, which is where a lot of these issues stem from. But in the atmosphere of keeping a spirit of recovery after reading and hearing all of the banter and the going back and forth between people all since this happened last area and since it's occurred in previous areas, is that the main thing that this area, this area service committee meeting today, we can do, is we can take it to our RCM and our RCM can bring it up. Regardless of what our facts are, what the program teaches us, right, as to the right and wrongs of the guidelines of what's going on, this convention is going to happen irregardless. You know, people from other areas in the state are going to support it and there's nothing we

can do about it. What we can do about it in the spirit of principles before personalities is have our service, regional service member stand our ground as our area, as long as we agree on that as an area, that we're all in agreement, you know, because there may be some members in here who don't have an issue with the Georgia Region and they're planning on paying and going and they don't see, and that's fine, and I appreciate, I'm going to keep my personal thing out of it, but I appreciate you bringing up all the information because a lot of it is extremely valid. And I know that in the past, especially when I got here as a newcomer, there's people in this room who took me to conventions and I couldn't pay and they didn't pay for me, I just went to the convention and I stayed clean, you know, and that saved my life. But the Georgia Regional Convention is not the only convention that goes on in this state and as this area we can attend other conventions and support those conventions and we can even choose as an area to vote to withdraw any support that we give to the Georgia Region, but there are also members of our area that serve on that committee. And so it's like where do we go, do we support them, do we work with them, do we maybe even join the committee to maybe change the course and bring the knowledge that other members have, our experience of the program and of traditions that other members have because it also saddens me to watch the banter go on, like the right and wrongs, and let's start polls on social media and let's go at each other's throats as to why this is right and why this is wr- Nobody gives a fuck about that, people are out there dying from this disease. You know, this is supposed to be a fun and communal event that we go to and we celebrate our recovery, and it's turned into not that. You know, as an area we need to decide what message are we trying to get behind, the one of our program or the one of our individual personalities. You know, do we care about carrying a message, because we can sit there and say "You're not carrying a message, you're not carrying a message, you're not carrying a message, you're not doing this, you're not following these guidelines or the traditions," but what are we doing to be the example? Are we joining the committee of the Georgia Regional Convention and saying our voice, and are stepping in and saying "Hey guys, I know you've done this for the last 3 years but this isn't in accordance to Narcotics Anonymous," you know, and if we get backlash from that then we have choices, you know. I appreciate you bringing all that up and I've felt very passionate and agreed with a lot of what's gone on, but also with like the recent loss in our area and members of Narcotics Anonymous that happens every year, they don't care about that. People don't care about where you're sending your funds or how you're doing this or who you're accountable to, they care about "I'm going to show up and there'll be somebody there who's stayed clean a day longer than me and can show me how to do it," you know? That's what we're here for, we're not here for all the politics of everything that goes on because of our personalities, you know? Like our primary purpose is to carry a message, so if we, as an area, not just you, you know, like as an area and for our RCM, we feel strongly enough to sit here as GSRs and GSRAs and vote on "Yes, we want our RCM to bring this up at Region," and if there's nothing that

comes of it and if we're not heard then maybe we'll make the decision to not support it and not identify, or to join the committee and change it. I mean, I don't know, I just, that's just something I wanted to say, as much as you providing all the information because I know I couldn't spend all that time doing that, I appreciate you doing that, and it does upset me that there's so many loopholes and gray areas, but we're a bunch of dope fiends, that's what we've done our entire lives. Just because we're clean and we have the steps and the traditions doesn't mean that we get cured and we're perfect, we still do dope fiend actions, you know what I mean, like unfortunately. The one thing I will say that should be brought up is the fact that a newcomer that has 30 days or less, or whatever, has 30 days or more would be turned away, you know. But that's not necessarily to say that there's not another meeting that another member of Narcotics Anonymous in this state could take them to that night, or other conventions that they could go to. I just wanted to say that kind of like in support of and to our area, like we need to make a decision if this is something we feel so passionately and strongly about, maybe we should take a vote on it, maybe we should have our RCM go and bring back the information, maybe we should join the committee, and if those are some solutions collectively that we could do and put principles before personalities and do in a spiritual manner to help come to a solution instead of going back and forth with other people who feel strongly, you know what I mean? We're not getting anywhere, doing that, we're going round and round and round, and the convention's going to happen anyway. So thank you, and thank you guys.

**Katey G:** Thanks, Lyz.

**Susan F:** I'm an addict named Susan. Thank you to everybody who shared before me, I've had and I'm going to use the word privilege of serving at GRCNA and I kept up my commitments up until last year when I had to resign because of my health, and I've held many positions at that level. What's happening is there's a handful of people putting on this convention and if each GSR would come one time and give them feedback, we, and I say "we," but I'm not on the committee this year, I will help in October, I've served in several different positions, so there's hospitality and some hotels let us give the newcomers meals. I worked registration and my friend Ben paid with his own money for 200 newcomers to come to the convention and he's done it every year, 200 packets are given to the newcomer with every privilege of the person who pays the full shot. For me and my sponsorship family, we were taught that this is a privilege to go to conventions, I tell you, the convention is February 20-23, and if you save a couple dollars every week or choose to come the second Saturday of every month and be a part of, it can be everything you want it to be. And there'll be more voices and more opinions and it'll be a better convention, so I would go back to the homegroups and ask for one representative from each homegroup to attend the next GRCNA meeting, which is the second Saturday, and the meetings travel around so people can come from areas all over, we don't just meet in Forsyth. The person who's chair this year is a woman and she's served maybe 4 years consecutively, nobody gets a paycheck, the hotel costs are very



extreme and so when you register early it helps for the hotel costs. There are several hidden factors even to hang the banners on the wall, it's extra money, and the committee will come as Jan's said, there's willingness to come and share but this is the first time I'm hearing that they're going to come in August, and I appreciate that. Anytime that you can give up from yourself is giving back to the fellowship at large, so I would encourage if you have any questions, and Jan had many valid points and so did Lyz, but Ben continues to give the 200 packets, and so on the sheet when you register there's a sign that says "donation for the newcomer," and you can, I put \$5 down every year, and if you all did that there would be more packets for the newcomers. I have, when working registration we have never turned a newcomer away who has chosen to come to the convention, and if one of you has had that happen to you come see me after this meeting and let me make sure that it doesn't happen again. But I have enjoyed my service, but there are lots of personalities like Lyz said, and you're either in it or you're out of it. You can't just come and listen, you have to participate, and they demand a certain amount of, you know, if you say you're going to do the work then you have to show up, it's not like you have an alternate, and if you do have an alternate, you're lucky. So they're working with a handful of people, I think there are several positions still open so I would encourage that you at least come to the next August service committee meeting here and hear what he or she has to say, I don't know who they're sending. But I've enjoyed my experience, as much as I've complained, I've equally enjoyed my experience.

**Katey G:** I think Robert said he was coming.

**Susan F:** Robert Lucky is coming, he's been of service, continuous service on the Georgia Regional Convention the whole time he's been clean, and so have his sponsees, so there are certain people that just keep giving back at different levels, so you pick. You want to do H&I, do H&I. You want to do Hospitals and Institutions, there's a lot of reward to that. Again, there's no, I want to say there are strong personalities at GRCNA, but none that made me feel like I needed to walk out of the door. Anyway, thank you.

**Katey G:** Thanks Susan. Go ahead Stephen.

**Stephen R:** So I just wanted to kind of address the, I kind of wrote down the point that you made Jan, and you were asking about who the board is accountable to and just in like reading all the different things, it just sounds like the board of directors is, because you know, GRCNA, Inc., they're incorporated, and they had to do that so they could get a business license so they could, you know run the committee, and in multiple things I've read it sounds like the board of directors is accountable to the region, like I see that a few times, not like explicitly stated but it is alluded to, that they are accountable to the region or the Regional Service body, so, I don't know if that answered your question or not, I just wanted to...

**Jan L:** Well, I mean, not really, right? Because from their reports, like they make decisions to have, you know, registration be enforced with no exceptions, you know,

you have to pay.

**Stephen R:** Right, but the board is comprised of members who are also on the Convention Planning Panel.

**Jan L:** Not necessarily.

**Stephen R:** Not necessarily, some of the people who are on the board are no longer on that panel, I saw that as well, but a lot of those people are still on the panel as well, so it just sounds like it still just came from the convention planning... CPP, fuck words, let's just use letters.

**Jan L:** Right, but so, still, that's like the lowest level right? Homegroup, area, region, CPP.

**Stephen R:** Right, so the CPP is accountable to the Region, the Region is accountable to Areas, right.

**Jan L:** Let me put it this way, let's say our area puts forth a motion that goes to Region, you know for all areas to vote on, that our regional convention should be a "no addict turned away" convention and that passes.

**Stephen R:** Well I don't think they're trying to turn people away, they want people to show up, they're not-

**Jan L:** No, my question is, if that passes, like is that enforceable, like can the Board still say... Because in the past several years I've had, I've either saw somebody else ask somebody that was on the panel, like approach them with a question like "Hey, why did you guys do this," or "Why didn't you guys do this," and I went on one occasion one time myself posed that question, and on multiple occasions the answer from the, and it was not the same person, but on those occasions was "Well, we wanted to do that," or "We didn't want to do that, but the board decided." So that also, you know, raises a question.

**Robert B:** Okay, so we elect people based on their credentials and say "Hey, we think you could be the chair of area," and we give them to some extent, we give them some authority to make some decisions, right, that's in our concepts. But one of the things I think I heard you talk about was maybe like the size and enforcing a fire law, so maybe they're trying to like say "Alright we know we're going to have 200 people, and we know we're going to have these other people there," you know, but we can only have a certain amount or number of people and we've got to do what we have to do with regards to that, because if not, then we're not in compliance with the Georgia laws. Maybe that's what's going on, because I've been there before, and that venue? It's small. It is a very small place, and I've heard "Well, why didn't we choose another location," well, maybe if they had some other people there helping them, then maybe they would have chosen another location, but they just did what they knew they already had, and now that it's already kind of set in stone, and they've got to do what they've got to do to enforce the fire code which is a law. Okay, so maybe that's what they're trying to do, maybe they're trying to say we can only have so many people, they know that they've got this number, we gave out 200 newcomer packets, we know that we have, I'll just say 800 more registrations that we can give out, and then we're at capacity so if we have anybody

over that then we're violating the law.

**Jan L:** We understand the capacity limits, and we have no problem with that. We have a problem with making everybody register and we have a problem with the fact that in order to register, you have to pay. That's what we have a problem- we understand that there's a limit that they have to...

**Lyz F:** No, in order to attend the convention you have to pay. Not register, in order to attend the convention at all you have to give money.

**Jan L:** Correct. We have no problem with people having to register, and say "Hey, I want to come," and we don't have a problem with only people that have registered being allowed in, but we have a problem with the fact that to register, you have to pay. That's what we have a problem with. I agree that we elect people and you know, we give them certain, you know we trust them, except that board gets to elect 9 of the 12 people themselves. So we don't elect all of them.

**Katey G:** Thank you Jan, alright anything- oh hey Matt.

**Matt M:** Matt, I'm a recovering addict. I know one of the issues when I brought this back to our homegroup last week, a lot of people had issues with the concept of like paid security, and that's something that people were definitely the most passionate about. It is, you know it implies that people are going to be forcibly removed if they don't follow it, so what is that going to look like? There's also the issue of like expenses, that means we're paying for security, and also I mean, I have a little bit of a problem with the language around the newcomer. When I had 30 days clean, my life was nowhere near to like 90 days and my life was nowhere near nice and I still considered myself a fresh newcomer, you know, and I've actually been to a convention where someone who had, you know, 55, like 60 days, still a newcomer, couldn't afford to go to the convention, and you know what it did? It encouraged him to lie and that's what he did and that's how he got in. So it encouraged him to say "Yeah, I have 30 days or less," so you're encouraging newcomers who may not have worked the steps and may not have a lot of the principles behind honesty and themselves to go in and say "What's 15 or 20 days," you know, let me just lie so I can get in because I'm an addict and I need some help. I think just overall, it may not send the best message to people that need to be there and there are a lot of people that need to be there, but that's what I got.

**Katey G:** Thanks Matt.

**Stephen R:** I'm Stephen, I'm an addict. Let's not forget, conventions are great, but at the end of the day they are a luxury, our literature says that a meeting is the vehicle for the message at the end of the day so those are, even in the hierarchy that you talked about, that a meeting is more important than a convention. And if a newcomer cannot afford to go to a convention, then somebody I think said earlier that somebody needs to help them get to a meeting, because that's where they're going to hear the message anyway. It's a luxury, it's an event at the end of the day. So let's just, I would like to offer that as a perspective, let's try to keep perspective on that, that a convention is a luxury that, you know, it's not a right, it's a privilege, you know? Like, remember that.

**Matt M:** But they're also using the NA name, so it also has to practice the traditions of NA.

**Stephen R:** Absolutely, and one of those traditions is self-support, self-sufficiency and all that.

**Matt M:** Right, but we're hiring external security for the convention.

[Inaudible back and forth]

**Katey G:** Guys, come on. Go ahead Rodney.

**Rodney W:** I'm an addict, name's Rodney. So, I mean there's a lot to be talked about this, I'm not really going to go into a whole bunch of it, I do know that I called Robert L to invite him to come in August and he said that he would, I tried to get him to come to this one but he wasn't available to, but he'll be here in August. So what I do want to say is that the money that is raised for these conventions is not 7th tradition, they don't take up a 7th tradition offering like we do in a meeting, they have fundraisers and they have registration and they have an auction, and that's the only way that they raise the money for conventions. So, you're not putting any money, if you're not putting any money toward it, then, like for the fundraiser or the registration or the auction, then you're not any money towards it. I don't know, for me, I put money in for the 7th tradition to carry the message, you know, and I support the Georgia Region by registering for the convention because I have clean time and I've never went to a convention that I didn't pay for, and like Stephen says, if there is somebody that has over 30 days that can't afford to go to a convention, the 12th Tradition and the 12th step tell us that we should help that person try to get in that convention. That's just what we're supposed to do here, we're supposed to help each other, so that's all I really want to say, there's probably some other stuff that I need to say and I want to say a lot more, but that's all I have.

**Katey G:** Thanks Rodney. Alright, anything else for open forum?

**Abigail F:** I'm Abigail, I'm an addict. I just wanted to see if we could suspend the order of the day so that we could go ahead and do the elections now so homegroups can get their lit?

**Katey G:** Okay, does everybody understand the intent behind that? Anything to say? Do you guys want to go ahead and vote? Okay. Lit, lit, could you leave for a minute so we could do the election? Is the person running for alt here, did I see him? So then can we elect him when he's not here? Yes? Maybe?

**Lyz F:** I mean, it's already been voted on by the groups.

**Katey G:** Is it in policy?

**Lyz F:** The groups already voted, he has to be here to be elected.

**Katey G:** It might be in the original.

**Melissa P:** I don't know, in the policy it says that you have to have a written excuse if you're not here to get nominated, I don't know if it's the same-

**Katey G:** Right, but not to get voted in, right?

**Lyz F:** The vote's already gone back to the groups and come back, so whether he's

here or not, we would still have a vote.

**Katey G:** Okay, just want to check so I don't do anything wrong. Just like to check. So it says in our policy during nominations and elections unless a reasonable excuse is provided in writing, so actually, that would be an election. So does anybody, I mean I don't know if he gave Marco a written excuse or if anybody knows, so can anybody ask Marco real quick?

**Felix L:** What's that?

**Katey G:** If he got a written excuse as to why he wasn't here.

**Scott L:** Yeah, he didn't have Marco's phone number so he reached out to me and he had a family emergency, he feels really bad, and is definitely still willing to fill the position, today was just an unusual circumstance for the family.

**Stephen R:** Excuse me, our policy says a written excuse that he did not submit, we cannot vote on this.

**Katey G:** Correct.

**Stephen R:** Let's keep it moving.

**Katey G:** Okay.

**Lyz F:** We just suspended the rules of the day though.

**Robert B:** No, it was supposed to be suspending the order, not the rules. The order, not the rules. This can't be voted on.

**Katey G:** Okay. Alright, I guess we can go ahead and vote on lit and not alt-lit.

**Robert B:** Yeah, it would be a vote to suspend the order of the day.

**Katey G:** Okay, so let's go ahead and vote to suspend the order of the day. Alright, all in favor. Alright, all against? All abstentions?

**Motion to Suspend the Order of the Day:** Abigail F.

**Second:** Megan

**Vote:** 15/0/1

**Katey G:** Alright, I guess we will be suspending the order of the day and going ahead and suspending the lit chair position, which is Marco, so that all should have gone back to homegroups, and hopefully your group voted on it. Alright, so all in favor of Marco as lit chair.

**Chris B:** Wait, isn't it blind?

**Katey G:** Oh shit, that's right. Alright, so we've got to come up with papers and pass those out real quick, so give us a minute. Yes Robert?

**Robert B:** I was still raising my hand.

(See Elections for results)

**Katey G:** I need 19. Did any other GSRs show up besides the one who told us they were here after roll call?

**Megan S:** Scott's here.

**Katey G:** Alright, so I need 20. Alright Matt's going to hand out slips to all the GSRs, if you're not a GSR and he gives you a slip, let him know. Alright everybody write Y, N or A and pass them back up when you're done. Yes, Robert?

**Robert B:** I got a question, why does he have to leave the room when we're writing on pieces of paper?

**Katey G:** I don't know. Well, then the groups don't know how the other groups voted, I guess. Robert, you can tell him he can come back in, I don't know, I was just following traditions. Is it in policy that he needs to be out there?

**Stephen R:** Unfortunately, I think it is. I really think it is. Because I asked this last time and I read that it was in policy.

**Katey G:** Oh, Robert, nevermind I think it's in policy.

**Chris B:** It's not.

**Katey G:** He says it's not. It's not in policy. This is why I need a policy chair, be policy chair.

**Chris B:** "When voting occurs, candidates leave the room." I lied.

**Katey G:** So it is in policy, gosh you guys are killing me.

**Dennis P:** Yeah, but does it say anything where we hand write votes in secret?

**Katey G:** It says a secret ballot.

**Dennis P:** It doesn't imply that.

**Clint G:** What's a secret ballot?

**Katey G:** Did everybody vote?

**Matt M:** Did any GSRs/GSRAs not vote? Okay.

**Katey G:** So would we vote for alt-lit next month when he comes back?

**Megan S:** Yes.

**Katey G:** So it's just tabled. Okay.

**Stephen R:** So it is in policy, to leave the room.

**Katey G:** So that means if any groups have literature requests you can now officially forward them to lit, and if they have the stuff, they will try their best to meet your needs. We are very low.

**Stephen R:** James has something regarding lit back there. James, what do you got?

**James M:** Just so you guys know, we are out of white key tags at this point, white, orange and green will be difficult, they're all on back order so just bear with us.

**Katey G:** You can order them yourselves. Not [James], the groups. So, can I just ask real quick, so typically lit orders based on the money that they made in that area, obviously they're not going to make close to what they need to order financially, so how do we do that? Do we have to put a vote out to get them, because it's going to be over \$300, correct?

**Jan L:** No, because they didn't use last month's.

**Katey G:** They didn't use last month's. Okay, so that would be last and this, okay I just wanted to make sure. Does anybody want to make a motion to un-suspend the rules? Do we vote on that, do we vote to un-suspend the order?

**Motion to Restore the Order of the Day:** Lyz F

**Second:** Robert

**Vote:** 15/0/0

**Katey G:** Alright, we are back in business, moving on to subcommittee reports, I will start with the treasurer.

- Subcommittee Reports: 2:57pm - 3:31pm
  - Treasurer's Report - Felix L:
    - N/A
  - Literature Report - Marco J:
    - N/A
  - RCM Report - Rodney W:
    - Report attached
  - Activities Report - Christian J:
    - 7 members in attendance
    - We did not have an activity last month
    - We discussed the following upcoming activities:
      - Tubing on August 17th. Requesting \$100 for newcomer fees.
      - Hiking on September 7th @ Sweetwater Creek
      - Fall Campout on October 11-13th @ Red Top Mountain
      - Requesting \$300 for fall campout T-shirt money
    - Next meeting will be on August 14th @ Starbucks on Paces Ferry and Cumberland Blvd.
  - H&I Report - Julie N:
    - Report Attached
  - PR Report - Chris E:
    - 4 members in attendance.
    - **Comments/Concerns**
      - Changes to policy - Adding reading 12 concepts
      - Texts from homegroup to Cobb County
      - Presentation at Cobb County
      - Submission to homegroups to approve checks to region
      - Went over PR region pride and black gay pride
    - **New Business**
      - Schedule distribution (none allotted for H&I/Ridgeview; 60/80 per month); Currently 500 meeting schedules/month (need to go to probation offices in policy)

- Budget and schedule costs
- Libraries for schedules
- Keeping leftover schedules for?
- **Old Business**
  - Libraries list for region
  - Textbooks to Cobb County
  - Phone line volunteers - 1 oriented/orientation packets
  - North Georgia Fair/community involvement; 9/12-9/22 (East End)
  - Gwinnett County Fair
  - Fair information to Chris
- **Task Assignment**
  - Textchan or whatsapp/groupme - contact
  - Exact amount to print more schedules at 700
  - Budget (to include learning days)
  - Policy change to reflect survey results
  - 12 step call list volunteers for grap (5 years clean time)
  - 12 step call list to homegroups (has clean time changed) not just giving rides, calls back from members
  - Learning day
  - Policy - redo phone lines, policy a little at a time.
  - Redo attendance 1st and minutes (box size/more lines)
  - Encourage groups to share ideas about possible PR tasks
  - If involved with PR get oriented with H&I
- **WSR Report - Louis B:**
  - Meeting opened with serenity prayer and the 12 traditions of NA
  - Attendance, Courtney M and Louis B
  - Last month minutes read and accepted
  - Postal Facilitator read and accepted
  - We received a total of 25 letters this month and ordered 7 step working guides for a total of \$105.00
  - Nothing discussed in open forum
  - No new business
  - Open positions: Co-Chair; Assistant coordinating secretary
  - Meeting closed with serenity prayer
- **24 Hour Room Report - Joe B:**
  - 15 members in attendance (West Georgia Area Activities Chair in attendance)
  - Next event will be Marietta Area vs. West Georgia Area Kickball



Game at Rhyne Park (4145 King Springs Rd. SE, Smyrna, GA 30082

- Next meeting August 17th @ 4:30 at Surrender on Sunday

- Old Business:

- **Motion 6-2:** To change policy around the timing of the annual GSR workshop. Specifically, the change should recommend that the workshop facilitator hold the workshop before, after or outside the room during area meeting. Attendance by incoming GSRs should be optional but strongly recommended. Amend Article 9 - Miscellaneous Items - Page 22 with the addendum: "This GSR orientation workshop should be conducted before area, after area, or outside the main room at area. Attendance by incoming GSRs should be optional but strongly recommended."
  - **Maker:** Melissa P, GSR Just for Sunday
  - **2nd:** Bailey C, GSR Mimosa
  - **Intent:** To foster a better learning environment for new GSRs, free of distractions. Meanwhile, area business can proceed efficiently.
  - **Vote:** 6/2/6

- Elections:

- **Literature Distribution:** Marco J. **Elected**
- **Alternate Literature Distribution:** Matthew Z. **Tabled**

- New Business:

- **Motion 7-1:** Amend Article 4, Section C of policy to add: "...however, if a trusted servant position remains open for at least two months, a candidate to fill that position may be elected or defeated by an immediate vote of the GSRs of the ASC, unless any of the position's qualifications was waived."
  - **Maker:** Jan L., GSR End of the Road
  - **Second:** Scott L., GSR Easy Does It
  - **Intent:** To ensure group consciences get to evaluate waiving a qualification.
  - **PRO:**
    - **Stephen R:** It inspires unity because it sends it back to groups and gets the groups a chance to talk about it, because I know as a member when we had that motion go back to vote on that person I didn't particularly want to vote "yes" for someone who doesn't have the clean time for a position that involves handling money, so I think it promotes

unity by allowing it to go back to groups and letting some other members decide rather than just GSRs who may have the best intent but may not always be informed of what's going on with other members of their group.

- **Jan L:** We, as a body, might be rushed to waive the qualifications to fill the position just because we don't want to suffer the consequences of not having a position filled. To have it go back to groups ensures that we take a step back and objectively look at that, because in this moment we might be prone to waiving something you know, for the result it gets us, where that might not be the spiritual or right thing to do.
- **Matt M:** I think it's important to consider too what is being waived, like if it's clean time, that's one thing, that's fairly serious, that should go back to groups, if it's, say lit chair and they meet the clean time requirements, meet all the other requirements but they haven't done alt-lit, I think that's clearly small and that could be waived but it's important to consider what's being waived.

- **CON:**

- **Lyz F:** It would take longer to send it back to groups and it would take longer to get somebody into the position than if we just voted on it here.

- Trusted Servant Nominations:

- **Literature Distribution Alternate: Matthew Z.**

- Service Resume:

- Clean date: September 1, 2018
- Homegroup: Easy Does It (July 2017-Now)
- I have a sponsor
- Homegroup Chair on Sunday Night 7-8 for a year

- Group Announcements and Celebrations:

- **Architects of Adversity** - Lyz F. – 5 yrs on 8/16; Architects of Adversity celebrates 36 years as a homegroup 8/24/19. Celebration is 2 – 6 pm at 760 Hurt Road Smyrna, GA.
- **End of the Road** - Clint G. – 4 yrs on 8/30; Katrina D. – 5 yrs on 8/30; Carrie A. – 20 yrs on 8/30

- **Hold on to Hope** - Added a meeting on Thursday nights at the same time and location with the same meeting format as the Monday night meeting.
- **Just for Sunday** - James L. – 25 yrs on 8/11; Richard L. – 25 years on 8/25
- **Ladies Night** - Meeting needs support
- **Living the Program** - Amanda – 4 yrs on 9/26
- **Serenity on the Square** - Mark F. – 32 yrs on 8/21
- **Mimosa** - Ken L. - 11 yrs on 7/28

**Motion to Close:** Jan L.

**Seconded by:** Megan S.

Motion to acclamation: Abigail F.

Second: Megan S.

Closed at 3:47 pm

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:**

**Sunday, August 25th at 2:00PM**

## **BACK TO GROUPS**

### **Elections to be voted on in the August ASC Meeting:**

- **Alternate Literature Distribution - Matthew Z. (See page 17 for resume)**

### **Motions to be voted on in the August ASC Meeting:**

- **Motion 7-1:** Amend Article 4, Section C of policy to add: "...however, if a trusted servant position remains open for at least two months, a candidate to fill that position may be elected or defeated by an immediate vote of the GSRs of the ASC, unless any of the position's qualifications was waived."
  - **Maker:** Jan L., GSR End of the Road
  - **Second:** Scott L., GSR Easy Does It
  - **Intent:** To ensure group consciences get to evaluate waiving a qualification.

## **Available Area Trusted Servant Positions:**

- **No Nominations for Following Positions:**

- Vice-Chair
- Policy Parliamentarian

Refer to MASCNA Policy for cleantime/service requirements and duties for each position. Policy can be found at [MariettaNA.org](http://MariettaNA.org)