

**Marietta Area Service Committee of NA
Meeting Minutes
October 27th, 2019**

Next Meeting Sunday, November 24th, 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 12 groups - Quorum met @ 2:13 PM

The Purpose of the Area was read by Robert B.

The 12 Traditions were read by Sheila G.

The 12 Concepts were read by Megan S.

Motion to accept September minutes: Tim T.

Motion Seconded: Michael C.

Previous month's minutes were moved to acclimation: Tim T.

Motion seconded: Megan S.

Group	GSR	Attendance	Comments
Addicts in the Attic	Asa	Present	
Another Chance	Megan	Present	
Architects of Adversity	Bryan	Present	
Back to the Basics	Jerry	Present	
Dopeless Hope Fiends	Max	X	
Easy Does It	Scott	Present	
End of the Road	Jan	Present	
Fifth Tradition Group	Brett	Present	Gains voting privileges
Hold On to Hope	Sheila	Present	
Just for Sunday	Michael	Present	
Living the Program	Presad	Present	
Lost Dreams Awaken	Rebecca	Present	
Mimosa	Tim	Present	
NA at Noon	Alvin	Present	
A New Way of Life	Laura	Present	
The Rose Group	Marcia	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:
 - Serenity on the Square

Homegroups Added:

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

MASC Admin & Subcommittee Roll Call

Position	Name	Attendance	Report
Chair	Katey	Present	N/A
Vice Chair	Vacant	N/A	N/A
Treasurer	Felix	Absent	
Alt. Treasurer	Richard	Present	N/A

Secretary	Chris	Present	N/A
Alt. Secretary	Melissa	Absent w/ Notice	N/A
RCM	Rodney	Present	N/A
RCMA	Stephen	Present	N/A
Policy Parliamentarian	Vacant	N/A	N/A
Lit Distribution	Marco	Present	N/A
Alt. Lit Distribution	Matthew	Present	N/A
Activities Chair	Christian	Present	Written
H&I Chair	Julie	Present	Attached
PR Chair	Chris	Present	Attached
WSR	Louis	Present	Written
24hr Room Chair	Megan	Present	Written

- Open Forum: 2:15pm - 2:37pm

Jan L: Grateful recovering addict named Jan. Just this thing about like if somebody is here, like Marco representing his home group, I totally hear wanting him to be allowed to make motions because he's fulfilling another position, but he can still make a motion as lit, but he couldn't second a motion. But I definitely feel like he shouldn't count towards quorum but I don't know if it should count as an absence with regards to his [homegroup's] voting rights. So my question, well we don't have a policy parliamentarian, but is that in policy? Or is that just something that we do, and if it's just something that we do, should we just change it?

Katey G: Does anybody have any experience?

Jan L: Or should we put it in policy that as long as somebody is here to represent the group, it doesn't count as an absence. We don't have to like do that right now, but-

Katey G: Chris is already looking, so.

Jan L: Okay, well if he comes back with something we can move forward from there.

Katey G: Okay. Well, does anybody have any past experience or has done policy who might know?

Tim T: I'm an addict, problem's Tim. In the past, the way it was written, and I don't know if it's changed in the last year, but him being lit chair, he can make a motion, but he can't count as quorum for his homegroup and he cannot make a vote for his homegroup, and that's the way it was always written because like the area chair, you can't be a chair and a GSR at the same time.

Jan L: That's totally fine, but my question, my thing is should it count as an absence because in the case of like Matthew, I mean Richard, you know, Serenity [on the Square] now forfeits their voting rights because they're considered absent even though they have somebody here, he can't represent them even though forfeiting counting towards quorum, not being able to second a motion.

Robert B: Does he represent them? Was he elected their GSR?

Jan L: No, but that's not our concern.

Robert B: Well, how can he carry a group's conscience when they haven't even told him that they want him to. So you can just come in here and say whatever you want.

Jan L: First off, how do you know I'm GSR?

Tim T: Because you claim to be.

Jan L: Right. Why in absence of someone, and we regularly send somebody as a homegroup that's not the GSR, when the GSR is inconvenienced.

Robert B: But your group told them to come here with their conscience, not act as treasurer and fill in for them.

Jan L: Right, but who says that's not the case for Richard?

Katey G: Richard did you group ask you to come here and stand in for the GSR and carry the group conscience or are you just doing it because you're here and you're a homegroup member.

Richard G: Yeah, no, they didn't ask me to carry the group conscience.

Katey G: Okay, so you just happened to be here and say like "Hey, I'm here if I'm needed."

Richard G: Right.

Megan S: Does your homegroup have a GSR?

Richard G: We do, last month they were stuck in the hospital, but this month, I don't know, I just sent her a message.

Jan L: Because I know like, I don't know somewhere in the last 6 months Joe represented his homegroup, no, I'm just saying, Joe represented Surrender on Sunday while being the chair of the 24 Hour Room.

Megan S: He was the GSRA, and he said that he'd been assigned the position of GSRA.

Katey G: A homegroup can send any member to represent them. I mean ideally,-

Tim T: As long as they're carrying the group conscience.

Katey G: Right, as long as they're carrying the group conscience, but it sounds like the problem is the double position thing, like if you're already here for a position, so is there anything in policy?

Chris B: It says "Groups may send any member to represent them in lieu of the GSR or GSRA, and they will be treated as a GSRA for that specific business meeting."

(MASCNA Policy - Article 6, Section C)

Katey G: Now if the group didn't send them, wording wise. So there's nothing in policy that actually says you can't...

Robert B: So I guess I can just show up here and say "Where's the recovery," and if nobody in their group, if whoever they elected doesn't show up, I can just come in here and say whatever I want. I think that's why that's in policy.

Katey G: Right, but it doesn't say anything about, all it says is a group can send any homegroup member, but what we're talking about is the overlap of positions, and

there's nothing in policy that directly speaks to that, that we can find.

Tim T: There can't be overlapping positions. Unless they deleted it out of there, it's in there.

Jan L: No, yeah he can't, his role as lit chair prevents him from seconding a motion.

Katey G: I understand what you're saying, but my thought would be that if someone is directly sent as a group representative, but he wasn't sent as a group representative, he just happened to be here, so I don't know...

Jan L: So does that mean we have to ask him?

Robert B: Yep, they asked him. He just said that, that basically he showed up to be the treasurer, and since nobody showed up for the group, he just decided to fill in. If my homegroup didn't show up and I was the treasurer I wouldn't say that I represent them.

Jan L: I'm asking a general question, not specifically this scenario.

Robert B: Is he going to take notes and take everything that was said here back to his group? And are we going to send him the minutes?

Jan L: Again, I'm not asking only about this particular scenario. I was the lit chair 2 years ago, and I was asked at some point one month to represent my group as the GSR-

Robert B: And you just said that you were asked to represent them, he wasn't.

Jocho B: I'm an addict named Jocho. What does it mean, by your theory just because he is the alternate treasurer, they would never have a second GSR and they would always have voting privileges because the group would always know that he was going to be here as alternate treasurer.

Katey G: I mean, at the end of the day the group did not ask anybody to come to area and represent them, therefore they decided that they didn't care that they wouldn't have a vote.

Jan L: Again, that's this specific scenario. I'm asking a general question.

Katey G: Okay, well, I guess a make a motion to put in policy that if any person from a homegroup is there to represent the homegroup, they can and see if that passes, right? I mean isn't that what you're asking, that if a member of a homegroup is there it counts as attendance, even if the group didn't ask them to come right?

Jan L: No, my question is if somebody is attending and says they're representing the group even though they're not officially the GSR, it sounds like, in that scenario, my group would be punished because they're asking me who has a position to represent them. Again, I'm talking about the general situation, not this specific one.

Richard G: [inaudible]

Katey G: So it's right here in policy, "Any member of the Administrative Subcommittee may not also serve as GSR or GSRA of any group represented as MASC." (**MASCNA Policy - Article 3, Section A, Subsection 1b**) so there it is. If you're not here then you're not here.

Jan L: So we did it wrong then, when Joe represented his group.

Katey G: But Joe's group asked him to come didn't they?

Jan L: Doesn't matter, if it's policy, doesn't matter what my homegroup asks.

Stephen R: This matter would have been solved 15 minutes ago if we'd have had a policy parliamentarian, so if you want to help, get involved in service, that's my bit, thank you.

Katey G: Alright, anything else for open forum? Do me a favor and say it now instead of later.

Robert B: I don't want to stir the pot, but I just want to ask because I heard you say that if he wanted to just make a motion, he could just make a motion-

Katey G: Yeah, I mean, I meant after he took it back to his group and made sure that that's something that they wanted to do.

Robert B: Okay, I just wanted to make sure, because that sounded like a concern that Jan had, and that's something that I feel like happens a lot, and I just wanted to bring that to the forefront. People come in here and they say "Well, I want to make a motion," and somebody just says alright and they don't really think about what the group conscience says and they get up there and sign off.

Katey G: Thank you for clarifying.

Richard G: So, let's say next month comes and the GSR's not here, whether I'm in this position or not, if anybody else were to come they should say they're representing the group if they're just coming on their own accord and weren't formally asked by the group conscience?

Katey G: Yeah, because I could come on Friday and be like "Hey I'm in your homegroup now," and then on Sunday be like "Hey, I represent that group," while never attending group conscience. At the end of the day, you know what I mean?

Rodney W: So I got concerns about the topic that's going to be voted on today and I talked about it with my homegroup and the PDF of the topic was not in the minutes so I really want to know, actually my homegroup wants to know what the purpose, to vote on it and make this an addendum to policy, what is the purpose of that?

Katey G: It was in our minutes, you didn't get it?

Rodney W: Not the purpose.

Katey G: Oh, you mean the description.

Rodney W: Yeah. Well, actually the PDF of the topic was not there.

Robert B: It was in mine.

Rodney W: Could somebody clarify on what the purpose of that motion was?

Chris B: Did you see the motion?

Rodney W: Yeah, I got the motion, I just wanted somebody to clarify the purpose.

Chris B: The intent was "to provide an additional resource to groups in the Marietta Area to aid in increasing accessibility for members with additional needs."

Rodney W: That's the intent, what's the purpose?

Chris B: Are they different?

Rodney W: Because an addendum would affect the service structure of the area, so how does that impact the service structure of the area.

Dennis P: My group also had some reservations about this motion, and we weren't sure that this should affect a group's autonomy and that this was a matter that would affect NA as a whole, which is why we didn't vote to adopt it as part of our policy. Most of the areas that adopted this, the Carolinas and Florida, adopted it at a regional level to where all the homegroups and areas had access to it and people to get in touch with through that resource so that if someone came into a homegroup with a sight problem or hearing problem, and was having a hard time getting the message, we could help [inaudible]. Am I not right Jocho?

Jocho B: Well you're right that the Carolinas and Floridas took it to their region. But see I had a hand in this and so I wanted to bring it to this area, and you're right, the groups don't have to abide by any of the policies, it's just going to be here so in the Marietta Area it will be here as something in place to use, that's all it's for, the groups don't have to adopt this, they're autonomous, it's just that there's that piece of information available for them to use.

Stephen R: I'm Stephen, I'm an addict. My homegroup was also very confused about why we wanted to add this to our policy, and we also found an IP that says almost everything that's in that addendum, so if a group wanted that information, why couldn't they just use that?

Jocho B: Because the IP is out of date, it is not exact, so there was an additional needs packet that was put out and it was at the World level, the World has taken it down, you cannot get it and it was completely out of date. These guidelines are more specific to the blind and visually impaired and the hearing impaired, and that IP does not explain like these guidelines.

Rodney W: Is the additional needs portion of what this addendum going to be, is it, is approved by World or, where is it coming from?

Jocho B: It was said in the last meeting and it's in the minutes, it comes from the Southeast Zonal Forum PR Additional Needs Work Group, which I am a part of. And since that entity does not make any policy or any guidelines themselves, that's why it had to be adopted at the South Florida region, because our chairperson, she is the chair of the South Florida region, so that's why it went that direction. And it has been brought up here potentially to be a part of a PR presentation in December for the region. Me and the chair will be doing it.

Dennis P: I'm an addict, my name's Dennis. When it comes up, our homegroup is going to table it because we believe it was really out of order last month, in the context of it doesn't really apply for us groups to be able to make a decision on it and we feel we should let it go to the Region and let the region make a decision on it to let it serve at the regional level.

Jocho B: So you don't think it should serve at the area level?

Dennis P: I think in terms of access we can't make a decision on it at the area level. Because if you try to do it in a homegroup, we're going to have to re-write policy to do that, and we won't have to do that if we let be voted on at a regional level and it'll come

down as part of the umbrella, or not. You'll get to take it or use which is in the context of a homegroup ability to do whatever they want to do.

Jocho B: So any policy or any addendum that comes down, it has to be voted on at the regional level for the areas to accept it?

Katey G: Hold on, Robert, your hand was up, did you have something?

Robert B: Go ahead.

Katey G: Alright, Stephen?

Stephen R: So I'd think we would want to let it be decided at the regional level because the intent is to provide greater access and get it approved at the region right? Most groups aren't going to refer to an area policy to figure out what to do, they're going to ask- no, most groups are going to go to the IPs, they go to the World level, they try to get their information from there, because I wouldn't think to look at Area policy to see about what to do in my homegroup.

Jocho B: I wouldn't look at it to see what do we do, I would look at the Southeast Forum and say what are supposed to do.

Stephen R: Right, but allowing it to go through the region would increase the spread, through the Internet, and would make it accessible to everybody and allow everyone to read it, as opposed to just having it as an addition in the Marietta Area policy.

Megan S: I thought that since it was listed as an addendum, it didn't actually change policy, it was just there as a resource for those who wanted to use it.

Robert B: That's the same thing I thought.

Jan L: My question was would it be better to change that motion to a motion to add the guidelines to our website, regardless of what we do on the regional floor.

Dennis P: I just thought it was out of order for us to decide that our policy [inaudible]

Robert B: I was under the same impression, that it was just a point of information. Like it's something that, say somebody comes in who's visually impaired or hearing impaired and we don't know how to handle it, these are some things that might be able to help us figure out what we can do to help them get the message, not that this is what we have to do, it's an addendum, not a change in policy, he never asked to change policy.

Katey G: Fair enough. I guess we will vote on it and see. Anybody have anything else? Going once, going twice, alright.

- Subcommittee Reports: 2:37pm - 3:26pm
 - Treasurer's Report - Felix L:
 - Report Attached
 - Literature Report - Marco J:
 - Report attached

- **RCM Report - Rodney W:**
 - Regional treasurer will be in attendance next area to go over the procedures involved with requesting funds from the RSC.
 - Will be bringing a question to the RSC about the benefits of maybe having the RD/RDA attend the Zonal Forums electronically.
 - Groups will **need to return to the November ASC** with a vote on the Regional Topics sent back to groups in September so that the RCM may carry this area's conscience to region.

- **Activities Report - Christian J:**
 - 6 addicts in attendance
 - Old Business:
 - Fall Campout was a success!
 - Around 65 addicts attended each night.
 - Subcommittee learning day was a success. A couple newcomers expressed interest in doing service.
 - I still have campout t-shirts for sale
 - Bringing back \$518 back to Area
 - Please pay the parking fee @ Red Top in future events
 - New Business
 - Gratitude Feast is on November 24th at Cauble Park Beach House @ 6 pm after Area, with a meeting @ 8 pm.
 - Asking for \$250 for food budget.
 - Activities committee is supplying some of the main dishes but it is a potluck so we are asking people to bring a dish if they would like. Please get with an activities member if you plan on bringing a dish.
 - Next meeting on November 20th @ Starbucks in Vinings, GA @ 6:30 pm

- **H&I Report - Julie N:**
 - Met on 10/27 with 8 addicts in attendance
 - Cobb Med. time interferes w/ meeting. Maybe change meeting time.
 - Ridgeview H&I hasn't been meeting. Talked to Eddie, who is looking into it.
 - Julie would like to add a question at the end of the orientation regarding requirements for institutions and hospitals for ease of delegating service.

- **PR Report - Chris E:**
 - Report Attached

- **WSR Report - Louis B:**
 - Jerry asked for direction regarding an inmates involvement with Celebrate Recovery. The committee decided that this was an outside issue we have no opinion on CR
 - Chair will start to send out emails to all the step writers to ask for concerns or questions to be addressed at the yearly check in at the January sub committee meeting

- **24 Hour Room Report - Megan S:**
 - The 24 HR Room's is hosting a T-Shirt design contest with the theme "The Road to Recovery is Infinite"
 - Submit entries by Friday, November 15, 2019 to marietta24hourroom@gmail.com (flyer attached)
- **Old Business:**
 - **Motion 9-1:** For the Marietta area to adopt vision and hearing guidelines as an addendum to the Marietta Area Policy.
 - **Maker:** Jocho B., Unity Group
 - **Second:** Bryan Jones, Architects of Adversity
 - **Intent:** To provide an additional resource to groups in the Marietta Area to aid in increasing accessibility for members with additional needs.
 - **Vote:** 16/1/3: Passed

- **Elections:**
 - None

- **New Business:**
 - None

- **Trusted Servant Nominations:**
 - None

- **Group Announcements and Celebrations:**

- **Another Chance** - Felicia G. - 1 year clean on 11/2 (Saturday @ 11:11)
- **Architects of Adversity** - Boo W. - 3 years clean on 11/22
- **Easy Does It** - Tuesday book study really **needs support**; Scott L. - 3 years clean on 11/23
- **Just for Sunday** - King M. - 1 year clean on 11/10
- **Living the Program** - On 11/28, Living the Program will be meeting at We Group (East Cobb United Methodist Church) in a conjoined meeting starting at 7 pm, where there will be food; If the policy for additional needs has to be adopted then Area should conduct a learning day or a workshop before that.
- **Mimosa** - Need people with clean time on our Friday night meeting @ 7 pm
- **The Rose Group** - We are trying to find a new place to meet in Canton on Wednesday. Rent is eating up all our \$\$; Gianni - 4 years clean on 11/12
- **Spiritual Awakenings** - Nicole A. - 13 years clean and Erin J. - 8 years clean, both on 11/11; Theo D. - 3 years clean on 11/18; Julie N. - 3 years clean on 11/25
- **Warriors in Recovery** - Needs support
- **We Group** - Cecil S. - 33 years clean on 11/7
- **We Recover Together** - Steffen T. - 2 years clean and Shane C. - 18 months clean, both on 10/30

Motion to Close: Tim

Seconded by: Bryan

Motion to acclamation: Bryan

Second: Tim.

Closed at 3:41 pm

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

Sunday, November 24th at 2:00PM

BACK TO GROUPS

Elections to be voted on in the November ASC Meeting:

- **None**

Motions to be voted on in the November ASC Meeting:

- **None**

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