

NORTHERN AREA GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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NORTHERN AREA 42 GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 7, 2008 Host District 16

Sparks Alano Club

1640 Prater Way, Sparks, Nv.

CONFIDENTIAL A.A. DOCUMENT

12:20 p.m. NAGSC Standing Committee meeting:

Ray reported lots of business to accomplish, and sadness at being "out of a job" after this meeting.

Additions to the Agenda that was emailed, for today:

Elections for 2 members at large for the finance committee and presentation of Marion's newly appointed standing chairs.

Ed suggested changing the date for the first NAGSC meeting as an additional item of new business.

Paul E. question: for the 2nd reading of the guidelines changes can the wording be amended or considered today, so that we can vote on it today? (answer is yes)

Ray asked Annie for a summary report prior to the NAGSC meeting. Balance in checking is \$8699.86 thanks to generous donations from the northern area groups. Ed asked for a group contributions breakdown to be emailed to those who are interested.

Ray asked outgoing delegate Mike for any news; NY reported that the Pacific Region trustee is rotating out. He was not sure as to whether it is in 2009 or 2010, but we will need to start thinking about a nomination. Also suggested that NAGSC AND SAGSC have nametags at the meetings so that we can remember names and be aware of name changes.

Carol H. asked that incoming officers and new standing chairs sign in with their contact info for Carol B, the incoming NAGSC Secretary who will pass it on to the Area Secretary.

Sophie reported that she went to Elko for their gratitude dinner. Sophie became aware of her "bad manners" because she was so well taken care of as the speaker, and she wants to be that gracious as a host in the future for speakers.

Ed asked that soft-spoken members of the meeting speak up.

Marion, the incoming NAGSC chair, welcomed any help with her new job. She is excited about the opportunity to serve in northern Nevada and as alternate area chair for Area 42.

Roger introduced Paul as the archivist for the incoming term. He had put all the archived materials (22 binders/and books) that were our copies, in the Central Office and now they have disappeared. But the good news is that SAGSC has the originals of all of the items.

Jason arrived and was asked for any preliminary report to this body, and he did not.

Ray said "Thank You" to this body, this team that walked through the past few years with him. He is sad that his area service will be dormant for a while, but he is grateful that the work we have all done will be passed on to the new officers and standing chairs. He will be available to continue to share his experience with all; don't take his phone number off the lists.

Paul distributed the copies of the ad-hoc committee working copy phase I guidelines changes.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45

1:05 p.m. NAGSC general meeting opens with Serenity Prayer

Reminder: Please turn off cell phones and please no smoking at NAGSC meetings.

Rich B. read the preamble to the service manual

Steve V. read the first concept for the service manual

Introductions around the room.

August 08 Minutes approved as submitted. Sept 13 Blue Room minutes needed corrections as suggested by Carol B. These will be attached to Dec. 08 minutes when distributed

Motion to approve Sept 13 minutes as corrected; motion seconded and carried. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Secretary Report: Carol H.

Reminder: secretary requests written reports to be turned in after your presentation. If you can email them that's even better, then I can copy and paste for the minutes. The sign in sheet and roster were passed around for updates, especially for new or incoming DCMs and GSRs, incoming officers and standing chairs and for anyone else who would like to be on the NAGSC mailing list.

Treasurer Report: Annie W.

Total contributions: Total YTD expenses: \$12151.85

Current balance in checking: \$8699.86

Full Treasurers report distributed and approved as submitted.

Annie thanked all groups and districts for their generous contributions; we do not need a loan from area any more. She thanked NAGSC for the opportunity to serve.

Ray added that he had faith all along that AA would come through and come to the aid of NAGSC he thanked everyone for carrying the message to the groups. And he thanked Annie for her service.

Delegate Report: Mike D.

Alt. Del. Report: Jason C.

The question was asked if Jason knew the percentage of funding that literature provides to AA World Services. Jason did not have that figure, but suggested that a call to GSO would bring that has that info.

Area 42 Registrar Report: Kevin B.

I have been in touch with Bill L. Area 42 Registrar concerning the database and the process. I have sent in all the change forms that were submitted at Tonopah. Forms are available through email. Let me know. Thank you all for another opportunity to grow and learn.

Finance Committee Report:

Phil W. reported, as John D. has stepped down.

Area 42 Chair: Sophie K.

Hello all, and welcome to the first-timers to a Northern Area meeting.

Thank you all for your participation at the last Area Assembly. We were committed and patient; it was a productive and inspiring time. We discussed and voted on proposals and the budget for 2009. We had first readings of five more proposals. And we elected 15 (I think) members to new service positions. So many of us made ourselves available to serve! Now That's inspiring.

Per the incoming Area Chair's request, I have compiled and handed-off my experience, strength and hope as Area Chair to Byron F., our next Chairperson.

To the GSRs here: where does the money go that your groups contribute to the Area? Some of it allows districts from the more remote parts of Nevada and eastern California to invite committee members to speak on general service and/or bring a panel or workshop to their members. I had the honor of sharing at the first annual Gratitude Dinner in Elko because your group saw the value in helping to build unity and support outlying groups to get stronger through service. Three of us took a service panel to Winnemucca in September, as well. That's one way your group contributions are spent.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.
Sophie K.

Archivist Report: Roger R.

Paul E. is the new Archivist. This is a 4-year job. Again I urge all the districts to collect any flyers for an event

your district or group may have. The copies of all the group past has been put into 3ring binders for each district. These copies were in the Central Office in Sparks, but are missing. If anyone can shed some light on where these are, get in touch with Paul. Thank you for letting me be of service.

please save events fliers for the archivist

Area 42 Webmaster Report: JD
no report

Incoming NAGSC Chair: Marion
Looking to fill positions

Chairperson Report: Ray G.
Sad but grateful. Thanks out loud to all the team members for their help in the past 3 years. All new attendees stood and were welcomed by Ray. Ray remembered being out of commission with his broken leg for several months and was humbled by the work done by the team. Warned incoming standing chairs that they have big shoes to fill. Ray will be "unemployed" but has a goal or task of not holding a service position in Area or NAGSC. He has been thinking of duplication of services between NAGSC and central office and will be doing informal research on how to combine the jobs and committees. So as to carry the message better and less expensively. Taking care of his wife is a full time job, but has family and friends to help him get free time so that he can research streamlined service in AA.

(Treasurer passed around the mileage sheet for those driving over 30 miles to attend this meeting)

Old Business:

Paul E. Ad-hoc committee guidelines cosmetic changes phase 1: asked everyone to review the content with him for the 2d reading. The changes are necessary due to a new finance committee and other noted cosmetic, spelling and other inconsistencies.

Asked for discussion of page 5 item B Treasurer, line c.
Two signatures for over \$200

Banks have changed policies and mostly only require one signature but this suggested guideline is internal.

Vicky suggested that we trust our trusted servants for up to the \$200 amount. Other groups had a similar response. Two signatures were required even when treasurers stole all the money. So why are we still considering 2 signatures if it is not working? Ed dP. commented that 2 yrs ago there were no signature requirements. It's not about theft, it's about internal control in the absence of a finance committee. The question was asked:" What is the cutoff for an expense going

to the finance committee"? According to Annie, ordinary expenses such as assemblies, mileage, etc. are simply paid out. If it's for an out of the ordinary expense then it goes to the committee. Phase 2 of the guidelines changes handles the finance committee and further discussion will take place there.

Motion by Carol B to vote on phase 1 line item b treasurer c. as suggested. Motion passed. New motion to accept all remaining proposals as written. Motion 2nd and passed.

The corrected Phase I Guidelines Changes as approved by the body is attached to these minutes.

New Business:

1. Election of NAGSC Treasurer

Phil W. stands and is voted by acclamation. He provided the address for mailing checks to; P.O. Box 9080 Mammoth Lakes Ca. 93546

nagsctreasure@gmail.com

2. Election of three at-large members of finance committee. Duties are outlined in phase 1 Guidelines addendum. Call for nominations. Marion explained that any voting member including officers and standing chairs may also be elected as an at large Finance committee member. Mike L, Julie C., and Gene L. stood for the positions. Motion to close nominations., 2nd. Passed. New standing members elected were Julie C., Gene L. and Mike L.

3. Marion introduced new chairs and asked them to briefly share their qualifications.
CPC chair: Rich B. who declared his qualifications: 25 yrs sober AA member, various service positions and also a professional drug and alcohol counselor. Works with judges, p.o.'s social workers, etc.

Grapevine: Jeanette B. (not present today)

Intergroup Liaison :Ed deP. His qualifications are too numerous to mention (Secretary's inside joke)

Public Information: Kathy S; Past DCM , 9 yrs sober, teaching background

Special Needs : Steven V. ordered by sponsor to be in service

Treatment facilities: Mike L. met his first girlfriend in treatment. (don't worry, he's on marriage #3 now)

Corrections: Roger helped start Bishop jail meetings since 1987 and various service positions.

Gsr survival trainer south: Phil W offered to serve as both treasurer and this position if no one else steps up - to serve as interim chair.

Gsr survival trainer: North: Kevin B

will serve as interim chair

Motion to accept, 2nd, passed

4. 1st reading of 2nd phase of guidelines changes which involve the financial committee

aspects

Document Phase II attached to these minutes)

Paul reads, takes questions for clarification and all will take back to their groups for discussion. Item 5.7 A. c was deleted. And 5.7 E regional forum funding is subject to discussion. Who is ultimately responsible for the funding decisions.? NAGSC body.... The suggestion was made to change small letters to numbers in the body of the guidelines.

Ron W. asked why GSRs are last in priority? As they are very important. Annie replied that they have always been funded. Ron is worried that another treasurer might not have the same funding priority. Ray suggested that the procedure has been that GSRs go first to the DCM and the DCM comes to NAGSC finance committee for help.

Vicky had questions; can the finance committee make independent decisions from the priorities if greater need is determined? Are the priorities just guidelines? What is the regional forum? GSO sets up workshops and presentations on the functions of GSO every other year. Also what is a dark district? A district that has no representation such as GSR or DCM.

Paul asked for other questions for clarification. Marion asked do the GSRs bring these issues up for discussion.-answer is yes

Ron asked again, who is most important to be at the assembly? Gsr's or officers?

Discussion tabled; This discussion needs to be at the 2nd reading.

STANDING CHAIR REPORTS

CPC Paul E.

I attended the fall Area 42 Assembly in Tonopah. This was once again a great experience to see AA's 3rd legacy in action. I was pleased to see that all positions had at least two members standing and being willing to serve. I am looking forward to rotating into my new position as Area 42 Archivist.

Karen L. the CPC/PI rep. for District 6 contacted me through Email with a request about information on how to do a workshop/ presentation. A judge in Carson City requested a presentation of some legal professionals. I sent her some information and suggestions and told her that I am willing to help in any way.

I went by Parole and Probation in Reno and filled the literature rack. At the last NNIG meeting I talked with Judy M the Treatment Chair. She thought that Bridging the Gap committee could take over the job of keeping the rack full.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Corrections Sam H.

We have been approved to again carry the message to the Calif. Corrections Centers. They are having to work out some details, but the budget problems are supposedly solved. We continue to take meetings and literature to the Federal

Facility in Herlong. We also have weekly meetings at the Plumas Co. Jail in Quincy. I am not getting any reports of activity in Nevada.

Grapevine, La Vina Chair Jeanette B.

GSR Survival North Ed deP.

"All GSRs survived."

GSR Survival South Dave M.

Not much to report. I just want to thank Northern Area for allowing me the privilege of being in service for the past 3 years. I look forward to seeing you all as I begin my journey as DCM of District 6.

NNIG Liason Steve V. W.

NNIG treasury is \$6,000.00. CT and BTG needs volunteers to take the message into institutions. Those interested should contact Chuck B. or Pat S. at the Reno Triangle Club the 3rd Tuesday each month at 6:30pm. WACYPAA's Annual Convention and New Years Party is at the Grand Sierra Resort December 29-31. District 16 A Christmas Affair is at 98 Richards Way on Dec. 21. Doors open at 12 noon. Dinner at 4pm, speaker afterwards. Thank you for allowing me to serve!

PI Jackie A.

No report

Special Needs Susan B.

I want to express my gratitude to Northern Area 42 for allowing me to be of service as chairperson of Special Needs. I have brought the message of hope to the heart and minds of my fellow alcoholics that are inaccessible by common channels. Thanks to your support in distribution of the purple internet meeting flyers, ever increasing rate of replacement of pamphlets to contact businesses, the 100 campers learning to sign the serenity prayer together in Bishop, donation of Braille Big Books, speaking from the stage of the Spring Fling this year, were testimony to the necessity of increased awareness.

Bill S. of Area 65, NE Texas' Special Needs Committee stated in the FEB/March 2008 Box 459 that "the common bond of recovery can transcend the challenges of physical disabilities." GSO sent a Special Needs Accessibilities Workbook in October 2008, and after review I found most of my actions were on target as to the expectations of this position. God and GSO provided the confirmation I needed to relieve my doubts of incompetence.

Treatment Facilities Mike G.

No report

Newsletter Mike L.

I have really enjoyed being the newsletter editor for the past two years. I found I was just a trusted servant, which made the job manageable. We managed to publish 7 newsletters since I was appointed by Sophie. We also managed to publish every newsletter out on time or very close to on time according to the guidelines. I especially enjoyed working with our area chair Sophie and our secretary Carol. As newsletter editor has been my first experience serving in general service. It has been a real eye opener for me about the importance of service and the importance of the traditions. Thank you letting me serve as Area 42 newsletter editor.

DCM Reports: (please submit in writing for the minutes)

*** Please update your DCM info for the Chairperson***

2 Mark T.

No report

4 John D.

Due to lack of interest, District 4 is now “dark.”

6 Kevin B.

District 6 held elections in Oct. and rotation will begin in Jan. Funds are good; all service positions are filled. Thank you for allowing me to learn and serve.

8 Phil W.

Our Dist stretches from Bridgeport to Big Pine . At our last dist 8 meeting we finalized the Unity committee. The committee will hopefully carpool to meetings that need support.

The task force on Alcohol and drug abuse in Inyo county really liked the presentation that was done for them in late Sept. and has requested more panels at schools In the southern Dist the PI and CPC committee of our dist is really moving forward . The northern part of the CPC/PI committee is doing a lot of service work and is planning a couple of panels for after the first of year. Dist 8 is hosting a service workshop in Mammoth in Dec, Marion dePerrie and Carol Boulet Will be coming also Kathleen New is coming from Lone Pine this workshop will be on the Traditions. The meeting in Big Pine has started up again, and in the month of Oct we saw a restart of a meeting in Independence This meeting may be in area 93 but we really like new meetings in the Eastern Sierra so we have been supporting them.

In Dist 8 we have been working on creating a CPC-PI committee that will be working in the district doing panels for schools, medical workers and also carrying the message to people who are referring people to AA.

Our group in Bridgeport has a new GSR, Laura P. A few others and I were really happy to celebrate her sober birthday last week. The group continues to meet on Wed. evening at 7pm in the senior center in Bridgeport.

June Lake has a meeting at 6 pm every Wed. evening in the Community center. Dist 8 will be hosting a Service Workshop July 20th in Bishop at the community center at Highlands Mobil Home Park; the main topic will be 'Being of Service in your Home Group'. David M.GSR trainer and Jason C. Alt. Delegate will help out, with Jason giving a report from GSC, and Dave explaining how Home Groups benefit from General Service.

The High Sierra Group will play host to Bishop's White elephant, potluck speaker meeting the last Sat evening of July at Saint.Timothys, call or write for directions.

The Mammoth Lakes Group will be hosting the High Sierra campout Aug.22-24th go to "mammoth lakes aa.com" or call Phil W.

10a Gene L.

Elko Alano Board has folded due to a lack of participation. The campout committee has expanded to 4 events a year. Our 1st event was a gratitude dinner with Sophie as the speaker. It was a great weekend of fun and fellowship, which people are still talking about. Elko group has a new GSR- Rick, taking over on Jan.1. Monday night men's meeting has started doing the Joe and Charlie tape and has doubled in size.

10b Lizz T.

No report

12 Kathy S.

I want to thank my fellow members in service to AA that have supported and helped me through the last 2 years as DCM. There have been lots of changes in District 12 .Along with the population growth in Northern Nevada, the Fernley and Silver Spring's groups have grown with up to 50 to 60 members on their potluck, birthday speaker meetings; which is very encouraging. The Fernley meetings have moved to Hillyard Hall and are very well attended. We will have our district election on Tuesday and by the grace of God the positions for service will be filled. We still have those lucky few who are willing and able to serve this Fellowship. We also have been fortunate to have our members from District 18 become part of district 12, in order to keep those interested in service able to serve at this level. The nugget will no longer be the central meeting place in Fallon, rumor has it the CLC church will be our new home, I will pass on the new place as soon as it is secured. The treatment center New Frontier has reopened for clients, just in time for the holidays

Although we still have a lull in the General Service interest, (I am very grateful to know there are still those willing to serve but saddened by the fact that not enough members want to participate in order to keep the district going.) That is one of the realities that I face quite often on my journey of recovery, and many times it is my self will that gets me in turmoil.

Today by trying to stay with the principle of attraction not promotion, I can find peace in direct proportion to my spiritual condition; a great tool that I have been given; that works if I work it. I also know only a little, God will constantly disclose more to me if I ask and listen. If I stay humble and willing and remain teachable in my journey in Alcoholics Anonymous I should continue to grow. God always gives me what I need and for that I am always grateful. Happy and Safe Holidays to All!!!!

In love of Service
Kathy S.

14 Lonnie M.

We had a workshop on C&T. 18 people attended. We had a panel with Joyce P, past delegate, Mike G, Treatment chair, Bob C. District 14 C&T Chair and Kathleen C. It was great. We had a lot of interaction with the panel and a lot of discussion. The workshop went so well that we are planning another later in the year.

We had elections in Nov. and all district positions filled except intergroup liaison. We hope to fill that at the next district meeting. We have changed distributions to NAGSC from 20% to 40% and in November sent a check to NAGSC for \$517.98. The district is doing well and the energy is high.

16 Patty P.

Christmas Affair at 98 Richards Way Dec. 21 at noon. We will have a Panel Discussion, then Santa Claus at 3pm. Dinner at 4pm fooled by our speaker Phil W at 5pm. Raffle will be held after the speaker. All is good with District 16. Just working to make this year's event special. It has been my pleasure to be of service.

20 Lyle C.

District 20 has new officers; Alternate DCM and Secretary. Additionally two new GSRs joined out district; one from Westwood and another from a Susanville men's group.

The District sent a letter to the group treasurers notifying them of the financial challenges and need of additional funds for NAGSC.

Upcoming events:

Quincy's annual holiday celebration is scheduled for December 13 at the Veterans Hall on Lawrence Street from 5-11pm; Potluck turkey feast, speakers and live band.

Portola Fellowship is having its 30th anniversary party on Feb. 7th at the Baptist Church, 171 Gulling Street. Appetizers @ 5pm; Potluck dinner @ 6pm and speaker @ 7pm.

On a sad note, Wade B., the GSR for the Brown baggers group in Alturas passed in September.

Respectfully, Lyle C., DCM District 20

22 Mariano

No report

AA related Announcements:

North Lake Tahoe Open Speaker Meeting Incline Village HS Gymnasium

449 Village Blvd. Incline Village NV 89541

Fri Dec 26:

6 pm dessert potluck

7 pm speaker is Clancy I. from Venice Ca.

Other business/concerns/comments:

Ray explained that the timing of the next meeting needs to coordinate with receiving assembly agenda items for roundtables. Last year we had it after PRAASA, and a week before Assembly. Discussion of best date resulted in March 1st at a large enough venue; A large venue in Reno would be best. TRE was also suggested and Carol B will contact the community center.

Motion to adjourn, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 4:35

Area Website: <http://www.nevadaarea42.org>

NEXT MEETING:

March 1, 2009

Noon

Grand Sierra Resort (old Reno Hilton)

Nevada Room ~ Lower Promenade Level ~

**Near the escalators ~ Lots of room for the
Pre-Conference Roundtables.**

**Minutes Submitted by Carol H. outgoing NAGSC Secretary
Thank you for letting me serve!**