

**MINUTES OF MIDWEST TENNESSEE AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS ON APRIL 29, 2012**

Angie E. opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Crystal H. read the Twelve Concepts. Definition and purpose of an ASC was read by Angie E.

Roll Call: No new groups. Visitors were recognized and welcomed. Adam L. was recognized as the new GSR for Jackson Clean AIR. The Convention Committee Chair was absent. Activities Chair was absent but there was a representative present. A quorum was established.

**Secretary's Report:** Presented by Scott B. The report was accepted and the minutes of the March meeting was approved.

**Regional Committee Member (RCM) Report:** Presented by Jake A. Leftover merchandise from VRC 29 was brought to the area so GSRs can take back to their groups to sell at a reduced price. Jake will turn in the money at the next regional meeting. Mike R. was nominated for VRC Treasurer. He is currently the Alternate Treasurer. Craig G. was nominated for Chair. This will be his second term. Jim B. was nominated for Vice Chair. Joe S. was nominated for H&I Chair. Christina W. was nominated for Secretary. She is currently the Alternate Secretary. Take all nominations back to home groups for voting. The motion to reimburse RCMs half or \$75 for hotel room for any event held by region such as CAR/CAT workshops, Regional Assemblies, and Inventories passed. There was a motion to carry back to groups to change the December VRSC meeting in Murfreesboro to be held during the VRC in November at Chattanooga. Region made a donation of \$5,000 to NA World Services. Final treasury balance is \$10,131. Jake has the tallies on the CAR/CAT votes. For the most part, everything passed with the exception of 1 or 2 that did not. Current vacancies at the region include Vice-Chair, Alternate Treasurer, H&I Chair, VRC Oversight, and Exploration Adhoc. There may also be additional service positions available. Any persons interested in a regional service position may submit a service resume to the RCM. The next Volunteer Regional Service Committee meeting will be held Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:30 AM in Murfreesboro. VRC-30 Annual Volunteer Regional Convention will be held in Chattanooga on November 21-25<sup>th</sup>. There will be meetings, speakers, workshops, and dances.

**Treasury Report:** Presented by Clinton S. Beginning Balance was \$278.45. Ending Balance is \$151.23. Clinton is now receiving bank statements mailed to his house. Jake has the previous bank statement of which he will give to Clinton. Treasury report accepted.

**Activities Subcommittee Report:** Presented by Dustin H. (Filling in for Sarah H.). Activities requested \$120 for the upcoming Annual Picnic. In New Business, a motion was passed to disperse \$75. No report was turned in to the secretary.

**H&I Subcommittee Report:** Presented by Scot B. pertaining to Joco, Aspell, and McNairy Co Jail. McNairy County Jail – Terry, Chris, Sarah, and Lindsey chaired a meeting for the women. Terry chaired a meeting for the men on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Sarah and Ashley O. chaired a meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup>. H&I reported a need for additional participation. Scot B. stepped down as H&I Chair. In February, someone suggested carrying meetings to the Camden Jail. In March, someone suggested carrying meetings to Cumberland Heights.

**Convention Committee Report:** No report. The next convention committee meeting will be held at Sowing The Seed on May 13th at 7 PM. The Convention Committee chair, Jeremy P., has been absent for 2 consecutive meetings. Each GSR was asked to go to their home groups and obtain a vote to retain the current Chair or nominate a replacement. See Footnote 1.

**Jackson Clean Air:** Report by GSR Adam L. Adam L. has been elected GSR and Iris A. has been elected Alternate GSR. Attendance is good. The group has decided to continue to give away literature but, in order to do this, the group might have to pass the basket twice during each meeting because donations are down. The group is planning a 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition meeting. Iris A. will be celebrating 3 years on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM. Truman will be the speaker. Donation to Area?

**Jackson Never Alone:** Report by Eric W. Average attendance was 25. Jim H. will be celebrating 2 years, Shonda H. will be celebrating 2 years, and Twana P. will be celebrating 5 years on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. No donation to area.

**Jackson Sowing The Seed:** Report by Don H. Alternate GSR is Amy Lu. The last birthday meeting the group had was “standing room only”. Average attendance is between 20 to 40 people. They have three meetings a week. Dustin H will be celebrating 3 years on May 20th and Jason R. will be the speaker at 6 PM. No donation to area.

**Camden Miracles Happen:** Report by GSR Becky P. They had three birthday celebrations on April 29<sup>th</sup>. They do not have a donation to the area this month.

**Dresden RAW (Ready and Willing):** Report by GSR Crystal H. Meeting attendance is still low. They had 10 meetings this month with an average attendance of 7 per meeting. The lowest attendance increased from 2 people to 5 people this month. The group reports a lack of women in recovery. They have a donation to area.

**Lexington Survivor’s Group:** Report by GSR Ryan W. The group voted in Tina M. as the Alternate GSR. Their average attendance is still 10 per meeting. They had 5 newcomers in the month of April. Their new book study on Thursdays at 7 PM is doing well. Rhonda C. celebrated 3 years on April 28<sup>th</sup> and Matt C was the speaker. The group is coming up on its seventh year anniversary and they are planning an eating event at one of the lakes. The group is interested in having this in conjunction with an area fund-raising event for the upcoming convention. The group was instructed to come up with a date set certain and present their idea at the next Convention Committee meeting. They have just enough donations to keep the doors open so they do not have a donation to area at this time.

**Milan Clean & Serene:** Report by GSR Heather Y. Attendance is still good. Jake A. will be celebrating 7 years on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM. Casey M will be celebrating 2 years on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Galen E. will be celebrating 3 years on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM. Never Alone reported several volunteers who are willing to put on a Traditions Workshop in Milan: Melvin M., Eric W., Shashtaye V., and Beth C. Milan’s GSR reported that they will discuss a date for the workshop at their next business meeting and will coordinate the workshop with the volunteers at Never Alone. Donations are down so they do not have a donation to the area at this time.

**Paris Free Spirit:** Report by GSR Clinton S. Attendance is good. No birthdays coming up this month. The group is having trouble getting NA meetings into the Henry County Jail because the facility already has other 12 step groups and churches and so the jail is reluctant to add another outside group to come in at this time.

**Union City Free Spirit:** Report by GSR, Jerry C. Overall attendance is down. Reece G. celebrated 1 year on April 26. Romeo will be celebrating 1 year on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. Tugboat from Memphis will be the speaker. The group is having their third annual picnic on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Graham Park. Flyers were passed out at a copy is attached. The picnic will begin at 1 PM. There will be speakers at 2 PM and 4 PM. The group asked where the banners are located. Sowing the Seeds has the banners – come get them if you can (groups must follow the rules and qualify to retrieve their banners). The group has a donation to area.

**Savannah 123 Group:** No representative present. No Voting Rights.

**Parsons We Do Recover:** No representative present. No Voting Rights.

**Newbern Never Alone:** No representative present. No Voting Rights.

These groups will not have voting privileges until a representative has been present for two consecutive meetings.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Area Website Jeremy P. is willing to help update and maintain the area's website but he could not do it alone. Jeremy P. has already begun to see who has control of the website, who owns the domain and to see whether it is available. Becky P. reported that Joe B. has expressed willingness to help with the website but he could not do it alone. Forming a subcommittee was postponed till next month so we get either Jeremy P. and/or Joe B. to address this next month.

Area Phone Line and Website: There is still no information on whether the area is paying for the phone line or the website. Neither appeared on this month's bank statement. Clinton S. will be talking with the bank to get additional information.

Regional Website: The area continues not to be listed on Region's website. Region is still lacking resources in updating their website, however, progress is being made.

Annual Area Picnic: The annual area picnic will be at Muse Park at 12:00 on May 25<sup>th</sup>. A list was distributed with what each group would be willing to bring to the function. Each person may also bring a snack, potluck dish, or something to help keep the overall cost down especially if their group has not committed to bringing any certain items. In addition to the meal, there will be a speaker as well.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Angie E. mentioned that we owe one basic text book to the hospital in exchange for use of the Area's meeting room. It was determined that we owe the hospital 13 books. Each group is asked to donate a hard-bound basic text to make up for the deficit. See Footnote 2.

2. Scott B. presented a map of Tennessee printed from the Regions's website and requested that the following counties be added to the area's geographical boundaries: Lake, Obion, Carroll, Lauderdale, Crockett, Haywood, Hardeman, Chester, McNairy, and Hardin. A motion for this was tabled and approved. The RCM agreed and he will take the map to the next regional meeting and make a motion that the changes be adopted and that the new map be posted on the Region's website.

3. Scott B. mentioned that the area is not registered with NA World Services or listed on the NA website. Registration would alert any new groups who may register on the site of the existence of our ASC. Scott B. will begin completing the forms, however, the ASC is required to have a mailing address in order to complete registration. The ASC can use a member's personal address until such time that the area acquires its own mailing address.

4. Scott B. requested permission to provide meeting schedule updates, in behalf of the groups, to the following websites. Motion was tabled and approved. See Footnote 3.

[www.intherooms.com](http://www.intherooms.com)  
[www.drugstrategies.org](http://www.drugstrategies.org).  
[www.aspellrecovery.com/id3.html](http://www.aspellrecovery.com/id3.html)  
<http://www.rifarifa.org/celebrate.html>

5. Scott B. requested permission to attempt to add the area to the following websites that contain a list of ASC's within Tennessee. Motion was tabled and approved. See Footnote 3.

<http://www.ipass.net/a1idpirat/narcoticsanonymous.html>  
<http://home.dmv.com/~realslow/listen.to/link3.html>  
<http://www.theagapecenter.com/NAinUSA/Tennessee.htm>  
[http://alcoholism.about.com/od/na/qt/tennessee\\_na.htm](http://alcoholism.about.com/od/na/qt/tennessee_na.htm)  
<http://www.usrecovery.info/NA/Tennessee.htm>

6. Scott B. mentioned that Jackson Clean AIR, Milan Clean & Serene, and Newbern Never Alone are not registered on the NA website and he would forward the registration forms to each of the groups for them to fill-out and submit to world services. Registration would place the groups and their meeting schedule on the NA website.

#### **CHANGES TO THE MEETING SCHEDULE:**

There are no meetings in Trenton, Big Sanday, and Dyersburg. Add Newbern 8 PM on Wednesday. Add Savannah 7 PM on Thursday. Change Savannah's meeting time on Wednesday from 7 PM – 8:30 to 7 PM to 8 PM. Change Parson's Friday meeting from 8 PM to 6 PM. Change Parson's address to 708 Georgia Ave S. Change Union City's address to 230 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Change the city from Bemis to Jackson on Sowing the Seed's meetings. Please submit any additional meeting schedule changes to Eric W., for editing and publication, in advance of the next area meeting.

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:**

Alternate RCM: Casey M. was nominated in February and elected in April.

Alternate Secretary: Adam L. was nominated in February and elected in April.

Outreach: Don H. was nominated. Take this back to home groups for votes.

H&I Chair: James M. was nominated. Take this back to home groups for votes.

Public Relations (Public Information): Vacant. Nomination deferred.

A motion was made to close the meeting. Motion seconded.

Meeting adjourned with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Prepared By:  
Scott B., Secretary  
May 1, 2012

Reviewed By:  
Angie E., Area Chair  
May 2, 2012

Additional Instructions: Please submit corrections and/or additional comments of the minutes in advance of the next scheduled area assembly meeting to the Area Secretary.

Footnotes:

1. The absence of the Convention Committee Chair from this meeting and the last meeting was discussed in length. A subcommittee chair that misses two meetings in a row must be, or can be, replaced. The quorum was unable to determine whether the replacement was required or not. Two GSR's have been in contact with the chair and explained the absences. They felt that the chair would be present next month and he would be able to continue with his responsibilities. Some members suggested that he should be replaced. The quorum failed to come to a consensus. A motion was passed to take this back to home groups for a vote as to whether retain the current chair or make nominations for a replacement. If anyone wishes to be nominated, they must be present at the next area meeting. If the home groups vote to retain the current chair, then he will not be replaced and nominations for the position will not be solicited.

2. Someone mentioned that we should not purchase the books from the area's general funds. Rather, each group is asked to donate a book to make up for the deficit. The books do not have to be brand new nor do they have to have a book cover. The books can be the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition rather than the 6<sup>th</sup> edition. The books should be fully intact with no missing or torn pages. A minimal amount of underling, side notes, and highlighting is acceptable. Personally identifiable information should be permanently removed. Groups that do not have any books for donation in their stock and is otherwise unable to acquire them is asked to provide an \$8.00 donation so the books may be purchased in the group's behalf. Groups are encouraged to purchase used books at resale outlets such as Goodwill, Salvation Army, etc. The area will donate all books provided by

the groups to the hospital, even if there are more than thirteen copies, since the books may not all be brand new or the newest edition. Groups are asked to bring the books to the next meeting.

3. Providing updated information to these websites does not mean that the ASC or Narcotics Anonymous endorses any information, advertisements, links, or other content posted on these websites. The ASC and Narcotics Anonymous are not affiliated with these websites and hold no responsibility for their content. The intent of the ASC is to correct inaccurate information currently posted on the websites that has the potential to mislead newcomers or anyone who is searching for a meeting. The ASC recognizes that the best practice for these websites is to remove NA meeting schedules and to direct those looking for meetings to the NA Website. However, that is most likely not possible as more and more websites are posting meeting schedules. The ASC recognizes that some websites are posting NA meeting schedules to attract traffic to their sites to generate private revenue from advertisements. The ASC recognizes that these website are not in keeping with the twelve traditions of NA but there is little that can be done since the sites themselves are not governed by the traditions. It is burdensome to attempt to keep meeting schedules up to date on multiple websites since meetings are in constant change, but there seems to be little that can be done about that at this time. Some websites will not be able to update the area's information until the ASC has a website.

Distribution: Distribution made by E-Mail and/or First Class Mail to each ASC Member. A copy has been filed in the ASC's achieves folder entitled "Area Minutes and Supporting Documents – April 2012".

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes || \_\_\_\_\_ No (Approval is obtained by vote at the next area meeting)  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **CORRECTIONS:**

1. The area voted for Adam L. to be the Alternate Secretary but the election was not valid because he was recently elected as a GSR for his home group. An executive committee member can not simultaneously hold a GSR or Alternate GSR position. However, if this does occur, the member can only cast one vote on any issue.

2. Lisa W. was nominated for Alternate Secretary. This is to be taken back to home groups for votes.