

Eastern PA Regional Service Minutes

Date: December 7, 2008

- 2:20 pm - Meeting called to order with the Serenity Prayer by Todd S.

- 12 Traditions read.

- 12 Concepts read.

- Roll Call (secretary takes roll call):

RSC Chair	Jim M. – present
RSC Co-Chair	Todd S. – present
Secretary	Debbie M. - present
Co-Secretary	<i>Position Open</i>
Treasurer	Tim R. – not present, Todd S. will be taking care of treasury today.
Co-Treasurer	<i>Position Open</i>
Literature Review	<i>Position Open</i>
H & I	Jessica F. - present
PI	Tom F. - present
Activities/Unity	<i>Position Open.....acting chair is Todd S.</i>
Policy	<i>Position Open</i>
Communications	Michael J. - present
Regional Delegate	Merle H. – not present, will give speaker phone report
RD Alt.	<i>Position Open</i>
RCM Bucks Co.	Marc C. - present
RCM Mont. Co.	Eric P. – not present
RCM Pure & Simple	Walt N. - present

- Quorum = 2/3 and is met.

NOTE – Guests in attendance at this region from Twin Rivers area.

- Last regional meeting's minutes read by: Debbie M.

Motioned to read from New Business Only by : Jessica M., Marc 2nd the motion.

Motion to accept minutes was made by Marc., 2nd by Jessica with not corrections and no objections.

Area Reports:

Bucks County Area: RCM –Marc C., Alt. RCM Rich K. (not present) – \$450 given to area. No written report. The RCM commented on the men's group that was referred to in October's minutes. As far as he knows this is an open meeting and they may need to take the word "men" out of their title or name. This particular group is a part of the Bucks county area as far as he knows.

Montgomery County Area: RCM – Eric P., Alt. RCM: Michelle A. – not present, no report. \$605.65 donation reported via an email to Todd S. This donation cannot be added into paying bills today, but it may come up in decision making processes today.

Pure and Simple Area: RCM – Walt N., Alt. RCM Jamie B. – **Upcoming Events: We are planning a Unity Day for the end of March 2009. We will keep you updated as that unfolds.**

Recent Area Business: As you may all be aware, the Pure and Simple Area's finances have been the subject of much discussion lately. We found ourselves almost overdrawn on our checking account, our prudent reserve totally depleted. The Area Chair has appointed an Ad-Hoc committee to investigate the cause of such dire circumstances. It appears that the cause is simply a lack of proper training of prior treasures. Overruns we being deducted from the prudent reserve without motions being put on the floor and never having those funds replenished. Additionally, the groups had been using out dated literature order forms and

consequently underpaying for literature while the Area unknowingly ate the difference.

Sub Committees: I am happy to report that all of our sub-committees are currently running smoothly and receiving sufficient support.

Groups: Our groups are doing fairly well although consistent participation @ an Area level is a bit lacking.

In Loving Service,

Walt N. & Jamie B.

Regional Delegate Report: RD –Merle H. – RD Report; December 7, 2008

Hello there everyone! The past two months have been very busy, and I have a lot to report. I am sorry I am unable to be at Region, but I have to be out of town for school.

Over the past two months, I have attended both Montco Area and Bucks Area Service meetings. I plan to attend Pure and Simple's Area Service meeting next week.

I held the Regional Assembly on November 22, 2008 at the Jenkintown United Methodist Church. The theme was "Embracing Our Freedom," and the Issue Discussion Topics were "Building Communication" and "Freedom and Responsibility." The assembly was open to all addicts who were interested. We had 17 people in attendance, including Craig R. chair from the World Board, and Paula and Earl, RD and RDA from GPRNA (Greater Phila. Region). I am seeking input from everyone in our region about these topics, and I feel they are so important to our region, that I am offering each area the opportunity to have me present these workshops at their area. I have approached Bucks and Montco about this, and will offer this to Pure and Simple next week. If we believe in our region's existence, then we need to participate in our region. I will report more on this information at our next regional meeting. I will also be requesting for reimbursement for the assembly, which was allotted from last year's budget request.

I was approached by the RD of the MidAtlantic Region to see if we would be interested in co-hosting a Tri-Regional event sometime over the summer or fall, along with GPRNA and MidAtlantic Regions. I would like to get a feel about this from the RCMs and hope you will take this back to your Areas and see what they think. We

can develop this event with your input, if there is interest.

Upcoming events include the Autonomy Zonal Forum, which will take place January 31, in Silver Spring, Maryland, from 11 am until 5 pm. I will send a flyer to our secretary so she can distribute this. It is interesting and fun to hear what is happening in other regions, and to meet addicts from these areas. Anyone and everyone is welcome to attend.

Another event which I feel is important is a symposium in the Florida Region. The Florida Region holds a special event every two years that is solely dedicated to service. It is called the Florida Service Symposium, and it should not be confused for other service related events. We hold workshops which you cannot typically find in other NA service events and recovery meetings unique in NA. World Board members and staff from the World Service Office will be in attendance and leading many of the workshops. Many of our neighboring Regions will be there, and I think it will be very informative. I will provide any additional details for anyone who has questions about this.

Finally, there is MARLCNA. There will be a male and female room for Regional Trusted Servants, which will take place February 13-15, 2009 at the Lancaster Host in Lancaster, PA.

Attached is a projected budget for the 2009 year. I am making every effort to remain prudent.

I hope everyone has a stress-less holiday season, and will see you all next year.

In loving service,
Merle H.

Proposed budget was discussed. We will need to accept her proposed budget and be ok with it. We will discuss this under new business.

Subcommittee Reports:

H&I: Jessica F. – chair – **Our Learning Day went well. We had approximately 55 people in attendance. PI and H&I combined our budgets used \$163.95. We owe the region some money that PI will figure out. We had all three Areas in attendance and had some new people. Region H&I will help Montco put on a Learning Day. We still have no co-chair and my subcommittee would like me to stay as a chair, which I am willing to do. Also, Bucks and PI received EPARNA Hotline stamps to stamp their literature. Montco dropped an H&I commitment at Building 50 until further notice.**

Communications Chair: Michael J. – **The Communications Committee had a well attended first subcommittee meeting. Bucks and Montco Meetinglist chairs attended. We also Welcomed Stephanie from the Twin Rivers Area who came to visit.**

We are a new subcommittee and yet to generate a policy. This will be our first order of business. We will then be able to create duties and responsibilities for service positions such as Co-chair, Secretary, and etc. As Chair I will have a draft for approval at the Feb RSC. Until the Activities Committee becomes self sufficient on a regional level, the Communications Committee is welcoming and working with the Area Unity/ Activities committees.

I plan on attending the Area ASC meetings in coming weeks to help Groups confirm their meeting information and to ask Areas and Groups how the Communications Committee can be of Service to them.

**In loving service,
Michael J.**

PI: Tom F. – chair –The Learning Day was a great success with about 50 people in attendance. Our budget was \$220.00. We spent \$163.93. This covered food, drinks, copies, and supplies. We did a phone line orientation for about 30 people. 6 are new to the phone list to the 12 step list. The new phone line which started Nov. 1st is working great. They gave us a very detailed list of what kind of calls we received. We spent \$306.00 set aside for phone line training of the old phone company to supply the Areas with stamps for literature, labels to cover old numbers, and business cards to go with flyers. The stamps were given to the Regional Secretary, P&S H&I, Bucks H&I, Montco Rep(Todd S). Thi leaves us \$26.07 which will be given to the treasurer.

Cost- Learning Day	163.93
2500 business cards	25.00
1000 labels	83.00
5 self-inking stamps	95.00

No Montco Rep this month. After today, we have no Chair or Co-chair. Becky has been voted in as PI Secretary. The Region info ill be listed in the newspaper starting mid December or January in the community calendar. The Signius phone will be forwarded for 6 months.

Activities: No current chair. Todd S verbally reported – we had one area rep from unity here Pure & Simple and she gave a really nice report, they are continuing their outreach program. Any of their activities will be posted on the website. She is all on board with Unity becoming a part of the Communications Committee and they will now meet together.

Adhoc for New Regional Location: Tom F. – chair – on hold for now.

Old Business:

EPARNA Policy – Michael J. has updated the policy into one word document and emailed a draft to everyone. Debbie M. will provide Michael J. with all the minutes for the past two years to research policy and input all changes. The policy will then be completely updated.

B R E A K

Treasurer Report: Tim R. not present - Todd gave verbal report.

New Business from Areas:

Bucks County: none.

Montco: none.

Pure & Simple: none.

New Business from RD:

Merle submitted a motion for reimbursement of 66.00 Motion Passed

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of a Tri-Regional Assembly. Merle had asked in her report for responses/feedback from our RCM's. Todd S. shared his knowledge regarding this subject to start the discussion. We don't need a vote on this issue we just want to have some preliminary discussions regarding if, as a region, we want to do something like this. Walt's input is that it seems like a great idea that will not be expensive. There are so many spots where the regions overlap that this would foster better communications between us all, this would be a good start. Jim's input is that the place to start may be to make an agenda as to what issues you might or will discuss at this assembly. Marc's input is that this might be a good opportunity to find out what goes on in meetings and regions that are our neighbors. Can we try a quad or multi assembly including everyone within the Delaware River. It would be nice to know what's going on around us. Guests (Frank & Stephanie from Twin Rivers area...whatever falls between Delaware and Lehigh Valley rivers) think it's a great idea! Michael's input is that he definitely likes the idea and would like to see it be an annual event. The Zonal Forum was awesome and it was great to hear what is going on in other areas of our regions. And also see other faces of recovering addicts and share information regarding phone line and activities and PI, etc. Going back to our areas is a good idea also to let them know we can share ideas through participation at these assemblies. Tom's input has anybody ever asked Mid-Atlantic to be a part of our zonal forum's.....they are actually in a different zone, the zones are set by world. Todd responded that he cannot answer this question exactly, but we do believe that these zones were established by world services. Jessica's input is that it would be a great idea to be more interactive with Philadelphia and Mid-Atlantic. Todd will ask Merle to include New Jersey in her participation invites in the planning stages. Todd will also ask Merle to include the Twin Rivers area.

New Business from Subcommittees:

H&I: none.

PI: - none.

Communications: none.

Activities: none.

Nominations/Qualifications/Elections:

Nominations brought to the regional floor in October as follows:

Nomination for Regional Chair – Todd S. Todd accepted the nomination and qualified himself.

Nomination for Regional Co-Chair – Tom F. Tom accepted the nomination and qualified himself.

Nomination for Regional Delegate Alternate – Jim M. Jim declined the nomination.

Nomination for PI Chair – Rena. Rena accepted the nomination and qualified herself.

Nomination for Policy Chair – Jessica F. Jessica accepted the nomination and qualified, however, she's not sure about leaving H&I if she is still needed there.

Nomination for Communications Chair – Michael J. Michael accepted the nomination and qualified himself. Michael was actually voted into this position since it is a current open position.

Nominations/Elections brought to the floor in December:

Regional Chair – Todd S. votes = 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Todd will now become Regional Chairperson effective with Feb. Regional meeting.

Regional Co-Chair- Tom F. votes = votes = 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Tom will now become Regional Co-Chair effective with Feb. Regional meeting.

Regional H&I Chair – Jessica volunteers and has the nomination of the H&I committee although she did not put that in her H&I report. Jim read qualifications. Jessica qualifies herself. Votes = 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Jessica will continue for the next year as H&I chair.

Activities Chair – Todd S. nominates Jim S., Tom 2nd nomination. Qualifications and duties read by Todd S. Jim accepts the nomination and qualifies himself. Votes = 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, motion passes.

Communications Chair – Michael J. votes 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions Michael J. will now become

Positions that remain open on the regional level are: Secretary, Co-Secretary, Co-Treasurer, PI Chair, Literature Chair, & Policy Chair.

Note: Our Treasurer commitment will not change until December of 2009.

Open Forum:

Walt N. – would like Twin Rivers to join our region and just wanted to express that they are a gap that we need to fulfill in communications within NA. Welcome.....keep coming back!

Todd S. – Communications and Activities will be meeting together on a regional level.

Todd S. – wanted our guests to know that today's meeting is no completely representative of our regular regional meeting since we are missing a few key members that are almost always here, our RD, our Treasurer, our Montco RCM. Please feel free to come back and observe us again.

Frank did make it known that they are just on a fact finding mission to see how our region operates. They had one main concern about our region not having a seat on the world service board and that our votes are piggy-backed with the Philadelphia Region. Time and location of their next area meeting is Trinity Episcopal Church, 234 Spring Garden Street, Easton, PA. December 20, 2008 meeting at 2:30 pm. They currently have nine groups that meet 11 or 12 times. Do they have H&I meetings.....Little Apple Area currently holds most of the H&I commitments that would fall within their area. The Northampton county Correctional Facility and juvenile detention center and also a detox center in Phillipsburg Hospital that might be a consideration for an H&I commitment. We offered our help to them with PI presentations, etc to help them get some H&I going. Formulated since September. They also wanted to verify that our region does have an insurance policy that umbrellas all the meetings and functions within our area and that is true and they could easily become included in that insurance policy if they become members of EPARNA. Our phoneline services were also discussed and could be offered.

Meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer @ pm.

Upcoming Regional Meeting Dates:

Regional Services	Subcommittees
February 1 st at 2 pm	January 4 th and February 1 st at 1 pm
April 5 th at 2 pm	March 1 st and April 5 th at 1 pm
June 7 th at 2 pm	May 3 rd and June 7 th at 1 pm
August 2 nd at 2 pm	July 5 th and August 2 nd at 1 pm
October 4 th at 2 pm	September 6 th and October 4 th at 1 pm
December 6 th at 2 pm	November 1 st and December 6 th at 1 pm

**Dates and times are subject to change.*