

Eastern PA Regional Service Minutes

Date: February 3, 2008

- 2:04 pm - Meeting called to order with the Serenity Prayer by chairperson, Jim M.
- 12 Traditions read by: Michelle
- 12 Concepts read by: Mike
- Roll Call (secretary takes roll call):

RSC Chair	Jim M. - present
RSC Co-Chair	<i>Position Open (filled under new business, Todd S. beginning in April '08)</i>
Secretary	Debbie M. - present
Co-Secretary	<i>Position Open</i>
Treasurer	Tim R. – present
Co-Treasurer	<i>Position Open</i>
Literature Review	<i>Position Open</i>
H & I	Jessica F. - present
PI/Helpline	Tom F. - present
Activities	<i>Position Open</i>
Policy	<i>Position Open</i>
Meeting List	<i>Position Open</i>
Regional Delegate	Henry D. - present
RD Alt.	Merle H. – present
RCM Beehive	Jeff R. - present
RCM Bucks Co.	Paul D. - present
RCM Mont. Co.	Eric P. - present
RCM Pure & Simple	Kevin P. - present

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

Motioned to read from New Business Only by Henry D, 2nd by Todd. Motion accepted.

Corrections to Minutes: Tim R was nominated for the treasurer in October's regional meeting, qualified himself and nomination was accepted. He was not present in December for elections so we will bring that up in elections today. Paul D. motions to accept minutes with the correction, 2nd by Todd S. All in favor, motion to accept passed.

Area Reports:

Beehive Area: RCM: Jeff R., RCM Alt: Joshua K. – Greetings from Beehive area. I am not really sure as to how to start my report due to the information I have received in the past few days. However let me start with how the Bee Hive area feels about the phone line situation. We believe that we should do a presentation for the managers & not for everyone within the company as we do not believe that we should have to pay twice to fix this problem. Now on to the rest of my report. My area feels betrayed and in a way so do I. On Sunday January 27th I spoke at an out of town meeting where I was cornered by the alt RD of the Mid-Atlantic region and in his hand was a copy of the C.A.T. He then showed me page 57 where I read the following; “We received requests for seating from seven regions, and we are recommending seating for five of these regions; Egypt, El Salvador, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Poland. We are recommending not to seat North Carolina or Southern Brazil for reasons outlined in the following section of this report, “Policy Recommendations.” In brief, both of these regions have formed from already existing regions and until the conference clarifies how we should approach these types of regional splits, we will refrain from making such a recommendation. In addition to these seven requests, we did receive requests after the deadline, and we will hold them until the next conference. One of the region's whose information was too late to be considered at this conference, Eastern Pennsylvania, notified us of their intention to seek seating by the April 2007 deadline, but we did not receive their regional profile until two and a half months after the October deadline and so they were not among the regions we considered for seating”. Since I am an elected trusted servant of the Beehive area I shared this information with some of my area. The response was everything from “I told you so!!! It is time to move on” to “we deserve a face to face explanation as to why we were not informed about this earlier”. As per the response I got from some of the area members I am holding back on giving my area's donation to the region. I as a representative for my area no longer know if the conscience of my area is still the same on this matter. (See third concept). I also at this point would like to revisit our RD's Budget for the year!!! As I gave my area's conscience to pass this motion due to misinformation given to me. There were already some concerns brought up at area as to why the RD's wanted monies for 8 days for the California trip when the event was only 7 days. Now the concerns are why are we funding a trip that means nothing to the future of THIS region? This information I was given this time was in BLACK and WHITE and not hear say, I was given this same information a few months ago when a RD for another region went to a service commitment and was told by world board members that EPARNA has not given the information on time and would not be looked

upon to be seated. This RD called our RD to find out what was going on but he never received a call back, he then called me and I got in touch with our RD and was told its just hearsay and everything is ok. I understand that people make mistakes, probably more then anyone in this room. I also know that when I make a mistake I should let people know right away and not try to hide it or pretend it does not exist as this makes things worse. I have been a big supporter of this region and have defended it at my area since I have been elected to this position. I no longer think I can defend this region at my area. My feelings have now changed and I see why others in my area wanted to move to the Mid-Atlantic region. We as an area need a place where OUR voice could be heard and not just seen. In loving service, Jeff R., RCM and Joshua K, RCM alt.

Bucks County Area: RCM – Paul D. – Most area positions are full. 2 have nominees that will be voted on in Feb. including Alt RCM. The previous alt RCM nominee withdrew due to illness. Open positions are clean sheet and co-literature distribution rep. H&I will be re-opening the Women's prison commitment, as an experienced woman has joined the committee to help. Unity committee is doing fine and now has a chair. November and December events were successful with the exception of Breakfast with Santa. Discussion on the area floor thought maybe the event was too close to X-mas. Policy is asking each committee to do a review of their policies. Updates should be done by May. PI has been busy with their poster drive. They will be sending out mailings to local high schools + middle schools by March, and they are trying to put texts in libraries. Our area has 2 issues of concern. Firstly, they are requesting that some regional events in the future, be held in Lower Bucks County. Please let us know what we can do to facilitate this. Secondly, we are having a problem with our regional meeting list ordering system. I'd be glad to stay after our meeting for suggestions, if you'd rather not bog down this meeting. The general feeling at area is we think it might be better to order them every month from the Phila. RSO, rather than every other month here. We recently got stuck with a lot of our dated lists and would like to take some of the guess work out. We need help, please! Our area donation to the region is \$800.00. There will be a Valentine's Day dance on 2/16/08. There will be a CAR report workshop on 2/17/08, 12-4 pm at 6131 Emily Rd., First Baptist Church, Levittown (Tag Topic Meeting). All are welcome. In loving service, Paul D., RCM

Montgomery County Area: RCM – Eric P. – Montco Area is doing well and groups continue to carry the message. At January's ASC meeting elections were held and the results were as follows: Chair: Kevin Q. Co-Chair: Peter P. Secretary: Rina E. Co-Secretary: vacant. Treasurer: Lori K. RCM: Eric P. Alt RCM: Michelle A. PI Chair: Ken K. Literature Chair: Mike H. Literature Co-Chair: Ryan L. Meeting List Chair: Julianne Z. Unity Chair: Leslie D. Policy Chair: Hantan. We will be having a CAR report workshop on Saturday, February 16, 2008 at St. Cosmos Church from 12 to 4 PM. The church is located at 5th and Maple Sts in Conshohocken. Montco Area's Regional donation for January is \$452.79. In loving service, Eric P.

Pure and Simple Area: RCM – Kevin P. – General Information: We're still looking for a RCM for the Pure and Simple Area. The RCM position will roll over in March, but I will continue to support EPARNA until someone steps up who's willing to serve. There's a motion that will be voted on next week at our area service to create a standing Unity Sub-Committee. The intent is to foster unity within our area and throughout the region by planning events. This motion comes after a successful 7 month unity ad-hoc committee that ended in early November. New Meeting, Back to Basics: Wednesday 7:30-8:30 PM. St. Luke's United Church (The St. Luke's in town, not where the Tuesday night group meets), 141 S. Main Street (Rt. 313), Dublin PA. Group News: Back to Basics, the new Wednesday night meeting, needs homegroup members. 11th Hour are looking for suggestions for homegroup member celebrations. Just for Today homegroup, Sunday in Red Hill, is in need of experienced home group members. Through Principles We Unite, Friday night Doylestown, re-arranged their format. Come check it out. Manageable Mondays, Monday at Noon in Quakertown, is doing well but could use some support. Pure and Simple area CAR workshop, February 23rd (Sat.) at 11:30-2:30 pm at St. Michael's Church, Sellersville, PA.

Regional Delegate Report: RD – Henry D., RD alt – Merle H. – Hello everyone! Last week we were at the Autonomy Zonal Forum in Fredericksburg, VA. Quite an eye opening experience to see the World Board representation for the first time ever at this setting! It was nice to get some first hand experience of the thinking process they have at that level. They gave many personal insights to the motions in the CAR (Conference Agenda Report) and CAT (Conference Approval Track) 2008. We will leave questions about the CAT for new business and the CAR for the workshops. The reason is the immensity of the CAR. Yet the CAT is something we will have to discuss at the end of this report. The day was informative with a round table discussion on recovery vs. service-oriented literature held during the afternoon session. The next Forum will be hosted by the Mountaineer Region, somewhere in W. VA on July 26, 2008. Following in the C&P Region in Jan 09 and we get to host again in July 09. If you want to learn about ALL kinds of service, I suggest you mark your calendars for those dates and stay informed for locations. We have been visiting ASCs as usual, and doing what we can to support your local groups. There seems to be the need to hold a CAR workshop for each area. We welcome the interest as long as you can get the word out to your areas. One of us (or both) will make a point to attend and help with each, providing we are given an adequate time notice. The first is Montco on February 16, followed by a workshop in Bucks Co. on February 17. Anyone is welcomed to attend from any area, see your there. FYI, CAR is downloadable except the major book works. The purchase price for paper in its entirety is \$11.00. MARLCNA is next weekend in Lancaster, PA. In addition, just so you understand, we are still including our votes by group tally with GPRSC, since we are not seated yet. However, if anyone has input specific for us to carry to the conference, feel free to share and we will do our best to make sure it is heard. The Zonal Forum asked us to write and deliver the Autonomy Zonal report for WSC 08. This report gets included in the pre-conference reports and is read at the Conference. We figured this would give us continued exposure at this level. We will plug our region all the way to the end!! CAT update will be separate. Still in Loving Service, Henry D. & Merle H.

RD - Conference Approval Track 2008 Report: To the many that are not aware of what this service literature means, it is equivalent to a pre-conference report. It gives information not necessarily needed to be voted on, but important to the “floor” of the World Service Conference (WSC) delegates and their regions. Time frames are usually clear-cut as to sending input for inclusion in this report. This information then goes to the World Board (WB) for discussion and disseminated to the fellowship (via CAT) so we can be informed of how the WB bases their decisions and recommendations from the history of such issues. There are many topics discussed through this vehicle and among them are the seating of new regions. These recommendations will be among the topics yet to be voted on at the WSC by the whole of the conference. The deadline for our regions request for seating was October 31, 2007. The deadline was missed, therefore our input was not included in the CAT. However, this is not the final chance to request and receive seating at the conference. We will be asking another region for a motion to be brought up on the floor along with new business. Fortunately, we have the support of our parent region, Greater Phila, along with several other regions from the Autonomy Zonal forum. So all is not lost! In spite of this situation, the WB is attempting to “not” seat any regions forming from a “split” in order to discuss how to proceed with overwhelming numbers of US vs. non-US regions. To be completely straight with all this information, however the conference sees fit to deal with the proposed moratorium on seating will be the ultimate deciding factor of our chances overall. In closing, we are accepting responsibility for missing this deadline and ask for the support of our region to make it right by appealing to the Conference with a motion to seat Eastern PA region in 2008. With this said, we caution the RCMs as to how they express this to their groups since we are all looking forward to being formally represented at the WSC. We hope our mistake does not cause disunity and slow the process we started. We believe in NA service and hope that we can maintain carrying the messages as well as we have in spite of our WSC representation. Still In Loving Service, Henry D. & Merle H.

Regional body discussion regarding the RD's above CAT report: The reason for missing the 10/31 deadline was questioned. Answer per Henry was that he misread the part about the deadline piece and in talking with world services he just missed it (Merle too). In talking to WSO representative Henry thought the proper procedures were followed and the deadline was missed because he thought we had everything in place for seating at this upcoming conference. Human error. He didn't know how to get this information out to the whole region prior to today, so he chose to wait and inform us all through his report here today. He still doesn't think it's a lost cause to pursue seating at this 2008 world conference. We have support (as in his report). We can still make a motion at the world level in new business to be seated. The motion to seat us has to come from a region that's already seated. It is true that the World board is not anxious to seat regions that are split from another region in the US, however, If a motion is made at the conference during new business and gets a 2nd it will be entertained as if we were in the CAT. Henry was asked to explain how the greater Phila region is going to make a motion and do you know if they really are going to make a motion. Henry....cannot guarantee anything. We have strong advocates for us from the Virginia region. If this all fails at this world conference, when is the next opportunity for us to be seated? The answer to this question depends on the moratorium vote. The reason the world is suggesting a moratorium is because they don't know how other regions feel about this issue about regional splits or splits anywhere in the world. Is there going to be information in the CAT currently as to how they will be approving new regions? We will want our RD & RD alt. to be a part of the discussions regarding voting in of new regions at this world conference. They will need to develop criteria for acceptance of newly formed regions. It was discussed that our RD & RD alt's main purpose has been to get us seated at the world....missing this deadline was a huge mistake and our trusted servants definitely screwed up. Henry apologizes!!!! They are trying to work many principles to get through this.....knowing they missed the boat. Now they want to focus on how to possibly correct this issue and still be nominated for seating in 2008. Even if we are not seated at region our voice is still heard and our votes are still tallied through the Philadelphia region in a cooperative effort already established in years past. Also....as a region we do still have much meaning and purpose and there are still many things to do to support our areas and their homegroups.

RD – Autonomy Zonal Forum, January 2008 Report: Eastern PA, which started as a region in May 2003, consists of 4 areas (Bee Hive Area, Bucks Area, Montco Area and Pure and Simple Area). We are a fully operating regional service committee with strong support from our areas. We currently provide service to 190 monthly Hospital and Institution commitments. In October 2007, the Region held a Regional Assembly where we had open discussions regarding the discussion questions, which were presented to the fellowship by the World Board. Members of all four areas led the discussions, and we had excellent representation from all of our members. After the assembly, we had dinner, and then an out of town speaker to end the evening with a meeting. The regional H&I and PI committees held a joint Learning Day in January. There were speakers who shared about the Fifth Tradition, how Hospitals and Institutions work, the Twelve Concepts, and lastly we had a phone line orientation. There was a great turnout, and this event was well attended by members from all areas of our region. We held elections in December, and we have new members in RCS positions. We wish some of the departing members well, and welcome some new faces to our region. Jim is now our regional chair and Debbie M. continues as our secretary. H&I chair is Jessica F., PI chair is Tom F. Other positions were not up for election, but the co-chair position, as well as meeting list remains open. In addition to new positions, EPARNA has obtained an insurance policy for all activities to utilize that are registered within our region. This insurance is affordable and appears to be a very equitable for use in NA. Anyone interested can get in touch with us for more info. The combined meeting list presented by EPARNA and Greater Philadelphia Region continues to meet the needs of our local fellowship to assist everyone looking for meetings beyond our immediate region. Since the meeting list now reflects meetings in both regions, it will continue to be represented by counties, rather than as areas. We no longer need to refer to two lists to find meetings within neighboring areas. We have continued our efforts for seating and recognition at the World Service Conference 2008, and the ongoing support from our friends in the Autonomy Zone Forum is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support. We also plan to attend MARLCNA in February in order to participate in the world service

workshops, and look forward to seeing everyone there. In Loving Service, Henry D. RD & Merle H. RDA

Subcommittee Reports:

H&I: Jessica F. – chair – Our PI/H&I Learning Day with phone line orientation as a big success. We had nearly 70 addicts attend and most stayed until the end. H&I needs support – we have no co-chair or secretary. It also seems that most of our area H&I subcommittees need support. I am still getting used to being chair & sorting out all of this info. so this is all I have to report so far. In Loving Service, Jessica F.

Meeting Lists: no chair, no report.

PI: Tom F – chair – The PI/H&I Learning Day was a huge success with 70 plus people showing up and 70 staying for the phone line orientation in which about 60 signed up for the 12 step list. Because of the amount of people showing, we were short on refreshments which we picked up locally. This however caused us to spend over our budget. We received \$210 for supplies, we spent \$219.10 on booklets, binders and copies, \$45.08 on meeting lists, \$87.00 on pizza, \$9.77 on chips & pretzels, \$55.08 on coffee and supplies, totaling \$416.00 less \$210 received I would like to make a motion for the remaining \$206.00. The subcommittee met today, Montco, Pure & Simple, phone line and web servant chair and secretary were present. We discussed Learning Day at region and setting up phone line days at the area levels. We also discussed training operators at the phone line in which we have a motion for this. In Loving Service, Tom F. (see motions under new business).

Old Business:

None

B R E A K

Treasurer Report: Tim R. (motion to be brought up under new business) (report attached to emailing of these minutes)

New Business from Areas:

Beehive: no new business. (see open forum for an added motion)

Bucks County: no new business.

Montco: no new business.

Pure & Simple: no new business.

New Business from RD: no new business.

New Business from Subcommittees:

H&I: no new business.

PI: 2 motions as follows:

Motion: To reimburse \$206.00 to PI chair for cost of PI/H&I Learning Day and phone line orientation.

Intent: To be financially responsible and self supporting.

RCM vote only – 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Motion passed

Motion: For approximately \$300 for learning aids and wages for professional phone operators to train them on what NA is and is not, the importance of these calls and how to handle them. Phone line guide, page 3-2, touches on this subject. I also talked to a world board member and world trusted servants, all of which fee this is a good idea.

Intent: To better serve the addict that still suffers.

Regional body discussion regarding this motion: The plan for implementation of above motion was discussed....we will do a training of operators and managers in two shifts, morning and night training. The world board feedback was questioned and discussed and the referenced pages of the phone line guide were read for clarification. The amount of \$300 and how the committee came up with this value was discussed and answered that the phone line company we use gave us that monetary range based on hourly wages for employees. The issue of operator turnover was discussed and our hopes or intentions are that this training will provide necessary information to current operators and supervisors and the information may then be passed onto new

employees....we will orient them currently and they will then be better able to orient new employees.

RCM vote only – 3 yes, 1 no, 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Meeting List: no new business.

Treasurer: 1 motion as follows:

Motion: To be reimbursed \$41.00 for the purchase of stamps.

Intent: To be reimbursed.

RCM vote only – 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Motion passed

Nominations/Qualifications/Elections:

Paul D., RCM from Bucks County nominated Todd S. for regional **Co-Chair** – Todd S. accepts nomination and qualifies himself.

Vote: 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Motion passes and Todd S., effective with April '08 meeting will be Co-chair.

Tim R. was nominated for regional **treasurer** and qualified at October's regional meeting. Tim again accepts the nomination.

Vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Motion passes and Tim R. will continue on as Treasurer for our region.

Current EPARNA Positions Open for Nominations at next regional meeting – Co-Secretary, Co-Treasurer, Literature Review Chair, Unity Committee Chair, Newsletter Chair, Policy Chair, Meeting List Chair. Please bring nominations &/or volunteers to our next regional meeting for election into any open positions.

Please Note: Elections for a new RD Alt. will be coming up in June, 2008!!!

Open Forum:

Motion from Beehive area RCM:

Motion: To revisit the regional budget to exclude all travel expense for WSC.

Intent: we are not being looked at for seating, why do we need to pay for the trip?

Regional body discussion regarding this motion: If we are to be considered for seating in any way (ie a motion from another region) our RD's have to be present at this conference. Last year we sent our RD's and allowed their expenses, we still want them to represent our efforts. Our RD & RD alt have done an exceptional job with the only exception of the current issue with missing the deadline for filing our profile, they need to be known at the world level. The issue with 7 days vs. 8 days in California was discussed and the conference runs from Saturday to Saturday which is 8 days. Regardless of the deadline missed, if we have any shot at being seated they need to be at the conference.

RCM vote only – 1 yes, 3 no, 0 abstentions. Motion fails.

Discussion: Michelle asked; with no meeting list chair of the region who do meeting list corrections go to? The RSC Co-chair fills in the absence of a committee chairperson. Effective in April, that will be Todd S.

Bucks Co. area RCM, Paul D. brought up in his report and wants to discuss here Bucks concerns that there haven't been a lot of events or workshops closer to their area. It was discussed that we haven't had any regional events at all since the Unity Committee for our region has never been active and there have been no regional events. Also can subcommittee chairs report on who (which area chair people) are in attendance at their regional meetings.

Can the RD and RD Alt explain the process about collecting CAR report votes. Our next Regional meeting is in April. Henry suggests that **RCM's bring group CAR votes back to the next Region or email to Henry or Merle. Cut-off date to get group votes to Henry & Merle is April 14th** so they can get them to Phila to be incorporated into their votes.

If any areas need to have help with the discussion of the CAT problem Henry and Merle are willing to get to ASC meetings to help discuss this issue. PLEASE NOTE THEY DO NOT WANT TO DISCUSS THIS "CAT" ISSUE AT AREA "CAR" WORKSHOPS SINCE THAT WILL NOT BE THE PURPOSE OF THE CAR WORKSHOP.

Meeting closed with the Serenity Prayer @ 4:12 pm.

Upcoming Regional Meeting Dates:

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

**Dates and times are subject to change.*

Upcoming Regional Events:

None reported....none listed.