

Lewis and Clark Area Service Committee Meeting

March 20, 2010

700 Club, Minot, ND

Thanks Minot for Hosting!

Attendance: Tom W, Karla B, Steve J, Don W, Lorelee B, Rob H, John F, Martin G, Amy D, Teresa K(Jamestown), Tony F, Jason S, Jodi, Eddie G, Kory H, Saul H, Randy R, Scott, Brock

Kim K has resigned as chairperson, so Tom W called the meeting to order as acting chair with a moment of serenity and the "we" version of the Serenity Prayer. Don W read the Twelve Traditions and Jason S read the Twelve Concepts.

January 2010 meeting minutes were approved.

Group Reports:

Minot Freedom Group, GSR Eddie G

Group attendance is good with a core of 13-15 addicts and regular attendance at 25-30 with 1-3 newcomers. We are having a seasonal potluck scheduled for May 22. We haven't decided whether it will be indoors or out. A flyer will be circulated after all the details have been figured out. Anyone interested in speaking please contact Saul, Eddie or Kory. We are also supporting an addict who wishes to start a new Saturday evening meeting in Minot. We will donate readings and literature as well as experience, strength and hope. So hopefully Minot will have a new meeting in the near future. We are making a \$50.00 donation to LCASC.

Jamestown Overcomers, GSRA Amy D

Average attendance is 8, with up to 35 newcomers since January. The majority of newcomers are from individuals allowed on pass from TRC, men and women are rotating weeks. Rent is paid until April; we have a balance of \$123.14 plus \$50.00 prudent reserve. We will be hosting Cabin Fever Potluck on April 9 at 6pm with a meeting at 8pm. We are also having our 6th annual Iceoff/ Fishout potluck Sunday May 2, 2010 from 1-8 pm, fishing and potluck, with a rain/snow date of May 9.

Jamestown 518 at 515, GSR Teresa K

Average attendance is 3 with 1 newcomer. This is a women's step meeting, but we have a man who has been coming, so the meeting is being run as a regular meeting rather than a women's step meeting. Rent is paid up.

Bismarck Monday Southside NA, GSR Scott D

Jason S reported that the Monday Southside NA group will no longer participate in LCASC.

Bismarck Wednesday Circle of Serenity, GSR Lorelee B

Average attendance is 15-20 with 3-5 newcomers. We are holding regular business meetings the last Wednesday of the month. It was felt that the name of our group, "Old Timers", may not be attractive to

newcomers, so the group voted to change the name to Circle of Serenity. It was also decided to make this meeting a closed meeting for addicts only. We will be opening a new checking account as we have been unable to connect with our former treasurer to get that account. There is no concern about theft of funds, as our former treasure is still active in the program, she has simply moved to a different area and it is taking time to get together to sort it out. We have no donation today, as we are still working on finding out about rent and we will be placing an order for literature.

Bismarck Thursday Eastenders, GSRA Karla B

Average attendance is 25-35 with 3-5 newcomers. Our group voted on the CAR, we are working on a Home Group Birthday List and rent is paid through the end of the year. People are committing to rotating chairperson and greeters. The group has voiced a concern and would like to know more about how our donations to LCASC are being used and what the purpose of those donations is.

Bismarck Friday Keeping the Faith, GSR Jamie A absent

Bismarck Saturday Night Live, GSR Andy W absent

Bismarck Sunday Pick-a-Stick, GSR Don W

Average attendance is 18-20 with 4-6 newcomers. Bart Z stepped down as GSR due to personal reasons. After our last Area meeting, the group at that time voted to take legal action against our former treasurer, we are waiting to hear what's going on with that. The meeting as of now is lacking home group members, so I have been of service in all positions. We do have literature and key tags. We have no donation today, as there were no homegroup members at our last business meeting to vote whether to make one.

Mandan Tuesday Frank Lee Earnest, GSR Martin G

Average attendance is 10 with 5 newcomers. Attendance has slipped; attending from center is down and segregated by gender. All group service commitments are up for election at the end of March. We are making a \$20.00 donation to Area.

Mandan Mon-Fri Outta the Box, GSR Jason S

Average attendance 1-4, newcomers 1-2. Attendance has been down and we may be dropping the number of meetings to 3 a week. All meetings are now at the Ridge in Mandan. We are breaking even with our 7th tradition.

Steering Committee Reports

Chairperson, Kim K has resigned as chair.

Vice Chair, Tom W

I am grateful to be of service as acting chair.

Treasurer, Martin G

| | Credits | Debits | Balance |
|--|---------|--------|-----------|
| Balance Ending December 2009 | | | \$1652.14 |
| 01/30/10 Check 1072 Postmaster 1 Year PO Box | | 96.00 | 1556.14 |
| 01/16/10 Check 1073 Ridge Hotel Area Service Room Rent | | 25.00 | 1531.14 |
| 01/08/10 Friday Night Donation | 50.00 | | 1581.14 |
| 01/16/10 Check 1074 Kory RCM Gas Reimbursement | | 51.08 | 1530.60 |
| 01/16/10 Check 1075 Tony Outreach Gas Reimbursement | | 15.00 | 1515.06 |
| 01/16/10 Wednesday Night Donation Old Timers Group | 25.00 | | 1540.06 |
| 01/16/10 Saturday Night Donation Saturday Night Live Group | 20.00 | | 1560.06 |
| 03/18/10 Adjustment Check 1074 cashed as \$51.00 not as \$51.08 | .08 | | |
| Balance Ending March 18th 2010 | | | \$1560.14 |

Secretary, Lorelee B

I am grateful to be of service. I would like to compile all of our archives into one place, either on a cd or jumpdrive, and have paper copies.

RCM, Kori H

Hello Trusted Servants: I attended the GSR assembly on March 13. It was very informative and well attended by addicts from all over the area. For any GSR's that were unable to attend, a copy of the CAR is available at www.na.org/conference for review. Ballots have been sent out to those individuals on the LCASC mailing list as well as those on the UMRNA mailing list. If you did not receive one you can email Wes at tippyturtle@hotmail.com for one. When you have completed your ballots, please send completed ballots to Jeremy at plano767@aol.com before April 10.

The next UMRSC meeting is April 10, 2010 in Fergus Falls, MN. I am looking forward to attending. Please feel free to ask me to pass on any thoughts or concerns you may have for the UMRSC.

In Service, Kory H

RCMA, John F has resigned as RCMA

Outreach, Tony F

As of January 16, 2010 we had a balance of \$441.21. \$177.69 was spent on literature bought (which will be explained later in this report) and \$45.33 was spent on shipping to 5 different facilities. This leaves us with a balance of \$218.19 as of today.

I have been in contact with Dickinson and sent a letter of encouragement to Devils Lake to participate in the ASC, of which I received no reply. I have a letter of encouragement to Williston I've written that is going to be taken there by a few people who are planning to head there this evening for a meeting. The hope is to get them to participate also. Now Dickinson is interested but hasn't been able to make the last 2 meetings

but has graciously offered to host the next ASC! Hopefully there will be some discussion on this later. It is also interesting to note an individual from Bowman has contacted me about starting a meeting! I encouraged him to find a place, a coffee pot, a Basic Text and get started! After that we would help him with the rest.

I purchased some extra literature to finish out our mailings to facilities that were contacted previously. Along with that purchase I ordered 10 extra sets of reader cards and 10 extra Just For Today's. The reason for this was hopefully to give some addicts some incentive to seek out a facility; one they would like to start a meeting at or one that has a meeting going and needs help from the outside. This seems to be working in Jamestown as I have been going into a meeting there every other Sunday evening at TRC. Now the women's side is about to start up as a couple women have decided to enhance their recovery and stepped forward to get cleared. If anyone is interested, please give me a call or email me. My number and email is on the contact list. Take this info back to your groups and make it a group effort or pass the info on to someone who is interested. It's very simple and satisfying!

I updated the meeting list and hope thru some of these efforts new meetings will be added. The next couple of months I have a full plate with personal issues so this will be a good time to wait and see. Thank you for your time!

Activities, Teresa K (Jamestown)

We set a date for the Stump Lake Campout July 30-Aug 1. We were asked not to have fireworks because of state laws. We would like to have workshops during the campout in addition the UMRSC meeting that is traditionally held there. Kory will check with UMRSC to see if that weekend will work for them. There are no other weekends available to reserve at Stump Lake.

Teresa K from Mandan resigned her position, she submitted the following letter:

"I am going to step down from being the co-chairperson for Area Activities. I think it would be better for me to keep doing the local activities and work on my program. Thank you for voting me in. I think it is better for me to step down. Thank you, Teresa"

Thanks Teresa for your service to Area, you will be missed!

Elections

Chairperson: Jason nominated Steve J, who was elected by acclamation. Welcome Steve and Thank You!

RCMA: No nominations were made, so this position is still open.

Area Reimbursements:

\$15.00 reimbursement for rent of the 700 Club for our meeting today.

\$25.00 reimbursement for Outreach Subcommittee for gas expenses.

Kory moved to approve, Lorelee seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Date for Area Inventory:

John F contacted Tom to see if he would be willing to facilitate the Area Inventory. April 24, 2010 was set for the inventory, time and place to be determined. There was some concern about conflict with Service is Me in Fargo that same day, but this is the only day that Tom has available to facilitate. Kory moved to pay cost of hotel room up to \$100 and reasonable gas reimbursement for the facilitator to travel to our area to conduct the inventory. Jason seconded, motion passed.

Bid Process for the Next Convention:

UMRSC has resolved this issue so it was dropped

Learning Days

Steve J was assigned to form an ad hoc committee to come up with topic suggestions at our January meeting. Suggestions were made at today's meeting for traditions, homegroups, service structure and codependency in addiction. The group decided to schedule some workshops during the upcoming Stump Lake campout. Steve will get with Teresa K to set something up. John F said the Regional FDC would be able to assist. If we want to submit information to NA Way about the campout and learning days, it needs to be done by April 1.

New Business

GSR CAR Assembly

As Kori reported in the RCM report, the assembly went well, and we have information to get ballots and where to send them. Ballots need to be submitted by April 10.

Request by groups for Information about use of Area Donations

Donations to Area are used to further our primary purpose to carry the message to the addict who still suffers. These funds are used to pay expenses such as rental of facilities for our meetings and functions, having a Post Office box, publishing an Area meeting list and flyers, purchasing merchandise for sale at activities, and providing activities that are attractive to the newcomer such as our annual campout. Monies are also used to reimburse costs for facilitators to come from outside our area to conduct workshops and for our own trusted servants to attend business meetings outside our area. LCASC Outreach subcommittee provides literature and support to jails and institutions for addicts that are not able to come to us. LCASC also may donate to UMRSC to help provide Regional activities, resources and support

Martin went over the disbursements and operating costs for last year. There was a question about guidelines Article 3:03 to maintain a prudent reserve of three months' expenses and whether to amend the guidelines to set a specific dollar amount for prudent reserve and what that amount should be. Martin will

review and try to come up with a possible dollar amount for expenses if we decide to set one. There also was discussion about starting a phone help line to provide a resource to locate meetings and schedule callbacks to offer help to addicts. Tony offered to research options for a phone helpline. There also was a suggestion that Area provide literature support to groups.

Theft of funds from 2008 Stump Lake campout

LCASC had held a special meeting in November, 2008 to discuss theft of funds from the Stump Lake campout. At that meeting it was determined that the two individuals involved would each be responsible for a dollar amount of \$250.00 to be paid back on their terms.

At the regular LCASC meeting in November, 2009, concern was expressed that neither of the parties had made any attempt to repay the money. One of the parties is currently incarcerated and is unable to make any payments or set terms. Teresa K volunteered to contact the other party to find out how he would like to resolve this issue. Jason S made a motion that at the next LCASC meeting in January, there is need of a plan for repaying the LCASC or that we put this issue to rest and write it as a loss. Julie M seconded. Motion passed.

At the regular LCASC meeting in January, 2010, Teresa K reported that the person did not want to make any arrangements to pay back the money that he was responsible for. Jamie A made a motion to cut losses and move on. Tony F seconded. Motion failed. Jason S then made a motion that we contact said party with a stipulation for paying back what is owed within a year. No one seconded the motion. Motion was dropped. After much discussion and debate, Tom W made a motion to stick with what the area had voted on at the special meeting in November 2008, which was to have the parties involved pay it back on their own terms. Loralee B seconded. Motion passed.

At today's meeting, Jason S brought a motion to rescind the motion that was adapted at the January 10, 2010 meeting to retain the original agreement of the November 2008 special meeting (to allow the parties to pay back on their terms) because the LCASC voted this motion without group conscience. Martin G seconded. Motion passed.

John F stated that he thought a vote had passed at the January 2010 meeting to pursue recovery of the money. This motion is not documented in the January minutes. Don W said he had recorded that meeting for the purpose of taking notes, he and Loralee B will review that recording to verify what motions were made, denied or passed. Loralee B made a motion to rescind the approval of the January minutes until things were clarified and corrected. Steve J seconded. Motion passed.

Jason S then made a motion to contact the available person to set terms with a date for repayment and if terms were not set, to pursue collections through legal means. Teresa K seconded. Motion failed. Saul H made a motion to contact said party to ask for terms, without the threat of legal action. Don W seconded. Motion passed. Steve J stated that he had been in contact with this person and there may be willingness on his part to repay. Steve volunteered to contact him again and to get terms for repayment in writing.

Location for Next Meeting

Tony F has been in contact with groups in Dickinson and they have expressed interest in joining the LCA. They would like to host our next LCASC meeting on May 15, 2010. If they are unable to host, the meeting will be held in Jamestown. Tony will let us know, so we can get the information out to everyone.

Beefs and Bouquets

There was some good-hearted grumbling about the meeting going past the 5:00 pm end time. There were beefs about voting without getting group conscience, discussions becoming opinionated and spending too much time on one issue. There was also concern that a group would liaison with another group to report something, rather than approach area directly.

Bouquets for all those doing service, and for Tom W who chaired today. Our area is living in the solution. We make mistakes, but we are learning and making progress. There were some tough issues presented, but we were able to make decisions and take action with responsibility, respect and unity. No one became angry or left over disagreements, and we reached a group conscience. Those attending felt like a part of our group.