

VANCOUVER AREA MINUTES August 6, 2014

Called to order at **6:35** by Facilitator **Ivy S**

Concept **8** read out loud by various members

ROLL CALL – Present except if noted as open or absent

Facilitator - Ivy S

Outreach - Ashifa

Co-Facilitator - Open

Phone Line Liaison - Open

Treasurer - Jenny A

Postal Communications - Steve R

Secretary - Alan S

PI Chair - Open

RCM 1 - Melinda L

Policy & Procedures Chair - Open

RCM 2 - Dave H - Absent with regrets

Spring Clean - Mike

H & I Chair - Erin N

Women's Retreat - Absent

Literature Chair - Vicky J

Web Coordinator - John

Newsletter Liaison - Kelly J

HIPI Day ad-hoc committee chair - Lisa W

GSR REPORTS:

Steve E - GSR Step-Up

- Attendance between 20-30 with more females in attendance. Appeals for more female members seem to be working. Some mix between newcomers and clean time.
- Alternate GSR position is open.
- Format change has been working - changed from shotgun to chair/secretary led.
- Donation \$100

Mike J - GSR Freakin' Miracles

- Average attendance 15 - 20; all service positions filled.

Cakes: Sabrina - 7 years - Aug 11 / Rob B - 2 years Aug 18

- Donation \$100

Erin N - New Attitudes

- Support needed during the week; Summer attendance is down.
- Need secretaries for certain days, Alt. and GSR positions are open.
- Blair C - 14 years - Sept 14
- Donation \$20

Skylar - (alternate) 7:30 NA - Fridays

- 20 - 30 average attendance - meeting is growing
- Donation \$163.25

Kelcie B - GSR Candle in the window

Katelyn R - Alt. GRSR

- Average attendance is 5 - 10
- Need Secretary for Wednesdays & Saturdays
- Staying at current location until have to go; building is being demolished.

Cakes: Kelcie B - 5 years - Aug 21

Dal - GSR Lust 4 life

- Average attendance 20-25.
- All positions filled
- \$50 donation

Lisa W - Temporary GSR Addicts With New Hope

- Average attendance 20-30; No open positions
- Group inventory and BBQ is planned!
- Donation \$ 400

Cakes : Oren Aug 24 - 6 years / Justin Aug 10 - 10 years

Darrel Sept 14 - 15 years / Lisa W Oct 25 - 1 year

John P Alt. GSR Little Meeting in Kits

- Average attendance 30 - 40; No open positions

Steve R - GSR Clean Freaks

- Average attendance 10 - 12; could use support
- Getting bank account set up

Mike H - GSR - Clean Life

- Average attendance 50; new members weekly.
- Alt. Marc GSR sends his regrets
- Donation \$74.40

Cakes: Sheena M - 9 Years Sept 16

Angela M - GSR Awakening of the Spirit

- Average attendance 30-40; Always in need of women, lots of recovery house members.
- Amended format to alternate Male/Female among group members
- Possible group BBQ in the works

Cakes: Chris K - 9 years Aug 27

Shelby - GSR Third Tradition

- Average attendance 10; In need of support.
- Lack of core members for business meeting and struggling to donate.

MINUTES:

- Minutes from July 2 VASC meeting accepted with change on Page 8:
 - Proposal 3 straw poll count should read '3' not 2
 - Proposal 4 straw poll count should read '2' not 3

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS & SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

FACILITATOR'S REPORT - **Ivy S**

- Have met with Treasurer and new Web Coordinator John P since last VASC.
- Provided copies of new GSR Orientation Manual for distribution to groups.
- Active / Folded meetings:
 - The Exchange, Mondays @ 8 pm at Carnegie Centre - still active
 - Women on Mondays @ 6:30 pm Mondays in Kerrisdale - still active
 - The Usual Suspects - Men's meeting on Wednesdays @ VRC - Steve E confirmed still active
 - Nueva Vida - TBD
- Per VASC policy the positions of Facilitator, Co,-Facilitator, Treasurer, Secretary, RCM1 and RCM2 positions to be elected at September Area. Sub-committee chair terms are also open at this time.
- Ivy S will stand for re-election as Facilitator in September
- Clarification offered re: who has input into consensus decisions:
 - Any NA member in the room is welcome to offer input, ask questions and raise concerns or suggest changes to proposals under discussion.
 - Everyone who holds a position at VASC is part of reaching consensus. (ref. Concept 7)
 - Some decisions are limited to groups (via their GSR's) as a matter of VASC policy. For example, the election of administrative officers and sub-committee chairs. (ref. Concept 2)

TREASURER'S REPORT - **Ivy S** reporting in lieu of **Jenny A**

- Presented ledger as provided by Jenny A
Opening Balance: **\$ 978.24**
- Jenny A will not be running in September.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - **Alan S**

- July Minutes are available on FaceBook group and have been circulated to VASC meeting list
- Please advise secretary if you are not getting email copy of the minutes so your information can be corrected or added.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

RCM 1 REPORT - Melinda L

- Reminder that the Canadian Convention of Narcotics Anonymous (CCNA) will be held in Nanaimo on September 26-28th. Brochures have been handed out and remind GSR's to please announce.
- Attended HIPI day - thanks to Lisa and committee for arranging this great event.
- Next Regional meeting is in Surrey (venue location ?) August 23-24; both Dave H and Melinda L will be attending. Any NA member is welcome to attend Regional meetings but note they do start early in the day. Please pass along any issues that Area wants addressed at Area to Dave or Melinda.
- Melinda L will be running in September for re-election

RCM 2 REPORT - Dave H

- Absent with regrets

H AND I: Erin N

- HIPI Day went well ; suggest this event run next Summer again.
- Concern raised that Bowen panel leaders maybe ought not be at licensed restaurants?
 - Orchard staff say restaurants in the area are limited and have no concerns.
- Heartwood panel leader stepped down; Gail is covering this and will stand at next monthly meeting to be elected. One year clean time is required.
- Panel leaders in Basic News that were interim are now full-time.
- Banking:
 - Current account shows \$181.41 ; want to close account but bank says they need a letter from board and/or CEO. New account is with VanCity.
- Seeking 1/2 regular monthly allotment \$210.00 from Area today.
- Running for second term next month

Literature: Vicky J

- Rent on locker paid to December.
- No regional literature order ; 6 orders placed & filled this month.
- Vicky J will not be running for re-election in September.

GSR's: Please announce need for new lit chair in September

Bank Balance: \$ 1,476.11 (before current month deposit)

Newsletter Liaison: Kelly

- Lists going around the room; please fill in cake dates and required updates for Basic News
- Meeting lists and Basic News are available at the back of room at end of this meeting
- New meeting lists coming out next month; this is the end of the current quarter.

OUTREACH: Ashifa

- In need of more trusted servants
- Need to contact existing committee members to confirm interest in this Sub-committee.
- Just learning that there is a monthly allotment from VASC for literature expenses.
- Have been keeping to Vancouver area meetings; unaware of the need to cover West Vancouver and Squamish.
- Regular meeting of this sub-committee will be first Sunday after Area at VRC 1:30 pm (room TBA)

PHONE LINE: Open

SPRING CLEAN: Mike G

- BBQ / Fundraiser September 6 at Jericho Beach
- Mike will stand again for re-election.
- Position is normally elected in August but announce as open in Basic News for one month before election at next Area in September. If interested in position details reach Mike G for more info.

WOMEN'S RETREAT: No report

Ivy S advised she spoke to the committee and brings back the following info:

- Financials are almost complete; expect completed financials at September Area
- Position to be open in October since final reporting in September

POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS: Steve R

- Picked up mail; brought the mail.
- Regional received mail today.

HIPI DAY Ad Hoc Committee Chair: Lisa W

- 70 in attendance; thanks to the many volunteers who made this possible.
- Proceeds of \$81 in upgraded food items
- Meetings not as well attended as BBQ but were still successful with great speakers at each.
- Jeremy presented treasurer's report as written
- \$25 + \$45 cheques provided by VASC; Lisa W reported that the \$25 cheque is misplaced.
- Ivy S noted that Area needs a policy on what to do when a cheque issued by VASC is misplaced. Referred to new business.

Web Coordinator: John P

- Current domain name will have to be paid for next year; the current Credit Card on the account expires September 15, 2014 although we are paid up to June, 2015.
- Status of web hosting is unclear; suggestion given to John P was to go to Regional and ask around. John intends to be at Regional this quarter.
- John P presented proposed new VASC website:
 - Current web content is not easy to manipulate and edit
 - Proposed new site optimized for all formats, including tablets and such.
 - There will be a single log-in for access to all parts of the site.
 - Literature portion of site; order by cheque at this time, Confirmation email to sender and Literature chair to coordinate payment and inventory.
 - Primary navigation vs. secondary navigation (public vs. NA users)

- Meeting readings, excerpts from Basic Text and meeting lists (including navigation and directions).
- John is available to give one-on-one tutorials or to advise by phone or in person.
- Suggestion by John P that he be paid as 'special worker' for the building of the new website; would continue in service position as VASC web coordinator. John P could be available to other Areas as special worker to implement design of same type site to suit that area.
- Approximate cost as special worker to implement new site design \$ 2,000
- Link to www.2014.vascna.ca for the proposed website;

Q: What about inventory control?

A: It would require testing by placing actual order. Need to consult with Literature chair to see how best to provide this. Literature likes the order process but need more assurance of inventory control.

Q: Can cost for website be paid over time or is lump sum payment required?

A: Yes

Q: What about training users?

A: That is part of John's commitment as Web Coordinator for VASC.

Q: Who owns intellectual property if site is purchased from special worker?

A: Software used to create the site is open source (WordPress). Purchase price (\$ 2,000) is for creative input to design.

- Approval of proposed new website tabled to September area
- John P is willing to stand for Web Coordinator again in September

GSR's: Please take back to your groups for discussion since there will be a \$2,000 financial impact to Area if decision is to go ahead.

TREASURERS UPDATE:

Opening Balance: **\$978.24**

Closing Balance: \$ 1268.52 current balance without expenses

Available: \$ 0 *

*Still operating on reserve funds

RCM Travel Reserve is back up to \$600 level

Still below **Prudent** reserve, \$1,400 level

- Suggestion that there be no donation to Region since now operating on reserve funds
- Consensus : achieved

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ELECTIONS

CO-FACILITATOR:

- No nominees; bring back to groups

POLICY AND PROCEDURES:

- No nominees; bring back to groups

PI CHAIR:

- No nominees; bring back to groups

PHONE LINE:

- No nominees; bring back to groups

2. NEW MEETING FACILITY

Steve E: Broadway & Fraser is out

Carle : 50th and Fraser; TBA

- Ivy S to renew contract with Roundhouse to December. Unused rents can be refunded if location change is decided before then

3. PROPOSAL TO STAGGER ELECTIONS

- Ivy S suggested that not enough support shown from Area to stagger admin officer position elections
Consensus: achieved

- Recommendation that administrative officer positions be overlapped by outgoing member first 3 months of new term for mentoring

- Term limits: Current understanding is that truncated position counts as a term.

Note: a truncated term is where the trusted servant is elected later than in September and so has a first term of less than a full year.

- Suggested that last month there was some agreement on this
- Suggestion raised that Policy currently allows for the appointment of a truncated position

Proposal by Ivy S that VASC change policy so that a truncated term does not count towards the two term limit per current policy.

Consensus that VASC change policy to show that truncated term does not count towards the two term limit per current policy.

4. PROPOSAL TO ALLOW GSR'S TO HOLD SUB-COMMITTEE POSITIONS CONCURRENTLY

- Currently GSR / GSR Alternate cannot hold sub-committee positions concurrently except for positions of Postal communications and Newsletter Liaison
- Do other areas allow GSR's to hold sub-committee chair positions; perceived conflict of interest and crossing of lines of accountability.

Discussion:

-Is doing double duty going to lead to burn-out?

-Does having two positions create conflict of interest?

-Regional delegate Deb N unaware of any other Areas who are allowing this; concerns about possible burn-out

Consensus that VASC abandon the proposal that GSR's be allowed to hold sub-committee positions concurrently and that current VASC policy be held.

5. PROPOSAL TO HOLD HIPI DAYS AS ANNUAL EVENT

- Please bring proposal to September Area for approval after final wrap-up meeting this month.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Donation to Region this quarter

No donation: see treasurer's update above for decision.

ADJOURNED at **8:59 pm** by **Ivy S** co-facilitator

Closed with the Serenity Prayer