

VANCOUVER AREA MINUTES December 3, 2014

Called to order at **7:07 p.m.** by Facilitator **Ivy S**

Concept **12** read out loud by various members

ROLL CALL - Present except if noted as 'open' or 'absent'

Facilitator - Ivy S

Co-Facilitator - Open

Treasurer - Jenny A

Secretary - Alan S

RCM 1 - David C

RCM 2 - Dave H

H & I Chair - Erin N - absent with regrets

Literature Chair - Skylar S

Newsletter Liaison - Kelly J / Dave H

Outreach - Open

Phone Line Liaison - Open

Postal Communications - Steve R

PI Chair - Sheena E

Policy & Procedures Chair - Rob Z absent without regrets

Spring Clean - Dave H

Women's Retreat – Toni

Web Coordinator - John P

GSR REPORTS:

Marco D - Eye of the Storm - Wednesday @ 8 pm

- Average attendance 20; uncertain if meeting is closed for Christmas eve & New Years Eve
- Needs support since only 2 core group members; all trusted service positions open.
- Cakes : Kevin P - 6 years January 14, 2015

Matt M - Return to Grace - Friday @ 7:30 pm

- Average attendance 15-25. Open positions: Alt. GSR
- \$50 donation

JP - Promises of Freedom - Thursday @ 7:30 pm

- Average attendance 15-20; all service positions filled
- \$40 donation

Cakes : Daine V - 1 Year Dec 26 / JP - 2 Yrs Dec 12

Will be open Christmas Day & New Years Day

Murray L - GSR Devious Frightened Loners - Sunday @ 5 pm

- Average attendance 15-25; good attendance lately with lots of cakes
- Trusted servant positions open: Alt. secretary
- Donation \$50

Cakes: Asya - 12 years December 7

Dal S - Lust for Life - Saturday @ 12:30 pm

- Average attendance 15 - 20. All trusted servant positions filled
- Dec 13 Christmas Potluck!
- Donation \$ 75

Paul S - GSR The Alternative Group - Saturday @ 7:30 pm

- Average attendance 40. No open trusted service positions.
- Donation \$94.42

Cakes: Dan D - 19 Years Jan 3rd / Marco D - 6 Years Feb 28

Roger M - The Growing Circle - Tuesday @ 7:30 pm

- Average attendance 25 - 30; Alt. GSR service position is open.
- Not certain if meeting is open during the holidays as the Friendship Centre may be closed.

Elaine B - GSR Addicts With New Hope - Sunday @ 7:30 pm

Bill D - Alt. GSR - present

- Average attendance 45. No open trusted servant positions.
- Recent group inventory was helpful. Group created the service position of greeter.
- Donation \$ 300

Cakes: Ari - 1 Year Jan 18

John P - Little Meeting In Kits - Thursday @ 7:30 pm

- Average attendance 30.
- This meeting will be open for Christmas and New Years

- \$100 donation

Cakes: Susan - 16 Years Dec 11 & Barb - 2 Years also on Dec 11

Dave H - New Attitudes

- Meeting is in need of GSR
- This meeting will be open for both Christmas and New Years holidays

Donation \$ 100

Rene D - Women in Recovery - Thursday @ 7 pm

(report in absentia by Ivy S)

- This meeting will be open for Christmas and New Years

Cakes: Shabna 15 years January 8 / Ivy S - 23 Years January 29

MINUTES:

Minutes from November 5, 2014 VASC meeting accepted as circulated

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS & SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

FACILITATOR'S REPORT - Ivy S

- Admin officers meeting attended and facilitated by Ivy S on Sunday, November 16. All interested members are welcome to attend. Rob Z was absent from this meeting. The intent was to have a joint meeting with Policy & procedures chair present because it greatly affects the working of admin officers at Area. Also wanted to provide some support for Policy & Procedures since it had been inactive for some time. Area may need to consider if the position of Policy & Procedures chair becomes open with 3 Area meetings having been missed as well.

Consensus: that this chair position be open at next Area meeting in January

- Area may wish to have an audit done of the Treasurer records before Jenny A leaves the position. Ivy S has a 'cheat sheet' of how to audit books that could be used and will look for a local NA member who has relevant experience who may be able to assist with this.
- It would be helpful to have shared electronic document storage for important documents to ensure smooth transition when positions change. Will seek input from Web Coordinator to see what capability may be included on the new VASC website for this.
- It would be helpful Region could provide their minutes within a month from meeting date. That way Regional issues could be raised at area and brought back at a second Area for input before the next Regional meeting.
- VASC secret Facebook group 'First Wednesday of the Month' has not been approved at Area - deferred to new business # 1 today. Group photo to be changed to be less identifying in case members are viewing the content in a public place.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Jenny A

Opening Balance: \$ 2088.94

*includes \$1,400 prudent reserve plus \$600 RCM travel

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Alan S

- Attended Admin officers sub-committee meeting on November 17
- **GSR's** please confirm if your meeting status will change because of Christmas or New Years holidays
- November minutes have been circulated via FB group and VASC email distribution list.
- Please advise if you are not receiving minutes and would like to. Also please advise if you would like to be added to the secret Facebook group for regular posts of minutes and related documents.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

RCM 1 REPORT - David C

- Region donated \$4K to NA World Services
- Question was raised at Region as to whether or not current persons in service positions are on drug replacement programs. Does VASC want to discuss or have a policy?
- Re: Metro Vancouver Phone line committee. Region wants a committee that keeps this working. If no liaison elected at this VASC then one of exec will attend the Metro Vancouver phone line committee.
RCM 1 David C volunteers to attend next multi-area phone line meeting if a liaison not elected today.

RCM 2 REPORT - Dave H

- Re: Insurance: Asked if policy premium paid was beyond threshold. Currently Region has no policy or ceiling amount. However, any monies spent at Region are discussed and voted upon per normal procedure. No provision at this time for spending decisions to go back to groups. Perhaps VASC could have consensus to not participate in a decision beyond a target threshold. Dave H did not bring related VASC proposal to Region. Area to revisit this before next quarterly Regional meeting.
- Re: Insurance coverage: Liability and damage to rented premises. Not covered: war, terrorism. Money actually works out to less than \$1 / month per meeting in the Region. The new policy has already allowed some meetings to rent space not formerly available to them and some meetings have saved on their rent as a result of having policy coverage.
- Contact Regional Treasurer Richard P (treasurer@bcrcna.ca) to confirm if activity or meeting is covered. Special events such as Spring Clean and the Women's Retreat can be added for much less expense than a stand-alone policy for that one event.
- Question: Who would pay the deductible at the time of claim? Deductible is \$1,000 per claim. **Dave H** to inquire who would be responsible to pay deductible amount at time of claim.
- Archivist at Region wants minutes : archivist@bcrcna.ca Larry
- Have raffle Tickets for BCRCNA # 31 Convention to be in Prince George in September, 2015
- Regional Outreach looking if there are meetings that don't participate in Area. **Dave H** will look into what meetings those may be.
- Central City Lodge: free meeting space is available for an NA meeting. The Lodge is a treatment facility with focus on persons with disabilities. They would like a meeting in their facility at 415 W Pender St. They are open as to date or time, but approx. 7:00 p.m. has been suggested.
- **Dave H** attended Workshop for new Traditions Book (not a guide) with questions of 3 types:
 1. For the individual member
 2. For the home group
 3. Workshop type question for group discussion.

Next Region: Traditions 2 - 7 will be reviewed. **Dave H** may get access to advance copy before next Regional meeting.

H AND I CHAIR: Erin N - Absent with regrets

Jeremy H - Vice Chair present and reporting

- Central City Lodge interested in having a meeting at their facility
- On-Site may also want a panel but calls and messages have not been returned. Suggest no need to harass - if they want a panel they will reach out.
- Erin N attended Regional meeting
- H & I wishes to have their full allotment of \$420
- Chris C will chair December H & I meeting in absence of both chair and vice-chair

Financial report:

Opening Balance: \$ 677.54

Closing Balance: \$ 220 (approx.)

LITERATURE CHAIR: Skylar S

- Inventory not yet complete but plans to complete soon.
- Skylar has spent time with John P and is very comfortable with the new way of ordering via: the new VASC website. Has found it very easy to use and a simple process to follow.
- Skylar will still be available to deliver orders outside of Area meeting time if required.
- Stock levels are low and Regional order will be pending, possibly this week or next.
- Medallions for sale at table in the back today.

NEWSLETTER LIAISON: Dave H / Kelly J

- Please write on the clipboard being circulated for meetings in need of support and upcoming cakes.
- Basic News editor needs an assistant and possible successor to fill her position **GSR's please take this back to your groups**
- **Dave H** Has picked up Basic News and has Regional meeting lists for distribution. New Meeting list will be published next month.

OUTREACH CHAIR: Open

PHONE LINE LIAISON: Open

POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS: Steve R

- Mail picked up and distributed

PI CHAIR: Sheena E

- PI had another meeting November 16th at the Vancouver Recovery Club. Our next steps include:
 - Finalize the PI draft orientation and submitting for all members to review and edit.
 - An initial mail-out to 5 schools that Marco has been in contact with since they requested NA information immediately.
 - An initial literature order.
- PI will use Area as a bank account for now (i.e. ask Area to pay for literature order and reimburse members for any PI expenses incurred personally). We will ask Area if we can carry over any of our \$120.00 allotment that we don't use in a month, and access it in a subsequent month.
- Question: Could PI not set up their own bank account? There are many bank accounts under VASC, do we need another one? **Jenny A:** not sure how to track the spending or funds holding, but could probably track on Treasurer's spreadsheet. **Dave H** - suggest that maybe now is not the time to set up bank account since not many funds are really involved.

Consensus: to not carry allotment over but larger requests can be made at Area for large expenditures

- Next meeting of PI Sub-Committee: December 21, 2014 @ 2 p.m. at the Dance Hall, VRC

(Regularly on the third Sunday of every month)

POLICY & PROCEDURES - Rob Z - absent without regrets

SPRING CLEAN: Mike G

- This sub-committee meets the third Sunday of every month in the Spanish Room at VRC

WOMEN'S RETREAT: Toni

- Have not yet had a meeting.
- Some flyers distributed for kick-off meeting this Sunday
- **GSR's please report to your groups that elections for this Sub-committee are January 4th at VRC**

WEB COORDINATOR: John P

- Region appears to be leaning toward paying an outside company to manage their web site.
- The new VASC website is ready to go. **Skylar S** has given input and has found it very easy to use
- Suggestion to move our website hosting to a new server for faster response time, especially with the new design.
- Contact forms are included in the site design for VASC questions:
 - Vancouver Area SC Questions | facilitator@vascna.ca
 - Narcotics Anonymous Questions | information@vascna.ca
 - Literature Questions | literature@vascna.ca
 - Web Site Questions | webcoordinator@vascna.ca
- Each email address is linked to secure storage already. **John P** has posted login instructions on FB page

TREASURERS UPDATE:

Opening Balance: **\$ 2088.94**

Income \$ 1790.67

Expenses \$ 1444.59

Closing Balance: **\$ 2,435.02**

Less:

Prudent Reserve: \$ 1,400.00

RCM Travel Reserve: \$ 600.00

Total Available: \$ 435.02

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ELECTIONS:

Co-Facilitator:

Nominations: None - **GSR's take back to your groups for consideration and suggestions**

Outreach Chair:

Nominations: Marco D / Service resume given / Marco D elected by secret ballot

Phone Line Liaison:

Nominations: None - **GSR's take back to your groups for consideration and suggestions**
(RCM 1 - David C will attend phone line meeting)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Confirm VASC use of secret Facebook group "First Wednesday of the Month"
 - Seems to be working by default, not by decision. Does it violate our Traditions? Are there any concerns?
 - As long as it is individuals and not representing NA as a whole.
 - Literature has IP about Social Media - can be ordered from Literature
 - Is it a question of affiliation or endorsement?
 - FB is much like using a group email list, do not perceive a conflict. It is more of a communications tool.
 - **Dave H** could pursue workshops and request more info & guidance from Regional Delegate to get best practices from various Areas.
 - **Jenny A:** Who is monitoring content?
 - **John P** - Perhaps concerns are more about anonymity and to confirm it is a 'self-contained' group.
 - Question: Do private groups get 'suggested' on Facebook?

Consensus:

To continue using the current Facebook group but develop some guidelines and Policy & Procedures around its use.

2. New VASC website to go live at a cost of \$20 / month, including new hosting service
 - GSR Elaine supports this proposal be presented by Ivy S

Consensus: Achieved

3. Reimburse John P for expenses incurred while the new website was under development for cost of:
a) hosting \$80 (b) \$35 for template for design, and (c) Live search add-on \$25 = \$140 disbursement today

Consensus: Achieved

4. Revive use of vacscna.ca email addresses; especially for ordering literature
 - If you wish to activate / use this email then contact John P to confirm 'how to'
 - Elaine: Benefit would be for continuity at a group level, especially within a group. Can also be used for Area to communicate back to groups.

Meeting ADJOURNED at **9:13 pm** by **Ivy S** Facilitator

Closed with the Serenity Prayer

Next Area: **January 7, 2015**