

## **January 21, 2007**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the SFANA opened at 4:00 p.m. Chairperson, A.J. R.. opened with the "We" version of the Serenity Prayer, followed by the Twelve Traditions read by Ashley R. and the Twelve Concepts read by Pam O.

Secretary Laura B. called the roll of Officers and Home Groups.

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

Co-Chair - A.J. R.  
Secretary - Laura B.  
Treasurer - Scott D.  
Alt. Secretary - Ashley R  
Policy & Procedure - Pam O.  
Literature Chair - Jessica N.  
Alt. Literature Chair - Dana A.  
RCM - Jeff B.  
Activities Chair - Joe P.  
H&I Chair - Rookie K.  
Outreach - James Y.  
PI Chair - Marsha

### **OFFICERS ABSENT**

### **OPEN OFFICER POSITIONS**

Chair  
Alt. RCM

### **HOME GROUPS PRESENT**

Addicts R Us  
Agape  
Back to Basics  
Beaten Path  
Carry the Message  
Clean & Serene  
Courage to Change  
EZ Riders  
Just for Today  
Miracles-N-Tha Makin'  
Mustard Seed  
Never Too Late  
Not Anymore  
Positive Connections  
Surrender at High Noon  
Road To Recovery

## **HOME GROUPS ABSENT**

Found Freedom

Learning to Live

Minutes were accepted for the month of December.

Secretary, Laura B. called for reports. (See attached.)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Nomination** - Lane H., Alt. Treasurer - **Passed**

## **OPEN FORUM**

AJ: We talked about what we are going to do with the Treasurer's audit. We are going to get together in a couple of weeks and next month will report and hopefully everything will be up to speed. I oversaw the literature audit and everything looked good there. Both Literature and Alternate were ready and prepared. Beaten Path and Easy Riders participated. Everything matched up. A couple too many IPs and key tags and things, but there wasn't anything that we didn't have enough of as a result of the new stockpile and getting everything cycled around to it. But we didn't have too little of anything. All the books matched up like they were supposed to. Instead of having 90 IPs, we had 92 or something like that. So, everything looked good on the literature audit. So, are there any questions about it?

AJ: Have all of the subcommittees turned in their policies to this area? Outreach, we decided today, we know we have yours we know we have activities I know PI doesn't have any. Literature, alright only thing is H&I. They need to be turned in by last November, we are a little bit off there. PI obviously can't turn them in if they don't have any. Anybody in this area that has any idea about PI guidelines, please see Marsha and show up. I think the PI subcommittee is meeting. The officers of the committee are going to meet before next area and get some guidelines together to bring back and turn in. Anybody that has any experience with PI, please get with Marsha and help them with that because nobody has any. Anybody have anything else?

Pam O.: This is a different topic. In P&P we went over the motions and to create change in policy to the nomination form as to add questions to it about "Have you been working steps and traditions" and want to ask Laura if she would be willing to.....it's already on there? Well, you go girl, never mind.

Karen: My home group wanted to ask about the Treasurer's report. We realize that the form that is being used is something that has been set up by our Secretary to try to make things easier. As a home group, we like the way it used to be where the Treasurer would just write things in on the form. We wanted to comment about this because it seemed a lot simpler and easier to read. There were some mistakes made on here in one place it said that the literature took in 576.1 and then down below, it says 576.07, that doesn't even make sense. We can't round in a checkbook. We just thought that we should write it in like we did back in August. It was so much easier to read and understand. Another thing that my home group asked is that we have \$1652 in our bank account right now. This area is only supposed to have \$600 right now and at all times.

AJ: I have discussed that with Scott, it is just a matter of him not completely understanding the record and that is what this meeting we are going to have in two weeks is hopefully going to clear up. Before I leave today, once they get everything straightened up, I am going to check the bank statement against his Treasurer's report to make sure that matches up. Then at that meeting, hopefully we will probably go back

to the way it used to be done because it was effective. It is just a matter of Scott having some things to learn about it. He has admitted that and I think we can get it figured out in a few weeks. Anybody who wants to show up is welcome. Just know that it would kind of be like an observation thing. We don't need too many people trying to get him straightened out, we need the people that know what they are talking about to get him straightened out.

Karen: What is the deadline on the area inventory? It says on there that it is 1999.

AJ: Our policy says that it is supposed to be handed out in January. Speaking of that, does every home group have an Area Inventory? If you don't, raise your hands. GSRs, if you have not received an Area Inventory form, raise your hand. Okay, so that is given out in January, turned in at the March ASC, then somebody help me with this it is gone over at the April ASC. Who knows who exactly is supposed to go over them? Policy doesn't state who goes over them. I assume it is not the whole area. They are turned in in March and then what? James, do you know anything about that?

James: There is a special little meeting where the GSRs and the Officers go over them.

AJ: So basically it is an Ad Hoc committee. Anybody that wants to show up would be welcome, but it is separate from this. So, all these forms should be turned in at the March ASC, so everybody has two months and then at that ASC we will determine a time and place to go over those results or to look at them in a smaller group, I guess. Laura is getting those three copies together to give to those three home groups. Make sure you have them before you leave. Everybody clear on the Area Inventory, anyone have any questions about it?

James Y.: RCM, are we going to be represented at the next region in Raleigh, or do we need to find a new RCM?

Jeff B.: As far as I know we will be. It depends on whether or not I can get my shift covered. I got to pay my bills. And then again, we need an Alternate as well. I think I missed one in a year and a half.

AJ: Does everybody have the Area Inventory forms now? Good. Rookie, H&I guidelines, have you ever turned any in to the Secretary?

Rookie: No, I am just going to have to turn in what we've got until we make these new changes.

AJ: That's okay, that's just what we need to do. Alright at the next ASC, the H&I can turn in the most recent guidelines whether it be what you already have or if you are making an update, that is fine and then we will have everybody but PI, and hopefully they will have some at the next ASC, then we will have everybody's and they can all go back to the home groups for review. Outreach guidelines were in previous minutes, so those we have already had the opportunity to look at. I think the Literature guidelines have gone back to home groups. We can do it again if that is what we need to do. That is what the purpose is of having them is so that the home groups can review these subcommittee guidelines and come up here and say we think you all need to do this differently. Anybody else?

AJ: Okay, if nobody else has anything, one thing we discussed today at P&P is our voting procedures. It has come up time and time again, in this Area but I think we've got it figured out and it is real simple. We have two kinds of voting; majority voting and two-thirds majority voting. A majority vote is one more than

50% of attending home groups. A two-thirds majority is two-thirds or more of attending home groups. If you abstain from a vote, your vote doesn't count,, you don't have a vote, you are not voting. So, if we have 16 people in here today and we take a majority vote, if all of them vote, we need 9. If two of them abstain, we need 8 because those two are not voting on that. Two-thirds majority, same way. Abstentions never count. We have looked at it, we have looked at Robert's Rules of Order, we discussed it at the last couple of policy meetings and policy is going to be lined up to remove the words "simple" and "established" out of there. Those words don't exist as far as we can tell in Robert's Rules of Order. So that is how all voting is done. If you want to withdraw from quorum from the entire ASC, you can do that. That means you aren't voting at all today. That is what withdraw from quorum means. If you want to not vote on a particular vote, you abstain from voting on that motion or nomination or whatever. Does everybody understand that? That's what we have decided how it should be done. Based on the literature we use as our guidelines.

Joe P.: Couldn't you just withdraw from quorum on old business in case you didn't have a group conscious on old business so that you could still be involved with new business?

AJ: I would think that that could be done. Since we have a break and come back for new business. Anything that is done in housekeeping or whatever, when we call the roll again, once again, I will ask for anybody that wants to withdraw from quorum for new business. But we have been withdrawing from quorum on individual votes and the way it sounds is quorum is how many home groups are here. Do we have enough, do we have one more than %50 of the home groups here, that is the quorum. We have quorum if that is the case. If you want to withdraw from quorum, you are withdrawing for the entire day or for entire old business. So it should make it a lot simpler for everybody to understand and everything can go more smoothly. Someone also brought to my attention that it doesn't say this in policy anywhere, but alternates such as alternate secretary, alternate treasurer should not be voting on housekeeping votes. They would vote in the case of their secretary or treasurer not being here. It doesn't say that anywhere in policy but that is what is done at Region from what I have been told. So the only people voting on housekeeping votes would be all GSRs, no alternate GSRs, only GSRs, the secretary, the treasurer and the subcommittee chairs. The chair doesn't get a vote anyway and the co-chair, if we had a chair, the co-chair would be the alternate, so they would not have a vote either.

Kim: I am a little confused about simple and two-thirds majority. When we vote on whether to abstain as a no, was that the two-thirds...

AJ: The thing is, is that there is no such thing as simple and established anymore. That is coming out of our policy. There is either a majority vote which is more than half, or two-thirds majority which would be two-thirds of attending home groups. If you want to abstain from a vote, you are just saying that you don't want to vote this time, so we are not going to count you whatsoever. We are going to count yes and no in the total vote.

Kim: And that is on old business?

AJ: Some of our voting is majority and some of it is two-thirds. Not necessarily old business, it is like nominations are majority votes. Anybody running for office is a majority vote. That is one more than half. Amendments to Policy and Procedure are two-thirds majority vote. Our policy specifies between different types of motions and things, but it is either half or two-thirds. Those are the only two.

Kim: So either way, we would say abstain, not withdraw from quorum?

AJ: Yes, just raise your hand when I call for abstentions in that case if you don't want to vote on that motion or that. That is from now on. Is everybody clear?

Lane H.: POI: On the deal with the voting, it says in Policy & Procedure that housekeeping votes are considered all votes, that means officers and GSRs can vote on the motion and on our officers, alternates are listed there. If we are going to do that, we need to make a motion to change how policy is written. And until we vote to change the policy, we need to stick to policy. I don't care if I vote or not, but we need to stick to our policy and alternates are on our list officers and it says officers vote on housekeeping issues. The region may do it a different way, but right now our policy says to do it this way.

AJ: That is correct. We have been doing according to policy, so until somebody submits a motion, that is how we will continue to do housekeeping votes or all votes. Still no alternate GSRs, do not raise your hands for any votes unless your GSRs aren't here. Anything else?

Yvonne: It has come to our attention that we should change our format for three months and have a concept study every Tuesday night for three months. We are discussing it as a home group and we would like some experience, strength and hope, encouragement and whatever on the Area level as your thoughts to that.

Karen: Our Literature Chair has books on the 12 Concepts and they have a study guide in the book. Myself and the girls that I sponsor feel that it is important if you are going to do service work to have a working knowledge and understanding of them. I think it is a good idea. When we did the concept study, everybody would take a book home and answer those questions, then come back to the next meeting and read what the question was, what the concept was and what the book said about the concept and discussed our answers.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion 1-1-07 - Home groups** - To increase PI budget from \$240 to \$250.

**Motion 1-2-07 - Housekeeping** - Reimburse Pam O. for copies made \$20.92. - **passed**

**Motion 1-3-07 - Home groups** - To change the Secretary budget from \$125 to \$80 per month.

James Y.: Does that include postage?

Laura B.: That includes more than postage. I have been spending about \$40-\$50 a month and I have purchased supplies a couple of times. Like the motion says, this would be more than enough money with a little effort and I have talked to the Alternate Secretary and she is willing to do what it takes also for the next year to save the money. It is my opinion and my experience that putting forth a little bit of effort is what saves the money. I don't need that much money. I had the secretary budget from November for \$125 and I got the minutes out for November and December with that money and gave \$40 back in change.

AJ: So that would be the most that you would need?

Laura B.: Yes, and I would still have money to give back to the Treasurer. I just put that in there in case something came up so that we wouldn't have to put in a vote to up the budget again.

**Con:** Victor-Whatever happens in the future, you might have 2 efficient people and 1 bum, so

don't block the door. Leave that door open so that the next person that has that job has that money.

**Con:** Lane H.: You don't have to use all of that money. It is great that you are doing what you are doing, but PI, Outreach and all of the rest of them very rarely use all the money that is allotted to them a month.

**Pro:** Yvonne: I agree with Laura in lowering the budget because from past experience we had experience with a secretary who was buying 2 or 3 printer cartridges a month and then turning around and returning them for the cash. I think lowering the budget is acceptable for the size of this area. If we have to change the policy again in a year because another secretary can't do it, then if you are still here and still involved, you will remember what Laura said and then you can bring it up to that secretary as to why a previous secretary could do it on an \$80 a month and you can't.

**Pro:** Tommy S.: I agree with what Yvonne said. If she can save this area money then that is money that goes to Region to help further carry the message of Narcotics Anonymous, why wouldn't you want to do that? That is what we are here for is to carry the message of Narcotics Anonymous. Why turn somebody down who is trying to do that? If things change and we grow, we can always vote to extend the budget again later if that is what is necessary at that time. If it is not necessary at this time, then why give her the money to do it?

**Nomination:** - *Tommy S. - Chair*

Karen: Have you read P&P about the position you are applying for?

Tommy: Yes

Yvonne: Are you currently holding any service commitment?

Tommy: H&I member

Next Area business meeting will be February 18, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.

**OPEN POSITIONS:**

Chair

Alternate RCM