

AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

This meeting was held on June 4, 2023

**This meeting took place virtually and in-person at 6809 Guadalupe Street,
Austin, TX 78752**

Meeting opened by the Facilitator at **2.04pm**. Moment of silence observed, followed by the service prayer, 12 traditions, and 12 concepts.

Attendance

Secretary took administrative, subcommittee chair, and group attendance.

Executive Body	Servants	
Facilitator	Victor F.	Present
Co-facilitator	Monica C.	Present
Recorder	Nick F.	Absent with notice
Co-recorder	Patsy P.	Present
Treasurer	James M.	Present
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant	
RCMI	Cleo M.	Present
RCMII	David P.	Present
<u>Subcommittees</u>		
Activities	Kevin B.	Present
Common Welfare	Angela O.	Present
H&I	David A.	Present
Literature Bank	Richard D.	Present
Assistant Literature Bank	Vacant	
Policy	Tim S.	Present
Public Relations	Ann Marie M.	Present

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Group	
Another Chance	Present
Austin Powerless	Present
Clean & Free	Present
Courage to Change	Present
DesencadeNAdos	Present
Desire to Stop Using	Absent
Eastside	Present
Far Out	Present
Free at Last	Present
Here & Now	Present
Hill Country	Present
Living Clean	Absent
Men At Work	Present
Miracles & Solutions	Present
Never Alone	Present
New Beginnings	Present
New Hope	Present
New Way of Living	Absent
Non-Fiction-Addiction	Present
Our Gift	Absent
Out & About	Present
Primary Purpose	Present
Regeneration X	Present
Right Stuff	Absent
Searching & Fearless	Present
Serenity the NA Way	Present
Spiritual Mechanics	Present
Spiritual Seekers	Present
Stay N Change	Absent
Taylor NA	Present
The Journey Continues	Absent
Tuesday at Last	Present (first time back to area, Diane L, Jessie)
Twisted Sisters	Absent
Why We Stay	Absent
Wild with Flair	Present

37 groups, 25 present of total. Consensus is ACHIEVED with 20.

AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**Welcome New Groups and GSRs**

- Tuesday at Last, New GSR Diane L. and Alt. GSR Jessie
- Spiritual Mechanics, New GSR, Keith D.

Open Discussion- No discussion.**Approval of December Minutes-** minutes were approved by consensus.**Administrative Body Reports**

- **Facilitator**, Victor F.: written report and agenda were submitted.
 - Per policy, the facilitator is responsible for securing a location for area. The July area will ~~not~~ meet at 5555 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite J-103. The meeting will remain a hybrid. Cost will be \$60 per meeting.
 - Items from policy section 2.10 ~~were~~ was reviewed.
- **Co-Facilitator**, Monica C.: written report was submitted.
 - I attended Activities, Public Relations, and Common Welfare subcommittees this month. Activities and Public Relations could use support.
 - Items from policy section 2.9 and 2.10 were reviewed.
- **Recorder**, Nick F.:
 - No report
- **Co-Recorder**, Patsy P.:
 - No report
- **Treasurer**, James M.: written report and bank statements submitted.
 - Chase Ending Balance as of 05/31/23: \$9,936.44
 - Total receipts for the month of May 2023 were \$3,431.09 including \$1,312.05 from
 - Group 7th Tradition, \$1,021.02 for literature purchases, Activities Subcommittee proceeds including \$55 from a TSCNA PayPal auction item, \$72.34 from a TSCNA event PayPal donation, \$282.68 for return of funds for TSCNA event, \$463.00 from
 - TSCNA event cash donations, \$120 in campout donations, and \$88.00 in campout return of funds. We also collected \$47.00 from our last ASC.
 - Total expenses for the month of May 2023 were \$3,241.10 including \$255.66 for hostgator, \$90.00 for Galano club rent, \$36.57 for phone.com, \$1,030.18 for literature orders, \$500.00 to fund TSCNA event and

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\$538.00 as donation to TSCNA, and \$790.69 to TBRNA for our quarterly donation. Report was approved by consensus.

- **RCM I**, Cleo M.: written report was submitted.
 - Region will hold elections for PR Facilitator, please bring nominations to area in July. Patsy P. was tasked as the Interim PR Facilitator until August. There will be a regional PR virtual subcommittee meeting on June 15, 2023 at 7pm via Zoom No. 994 558 9344, Password 77705 all are welcomed.
 - Ruben, AD2 for region submitted a lengthy report from his attendance at the World Service Conference in May 2023. Ruben spoke briefly about his report and provided the webpage to review all items that were discussed at the WSC. Please go to [na.org](http://na.org/?ID=conference-index) for more information. [Specific page link https://na.org/?ID=conference-index.](http://na.org/?ID=conference-index)
- **RCM II**, David P.: One report was submitted by RCM1 and RCM2.

Subcommittee Reports

- **Activities**, Kevin B., Facilitator:-written report was submitted and approved by consensus.
 - Items were discussed regarding the CTANA 40th Anniversary, which will be held at Hill Crest Church, 3838 Steck Avenue; from 1-5pm. Flyer has been posted to the CTANA webpage. **Activities is asking home groups and members to bring drinks, sides, and or deserts.**
- **Common Welfare**, Angela O., Facilitator: written report was submitted.
 - Service area pamphlet- Jim F.- Completed first draft and subcommittee is in review
 - Subcommittee Policies - Anel J. and Angela O. - Continue working on Policies
 - Introduction to Common Welfare Subcommittee flier- Susanne C. completed and attached.
 - We have been invited to do another Predatory Behavior Workshop at the Tri County Convention in Houston the weekend of November 3-5th and will provide more details as planning continues.
- During the questions and concerns, Patsy P. had concerns, which were read and emailed to all area members. Questions and comments were made by area participates.
 - Patsy P. submitted a proposal ([verbally](#)) to dissolve the Common Welfare subcommittee based on violation of Tradition 8 ~~and Tradition 4~~. [Other concerns were read and added verbally during questions. \(Consensus was to take the proposal back to the home groups\).](#)

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- Facilitator acknowledged proposal and proceeded with the process per policy to address the policy on the floor.
 - Facilitator asked Ruben P., Regional AD if he would like to give a point information regarding predatory and disruptive behavior since the topic was discussed at the World Service Conference in May, which he attended. Information was provided and questions were allowed.
 - At this time he discussed the page on na.org (Specific page link: <https://na.org/?ID=conference-index>) where members could review the information regarding all items discussed at the WSC. Facilitator displayed the webpage and further discussion was conducted.
 - (Consensus was achieved to take the proposal back to the home groups).
- **H&I, David A., Facilitator:** written report was submitted and approved by consensus.
 - The subcommittee voted to move to Recovery First ATX as a meeting place, and will be meeting there going forward.
 - Kent, Tony and David will perform a mass orientation at the 40th anniversary celebration.
 - Open position-Recorder
- **Literature Bank, Richard D., Facilitator:** Written report was submitted and approved by consensus. **Richard will not be available in July for area due to family commitments. Assistance was request to help with preparing order during area and for July's area.**
 - Inventory Balance: \$5,128.34
 - Total request for area to approve \$3,928.20

BEGINNING INVENTORY		NAWS ORDER	
	w/o Tax	NET order	\$3,928.20
English	\$5,128.34	Less Discount	\$314.26
Sale tax	\$427.54	Shipping	\$314.26
TOTAL	\$5,609.88	TOTAL	\$3,928.20

- **Policy, Tim, Facilitator:** written report was submitted, nothing new to report.
- **Public Relations, Ann Marie M., Facilitator:** written report was written and approved by consensus.
 - Austin Transitional Center still seeking approval to bring in an NA meeting.
 - Contacted CapMetro's Community Partnership Program in an effort to utilize this program. Currently waiting for a response.

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- Austin Pines Ranch has expressed an interest in having an H&I meeting.
- Parenting in Recovery/Family Drug Treatment Court has invited us to speak about our organization on June 8th at 1 pm. While I am unable to attend due to my work schedule, I will be reaching out to a few other members to see if they are available.
- Taylor Pride Festival presence has been requested. This event conflicts with our CTANA 40th Annual Celebration where PR is to make a presentation for Learning Day. Exploring possibility to split the duties among subcommittee members.
- **Transition task group: (Task Force):** written report was submitted.
 - We will be finalizing our proposal for transition guidelines with the intent to present at next month's area.

- **4.50pm Facilitator, Victor F. resigned.**

- Moment of Silence was taken and Co-Facilitator said the Serenity Prayer.
 - **Co-Facilitator, Monica C.** asked the body if they had any concerns with her tasking Ruben P., Regional AD to assist her with continuing business for area. Consensus was achieved and area business continued.

At 5pm, a second roll call was taken and 19 were present. Consensus was met and business was continued.

Group Reports

- Non-Fiction Addiction-meeting needs support.
- Free at Last-Speaker on July 1 from 12pm-6pm, flyer has been posted on CTANA webpage.
- Clean and Free-June 27th at 6.30pm 40th Group Anniversary Celebration.
- Wild with Flare-Saturday meeting will begin to meet in person.
- Spiritual Mechanics read report.

Old Business

- Clean and Free, Andrea, GSR – All future proposals to be in writing with a clarification of intent to see if it requires a policy change before the ASC meeting. **Amendment:** exception is if it pertains to current area business or if it is time sensitive.
- Patsy P., member of CTANA area made a Proposal to dissolve the Common Welfare subcommittee based on traditions violations of of 4 and 8. Other concerns were stated in the email that was read and verbally given.

New Business

None

AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**Elections**

- Co-Treasurer - Vacant.
- Co-Literature Facilitator-Vacant

Announcements

- All announcements are included in the above listed section.

Next ASC Meeting

- GSR Orientation is at 1.30pm before Area.
- July 2, 2023 at 2pm next ASC.
- Area will meet virtually and in-person at 5555 N. Lamar, Suite J-103.
 - Virtual meeting information can be found at ctana.org.

Meeting closed with the Third Step Prayer at 5pm.



Patricia Pena <patpena14@gmail.com>

corrections and response to email regarding June Minutes

Patricia Pena <patpena14@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 4:19 PM

To: asc@ctana.org, Patricia Pena <patpena14@gmail.com>

Good afternoon,

Please find my comments in red regarding the request for changes to the June's minutes. If further clarification is needed, please take them directly to the July's ASC. Prior to approving the minutes is where all edits may be discussed as needed. No other corrections will be made prior to July's area. I will make the edits as needed listed below and send an updated version.

Page 3 Under Administrative Body Reports from Facilitator, Victor F. states:

The July area will not meet at 5555 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite J-103. This is directly conflicted on page 6 where it states: Area will meet virtually and in-person at 5555 N. Lamar, Suite J-103.

Please clarify: the word **not** has been removed. Correction to be made.

Page 4 Says that Ruben provided a website to review all items that were discussed at the WSC but then it directs readers to NA.org.

Please provide the website that Ruben provided as NA.org is too vague.

The page he discussed can be found on NA.org that is where all material can be found for the WSC under tabs listed on the top of the site. Here is the specific page <https://na.org/?ID=conference-index>. I will add the link, verbiage will remain as it.

Under Subcommittee Reports, Common Welfare, please indicate that the Introduction to Common Welfare Subcommittee flier was a draft, It was reported as Complete in the CW report. It was not mentioned that it was a draft until the proposal to dissolve the subcommittee (during discussion was being conducted). I will not change the verbiage. I wrote the minutes from the reports that were submitted by the facilitator of each subcommittee. I would be altering what was reported. A change can only be made if asked by the facilitator for information to be amended. That did not occur. as its submission to ASC was directed by the Co-Facilitator, Monica after being emailed to her for review and ideas. The co-facilitator suggested to the subcommittee (CW) report all items that were discussed at the subcommittee to the area. This was stated during discussion regarding the flyer when clarifying questions were being asked and answered during the time the proposal was on the floor. No changes will be made.

This area of the report also states:

Patsy P. submitted a proposal to dissolve the Common Welfare subcommittee based on violation of Tradition 8 and Tradition 4. **(Consensus was to take the proposal back to the home groups).**

There was no mention of Tradition 4 in Patsy's complaint (concerns) or in the email submitted from Ron. Tradition 4 will be removed. Change will be made. Tradition 8 was mentioned and discussed as it pertains to the Introduction Flier Draft. The Introduction Flier Draft is not the verbiage in the Facilitator's report.

It was submitted by Patsy in the middle of a subcommittee report and not during New Business later in the meeting. Per the CTANA policy, section 3.1 anyone can make a proposal. No time frame is specified. The proposal was made after concerns were addressed. The Facilitator acknowledged the proposal and per CTANA policy 3.3 body was asked for clarifying questions and discussion was held.

Facilitator asked Ruben, AD if he would like to add a Point information? Which was done.

It caused quite the disruption and when Common Welfare was finally asked if they would like to respond, they stated that they would need a week and that it would be in writing. Per policy 3.3 no pro vs. con debate is permitted, this was stated by the Facilitator. While the Facilitator said, the Facilitator of CW could respond, he was out of order for stating that per policy.

There was no consensus made as there was no vote called for. This statement is not correct. A consensus was reached to take the proposal back to their home groups based on discussion and concerns over the magnitude of the proposal.

Please adjust this to represent what actually happened. We can not take this back to the home groups without Common Welfare having had a chance to respond. Facilitator made this statement: CW does not get to respond based on Consensus based decision making process.

While the facilitator said she could respond, it is not the proper process per policy. There was a consensus to take the proposal back to the homegroups and return prepared to hold a consensus at the July's area. See CTANA policy, section 3., specially section 3.3.

Page 6 After Victor resigned at 4:50, Monica asked (tasked) Ruben to step in (assist) and help her. Many people had walked out at this point and no one voted to meet consensus on Ruben's participation. I think we were all too disheveled about the disruption. There was talk of taking roll-call again but Monica made the decision to conclude Area at that time and it was closed out with the third step prayer. Area did not continue. This is not an accurate statement.

Please adjust. At 5pm a second roll call was taken and 19 were present, consensus was met and business was continued. Change will not be made.

Anything on the agenda after this point *did not happen*. There were no group reports read as stated in the minutes and the Old Business is entirely false. Groups did read the reports as listed in minutes, change will not be made.

Old Business will stay as written, no changes will be made. As stated early, at 5pm a second roll call was taken and 19 were present, consensus was met and business was continued

Andrea's proposal was made in April with the amendment and was voted down that same day. It is no longer in play to be talked about or voted on to my understanding. Statement is not correct. She was asked if she would accept this proposal being carried another month. Per Co-Facilitator this is correct that the proposal was moved to July's Old Business. No Changes will be made.

Patsy's proposal should not be in Old Business as it was brought up during a subcommittee report and not at the prior ASC. This statement is not correct. CTANA policy, section 3.1 states anyone can bring a proposal, no time frame is given. Proposal was addressed at June's area so it is considered Old Business. No corrections will be made.

Please adjust Old Business correctly. No corrections will be made.

New Business, Elections and Announcements are correct, thank you. Technically, there was no new business from June's ASC meeting.
Patsy Pena

Pena, Patricia

From: Ron Hofius <ron.hofius@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2023 16:08
To: Patricia Pena
Cc: Theresa Hofus ♥♦★🐾
Subject: Re: CW Area Report - 6-23

This is interesting. I read it through a few times, really trying to ask myself objectively what concerns this raises. I have never seen this formally done before so I'm trying to make sure that I'm not just reacting to something new. Here's where I land after some thought.

I think my main concern is around the 8th tradition, and then it is really mainly about them offering the service of mediation. It is fundamental to the nature of NA that our approach is non-professional, that we claim no professional expertise in the services we offer and perform. The asset that we are bringing to bear is "experience, strength and hope" regarding recovery from addiction. This mediation function seems outside of those bounds. **Mediation is a violation of Tradition 8, we are not professionals nor do we provide professional services.**

To name the problem they are addressing "predatory behavior," (a highly charged phrase should someone who is really only flirting or seeking to date get that label) and then offer mediation services between someone who was made uncomfortable by the advances of the alleged "predator" seems to me to be asking for the kind of powder keg of charged feelings that would require professional expertise and standing to navigate. I'm not saying that actual predatory behavior does not exist in NA, but for someone to set themselves up as the arbiters and mediators of complaints about it seems to me like an overreach. In their "what we aren't" section, they say they're not the NA police. It seems to me that this claim would preclude any reporting of people to them followed by some action they would take with the alleged perpetrator.

The other services seem fine for the most part. Workshops designed to raise discussion and awareness about what's appropriate in the NA context and what starts to feel to some members like exploitation could add value in an area. In fact, exploitation might be a better word than the phrase predatory behavior in general. I know this phrase has gained traction in NA, but I believe it is a mistake for us to lead with it if we are actually meaning to include the less egregious boundary violations or clumsy attempts to flirt or date that I think it may be meant to include.

Accompaniment could be a valuable service. If someone felt uncomfortable and requested that someone accompany them to a meeting, that seems possibly quite valuable.

To have a set of members who have studied the available NA materials and history of other areas' experience on this topic serve as an information source and support seems potentially valuable as well. This service of being each others eyes and ears and watching out for potential exploitation of the vulnerable is usually done organically by experienced members if it is done at all. More experienced members are encouraged to speak up when they see it and speak about it to potentially vulnerable newcomers and our own sponsees who may be acting inappropriately. Being a catalyst for a more intentional approach to that kind of thing within our culture could be valuable. To be a sort of court, however, where this function is assigned to a given set of trusted servants who take direct action to address it seems to me to be a potential overreach that the 8th tradition would steer us clear of.

Finally, creating locally produced service literature is not considered entirely out of bounds in NA. I say this having served on the NAWS "Service Materials Workgroup" some years back, where this was discussed at

length and then discussed at the conference. It should be approached with caution, however, with preference given to existing conference or board approved materials where they exist. And review and approval of anything produced locally should be really intensive, as it is at the world level, especially with a topic this sensitive. Nothing about getting elected to serve on a subcommittee makes a small group of members equipped to write and publish literature on a topic like this that reflects group conscience. If they are going to do this, they should circulate drafts and seek a strong approval at the area level before asking groups to distribute it.

That's probably more than you are looking for, and of course it is only one member's opinion and experience. I have no objection to you sharing it if it furthers discussion on these important topics.

Much love,
Ron

On Thu, Jun 1, 2023 at 11:34 AM Patricia Pena <patpena14@gmail.com> wrote:

Ron,

Here is the document I referenced yesterday, the subcommittee would like groups to have this on your literature table. I have a big concern regarding the services they say they want to provide. I am working on obtaining a copy of the pamphlet they are crafting for the subcommittee. They want to have a clean time requirement for anyone who wants to join their subcommittee. Any thoughts you may have would be greatly appreciated.

Patsy Pena

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Common Welfare** <ctana.cw@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jun 1, 2023 at 9:04 AM

Subject: CW Area Report - 6-23

To: <asc@ctana.org>

Hello Area,

Please see the attached documents, including- CW Report and New Informational Flyer.

Thank you,
Angela O.