



SMALL WONDER AREA OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (SWANA)
EMERGENCY AREA SERVICE MEETING MINUTES
May 26, 2023

OPENING

The Area CoChair called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. There was a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts were read. Roll call was taken at 6:408 pm by Jess G. (see attached Roll Call sheet).

21 Home Groups were present, representing 50% of the total Home Groups so a quorum was met.

No Motion was made to accept minutes from April 2023 as the minutes were not completed yet.

The order of the meeting was to announce the reason for the meeting, allow discussion around the situation with the Convention Body Chair, allow for motions to be made, for there to be Pros and Cons presented and the Area follow the will of the Home Groups.

This meeting was being held on the request of a GSR as they felt the Area Service Meeting on 5/17/23 was not in order. This request was forwarded to all the Home Groups prior to the Emergency Meeting.

Also forwarded to the Home Groups prior to the meeting was:

- The Co-Chair's letter of notice to the Convention Body about the reason for the meeting.
- The Area Chair's letter of apology.
- The Area Policy Chair also sent a letter to the Home Group prior to the meeting.

DISCUSSION

1. Question was brought to the floor asking why the Convention Body Chair's letter of redress was not sent out to the groups. The Area Secretary indicated that she had not received a copy of the letter to be able to share it out. The Convention Body Chair stated that she left it at the front table at Area.
2. Statement was made that the Convention Body Chair did not address each grievance in her redress as per policy.
3. The Area Co-Chair reminded everyone that the actions taken at the Convention Body Emergency Meeting and at Area Service on 5/19/23 were not within policy so neither of those votes have

any standing.

4. Statement was made that this is an issue of Principles rather than Personalities - the grievances still need to be addressed and the Convention Body Chair has not been given the opportunity to address the grievances
5. Statement was made that the Convention Body Chair has not given reports, does not attend JAC every month and does not attend or stay for the whole ASC meeting as required by policy
6. Policy Chair presented the Policy Point of View - The Convention Body disagreed with the Convention Body Chair. Because of the seriousness of the issue, the GSR's need to go back to their home groups and vote at the next Area meeting. There should be no rush on this issue and we need to follow Concept 10.
7. The Area Co-Chair addressed the fact that the Convention is less than a year away and time is not something that we have at this point. The section of policy regarding Who Votes on a Motion addresses this issue (pg 70 of the policy):
 - a. SECTION IX-6: WHO VOTES ON A MOTION Any motion affecting NA as a whole should be brought back to the individual home groups for a true group conscience prior to being voted on at ASC. Exceptions may be made, however, in certain circumstances: !
 - b. - **Matters that need to be voted on due to time requirements !**
 - Area business expenses
 - **Management of ASC meetings and subcommittees**
 - Matters not pertaining to the home groups

Motions will be sent back to the groups with at least one pro and one con whenever possible. The motion should also include the intent, where applicable.

8. One of the Convention Body Members provided an outline of the actions taken so far:
 - a. The Convention Body brought grievances to the Area Co-Chair
 - b. The Area Chair and RCM attended a meeting with the Convention Body to offer help
 - c. The Convention Body Chair was given the opportunity to present a redress at that meeting
 - d. The Convention Body decided this was an issue that had to be handled by Area
9. Statement was made by a GSR that their feeling was that this issue should not be rushed, need all the information, have the grievances addressed further and more discussion.
10. Statement was made by the Convention Body Treasurer - it addressed the situations that had been provided in the letter. The following issues were seen as decisions by the Convention Body Chair that were not within policy or within the scope of her responsibilities:
 - a. Signed the contract with the Chase Center without presenting it to the Convention Body
 - b. Does not presents reports at the Convention Body Meetings
 - c. Missed Convention Body Meetings
11. Statement made by a GSR indicating we need to make a decision - there is not much time. That as per the 5th concept there should be a single point of accountability. That the Convention Body was not addressing personality but principle. Glendale did not respond when given the opportunity.
12. Motion was made to remove the Convention Body Chair from her position - the motion was 2nd. (Due to the meeting being on Zoom - the secretary will be completing the motion form and it will be included in these minutes)
13. The Policy Chair indicated that the meeting was out of order, we are not following policy and taking it back to the groups. The Co-Chair repeated the section of policy that allows this motion to be made and voted on. The Policy Chair disagreed and subsequently left the meeting and did not return.

14. Member made a point of order - there is a motion on the floor with a reminder that Effective Leadership is important to create a unified atmosphere, they are the presentation of the fellowship in the Area and out in the community, it is a great responsibility - Please read the Principles and Leadership in NA Service for further clarification
15. Statement was made that not enough information was presented - personalities, feels that are hurt. This is an unprecedented situation. This could be an opportunity to be loving and caring. While we feel for the Convention Body Treasurer, we make a motion to table the existing motion until the June Area Meeting. - this motion was 2nd
 - a. Per Policy - SECTION X-2: MOTION TO TABLE A. One way to dispose of a motion that is not ready for a vote is to table it. This is done by saying, "I move we table this motion until such-and-such date/meeting." B. This sub-motion is not debatable; if it is made and seconded, it is voted on immediately. o If it fails, debate continues on the motion itself. o If it passes, the committee moves on to its next item of business. C. The tabled motion will be included in the committee agenda on the date specified.
16. The motion to table was voted on immediately with 8 voting for, 15 voting against. The motion to table was defeated
17. The Area secretary stated that the Convention Chair did not approach the front table to leave anything with the secretary and had not emailed it to her either.
18. The Convention Chair had her hand raised and when called on stated she had nothing to say at this time
19. A GSR questioned the fact that there were allegations made at Area Service that there was money missing from the Convention. The Convention Treasurer made the statement that the situation was looked into and the allegation was not founded.
20. Pros were presented by a GSR for removing the Convention Body Chair
 - a. The Convention Chair wanted to determine who could and could not be in service
 - b. The Convention Chair could not effectively communicate
 - c. The Convention Chair often made the comment that she had never done this before but was unwilling to take direction from anyone including others who held the position
21. Cons were presented for not removing the Convention Body Chair
 - a. Convention Chair is her and has not been able to speak
 - b. This is an egregious injustice
 - c. This is just blaming - no forgiveness, willingness
 - d. State which policy she has not followed
22. Statement was made that the Convention Body Chair has been given the ability to speak:
 - a. At the emergency Convention Body Meeting
 - b. At JAC meeting on 5/17/23
 - c. At Area meeting on 5/17/23
 - d. She spoke at the beginning of this meeting
 - e. She was given the floor earlier in the discussion and said she had nothing to say
23. The Convention Body Chair stated that she was trying to figure out what was going on and listening. She apologized to Nate as she did not have the authority to state that he could not volunteer. She did what she did out of frustration and wanted to wait for him to come out of his own emotions. She stated that there were letters from 3 people who had resigned their positions. She also stated that people expected her to lead, now they are criticizing her as an not being an effective leader. Mistakes were made but also asked where did she not following our policy. She stated that those writing the letters are just bitter
24. The Co-Chair stated that the Convention Body chair was out of order - devolving into name calling, not spiritual spiritual principles.

25. The Convention Body Treasurer stated she wanted to address a few points
 - a. Abuse of Funds - has no knowledge of any funds being misused
 - b. The removal of the Convention Chair has been done according to policy
 - i. Continued documentation of violations of the Traditions
 1. Tradition 1 - Convention Body is not unified
 2. Tradition 2 - We do not govern was not followed
26. The Co-Chair of Registration for the Convention stated that when the Convention Body Chair signed the contract on her own she was in violation of policy.
 - a. Concept 4 states that the NA groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it. Effective leadership should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
 - b. When looking at the qualities of a leader you look at the whole person, not just the skills. Humility is a quality to look at, someone who knows their defects.
 - c. The Convention Body Chair has not given reports, have others do her reports, decision on her own to remove coffee from the convention and removing rooms, how long did it take her to show the contract she signed.
 - d. Time is not on our side and we don't need anymore strife
27. A member asked the CB Treasurer what are we responsible for financially with the convention
 - a. CB Treasurer stated that we are responsible for \$20,000, we have paid \$10,000 and owe another \$10,000
 - b. Stated that there is still a motion on the floor but reserved the right to make a motion to cancel the convention
28. A member stated that CB Chair needs to be able to answer questions and be allowed to speak. Grievances are about personality .We are hearing half truths. What spiritual principles are being followed - Honesty, Open mindedness, Willingness, Forgiveness, Fear, Disrespect
29. Literature Chair stated that any motion to cancel the Convention in the future should be to postpone, not to cancel
30. A member stated that no one who is speaking has been there. They are hearing hearsay from CB Chair
 - a. CB Chair has a dictator style of leadership
 - b. How does she get to mandate no coffee at the convention
 - c. CB Chair's rendition of events is incorrect
 - d. CB Chair is not our boss, she will shut you down
 - e. CB Chair announced the Sneaker Ball at Area Service without discussing it at CB meeting
 - f. Help was asked for, the letters state why
 - g. How long are we going to keep discussing this
31. Area Co-Chair stated we will go as long as everyone gets to have a say
32. Member asked to get to the vote
33. Outreach Chair stated that he disagrees with member who stated that Glendale has not had an opportunity to speak - she has had the opportunity to address everyone
34. The PhoneLine chair stated that in our policy that debate is open until all answers are given with each member having 3 minutes to talk. We are passionate. We can make the decision to not vote tonight and take it back to the groups. So everyone has the time to process and know all the info.
35. The Co-Chair stated that the timeliness of this is important and we are following policy. States that have a motion, have had pros and cons discussed that we need to vote.
36. A member takes offense to her name being brought up in the discussion.
37. A member stated that they were new to the group and are there to vote the conscious of their

- home group. We are here to live the purpose of NA - to help the newcomer
38. The Co-Chair asked if anyone else had any discussion. With no response a vote on the motion to remove the Convention Body Chair from her position.
 - a. 17 votes for the motion
 - b. 1 vote against the motion
 - c. 2 abstain from the vote.
 39. 17 votes for the motion is 85% of the home groups present and the motion passes.

CLOSING

The meeting was closed with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Meeting concluded at 8:51pm.

IN LOVING SERVICE,
Jess G, Area Secretary
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302-373-1254

		Emergency May				
AREA SERVICE HOME GROUP ATTENDANCE						
		1st Roll Call		2nd Roll Call		Notes About Meeting
Home Group		Present/ Voting	Absent	Present/ Voting	Absent	
1	Addicted to Hope		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
2	Attitudes In Action		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
3	Basic Text		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
4	Be At Your Best		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
5	By NA Means Necessary	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
6	Clean But Not Straight	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
7	Clean Dreams		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
8	Down Home Group	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
9	Each One Teach One	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
10	Embrace the Grace	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
11	Eye Opener		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
12	First State Survivors		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
13	Get It Off Your Chest		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
14	G.O.D. Group		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
15	Hope for Healing	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
16	Hump Day Hope		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		
17	In The Solution		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken		

18	Journey Continues	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
19	Just For Today		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
20	Last Chance For Recovery		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
21	Living The Steps	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
22	Meditations & Steps		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
23	Monday Night Recovery	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
24	Miracles Happen	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
25	New Associations	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
26	New Way of Life	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
27	Not Just An Hour	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
28	Old School Recovery	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
29	Recovery In the A.M.	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
30	Recovery on the Westside	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
31	Simplicity Group		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
32	STAR Group	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
33	Step By Step		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
34	Steps to Recovery	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
35	Sunday Night Recovery/ Spiritual Connection	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
36	This Is H.O.W.		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
37	Three Minutes of Meditation	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
38	Time to Live Again		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
39	Together We Can		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	

40	Turn It Over		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
41	We Want To Live	1		No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
42	Weekend Survivors		1	No 2nd Roll Call Taken	
		21	21	0	0