

# **Portland Area of Narcotics Anonymous Board of Directors Meeting**

*November 17, 2007*

Paul, PASC Chair, opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m. with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

In attendance were:

- Paul, Chair
- Michele, Secretary
- Ron, Treasurer
- Eric P, Activities Chair
- Gene L, Activities Vice Chair
- Steve G., Webhost and PI Vice Chair
- Lynda, Hotline Chair
- Wayne, PASC Vice Chair
- Ana, PASC Archivist
- Eric M., Alternate RCM and Outreach Vice Chair
- Troy, Outreach
- Bill, Outreach

The Board of Director's met in special session to prepare the 2008 PASC Budget, discuss the Area Planning Tool, taking an Area Inventory and preparing the Bylaws for ratification.

Ron, PASC Treasurer, said he was lucky to be there because his computer crashed.

Paul, PASC Chair, said that he wanted to give the groups a comparison of what the PASC spent this last year with the actual budgeted amounts. This month, he said he was expecting to have this ready to go out to the groups. He asked Ron, the treasurer, if he had the budget ready for this month.

Ron responded that he doesn't just have one paper, he has a whole shitload.

Paul said he felt disrespected, saying that Ron showed up late last month and showed up late again this month. If you can't handle this, Paul said, we can get you an assistant.

Ron said he had been going since 8:30 this morning. He had just come from another meeting before the BOD.

If you had said you couldn't get to this, I'd have done it, Paul said.

Back to the budget...

Wayne, PASC Vice Chair, said he thinks we need to elect another chair of Outreach. And, as for PI, Wayne requested that the budgeted amount should be back to \$1,500. Lynda said that Hotline should be cheaper this year than last. She has been stressing that the Hotline workers input the correct PIN number, or the cost is \$20.

Wayne expressed his frustration with the budget process, saying that this is not rocket science, this (budget) is not set in stone. The idea is not to see how tight we can make the budget. Wayne said he is talking about combining Outreach, PI and Hotline. "I'm regrouping," he said.

"If this Metro Committee doesn't pay out," Wayne continued, "there's going to be some changes."

There is no sense trying to shave money off the amounts that are allotted in the bylaws.

Ron said that the Area has been running "even-stein," with donations from the groups at \$60 to \$100 per month. Ron said he disagreed with Wayne, that we do need to shave money from the allotments allowed for in the bylaws, in the 2008 budget.

Wayne disagreed, saying that unless we tell the groups that we need more money, they aren't going to give it to us.

Michele, PASC Secretary, said that we need to keep our budget in line with what our anticipated income is going to be.

Ron said that the exception to that is income from Activities. That is not guaranteed money, he said. But it often helps us when we are struggling.

For the past year, Outreach had only spent \$24. Wayne said that was because it is not doing its job.

Wayne said that for forecasting purposes, that the PASC should go with \$125 per month for Outreach.

Ron said that the groups have to support our Area.

Nanette said that she will be taking the budget to her group. The groups are going to see the difference if there is an increase in budgeted amounts from 2007 to 2008. She didn't think the Area should budget for more than it can account for.

Wayne said there is always a chance that a subcommittee will need more than \$125 some month. All this will do is reserve the right of the subcommittee to ask for that amount of money. And once again he reiterated that this is not a scientific project.

Ron said that he now had the information he needed to have a comparison between the 2007 budget versus actual expenses, to date, and the 2008 budget.

Paul asked Ron to get it ready to go out with the minutes.

Ron said he had been getting a lot of feedback about people thinking that the Area holds on to too much money. He thought that the Area could decrease its monthly operating expenses from \$1,500. I think we can lower that to \$1,200 and release the rest, he said.

Paul asked the Board if everyone thinks it's a good idea to change wording in the bylaws – to state that the Area has two months of operating expenses plus working capital.

Wayne said that if it is not broke, don't fix it.

Paul said that the way it is now does not reflect how the money is actually used. Instead, perhaps we should call it two months of prudent reserve and one month working capital.

Ron said this would be good if, for instance, PI requests a computer. Then, we have the extra money.

After much discussion, Paul agreed that it should stay the same.

Eric M., said that if we don't have the money, we will just have to wait for it.

Paul said the BOD will meet again at Noon before the December PASC to discuss the budget, the bylaws and how to move forward with an area inventory.

The BOD meeting closed at 1:15 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.