

**Portland Area Service Committee  
Meeting of Narcotics Anonymous  
17200 SE Stark Street  
Portland, OR  
September 28, 2007**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer for those who cared to join in. Paul asked if the groups would like to waive the readings. The groups overwhelmingly voted to continue with the readings.

The Twelve Traditions were read by Syd  
The Twelve Concepts were read by Lynda  
The 4th Concept was read by Dan  
The Dedication to Service was read by Paul

**Roll Call of Officers**

11 were present.

**Roll Call of Groups**

24 answered roll call. A total number of 31 groups checked in during the meeting.

**Quorum**

Quorum is established at 11.

**New GSRs**

Starlette – New GSR for Hope Group  
Millie – New GSR for Stepping Up  
Chris – from Off the Hook  
Nathan – New Alt. GSR for New Journey  
Shelley S – New Alt. GSR for Find the Way

**Archivist**

Paul, PASC Chair, opened nominations for Archivist. Eric from Full Circle nominated Ana. Ana said she would be willing, but she does not meet the clean time requirement. PASC bylaws suggest 2 years of clean time. Ana said she has 6 months. Lynda, Hotline Chair, made a motion to waive the clean time requirement. It was seconded by Back to Basics. Groups voted in favor of waiving the clean time requirement (16 in favor, 1 against, and 1 abstention). Ana then exited the room while the groups voted. She was elected as PASC Archivist by general consent.

**Secretary's Report**

Back to Basics made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes as written, seconded by Southeast Serenity.  
Michele, PASC Secretary, asked for everyone's help keeping her contact list up-to-date. She can be reached at [mvowell503@msn.com](mailto:mvowell503@msn.com).

## **Treasurer's Report**

In explaining the PASC spreadsheet (see attached), Ron said that our bank balance does not reflect how much money we have. The bottom line, where it reads "Available Funds" is what the PASC has available.

Starlette, from the Hope Group, asked the Treasurer if he has a copy of the PASC bank statement.

Ron said that he will make one available if she would like to see that.

## **Open Forum**

**Dan, from Rush Hour**, announced that his group could use some support from members with some clean time. Rush Hour gets a lot of people from the Salvation Army and Letty Owings treatment centers, whereas the meeting usually only has about 2 to 5 members with clean time. Dan wanted the PASC to know that Rush Hour is alive and well, but could use some support. Rush Hour is located at 1131 SE Oak St., in the St. Francis School Basement. The meeting is held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Chris, from Fireside Men's Step Study**, said that he and his wife went to the World Convention for their honeymoon. He took notes from other areas to bring the information back to Portland. He thought that the Portland Area could benefit from NA Worlds planning tools.

**Larry T, from You + Me = We**, said there is another meeting that is dying. The Say That meeting of NA desperately needs support. Say That meets Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Miracles Club (4069 NE MLK).

**Syd, Outreach Chair**, asked group representatives to fill out group report forms so the Outreach Subcommittee will be aware of how groups are doing in the Portland Area. And, just a reminder that New GSR Orientation begins at 1:30 p.m., just prior to Area.

**Lynda, Hotline Chair**, said that Metro is asking if it can put the Portland Hotline number on their schedules. The problem is that when addicts call from outside the Portland Area, Hotline workers don't have any information on meetings in other areas.

Paul asked Lynda to see him after the meeting about this subject.

**Will A., from What it Is**, said he recently attended a World sponsored workshop. He was disappointed that there wasn't any representation from Metro, even the Portland representative. From the presentation, Will said he understood that Metros are set up so there isn't any duplication of service – so areas aren't fighting over territory and spending extra money. In all of NA there are only a couple of functioning metros. In my opinion, we have no duplication of services because Portland Area is the only Area with services. This discussion about Metro is tearing us apart and causing us disunity. Will said that he believes that it is premature for us to try to start this thing.

**Bill F**, said that the Fireside Men's Step Study Group will soon be having a fundraiser to help sponsor men to go to a retreat. There are a lot of men who can't afford to go to a spiritual retreat; which I find very beneficial.

**Travis, from Learning to Live**, spoke about the 9<sup>th</sup> Concept of Service. About how important it is that we provide the people who take Hotline shifts with the information they need to help the suffering addict. He said that he found if a "big bummer" that the Portland Area's representative to Metro could not attend the Metro Workshop. As a trusted servant representing his group, he does not feel that it is appropriate for him to interject his opinion while conducting business at the PASC. So, he said he is using open forum to state his personal opinion. He believes that Portland's representative to Metro should be representing the Portland Area to the Metro, not representing the Rose City Metro to the Portland Area. He said he is not proposing to know what someone's intentions are... Portland did have strong representation at the workshop. He is bummed that the Chairperson wasn't there. And, those representatives from other areas were not there either. Travis said he believes there are a lot of things Portland can do to better serve the addict in the Portland Metro area. Every month he listens to the H & I report, he is frustrated that H & I misses about 10 percent of its commitments. He also feels that Outreach could do a little more to support the groups.

**Break**

## **Vice Chair Report – Wayne C.**

No report.

## **Subcommittees and Regional Issues**

### **Activities**

Eric opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Dave read 12 Traditions; Steve read the 9<sup>th</sup> concept; Billi read the Decorum Statement. First time visitors were Frank V. and Greg R. There were no second time visitors. The Chair reported to the committee then called for reports from the Treasurer, RCM, Calendar Coordinator, Flyer Coordinator, Reminder Coordinator, Gratitude Coordinator, Storage Coordinator, Newcomer Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator and Archivist. Quorum was met; we had 13 voting members attending. In Unfinished Business the by-law review committee was still unable to meet so it is postponed until winter. The Chair then turned the meeting over to the Vice-Chair for Future, Ongoing, and Past Events.

In Future events the PAAS has voted to add the Fort Stevens campout as an activities event, also Bowling is starting back up. There are three events happening in October. They are The Black light Dance Fundraiser on October 5<sup>th</sup> and the Spooky Dance on October 27<sup>th</sup>. The fundraiser dance is a taco feed, speaker meeting, dance to raise money for the End of the Year Dance. In past events Beverly Beach made a profit and Areas ½ is \$741.45. Unity in the Streets made a profit and Areas ½ is \$1590.67. The meeting was then turned back to the Chair for new business.

In New Business there was a motion made to have a paintball event on October 13<sup>th</sup>. It passed since no money was needed from activities. The meeting closed at 4:45pm.

Thank you, Your trusted Servant, Eric P

## **Literature**

Beginning Balance: \$3,769.22

September Sales: \$2,001.20

Ending Balance: \$5770.42

## **Outreach – Syd, Outreach Chair**

The meeting opened at 1:15 p.m. with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Outreach talked about Group Report Forms. Outreach is in the process of designing new GSR Update forms. Outreach is getting a computer from PASC storage. Troy will be monitoring the Outreach mail on the website. Outreach held the new GSR Orientation at 1:30 p.m. Outreach saw two new GSRs. The meeting closed at 1:50 p.m. with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Step Prayer.

## **Hospitals & Institutions**

Total Commitments – 60

Missed – 5

Cancelled – 2

Number of addicts seen – 890

## **Hotline – Lynda, Chair**

The meeting opened at 5:45 p.m. on Sept. 23 with a moment of silence, followed by the serenity prayer. In attendance were: Lynda A, Chair; Jackie A., Secretary, and shift workers Will A, Jim, Trina, Michelle B., Bob, and David T. All shifts are covered. Welcome to David T. from Greater Willamette Valley. The Hotline meeting ended at 6:45 p.m.

Lynda attended Metro this month. Metro is asking to put Portland's Hotline number on the front of schedules. Hotline is still in desperate need of 12-step volunteers. One year clean time is required. Please announce this in meetings.

In Service and Gratitude, Lynda A., Hotline Chair

## **Public Information – Jim B. Interim Chair**

Hello Everyone:

Our committee has suffered from lack of attendance for quite some time. Now that we have people willing to step up and take our area P.I. efforts into a new direction, we are faced with the dilemma of outdated bylaws and lack of direction. With this in mind, we have formed an ad-hoc committee designed to rebuild our P.I. Committee from the ground up. With a new Vice-Chair ready to step up, and a few other new members, we need to leave them confident in the direction and knowledge of the work they are doing. Having said this, we are also putting in a motion today to simply remain Portland Area P.I. while still making our involvement with the Metro P.I. structure a priority. This will give us clarity in re-building our committee, as well as defining much clearer guidelines and boundaries as to how we will serve a Metro level P.I. effort. We had a visit from the GSRs from the "What it Is" meeting who have proposed a motion to put meetings from outside the area back into the schedule. After much discussion we will either be making a friendly amendment or simply suggesting that we be allowed to move to a bigger piece of paper for printing, and have a timeline until our February cycle of schedule in which to effectively complete this task. The Web team is continuing the process of upgrading the format

and content of the web site. We would like to please remind all the area officers and committee chairs to please check their E mails accounts regularly. GSR's please let your groups know that upcoming birthdays can be sent in by email, or by calling the number on the front of the schedule. And please send them in at least two months in advance since the birthdays have returned to the schedule and they are on a bi-monthly cycle. There are links to the Greater Willamette and Tualatin Valley area's schedules on the site. We received 74,659 hits to the website in the month of September. Now that we have a new Media coordinator we will be contacting a few radio stations this month to air some short PSAs with our hotline number. Our Alternate Flyer Coordinator has been posting flyers with hotline number tear offs in various locations. We spent \$14.99 on envelopes and \$82 on stamps to take care of our mailings for the next three cycles and are asking for \$96.99 from our allotment today. We had twelve members in attendance at our last meeting with three new faces. Our next meeting is set for 7 p.m. on October 25, at 1706 SE 39<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you, Jim B., Interim P.I. Chair

### **Regional Committee Member – Steve**

No report

### **Alternate Regional Committee Member – Eric**

No report

### **Chair Report- Paul J. -**

Paul said he got a check for \$500 to buy shirts as a fundraiser to buy books for H & I. He will order men's and women's T-shirts. He will also take special orders from anyone. Just contact him. The shirts will use the same logo as before, with the dedication to service on the back.

### **Rose City Metro Report**

No report

### **Metro Workshop adhoc Report - Travis**

I feel that overall the workshop went well. There were about 60 people in attendance.

If anyone was unable to learn a great deal about the service structure of NA, it would only be the expectations they themselves had going into the workshop in the way.

Anthony and Michael co-facilitated the workshop in a very non-biased manner and I was very pleased with the fact that personal opinions were not expressed in any way that could be hurtful or offensive.

A very moving timeline of the History of NA from 1953 to the present was shown at the beginning of the workshop to create an atmosphere of recovery.

We worked with a formula for problem solving that is consensus based and allows people to hear and be heard, coming to terms with the issues at hand, whatever they may be, and create

solutions in the same fashion. For the formula to be effective there are components that must be used and guidelines that direct the group toward a unified purpose. It was very effective.

I was disappointed, though not surprised, at the lack of attendance by the GSRs that vote and take information to the few groups that actually participate in our ASC meetings. It makes me wonder what information these groups are using to base their decisions on. That is as far as I should go down this path as I am giving a report as a trusted servant.

Representatives from the Rose City Metro were no present and the PASCs liaison to the Rose City Metro was not in attendance either. I spoke with people that are involved in Metro and are members of the Greater Willamette and Tualatin Valley areas and they said there was nothing they had to say during the time that was set aside for the RCMC in between the 90 minute sessions.

During the Q & A, many questions were asked about Metro. Anthony state very clearly that it is not his place to tell Portland whether it does or does not need a Metro. He also stated the purpose for a Metro in it's conceptual intent – "To co-ordinate services in a metropolitan area where multiple areas with functioning service structures are duplicating services as to ensure our primary purpose."

He stated that he is not an expert on Metro, that there are a few that have done it successfully and there is one that runs efficiently and smoothly.

What he did say that I believe is pertinent to the PASC is that the structure of NA functions as a whole in an efficient manner only when services of an area are solid. Strong recovering addicts make for strong groups; strong groups in turn build strong areas with effective service structures. No matter what Portland decides it wants to do in the future without a fully functioning service structure in place won't work effectively.

What was suggested was that the PASC, if it chose, could utilize the Area Planning Tool to assess where it is at and where it should or could go.

In regards to the Metro, the final word from Anthony was, "If all of the stakeholders do not have a say in this, it will not work." That if all of the participants do not have a consensus on what are the problems, and in turn, what are some solutions, and at least agree as to what these are, we can go nowhere because there will always be someone with a differing view who was not heard.

The deli trays and water came to \$110.10; coffee was \$10; rent for the room was \$42; for a total expenditure of \$163.10. The remainder of \$36.90 is returned to the PASC.

I am grateful for the opportunity to perform my duty to the best of my ability and I have learned much along the way. I would like to thank the PASC for allowing me to be of service.  
Sincerely, Travis B.

## **Unfinished Business**

Motion #25: Submitted by Ron C. and seconded by The Nooner.

Motion: Add to Section Nine: Financial Responsibilities a line J that reads: That the PASC shall maintain a working capital of \$1000.

Purpose of Motion: To maintain a reserve of money that can be used for the purpose of supporting the sub-committees (i.e. lending of seed money, purchasing needed items, etc.)

Motion failed: 12 against    8 abstentions    2 in favor

## **New Business**

*(The PASC requests groups to discuss the following motions (in red) and be ready to vote on these matters at next month's PASC.)*

Motion #33: submitted by Public Information and seconded by Back to Basics.

Motion: Portland Area P.I. wishes to remain a Portland Area Sub-committee.

Purpose of Motion: To clarify the role of Portland Area P.I. at both the Area and Metro level.

### Discussion:

Jim, Interim P.I. Chair, said that discussion on the direction of the Subcommittee continues to consume too much time at subcommittee meetings. The focus of our efforts gets out of proportion. During a period when the subcommittee is being rebuilt from the ground up, we need to know where our foundation lies, he said. We would like to just focus on serving at the Area level and then see where we can be of assistance at the Metro level.

Some of the work of the Public Information Subcommittee, such as public service announcements, will affect all areas. While other work, such as the website and meeting schedules, are solely a service for the Portland Area.

Travis, from Learning to Live, spoke against the motion. Travis said that he does believe that P.I. should remain under the Portland Area Service Structure; but doesn't think it should be the sole entity to do so. Travis also said he is against the timing and wording of the motion.

Will A., from What it Is, spoke in favor of the motion. PI should be taking care of Portland's affairs, he said. While he would like to see PI include meetings from other areas in the schedule, Will said it should continue to be a subcommittee managed by the Portland Area.

Mick, from Hour of Power, said that PI is a Portland Area subcommittee by definition. The problem is that the Metro and the other areas do not have an existing service structure that works.

Motion #33 will go back to the groups for a vote.

Motion #34: Submitted by Back to Basics...

Motion: That Area provide financial actuleis of income and expenses year to date and complete balance sheet.

Purpose of Motion: To be accountable to the groups.

Motion #34 was ruled out of order by the chair. Paul said that the Board of Directors directed the Treasurer to make that information available by the next PASC meeting, as the BOD is in the midst of its annual budget process.

Troy challenges the ruling of the chair. Challenge failed.

Motion #35: Submitted by Big Steve (RCM), seconded by Clean Freaks

Motion: To increase the allotment for the RCM to up to \$150, (section nine, financial responsibilities, letter F. (Bylaw Change)

Purpose of Motion: To bring the allotment up, so it covers actual costs.

Discussion:

Steve, Regional Committee Member, said that his expenses were \$155 when he went to Coos Bay. Typically, his expenses are less, but he thinks the bylaws should be changed to reflect the times.

Ron, PASC Treasurer, said he is in favor of the change. While \$150 should more than cover expenses, our representatives are still required to bring receipts for reimbursement. Sometimes the RCM and Alternate RCM are required to go down to California and Medford and gas costs nearly \$3 a gallon.

Syd, Outreach Chair, asked what the PASC is paying for.

Eric M., Alternate RCM, said he went down and stayed for the GSR conference, and charged it to this area.

Greg, from Clean Freaks, said he went down with Eric to Coos Bay, in order to split the costs. Greg went for the GSR event. In order to split costs, Eric needed to stay the night, Greg said.

Motion #35 will go back to the groups for a vote.

Motion #36, submitted by What it Is, and seconded by Learning to Live.

Motion: That we (Portland Area) re-insert the meetings outside the immediate Portland Area to our Area meeting schedule.

Purpose of Motion: To be able to refer to the meeting locations and addresses to hotline callers from outside our immediate area and further promote unity.

Troy asked what the financial impact would be.

Will A., speaking for his motion, said that 6-months ago, McMinnville, St. Helens, etc., were taken from the schedule. In order to put outside meetings back on the schedule, he understands that the birthdays would have to be shrunk. There would have to be compromise. If it costs a little more, we think it is worth it, he said. We think the Portland Area should step up to the plate.

Jim, Interim PI Chair, asked for a friendly amendment to allow PI to use a bigger piece of paper (11x15) and have until the January – February schedule cycle to make the changes.

No amendment was made to the motion. The chair said that the groups should decide if they want the outside meetings back on the schedule. Then, we can look at costs.

Leslie, from What it Is, said she went to the PI meeting. She was pleased that Vicky took the extra time to show her what the new schedules would look like. “There is not price on an addict getting clean,” Leslie added.

Troy once again asked what the financial impact would be of the motion.

Jim guessed that it might be \$30 to \$40 per printing. (The schedules are printed every two months.)

Motion #36 went back to the groups for a vote.

Paul, PASC Chair, said that this constant bringing up of motions is not productive.

Motion #37: submitted by the PASC Treasurer and seconded by Lynda.

Motion: To return the \$420 being held in reserves, back into the Areas (PASC) general funds.

Purpose of Motion: To return this unused money back into the areas funds and move it on to region or wherever needed.

Passed by general consent.

Motion #38: submitted by Travis B., and seconded by Back to Basics.

Motion: That the PASC utilize the Area planning tool and perform an Area inventory with BOD, subcommittee chairs and GSRs.

Purpose of Motion: To assess our assets and our liabilities so we can take actions that will strengthen our ASC and move us in the direction of furthering our primary purpose.

Discussion:

Travis, from Learning to Live, said that Anthony from the World Service Office suggested the process of an Area inventory to find direction. Doing an Area inventory is probably something that would be very good for this area.

Will A., from What it Is, said he thinks an inventory is a good idea for this area. “I don’t think I can take inventory enough,” Will said. He didn’t think this Area has ever used the inventory tool provided by the World Service Office.

Eric P, Activities Chair, asked if we should set a time for conducting an inventory.

Travis said that the time is now. This Area cannot wait to do an inventory.

Motion #38 was sent back to the groups for a vote.

Motion #39: submitted by Travis B...

Motion: That the hotline subcommittee of the PASC provide the hotline #s for the Greater Willamette and Tualatin Valley areas hotlines to the hotline shift volunteers to provide callers that need them.

Purpose of Motion: To better meet the needs of addicts seeking recovery.

Chair ruled the motion out of order, as the other areas don’t have hotline numbers.

Motion #40: Submitted by Travis B., and seconded by What it Is.

Motion: That we rescind motions #\_\_, #\_\_, and #\_\_ (no archives were available), turning over the H&I, Hotline, and PI to the Rose City Metro.

Purpose of Motion: To disengage from ASC responsibilities outside of the ASC and Allow ASC to focus on the issues within our own service structure to better serve our primary purpose.

Motion tabled until October when archives will be made available.

Motion #41: submitted by Travis B...

Motion: To elect someone to the position of Rose City Metro liaison who is able to act as an information conduit between the PASC and the Rose City Metro without bias. The position should have a term of at least one year, and no more than two years. The requirements should be current ASC experience and two year suggested clean time.

Purpose of Motion: To replace the current ASC rep to the Rose City Metro with someone who can understand and represent the current wishes of the PASC.

Motion ruled out of order as the position is an ad-hoc position.

The ruling was challenged by Dan of Rush Hour. The challenge failed.

The meeting closed at 4:45 p.m.

The Board of Directors will meet for a special budgeting session at noon on October 27, just prior to the PASC meeting which is set to begin at 2 p.m. at 17200 SE Stark (URS Club).