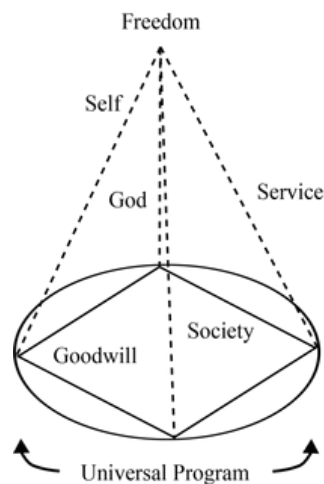




VOLUNTEER REGION SERVICE MEETING

February 2, 2020

A Service Body of Narcotics Anonymous



Kirstie M.
secretary@natennessee.org
615-939-5770

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Procedural Overview

- Meeting opened at 9:30 am with the Serenity Prayer.
- Twelve Concepts were read.
- VRSC Purpose was read.
- Regional Chair welcomed and recognized visitors.
- Lunch was from 12:30-1:00pm.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Note: HIGHLIGHTED PORTIONS REQUIRE ACTION OR ATTENTION.

Roll Call

Administrative

Chair	Dell E.	Present
Vice-Chair	Vacant	N/A
Secretary	Kirstie M.	Present
Alternate Secretary	Vacant	N/A
Treasurer	Michelle H.	Present
Alternate Treasurer	Vacant	N/A

Regional Representatives

Regional Delegate	Jim B.	Present
Regional Delegate Alt.	Vince .	Present

Subcommittees

Public Relations	Craig G.	Present
ITCC	Lucy O.	Present
Policy & Procedures	Vacant	N/A
Outreach	Lidia S.	Absent
H & I	Jim B.	Present
VRC 38	Sam D.	Present
VRC Adhoc	Chuck P.	Absent

Areas

Chattanooga	Vince B.	Present
Clarksville	Scott G.	Present
East TN Ridges of Recovery	Austin S.	Absent
Greater Nashville	Mike B.	Present
Heart of Tennessee	Donald S.	Present
Knoxville	Stephen Z.	Present
Middle Tennessee	Julius H.	Present
Midwest Tennessee	Josh D. (Lee R. Alt RCM)	Absent
Mountain Area	Greg V.	Present
West Tennessee	Lucy O.	Present

Quorum Results

Number of Areas represented:

8 of 10 active Areas

Quorum established? (Requires 2/3 of active areas; 5 needed)

Yes

Review Previous Secretary Minutes

Questions/comments from the floor:

- Chair report from Dec 2019 Minutes needs to be updated (will update)
- Motion numbers in minutes do not reflect the paper motion (will update)

Motion to accept, second, 0-0-0, unanimous.

Officer Reports

Chairperson Report

VRSC Chair Report
Volunteer Region Service Committee

2/02/2020

Hello Everyone

The In Between Meeting or Meeting In Between was held on January 5th. There was two in attendance and the meeting went about an hour. We open with the Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. We first discussed the purpose of the meeting referring to guidelines Article X, Section 2 or an idea I presented: To provide an opportunity for collaboration among the Administrative Committee of the VRSC. Seeking to function more effectively and all together in our services to Narcotics Anonymous.

These were the things to be considered during the meeting:

- Motions and documentation of outcomes
- Financial Review of VRSC
- Reporting to IRS (501c3) with CPA
- Handling of Receipts and expense reports
- Correspondence with Inmates in Institutions
- World Conference (WSC) Plan expenses
- Listing Zoom Meetings
- Noting deadlines and making available for responsible party
- Determining a single point for shared responsibility

There is also the idea of more than one meeting in between cycles.

The only action taken was concerning zoom meetings and having access through the Region website to the dates and time. We're also asking if you are planning a zoom meeting to give the information date and time to the ITC Coordinator (Lucy) by the end of the VRSC that it maybe attached to the minutes.

Dell E

Questions/comments from the floor:

We did our CAR/CAT workshop in Nashville yesterday.

We want to thank everyone who participated and we'd like to thank the RD team.

Motion to accept, second, 0-0-0, unanimous.

Treasurer Report

WE NEED AN ALTERNATE TREASURER (3 Years Clean Time)

Ordered checks: Only 6 checks available today
All checks written have cleared.

Ending Report:

Starting Available: \$26,991.32

Wrote checks for: \$4,045.11

Prudent Reserve: \$5,000

PR Bud: \$5,959.01

H&I Budget: \$6,600

VRC Fund: \$4,000

Balance: \$11,987.20

Recommendation from treasurer:

Send remaining balance (\$1,387.20) to World.

Motion to accept treasurer's recommendation: 5-2-0-0, PASSED

Secretary Report

No report

Questions/comments from the floor:

No questions from the Floor

Motion to accept, second, 0-0-0,

Area Reports

Chattanooga Area

It's that time of year for the rollover of all service positions in our area.

H&I

All our commitments are being covered but we need a lot of support.

We are still serving CADAS on Friday nights. We are going to Scholze center On Thursday night. We are and Valley hospital on Sunday nights. We do Moccasin bend on Wednesday night. Walker state is done on Tuesday nights.

Fellowship Development:

Fellowship Development is doing well. Next carpool will be Tuesday February 4, 2020 to the "Rooms for Improvement" group. Meet at First Christian Church at 6:30 if you would like to join. Currently, both chair and vice chair positions are open.

At our meeting next Sunday, we will nail down a date for Regional PR to come to Chattanooga and do a workshop.

Activities:

Thank you to everyone who helped make Winter Bash a success. We are currently start working on our next event, the chili Cookoff. More will be revealed.

ILS,

Vince B.

[Paul Questions/comments from the floor:](#)

No questions from the Floor

Clarksville Area

Shalom and good morning NA family, recovering addict named Scott!

I'd like to kick this report off with what our PR team is doing. Speaking of kick off, the game starts at 5:30..... (hint) 😊 The Clarksville Area hosted a PR workshop on January 25th and the turnout was amazing. We had 32 in attendance, which blew my mind and I'm extremely grateful for the willingness showed by the members in our area to want to learn more on how to carry our message throughout the community. The members presenting did a wonderful job and kept the presentation interesting by involving the crowd. We learned a lot and are eager to get started. We have our first committee meeting set for February 17th to start planning our strategy. We now have our presentation board, projector, and screen for when we start presentations. We're in contact with the city Mayor to set a date to carry our message to the professional demographic and will gain contact information for the "don'ts" on hanging flyers at the city/county level.

Our Activities committee has plans for the end of March to host a speaker jam along with a chili cook-off to raise funds for VRC. We hosted several successful events last year with a stronger showing of willing members to help facilitate and a slow, but steady rise in newer member participation. We look forward to an event-filled 2020!

Our H&I committee has been steadily taking meeting into the workhouse and a somewhat local treatment facility. As newer members are starting to stick around, we're starting to see more willingness to get involved in these committees. With that said, we're in high hopes that we can start spreading out into more H&I relevant festivities this year.

We had our Area meeting January 25th and wanted to mention that this was the biggest Area we've had yet with respect to members interested in getting involved and currently involved members staying true to their commitment. Most of our homegroups have shown growth in meeting attendance to the point of one group having members pouring out of the door on several different occasions. Comparing to last year, growth has been exponential. Another group has reported that for the past few weeks they've had an average of 48 members attending. For our area this is unheard of and truly wonderful. We were having our Area meetings every odd month, but we have voted to moving back to monthly. We also voted to donate to VRSC in the amount of \$100.00. Can't wait to share our experiences with this service body at our next assembly.

In Loving Service,

Scott G.

Clarksville RCM

clarksville@natennessee.org

Questions/comments from the floor:

No questions from the Floor

East TN Ridges of Recovery Area

No report

[Questions/comments from the floor:](#)

No questions from the Floor

Greater Nashville Area

Greetings from GNANA,

Our 31 groups continue to move into the new year with services intact and hope that we will continue to move forward with the upcoming merger with MTA. Administration positions are filled with the exception of alt Sec and Treasurer, and our chair in her reporting is encouraging the groups to get involved with the things that are happening within the ASC. We have new chairs with Activities and H and I and Budgets have been turned in for fellowship approval.

H and I continues to serve 23 facilities with move facilities asking for meetings. Largest needs are with the facilities being served in our outlying counties. Maury, Dickson, and Hickman but the committee is functioning and carrying the message

The Kiss Kookout is looking into only putting on the chili kookoff and will be restructuring its committee.

I had the opportunity to attend the SZF, my thanks to our new AD, Vincent B for providing transportation. Gathered a lot of information, have held a brief discussion with members from the SEZF, who was in attendance about the electronic voting they are utilizing and will make an attempt to use it at the ASC.

Several members are working on the merger and we are months away from looking at a combined set of guidelines more will be revealed.

We are financially solvent and have mailed in a contribution to the RSC of 1000.00. Hopefully we will have a date for the chili cookoff. And full CAR/CAT participation from the groups we serve. Thanks to all that was able to attend our workshop yesterday and our gratitude and thanks to our RD team for their willingness to drive up and facilitate our event.

In loving service,
Mike B.

[Questions/Issues from the Floor](#)

No questions from the Floor

Heart of TN Area

Greetings from the Heart of Tennessee area. We are honored and privileged to participate in this body. The HOT area continues to grow its Fellowship Development committee. All of our service positions including alternates have been filled. We started another H&I meeting in Shelbyville at the Tony Rice Center. They now have two meetings a month. We are currently in contact with 940 the Rutherford County jail and Bedford County corrections trying to get meetings into those facilities. We are working to start a conversation with Warren County jail. We have also started a task group to investigate a trial run of a video sponsorship program for the Rutherford County Workhouse. Members would meet with inmates at the facility via their visitation program. The visits are via video monitors and are not in the same room. Our Outreach wing is in contact with a group in Coalmont Tn. which is literally in the middle of nowhere. We are excited to help in any way we can. They have also started planning the third deployment of Nomadic Addicts and had a Nomadic Addict training workshop on January 12. They had twenty people in attendance and three who participated via Zoom (no affiliation). The groups being visited and the timeline will be set soon. The PR team participated in a training workshop in Clarksville and continues to do work with the Regional PR committee. As a result of our Regional involvement and participation at the Zonal Forums our PR Coordinator has been exposed to some PR for Professionals events and had started a conversation about the possibility of having a PR for Professionals event locally. We are also working on a Service Mentorship reading to help generate interest and guidance for people who may not know how they want to participate in service.

At Area we are discussing increasing our prudent reserve to better reflect the increased cost of the services we are providing in the Area. We hope to have that number finalized in the next couple of months and have a donation after that for Region. We have vote tallies for the the election timeline motion 9-0-0-0 and only a couple of our groups discussed the VRC seed money increase. We are hoping for more time to discuss. Lastly but not least we had a CAR workshop on January 11th. They were eight of our fourteen groups represented by 23 people one third drove more than 45 minutes to attend at the end of the workshop six hours later seventeen were still in attendance. Craig, Jared and myself were all honored and humbled to have participated in the workshop and for the support shown to use by the home groups in our Area.

Thank you for allowing us to serve
Donald and Jared

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No comments from the floor

Knoxville Area

Hey Family!

Since we last met, things have been going well in Knoxville.

H&I is currently in 5 facilities in the area, and hoping to expand into more facilities when they get more support.

We have a newly elected PR chair as well, this fills a long standing vacancy in the knox area service structure.

KACNA is coming up soon, April 3-5 at the Crown Plaza in Knoxville. There are still rooms available. They need to make one more payment of \$1800 on the hotel. Fundraisers have been successful.

Timmy S. was elected as chairperson for ROR. They have some positions filled already, but they still need; Vice chair, merchandise, utilities, secretary, activities, and fundraiser. They are talking about having ROR earlier in the year so there is a gap between VRC and ROR.

We are having our area inventory Feb 15th from 2-6p.

The 501c3 discussion has come up again, and a motion was sent back to homegroups to vote on hiring someone to handle this.

KANA subcommittee chairs and RCM / Alternate RCM roll over in April.

Thanks for letting me serve,

Stephen Z.

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the Floor

Middle Tennessee Area

Hello Family,

As the new year starts, MTA is facing some challenges but not ones that are insurmountable. Financially we are struggling. We are under prudent reserve, which causes some concern in our meeting our obligations to our shared service committees. We've been here before, and just as it happened in the past, we will recover.

The positions of Vice-Chair, Alternate Treasurer and Policy and Procedure Chair are open. Angela E. has been appointed by the Chair of the Area to fill the open position of Alternate RCM. This was done so that the Alternate would have some experience with the mechanisms of the CAR/CAT reports and survey. MTA and Greater Nashville Area (GNA) share the services of H&I, Activities and Public Relations. Because my counterpart at GNA has reported on these shared committees in his report, there is nothing I could add.

The Ad Hoc Merger Subcommittee has formed two (2) work groups, guidelines and logistics. The guideline work group has been able to review ten (10) pages of both (GNA and MTA) guidelines. The logistics work group continues to look for a suitable meeting site that could accommodate both Areas.

MTA would like to thank the Regional Delegate for his continued commitment to service and excellence. Although the small turnout of home groups was not what we were expecting, the twenty-five (25) NA members present walked away with a wealth of information. As the RCM for MTA, I feel confident in being able to pass on the information from yesterday's CAR/CAT workshop to all home groups who desire to be informed and even those that don't.

Yours in loving service

Julius H.

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the floor.

Midwest Tennessee Area

No report

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the floor.

Mountain Area

Report from: Mountain Area MANA Serving 14 Home Groups

Area Officers Phone number, email address

RCM: Greg V. (951-337-0527) gregvogelsang@gmail.com

RCM Alt: Open

Chair: Kenny C. (423-431-8231) WILLIAMKCRUMBLY@YAHOO.COM

Vice Chair: Open

Secretary: Chelsea G. (615-580-2733) clogantwenty3@gmail.com

H&I Chair: Eric S. (423-202-5460) Laytdewayne.ez13@gmail.com

H&I Vice Chair: Open

PR Chair: Reggie G. (423-773-0749) mudfoot47@yahoo.com

Activities Chair: Reggie G. (423-773-0749) mudfoot47@yahoo.com

Activities Vice Chair: Open

Phoneline Chair: Reggie G. (423-773-0749) mudfoot47@yahoo.com

Literature Chair: Ben D. (423-797-0630)

Treasurer: Phil S. (276-494-9372) gobamano1@comcast.net

Regional Donation:

\$135.00

Report on Subcommittee Activities (H&I, PR, Activities, Phoneline, Literature)

H&I subcommittee has reported an increase of residents at one of the facilities we attend, we are still seeing a good portion of residents attend regular meetings as well. Phone lines has been staying consistent in their efforts. Literature has shown a strong year end presence overall. The past 2 months of area meetings has shown a change in several of the trusted servants: Brenda F. has completed her commitment as Area Chair and Kenny C. was voted in as her successor. Don J. completed his commitment as H&I chair and Eric S. has accepted the position. Joel T. has completed his commitment as Area secretary and Chelsea G. has accepted the open position.

**Upcoming
Events:**

Activities decided to cancel a Valentine's day dance due to conflicting schedules with several facilities. However, a plan is in the works for a possible "Spring Fling" event or a possible "Second Chance Prom" more will be revealed. PR & H&I combination workshop has been put on hold until a later date possibly June or July.

**Area
Concerns:**

MANA would like to request a PR display board for our Area.

MANA purchased the remainder of the merchandise from VRC 37 and has \$62.00 to turn in.

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the floor.

West Tennessee Area

The groups had one motion to vote on this month: To change the guidelines in Article VII Section 3 letter A2 from “RD & RD Alt. shall be elected in odd years.” To “RD & RD Alt shall be nominated in February and elected in May of odd years.” Can someone email me the results of this motion in case the minutes aren’t out before the regional meeting next Sunday? I need how many groups voted yes, how many voted no and how many abstained.

If you have any feedback for me about the upcoming VRC motion to raise the seed money to 20,000, please give me a call or email me (901-497-0691, lucy.owens@gmail.com).

World Service Conference

- Groups around the world are voting in their business meetings the next few months on motions contained in the Conference Agenda Report (CAR) and Conference Approval Track (CAT) and our votes will be taken to the World Service Conference later this spring.
- Janice is handing out flyers for the CAR/CAT Day scheduled for February 8. Our regional delegate, Jim B, will facilitate and I will be helping him.
- It starts at 10 and will probably last til at least the middle of the afternoon. It’s at Hope Church, room 230.
- I will purchase some snacks and something for us to have for lunch... probably something to make sandwiches with and chips and cookies. The fee to Hope Church for using the room is \$30. I’ll bring receipts next area.
- All are invited to attend. GSRs & GSR Alternates are especially encouraged to attend
- At the workshop we will go over all the motions and the literature survey and you’ll have time to ask any questions you might have to get a better understanding on the motions so that when you gather the votes from your groups you’ll be able to answer questions they might have... feel free to invite your homegroup members to the workshop!
- You can download the CAR at <https://tinyurl.com/2020CAR> and the CAT at <https://tinyurl.com/2020CAT>. There will be copies of the CAR and CAT documents for each home group at the workshop
- There are videos/powerpoints online (<https://tinyurl.com/2020Powerpoints>) that also explain the motions and we’ll use some of these at the workshop and you can also use them in your homegroup business meetings.
- All things related to these motions and the World Service Conference (WSC) can be found here: <https://na.org/conference>.
- Can’t physically get to the workshop? Attend via zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/614657729>
- All that being said, if you have any questions I can answer during your business meeting, please reach out – 901-497-0691.

In loving service,
Lucy

Questions/comments from Floor:
No questions from the floor.

Delegate Report

Regional Delegate Report



Greetings Regional friends,

We have been busy as a team. I can not express my gratitude enough to the Region for electing Vince B as Alternate Delegate. An important note to the region. Greg from the Mountain area, who was also a candidate for AD, has expressed his dedication to be of service in whatever capacity he can serve. This is an example of the kind of folks we are attracting to service in our Region.

We have had a Conference Participants Zoom meeting which reflected issues around the CAR and the FIPT motions. I also received a phone call from Jack H. of the World Board, explaining the WB reaction to the motion.

I attended the CAR/CAT Review in Dallas and gathered a great amount of information from the presentation by the WB. I found the experience of having been a part of inviting the SEZF to meet with us rewarding and having nearly two dozen regions an emotionally and spiritually rewarding event.

I have reached out to the H.O.T. area to include their Nomadic Addicts initiative, where a group of addicts travel significant distances to a group that has need for growth thru attraction and commits to attend for a period of time that scales down as attendance and participation increases. I am going to make this the centerpoint of our Regional Report to the WSC and have asked them if I can carry t-shirts supporting this to the Conference to be sold at the 'flea market' to expose the initiative to the World. Its where the recovery meets the road.

Former VRSC RD Tim C and I have been asked to offer our Regionally Developed 'Apathy and Using our Resources' IDT at Out Of the Darkness in February, 2020. I was very humbled to have a convention ASK for a service related topic to be presented at a prime time at their convention.

I would like to thank the GNA and MTA Areas for inviting us to present the CAR/CAT in Nashville.

ILS, Jim B. VRSC Delegate Team

Questions/comments from Floor:

- What kind of donations have been sent from Regions to the Zones?
- Some regions aren't sending any, some are sending a couple thousand dollars.
- The role / what they're (zone) able to do should expand
- Does the zone contribute to World?
- Yes

Regional Delegate Alternate Report

Greeting Family,

It was an honor to attend the first official collaborative event between the SZF and the SEF. The weekend kicked off with a PR Round Table for Professionals presented by the Red River region. This was a very well attended event. There was representation from Faith Based, Judicial and Mental Health professionals. Each organization was asked the question, “What is your collaboration with NA?”. Near the end of round table, one of the presenters asked the question, “What can NA do to help us?”. The second half of the PR presentation was a [PR Workshop & Training for Members](#). This workshop was very well attended. Craig G. the Volunteer Region PR chair, Lee P the LA AD and Greg K the Facilitator for the Dallas Area did an amazing job at facilitating this interactive workshop.

On Sunday morning, instead of having the recovery meeting, reports were given by each Region represented by each Zone. Followed by Workgroup Reports and ended with discussion about:

A. NEZF Proposal for 2020 WSC

B. 2022 Joint Zonal CAR/CAT workshop in Southeastern Zone (Atlanta).

Once the joint meeting was complete, we split and had our separate business meetings.

During the SZF business meeting, we discussed some of the reported issues with the events from the weekend as well as issues experienced that needed to discuss in more detail. It was brought to the attention of the Zone that communication between the SZF PR Liaison, Charmaine D and the PR chair for the Red River Region. Due to a very well-established PR in the host Region and maybe other Regions we may meet in, it is the responsibility of the Zonal PR Liaison to assist and be more active when needed in /Regions that may not be as established.

The differences between the Kentuckiana Region and the Bluegrass Appalachian Region may be coming to an end soon. More will be revealed. It was stated that Henry, the SZF Rep will be attending the Conference in its entirety.

Jim B, Volunteer Region RD and Henry SZF Rep will continue to work on developing guidelines for the Zone. It was voted on and approved that the next Zonal meeting would be in conjunction with the 502 Convention (THE WEEKEND OF JULY 18-19.) Please notice this is the 3rd weekend and not the 4th.

We plan to meet at MZSS next September (not October). It's in San Antonio.

ILS,

Vince B.

[Questions/comments from Floor:](#)

The convention he spoke of will be in Shepardsville, KY

Hotel: Sleep Inn- Reference 502 Convention for the room rate

Subcommittee and Ad-Hoc Reports

ITCC Report

The Regional Meeting list was sent to NAWs this past week for syncing the meetings. I appreciate the areas that are so good about updating the meetings yourselves and sending me updates as well. Thank you!

I finally switched over the old yahoo email list that was available to all in the region to a Google group. It can be used to send out notices about events and other things relevant to our areas, region, zone, and NA world services. If you'd like to join the group, please fill out the form found at <https://natennessee.org/google-group-request-form/>

I created an instructions sheet to help GSRs in filling out an online form with their group's CAR/CAT votes – at the request of Jim, our RD. Handing out copies today to those here and will email the instructions as well to be sent out with the minutes, plus you can find a copy here: <https://natennessee.org/car-cat-tallies>.

I have 3 receipts

- 10.06: Twilio – used with our regional YAP helpline number - -901-350-5030
- 29.00: Google Forms Notification addon I purchased for an upgrade to the form we are using for GSRs to submit their CAR/CAT votes online
- 10.10: 20 copies of an instruction sheet to show GSRs how to fill out the google car/cat form.

Lucy

Questions/comments from Floor:

No comments/questions

H&I Report

Hello family,

We had one Area chair who participated in the Regional Meeting. I was able to answer questions and send them some documents. Hopefully there will be more on the next one. If anyone needs anything, please let me know.

ILS,

Eric P

(865) 454-5161

NEXT H&I MEETING:

Topic: VRSC H&I

Time: Apr 26, 2020 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/211988853>

Meeting ID: 211 988 853

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,211988853# US (New York)

+16699006833,,211988853# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 211 988 853

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/211988853>

Questions/comments from Floor:

April 26th @ 6PM Eastern time (5 Central time) – Next Meeting!

H&I Budget Total: \$550 a month

Outreach Report

No report

Questions/comments from Floor:

VRC Chair will reach out to Outreach Chair about attendance at VRSC Meetings.

Policy and Procedures Report

VRSC Chair Report
Volunteer Region Service Committee

2/02/2020

Policy and Procedure

Hello Everyone

We met on January 12th to discuss motion # 12-01-2019-4 there was four in attendance including the maker of the motion. If pass the motion would change guideline, Article XII, Section 12C to read; To provide the VRC subcommittee an annual operating budget of twenty thousand dollars (20,000.00). The VRC subcommittee can make a withdrawal from that budget at November's meeting to open up their bank account but the remaining funds can be accessed as needed.

There was discussion about "withdrawal at November's meeting" and we decided it would hinder the convention committee in establishing a bank account in order to prepare for pre-convention necessities that would be needed at the current year convention and in complying with the new convention timelines. The maker of the motion agreed and is willing to amend the motion. There was comment about the increase amount and would the Groups agree with the proposed amount. It is the responsibility of RCM's to provide the necessary information to the Groups for an informed decision our responsibility is to examine the motion. We also raised the question what is our fiscal year and would we be holding funds for two conventions at the same time? How are we going to accomplish this should this motion pass? Should there be protocol? We do believe there should be more discussion in relation to these matters before presenting this motion to Groups for a vote.

This motion if pass will also effect guideline Article XII, Section 13 Volunteer Regional Convention Disbursement of Funds.

Policy and Procedure Facilitator

VRSC Chair Dell E

Questions/comments from Floor:

No questions/comments

Public Relations Report

Hello family!

Public Relations is a service we provide to let the community know who we are, what we do, and where they can find us. We build relationships with people and organizations who come in contact with addicts.

I will be adding that blurb about Public Relations to all my reports moving forward as a way of letting newer members know a little about Public Relations and what we do. Hopefully this will inform newer members who may happen to stumble across our minutes!

I have been in contact with almost all the PR Chairs across our Region. A recent conversation has helped me see that I have been neglecting the Upper Cumberland Area. Although they do not participate with us, I believe that my responsibility to this Region as Public Relations Chair begins with our internal relationships, and I am planning on contacting them, and possibly attending their Area meeting. More will be revealed. As far as the other Areas are concerned, there are a lot of things happening!

We facilitated a PR Training Workshop in Clarksville on January 25th. The event was well attended, and that community is excited about doing presentations in their community. We spoke with the previous Fellowship Development Chair of the Chattanooga Area and were informed that they do not currently have anyone in the Public Relations capacity. We have begun speaking with Vince B. about planning a Training Workshop in Chattanooga to generate excitement and interest in Public Relations. More will be revealed. The Midwest Area PR Chair is working on finding some available dates for a PR Training Workshop in their Area. The Mountain Area has temporarily put off the Training Workshop, but we are staying connected and hoping to schedule something this summer. The West Tn. Area PR subcommittee is excited and working hard to get the word out about NA in their community! They have arranged a Public Service Announcement to be read across 11 radio stations in their community! This is exciting and we are glad they are active on the Regional PR Team! The HOT Area and GNA/MTA are participating with us as well. They are both experienced PR Teams and are definitely a resource in our Region. And finally, the Knoxville Area has a new PR Chair and we have made a connection with her! She asked for some guidance regarding an agenda for their committee meeting, which we shared ours with them, and they are looking for a few dates for us to bring them a PR Training Workshop to their Area.

I would like to extend a "thank you" to this body for providing me the opportunity to participate in the Southern Zonal forum! I can tell you that the expense will be repaid to this Region tenfold! I was fortunate enough to watch the PR for Professionals event held in Fort Smith, Arkansas at the last Zonal meeting, but I was directly involved with the preparation for this event, as well as getting to be involved with the event. I observed the professionals' portion and took a couple pages of notes on what worked, and what needs to be corrected to make for a more productive event here in Tennessee! Due to my participation with this event, I have been asked to participate with some PR members from the Kentuckiana Region and the Bluegrass Appalachian Region for an event in Lexington, Ky on Friday, February 21st with a group of local professionals. I have also been asked to join a group of PR members to help prepare and put on the PR for Professionals event at the Multi-Zonal Service Symposium in San Antonio, Tx in October! This is super exciting and I am grateful for the opportunities to participate in these zonal events, but I want this body to know that I chose not to state my willingness to serve as the Fellowship Development Chair, after Mike B. lovingly declined, because my commitment at this point is to the Heart of Tn. Area and the Volunteer Region, and I do not want to take anything away from these important service opportunities.

I have full intentions of taking the experiences I have recently acquired with these PR for Professionals events and putting them to use here in the Volunteer Region. Assisting the Areas in the Region is our top priority but planning a PR for professionals' event in the Volunteer Region will be our main goal! MWBR!

There is a national event happening in Nashville soon that was held in the Southeastern Zone in Atlanta previously. We have \$1,200 in our budget for booths, but the Southeastern Zonal PR representative stated the booth had a cost of around \$3,500. The Georgia Region had to do the event with the help from the Zone because of the cost. I will be looking into this event, and more will be revealed.

I will be requesting reimbursement for the Clarksville Training Workshop and the trip to the SZF. Just so everyone knows, my expenses to the SZF ended up being less than what was projected at the last Regional meeting.

Clarksville Training Workshop-

- Rent and food- \$99.30
- Mileage- 158 miles at \$.25/mile = \$39.50
- Total reimbursement - \$138.80

Southern Zonal Forum-

- Hotel \$125.35/night x2 = \$250.70
- travel -\$350.60 (flight and baggage)
- Total reimbursement- \$601.30

Just a reminder to everyone, June 1-7, 2020 is PR Week this year! Please take as many pictures as possible to share with the rest of the NA PR community!

Our next Regional PR Subcommittee meeting will be February 25, 2020 at 7:30pm Central time via Zoom. The link is below.

Topic: VRSC PR

Time: Feb 25, 2020 07:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/744284345>

Meeting ID: 744 284 345

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,744284345# US (New York)

+16699006833,,744284345# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 744 284 345

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ac2y9hwg0s>

Thanks for allowing me to serve,

Craig G.

VRSC PR Chair

Questions/comments from Floor:

- What about bringing another person with you when you travel?
- Getting PR Chair travel costs approved was already challenging, I believe getting another person's travel cost's approved would be that much more challenging
- In your previous report concerning the outdoor poster board... you said that had been taken care of. I was wondering how that had been resolved.
- The bill was their mistake for continuing the contract without our permission, the company dealt with the charge.

Volunteer Regional Convention XXXVII

Hello Family,

I am truly glad to see everyone here today. I am happy to report that VRC 37 was a success. We carried the message and had a great time doing so. We have a check for \$7,109.63 profit to turn over to the Region. We also have the card readers to turn over along with information for next year's VRC 38. Our merchandise nearly sold out, with over 215 registrations.

These are a few things that were discussed on how to improve for the upcoming years:

- ~Getting more support from our home Area.
- ~Update the cash registers in order to be able to take credit/ debit cards.
- ~Have every service position filled so members are not doing multiple positions.
- ~We had excessive down time in between workshops.
- ~Better preparation on fundraising items.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

In loving Service,
Sam L.

Questions/comments from Floor:

No discussion

Volunteer Regional Convention XXXVIII

Hey family,

Things are going along smoothly. We have a bank account setup, along with a PayPal set up to accept registrations electronically. The hotel contract is signed. Negotiations on the space rental went well. This month will be meeting with the food and beverage director to negotiate the catering. Our ITCC has the website nearly finished. It will include a hyperlink to our PayPal as well as a hyperlink to upload MP3s of speaker tape submissions that will go directly to our programming chair. Right now, we're working on getting submissions for artwork. Things are moving right along.

ILS,
Sam D.

Questions/comments from Floor:

- Guidelines suggest we have 3 banquets, our fear is that the price of those is making it become disunifying and not worth the return we get from it.
- We were considering having the Thanksgiving banquet still, but getting creative after that
- Maybe we could figure something else out for food + beverages
- A member said: guidelines are just a guide; we trusted the chair to take point and use the addict's dollars responsibly- go for it

Volunteer Regional Convention XXXVIII

We held our last sub-committee meeting on January 18th at 5 PM. After holding a preliminary “interest” meeting in November and communicating with qualified candidates we have found someone who is qualified and excited about the opportunity to serve as VRC 39 Chair.

We had our meeting on January 18th and that person was included via FaceTime Video Call. No other candidates for chair showed up at this advertised meeting. The new candidate for VRC 2021 Chair is Scot B from Jackson. He is qualified and willing. (See Service Resume.)

Scot B was already planning to be Vice Chair, so he was a natural. He has the service experience and many of us in service know him. He was also Merchandise Chair for the last VRC held in Memphis. The attendees of this Ad Hoc meeting accepted Scot’s nomination unanimously.

I brought this up at WTASC Area in new business on January 26, 2020. We discussed the selection and get an ASC group conscience to support Scot B. After discussion, his nomination was unanimously supported.

Let's give it up for Scot B. His home area is in Jackson, Tn but he was a member of our VRC Committee 2 years ago when it was in Memphis. He and his family are involved in Memphis NA Activities and are only an hour away. We happily endorse him for VRC 39 Chair.

Glen H

[Questions/comments from Floor:](#)

No discussion

VRC Guideline Revision Ad-Hoc

We met on January 20 at 8:00 on Zoom with 4 in attendance.

I proposed a motion to be taken back to groups to ask if they want to see VRC continue. Discussion revolved around the current motion to increase VRC funding and timing of this motion. We will present this motion at the next Region meeting in May. We have not asked our fellowship if VRC is something the fellowship as a whole would like to continue.

The next discussion we will be discussing the specifics of the Oversight Board. Any and all experienced members welcome to participate. Prior VRC experience or other convention experience needed.

We will be meeting on March 2 at 8:00pm (Central time) and every 6 weeks after that.

March 2, April 13, May 25, July 6, Aug 17, Sept 28, Nov 9, Dec 21

ILS, Chuck P. Ad-hoc Chair

[Questions/comments from Floor:](#)

VRC Chair will reach out to Ad-hoc Chair about attendance at VRSC Meetings.

Maybe he could come in for a short period of time via Zoom for the body to ask questions.

Open Forum

Discussion 1- Check distribution

We ran out of checks

Questions/comments from Floor:

- One check left, 4 people to disburse checks to
- When the checks come in: the treasurer could write the checks and send them immediately
- Is the body okay with this?
- Yes
- Vince will get the last check available due to him needing the money for expenses for the WSC

Discussion 2- Bluegrass Appalachian Region

Discuss shared services with the Volunteer Region

Craig was asked to report:

One issue brought up-

Literature burning: One of the groups in that community requested literature from NAWS, NAWS sent literature, ASIS member got ahold of the literature and burned it.

Some members of the area are interested in exploring a stable service body to join and contribute to

They are interested in sharing support: H&I, PR, YAP Phoneline, etc.

Questions/comments from Floor:

- As a Zone we have made the offer to come and help facilitate an inventory and they have not taken the Zone up on this offer as of now
- I would hate for us to extend ourselves out 3 hours into KY when this has been going on for so long as they are not taking us up on our offer at the Zone
- I think we have an opportunity to do something in our backyard: There is a lack of communication between the Upper Cumberland Area and us. We could attempt to help there and give experience based on that
- What are they expecting? They just want somewhere to serve and give back.
- We could just give them the Zoom information to our Regional Meeting, PR Meeting, H&I Meeting, etc. so they can be a part of us in that way if they choose to.
- Our PR Chair will extend them an offer to come/ join our next VRSC Meeting.

Discussion 3- Regional donation to the Zone

Sending money to the Zone

Questions/comments from Floor:

- The Zone is a valuable resource to the Region, not sending something would feel like taking rather than giving
- We should start making a contribution to the Zone
- \$400 suggested
- We will delay this conversation until the treasurer can calculate some things
- Groups have said in the past that they didn't want to do this. Maybe we should send it back to the groups to tell them how important their services are/ the benefits.
- We could get a conscience from our areas stating whether we should do half and half (zone and world) or whatever the amount they choose.
- PR Chair stated: "The last two zones I have received training that will benefit the volunteer region, that I would not have received if it weren't for the Zone."
- **** Discuss with your groups about sending a regular donation to the Zone. Provide them with information on the services they provide (training for our members) and their importance to our Region and let them tell us their thoughts on this matter. ****

Discussion 4- NAWS Lawsuit

Questions/comments from Floor:

- We received from an outside entity information about a possible lawsuit against NAWS regarding the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust. No information from NAWS has been released. More will be revealed!

Discussion 5- PR Presentation Board

Are there any areas represented today that do not have a presentation board?

Questions/comments from Floor:

- Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Mountain Areas do not have one.
- MANA has requested, the other two have not yet
- We will make a motion to give MANA the region presentation board
- Motion in New Business

Discussion 6- RDA Travel Costs for WSC

The region will purchase RDA plane ticket in advance and reimburse hotel cost + peridium (for WSC)

Questions/comments from Floor:

No questions

Old Business

VRC Recording Equipment-

Equipment was tested, they are in great working condition, and will do everything we need them to do.

Questions/comments from Floor:

- We will need one more 32G card and we will have everything we need!
- We just need to figure out what we will do with them afterward
- Iowa Region could be a good contact, they use the practice of recording their whole convention and uploading it to their website

Motions-

VRSC Motion # 12-01-2019-4 Change Guidelines Article XII, Section 12C

(Convention operating budget) Discussion only- No vote needed

**** Amendment is as follows: ****

Motion by: Craig G from: PR Chair

Second: Julius H. from: MTA

Motion reads:

To change article XII, Section 12C from-

C. Six thousand dollars seed money for the upcoming convention committee

To-

Article XII, Section 12C. To provide the VRC subcommittee an annual operating budget of \$20,000. The VRC subcommittee can make a withdrawal from that budget to open up their bank account but the remaining funds can be accessed as necessary.

Intent:

To provide funding for a subcommittee of the VRSC without relying on the subcommittee to put on fundraisers. If we do not require H&I, Outreach, and PR to do fundraisers to provide for their budgets, it doesn't seem practical to require VRC to do fundraisers to provide their service.

Questions/comments from Floor:

Discussion only- seeking direction

- This will affect the guidelines: Article XII, Section 13, Volunteer Regional Convention Disbursement of Funds
- Would there still be fundraisers to offset the funds?
- It doesn't say that we can't do fundraisers
- VRC should not rely on fundraisers to fund the party
- PR, H&I, Outreach don't have to rely on fundraisers to fulfill their services
- An amendment will be made to the motion (listed above)
- Second withdrawn, new second added to the motion
- Maybe we should send this to our groups and talk about it again in May
- This was about being flexible, if someone needed extra money then we could do that rather than be specific about how much money they can have on a specific date
- This is just a budget, if they don't use all of these funds, that's great... but if they need it, it would be available.
- Last Chattanooga VRC costed around \$8,000
- Last Nashville VRC costed around \$44,000
- If we don't come up with something, we will end up coming back to groups to ask about needed funds over and over.
- Input from groups so far:
- Spend the money
- We need more information
- With the rising costs of hotels etc., it would be great to increase
- It would be a great idea, just not the \$20,000
- Voted to table: 6,1,1,0
- **Motion tabled until next cycle,**
- **Take motion back to discuss with groups with the new information/discussion above.**

VRSC Motion # 8042019-1 (Change Guidelines- RD and ARD election)

Results from groups vote:

Chatt: 11-0-0-0

Clark: Did not vote

GNA: 0-0-0-31

HOT: 9-0-0-0

Knox: 14-0-0-4

Middle TN: 10-0-0-0

Mountain: 8-0-0-0

West TN: 17-0-1-0

Nomination Passed Total: 69-0-1-35

New Business

Nominations

VRSC Nomination # 02-02-2020-01

Motion by: Lucy O from: West TN Second: Donald S. from: HOT Area

Nominate Scot B. as VRC 39 Chair

SERVICE RESUME

Name: Scot Brewer Date: 01/26/2020
 Address: 625 Knepp Rd
Bolivar TN, 38008
 Phone: 731-694-8873 Area: Midwest TN
 Clean Date: 08/17/2008 (Years 11 Months 5
) Service Position Sought VRC Convention Committee Chair

1.) Please list all NA Service Positions you've held that you consider relevant to the position to which you are nominated.

Outreach Chair
H and I Chair
Activities Chair
Alternate RCM
RCM
Vice-Chair
Area Chair
Merchandise Chair for VRC

2.) What personal resources do you believe you can bring to this position.

Service experience on Group, Area and Regional levels
Strong sponsorship / recovery network
Working knowledge of NA steps and traditions

3.) Please Check appropriate box if you have –

Yes N.A. Sponsor
 Yes N.A. Home Group
 Yes Attend weekly N.A. Meetings
 Yes Working knowledge of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of N.A.
 Yes An understanding of the 12 Concepts of N.A. Service
 Yes Knowledge of the N.A. Guide to Local Service
 Yes Accounting & computer skills

4.) What life experiences (i.e., school, work, volunteer, etc.) have you had that you believe will help you serve in the position to which you are nominated?

I have had the pleasure of being on the front end of establishing multiple NA groups in the Midwest Tn Area, as well as with many different substance abuse programs through my work experiences.

Work and School have both allowed me a great amount of experience with public speaking.

5.) Please include any other information you consider relevant.

Any service position in the program of NA is an honor, this one being no different. I am looking forward to learning and advancing my service experiences, with the help of other, more experienced members.

I have yet to accept a service position in the program of NA, that I was not able to fulfill the commitment.

Discussion Floor:

Send nomination above to groups for a vote

VRSC Motion # 02-02-2020-01

Motion by: Eric P from: H&I Second: Julius H. from: MTA

To approve a monthly H&I budget totaling \$550.00

Breakdown:

\$300.00- Travel (mileage/hotel)

\$200.00- Office (copies, mail, etc.)

\$50.00- Literature

Intent: To establish a monthly operating budget for the Regional H&I Committee

Discussion Floor:

It's a budget- it doesn't mean he has to spend it every month.

This would be to make the funds available if he needs it.

Vote: 8-0-0-0, passed on the floor. In favor of approving the budget

VRSC Motion # 02-02-2020-02

Motion by: Craig G from: PR Chair

Second: Julius H. from: MTA

Motion reads:

To donate the Regions presentation board and materials to the Mountain Area.

Intent:

To be able to increase public awareness in the NA program in the Mountain Area and make use of the Regional presentation board that is not being used anymore since almost all areas have a presentation board themselves.

8-0-0-0 Passed

Discussion Floor:

No discussion

VRSC Motion # 02-02-2020-03

Motion by: Craig G from: PR Chair

Second: Stephen Z. from: KANA

Motion reads:

To donate \$400.00 to the Southern Zonal Forum

Intent:

In the spirit of selflessness and participation, we want to contribute to this service body that is providing us services and a body that we participate in.

Addendum:

7-0-1-0 Passed, donate \$400 to Zone

Discussion Floor:

Discussion listed about in “discussion 3” under Open Forum

Discussion 1- Website: Names + Phone numbers

Are we in violation of the traditions with names + numbers on the website?

We don't have secondary members.

Discussion Floor:

- This is just a contact for events/ things going on in the Region
- There is nothing we can do about what information Google provides during a search
- If anyone doesn't want their number to show up in the Google Search, don't put your number on it.

Announcements

- Multi Zonal Service Symposium: September 11-13, 2020
- CIRCNA XXII: June 26-28, 2020
- JUNE 1-7 is PR Week!!! Take pictures at your PR Events, for internal use only!!!
- April 19 is the date the CAR/CAT tally sheets need to be in by. You can send it to RD, AD, or ITCC and Secretary. *Please CC Secretary when sending CAR/CAT in to the following---*
- Results should be sent to:
- RD@NATennessee.org
- AD@NATennessee.org
- ITCC@NATennessee.org
- Secretary@NATennessee.org

Closing Activities

- Review of the day's business
- **Open Positions! Please pass this on to your areas/groups!**
 - **Alt Sec, Alt Treasurer**
- Final Treasurers Report (see Ending Report.)

Next Meeting Details

The VRSC meeting will be held:

05/03/2020 @ 09:30am.

403 Hickerson Dr. (Jaycees building)

Murfreesboro, TN