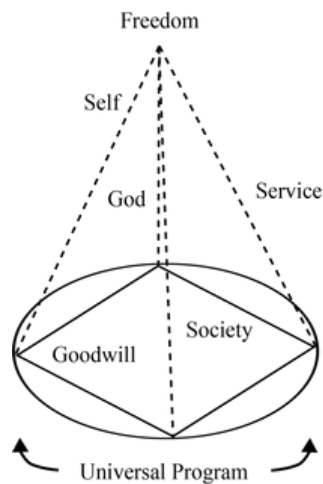




VOLUNTEER REGION SERVICE MEETING

August 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 12:00-1:00pm.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:00 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 B.	Present

Subcommittees

Public Relations	Craig G.	Present
ITCC	Lucy O.	Present
Policy & Procedures	Vacant	N/A
Outreach	Lidia S.	Absent
H & I	Eric.	Present
VRC 38	Sam D.	Present
VRC 39	Scot B.	Absent

VRC Adhoc	Chuck P.	Present
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Areas

Chattanooga	Vince B.	Present
Clarksville	Scott G.	Present
East TN Ridges of Recovery	Austin S.	Absent
Greater Nashville	Jimmy C.	Present
Heart of Tennessee	Donald S.	Present
Knoxville	Stephen Z.	Present
Middle Tennessee	Angela.	Present
Midwest Tennessee	Jesse O.	Present
Mountain Area	Greg V.	Present
West Tennessee	Lucy O.	Present

Quorum Results

Number of Areas represented:

9 of 10 active Areas

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

Yes

Review Previous Secretary Minutes

Questions/comments from the floor:

No Questions from the Floor

Motion to accept, second, 9-0-0, unanimous.

Officer Reports

Chairperson Report

VRSC Chair Report
Volunteer Region Service Committee
8/02/20

Hello Everyone

It is a miracle to be clean and our attitudes in service is a reflection of gratitude. I hope everyone is doing well and living in a manner to stay healthy. It is good to see all of you today and I would like to thank you for your efforts, support and cooperation as we come together to seek ways and means to get more of what we have to offer ("The N A Message of Recovery") to our local Area Service bodies, the Groups they serve and the individuals that come to our meetings in utter desperation looking for a miracle. Let us not take for granted "Why We Are Here".

There's been two Administrative meetings since our last Volunteer Region Service Committee (VRSC) meeting we received updates concerning the World Service Conference (WSC) from our Regional Delegate (RD). We issued reimbursement for Helpline and the web domain to Lucy (ITCC Chair) and paid the PO Box. I sent an email to the Outreach Chair requesting her presence here today to the g-mail address for Outreach at natennessee.org. I also left a voice mail at a contact phone number. There's only two cosigners on the checking account out of four and we are working to get the signatures up to date. November is election month for the Administrative Officers of this body, nominations are received in August, votes from Group in November and terms start in February. We are behind in this process it can be discussed in open forum if needed. Thanks Sam for your attendance and keeping us informed as VRCXXXVIII (38) will happen in November. Our next two VRSC meetings will take place via Zoom one during the VRC convention weekend in November and the one after in February.

VRSC Chair

Dell E

Questions/comments from the floor:

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

Treasurer Report

WE NEED AN ALTERNATE TREASURER (3 Years Clean Time)

Questions/comments from the floor:

No questions

Motion to accept, second, 7-2-0, passed

Starting report:

Starting Available: \$35,254.53

QuickBooks Balance: \$35,073.69

Difference: \$180.84

Deposit: \$561.39

PR Bud: \$5,959.01

H&I: \$6,600

Ending Report:

Starting Available: \$35,254.53

Wrote checks for: \$214.08

Prudent Reserve: \$5,000

PR Budget: \$1,959.01

H&I: \$6,600

VRC Operating Budget: \$18,000

Balance: \$3,481.44

\$3,481.44 sent to World - *8/8 areas passed the motion.*

Secretary Report

No report

Questions/comments from the floor:

No questions from the Floor

Area Reports

Chattanooga Area

Greetings Everyone,

With my current work situation of working 10-12 hours, 5-6 days a week, I grateful to be here via the Zoom platform.

The Chattanooga Area continues to navigate through the current pandemic that we are experiencing. We have had 2 meetings close temporarily due to lack of support via Zoom or the facility had informed them that we could no longer meet due to the Covid-19 virus. However, there has been a new in-person meeting (Humble Hearts) open on Tuesdays nights. Zoom meetings continue to be the vehicle that we use to carry the message of recovery.

H-I is staying in communication with all the facilities they serve to stay abreast with the current conditions and remain available to aid when needed.

H-I is staying in communication with all the facilities they serve to stay abreast with the current conditions and remain available to aid when needed. The CADAS meeting has resumed with special provisions being made to practice social distancing.

The Activities subcommittee has been actively planning Unity Day which will be held on August 22, 2020 at Chickamauga Dam. This year's event will be a celebration of clean time for everyone who has not been able to celebrate.

The Surrender Under the Stars XXXIV subcommittee was informed that Dogwood Lodge will be closed for the remainder of the year in an effort to keep our community safe. With that being said, they are looking into the possibility of having a virtual meeting. More will be revealed. The fund raiser for Surrender, Speaker Jam was held last night with about 50 addicts attending throughout the day.

Fellowship Development is continuing to serve the needs of the fellowship by trying to keep the meeting list up to date.

The ASC held its first in-person meeting the month. This meeting was also available via Zoom. A VEMO account has been opened to allow groups to donate to the area.

Grateful to be of service,

Vince B

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

No questions from the Floor

Clarksville Area

Good morning NA family, hope everyone is well! Good to see all your faces again, even though it's through a computer screen. On the bright side, we get to save our fellowship some money from our short commutes and I don't have to wear any pants! Now that you have that burnt in your heads, here we go!!!! 😊

Going to get some of the rough news out of the way first. Out of 7 groups / 10 meetings 3 groups have closed permanently and one closed until Covid-19 has fully passed, which is the decision of the church where that meeting is held. That puts our area down to 6 meetings a week. Those meetings are open and practice safety mandates handed down by our local officials and any added precautions from the facilities of which we meet. Virtual meeting attendance has all but diminished and we will soon end our account with that virtual platform. Changes to our website will occur once that happens, and we will submit those changes to ITCC at the same time.

Our ASC has been able to meet in person the past couple months and have added some willing members to some open trusted servant positions almost bringing our area at full body. Our area, like most I'm sure, has been experiencing some hardship with respect to the pandemic and are unable to make any contributions to VRSC at this time, but we are very optimistic moving forward.

Our activities committee put on our second annual area BBQ. The turnout was not as good as last year, but we didn't place any expectations on it, and we were happy to have the ability to have this event. It was a much-needed morale boost and everyone that came had a blast. We were able to recoup what we put in plus a little more on top giving us some more opportunity for future events.

PR has some exciting things coming soon. The first portion of this year has been challenging, but that wasn't a reason to let things fall apart. We've stayed in contact with the folks for the plans we had at the beginning of this year and we are just about ready to pick up where we left off. 1 of the 2 upcoming events in September is set in stone to have a booth up. I just spoke with Lee Erwin, 5Star Radio guru, a couple of days ago, and he's ready to record a voice for our PSA that will air at random times across 8 stations. He also does a show called "The Community Corner" where he does a half hour segment about local organizations important to the community. During our conversation he revealed that he has not ever heard of Narcotics Anonymous, which we both agreed that's a problem. This will give us the opportunity to give the community some information as to what the NA program is and that we're a resource to help with drug addiction. It's been agreed that I handle public speaking better, so yours truly will be giving this information along with the voice for the PSA. We look to have this complete by this month's end. The 2nd week of October we will be giving a presentation to city and county officials with mayors Pitts & Durrett in attendance. We finalized our QR code to be placed on our flyers, and any other pertinent material, linking straight to our website giving the addict information straight to the palm of their hands with real time info. More will be revealed....

Although we have all experienced some difficult times, I'm certain that we will all come out of this just as strong, if not stronger than when we went into this pandemic. We're addicts, we thrive in times like these and can adapt to any change and/or challenge!

In Loving Service,
Scott G.
Clarksville RCM
clarksville@natennessee.org
P. (931) 551-6678

Questions/comments from the floor:

No questions from the Floor

East TN Ridges of Recovery Area

Absent, no report.

Questions/comments from the floor:

No questions from the Floor

Greater Nashville Area

Hello Family,

GNA had one area meeting on June 21st via Zoom since we last met in May. We have a new service committee that was voted in & began working in their positions. With two positions currently out for vote it is expected that after this month the only open position will be Alternate Treasurer, which is awesome!!! The motion to provide VRC with an annual budget of \$20,000.00 passed with a vote of 6 yes & 3 no.

The merger between GNA & MTA is moving forward. The GSR's voted to move the adhoc merger committee to a temporary committee. Once MTA has voted on this it will pave the way to begin the steps to unite the two areas as one. The adhoc committee worked diligently on logistics & guidelines, which will help this merger to happen smoothly. The first temporary committee meeting will be on August 30th via Zoom.

GNA & MTA held a joint area meeting to create a list of suggested guidelines on how to address issues surrounding COVID-19 & to safely move towards reopening the meetings. There were some positive results accomplished by this meeting & there will be a follow-up meeting on August 9th via Zoom. I have inserted the guideline flyer from that meeting in my report if anyone is interested.

- CORONAVIRUS RECOMMENDATIONS -

FOR MIDDLE TENNESSEE AND GREATER NASHVILLE GROUPS OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

It is suggested that groups have a detailed plan for reopening in-person meetings. As NA groups, we need to keep these themes from our traditions in mind:

1ST Our common welfare should come first. Personal recovery depends on NA unity.

4TH Groups are autonomous, EXCEPT when our actions may affect other groups or NA as a whole.

12TH We should practice spiritual principles in all our affairs, including selflessness, responsibility, trustworthiness and compassion.

Masks are strongly suggested at all meetings, and are legally required in Davidson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, and Wilson counties

-If masks are required, update meeting format and determine a plan if members do not wear masks in the meeting. Reference the group booklet on disruptive behavior; members who don't follow group guidelines could be asked to leave or meeting could be shut down early if problem is not resolved.

- Sanitize before and after meeting, including chairs and anything else members touch.
- Consider providing cleaning supplies for members who want to clean their own areas.
- Move chairs for space between members, use measuring tape to ensure at least 6 feet distance.
- Consider purchasing forehead thermometer, if available, and taking temperatures prior to meeting.
- Download readings/books/IPs to avoid passing literature around the meeting.
- Put the 7th tradition basket in a stationary place; or consider using a money app for donations.
- If still handing out key tags, spray with disinfectant before and after meeting.
- Have gloves and sanitizer available for anyone signing papers or handing out keytags.
- Do not share any physical items, including pens, papers, coffee pots, food, or drink.
- Create electronic versions of phone lists, or exchange phone numbers via text.
- Refer attendees to websites or apps for meeting schedules instead of using paper lists.
- Circle up without touching, and maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet.
- Consider creating a service position to place a single point of responsibility for sanitizing.

When in doubt visit the websites of the CDC and local county to be sure we are in compliance with their guidelines.

KKO (Kiss Kook Out) subcommittee will not meet again until 2021 due to Covid-19. The H&I subcommittee met on July 8th via Zoom with mostly the administrative committee in attendance. Almost all H&I meetings are still on hold due to COVID-19. The committee still has expenses to meet due to storage fees at the new facility they are using for storage.

The PR subcommittee is FREAKING KILLING IT!!! Addicts have stepped up in several key positions including the website & the helpline. The PR subcommittee did a presentation at the area meeting to explain what public relations does & how the subcommittee functions. I think the performance of this subcommittee has improved in part due to their involvement with the region's PR subcommittee.

In Loving Service,

Jimmy C.

greaternashville@natennessee.org

615-405-5793

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 at this body. The Area continues to carry the message through these extraordinary times with a mixture of in person, virtual, and hybrid meetings. Fellowship Development continues to the best of it's abilities to serve our communities with H&I meetings, Outreach services like Nomadic Addicts, and Public Relations by fostering relationships with the community and fellowship. The HOT area has started a planning session and is developing a list of inventory questions for our Area to discuss. We are also planning a "Recovery on Fire" event on August 29th from 3pm - 9 pm it will be at 82 Beach Rd. Rock Island TN 38581. There will be food, volleyball, fun, beach, speakers, celebrations, social distancing and sanitizing. If you would like more info let me know. Thank you for having a place to allow us to be of service.

Regional Motion tally VRC funding 8-0-0-0

Heart of Tennessee RCM team

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the floor

Knoxville Area

Hey Family, hope all is well with everyone.

KANA has elected an Outreach Chair, Robert H., which fills a longstanding vacant position. We also have nominations for a new area chair, Kent C., as well as a nomination for our treasurer to serve a second term as he has the willingness and no one else came forward to express willingness to serve in that capacity. We have several other vacant positions, we desperately need a Secretary and a Policy and Procedures Chair.

KANA will not be holding KACNA nor ROR in 2020. There is a discussion happening on how the area wants to handle the next convention. KACNA currently has an every other year rotation and several people in the area are wanting to have the convention in 2021 so that there isn't a four year gap between conventions. ROR is rescheduled for October 15-17, 2021.

There is only one facility open for H&I to go into in our area currently. They've reached out to the other facilities and two are interested in bringing meetings in.

PR held a fellowship development event where they sold facemasks and are looking to have a newcomers event. They have also reached out to the Knox County Sheriff's Drug Unit.

We have formed a new subcommittee for zoom meetings. Our area has a standing zoom meeting Mon-Fri at 6pm EST and we have made the account available to any group in the area that may need it.

There are several groups that are meeting in person again, most are meeting outside but there are some that are meeting inside and requesting that people wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

Stephen Z

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the Floor

Middle Tennessee Area

No electronic report

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the floor.

Midwest Tennessee Area

Hey family, so this is my first RCM report so bear with me. Our ASC met on July 26th in Bolivar and we had seven out of twelve groups present, including subcommittee chairs. Our PR is going to be working with our H&I chair about getting a panel into Hardeman County jail over the next couple of weeks. Looking forward to it! Also, Milan Clean and Serene group needs help possibly getting a workshop together on attracting NA members to service. Our activities chair, co-chair, and committee are looking to hold our annual Experience, Strength, and Hope event at a hotel in 2021. So really looking forward to this as well as many others in the Midwest area as it would be our first convention. One last thing, a motion was made to increase our donation every quarter to VRSC. We will be taking it back to groups to vote on. If I need to add any other details in my report, please let me know. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. Jesse O.

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the floor.

Mountain Area

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS VOLUNTEER REGION OF TENNESSEE

08-02-20

Report from: (Area) Mountain Area MANA Serving 8 Home Groups

Area Officers Phone number, email address

RCM: Greg V. 951-337-0527 gregjvogelsang@gmail.com

RCM Alt: Open

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

Vice Chair: Open

Secretary: Chelsea G. 615-5802733 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: _____

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

The Johnson City groups of the Mountain Area have opted to co-join at one facility to hold outdoor meetings practicing social distancing as required locally.

Our meetings are held every night at 7:00pm., 7 days a week, they are 60 minute long meetings with each meeting being an open setting.

The meetings are located at the pavilion behind the

First Presbyterian Church

105 S. Boone St.

Johnson City, TN. 37604

Upcoming Events:

No scheduled events to report.

Area Concerns:

Zoom meetings have ceased due to lack of support.

Last Area meeting was held in March due to Covid 19 pandemic.

Questions/Issues from the Floor

No questions from the floor.

West Tennessee Area

Results of the 20,000 VRC budget motion: Yes: 3 No: 6 Abstain: 2

We have one H&I meeting happening virtually. Since May I have been taking a speaker meeting into one of the women's facilities here. They have been very well received. I've even been asked if I knew of speaker meetings 2 other days of the week as well. I did look around for possibly some women's meetings/speaker meetings and sent a couple of links to virtual-na.org and said to click women and speaker meeting for the formats.

I wrote the lady in the Henning TN Women's facility that I received her letters from Eric and I'm waiting to hear back from her. Although she wants a meeting brought in, she realized because of COVID it couldn't happen now. I really doubt we will find willingness in our area to do this, so once I hear back from her, if I do, I will definitely pass her info on to the Mid West area to see if they have willingness to carry an H&I meeting in this prison since it is about halfway between our areas.

NA in May has been canceled this year. Originally we had postponed it to September, but now it has been canceled for 2020 and will resume in 2021.

ILS

Lucy O

Questions/comments from Floor:

No questions from the floor.

Delegate Report

Regional Delegate Report

RD was requesting guidance on motion 34 (to suspend article 5, section 3) and motion 10A to take to NAWS.

Questions/comments from Floor:

- What is Article 5, Section 3- references the ability of the body of the conference to inspect (audit) the holdings of the office (see below)

Section 3: Trustee's standard of care

The Trustee shall administer the Trust with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of like character and with like aims to accomplish the purposes of the Trust as determined from the Trust Instrument.

-
- Chair decided to send this to Open forum
- Motion to overrule the chair to handle business now:
- Made by Craig (PR), Second by Donald (HOT)
- 8/9 groups voted yes to overrule
- **Motion 10A- "To explore all aspects of online groups (meetings) and to address the issues of formally adding online groups (meetings) and their registration to the service structure"**
- Chatt: yes
- Clark: yes
- GNA: yes
- HOT: yes
- Knox: yes
- Middle TN: yes
- Midwest TN: yes
- Mountain: abstain
- West TN: yes
- 7-0-1-0, passed
- **Motion 34- See above for details**
- Chatt: yes
- Clark: no
- GNA: no
- HOT: yes
- Knox: yes
- Middle TN: no
- Midwest TN: yes
- Mountain: no
- West TN: yes
- 5-4-0-0, passed

Regional Delegate Alternate Report

Greetings Family,

Due to my current work schedule, I was not able to attend the last virtual meeting or the SZF check in meeting.. I have requested PTO for the next meeting and will be able to fully participate.

On an oversight on my part, I have not reimbursed the Region of the \$766.00 for my plane fare. After this meeting, I will go and get money orders and get this amount mailed out today.

In loving service,

Vince B.

RDA

Questions/comments from Floor:

No questions from the floor.

Subcommittee and Ad-Hoc Reports

ITCC Report

Regional Meeting List:

I've continued to keep the meeting list updated as best I can. I'd still love to have someone from each area responsible to do that AS meetings change. Areas that keep their meetings updated regularly are Greater Nashville/Middle TN, West Tennessee, Knoxville, HOT. RCMs, please reach out to your areas for someone willing to do this. It's super easy to do!

I sent the spreadsheet of meetings to NAWs yesterday for syncing with their database.

Website:

I've continued to keep the plugins, including the meeting list and helpline, the on the website updated.

Gsuite:

I've updated the Midwest area Gsuite info with the new RCM info so he will get the emails and have access to the Google Drive. If there are other new RCMs and you need to get set up to receive natennessee emails, please reach out to me. itcc@natennessee.org or 901-4997-0691

Zoom:

There are 4 groups in the region regularly using zoom for their homegroup meetings.

ITCC Budget Items:

I'm turning in 2 invoices to be reimbursed – one for regional webhosting (203.88) and one for Twilio/helpline (10.20).

I realized that I had not turned in an updated budget... so here is an updated budget. I'd like us to discuss being able to get reimbursed between the cycle, especially if the reimbursement is for regional expenses included in the budget.

Current Annual Budget (Not including travel to VRSC and other VRSC events that we all have) All of these could possibly rise in cost from one year to the next but maybe not too much. I would say with at 25% possible rise in cost the total could be 600 total.

VRSC & VRC website	204
VRC / VRSC domains	52
Zoom	150
Twilio (helpline)	75
Total	481

ILS

Lucy O

Questions/comments from Floor:

No questions from the floor

H&I Report

Hello family,

We had two Area chairs who participated in the Regional H&I Meeting. They checked in and we talked about doing H&I virtually. We are putting in a nomination for Jessie O to be the next H&I Chair. If anyone needs anything please let me know.

ILS,

Eric P

(865) 454-5161

Questions/comments from Floor:

No questions from the floor.

Outreach Report

No report

Questions/comments from Floor:

Email was sent to Outreach chair via email and attempted to reach out via phone with no response. This will be moved to new business.

Policy and Procedures Report

VACANT SUBCOMMITTEE

Questions/comments from Floor:

No comments from the floor

Public Relations Report

Hello Family!

As we're sitting here in this service meeting 6 months after the global pandemic took hold, I would like for everyone to take a minute and think about the moment you realized the NA you knew was about to change without your permission because of the impact of COVID-19 (Pause). Now think about what your local NA community looks like today. A lot has changed, yet here we are still meeting and gathering with the purpose of continuing to carry the message to the addict who still suffers, & for the addict who has no idea we exist as a solution against the treacherous experience of addiction! I am so grateful to be serving NA with such an amazing group of people!

Albeit a challenge to serve in Public Relations when a large part of the world has withdrawn from participating with groups and organizations outside their own for fear of COVID, our Regional PR Team has continued to try to reach addicts not here yet, as well as possibly attract some that are already here to service. Although some events, such as Nashville Pride and Nashville Recovery Fest have been cancelled, our Area PR teams are trying to find every opportunity we can to get the name of Narcotics Anonymous out into the community.

Maintaining their Area's website has been a top priority for most Area PR subcommittees. At our last Regional PR Subcommittee meeting, we heard about Area PR efforts to carry the message, such as creating and distributing business cards, flyer hanging days, & providing literature at local libraries. On that note I want to share a personal experience that shines a light on how important these activities are. Thanks to the NA meetings being held on internet platforms (notice how I didn't endorse the most common one), I am sponsoring a guy from Florida. He has not been to a face to face meeting and is on a fixed income so he had to go to the public library to check out a Basic Text!! I am so grateful for the service enthusiasts who thought that was a good use of NA resources! This guy is really doing a lot for his recovery and it started with someone putting a Basic Text in a library!

Rutherford County Recovery Fest is going to be virtual this year & the HOT Area will be creating a PSA to be aired during the month of September, as well as during the actual event [on September 12th](#). The HOT Area will also be doing a virtual presentation for a community organization they participate with. The Mountain Area is staying active and looking for creative ways to reach addicts and keep the ball rolling. GNA/MTA did a virtual presentation for their Area meeting to share with the groups ways in which the subcommittee could be of service to the groups. The Clarksville Area PR Subcommittee is quite active and preparing to post a Public Service Announcement on 8 local radio stations, as well as a more extensive presentation on a local radio show. They will also be giving a presentation to city & county officials, including a couple of Mayors, the 2nd week of October. One of the more exciting things they have is that they finalized their QR code, which is to be placed on all flyers and meeting schedules. This QR code is linked to their website and will always direct someone to the most updated meeting schedule, regardless of when they find the flyer or meeting schedule! This will lessen the concern of addicts getting outdated meeting information since the website is the most accurate resource for meetings! And finally, West Tn has continued to stay connected with us and provide valuable energy and excitement to the subcommittee.

We know times have changed and some things have been a little more difficult than they used to be, but we know addicts are still dying from the disease of addiction, regardless of the pandemic. Some might even go as far to say that the isolation caused by the pandemic has played a role in many addicts going back out. Either way, if any of you hear of any event that we may participate in, or have any new & creative ideas that may help us reach addicts in need, please reach out to your local Area PR Team or contact me at either [\(615\) 207-2530](tel:6152072530) or publicrelations@natennessee.org.

Thanks so much for allowing me to serve,
Craig G
VRSC PR Chair

Questions/comments from Floor:

- How do you access the QR code?
- They will print this to put on their flyers and meeting schedules
- What if they don't have access to a cell phone to access the QR code?
- Clarksville and Lucy may be able to share more on how they deal with those issue

Volunteer Regional Convention XXXVIII

Hello all,

Things in Knoxville are going well. Programming is getting speakers together. We are working with NAWS licensed merchandise vendors that have established websites and mail-order systems. We've talked with Zoom and are ready to purchase the necessary capabilities when the time comes. Beyond that, I have nothing new to report.

ILS,
Sam D.

Questions/comments from Floor:

- Will we still have VRSC Meeting on the same schedule?
- Yes, Sunday after VRC at 9:30am
- Are there break out rooms?
- Not 100% certain, chair will get with the Zoom liaison
- Are there slots for the RD team to do a service workshop at VRC
- Not yet, but the team can make it happen!

Volunteer Regional Convention XXXVIII

Scot has taken a new managerial position and was unable to be here. He is also needing to consider if he is able to fulfill the responsibilities of the convention.

Questions/comments from Floor:

Notes from Dell:

- Scot has taken on a position at his job and will not be able to serve as the VRC 39 Chair.
- There is no VRC 39 committee formed

VRC Guideline Revision Ad-Hoc

VRC Ad-hoc Report

August 2, 2020

We did not meet this cycle.

I do have concerns if our revenues are down how do justify funding VRC when essential services might require more of our resources.

With the new timeline in place it might make more sense to hold off on in person VRC for at least 1 more cycle. Due to the current unknow state of the world I would suggest that we hold VRC 39 via Zoom.

ILS,

Chuck P. Ad-hoc Chair

Questions/comments from Floor:

- We could ask the fellowship if they want virtual or in person convention for 2021?
- We will continue to discuss this in open forum

Open Forum

Carried over from last cycle's open forum discussions:

Discussion 1- Regional Donation to SZF

How do our areas / members of this body feel about regular donations to the Southern Zonal Forum?

Questions/comments from Floor:**Last cycles notes:**

- What is the budget for the RD for the SZF trip, if any?
- \$1,200 and \$1,500 (\$2,700 in total) reimbursement for two cycles for travel for 3 people/2 trips a piece.
- What will the \$400 that we donate cover/ what is it used for?
- Does this body have the regular funds for this and how would it affect the region?
- PR Chair shared that he has gotten a lot of experience through participating with the SZF
- A couple of RCM's shared that they have shared that they told their areas that we donated and that if they had any issues or concerns to please share. No members chose to share.
- An RCM shared that we may not have the answer on whether or not we should decide this today due to the current circumstances of COVID-19
- It may want to be brought up that they (SZF) should hold it (SZF) outside of the 4 major cities
- We may want to look at getting creative with our travel to save the region money and still get the information out there and the resources
- Treasurer said that we do have plenty of money this cycle of we were to send a donation this time
- This discussion will go on Open Forum to be brought up next cycle.

This cycles notes:

- Maybe we could wait until they (SZF) are meeting in person to talk about regular donations since they don't have a lot of expenses right now
- Their balance is 6,280 (sent 5,000 to world)
- Chair asks to end the discussion at this point based on the need of the Zone currently
- Being responsible today during a pandemic looks different than before, we have other, more emergent topics to bring up today
- **This discussion is tabled.**

Discussion 2- Specified conversation around pending funds

The guidelines specify sending everything not "pending" to NAWs

Questions/comments from Floor:**Last cycles notes:**

- A lot of our pending funds are for VRC and we are unsure what VRC will look like in the future
- We will move on from this and table this discussion until our In between meeting

This cycles notes:

- We may want to change the guidelines regarding the word “pending” about our funds OR be more considerate about looking at our funds at pending before writing checks
- No further comments about this topic, we will be more considerate!

Discussion 3- Continuing VRC

Do we want to ask our members if we want to continue the VRC?

Questions/comments from Floor:

Last cycles notes:

- We just sent a nomination back to groups asking to vote in Scot B for VRC 39, maybe it's not the best time
- Maybe we could ask the question, just later
- If not now, when? There will always be "something" going on
- There are a lot of things going on right now, the groups will have many other things to think about
- **There is no clear direction on where we are going with this at the moment, and it will be brought up again.**

This cycles notes:

- A member would like for this discussion to be tabled until after our VRC 39 discussion about virtual vs in person
- We should ask our members what they want.
- Look at it from the financial aspect, hotels, etc
- It seems as though the fellowship would like to continue since the convention is not losing money. We always break even or we make donations back to VRC
- Shouldn't we table this until we get the vote back from the groups today about the increase in the VRC budget
- Nobody has asked that specific question, we should be direct. The money and the success might not show an accurate representation on how the fellowship actually thinks.
- Maybe we can just have a straw poll for each individual member vs group votes
- Chair ended discussion with the option of motions being brought about a poll for the future of VRC

This cycle's open forum discussions:

Discussion 4- Establishing donations for the VRC

Areas having the option to send donations to region via our website

Questions/comments from Floor:

- Electronic funds would be a good idea, it just goes into a lot of other discussions and things to consider
- Can the chair or treasurer go to the bank to discuss the options to have an in-depth explanation for the body next cycle
- Chair will check with the bank about charges, etc
- Discussion was ended at 10-minute timer

Discussion 5- Funding between cycles

Receiving reimbursement between cycles

Questions/comments from Floor:

- Maybe the region can take on the ITCC accounts rather than having a member pay and get reimbursed, to streamline this
- The ITCC chair and the Treasurer can get that handled
- On other expenses: two signatures are required and as long as the chair and treasurer can sign the check then we should make it happen
- Being a trusted servant should not become a financial burden, we should reimburse as quickly as possible every cycle or in between

Discussion 6- Nominations/elections clarifications

Getting everyone on the same page about when our nominations and elections are

Questions/comments from Floor:

- Nominations are in August of even years
- Votes come in at VRC
- Start right after November election

Discussion 7- Treasurers report: QuickBooks balancing/reconciling/bank statements

Finding out where the discrepancy is in our account/QuickBooks

Questions/comments from Floor:

- Treasurer has sent secretary the bank statements, checks written, and deposits to send to the body to look over
- Could be a technical difficulty
- Treasurer will work with QuickBooks to reconcile via journal entry

Discussion 8- VRC 39

Asking virtual or in person

Questions/comments from Floor:

- It may be too early to plan for virtual, we should allow VRC 39 to continue, but have a backup virtual plan
- We have time to stay within the deadlines, we just don't have a lot of time
- We may not have a VRC 39 chair
- Chair will get with the VRC 39 chair and will get with the secretary to put their conversation in the minutes

Old Business

Nomination(s)

Motions-

VRSC Motion #12-01-2019-04

The RCM's that shared, all shared that they discussed it with their areas and that the overall consensus did not have any issue with the VRSC funding the VRC with a \$20,000 budget. It was decided to go ahead and take this motion back for an official vote from our groups.

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.

Results from groups vote:

Chatt: 1-6-1-0

Clark: 6-0-0-0

GNA: 7-3-0-0

HOT: 8-0-0-0

Knox: 5-0-4-0

Mountain: 8-0-0-0

West TN: 3-6-2-0

Nomination Passed Total: 38-15-7-0

Discussion 2- VRC 38 – Hotel

VRC 38 chair cannot get in touch with anyone for a refund after the hotel shut down.

Questions/comments from Floor:

Last cycle's discussion:

- The hotel was in management by a company (I square management) in Little Rock, AK
- The VRC 38 chair will be sending a certified letter to the site of the hotel and the company to deem the contract breached and to request our deposit back. It will also state that the VRC will not be providing any more funds to any entity involved.

This cycles discussion:

- Chair has not been able to get in touch with anyone at this point
- Certified letter was sent to hotel and property management company that was in ownership when the contract was signed
- Have we decided to get in contact with a lawyer?
- Not as of yet

New Business

Discussion 1- Outreach Chair removal / warm body syndrome

We should take responsibility for this by putting someone in the position at their first Regional meeting.

Questions/comments from Floor:

Chair has attempted to reach out to Outreach chair on multiple occasions with no response. Since the outreach chair has not been to three consecutive meetings and has had no contact, the VRSC Chair will be sending an official email to let her know that the position is officially open.

***Per article 9, sections 3 & 4 ***

This cycles notes:

Chair sent an email and called the Outreach chair asking her to come to this meeting with no response.

Motion to remove the Outreach chair made by Stephen Z (KANA) and second by Lucy O (ITCC)
8/8 RCM's voted in favor of removing her from the position

Nominations

VRSC Nomination #08-02-2020-01

Stephen Z for ITCC

Nomination made by: Lucy O (ITCC)

Second made by: Donald S (HOT Area)

Take to groups for a vote- Service resume attached to minutes

VRSC Nomination #08-02-2020-02

Jesse O for H&I Chair

Nomination made by: Eric P (H&I)

Second made by: Stephen Z (KANA)

Take to groups for a vote- Service resume attached to minutes

VRSC Nomination #08-02-2020-03

Lucy O for Policies and Procedures Chair

Nomination made by: Stephen Z (KANA)

Second made by: Vince B (Chatt)

Take to groups for a vote- Service resume attached to minutes

VRSC Nomination #08-02-2020-04

Michelle W for VRSC Treasurer

Nomination made by: Lucy O (ITCC)

Second made by: Jesse O (Midwest TN)

Take to groups for a vote- Service resume attached to minutes

VRSC Nomination #08-02-2020-05

Dell for VRSC Chair

Nomination made by: Lucy O (ITCC)

Second made by: Scott G (Clarksville)

Take to groups for a vote

VRSC Nomination #08-02-2020-06

Craig G for Public Relations Chair

Nomination made by: Craig G (PR)

Second made by: Scott G (Clarksville)

Take to groups for a vote- Service resume attached to minutes

Motions-

VRSC Motion #08-02-2020-01

Motion by Lucy O

from: ITCC

Second: Greg V

from: MANA

Motion:

Motion to direct the VRC adhoc committee to create a poll for members of the region to find out if they would like the Volunteer Regional Convention to continue past 2021 and if so, would they be open to virtual/hybrid options as well as an in-person convention.

Intent:

To get the pulse of the region on their interest in continuing to hold the Volunteer Regional Convention. This will not be a binding decision but used for the basis of more discussion and motion.

Discussion Floor:

- This does not call for a motion, it can be assigned to the duties of the Adhoc committee for them to complete
- Chair wants to speak with the VRC 39 chair and then see where to go from there
- Motion ruled out of order by chair
- A potential candidate for the host in 2022 shared how it was important to ask the question now
- Can't we just put a poll up and give them 3 months to answer and bring the results back to region next cycle?
- Motion passed on the floor 7/8 areas.
- Chair directed the Adhoc committee to create this poll and adhoc will present it at the In Between Meeting on 8/30 @ 4:30pm.

Announcements

- **Recovery On Fire**

Closing Activities

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

Next Meeting Details

The VRSC meeting will be held:
11/29/2020 @ 09:30am.

Topic: VRSC

Time: Nov 29, 2020 09:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82552651901>

Meeting ID: 825 5265 1901

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