

Dear Suncoast Area,

Below is the RCM Report for 12-12-10.

The November FRSC weekend was held November 19-21, 2010 at the: Aloft Tallahassee Downtown, 200 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, 1-850-513-0313. It was hosted by the Big Bend Area of Narcotics Anonymous.

Saturday, November 20, 2010 at 8:30a was the Area Support Meeting (ASM), which was attended by the Suncoast Regional Committee members (RCM's), the FDC Chair, and Roger S. This committee is a forum where issues and questions regarding your area are discussed. This is how roundtables and ideas are formulated. They are presented to the FDC for final approval. HRP is then responsible for recruitment of roundtable participation.

Directly after the ASM, FDC commenced. The following roundtable topics were discussed: RSC Orientation I and II, Capture and Recovery, "Sell the Sizzle" survey and Predatory Behavior. The first three were combined together for one workgroup to focus on how to attract new members and develop a package/survey for member completion.

If you would like to get involved in a roundtable you can fill out an HRP pool form at www.naflorida.org. Workgroup participation is not predicted upon your ability to attend the Regional Service Conference.

OLD BUSINESS

Narcotics Anonymous is looking to form a workgroup on how to archive all Florida Region data.

NEW BUSINESS

Please read and discuss with your home group members the following issue:

"Hi Bob — just got off a lengthy call with a concerned citizen in Holly Hill who runs a convenience store across the street from a park at which NA meetings happen every night. These meetings seem to draw a lot of newcomers and they are finding that members are being rude to others in the community wanting to use the park for themselves. According to her, the meeting pretty much:
Dominates the park every night, and takes up all the parking in the neighborhood. Of course there was a little prejudice expressed towards ex-felons and the like, but she really seemed to be calling in hopes of a resolution that everyone, NA and the community, can be happy with, before things happen that can damage NA's public reputation. Apparently the community is passing around a petition for city hall to change park ordinances. These groups (or these groups) do not, according to her, pay anything to use the space, even though the city has asked them to. Apparently some concerned citizens have gone so far

as to pay to rent the space in the park during that time, and have encountered hostility and self-righteousness to their efforts to use the space where the meeting is held.

Among the litany of grievances she expressed were members making threats of violence (including one member recently saying he was “packing” during a dispute with community members over use of park space), refusing to cooperate with police regarding a prior incident of a member making threats, littering cigarette butts throughout the park, speaking loudly and graphically about their using in a public park with children around, speaking loudly and graphically about prison time in the store she runs in front of customers, refusing to share space with community members, and the list goes on. Based on what she’s saying it seems to be coming to a head and the end result could be bad news for NA’s public image. It is certainly foreseeable based on what she said that if things escalate NA meetings might not be welcomed anywhere in this town. Also, a former AA member (seemingly with a grievance towards twelve-step fellowships) expressed interest to this woman in making a documentary about the situation. This is obviously a serious PR issue, and I am passing this along to you in hopes that the Florida Region and the Daytona Area can work to mitigate damage to NA’s relationship with the community and its public image more generally.

If you want more specific information about situations that have occurred, the caller’s
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX .

Be aware that she seemed a bit reserved in giving me her number. I’m not sure if she fears reprisal or what, but obviously you may want to respect her privacy beyond talking to her yourself. Let me know if you have any questions or if there’s anything we can do on our end. Thanks.

In fellowship, Colin Sevareid

Public Relations NA World Services

I, Marc B, John B, and some members of The Daytona Area are discussing ways to address this issue with the groups in question. The bottom line is we need to remember this issue has the potential of harming NAs public image. Members of this community have made it clear that WE are no longer welcome here!! If members of this community have already got a petition started, brought this issue before city council and contacted World Service, who knows what’s next. God forbid if they contact the local newspapers and or local news stations. We will do whatever it takes to make this situation right. John B, our Regional Public Relations Coordinator has contacted the GSR’s of the groups in question; all but one has stated that they will do what’s best for NA as a whole by looking into finding new meeting places. I will give more information on this matter as soon as I get it.”

In Service,

George De

RCM I- Daytona Area

The World Convention is September 1-4, 2011 in San Diego, California.

FRC is asking for people to register early online for FRCNA 30. They are also looking for speakers. If anyone is interested in submitting a CD please speak with Sal or Jeff D.

Service System Symposium is being held March 24-27, 2011.

A \$300.00 donation was given to the Florida Region.

Sincerely,

Sal and Seth

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