



25th East Coast Convention of Narcotics Anonymous
Committee Meeting Minutes
New Dominion, Peninsula & Piedmont Areas
Held at Hatcher Memorial Church
July 9, 2022 @ 1pm

Jeff H opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer

ECCNA purpose read by Tina S

Twelve Traditions read by John M

Executive Committee				
Chair	Jeff H	Present	804-512-6222	fcbcjeff56@gmail.com
Vice Chair	Greg F	Absent	804-895-4850	ghfuller718@gmail.com
Secretary	Tina S	Present	804-439-7777	25theccna@gmail.com
Treasurer	Arnold S	Present	804-868-6108	arnoldsiderg@yahoo.com
Site Liaison	Tee T	Present	434-242-1970	teetucker@hotmail.com

Subcommittee Chairs				
Arts & Graphics	Bob G	Present	804-721-5964	gillagain4@msn.com
Auction	Chris T	Absent	804-239-5662	Christ5141982@yahoo.com
Convention Info	Ed C	Present	804-338-9477	ehc123@verizon.net
Enter & Fundraise	Bryan M	Absent	757-635-7414	Bryanmiller486@gmail.com
Hospitality	Deb W	Present	856-323-4673	debwolfflcs@gmail.com
Marathon	Dan W	Present	516-403-3756	dlw1890@gmail.com
Merchandise	Butch N	Present	804-357-1684	jlnorris1968@verizon.net
Program	Morris B	Absent	804-997-6706	morocca67@gmail.com
Registration	Craig R	Present	540-272-0113	reg.eccna@gmail.com
Serenity Keepers	Lee S	Absent	804-665-3841	Leeshepherd30@gmail.com

Area Representatives				
New Dominion	Chelsea R	Absent	804-735-3852	chelsearndana@gmail.com
Piedmont	Kermit O	Absent		nvralne@aol.com
Peninsula	Dave H	Absent	757-207-1154	4dahall@gmail.com

Executive Committee Reports:

Chair:

Hello Family,

We Did It!!!! First, I want to say thank you for everyone's hard work and commitment to host the ECCNA25. We got a lot of good feedback. I feel like we fulfilled the ECCNAs purpose, and our primary propose. Hopefully we promoted unity here in the Richmond Metro Area, carried a clear Narcotics Anonymous message to our newer members, and we will be able to purchase a whole lot of books. Today I would like to collect your final reports so we can pass it on to ECCNA26. Anything we can share may provide them information that could help them in their efforts.

We received the final bills from VCU. All the meal charges seem to be correct. We had a bill for housing and parking. There was a parking charge that was incorrect, and I have adjusted the final payment. I addressed it with our contact to have it corrected. Today I hope we can pay all outstanding bills. In addition to our expenses the Advisory Board has a few annual expenses that will be deducted from our proceeds. Debbie told me once we pay our outstanding expenses today we will be able to determine profit.

Once we get our final numbers to purchase books. We have the responsibility to order and distribute books as we see fit. I believe the Advisory Board does suggest that we send each Region on the east coast 3 cases each. That still leaves a lot of books left to give out. In new business I would like to discuss this matter further.

Since the convention, I have reflected over the past year, it has been an honor to chair this host committee, when we do service and work with others like this past year, we see the good, bad, and the ugly. We bump heads and see each other's defects. In the end we hug each other and realized we have built some new friendship. We learn and grow by working together. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

In Loving Service,
Jeff H

Vice Chair:

Dear family,

We DID it! We put on a successful convention! I first want to thank this committee for allowing me the honor to serve. Second, it was great getting to know some of you better in this process. Did everything go smoothly all year? No, but we stuck together and met each obstacle head on! I am so proud of the work each of us put in, the days, weekends, and family sacrifice we made during the last two years of planning for this.

I am still curious to find out the registration totals and of course how many books we will be able to purchase and distribute! We will still have that process to do. Labeling each book and mailing the jails and prisons and the regions that make up the east Coast Convention

I also want to wish next year's hosting region from Pittsburgh all the best in their planning and execution next summer.

Thanks again for allowing me to serve,
In Loving Service,
Greg F

Secretary:

All is well, what a successful convention!! Thank you all for allowing me to serve.

In Loving Service,

Tina S

Treasurer:

Good morning, I had 1 ck returned on Thursday I spoke to the person yesterday and got the correct address and mailed out the check already. I still have the parking cash i never deposited it per the cfo and she also took out a large amount of money from our account a couple days ago. I need to confirm the amounts owed to VCU and pay them today.

In Loving Service,

Arnold S

Site Liaison

Hello Family,

It's hard to believe this is the last host committee meeting. I want to thank everyone for allowing me to serve on this host committee as the site liaison. It has been a true privilege to serve on this committee with all of you. I want to also thank all that helped me during the convention. This has truly been an amazing experience and one of the greatest things I will take away from the past two years of this service commitment is the new friendships and getting to know some people that I already knew a lot better. Serving as the site liaison I have learned what it is like to serve on the host committee. All my previous convention service experience has been as a VRCC director. One of the things I am grateful for is for the rest of the host committee and your ability to accept me for where I was leading up to the convention and during the convention. I also appreciate the fact that you had faith in me during the contract process.

From everyone I have talked to and heard/read comments from, they had a great time at the convention. Having the meeting spaces, dormitories, dining, and parking all within a two-block radius made everything very assessable and convenient to get to.

The onsite VCU staff was very helpful and easy to work with. The chairs idea of selling meal tickets was a great idea and success. The final cost for the food was \$10,707 and we prepaid \$7504 for 140 meals per meal. This left us with owing \$3203 for food. Saturday lunch we had 256 meal tickets turned in and Saturday dinner we had 262 meal tickets turned in.

The only issue behind the scenes was the parking situation. We are going to dispute the \$384 parking charge. When we negotiated with the college the lanyards were not supposed to be able to pay for the parking. The front desk at the dormitories told some guest they could use their lanyards to leave the parking garage. We were charged for 32 uses/days @\$12 per use per day. If there was something I could do again it would be hammering out the parking situation and/or having a better system in place. We ended up selling some of the parking QR codes and brought in \$96. This leaves a \$288 discrepancy.

There was a \$50 fee for 2 lost ID's.

The final bill we owe VCU, with the \$3203 for food, \$384 parking, \$50 lost ID, is \$3637. However, I feel we shouldn't pay for the \$288 parking mistake made by the VCU staff and should only pay the college \$3,349.

We ended up using all but 2 of the linen sets. After the \$100 deposit we still owe Brook's Stitch & Fold \$975.

Overall, this was one of the most amazing experiences I have had in my time in NA and will always cherish it and the people I had the privilege of serving on the host committee with.

In Loving Service,
Tee T

Area Representatives

New Dominion:

Absent, no report.
In Loving Service,
Chelsea R.

Peninsula:

Absent, no report.
In Loving Service,
Dave H

Piedmont:

Absent, no report.
In Loving Service,
Kermit O

Subcommittee Reports

Arts & Graphics:

Oral report, no written report.
In Loving Service,
Bob G

Auction:

Absent, No report.
In Loving Service,
Chris T

Convention Information:

What an awesome convention experience! It was great working with everyone involved in putting this convention on. Recovering addicts working together can make what seems impossible happen! When we started this endeavor, I was nervous about the amount of work Convention Information was assigned. But thanks to the dedication of committed members John M, Seamus C, Sammy T, Scott M, Russ N and others the work got done and done well. The decision by the Host Committee to formally invite the RCOs, recovery houses and treatment centers made a huge difference in attendance. And made

for a very rewarding experience for this committee's members. We registered 254 newcomers because of these invitations and our Helping Hand Fund.

All the contact information for Regions and Areas on the east coast that our committee compiled will be passed on to the ECCNA 26 committee. This was a big task that they won't have to repeat.

We also have contact information for all Virginia prisons and jails when the Basic Texts are ready to ship. This has been an unforgettable experience and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of it!

In Loving Service,
Ed C

Entertainment & Fundraising:

Absent, no report.

In Loving Service,
Bryan M

Hospitality:

Wow - we did it. I am humbled by the trust that was given to me personally to bring hospitality to ECCNA 25. This committee was not without its challenges, from change in Chair mid-stream to struggling to pull off coffee for anywhere from 200-800 addicts (and requiring coffee vouchers) to a Hospitality Room that was located off the beaten path. The committee consisted of several addicts with lots of experience and several with minimal to none. As the chair was one of the committee members with minimal convention experience, my gratitude to the rest of the committee is huge. The committee included Dale C, Katherine A, Laura H, Whitney S, and Terri D. Each of us took on particular focus and the support and love made it a wonderful committee to be on.

The committee successfully provided a Hospitality Room that was welcoming, friendly, and supportive. Besides offering snacks (with lots of bananas!), we provided various board games, cards, and incredible NA mandalas to color with markers and colored pencils (thanks Laura and William H for your artwork). We had committee members staffed and monitored the room for all of the hours that the room was open. The committee had all of the required signs that the ECCNA policies required (thanks Dale C.) The committee was able to stay under budget for snacks and supplies (thanks Katherine for co-shopping, Terri and Whitney for researching costs and amounts). We were also able to have the Saturday night speaker streamed into the Hospitality room which provided a less crowded and quieter space to listen for those that needed it.

The most difficult area we needed to manage was coffee. There were many conversations on how to provide coffee, partly due to the budget we had and the cost of coffee supplies. It was suggested that instead of making coffee ourselves we identify a coffee vendor to take on the task. The Committee still wanted to insure that newcomers had access to coffee without having to pay, therefore the committee voted to "donate" back \$100 from our budget for free coffee. Thanks to Katherine, we identified a vendor (Espresso A-Go-Go) who was willing to sell coffee for the hours the hospitality room was open both Friday and Saturday. The owner was flexible with our needs as she was under direction that she could not accept cash. The vendor insured all digital payment options were available and also accepted the coffee vouchers that attendees could purchase from the cash payment room. The first day, we had the vendor in the hospitality room. Coffee needs were relatively slow, with quick bursts of need - mostly from newcomers. By 9pm there was almost no requests for coffee. On Saturday, we suggested that she set up upstairs near registration where much more coffee was sold throughout the day. Unfortunately for the vendor, there were too many periods of no need of coffee due to meetings and workshops happening.

Therefore, the event was as financially viable for the vendor and the amount of hours she and her employee had to put in. In the future we would recommend requesting an increased budget and preparing the coffee ourselves. The feedback we received from attendees was poor, with lots of irritation and anger that coffee was not free, and the vendor was the recipient. For the future, if charging or coffee is required, better communication to attendees would be needed. We are grateful to Margaret Doyle of Espresso A-Go-Go for her understanding and graciousness throughout the process.

As for our \$1000.00 budget, we stayed under budget. Supplies were purchased between Costco and Walmart. I apologize that I do not have the final numbers as the receipts were all turned in and I forgot to keep copies. I am hoping that the ECCNA full financial report will have that information.

This was an amazing experience for me, especially being new to the area and new to convention service. All of you who served with me, I appreciate each of you and thank you for your patience with me.

Looking forward to Pittsburgh!

In Loving Service,
Deb W

Marathon:

Oral report.

In Loving Service,
Dan W

Merchandise:

Good afternoon family. I have great news, and bad news, the great news is the convention is over, the bad news is the convention is over. I want to thank the ECCNA host committee for trusting me to be the merchandise chair. It has been an honor and privilege serving with everyone that took part with the convention. The hard work and dedication that it takes to put something like this together unimaginable. The relationships that have been formed through this will last a lifetime. Not only the ones formed here on the host committee, but the ones formed at the convention as well. I definitely want to thank everyone on the merchandise subcommittee, Linda C, Mary R, Dana S, Kurt D, Ben F, for all the hard work that we did. I also want to send out a special thanks for all who helped at the convention that was not on the subcommittee Brian M, Margret G, and Chelsea R. Who spent several hours being of service by selling merchandise. I hope I did not leave anyone out. Thank you to our alternative merchandise vendor "Recovery Links" who did very well and was able to make a large donation.

Merchandise was just one link in a well-oiled chain that made this convention possible. I am humbled, honored, and proud to be part of it. We were not able to sell all of the merchandise but had only 11 shirts out of 360 and 6 mugs out of 144 with one getting broke. We were also asked to sell an unexpected surplus of the early registration mugs. I'm not sure how many we ended up with but there was 9 left. With being said I can say that we ROCKED IT. After the Sunday morning speaker, I passed on the remaining merchandise to next year's host committee.

Looking forward to going to next year's convention I hope to see all of ya'll there!!

In Loving Service,
Butch N

Program:

Absent, no report.
In Loving Service,
Morris B

Registration:

Hello all, let me start off by saying that it was inspiring to be part of a team that is so passionate about recovery and gratifying to have helped throw a convention that by all accounts was a resounding success. Thanks for everyone accepting me where I was, even when we were first getting started and things were a little crazy. Once our system was in place, things ran pretty smoothly...with the possible exception of parking on Sunday. It definitely would not have been possible without all the help I received from my subcommittee, in particular Heather, Jake, JT, Mary, Stacey, Tia, and Amanda, as well as Debbie F from the AB. Also, I would like to extend a special thanks to Chelsea for ensuring we had internet access!

The registration numbers are in...

Square - 213 registrations

Cash - Approximately 140 registrations. This one is a little trickier as we no longer have the receipts, but Debbie informed me we collected a total of \$4200 for registrations. Friday registrations were \$20, Saturday registrations were \$25 and Full registrations were \$45. Thus, the average cost is \$30 and \$4200 divided by \$30 equals 140 registrations

Pre-registrations - 268 registrations

So along with the 254 registrations recorded by Convention Information, the total attendance for the convention comes to 875 addicts!!!

Needs

- None

Budget

1. Registration Budget- \$2,550 / Remaining \$289.29

a. Mailings - \$180 / Remaining \$138.66

b. Fliers- \$960 / Remaining \$95.81

c. Packets- ~~\$59.77~~

i. Coffee Mugs - \$1,022

ii. Name Tags - \$37.07

iii. Bracelets - \$200.70

d. Misc.- \$54.59

i. Trashbages - \$25.99

ii. Sharpies - \$25.98

iii. Toilet Paper - \$43.44

e. Tickets- \$60

Receipts

- None

In Loving Service,
Craig R

Serenity Keepers:

Absent, no report.
Loving Service,
Lee S

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Convention Total Income

Expenses and Income - \$105,512.15
Total expenses - \$52,099
Profit - \$52,000

Unpaid Bills

Arnold - \$325 being paid out today
Debbie- will write a check today for \$45, forgot cheese sticks in fridge for Hospitality

Distribution of Basic Text

- Will have a post-convention committee to work on it.
- If we order books from world they can distribute to regions.
- Straw poll to add 4 Spanish textbooks in each case, committee approved.
- Possibly 4 cases to each region will leave us with 100 cases.
- Committee members that want to help with distribution- Ed, Seamus, Deb, Butch, John M, Whitney, Craig, Dan, Butch, Scott and Jake.

Straw polls

-Straw poll to pay out our account for the food at our final meeting was taken and the committee approved.

-Straw poll to pay \$50 for the use of the church for our final meeting, the committee approved.

-Straw poll to reimburse Tee \$89 for the return of main speaker belongings that were fedex, committee approved.

Jeff closed the meeting with the Serenity Prayer

