

Workshop on the Forming of a Bucks County A.S.C.

March 27, 1982

Jryland, Pa.

The meeting opened at 7:00 P.M. with a discussion on the issue at hand. The points that were brought up are listed as follows:

It would be good for the groups in this area to attend a smaller Area Service Committee meeting. Each group would carry a stronger voice and the services would be focused more specifically on the needs of the groups in the Bucks County Area. There would be more time to deal with individual group reports and problems. A Bucks County Area Service Committee would have its own voice at the regional level. Sub-committees, such as the Hotline, Public Information, and Hospitals and Institutions committees, could concentrate their efforts on a smaller geographical area, and in turn, will better carry the message to the addict who still suffers. Most of the members felt as though the change would help to unify our fellowship and spawn growth in size and service in our area. The results of our actions would be seen more clearly, for any service work would help the still suffering addict in our own towns and neighborhoods.

After the discussion, the members present at the workshop felt the need to take some action to bring the Bucks County fellowship together to discuss this issue. They decided to:

- A) Set a time and place for a meeting of the fellowship. The meeting was set for May 2, 1982 at 7:00 P.M. at Pete B.'s house, 75 MacFarland, Jryland, Pa. (for directions call Pete or Al at 322-8896) This would give ample time for groups and members to review the issues.
- B) Send a letter to all GSR's so they may inform their groups and find out their group's conscience on this issue.
- C) Submit an article to the monthly newsletter covering what happened at the workshop. This would help to inform the general fellowship of the meeting.

A proposed format agenda for the A.S.C. Formation Meeting was discussed and compiled.

The meeting closed at 12:15 with the Serenity Prayer.

Suggested Format for the Bucks County A.S.C. Formation Meeting

- 1) A general discussion by all present of the issue of why this A.S.C. is needed and how it can better serve its member groups.
- 2) Discussion of what groups are eligible for membership.
  - A. Bucks County groups only
  - B. Bucks County and adjacent groups
  - C. Any group that wishes to join
- 3) The groups who wish to join will now do so. ( At this point, we may want to decide on who the voting members will be)
- 4) Name the A.S.C.
- 5) Set guidelines of eligibility for officers.
  - A. Time clear for each office
  - B. Length of office
  - C. Should double-hatting be allowed?
- 6) Elect officers.
  - A. Chairperson
  - B. Vice-chairperson
  - C. Secretary
  - D. Treasurer
  - E. Area Service Representative
  - F. A.S.R. Alternate
- 7) Each new officer should, upon election, make a verbal commitment to serve for the specified period of time.
- 8) Decide what sub-committees are needed.
  - A. Literature
  - B. Policy
  - C. H & J
  - D. Public Information

E. Fund Raising

F. Newsletter

G. Any others

- 9) Set guidelines of eligibility for sub-committee chairpersons.
- 10) Elect sub-committee chairpersons and ask for a commitment to serve,  
( At this time, we may wish to ask chairpersons to get their committee together before the next meeting and draw up guidelines for their committees to be approved or disapproved at the next meeting.
- 11) Take items of agenda for next meeting from GSR's.
- 12) Decide who the minutes should be sent to.
- 13) Minutes and agenda for next month should be mailed within one week of the last meeting.
- 14) Set date of the next meeting.
- 15) Adjourn—Congratulations.

To: GSR's of Bucks County Groups of N.A.  
From: Concerned Members of Bucks County N.A.  
RE: Bucks County forming an Area Service Committee

GSR's,

On March 27, 1982, an addithon was held to support the Philadelphia Literature Review Committee. During the addithon, a workshop was held to discuss the possibility of Bucks County forming an Area Service Committee. All members present at the workshop felt that, in order for the Bucks County fellowship to grow and still serve the needs of the recovering addict and the addict who still suffers, we need to form our own Area Service Committee.

To many members, what we are proposing may seem both radical and scary. In reality, what we are doing is seeking ways to adjust to the recent explosive growth of not only the Bucks County area, but the Philadelphia area as well. The larger an area grows, the harder it is for one service committee to meet it's needs. With more growth expected upon the approval of the white book, the difficulty will be increased. There will, of course, be difficulties in making such a change. Forming new sub-committees and developing our own policies will involve a lot of work, but we must not sell ourselves short. Our area is strong in size, experience, and dedicated service workers!

We wish to stress that, even though we feel the need to break away from the Philadelphia A.S.C., it is not due to any inadequacies on their part. We are all deeply grateful to the Philadelphia Area Service Committe, whose strength and experience has helped us grow to the point where we can realistically consider our own Area Service Committee.

To better inform you and the members of your group, we have enclosed with this letter the minutes from the March 27th workshop, and a proposed agenda for an ad hoc committee meeting set forth by that workshop on May 2, 1982. We ask that you, the GSR, bring this issue to your group for discussion, and in turn, bring that group conscience to the May 2nd meeting, so that the voice of the Bucks County fellowship, as a whole, will be heard.

In Loving Service,

Concerned Members of  
Bucks County N.A.