PIR GSR Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, November 21, 2026 | 12:00 PM Eastern | Zoom

Chair: Karyn S

Sources: meeting transcript, meeting chat, Chair notes, and GSR Monthly Reports (Responses) submitted 11/2/2026 through 11/21/2026. Last initials only. Written reports are recorded as submitted, except where a name has been withheld.

Attendance

- Karyn S, Chair
- Anne R, PR Committee, London and Wednesday UK/Europe
- Rick B, Monday Entheon
- Kevin F
- Christy B, Traveling GSR
- Christopher, Literature Committee and Tech
- Evan K, San Diego White Light Experience Group
- Douglas
- Alan H, Tuesday Family of Origin
- Jaime I, Thursday Love, Sex and Relationships
- Mike B, Sunday Big Book Study
- Sue, Thursday OG
- Shaynna G, Salt Lake City
- Jodi H, Ann Arbor In Person
- Aile H, Loving Parent Guidebook Study
- Andria, Thursday Liminal Lounge
- Therese T, Wednesday Step Study
- Hugh, Breathe
- Michele F, Thursday Women Beyond Sobriety
- Rhebe-Kah, Friday 11th Step Mysticism
- Erin B
- Alise
- Karyn S asked GSRs without a group name next to their Zoom name to add one.

1. Call to Order and Opening

- Karyn S called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM Eastern and welcomed everyone to the November 2026 GSR meeting.
- Moment of silence, followed by the "we" version of the Serenity Prayer.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Karyn S asked for a motion to approve last month's minutes.
- Motion: Jaime I. Second: Karyn S, with Aile H also offering a second.

3. Subcommittee Reports

- Karyn S took subcommittee reports before the Tradition discussion. Christopher joined later and reported at that point.

PR Committee Anne R

- Two new podcast hosts, Alan and Jordan, are on board, and the committee is reaching out to a list of potential interviewees. The continuation of season one comes in January, and the latest episode, featuring Kate, was due out that day.
- Anne R had not yet received feedback on the RISE Summit and asked whether anyone present could speak to it.

RISE Summit Rick B

- Rick B and Kevin F attended on behalf of PIR.
- Kevin F sat on a panel called Models of Care and spoke on PIR history and recent meeting attendance data. Rick B said PIR was well represented.

Traveling GSR Christy B

- Nothing to report. A lot of groups seem to be covered, and any group needing a GSR should reach out. Her number is in the chat.
- In the chat, she said she will cover Monday Entheon until a GSR is selected, and asked groups needing a Traveling GSR to send the date and time of their monthly business meeting.

Book Committee Douglas

- Nothing to report.

Convention Committee Evan K

- Evan K, who is not the chair, said the committee was meeting the following day to address the conflict within the group since the incident at the convention, and that the committee is suffering strife as a result of actions that took place there.
- The committee will also consider what to recommend to the board on selecting a city for a future convention and on volunteer leadership structures.

Literature Committee and Tech Christopher

- A call to service. There is work available for anyone interested.
- The Literature Committee meets the second Tuesday. Attendance is sparse, so the time has been used as a meditation and connection meeting. Christopher said he does not want to go far without more people looking at the work, so that it does not come down to one or two voices.
- Current items: a second FAQ set, the timeline history link on the Board of Directors page, a white paper on nonprofit best practices, bylaws and privacy policy pages on the main site and service subdomain, and disclaimers following the convention. The privacy policy group is now a subcommittee of the Literature Committee.
- Asked whether the Recovery Readiness document would run through the Literature Committee if approved, Christopher said it could be a useful piece to connect on and might spark the committee.

- Three WhatsApp groups were added to the community: Zoom Concierge, Meetings Happening Now, and Fellowship of the Spirit. Karyn S asked that Jess be made admin of Meetings Happening Now.

Other committees

- No other actively meeting subcommittees were identified.

4. Tradition Discussion

- **Tradition 11** (read by Karyn S): "At a public level, we may self-disclose our involvement in PIR if we do not proclaim to represent the organization. As members of PIR, we respect and protect all members' anonymity."
- **Rick B:** It is an important and sensitive subject, and a fine line in how members represent themselves publicly, which speaks to the long-term potential of PIR as a viable fellowship. He noted Kevin F was clear that he gives information about PIR rather than claiming to be PIR.
- **Kevin F:** The updated wording captures the nuance of the long form. PIR was very conservative about outreach early on and as a result never really grew, so invitations have since been weighed selectively, with care to separate personal perspective from the fellowship. He noted that "attraction, not promotion" appears to have been dropped from the short form, and said that to be part of PIR's attraction he has to practice the principles himself.
- No one else spoke on Tradition 11.

5. Old Business

GSR Chair transition

- Karyn S referred back to her announcement that she is stepping down, and asked whether anyone had seen interest in the GSR Chair position.
- **Anne R:** She is not interested, having done the job already. She suggested GSRs nominate people, that there be a nomination form, and that GSRs reach out to a GSR they think would be a suitable replacement, producing nominations and a list at this group level as was done for the board nominations.
- **Kevin F:** The GSR Chair position Karyn S assumed was a member at large position, but the chair of the GSR Committee is not always required to be a member at large. That is part of the reason another member at large position was created specifically to represent the fellowship. It is recommended, but not always a requirement.

6. New Business: Recovery Readiness for Service

- Rick B presented a draft, which he had posted in the GSR WhatsApp thread, and read it aloud.
- Rick B stated this is a discussion and not to be voted on today. Monday Entheon heard from eight or nine people at its business meeting, with broad support and no wish to rush. He hopes to bring it to a vote at the next GSR meeting.
- It applies to anyone in service in PIR, from board member to meeting chairperson, speaker seeker and subcommittee chair, and is not specific to any one person.
- Rick B said the language can be edited, modified, revised, pared down or expanded, and that it is a loose template for discussion.

Proposed statement, as presented



Discussion

- **Anne R:** She thinks it is very good and particularly likes the closing line, which she described as where the steps meet the traditions. She said her recovery is completely correlated to her fellowship and she needs both. Service does not come naturally in PIR for

some reason and it is about time that culture is brought in. She cited AA statistics suggesting about 14 percent of people do service, said PIR is lower than that, and said people will do service only if they understand how beneficial it is to them and to the fellowship. She called it a very welcome addition to PIR literature.

- **Evan K:** He concurred and called it sensitively written. He suggested adding some way of dealing with an understanding of how a member's actions in PIR affect others. He said one of the reasons the document is being discussed is an incident that really ruptured the organization, and that he does not hear people talking about the rupture itself, which affects his sense of safety in his recovery and, much more directly, other people's sense of physical safety in recovery. Since unity is one of PIR's important aspects, understanding how one's actions impact others seems a wise part of the document and the discussion.
- **Alan H:** He said the document captures the sentiment and tone of PIR. While it notes that PIR does not define sobriety for members because it is self-defined, it might be helpful to suggest a certain length of time free of substances as a recommendation for qualification for service, as in AA where a year of sobriety might be required for treasurer. He said that could also be left up to the groups. He noted that servants at group level are voted in by group conscience, so the group hopefully has a sense of an individual's readiness. He added that the strength of sponsorship is lacking in PIR compared with conventional AA, and that for him sponsorship was a huge factor in readiness for service, since he would discuss a service position with his sponsor first.
- **Rick B:** He had a strong reaction to Alan H's suggestion of a length of time free of substances, while recognizing it as well intended. PIR includes too many people from different 12-step fellowships where substances do not factor in, and he cannot conceive of a responsible way to do it. Even where substances are involved, the timeline is too hard to pin down.
- **Shaynna G:** She has missed a lot of GSR meetings. She has been chair, co-chair and GSR for the Salt Lake City meeting, which is a small group of five or six people who show up consistently and who step in for each other and rotate positions. She works in recovery and is a single mom, and cannot help missing meetings sometimes. Showing up and staying true to her responsibilities has been important in her recovery. She said people coming into recovery sometimes take responsibility so seriously that they hinder their own mental health or recovery, and that the document helped her recognize it is okay to ask for help and okay to miss a GSR meeting so long as she brings things back to her group.
- **Jaime I:** Following Alan H's point, he raised the co-traveler and sponsorship document he has been managing with Karyn S. The list is small, fewer than 20 people. He asked anyone who feels the call to sponsor or co-travel to get in touch so they can be added, and suggested GSRs take the list back to their home groups. He posted his phone number in the chat.
- **Sue:** She noted that not everyone comes from AA, that service can be about integrating psychedelics and what members are learning, and that the messaging can differ from AA. She suggested baby steps, since running the timer at a meeting is a start where joining the tech committee may be overwhelming, and said perfectionism stops people from starting at all.
- **Evan K:** He said that in AA the therapy is understood to be the steps, the meetings and the fellowship, rather than service, and that he carries an assumption that service is giving back when he is ready to do so, with the benefit to his recovery being more indirect. He cautioned against assuming the fellowship owes everyone the right to sit in a service position, because a member may conflate ego and program, and the loss of a position, with their recovery. He said it is complex, which is why it is called a loving group conscience, and named the tension between the individual and unity and the health of the organization as a whole.

- **Rick B:** He said the draft was originally written more stridently and was modified considerably after discussion with Douglas, to refocus it on self-reflection and self-accountability while retaining the loving group conscience element.

Scope of the document

- **Karyn S:** She asked whether the document is for GSRs to take back to their groups to vote on, and set out that a group could vote to apply it to that group, the GSR Subcommittee could vote to apply it to the subcommittee, and the board could vote to apply it to the board.
- **Rick B:** He said he does not have a conviction either way, and that the question gets to the heart of PIR as a whole versus the autonomy of each group. His initial reaction matches Karyn S's, that the board can decide if it wants to apply it to itself, each group can decide for itself and each subcommittee can decide for itself. He also saw no reason it could not be voted onto the list of approved literature. He stressed it is not intended to be an enforceable document, but a document most people seem to agree has merit, so that if something comes up a group that has adopted it can point to it. Each domain of service needs to decide whether it is useful to them.
- **Karyn S:** She added that the subcommittee could also vote on adding it to the website and member materials, and said her feeling is that it may come back with amendments before it is posted, which could make it a multi-month process.

Charge to GSRs, as given by Karyn S

- Karyn S instructed every GSR to take the Recovery Readiness document back to their home group and discuss it at their next business meeting, and set out three questions for the group to answer:
- **1.** Does your group want to apply this document to your group?
- **2.** Does your group want to see this document applied to the GSR Subcommittee, meaning should the GSR Subcommittee follow it?
- **3.** Does your group think this document should be posted on the PIR website with the other member materials or resources?
- Karyn S was explicit that a group does not have to come back with only a yes or a no. A group may instead come back with a recommendation to amend the document, and the subcommittee would then go through the process again on the amended version.
- Karyn S said these three items will be discussed or voted on at the December meeting, and asked GSRs to contact her with any questions before their business meetings so she can walk them through what is being voted on.

7. Group Reports

- Karyn S read out the open service positions submitted through the GSR Monthly Reports form as of the start of the meeting, and asked whether any groups had issues or were seeking solutions.

Parking lot safety, Wednesday UK/Europe

- **Anne R:** Reporting for the Wednesday UK/Europe meeting, she said the GSR has now become secretary, so the GSR position is up for grabs. She said there appears to be an issue in the parking lot, with people not sharing during the meeting because they are in an altered state, but then holding the microphone in the parking lot afterward, which is starting to disrupt and makes people uncomfortable. The GSR is asking other GSRs how this has been dealt with lovingly, where the limit is between a PIR meeting and a parking lot, how much needs to be let go, and whether parking lots have parking lot hosts. She noted there has been no sourcing involved.

- **Karyn S:** She linked it to the earlier issue about money being exchanged in parking lots, and said GSRs have to stay diligent about safety in their group announcements on a see something, say something basis.
- **Mike B:** He said the parking lot has been a wild card over his four years in PIR, with some going all night and becoming unsafe, and that it cannot really be regulated. The host is in a sense responsible for safety and can end the meeting if they have to leave without someone they trust to keep it under control. He does not see an easy solution.
- In the chat, Erin B raised a Parking Lot Monitor service position and the Safety Doc. Anne R asked whether the document exists or needs to be created. Erin B replied that the safety doc exists and that most meetings say the parking lot should follow the same safety levels as meetings, with no bullying or dominating, and that each meeting could offer parking lot monitor as a service commitment if it has noticed disruptive behavior.

Salt Lake City, hybrid format

- **Shaynna G:** She said not many people have been showing up online and wondered whether that is because of the mix-up on the website, although the organization that hosts the meeting also lists it on its own website. Setting up the hybrid portion is a hassle, requiring equipment to be moved between rooms, and is harder when the chair is absent. The group has been discussing moving to in-person only and she asked for the subcommittee's thoughts. She proposed getting the listing switched and testing it for another month, because she does not want to take the opportunity away from people attending online.
- **Karyn S:** She suggested finding an open spot on the calendar so the hybrid portion does not conflict with other meetings, including possibly changing its time.
- **Anne R:** She said she has not found hybrid meetings to be the best format across various fellowships, that Glasgow has the same problem, and that there have been multiple attempts at hybrid meetings in PIR, none of them madly successful. Her advice is to stick with the in-person meeting, cherish it and grow it, and leave the online meeting for the online calendar.

Ann Arbor In Person

- Jodi H needs a Zoom link set up for the group's hybrid meeting. Karyn S said she would send Christopher Jodi H's direct contact and vice versa after the meeting.

Fellowship of the Spirit

- Fellowship of the Spirit has a new Zoom link, in use starting the following week.

Monday Entheon

- In the chat, Rick B noted that Monday Entheon needs a GSR starting in January.

Written reports (GSR Monthly Reports form, 16 submissions from 15 groups, 11/2/2026 through 11/21/2026)

1. Thursday Women Beyond Sobriety Michele F, GSR (11/2)

- **Attendance:** 12
- **Open positions:** Always looking for new chairs and tech hosts
- **Status:** Fine. Business meeting attendance can always improve
- **Announcements:** None

2. Sunday Big Book Study Mike B, GSR (11/2)

- **Attendance:** 10

- **Open positions:** Seeking a GSR replacement
- **Status:** Calling to service
- **Announcements:** Please attend the business meeting

3. Salt Lake City Shaynna G, GSR (11/2)

- **Attendance:** 6
- **Open positions:** No, the group is on rotation
- **Status:** Discussing possibly taking the meeting offline. The group is still listed at the wrong time on the PIR website, but does not get much online attendance
- **Announcements:** The meeting is now at 7pm MST on Fridays

4. Tuesday Family of Origin Alan H, GSR (11/3)

- **Attendance:** 20
- **Open positions:** No
- **Status:** Safety issues were being discussed at the group conscience meeting
- **Announcements:** Safety issues were being discussed

5. Wednesday UK/Europe

Sam K, GSR (11/5)

- **Attendance:** 15
- **Open positions:** Male greeter
- **Status:** Doing fine
- **Announcements:** None

Anne R, reporting for the GSR (as entered) (11/21)

- **Attendance:** 20
- **Open positions:** GSR, greeter
- **Status:** Doing okay but attendance has been dropping. Another meeting (non PIR) at the same time has taken some regular attendees and was advertised in the Fellowship WA (as entered)
- **Announcements:** None

6. San Diego In Person Evan K, GSR (11/5)

- **Attendance:** 16
- **Open positions:** No
- **Status:** Doing fine, attendance down a bit
- **Announcements:** The group changed its name to "White Light Experience Group"

7. Sunday Integration Paula G, GSR (11/11)

- **Attendance:** 40ish (as entered)
- **Open positions:** Chair/Host and GSR starting January 3, the first Sunday of 2027
- **Status:** Doing great
- **Announcements:** Please attend the next business meeting on 11/22/26

8. Wednesday Step Study Therese T, GSR (11/14)

- **Attendance:** 20

- **Open positions:** Yes, a new leader is needed. Alex is stepping down
- **Status:** Doing fine, open to safety recommendations
- **Announcements:** None entered

9. Ann Arbor In Person Jodi H, GSR (11/18)

- **Attendance:** 3 to 6
- **Open positions:** No
- **Status:** Attendance has been better. The group opened up the Zoom meeting even on in person nights
- **Announcements:** None

10. Wednesday Queer in Recovery Ben, GSR (11/18)

- **Attendance:** 5
- **Open positions:** No
- **Status:** Doing fine
- **Announcements:** None

11. Loving Parent Guidebook Study Aile H, GSR (11/20)

- **Attendance:** 7 to 11
- **Open positions:** No
- **Status:** Doing alright. There were some tech challenges, but the group is making it through
- **Announcements:** None

12. Monday Entheon Rick B, GSR (11/20)

- **Attendance:** 28 to 38
- **Open positions:** GSR will be open in January. Looking for co-chairs or a chair for January to June 2027
- **Status:** All good. Brought up the Recovery Readiness Suggestion. Broad support
- **Announcements:** The business meeting went well on Monday 11/16

13. Friday Night Topic Scott E, GSR (11/20; group entered as "Friday Friday Night Topic")

- **Attendance:** 23
- **Open positions:** No
- **Status:** Doing fine
- **Announcements:** None entered

14. Thursday Love, Sex and Relationships Jaime I, GSR (11/20)

- **Attendance:** 17
- **Open positions:** Potentially chair. Someone said they would do it but has not followed up on the GSR's inquiry. Jaime I can chair for a short time if needed
- **Status:** Doing ok. Call to service, and reading "Is it Love or Is it Addiction"
- **Announcements:** None entered

15. London Anne R, reporting for the GSR (as entered) (11/21)

- **Attendance:** 8
- **Open positions:** GSR

- **Status:** Recovering from near extinction after being weekly and managed by the wrong person
- **Announcements:** Christmas party on December 7

Open service positions (from written reports and the meeting)

- **Thursday Women Beyond Sobriety:** Chairs and tech hosts (always looking)
- **Sunday Big Book Study:** GSR replacement
- **Wednesday UK/Europe:** Male greeter (Sam K report); GSR and greeter (Anne R report and the meeting, the GSR having become secretary)
- **Sunday Integration:** Chair/Host and GSR starting January 3, 2027
- **Wednesday Step Study:** New leader (Alex is stepping down)
- **Monday Entheon:** GSR open in January; co-chairs or chair for January to June 2027. Christy B will cover as Traveling GSR until a GSR is selected
- **Thursday Love, Sex and Relationships:** Potentially chair
- **London:** GSR
- **GSR Subcommittee:** Chair, on Karyn S stepping down

8. New Business from Groups

- Karyn S asked whether there was any new business or recommendations coming from groups. None was brought.

9. Action Items

Karyn S

- Reach out to a couple of people to gauge their readiness and interest in the GSR Chair position.
- Send Christopher Jodi H's direct contact, and Jodi H Christopher's contact, for the Ann Arbor Zoom link.
- Be available for GSR questions.

GSRs

- Take the Recovery Readiness document to your home group and discuss it at your next business meeting, answering the three questions in Section 6, and bring back any proposed amendments.
- Take note of the new Fellowship of the Spirit Zoom link and bring it back to your groups.
- Consider sharing the co-traveler and sponsorship list with your home groups.
- Groups needing a Traveling GSR: send Christy B the specific date and time of your monthly business meeting.

10. Next Meeting and Adjournment

- Next meeting: Saturday, December 19, 2026 at 12:00 PM Eastern.
- Motion to close: Anne R. Second: Aile H.
- Karyn S called for hands and closed the meeting, wishing everyone a good Thanksgiving. The recording ends at about 1:22.