

Regional Minutes February 2017

April Regional weekend will be hosted by Martha's Vineyard Area
The Tisbury Council on Aging
34 Pine Tree Road Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

Subcommittees meet Saturday April 9 at 12pm
RSC meets Sunday April 10 at 11 am

June Regional weekend will be hosted by SEMA

RCMs: Please let groups know that they need a Rider Binder for special events coverage!!!

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REPORTS

CHAIR- No report.

VICE CHAIR- No report.

SECRETARY-

Please email reports and any other attachments to secretary@newenglandna.org.
Thanks a million, Tiffany K.

TREASURER/FINANCE-

The meeting started at 12:15 pm. Thank you Free Spirit Area for hosting. Present were:

- Michelle M. – Treasurer
- Jay P. – Assistant Treasurer
- Dave P. – Finance Chair
- James P. – Finance Member at Large

The starting balance is \$600.00. (Money held aside from December RSC)

Reconciliation of the bank account was done. We received 2 service charges totaling \$6 for the months of December and January.

Group and Area donations totaling \$1,512.93 were received. RMD Sales were received totaling \$629.25. Miscellaneous Deposits were received totaling \$ 91.72 (returned funds for hosting from Free Spirit). Total Deposits = \$2,233.90.

Set Aside transfers were processed (\$761.00 to Insurance Set Aside and \$792.50 to RD/RDA Set Aside). A Customary Expense in the amount of \$14.70 for RMD postage was paid. A check for \$600 was cut to the Martha Vineyard Area to host Region in April. \$10 was paid to the State of Rhode Island for the annual sales tax permit fee.

A check for \$786.10 was cut to FAE for storage fees for Q4 2016 (381.60) and Q1 2017 (404.50). We received a letter in the mail from FAE stating that starting in January 2017 there will be a 6% increase in storage rates due to rising costs from their utility providers across the board. Our previous year quarterly rate was \$381.60 and as of 2017 we will be paying \$404.50 per quarter. This cost is something we will be discussing as we plan to look for a new storage unit that may decrease our quarterly/yearly costs.

After reviewing the RD/RDA budget with the RD we concluded that the RD/RDA Budget included \$1925 for WSLD in October of 2016. This event was not attended due to scheduling conflict, therefore \$1925 was returned to the General Fund.

Prudent Reserve is full at \$3,152.35.

Our opening balance is \$1,788.60.

****Please note that \$600 of these funds was held aside from December RSC****

ILS,

Michelle M., Jay P., Dave P., and James P.

Sunday, February 12th, 2017

Starting Balance: \$1,788.60

Money Motions:

- Money Motion #1: Bridget V (PR)
 - o To purchase 300 RMD's at \$31.88 to have in stock for Harvard Health Fair
 - o Intent: To be prepared for the Harvard Health Fair which we have been attending for over 10 years. This event resulted in relationships with treatment professionals around the world and landed H+I commitments in jails across the state. We'd like to maintain consistency in these relationships – **PASSED**
- Money Motion # 2: Bridget V (PR)
 - o To update the graphics on the two regional PR displays at the cost of \$645
 - o Intent: To provide accurate demographics and geographies to all communities we are involved with – **PASSED**
- Money Motion # 3: Bridget V (PR)
 - o To place a literature order in the amount of \$229.32 as outlined in the PR budget to obtain literature for the upcoming Harvard Health Fair including the new MAT IP
 - o Intent: To prepare the subcommittee for Harvard Health Fair which we have been attending for over 10 years. Treatment professionals from around the world attend this event and as a result of attending this event H+I is now in prisons across the state. We would like to maintain consistency in these relationships. – **PASSED**
- Money Motion # 4: RD/RDA
 - o To make check payable in the amount of \$1157.60 (hotel \$453.60, airport \$70, ground \$49, pier diem \$200, airfare \$385) from the RD/RDA Set-Aside
 - o Intent: To fund RD to FRSSNA (Florida Regional Service Symposium of NA) – **PASSED**
- Money Motion # 5: RD/RDA
 - o To make check payable in the amount of \$635 (airfare \$385, ground \$50, per diem \$200).
 - o Intent: To fund the RDA to FRSSNA – **PASSED**

TOTAL MOTIONS PASSED = \$ 3,298.80

• **TOTAL PASSED FROM GENERAL FUND = \$1,506.20**

• **TOTAL PASSED FROM RD/RDA SET ASIDE = \$1,792.60**

FINAL:

Prudent Reserve is **FULL** at \$3,152.35

A Donation to World will be made in the amount of \$282.40

Ending Balance: \$0

ILS,

Michelle M., Jay P. & the Finance Committee

ACTIVITIES- Committee vacant.

CONVENTION-

Good Afternoon and thank you Free Spirit Area for hosting.

We have had 6 meetings since the last regional meeting as we are meeting weekly as of January 1. The next week's meeting will be held at the hotel at noon and the last meeting prior to the convention will be 2/25 at River to Recovery at 140 Ace Street in Fall River MA. This meeting will begin at 1:30 PM

The Hotel is sold out on Saturday night and as of yesterday there was 3 rooms left on Friday night. Other hotels available in the area are Super 8 which is in the same parking lot as the host hotel. The rate for this hotel for a std room is \$84/night and there is also the Hampton Inn which is further away but a short drive. The rate at this hotel is \$104 - 145/ night.

We have 171 preregistrations so far. All workshops and main meetings have chair people and speakers confirmed. Merchandise and registration packet items are in. The banner is complete.

The closing working balance at the close of yesterday's meeting is \$1,768.45.

In loving service,

Debbie L

FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT-

Greetings,

Your Fellowship Development Committee met on Saturday February 11th in Coventry, Rhode Island with five active and three at-large members in attendance. We would like to start by expressing our gratitude to the local fellowship for hosting us this weekend so, thank you Free Spirit Area, we appreciate your service.

We had a rather ambitious agenda for the day, and covered a number of items so without getting too detailed, here are the highlights:

We talked about how we can best support of member areas, the two-way nature of that relationship and what some options were for us to be of service outside of our regularly scheduled Regional weekends.

We began to discuss the upcoming fiscal year and will be working on a spending plan to submit in April.

We determined what workshops we will be presenting at NERC, during the upcoming Regional meetings on Martha's Vineyard in April and in SEMA in June, as well as what our role would be in helping to host the North East Zonal Forum, also in April.

The committee believes that the most beneficial party to send to the Florida Regional Service Symposium along with our Delegate team would be Patrick J. who is also the IMCAC from the Martha's Vineyard Area.

As always our meeting consisted of a lively batch of discussions, and we look forward to our next one in April. We encourage any and all to join us in our endeavors.

Gratefully of service, Jaime V.

H & I-

- Meeting started at 12:05 with Serenity Prayer.
- Read definition and purpose
- Roll call/introductions
- Read and approved Dec 2016 minutes
- Trusted servant and area reports
 - H&I Chair resigned via email
- DOC coordinator
 - NA Members still going into Nashua St. Jail against the H&I committee.

- State prisons interested in institutional meetings.
- Cape Cod Area
 - Will be holding “Service Slam” on 2/18/17 from 5 pm to 12 pm.
 - Formed ADHOC to review policy.
 - Formed ADHOC for learning day.
- Free Spirit Area
 - Looking into Learning Day
- Metro West Area
 - Open commitments at women’s facilities
- SEMA
 - Setting up formats for specific facilities.
 - Dartmouth jail interested in NA commitments.
 - Having issues with facility contacts.
- Boston Area
 - 63 commitments a month.
 - Multiple commitments are held on Thursday nights, it is becoming difficult for panel leaders to fill these positions.
 - New women’s facility requesting NA commitments.
 - Learning Day planned for 4/1/17 at 455 Arborway, Jamaica Plain from 2 pm to 7 pm
 - South Bay women’s unit commitment has been open for a long time.
- South Shore Area
 - 52 commitments/8 open
 - Policy changed so that elections line up with region elections.
 - Created assistant secretary position
 - Formed ADHOC for Learning Day in June
 - Formed ADHOC to create an orientation for new panel leaders.
- Greater Worcester Area
 - New Chair- Welcome!
 - 13 commitments/3 open
- WSR
 - Chair position still vacant.
- States voting and motion making procedures
- Set quorum
 - 7 voting members
 - Majority vote is 4. 2/3 is 5.
- Elections
 - The vacant chair position will go out to the fellowship.
 - The body will have a nomination for the RSC to approve in April
- Open forum
 - We discussed circling up at the end of our presentations and whether or not it goes against our policy or the facilities.
 - We discussed the possibility of adding a subscription to reaching out to our budget.

- Our next meeting will be held in Martha's Vineyard. We've been told by that area that the location will be within walking distance of the ferry which will eliminate the need and cost of bringing your vehicle on the ferry. I hope to see you all there!

INSURANCE-

No report submitted.

LITERATURE- Committee vacant.

POLICY-

Hi family, I attended the RSC subcommittee meetings in Coventry RI on 2/11/17 I met with one addict in attendance.

I was approached by members of the PR subcommittee pertaining to attendance of trusted servants I advised that our policy as stated in article 7 section A which states as follows. A. Any elected trusted servant will be removed from office in the event of resignation, death, break in clean time, excessive absence, misappropriation of NERSC funds or a 2/3 majority vote of the NERSC. Two consecutive absences or three absences during the fiscal year without prior notification to the chairperson of the NERSC constitutes excessive absence. (see Section 3) RCMs, since they are elected by their Areas can only be removed from office by their respective ASCs. After any two consecutive absences of any RCM of the NERSC, the Area will be notified in writing by the NERSC chairperson.

I was approached prior to today's RSC to advise on where a motion for a change of venue for the storage of all properties held in storage. I advised that this motion should come from the RSC Chair since it is "traditionally" that position is responsible for the disposition of physical properties. However after further consideration a and a bit more research into the issue. It is my belief that the this does not need to be a motion that the chair or their representative my act unilaterally within the guidelines as stated.

NERSC shall keep archives of all NERSC related materials which should include a copy of the minutes, corporation minutes, cancelled checks, As well as any other relative material deemed by the NERSC.

A. NERSC Archives shall be stored at a secure storage facility of the region's choosing.

B. The NERSC chairperson and the president of the corporation shall each hold a key to the storage facility.

C. The rent for the storage facility shall be considered an operating expense to be paid every February.

I am current researching a directive from the region to the Policy subcommittee which states:

That the NERSC instruct the Regional Policy Committee to hold an annual regional policy workshop to pass out regional policy to new RCM's and to answer any questions as to how the RSC functions.

I am open to suggestions.

ILS Duncan M. Policy Subcommittee

PR/PHONELINE-

I. Reports:

a. Phone Line Coordinator - David

In the spirit of healthy rotation of service, David is requesting that Area PR Chairs announce that the Urgent Callback volunteer positions are open with exception of GPA & CMA. Bruce R from CMA is their new volunteer, and Nick S from GPA is new. Two year clean time requirement and training are required. David will provide the training. The phone line is now completely up to date.

b. Professional Callback - Bob R

Bob received a call from a social worker at Tufts Medical Center. They requested having an NA member meet with a patient immediately after an overdose. Bob informed them instead that the patient can call the urgent call back volunteers in their area to speak.

c. RMD Chair - Kevin

There are still RMDs for sale. The next printing will be in March.

d. Vice-Chair - Bridget

We need volunteers for the Harvard Health Fair at the Copley Fairmont Hotel March 3rd-4th. Bob can cover Friday, 3/3 from 6am-1pm but we need volunteers from 1pm-5pm. On Saturday, 3/4, we need an experienced volunteer from 7am-2pm (there will no longer be the lunchtime meetings) to work alongside Nick S, which will be his first PR booth experience.

II. Area Reports:

a. Total Area Events

Booths Hosted: 1

Presentations: 2

Events: 6

Flyer-Hanging Days: 1

Areas with Literature Rack Programs: 5

Misc Area News:

The South Shore area is looking into getting a 30" TV screen to use as a display for survey and world maps for PR presentations rather than replacing the graphics on the small and large displays every two years. Over the long run this will save hundreds of dollars to the area and region and allow PR to keep their information up to date and the technology modern.

III. Old Business:

a. Ad Hoc for Policy and Planning Basics Recommendations

Tomi reported that the Policy Ad Hoc went well in January, but that the group will need to meet again before they can present a policy draft to the regional subcommittee. The next Policy Ad hoc meeting will be on March 18th at 1pm.

IV. New Business:

a. Open positions: Events Coordinator, Media Outreach, Training Coordinator. No volunteers

b. Motions & Literature Orders:

#1: Money motion for \$196 for pamphlets and keytags for the Harvard Health Fair on 3/3-3/4

#2: Money motion for \$31.88 for 300 meeting lists for the Harvard Health Fair on 3/3-3/4

#3: Money motion for \$660 for table display graphic updates

#4: The committee recommends that the RSC take a vote to remove Andrew as the NERSC PR chair and to then confirm Bridget as the PR chair (as agreed by consensus by the NERSC PR subcommittee). The reason is our current chair has missed the last two RSC meetings without informing the RSC chair as noted in the regional policy and has missed 3 out of the last 4 meetings. Attendance at our subcommittee meeting and relaying that information to the RSC is the primary duty of the chair.

c. Upcoming events:

March 4th NERCNA: 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm "Are We Doing Enough?"

Bob thinks we should have a panel with members discussing every type of service that PR provides.

Stephen will facilitate and the panel speakers will include: Sarah-Training Coordinator, Christopher M-RMD, Chris B-Literature Racks, Bob-Phone Line, Bridget-Presentations. Our goal is to highlight what we are doing and how we can do more.

March 3rd-4th Harvard Health Fair.

Fellowship Development is requesting the PR projector to be present at all future Saturday Regional meetings as they plan on putting on presentations going forward.

RD-

No report.

RDA- Position vacant.

RMD-

See Appendix A, page 13.

WEBSITE-

No report from Website Chairperson.

Hello. I have been working with NAWS and the website committee to streamline our process to sync the 2 databases. At the regional level it's a little more challenging to do the 570 meetings (minus the 40ish of the South Shore) then one area.

We are working towards adding the Group codes to the regional website/database. NAWS has suggested that this would be easier for years and I agree. We've tried to make this happen and now it seems close to being possible. This would make it easier for areas new to the process too. More will be revealed.

I hope to provide Trusted servant forms to Area members asap.

This link is helpful for updating the information as well. <http://m.na.org/?ID=updates-m>

Thank you,
Andrew L.

BOD-

The board met yesterday with 7 board members in attendance.

The following is the body of the letter sent on February 2 via certified mail with a return receipt requested:

It was determined in July of 2014 that you had misappropriated over \$12,000 from the New England Regional Convention Corporation's Citizens bank account. We agreed upon a schedule where you would repay the corporation \$12,030. The last payment we received was on February 25, 2016 in the amount of \$500. In the accompanying letter you said:

"According to my records, I have repaid a total of Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$11,530.00) to date which includes this payment. Having calculated that the total outstanding balance was Twelve Thousand Thirty Dollars (\$12,030.00) the remaining balance after having received this current enclosed payment will be Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)"

As of the writing of this letter, no further payment has been received.

Please send the remaining \$500.00 owed by February 28, 2017. If payment is not received, we will turn this matter over to the US Attorney for further investigation.

We received notice from the IRS that our tax exempt status has been reinstated retroactively. Much thanks to our treasurer, Brenda V. for all of her efforts in getting this accomplished. Brenda is also in the process of getting a transcript from the IRS in order to file a request to have our late tax fees and penalties forgiven.

We are submitting a motion today that asks the region to locate a new storage facility which would provide easier access than our current location.

The convention committee has asked board members to chair workshops at NERC XVII. This speaks for itself in terms of the vastly improved relationship between the board and the committee and I am extremely grateful to have such a committed and enthusiastic board with which to work.

Speaking of the board, the Annual Corporation meeting will be held in April on Martha's Vineyard. There will be an election for officers, President, Treasurer and Clerk and none of the present members will be seeking reelection. At the board meeting yesterday, we had a very vibrant discussion about the future of the Corporation and Convention going forward. No current board members showed an interest in stepping up to be an officer. In August, 4 of the 7 board positions will be open. This is a discussion that the board feels needs to be had at this table and then brought back to areas to get their feedback on how we should proceed. Some have suggested moving to a three year cycle similar to what world service has done. I look forward to your input after my report if time and the chair permits.

In grateful service – Jim D. - BOD

AREA REPORTS

BOSTON-

Greetings New England Region! Thank you Free Spirit Area for hosting us! The BASC met twice since the last RSC meeting with an average of 18 GSR/Alternates present. Several successful large events have occurred in Boston since the last time we met here: large group anniversaries and Marathon meetings over the holidays.

The policy subcommittee produced an amended policy, which was approved in December.

The H&I subcommittee has several open Commitments and has been the case for a while now we are in need of panel leaders and in particular women.

The PR subcommittee is struggling to grow in membership.

We have formed an audit ad hoc subcommittee to review the BASC accounts for the last three years as our bank balance indicates a larger amount of held funds than had been previously been reported.

We filled the alternate RCM, however the addict who was elected to the position has not been in communication with me since the election.

In Loving Service, James P. 617-314-4048 jgpbos@me.com

CAPE COD-

No report submitted.

CENTRAL MASS-

No report submitted.

FREE SPIRIT-

No report submitted.

GREATER PROVIDENCE-

Thanks very much to the Free Spirit Area for hosting this weekend.

The Greater Providence Area has met once since our last regional meeting with 15 GSRs present. At the January meeting a policy chair and website chair were elected as well as a treasurer and assistant secretary for the convention. The area is unable to fill the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Alternate Treasurer positions. Our previous Chair and Treasurer expressed their willingness to stay in their positions until new trusted servants are elected. Open subcommittee positions are Finance, Public Relations, H&I, and Activities. The Board of Directors currently has two open positions.

The convention committee reports that the Crown Plaza Hotel has been secured for January 19-21, 2018 for GPACNA IX. They are in need of a secretary, fundraising and entertainment chair as well as an arts and graphics chair. They currently have \$6,500.32 in their account. Their next meeting will be February 19th at 4:00 PM at 249 Main Street-Pawtucket, RI.

H&I reports that all commitments are being filled and there are currently 3 open panel leader positions, 2 of which are being filled by the previous panel leaders. After elections there was discussion about a learning day but no volunteers came forward to help out.

Our new phone line chair reported on the small number of calls he received and has been attending the regional PI/Phone line subcommittee meetings in both December and February.....the first time GPA has been represented at two consecutive meetings in quite some time. Thank you Nick!

After all expenses were paid the greater Providence Area was operating at \$7,055.20 above prudent reserve. A motion was passed to hold aside \$2,000.00 to further protect the convention.

Our next area meeting will be held on Sunday, February 26, 2017 at 3:30 PM at

249 Main Street Pawtucket, RI

In grateful service,

Jim D. GPA RCM

GREATER WORCESTER-

No report submitted.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD-

Martha's Vineyard Area has met twice since last Regional Meeting.

All group attendance has been fantastic. We are happy to be hosting the next regional service committee meeting, flyer also available at mvana.org under news. We also will be having our 28th celebration of recovery "the trip is inward" may 5,6,7 more info for that and registration flyer can also be found at mvana.org under convention. Ad-hoc committee for area phone line is finished and decided grasshopper would be best option. PR will have a booth at MV hospital health fair on April 8th from 8am-12pm.

In Loving Service,

Patrick J

MVANA

METRO WEST-

Hello everyone my name is Brandon an I am the new RCM for Metro West Area. MWASC last met on January 29th, 2017. We had 12 GSR's in attendance. Our GSR attendance has been low and we had discussions at our ASC about what can be done to increase attendance.

H&I subcommittee currently has a couple open commitments. They are both in women facilities and we hope to have them filled by our next ASC meeting. We did have a few people show up to be orientated as panel leaders.

PR subcommittee has been meeting regularly once a month and seems to be doing well. They are currently looking for an events coordinator and are hoping to plan a flyer hanging day in the near future.

We currently do not have an activities chair or subcommittee.

George M. resigned from his RCM position and I was voted in from alternate to RCM. I am currently looking for an alternate since we do not have one at this time.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Brandon W. (MWA RCM)

508-728-8314

NANTUCKET-

No report submitted.

NEMA-

We have met twice since the last R.S.C. Meeting, both times opened in customary fashion. Our January A.S.C. Was fantastic, we had 34 G.S.R.'s present, All service positions are filled. We did an inventory of our area, and sent that inventory back to the groups for further input. In December I sent out 5 questions to the groups regarding the R.S.C , I received 2 e mails back from approximately 17 gsr's who were present. Two Gsr's spoke with me about their experience with them, one group was a beginners meeting, I am waiting on the notes from that group. The three G.S.R. I spoke with said their group has full understanding and faith of what the R.S.C's role is and how we perform. Hopefully with group support NEMA may be about to take on a trail run of Public Relations Literature racks, much like the project the south shore and I believe metro west are doing, so thank you for sharing your input on such a program. Some of the hope we have in this is to bring

more unity of service among the area as a whole. All in all , things are going well , Thank you for the ability to serve our message ,. Joe H.

PIONEER VALLEY-

The Pioneer Valley area has met twice since region last met with the last meeting being January 9th.

Our subcommittees are in need of support! PR has been taking on a speaking commitment at the local recovery high school but is having a hard time finding volunteers to chair and speak due to scheduling. The Pioneer Valley PR subcommittee in conjunction with Western MA area PR has also been looking into some nonprofit advertising via radio, tv, busses, and billboards. PR is staying consistent with holding regular flyer hanging days. The next one is April, 22.

As always H&I in is dire need of support. The former absentee chairperson recently officially stepped down leaving the position vacant. We are still having to drop commitments due to lack of support and the commitments we do hold are being filled by the few consistent members we have. The H&I meeting location and day have been changed in an attempt to draw more support.

Open Positions: Alternate RCM, Policy Chair, Fellowship Outreach/Development, H&I Chair

In service,
Jake J

SEMA-

Good Morning,

SEMA Area has met two times since last region. Our average attendance is 25 and currently working above prudent reserve. We currently voted in a new chair and vice chair. Treasurer continues to hold Finance Committee Meeting all is well. H&I has made connection with Dartmouth House of Correction. Facilities asking for more commitment but we do not have enough panel leaders and need help. Public Relations will hold flyer hanging day in Taunton Feb. 18th. Has a social media page that is doing well. Outreach continuing to hold flyer conference calls & conducting presentations. Outreach welcomes all areas to join there calls first Monday of every month. ([712-775-7035](tel:712-775-7035)access code 208121) Policy continues to work on updating our area policy next month they will utilize GSU to workshop changes being recommended. Convention committee reported verbal hostility at previous meeting and an issue toward DOR taking funds due to member on the account both issues were amended and chair and vice chair stated they will be attending conventions next meeting to assist chair any ways they can. Pre-Registration at \$15 dollars is extended to March 31st. You can book your rooms with Mansfield Holiday Inn with SEMACNA 6 code. Campout held first event January 14th and will continue to meet monthly. SIS will be holding a bowling fundraiser Feb. 18th @ Westport Holiday Lanes 6-8. The sponsorship breakfast will be held April 9th tickets and flyers should be available soon. Finally, we have a new meeting in N. Attleboro on Thursday nights 7pm 20 Hoppin Hill Ave. Thank you ILS Dyan B.

SOUTH SHORE-

Hi everyone! I am an addict and my name is Becky, I am the Alt RCM for South Shore Area. I unfortunately had something come up which delayed my travel to region and when I arrived at 1pm everyone was leaving. So I will have the regional donation spoken of here at the next region.

The SSA currently has 47 meetings in 18 different towns. Our ASC has met twice since our last RSC meeting. I have not received the area minutes or subcommittee reports for our February ASC so most info will be in relation to January. We had 19 GSRs present with a quorum of 11. Group donations totaled \$579. The SSA has a donation to region for \$205.66. We have 2 open positions; Assistant Secretary and Activities Chair.

Area Events- We had an H&I/PR learning day on December 17th which was followed by the SSA's 31st anniversary in Hanson, MA. Throughout the day there were about 20 addicts who attended. PR did a power point presentation, and talked about current events, the literature rack project, webpage contact position, NERSC PR Training #1, and the recent success with presentations at Learn 2 Cope. The H&I portion

consisted of 2 speakers on different H&I related topics as well as a Holiday Oven Mitt game with H&I questions and answers. We usually have varying types of games at our learning days as it is a fun way to internalize important information about NA, H&I, guidelines, policies etc. The SSA 31st Anniversary was unfortunately very poorly attended.

H&I- meets prior to our ASC meeting at 12:30pm and we currently have 28 commitments in 16 facilities with 6 open commitments, 2 in treatment facilities and 4 in correctional facilities. If anyone is interested in the men's correctional commitments they are in Bridgewater and Walpole, you can attend our H&I meeting if you would like to take one on. There were 10 voting members and 12 attendees. We created an Assistant Secretary position that was filled. 2 ad-hoc's have been created for an H&I orientation for new panel leaders and those interested in H&I, as well as for a policy review.

PR- We have a new PR chair and the small committee has been very busy. There are still only 3-5 members and they are meeting twice monthly. Once at 1pm prior to our ASC and again prior to a regularly schedule Quincy meeting, the 3rd Friday of every month. We have 25 display racks all over the SSA. The committee has been working at building relationships within the community at varying different events including regularly scheduled monthly community events. The current agenda consists of flyer hanging days, having a local PR contact for each town and individuals to help with mailings.

Activities- Position and committee is open. No events scheduled.

Outreach- Josh the new outreach chair has a list of various groups in the SS that have not been to area in the last year or have said to be in need of support and visiting them to offer support.

Group Concerns/Open Forum – There has been discussion over the last few months about the lack of general attendance among groups as well as trusted servant support that seems to exceed the normal rates of fluctuation. Groups that had regular attendance of 60 or so people now only have 4-10 addicts in attendance. Conversation as to why this is happening and what we can do about to change it as well as prevent it has been ongoing. In conjunction, discussion about- in the Quincy community in particular - that AA is and has been for years culturally engrained as the program to go to. Our PR efforts and overall newcomer interactions have been a disheartening display of misinformation about the NA program on multiple levels. From the length of NA's existence, to derogatory comments and false accusations about NA meetings and what happens there. As we know addicts are now more than ever being instructed and advised to take prescription medications for addiction, which we have also had dialogue about. Referencing the importance of welcoming each and every addict regardless of... And keeping our 3rd tradition up front. As PR was contacted by a clinician in the community about that issue quite a few months back. The lack of attendance, atmosphere of recovery and potentially not meeting the needs of newcomers prompted various bits of talk about the amount of meetings we have, if there is a need for certain/all these meetings, grazing the idea and possible implementation of GSU's to work towards greater unity within our neighborhoods and the south shore area as well as to be in better alignment with our traditions and concepts.

If any area or anyone has any solution based experiences with any of the above I would love to bring it back to the area.

Regional Motion Coming Back To The Table:

Is Christopher or Kevin here to explain when the RMDs get ordered and thrown away? Intent is to throw all RMDs out after the close of Sunday's region and place and order that day. For instance, December's printing would be thrown out by the end of the day today, February's region. The order for April would be put in today and then available at the next region. December's RMDs would NOT be floating around in April.

Motion #3: Motion Presented by Treasurer (Tom M) To direct our RCM/Alt RCM to bring a motion to the December NERSC that states: To dispose of Regional Meeting Directories (RMDS) that are greater than two (2) months old.

Intent: So, areas, local groups and the public have access to the most current information

Passed: 11-0-0

In Loving and Grateful Service, Becky C.

WESTERN MASS-

Western Mass Area

Thank you Free Spirit Area for hosting this weekend.

The Western Mass Area has met twice since our last regional meeting with 17/41 and 18/41 GSR's present, respectively. Our area is currently operating below prudent reserve.

- Our ADHOC committees were pleased to report that, although there was low attendance between 3am – 7am in the Greenfield area, the New Year's marathon meetings went without incident and were successful.
- Our H & I chairperson reported that there were two H & I facility commitments that still remain completely open due to lack of support, and four other commitments were partially filled.
- We have a newly elected activities chairperson, Cedric D, who is currently working on having our first activities event in April 2017. Details will be added to the website once the date has been confirmed.
- Outreach coordinator has expressed that due to lack of a committee, currently one member, he has been unable to reach out to groups in our area that have not been to our area in quite some time. It was discussed at our last area meeting that there needs to be some type of structure for the committee when approaching groups. If there are other areas that have a policy or structure for approaching groups that have been absent for quite some time, it would be greatly appreciated if your area could give us some feedback.

Our area is now accepting nominations for the following positions, which will be voted on in April.

Area: Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Alt. Treasurer, RCM, Alt. RCM, H&I Chair, PI and Outreach, ASO and Alt. ASO

Current Open Positions:

2018 Convention Treasurer-Individual was nominated (groups to vote on for March area meeting)

2018 Convention Secretary

2018 Convention Registration

2018 Convention Subcommittees:

Hotels & Hospitalities

Programming

Arts & Graphics

In Loving Service:

Susan RCM-A

OLD BUSINESS

DECEMBER 2016 MINUTES- Acceptance unknown.

- Tabled discussion about the phone line project until the ad-hawk chair can come and talk with the body.
- Tabled motion from SSA regarding destroying the meeting lists.

NEW BUSINESS

Set Quorum: Voting RCMs: 8 Simple Majority: 5 2/3: 6

Motions unavailable for addition to minutes.

ELECTIONS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY **POSITION VACANT, BRING BACK TO GROUPS!**

ACTIVITIES CHAIRPERSON **POSITION VACANT, BRING BACK TO GROUPS!**

FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIRPERSON **POSITION VACANT, BRING BACK TO GROUPS!**

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS CHAIRPERSON **POSITION VACANT, BRING BACK TO GROUPS!**
LITERATURE CHAIRPERSON **POSITION VACANT, BRING BACK TO GROUPS!**
PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRPERSON **POSITION VACANT, BRING BACK TO GROUPS!**
RDA James P. elected!

Regional Meeting Directories Report

February 11, 2017

Beginning Inventory	8,550		
Plus Printing	0		
Total available for sales	8,550	Assets	
Old RMDs Donated To H & I	-550		
Sold to areas, groups & individuals	-5,700	\$ 570.00	
Sold to Regional Committees	0	\$ -	
Sold to outside vendors	-200	\$ 20.00	
Total Distributed and sold this period	-6,450	\$ 590.00	
Remaining Inventory	2,100		
Inventory for Sale Today	2,100		
Plus sales tax collected		\$ 24.55	
Plus Shipping & Handling		\$ 14.70	
Assets Total (Deposit)		\$ 629.25	
Seed Money for Printing		\$ -	
Total Assets - Deposit		\$ 629.25	
		Expenses	
Printing 8000 RMDs (none)		\$ -	
Sales Tax		\$ (24.55)	
Postage		\$ (14.70)	
Supplies		\$ -	
Less Total Expenses		\$ (39.25)	\$ (39.25)
Gross Profit or (Loss)		\$ 590.00	
Less Seed Money		\$ -	
Net Profit or (Loss) this period		\$ 590.00	

We have the remaining December 2016 printing available for sales today.
 To make updates, remove a meeting or add a meeting to the directory: Go to the website (NERNA.org) and register at the {Getting Started} icon on the Home Screen. Check all meeting info on the website by clicking on the meeting day, then make your changes. Changes should appear on the web site within a few days and will appear in the next printing.
 We have a Customary Expense of \$ 14.70 for postage.

We sell meeting directories in quantities of 50; check table below for quantities costs.								
RMD's	COST	TAX	TOTAL		RMD's	COST	TAX	TOTAL
50	\$5.00	\$0.32	\$5.32		550	\$55.00	\$3.44	\$58.44
100	\$10.00	\$0.63	\$10.63		600	\$60.00	\$3.75	\$63.75
150	\$15.00	\$0.94	\$15.94		650	\$65.00	\$4.07	\$69.07
200	\$20.00	\$1.25	\$21.25		700	\$70.00	\$4.38	\$74.38
250	\$25.00	\$1.57	\$26.57		750	\$75.00	\$4.69	\$79.69
300	\$30.00	\$1.88	\$31.88		800	\$80.00	\$5.00	\$85.00
350	\$35.00	\$2.19	\$37.19		850	\$85.00	\$5.32	\$90.32
400	\$40.00	\$2.50	\$42.50		900	\$90.00	\$5.63	\$95.63
450	\$45.00	\$2.82	\$47.82		950	\$95.00	\$5.94	\$100.94
500	\$50.00	\$3.13	\$53.13		1000	\$100.00	\$6.25	\$106.25

Committee Members

Chairperson

Kevin

(6508) 323-1456

Meeting Update Coordinator

Dianne M

info@nera.org

Printing Coordinator

David L

617-484-8198 (dalgraphics@rcn.net)

Sales/Treasurer

Christopher M

617-620-2887 (leadhead84@aol.com)

Outside sales to professionals

Dianne M

1-866-624-3578 ([Literature menu](#))