

# October 2017 Regional Minutes

December Regional weekend will be hosted by Greater Providence Area, Anchor Recovery Center, 249 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

Subcommittees meet Saturday December 9th at 12pm RSC meets Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

February Regional weekend will be hosted by Free Spirit Area (Western Mass) Will be the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Open Positions: Convention Board of Directors (2 positions), Website, Finance (3 positions), Literature**

Appendix A – Motions from Region August 2017 (included as there we no report from August)

Appendix B – Activities Policy

Appendix C – Activities Flyer

Appendix D – December Regional Flyer

Appendix E – RMD Report

CHAIR (**Rachel M.**)- No Report.

VICE CHAIR (**Joe H.**)- Good morning, First apology, for not being more attentive to the regional Minutes , I intend on getting together with our Chair to be sure to have e mail information incase this becomes a need in future . Second apology is I may have to leave a little early today . Lastly the only update I see as far as Literature is CBDM basics approval draft will be coming out soon and will be sent to our RD's and those involved in TOOL BOX . So far this looks like a pretty cool guideline to implementing a different way of conducting and making service related decisions. I will keep my eye open for future e mails when this comes out and send a copy along tour secretary to forward them to our RCM's. Thank you for allowing me to be of service Joe H.

SECRETARY (**Meredith B.**)- All reports should be emailed to [meredithann16@gmail.com](mailto:meredithann16@gmail.com)

TREASURER/FINANCE (**Michelle M, Jay P. Assist.**) –

Finance Committee Minutes

**October 14, 2017**

The meeting started at 1:00 pm. Thank you Cape Cod Area for hosting. Present were:

- Jay P. – Assistant Treasurer

The starting balance is \$0.

Reconciliation of the bank account was done for August. We received 1 service charges totaling \$3 for the months of August. September bank statement was not received.

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Group and Area donations totaling \$4314.17 were received. RMD Sales were received totaling \$1006.91. Insurance donations totaling \$0 were received. Total Deposits = \$5321.08.

Set Aside transfers were processed (\$ 761 to Insurance and \$792.50 to RD/RDA Set Aside). Customary Expenses in the amount of \$702.04 were paid – (\$47.95 for RMD postage and \$680 for RMD Printing). A check for \$600 was cut to the Providence Area to host Region in December.

We received a letter from the IRS stating our taxes have not been filed. The treasurer reported she will diligently looking into this issue and will work on having everything taken care of as soon as possible. In her absence this will reported with an update when we meet in December.

Since we do not have two signers here at Region this month, all checks cut today will have to be mailed out to the recipients. My recommendation is that the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Finance chair is go to Citizen's on lunch next region to add members in those positions who are not signers on the account at this time to the account.

**Prudent Reserve is at \$3152.35.**  
**Our opening balance is \$2436.63**

ILS,  
Jay P.

**Sunday, October 15th, 2017**

Starting Balance: \$2436.63  
Prudent Reserve is full at \$3152.35

**Total Motions out of General Fund: \$50**

**Total Motions from RD/RDA Set Aside: \$972.94**

**Total Motions from Activites set aside: \$750.00**

**Total Motions (all accounts): \$1,883.31**

**Total Money Held Aside for Fellowship Development: \$169.40**

**Total Motions from Fellowship Development: 110.37**

Money Motions:

- Money Motion #1: PR Chair
  - To purchase 500 RMDs in the amount of \$50.00 – TOTAL \$50.00
  - Intent: To be prepared for the drug court conference and have RMDs available to professionals and those who need them – **PASSED**

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- Money Motion # 2: RD/RDA
  - Make check in amount of \$562.56 to fund RD to the October 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> NEZF  
Hotel: \$287.50 - (\$125+\$18.75 tax)x2  
Mileage: \$101.76 -(212x2) x.24  
Tolls: \$23.30 (\$11.65 x2)  
Per Diem: \$150 (50x3)  
Money is from RD/RDA set aside
  - Intent: To fund the regional delegate to attend the fall north east zonal forum – **PASSED**
- Money Motion # 3: RD/RDA
  - Make check in the amount of \$300.00 to order 20 copies of the CAR. Price may varies and money comes from the RD/RDA set aside
  - Intent: To allow the RD/RDA team (Along w/ Fellowship Development) to workshop the CAR – **PASSED**
- Money Motion # 4: James P.
  - To reimburse the RD-A for the additional cost in booking RDA & FD chair trip to WSLD. The additional costs were a result in the delay of booking because checks did not reach me for 7 days after the RSC. Total cost of \$220.75.  
Hotel – \$120.75 more  
Transfers -\$ 78.12 more  
Flight - \$22 more
  - Intent: To fully fund the RDA/FD chair to attend WSLD Oct 2017 – **PASSED**
- Money Motion #5: Moke A
  - For \$200.00 to First congregational church of Falmouth to rent the hall from 1pm – 12am. This will be taken out of the Activities Set aside
  - Intent: To be fully self supporting. - **PASSED**
- Money Motion #6: Moke A
  - To pay Steel entertainment to provide DJ services for the December 16, 2017 in the amount of \$250.00. This will be taken out of the Activites Set Aside.
  - Intent: to be fully self supporting - **PASSED**
- Money Motion #7: Moke A
  - For \$300 which will be taken out of the Activities set aside. To provide food, soda, and supplies for the December 16, 2017 event.
  - To be fully self supported for the December 16, 2017 event. -**PASSED**

**TOTAL PASSED FROM RD/RDA SET ASIDE = \$972.94**

**TOTAL PASSED FROM FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT SET ASIDE = \$110.37**

**TOTAL PASSED FROM GENERAL FUND = \$50.00**

**TOTAL PASSED FROM ACTIVIES SET ASIDE = \$750**

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## **FINAL:**

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

**A Donation to World will be made in the amount of \$2,386.63**

Ending Balance: \$0

ILS,

Jay P.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ACTIVITIES (Moke A.)** – The committee has been working really hard and want to thank everybody for their patience and tolerance. The update the committee will be given today is that the subcommittee did form a new Activities Policy that I am handing the chair, vice chair, secretary, RCM this policy. The committee meet October 14, 2017 only one addict present from Cape Cod and 3 other additions on the phone. So the committee conscious was to hold events starting in Cape Cod Area (December), South Shore (Feb.), Western Mass & Pioneer Valley (March), Greater Providence (April), Greater Worcester & Central Mass (June). The committee will be putting in money motion to host regional event in December 16, 2018. In the Cape Area. The committee wants to remind the body that when the region puts event on if Greg is not co-sponsoring with the region the region will cover the cost of the event. I put this in the last report in August so we can be on the same page. The committee ask to bring back the policy to their Areas and if any changes need, please contact me through phone or email. Also the committee ask RCM to bring back to Area to please provide flyers on group events and Area events to the website so our region can support group and Area events. ILS Moke A.

**BOD (Marryanne G.)** -

**CONVENTION (Debbie L.)** –

**FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT (Jamie V.)** – New England Region Fellowship Development October 2017 Report

Greetings everyone, and thNAk you to the Cape Cod Area for hosting us this weekend.

We met on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> with thirteen parties present, including three former Regional Delegates, our current Delegate Team, and eight other interested members.

We had a rather dense agenda which I am pleased to say we were able to get through quite well. Mostly what we needed to do was plan our next several months work, as we take a backseat to support our Delegate Team as they begin the hard work of bringing us the Conference Agenda Report and getting ready for our World Service Conference in just seven short months.

Without bogging you all down with the details, I will simply say that we have prioritized our workload to the following central points:

- To create a visual aid for presentation to this body in December, which will re-illustrate our Regional Rotation Plan with details on what that cycle should look like in terms of Fellowship Development & Regional Delegate workshops & presentations, and the

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rationale behind why we are, where we are, when we are there, and how all of this lines up with our World Services conference cycle.

- To continue work on our own internal guidelines, for ultimate inclusion in the NERSC Policy.
- To begin to familiarize ourselves with the upcoming Issue Discussion Topics Workshops for the coming cycle, partly by attending the Multi-Regional Learning Event in New Hampshire this December.
- To refine ways in which we can take more initiative in assisting hosting Areas with planning and managing Regional weekends.
- And if given the confidence to do so by the larger Regional body, we would like to map out a Regional Planning Day (sort of like an inventory), which we have discussed as an RSC on a few different occasions and believe would be of tremendous benefit to all of us, including those we serve. Our hope is to present the plan for approval no later than February, and to facilitate this assembly in August. We will be submitted a related motion today.

We had what felt like a very successful and FUN workshop on Atmosphere Of Recovery In Service yesterday following subcommittee meetings, in which 20 participants were present and the feedback we received was entirely positive. thNAk you to everyone who attended and participated, making this another successful workshop and for allowing us to also use this as a training session, teaching an Area member how to facilitate this workshop locally.

Free Spirit Area is requesting that we bring this same workshop to their ASC Meeting in the near future, and we are working with members there to see this request met.

We have created an email specific to this committee, it is: [nerfdna@gmail.com](mailto:nerfdna@gmail.com)

We are excited to get to work at WSLD (Western Service Learning Days) with our RDA in a few weeks, and to bringing the value of this experience back home moving forward.

And last but not least, our CoFacilitator (ViceChair) position is open, as Patrick J. is ditching us to go live life and enjoy the spoils of his recovery in a galaxy far, far away. This is a bittersweet deal, as we are sad to see him go but simultaneously happy for him. > insert happy & sad emojis here < thNAk you Patrick for all of your hard work and service, it has been our pleasure!

thNAk you for allowing me to be of service, Jaime V.

### **H&I (Billy V.) – New England Region H&I October 2017 minutes *Subcommittee met 10/14/17 in Hyannis, MA***

- Meeting started at 12:00pm with serenity prayer.
- Read 12 Traditions and Concepts
- Read definition and purpose
- Roll call/introductions
- Read and approved August 2017 minutes

### **Trusted servant and area reports:**

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D.O.C – Billy V. gave the DOC Coordinator report; the position is still open. Middlesex county house of corrections, requested a commitment on their drug unit. Need to coordinate a public relations presentation.

WSR – Mary-Anne couldn't meet up with the previous chair, she did get the old binder from Billy V. trying to meet up with previous chair Wednesday.

Cape Cod Area – Riley H&I Chair

- they are currently covering 9 facilities with 54 commitments and have 4 open panel leader positions.
- Increased literature budget due to increased facilities.
- October 28<sup>th</sup> having a Halloween event speaker jam.
- They are having an issue with language and swearing on commitments, removed panel leaders due to language violations
- Need help with the men's jail

Free Spirit/ Greater Providence Area - Marissa H&I Chairs FSA,

- 6 commitments which are three facilities two nights a week and a panel leader goes in once a month (24)
- Learning day struggling the letters for the facility have been supplied but last meeting the providence chair and ad-hoc chair were absent
- New policy has some confusion as to when people are going in
- Discussion if one of the areas folds how that will affect the subcommittee

Boston – Zack H&I Chair, see attached report

- 29 commitments 11 are open, currently have a lot of alternate panel leaders but it is taking a significant amount of effort
- South Bay – Suffolk County Jail, thinking of bringing in a presentation to the jail to try and restart/ refresh the relationship because they are having such a difficult time getting people cleared. Hoping that will create a better relationship and improve the work between the jail and the subcommittee.

Pioneer Valley- Melissa

- 11 commitment holder there are 2 open commitments
- Recently dropped 2 facilities (8 commitments) due to lack of support

Central Mass- Shaun H&I Chair currently hold 13 facilities around 120 commitments with 20 individual open commitments

- Have new requests on a monthly basis
- Learning date December 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Communication between central mass and Worcester

## Old Business:

- Billerica waiting on a regional PR presentation
- Boston was interested in feedback from other areas on having group involvement in the subcommittee embedded in the policy. Other areas have group involvement in their subcommittees but none with roles and responsibilities in the actual subcommittee policy.
  - Discussed the free spirit and providence model where groups sign up and panel leaders just take groups into facilities

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- A member brought up the idea of going digital and making sure that all of the regional policy's, documents and minutes are being stored digitally that way they cannot be lost or misplaced. It also ensures that as trusted servants transition all of the important materials are accessible.
  - Put it on the NERNA website as long as it is in PDF form
- Passed out basic texts that were donated from the last east coast convention.
- Pondville requesting commitments where would it fall
  - Harold from Cape Cod came to the RSCM to discuss the commitment.

### New Business:

Commitment requests- Billerica still pending

Could the Pondville commitment report to the regional DOC

Should the state jails commitments report to the regional DOC if there are state facilities in which area subcommittees are not able to fill these

- Should the regional committee be attending the area H&I to offer services to help with their subcommittees
- What to do with the facilities that are falling into a hole not Norfolk and Pondville that do not fall within a specific area
- Do not want to force an area to take on a commitment that they would be responsible for after members left when it is not in a physical area

Reports- in each month

- Number of facilities
- Each commitment number (how many times you physically enter a facility)

Western Mass supporting the greater Worcester area subcommittee by providing their literature, will be brought up at the regional service committee meeting

Email forwarded to us and PI that a patient was in the hospital wanted a key tag delivered we are bringing it up at the regional meeting where this should be forwarded to.

Meeting closed with the serenity prayer.

In Loving Service, Marissa J.

**INSURANCE (John F.)** – Good afternoon, We had a total of 4 requests for insurance certificates. The first one was for an event @ Quinssigamond State Park, pavillion 3, Worcester, MA 01607 on Monday 9/4/2017 from 10:30am – 6:00pm. Second one was for an event @ Tufts Part 437 Main Street Medford, MA 02155 on 10/7/2017 from 10:00am – 6:00pm. Third one was for a meeting relocating, meeting held on Thursdays from 7:30pm to 8:30pm Holy Name of Jesus 104 Springfield St, Chicopee, MA 01013. The Fourth one is for an event 11/22/2017 from 2:30pm to 9:30pm Bruce C bldg 2300 Washington St Roxbury, MA 02119.

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In Loving Service, John F.

LITERATURE (**Vacant**) – No Report

POLICY (**Duncan M.**) -

PR / PHONELINE (**Bridget V.**) -

RD (**Noel D.**) –

RDA (**James P.**) - Regional Delegate Alternate Report October 15, 2017 to NERSC  
Greetings New England Region! Thank you Cape Cod Area for hosting us!

## August 27 Virtual NEZF meeting

There were 5 other addicts at the meeting: Adam H. (NEZF Vice-Chair), Troy B. (Connecticut RD), Wilvena G. (Eastern New York RD), Stephen D. (Western New York RD), Jeff M. (Eastern New York RDA) We started the meeting at about 3:10pm. No formal agenda sent out beforehand. Just used the minutes from last meeting. PR/H&I Resources Ad-Hoc Committee: Skipped this item because ad-hoc leader (Nancy) was not on the call.

NEZF Guidelines Updates: 1) Vice-Chair (Adam) integrated all of the updates that passed at the April NEZF into the Guidelines document. 2) Adam also created a draft version of the Guidelines document with a separate financial section (as was discussed at the April NEZF). 3) Lastly, Adam created a netiquette statement regarding the Facebook groups. All three documents were sent out to all NEZF participants. Decisions on ratifying the Facebook statement (and whether or not to go with the Guidelines with a separate financial section) will take place at the October NEZF.

- A question and concern was raised about why the NJ RD or NJ RDA were not present on the web meetings since they are the hosts for the October NEZF. No answer.

**Making Formal Decisions during Virtual Meetings:** ENYR gave the RDs a vote of confidence to make formal decisions during web meetings provided there was good communication. WNY said their Region was okay with it too. CT did not bring it up at their RSC, yet. Adam said it would added to the October NEZF agenda for discussion. A question for clarification was raised... is this basically saying that **decisions made during these web meetings would carry as much weight as those decision made during the face-to-face meetings? The answer was Yes.** There was concern about how many members participate in the web meetings, and probably needing a guideline regarding quorum. There was speculation that this could be more about finalizing, or ratifying, something we've already started (like the Facebook statement – did we need to wait 6 months for that). But a second issue would be new items brought up on the web meetings.

Anything Else?

- Concern raised about members (and NEZF trusted servants) not participating in the web meetings or even emailing that they won't make it. Communication is very important.



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- There was some discussion about sharing resources and addressing service gaps as a zone. Going beyond one region asking another for help, but having Zonal planning and addressing these service gaps. Having an ad-hoc do research and give a report. A chart of services provided so we can see service gaps. Due to some connection issues, and the small number of people on the call, the discussion was halted and Adam suggested getting the information and contacting Chair and Vice-Chair and we'll make sure we put time on the agenda.
- There was some discussion as we were closing about possibly having another web meeting before the face-to-face in October. Because we haven't heard anything from New Jersey about October.

### **October 26 Western Service Learning Days XXXI**

Due to the check reaching me a week after originally approved, I incurred additional costs in booking FD Chair and my trip to WSLD totaling \$220.87= hotel was \$120.75 more (blocked rooms sold out) and transfers (car) was \$78.12 more and Flight home (United) was \$22.00 more. I will be submitting a money motion for this.

In Loving Service, James P

[jgpbos@me.com](mailto:jgpbos@me.com)

617-314-4048

RMD (**Christopher M.**) – See Attached Report

WEBSITE (**Vacant**) –

### **AREA REPORTS**

#### **BOSTON** – BASC - RCM Report October 15, 2017 to NERSC

Greetings New England Region! Thank you, Cape Cod Area, for hosting us! The BASC met twice since the last RSC meeting with an average of 13 GSR/Alternates present. I am Sammy S the RCM for Boston Area accompanied by Mikey C. who is the new Alt. RCM for BASC.

The most significant development since last reporting to this body is the area of the flow of funds in the BASC. After about 6 months to a year of debate and conversation regarding the mysterious excess, funds the BASC has released a large majority of these funds and I have a donation today.

The BASC currently has several open positions: Assistant. Secretary, Group services Chair, Literature chair, and Activities chair.

Our newly formed Fellowship Development/Outreach is having its first meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 340 Dorchester St in South Boston at 5:00pm. We request and would love the support from our surrounding areas for this meeting.

Public Relations had a very successful flyer hanging day and has an average of 12 members attending.

The Boston Area Convention will be held at The Boston Park Plaza Hotel on January 12-14, 2018 – rooms at \$119 based on availability. The theme is T.I.M.E. – Things I Must Earn

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We have created a Finance Subcommittee to oversee the treasury. While we have voted to hire a CPA to conduct an Audit of the BASC finances no one has been selected yet, the problem of surplus held funds remains unaddressed. \* Regional insurance bill was never received this past year \*

The H&I subcommittee has 28 active commitments some are missing panel leaders. We urgently need female & male panel leaders.

The next meeting of BASC is October 22, 2017

In Loving Service, Sammy S. 339-225-5931 [silvermansammy@gmail.com](mailto:silvermansammy@gmail.com)

### CAPE COD –

CENTRAL MASS – Things are going good in CMA. Bills paid, good attendance. We had a few events, Labor Day Cookout and Spur of the Moment Campout. Both were great events. A couple of upcoming events are November 11<sup>th</sup>, Narcathon Pancake Breakfast, October 21<sup>st</sup> Movie Night (2 movies 1 kids and 1 adult). Both events at \$5.00. Together we can. Mike C.

### FREE SPIRIT –

### GREATER PROVIDENCE – **GPA RCM Report 10/15/17**

Thanks very much to the Cape Cod Area for hosting this weekend.

The Greater Providence Area has met twice since our last regional meeting with 14 and 15 GSRs present. Open subcommittee positions are Finance, Policy and Public Relations, as well as the alternate RCM, alternate treasurer and alternate secretary. At the October meeting there will be elections for Chair/Vice Chair Treasurer/Alternate Treasurer Secretary/Alternate Secretary and RCM/Alternate RCM. At the November meeting all subcommittee chairs will be up for election.

The H&I Subcommittee reports that their new system is going well thus far with only 6 open panel leader positions of of 24.

The early registration for the Providence Convention has ended and registration is now at \$20. The committee meets every third Sunday of the month at 4:00 at 249 Main Street-Pawtucket; RI The committee is still in need of a secretary and alternate secretary.

The Rally for Recovery, an annual event held each September, was attended by our chair and vice chair as well as several other addicts throughout the day. Most all of our literature was distributed as well as at a similar event in Middletown RI the following weekend. We are ordering more literature in Spanish as there was a demand for it at both events. Our website now is available in both Spanish and English.

GPA is in the process of getting our policy book back from the former policy chair that had to resign due to a work conflict.

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Greater Providence is looking forward to hosting the December Regional weekend and having the first CAR workshop presented by our delegate team on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM. All RCMs are encouraged to attend this workshop to best be prepared for questions this conference cycle. Fliers have been distributed.

The Providence Area is operating above prudent reserve.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 3:30 PM at  
249 Main Street Pawtucket, RI

In grateful service, Jim D. GPA RCM

GREATER WORCESTER –

MARTHA'S VINEYARD –

METRO WEST – Metro West Area RCM Report 10/15/17

Hello everyone! Thank you to the Cape Cod Area for hosting region this month. I will be unable to attend the RSC this month because I am out of town for a wedding. My alternate RCM moved out of state as well so unfortunately Metro West Area will not be represented and I'm actively seeking a new alternate. One of the first concerns MWA was that region did not send out minutes from the last time we met and we are wondering if this is going to be an ongoing issue. Without the minutes it makes it harder to let my Area know about everything that is going on at region. Metro West Area has met twice since the last RSC and our GSR attendance seems to be getting a little better.

H&I Subcommittee had some new panel leaders orientated this past month and still had two open commitments at women facilities.

PR Subcommittee is continuing to work together with the newly formed Boston Area PR Subcommittee. At their last meeting they reported to have lower attendance than normal. That being said they had a very successful flyer hanging day this past month. The literature rack program continues to grow. MWA PR is currently working on developing a Facebook page and they are next meeting in the beginning of November.

Outreach Subcommittee continues to meet regularly once a month. There had been increased attendance at the last two meetings and the Outreach Subcommittee has begun to send members out to visit groups in Metro West that haven't been attending Area. So far the visits are going well and Outreach will continue to have them in the hope to have continued attendance increases at area.

Next MWASC will be held on October 24<sup>th</sup> Tuesday night at 7:30 at 421 Common St. in Belmont, Ma. As I mentioned before I once again am in need of an alternate RCM. Sorry I missed being there this month and look forward to seeing you all in December at the next RSC. In loving service, Brandon W. (MWA RSC) brandonwolf42@yahoo.com 508-728-8314

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## NANTUCKET –

NEMA – Good morning , Thank you to Cape Cod area for hosting ,. North east Mass area has met twice since our last meeting. Subcommittees are doing as well they can with the resources they have available to them, Addict power is what we seem to need most . Other wise everything is well. We did agree to go a head and give direction to the New England Region to move forward with updating the website . In loving service Joe H.

## PIONEER VALLEY –

## SEMA –

## SOUTH SHORE – **South Shore Area Regional Report for October 2017**

Hi everyone! I am an addict and my name is Becky, and I am the RCM for South Shore Area. The SSA currently has 48 meetings in 18 different towns. Our ASC has met twice since our last RSC meeting with 10 GSRs in attendance each month. I have a check for region in the amount of \$61.68. We currently have 3 open positions; Assistant Treasurer, Outreach and Policy Subcommittee Chairpersons as well as 2 completely vacant committees; (Outreach and Policy) and our literature committee only has a chairperson.

**H&I-** We currently have 10 open commitments of the 23 that are in 9 different facilities. Which is 5 commitments and 2 facilities less than the last time I was here at region. Surrounding areas have been helpful in taking over some of these commitments for us due to a lack of commitment from members in the SSA, and some have been a loss with NA no longer in the facility. A motion from the committee was made to bring the ongoing need for support to the Region and ask for help. (Assuming this happened yesterday and that Regional H&I was able to help and that the Chair would have more info on that.)

**PR-** Is very busy with multiple commitments and presentations monthly and with a lack of interested members and our current members of PR being spread so thin across the area some of these commitments have been left unfulfilled. We are still looking for Local PR contacts for each town to aid in our endeavors and the many requests for NA to attend these community events. Our literature rack initiative is continuing to grow and we currently have over 40 literature racks at varying facilities and towns across the South Shore.

**Activities-** Had their first event in quite some time last weekend, which was a harvest festival. It included pumpkin painting, a pie fly, bounce house and speaker jam followed by a dance. Area has not met since, but I did attend and attendance was minimal.

**Upcoming Area Events-** NONE scheduled yet.

**Outreach-** Committee is vacant

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**Website Contact Person-** continues to ask groups to check their group information on NERNA.org and to let him know if there is anything that needs to be changed. Any changes are immediately updated to the website so that the website as well as the meeting lists are accurate for printing.

**Open Forum:** There was a very long discussion on 2 issues which brings me into our area concerns...

**AREA CONCERNS-** As you may know the SSA brought a motion to this body about 6 months ago in regard to the outdated meeting lists being sold or given away. Much discussion took place at our ASC about the current way the regional meeting lists are ordered; that meeting lists are not ordered until they are completely sold out rather than automatically updating them prior to every region or after a set amount of weeks or months. With there being 57 changes from the last printing and the current printing it is highly likely for an addict to obtain that list and fail multiple times at attending a meeting within our region—if they try more than once that is. It was also discussed that there are meetings listed on the regional lists in other areas that have not been there for over a decade—which was confirmed by members of these areas. I understand that, and explained to members of the SSA ASC that this is something that is beyond the region's control, and that that I would be more than happy to bring it up as a concern to the area's in attendance at region and all its members, as it is an issue that effects NA as a whole and the addict who still suffers. They also wanted me to again share about the great benefit we have had from having a Web Page Contact person. Discussion of groups not realizing that it is their responsibility to update any changes with their area, regional website and NAWS, and when groups fold often no one is told about the change. And with a lack of group representation at area as well as outreach to groups, there is no direct connection to NA as a whole, so it's easy for the meetings to stay listed for years. Our H&I Chair expressed that she as well as most panel leaders are afraid to give out regional meeting lists, and our PR Chair says that he feels the same and actually does not put regional lists out, he only puts south shore's lists out because of this issue. There was much discussion of not buying regional lists at all moving forward and the room was split with the decision. With the question being is bad information better than no information? A motion was made to change our policy to not buy meeting lists older than 2 months old because of this major concern. This is something on behalf of the SSA that I would like to bring up in area concerns. Secondly, the website was discussed. There was concern about having members of NA run and create the website from a historical standpoint, because as I learned there have been a lot of difficulties **outside of the last year** in regard to addicts creating and up keeping the website. Inclusive of having to hire companies to fix issues we as layman are just not equipped to do. As well as people committing for a short amount of time, making changes, and then being unable to follow through for upkeep—whether their term is up, they've moved away or they are just unreachable for whatever reason, inclusive of a lack of representation at the regional body. And as we discussed 2 regions ago I do believe the adhoc was formed to explore **all** options inclusive of hiring from the outside and getting quotes. So if we could discuss this in area concerns that would be great. I also have the question of....

**Questions for RSC-** Who is upkeeping the website and responding to regional website requests and emails?

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In Loving and Grateful Service,  
Becky C. SSA RCM

## WESTERN MASS - Western Mass Area

Thank you Cape Cod area for hosting this weekend.

The Western Mass Area has met twice since our last regional meeting with 22/38 and 20/38 GSR's present, respectively. We continue to operate under prudent reserve, primarily due to the independent accountant fees for income tax and Form PC filings, as well as the Board D&O insurance that were paid mid-year.

- In a joint effort, Western Mass and Pioneer Valley will be hosting a flyer hanging day on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- A budget has been entered in the QuickBooks program based on our prior year activity, and will be beneficial when preparing a budget for next year.
- We have recently reviewed our meeting list, and compared that information to the information available on NA.org/meetingsearch and the companion app. There were a significant amount of changes made. We reached out to World to receive a listing of all meetings listed for Western Mass Area, and received a spreadsheet that we could make the changes to. We also have several changes that need to be made to the New England Region Meeting List.
- Our H & I chairperson reported that they are in need of addict support. There are commitments which still remain completely open due to lack of support. Western Mass and Pioneer Valley ad hoc committee have been working together in an effort to fill the gaps.
- The convention committee remains in talks with Tower Square of Springfield, the new owners of the Marriott in Springfield. They have also spoken with the Sheraton. Since the committee does not have a set venue, they are unable to sell any pre-registrations. Committee members have stated that there is lack of support at convention fundraiser functions. Open positions for the convention are: Treasurer (nomination made during October ASC), Secretary and Alt. Secretary.

### Area Current Open Positions

PR Chairperson – vacant

RCM Alternate – vacant

Outreach Chairperson – vacant

In Loving Service, Susan RCM

## **AREA CONCERNS / OPEN FORUM**

Meeting List – There is a large concern about meetings being updated on the RMDs as well as how often they are being printed. There have been 57 changes in a 2 month time period. RMDs are printed every 2 months, in some rare instances, 3 months. Whoever purchases list needs to make sure they have the most up to date list and get rid of old printings. Each group is responsible for the changes for closing meetings. It was suggested that we need a new

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procedure and to start an Ad hoc to determine what is wrong and how to “fix” the process. Meeting lists will never be 100% accurate as changes are always there if you go to a meeting and it is not there to call the help line. – Noel D. volunteered to be on the ad hoc.

December workshop will not be on CAR but to get ideas. How this body might get the opportunity to get feedback. Brainstorm and introduction. (World Service Conference – regional collective conscience)

Website Concern – Ad Hoc any website is susceptible to attacks. If we did a new website – easier for people to update. BMLT – iPhone app is easy to update. Create the RMD as it looks right now as opposed to the PDF. This would allow everyone to be able to generate meeting lists on demand with most recent updates.

H&I /PR received email asking anyone in the Boston area to get anyone a 60 day keytag? This was from a professional that works in a facility. The decision was that each request should be treated on a case by case scenario and for each party to use discretion

## OLD BUSINESS

Website – 1/3 of all areas/regions are hosted on the new platform being suggested. Ask groups approval for ad hoc website for updates / revamp. More will be revealed

## NEW BUSINESS

How does the body feel about doing formal business during virtual (NECF) as opposed to the 3 or 4 times a year depending on if you go to world. It was decided to proceed.

## MOTIONS

Voting Members 11

### Nominations: Finance

Finance members are large (3)

Literature

RMD

Website – Jeremy F. Vote Passed (11)

### Non-Money Motions:

1) Maker: Fellowship Development

Motion: For permission & confidence for Fellowship Development to create an agenda for a Regional Planning Assembly's

Intent: To present this agenda in February for the RSC to approve, deny or change – And to facilitate to actual assembly in August.

**In Favor: 9   Opposed: 0   Abstained: 2**

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- 2) Maker: Moke A.

Motion: To approve the flyer and the December 16, 2017 date to host event with the Cape Cod Area.

Intent: To show unity within the New England Region.

**In Favor: 7    Opposed: 0    Abstained: 2**

### Money Motions:

- 1) Maker: PR Chair    Total: \$50    Payable To: NERSC

Motion: To purchase 500 RMDs in the amount of \$50 to have on hand for The Drug Court Conference.

Intent: To be prepared for the Drug Court Conference and have RMDs available to professionals and those who may need them

**In Favor: 9    Opposed: 0    Abstained: 0**

- 2) Maker: RD/RDA    Total: \$562.56    Payable To: Noel D.

Motion: Make check in amount of \$562.26 to fund RD to the October 27 – 29<sup>th</sup> NEZF.

Hotel: \$287.50 (\$125 + \$18.75 Tax) x 2, Mileage \$101.76 (\$202 x2) x .24, Tolls \$23.30 (\$11.65 x2), Per Diem: \$150 (\$50 x 3) Money is from RD/RDA Set Aside

Intent: To fund the Regional Delegate to attend the fall North East Zonal Forum

**In Favor: 9    Opposed: 0    Abstained: 0**

- 3) Maker: RD/RDA    Total: \$300.00    Payable To: Noel D.

Motion: Make check in amount of \$300 to order 20 copies of the CAR. Price may vary and money comes from RD/RDA Set Aside

Intent: To allow the RD/RDA team (along with Fellowship Development) to workshop the CAR

**In Favor: 9    Opposed: 0    Abstained: 0**

- 4) Maker: James P.    Total: \$220.75    Payable To: James P.

Motion: To reimburse the RD-A for the additional cost in booking the RDA + FD Chair trip to WSLD. The additional costs were a result in the delay of booking because checks did not reach me for 7 days after the RSC. Hotel \$120.75 more, Transfers \$78.12 more, Flight \$22 more.

Intent: To fully fund the RDA/FD Chair to attend WSLD Oct 2017

**In Favor: 9    Opposed: 0    Abstained: 0**

- 5) Maker: Moke A.    Total: \$200.00    Payable To: First Congregational Church

Motion: For \$200 to First Congregational Church of Falmouth to rent the hall from 1pm – 12am

Intent: To be fully self supporting

**In Favor: 7    Opposed: 1    Abstained: 1**

- 6) Maker: Moke A.    Total: \$250.00    Payable To: George Jennings

Motion: to pay Steel Entertainment to provide DJ services for the December 16, 2017



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Intent: To be fully self supporting.

**In Favor: 6    Opposed: 1    Abstained: 2**

- 7) Maker: Moke A.      Total: \$300.00      Payable To: Tominko Walker  
Motion: To provide food ,soda and supplies for the december 16, 2017 event.  
Intent: To be fully self supporting for the December 16, 2016 event.  
**In Favor: 5    Opposed: 1    Abstained: 5**