

April 2018 Regional Minutes

April Regional weekend was hosted by South Shore Area – at 85 Quincy Ave, Quincy, MA

*June Regional Weekend will be hosted by Boston Area at: St. Elizabeth's Medical Center * - Seton Auditorium - 736 Cambridge Street, Brighton, MA 02135*

Subcommittees meet Saturday, June 9th at 11am. RSC meets Sunday June 10th at 12pm.

Appendix A - RCM Orientation

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

VICE CHAIR (**Joe H.**)- No Report

SECRETARY (**Meredith B.**)- All reports should be emailed to meredithann16@gmail.com or secretary@newenglandna.org

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

Finance Committee Minutes

April 14th, 2018

The meeting started at 12:00 pm. Thank you South Shore Area for hosting. Present were:

- Michelle M. - Treasurer
- Jim D. – Finance Member at Large
- Carrie B. – Finance Member at Large

Starting Balance - \$0.00

Prudent Reserve - \$1,727.93

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

Group and Area donations totaling \$6,509.01 were received. RMD Sales were received totaling \$924.75. Total Deposits = \$7,433.76.

Set Aside transfers were processed (\$ 761 to Insurance and \$792.50 to RD/RDA Set Aside). Customary Expenses in the amount of \$3,069.22 were paid for the following:

- \$15.80 – RMD Postage
- \$680 – RMD Printing
- \$600 – June NERSC Hosting
- \$54.55 – MA DOR Q4 Sales Tax
- \$52.33 – MA DOR Q1 Sales Tax
- \$1,666.54 – FAE Storage
 - In regards to the storage bill, please note that we had not received an invoice in the mail since April of last year. Due to the fact we had not been receiving invoices, quarterly payments had not been sent to the facility. Therefore this fee is for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarter of 2017 and the 1st quarter of 2018. In hindsight funds for this bill should have been held aside, especially during the times we

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have been operating under prudent reserve. I apologize for not being more diligent in making sure we had the necessary funds available without dipping further into prudent reserve to cover said bills.

Sales Tax for the State of RI in the amount of \$0.00 was filed for Q1 2018.

It was brought to my attention that the hosting check that was given to the South Shore to host this month's NERSC meeting was lost. We verified while reconciling that the check had not been cashed. Therefore check # 1268 for \$600 was voided and a new check was re-issued. In speaking with the Finance Committee, we decided that the most financially sound way to handle this is to place a stop payment on the lost check. We called the bank and the fee for placing a stop payment on a check is \$35. Unless anyone opposes paying this fee, I will be going to the bank this week to place the stop payment.

Our Insurance Policy has just renewed and I am expecting a bill to be sent within the next few weeks. Once the Q1 bill is received it will be paid via the online bill pay portal on the Insurance company's website. We will be working on breakdowns by Area to be able to provide each Area with invoices for payment for the year.

In April of 2017 we had set aside \$750 for fellowship development (this was voted on as a body). As of end of business February 18, there was a remaining balance of \$5.37. These funds have been moved back to the working balance as the set aside money was used as intended and this was the remaining left over.

A transfer in the amount of \$1,424.42 was transferred to replenish Prudent Reserve.

Prudent Reserve is full at \$3,152.35

Our opening balance is \$1,385.99

ILS,

Michelle M., Jim D. and Carrie B.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ACTIVITIES (Moke A.) – Good Morning, Moke Addict I am sorry I can't be there today due to work issues. The committee want thank Greater Worcester for co sponsor with the New England Region on April 7, 2018 in Framingham Mass.

Checks that was giving for this event was \$250 for the DJ, \$100 for the hall, and \$350 to me for supplies which come out to be \$700.

The expense for this event was \$250 for the DJ, \$100 for the hall, and \$330 for supplies which comes out to be \$680 to put this event on.

The income for this event was \$405 from food and soda water and \$425 from the door which comes out to be \$830.00.

The Greater Worcester did give me half for what this event cost which was \$680 and the gave \$340. So after we split all income which come out to be \$415. The April 7, 2018 event profit was \$75.

I would of turned in today but I am not there was \$775. I also would of turned in was \$55 to give to the New England Region Convention Committee for New Comer packages we collected in the 7th Tradition. So I am not there to collected checks today for our next event which is May 19, 2018 in PROVIDENCE RI when I was asked to collect the checks today at the last region meeting. So we going to have to use this cash to provide services for our next event unless checks can be mailed to me and I can give the Treasure the money. We have this event all set up with Greater PROVIDENCE and flier are out in most areas and different states. If any question feel free to call me. In loving services Moke.

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BOD (Maryanne G.) -

THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL CONVENTION, INC.

Report to the NERSC

April 15, 2018

The BOD meeting opened at 10:10 a.m. with a moment of silence and the Service Prayer. Attendance was taken. There were four voting members (including the President), and two non-voting members (the Clerk & the Treasurer) in attendance, as well as three additional members of the Convention Committee Executive Committee members. There was also one other interested party for a total of ten in attendance.

In accordance with the **NERC External Guidelines Procedure to determine the location of holding the New England Regional Convention 6**, I contacted the Boston Park Plaza To request if they would be able to match the pricing of the Sheraton Framingham. Since they were unable to do that, I contacted Corey Nixon, our Sales Representative at the Sheraton Framingham, to move forward in negotiations for NERC XVIII to be held at the Sheraton Framingham from March 15 to March 17, 2019. She provided me with an initial contract and I met with her to refine the contract before signing it. I need to have one correction made that I will discuss with Corey Nixon next week. We will also be submitting a Direct Billing application to the hotel. The contract provides for a room rate of \$109.00 per night for standard room(s), \$139.00 per night for Club level w/club access, and \$159.00 per night for a Junior Suite or Parlor Suite. The meal pricing is as follows: Banquet \$40.00/Kids Meal \$20.00 and Breakfast \$15.00.

Steve C., BOD Clerk, worked with Jeremy F., Website Chair, to get NERC XVIII info posted on the NERNA website. Steve C. will add the online link and phone number as soon as I have confirmed hotel contact information for room reservation purposes.

In accordance with our policy, the BOD met with the Executive Board of the Convention Committee to determine registration pricing. The Convention Chair presented the line-item budgeting for each of the convention subcommittees, along with a summary total which we used as a reference in determining the registration pricing. There was some discussion as to whether the Fundraising & Entertainment and Merchandising budgets should be included in the computation or whether these should be stand-alone as self-funding. After some robust discussion, we reached a compromise that would include any Friday entertainment in the price of registration, with tickets being sold for any Saturday entertainment. The Early-Bird registration price will be \$15.00 and will expire at the end of the August, 2018 RSC meeting. Pre-registration will be \$20.00 and Registration will be \$25.00. The Pre-registration dates will be noted on the convention flyer when it is created.

I had contacted Andrew L. to make arrangements to move our archives from the location in South Boston to our new storage space at ASAP, 1 Arcadia St., Dorchester MA, 617-288-8870. I solicited help to do that before the NERSC meeting today as Andrew L. was going to be available to facilitate the move. However, Andrew discovered that we are in arrears in our payment (s) to the facility and they will not release our property until we are up-to-date with our payments. Andrew is procuring an updated invoice and will present it to the RSC Treasurer today for payment. It is my understanding that this is a customary expense that does not require a motion for payment.

Due to a change in her work situation, Jeanne G. has had to resign from her Director position on the Board. This leaves three open Director positions on the Board. As my second term as a BOD Director expires at the close of this meeting, there will be another position that we will be looking to fill at the

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June, 2018 Corporation meeting. The floor will be opened for nominations/volunteers at the appropriate time during the NERC, Inc. annual corporation meeting today.

The Treasurer provided a written report as follows:

NERC Treasurers Report (4/14/2018)

Convention Account:

Opening Balance: \$6706.75

Money Motions Passed:

- 4/14/18 – Deb L – Reimbursement for Flyers - \$28.75 (F&E)
- 4/14/18 – Bob S – Pre-Convention T-Shirts (92) - \$500 (Merchandising)

Closing Balance: \$6178.00

Corporation Account:

Opening Balance: \$4110.87

Expenses Paid Out:

- 4/14/18 – Tax Preparation bill from Accountant - \$800.00

Closing Balance: \$3310.87

Discussion and Action Items

- We need previous convention signer information to file a Form PC with the Attorney General's Office. Susan G, our assistant Treasurer, will handle the filing. Kevin F, Deb L, and David A are working together to compile the needed signer information.

ILS,

Kevin F.

The Treasurer continues to work with the Assistant Treasurer of the Convention Committee in order to file whatever paperwork is necessary to get us up-to-date with the Attorney General's office. Authorized signers on our accounts during the periods in question will be contacting Citizens Bank to procure the names and addresses of all of the signers during the periods in question (May, 2013-April, 2017). In addition, I have added the Convention Committee Assistant Treasurer to the Citizens Bank online access as an authorized user so she should now have the capability to download our bank transaction data into the Quickbooks currently being used for our financial recordkeeping. Our tax return(s) have been filed with the appropriate agencies.

The By-laws Ad Hoc, headed up by Shelly A., had its first meeting on Tuesday, March 27, 2018. It has become clear that the work needed to be done on the convention By-Laws & Guidelines cannot be completed in the originally allotted timeframe. Therefore, the BOD extended the length of the ad hoc committee to April, 2019. The goal is to have more consistent and workable guidelines in place for the next NERC cycle. Shelly continues to reach out to members with convention corporation and committee experience for input on this project. With that in mind, there will be a brainstorming session to be held an hour before the convention committee meeting in September (probably to be held on 9/15/18) at the Sheraton Framingham hotel. The convention chairperson will confirm that date with the hotel. I was taught by a sponsor & service mentor long ago that **"Those who know are responsible!"** so please

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help. If you have such experience, please call Shelly at 508-452-0853. If you would like a copy of the documents being updated, please text me your request, along with your email address, to 617-835-1756. Any and all input is invited and welcome!

Please put the word out that we continue looking to fill BOD Director positions and encourage interested members to attend the next BOD meeting. Our next BOD meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 9, 2018 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Brighton MA, in the Boston Area. We will have our Annual Meeting today, Sunday, April 15, 2018, at the NERSC.

In loving service,

Mary Anne G.

BOD President

CONVENTION (Debbie L.) – NERC XVIII Chairperson Report to the RSC 4/15/18

Good Afternoon,

We met yesterday with 10 members in attendance.

The contract has been signed with the Sheraton in Framingham the convention will be on March 15, 16 and 17.

We have our next meeting Scheduled for Saturday May 19 at the hotel. We will be starting with a tour at 11AM followed by our committee meeting.

The BOD met just before our meeting and we were able to set the registration prices early bird price of \$15, Pre-registration price of \$20, and On site \$25. We plan to have the Early bird flyer available at the next week at our fundraiser. Early Bird Price will be good through the August regional meeting.

We had a fundraiser next Saturday April 21 at Amos house, 460 Pine St, Providence RI from 4-11 pm Speakers, Dinner Auction and Dance \$5 suggested donation. We are also planning a Bike Run in SEMA and Conjunction with the SEMACNA F&E committee. Denise H F&E Chairperson Dhoyt4369@yahoo.com 508-642- 3059

On a future date we will be meeting at the Hotel at 11 with representation for both the Convention Committee and BOD also inviting m members of the fellowship to participate. The purpose of this meeting is to develop a clear purpose and vision for the convention committee and corporation.

If you need more information on this you can contact me @ 508-728- 5968 or Shelly A @ 508-542- 0853

We are in need of a Convention Information Chairperson and an Assistant Secretary

Our closing balance is \$6,178.00.

In Loving Service

Debbie L

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FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT (Jaime V.) – New England Regional Fellowship Development - April 2018 RSC

Greetings Region!

We met yesterday with seven members in attendance and a starting agenda which included no less than five items, and the overall feeling in the room was that we had some good, productive discussions around these matters.

We touched base on our surveys, and determined that we will be collating that data at our June meeting, where we will boil down what appear to be the primary subjects on the minds of our members and bring those into a strawpolling discussion at the RSC. We will then move to determine an exact date, time & location for our first ever Regional Planning Assembly.

The link for that survey is in the February minutes, and we are asking our RSC Secretary to place it front & center again, in our April minutes. We cannot understate the value of having our RCMs and Area members complete this survey, which should take no more than ten(ish) minutes. Please take the time to do this, and thank you.

There was a matter of some sensitivity raised at the last Boston ASC, which led us to some robust and healthy conversation around racism and racist behavior at NA events, and our responsibility as recovering people to bring principles into all of our affairs. This discussion has brought us to collaborate with the Boston Area Fellowship Development & Outreach Subcommittee. More will be revealed as we evolve this effort, but boiled down it looks as though we will be assembling a workgroup to plan and facilitate a series of workshops in Boston and (of course) open to all NA members. As of now, it looks like we will be offering three workshops specifically: Building Strong Homegroups, Atmosphere of Recovery in Service, and Bridging the Gap: Diversity & Inclusion. Personally I am very excited about this event and will keep you all informed as our plan comes to fruition. We hope to see it well received and better attended.

We are submitting a motion today to create a set-aside account for FD, along with our spending plan for the upcoming conference cycle. This is not an attempt to guarantee funds by any stretch of the imagination, but simply to operate in such a fashion as we believe is the most responsible way to fiscally plan for possible expenditures that this Region currently employs.

Our New England Regional Convention Committee has granted us ownership of a full track for the next NERC, and we will be working with their Programming Chair to map that effort out. We would like to poll this body for some ideas regarding what you would like this to look like. IE: What workshops would you want to see happen at NERC? Some ideas that we floated were IDTs, literature development (the new meditation book project), NAWS update on FD Worldwide, and a Flash Group or two. We are unclear if we should be inviting PR and H&I to participate in this track, or if NERC intends to offer them slots outside of it. We'll follow up with the appropriate parties to determine that.

Moving forward we want to develop more effective ways to engage with our member Areas via the RCMs and ASC personnel. Part of this may be the development of simple, user-friendly tools for our RCMs which are less cumbersome than our current RCM Orientation packets.

Thank you to the South Shore Area for hosting us this weekend, and thank you all for allowing me to serve, Jaime V.

H&I (Billy V.) –

WSR – Mary-Anne, finally able to open the mail box. Got the new PO Box and the new address to someone who was writing behind the wall. Going to reach out to the prison to let them know this service is available.

Cape Cod Area – Riley H&I Chair covering 9 facilities with 51 commitments and have 1 open panel leader positions

Greater Providence Area - Mike Vice Chair, 3 facilities 24 commitments one open. Looking for a new correction coordinator. Butler policy research they reached out for a commitment

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Elections

H&I learning day April 28th 2-5pm, [30 Jackson road, Cranston RI](#)

Boston – Zack D 29 commitments 5 of which are open

Learning day – May 6 12-3:30 in Jamaica Plain, see flyer

New email address for the subcommittee to promote cohesiveness with change of trusted servants

Met with Fuller to begin the commitment – subcommittee has been trying to move away from personal relationships as connections to facilities and more towards open channels between the subcommittee and facility

Opened McIness House because although they had access to a meeting many of their residents are handicapped and cannot get to the meeting down stairs so they are now going in once a month

Pioneer Valley- Melissa not in attendance

South Shore- Jessica H&I Chair currently hold 8 facilities around 41 commitments, 14 open being covered

Averaging about 15 members at the subcommittee

June 16th learning day

Included vivitrol in their policy as medication assisted called out so it is specific

They are sending out flyers to groups the gather names of resources from the groups willing to go on commitments

Metro West- Mike Chair_ 9 facilities 25 commitments

New facility in Quincy one for women and one for men

Dedham alternative center had 18 addicts in attendance

Women's facility they are trying to get back in contact as they have stopped responding to them

Western Mass- Lynn H&I Chair is the new area chair 7 facilities (down from 9) 11 commitments per month

Not in attendance

Central Mass- Shaun 122 commitments 15 facilities 28 open commitments (due to the new facilities)

Learning day during the campout

Issue with unsanctioned NA commitments- trying to find these commitments and approach members and invite them to join H&I

Updated policy

South Eastern Mass – Chris 10 facilities 47 commitments

New policy – written motions

Creating a system so that new people can serve as panel leaders, they have people who have been the panel leader for the same commitments for extended lengths of time

Looking for how other areas incorporate the spirit of rotation in their policy

Panel leaders on MATs – this went to the area and they brought it to the groups

The groups decided to not let people on DRTs MATs serve on commitments

ILS,

Billy V.

INSURANCE (**John F.**) –

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Insurance report for April 2018

Thank you South Shore Area for hosting. We had a total of Four request for insurance certificate, The first one is for an event being held on April 14th 2018 from 11:00am to 4:00pm Bruce C. Bolling Building 2300 Washington St Roxbury, MA 02119 The second one was for meeting/event Sunday evenings from 5-8 St Luke's hospital 101 Page St New Bedford, MA 02740 The third one was for a meeting on Sunday nights from 7:00pm to 8:15pm St John the Evangelist Church 833 Main St Agawam, MA 01001 The fourth one is for a meeting on Sunday mornings from 10:00am to 11:00am Bristol Community College Fall River, MA 02720.

In loving service

John F

LITERATURE (Vacant) – No Report

POLICY (Duncan M.) - Hi Family.

I attended the RSC subcommittee meeting yesterday at 85 Quincy Ave. in Quincy Ma. I met prior to the subcommittee meetings with the V. Chair of the Region to which we scheduled after an discussion including the RD the V. Chair and myself following the February RSC. We discussed Article IV Section I A which addresses voting membership.

This states that:" Voting members shall be as follows: one representative from each member area (RCM or their RCM alternates.) Or a representative of an area so elected by an area to carry their vote to the NERSC for a specific NERSC meeting. All NERSC officers and subcommittee chairs are non-voting participants. "

The V. Chair argued that it has been the practice of the region to not follow this section as several members past and present of this body were indeed RCM's while holding other positions in the Region without doing further research I cannot say with certainty that this has indeed been a past practice. However I am presently serving myself as RCM alt. for the SSA and current Policy Chair when I was elected by the SSA to the position of RCM alt. I was not aware of this conflict. The V. Chair was elected by this body he was also the RCM of NEMA. so it has become a present practice. With this information in hand further discussion centered around a resolution of this issue.

The consensus of this discussion was to strike the wording "All NERSC officers and Subcommittee Chairs are nonvoting participants." and replace it with NERSC officers and Subcommittee chairs (except the Chairperson) that are not RCM's RCM alt. or a representative of an area so elected by an area to carry their vote to the NERSC for a specific NERSC meeting.

It is my opinion as the Policy Chair that as long as the officer or subcommittee chair is the RCM, RCM alt. or rep of the area there is no conflict of interest as the member is a voted upon "trusted servant". It is the practice of my area to allow GSR's to serve as area officers and subcommittee chairs this allows for a larger pool of candidates to serve.

I will be submitting a motion for this today.

ILS Duncan M. Policy Chair RSC Or a representative of an area so elected by an area to carry their vote to the NERSC for a specific NERSC meeting.

PR / PHONELINE (Bridget V.) - Good afternoon and thank you South Shore Area for hosting, Public relations met Saturday, April 14th at 12 p.m. We briefly discussed the new website and its relation to the current phone-line. When searching for a meeting, the phone-line will now connect to the service attached to the BMLT on the new website to ensure the meeting list information is as accurate as possible. Users will also have the option of getting a text message with meeting information when calling in for a

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meeting. All phone-line volunteer positions are currently filled including Literature Contact Person. The phone greetings have also been updated. We received 186 calls in the month of February and 194 for March and paid a total of \$735.54 for the 2 months.

RMDs are available for sale. As of 4/14 there are 3300 of the newest printing available for sale and the bank account is up to date. 5 areas were represented. Boston and Metro-West have a joint PR committee, Cape Cod, NEMA, and South Shore Area were present. All areas are doing well. Most areas have a literature rack program in place; the SSA currently has 52 racks in the community. Events that areas participate in include flyer hanging days, Learn to Cope and other presentations, drop-in events, task-force meetings, and presentations for police officers. NEMA is also working on developing and putting out PSAs.

An AdHoc to develop a NERNA PR policy was reinstated. We also discussed the motion to eliminate the phone-line treasurer position that was written at the last NERSC meeting. The person filling this position has essentially resigned, we are hoping the motion will pass. In addition to this, changes have been made to the phonenumber reducing the cost to nearly \$100 per month.

We participated in the Harvard Health Fair in March which was a success. We have developed a spending plan which has been e-mailed to the finance committee. A literature order will also be placed. Finally, we discussed reinstating our presentation training program. We are looking to equip the committee to provide both trainings on how to do a PR presentation. More will be revealed.

ILS Bridget V/Taylor M

RD (Noel D.) – Regional Delegate Report April 15, 2018

Greetings New England Region and “thank you” to the South Shore area for hosting. The delegate-alternate and I are preparing for the 2018 World Service Conference and will be departing on Friday the 26th of April. We will continue to accept CAR tally sheets until the afternoon of Sunday the 29th of April.

Since our last meeting, I have not received any group requests for CAR workshop assistance but I was asked to do a CAR presentation at the last Central MASS ASC. I have shared the previous cycles’ spending plan with the AD so that he can prepare the 2018-2020 spending plan for submission to the finance sub-committee.

The AD’s report will include information regarding the FIPT and we will be seeking direction from this body.

In Loving Service,
Noel D.

RDA (James P.) - Regional Delegate Alternate Report NERSC

Quincy, MA
April 15, 2018

Greetings New England Region!

I am looking forward to going to the WSC in 12 days! As of today I have received 5 CAR tally sheets. I co-led and participated in the Boston Area CAR/CAT workshop on February 24, 2018 at 340 Dorchester St. South Boston from 9-5. It was a fabulous success, over 20 addicts attended all day and over 30 people came for part of the day. Thank you to my partners Sammy S. and Mike C. Boston’s RCM and Alternate RCM.

Since the last meeting of this body, I was invited to speak on and answer questions about the CAR/CAT at 3 groups in and around the Boston area, as well as present a mini-CAR workshop at the Northeast Mass Convention.

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I attended the NEZF virtual meeting on February 25, and have attended both of the WSC pre-conference virtual meetings.

There has been a development regarding the FIPT inspection request and the WB response. Attached to this report is an appendix taken from an email which suggests a proposed rule change to the FIPT Operational Rules document. The World Board stated that they believe this proposed change in rules is an urgent matter and should be decided at WSC 2018. Their proposed rule change would alter who can make an inspection request from a single region to the entire WSC.

What I would like to have the conscience on the region about is:

- 1) Is there such a sense of urgency that this does need to be decided now at WSC 2018? (or maybe a CAR motion in 2020?).

I would like the body's conscience on how we should vote on this issue should it come up on the floor as a motion.

- 2) such an inspection request not come from a single region but should come from a) the WSC, b) something else

I have downloaded and I am beginning to review the WSC minutes/reports and summaries of decisions produced since WSC 1996.

I am submitting the spending plan for 2018-2020 conference cycle as requested.

In Loving Service, James P

jgpbos@me.com

617-314-4048

4-15-18 RDA Report Appendix – Excerpt from 3-28-18 WB Email: Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) Operational Rules

At our March Board meeting, we talked about what we've been hearing at *CAR* and *CAT* workshops about the *FIPT* operational rules and what the most responsible course of action is for us as a Board. We don't want to surprise participants by asking them to make a decision they are not prepared for, but waiting two years doesn't seem like a good option either. We have a recommendation, but it is up the Conference to determine whether to make a decision at WSC 2018 or not.

The *FIPT* was created to do what its name states: hold the Fellowship's intellectual property (copyrights for recovery literature and our trademarks) in trust for the Fellowship. It spells out that only the Fellowship, as given voice by its delegates at the WSC, can change trust property. Though the recent inspection request treats it as such, we have never considered it a financial management document. Part of our recent discussions focused on where this leaves NA World Services after this current inspection request is resolved. The most common feedback we have received at the many *CAR/CAT* workshops we have attended is that delegates do not want one region to be able to independently decide how to speak for the Fellowship and encumber our collective resources at NAWS, both human and financial.

As the Board elected by the WSC to oversee this, we strongly agree with what we have heard. We believe deciding that some extraordinary action is necessary is a Conference responsibility as the trustor of the *FIPT* and have no question about following any decisions made by the WSC. But Article V, Section 3 of the *FIPT* Operational Rules does not reflect this understanding.

We are asking that this section of the operational rules be changed so that an inspection request must come from the WSC. That would mean that everything else in this section: all conditions, selection of the inspection team, limitations, and reports: would be removed. This level of detail about process would not be necessary since the Conference can choose to make any decision or provide any direction that it chooses.

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We have diligently tried to have all ideas from the World Board to be considered at the WSC out to participants many months in advance to allow time for discussion. Unfortunately, that was not possible in this situation. It was not until after discussions at workshops and at our recent March meeting that we came to this recommendation.

While the details of this suggestion are being made close to the Conference, this issue has been raised for all of us since last August, and most participants have been discussing FIPT-related issues within their regions.

We would not be asking you whether you want to make a decision at this Conference if we didn't feel that it was an urgent matter. If nothing changes at WSC 2018, we do not want to be faced with the same dilemma in the upcoming cycle. We think it is our responsibility to make this recommendation, and let the Conference choose whether to make this decision now or not.. Changes to the Operational Rules require a two-thirds vote by delegates at the WSC. Changes to trust property or the trust itself require a *CAR* motion or more.

This is clearly not a *CAR* or a *CAT* motion so we will be asking the conference its wishes before offering a motion. The outcome of the change we are proposing is shown below.

Section 3: Inspection of Trustee activities

Conditions of inspection

~~Any regional service committee or equivalent service body~~ The World Service Conference may inspect the records and operations of the Trust on behalf of the Beneficiary, ~~providing the following conditions are met if it so chooses. The details of such an inspection would be decided by the WSC.~~

RMD (Christopher M.) –

WEBSITE (Jeremy F) – **New England Regional Website Report**

April 15, 2018

Website Phone Line Interface

Patrick J, David D of the phone line, and I met online on Sunday February 25, 2018, using Google Hangouts. We discussed how the BMLT meeting database can interface with the phone. Patrick is writing scripts containing the algorithms used to find meetings and present them to the caller. We agreed on what we want the interface to do and Patrick's task is to write the scripts to implement it.

Over several weeks, David and Patrick worked with each other. David knows best what the phone line needs and Patrick knows best how to implement it, so my involvement was minimal.

Billing

Soon after I got home from the February Region, I renewed our hosting plan with Siteground, so now we are all set for hosting for the next 4 years

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New Website

On Sunday, March 18, we saved the old website to a subdomain and brought the new website online. In the week leading up to it, I edited the new website so it had all the same events and meetings as the old website. It took several hours to make the change but we proceeded methodically, testing it and solving problems as we went along. I received compliments from a number of people on the new site.

Crisis

On Monday, March 19, we had a mini-crisis with the website. It was consuming so many resources that we feared that Siteground, our hosting company, might shut us down. Patrick took the lead on working with Siteground tech support to solve the problem, and by the next morning it was back in the good range. Patrick later wrote a very thorough report describing his hypothesis as to the causes of the problem and what he and others did to fix it.

For a view of the problem, see image file.

Free Spirit

On Tuesday March 20, 2018, I got an email from John F, web chair of Greater Providence, informing me that Free Spirit has been folded into Greater Providence and asking me to list any meetings you have as Free Spirit as GPANA.

I texted Patrick and Mike and they suggested contacting someone from Free Spirit, so I called Carrie B. She confirmed that Free Spirit is no more and agreed that the FS meetings should be moved to GP. I did so in BMLT. We removed the link to Free Spirit in the Areas page and I removed it as an option in the Event Submission Form and the Meeting Update Form. So far as I know, the only place it remains is the Next Regional Meeting page. We will have to wait until Region decides what to replace it with.

Rylan V Sends Suggestions for Improvements

Rylan V sent us an email of typos and suggestions for improvements. I sent Rylan comprehensive feedback. Patrick and I discussed them in a general way in our website committee meeting on Saturday. Patrick and I will discuss them in detail in the near future and I will make the changes we agree on.

Before Deleting a Meeting, I Confirm It

I received an email to info@newenglandna.org that a woman had attempted to attend the Women Can Be Free is meeting in Lynn and was told it was no longer meeting. I contacted Joe H (regional vice chair and NEMA RCM) and verified this. I have deleted the meeting from BMLT. It is my practice to that if someone who has never attended a given meeting before says it is no longer there, to confirm with someone familiar with the locale.

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Guidelines

For the most part, the Website guidelines are fine but some of them are out of date because of the new website. The website committee will consider what changes to submit for your consideration.

Events Calendar is Color Coded

Our events calendar distinguishes among seven different classifications of event, for example, Area Event, Regional Service Committee. Each type displays in a different color to make it easy to distinguish them. I went through all the Events and changed the Author to the login user name of the Area where the event is or was held. That way, when we distribute WordPress logins to Areas, they will be able to "see" their own events.

Training Videos

Patrick has made training videos on how to add/edit Area events (WordPress), Area pages (WordPress), and Area meetings (BMLT). They are really good. I watched them myself and learned some things I hadn't known. To get to the one on editing meetings, go to <https://nera.org/changes> and select Instructional Videos. We plan to put in a new link in Regional Information entitled Instructional Videos for all three.

Logins for Area Web page/Events and Meetings

For the most part, people do not need logins to update meeting information or events on the new website. Most people will do this with forms. There are, however, cases where logins are necessary. One is a WordPress login, to edit the Area Page and Area Events, and the other is a BMLT login, to edit meeting information. We have created a pair of such logins for each Area. We suggest that we give them to the Area RCM or, if no RCM, the Area chair. Each Area can then decide whom to give them to, which may be the Activities chair and the Meeting person. I already had an email from Heidi H of the South Shore, who needed to edit the South Shore meetings. When we imported the meetings from the old site, they had no end time information, so BMLT defaulted each of them to an hour. Heidi wanted to correct that, so I gave her the South Shore BMLT login and pointed her to the instructional video on BMLT. I gave her my phone number so she could call if she needed help. In the meantime, I have been taking the submissions from Area trusted servants and making the edits myself.

Feedback Form

We have placed a feedback form on the website. We got one feedback that created some question in my mind as to what exactly the user did, but they did not include an email address, so I couldn't follow up.

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Printing Area Lists

One further service that the Regional website offers to Areas is we can generate in real time a PDF meeting list for each Area. As long as the Area meetings are updated on the NERNA website, the PDF will be up-to-date. There will be a link on their Area page. Areas can reach out to us to help them get it set up. We can also give them a log in so they can do everything themselves. This can save your area money if you are paying a printer to update your meeting lists.

Area Websites Can Interface to our BMLT Database

Any Area that has a website can now connect to our BMLT meeting server to display meetings on their website and will automatically update their meetings from the Regional website.

Next Year's Budget

At Region on Saturday, the treasurer informed me that every subcommittee needs to submit a budget in April for the coming year, June to June. I didn't know so I am not prepared. I will confer with the website committee and we will come up with a budget to have ready in June.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy F, NE Regional Web Chair

AREA REPORTS

BOSTON – BASC - RCM Report April 15th, 2018 to NERSC

Greetings New England Region! Thank you, South Shore Area for hosting us! The BASC met twice since the last RSC meeting with an average of 16 GSR/Alternates present. I am Sammy S the RCM for Boston Area accompanied by Mikey C. the Alt. RCM for BASC.

The BASC has currently two open positions: Finance chair and Group service subcommittee chair is looking for a vice chair.

The BASC had its CAR workshop on February 24th and it was a huge success. With an average of 20 gsr's/ interested members in attendance. I have received around 9 Tally sheets back from groups.

Our newly formed Fellowship Development/Outreach subcommittee has met once since last regional meeting and is meeting every third Saturday of the month at 340 Dorchester St in South Boston at 5:00pm. FD currently planning an all-day fellowship forum focusing on workshops: such as building strong home groups, trusted servant training, and bridging the gap specifically race.

Public Relations has launched its first literature rack program and groups are getting involved. PR is working with H&I to reestablish and repair relationship with Suffolk country house of corrections. Many upcoming presentations and events.

The Boston Area Convention happened in January and was well attended, the message was

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carried, and the relationship with the hotel was excellent. The next chair has been elected Edna F. An Ad-hoc committee has been formed to re-access the convention policy. The convention provided a donation back to the area after Seed \$1,119.38.

The H&I subcommittee has 27 active commitments and 3 vacancies. They are actively reaching out to Suffolk County House of Corrections to mend relationships for woman's and men's commitment at South Bay. They are working with PR to coordinate new commitments at new facilities. H&I Learning Day will take place on Sunday, May 6th, at 82 Green St from Noon-3:30pm

Fellowship Development and outreach committee did an outreach survey to determine what areas of the city are being underserved by narcotics anonymous and determine what groups are struggling. Feedback was received about 8 groups need support and about 10 different areas in Boston are in need of meetings.

The June RSC will be hosted by the Boston Area. The Saturday meetings will be held from 11AM-3PM and the Sunday meeting will start at 12PM. The location will be St. Elizabeth's Medical Center * - Seton Auditorium 736 Cambridge Street, Brighton, MA 02135

The next meeting of BASC will start at 12:30 on April 22th, 2018

In Loving Service, Sammy S. 339-225-5931 silvermansammy@gmail.com

CAPE COD –

CENTRAL MASS –

FREE SPIRIT –

GREATER PROVIDENCE –

GREATER WORCESTER –

MARTHA'S VINEYARD – Martha's Vineyard Area Report

Thank you south shore for hosting, our area has met twice since last RSC. We have been talking about doing some H & I and going in to our local jail, after our community corrections program got defunded by state and shut down. We attended our local MV hospital health fair to great success. We have been participating in our local SUD coalition. And our Area is having our 29th celebration of recovery on May 4, 5, 6 at the island inn in oak bluffs I have some flyers here more info can be found at mvana.org

In Loving Service,
Patrick J

508-939-1663
pjaudiomv@gmail.com

METRO WEST – Metro West Area RCM Report 4/15/18

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Hello everyone! I'm sorry I missed you all this weekend but unfortunately I could not get the day off from work. Thank you to the South Shore Area for hosting the RSC. The MWA has met twice since the last RSC. We last met March 27th and we had 8 GSR's present. Our attendance at Area is still an ongoing concern. We consistently have 8-10 GSR's present and haven't seen any increase or decrease from those numbers. Our current open positions are alternate RCM and Asst. Secretary.

H&I Subcommittee continues to meet regularly on the last Tuesday night of the month before the ASC. Almost all commitments are filled but they are always looking for new members to get involved.

Public Relations Subcommittee is still working jointly with Boston Area PR and continues to meet monthly on the first Saturday of the month at 1555 Mass Ave. in Cambridge. The literature rack donation program is going well as several racks have gone out but there's still more available. PR Chair is actively seeking a vice chair as he plans to step down when we have elections in June.

Outreach Subcommittee has continued to have its struggles with little to no participation. We do have one ASC member that is looking to get involved and has thankfully put in some footwork. I have been involved with outreach for about a year now and what started as a Subcommittee has become a sole venture and for this reason I will be stepping down from outreach. It pains me to do so because I'm very passionate about this but I do not have the time and effort to continue to get this Subcommittee up and running by myself or with the help of just one other person. I hope to help in anyway I can but at this current time there's not much else I can do.

As I mentioned earlier the MWA will be having elections in June for all positions. I'm actively seeking an alternate RCM as I haven't decided if I will be staying on as RCM. I've served for almost two years but since my first term was only partial I do have the option to stay on as RCM. However, I may decide to go in a different direction with my service work. Look forward to seeing everyone in June!

In loving service,
Brandon W. (Metro West RCM)
brandonwolf42@yahoo.com
508-728-8314

NANTUCKET – Hi Family,
Our area continues to hold four meetings a week with five or six regular members.
We are sending a \$50 dollar donation to the RSC today.
In loving service,
Beth P

NEMA –

PIONEER VALLEY –

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SEMA –

SOUTH SHORE – Hi Family

I want to thank this body on behalf of the SSA for the opportunity to serve the RSC by hosting this Regional Service Committee weekend.

The SSA has met twice since the last RSC meeting and has elected a new V. Chair Kathleen M. congratulations.

Policy and Assistant Secretary positions are still open

Subcommittees

H&I: presently has 21 commitments in 8 facilities with 7 open presently, . Today this body voted on, and passed a motion that no one on any form of MAT (including Vivitrol) be able to become a panel leader. We are also compiling a list of addicts willing to speak on H&I. We are asking GSRs to print the spreadsheet that is sent with the Area minutes, & please bring to your homegroups for willing members to write names, numbers & availability. H&I subcommittee is in need of continued support, so anyone interested please attend our next subcommittee meeting May 6th at 1230pm at 639 High St in Hanson. We will be holding nominations and elections for all positions at June's subcommittee mtg. Region is Saturday April 14th at 85 Quincy Ave in Quincy

PR: The Committee met today w 5 attendees in Hanson. Regular meeting is 1 pm prior to the Area Service Meeting in Hanson. Bryan L volunteered as the new PR Vice Chairperson; Thank you and welcome! Open positions: Literature Rack Coordinator

Activities: We discussed and planned a unity breakfast May 19th from 8am-12pm @ 322 S. Franklin St Holbrook MA 02343. Breakfast will be \$8 a plate from 8am to 10am speakers 10am -12pm from different home group members in SSA. NO ADDICT TURNED AWAY. (flyer attached pending approval)

June 16th will be Back to the 80's 4-11pm 900 Main St Brockton MA in the main building. Speaker Jam followed by Live Music. Tickets will be available soon. NO ADDICT TURNED AWAY.

Also discussed policy for Activities. Since no SSA Activities policy can be found and produced we decided to move ahead and merge 3 policy's to present as a rough draft at the next activities subcommittee meeting.4/15/18 @5:30pm

Outreach Subcommittee Report:

SSA Outreach Subcommittee met on 3/25/18.

9 members in attendance.

1 Outreach meeting was brought to a members home in March.

The Subcommittee went over the first half of the policy and made some adjustments.

Next Subcommittee meeting will be 4/29/18. [322 S. Franklin St. Holbrook](#) at 5:45 pm.

We will be going over the second half of the policy.

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Web Page Contact

- Region has updated the online meeting add/delete/change procedure and has developed a new site. Spending time becoming familiar. Was brought to my attention that the website meeting list did not match the printed ones since Region incorporated the new site.
- Will evaluate and report.
- Formulating a position description to assist incoming position holders. Ongoing
- Made changes to SSA page as identified in the previous meeting. (meeting changes, Back to the 80's event.)
- Updated the SSA position contacts with NAW.

Motions

There was further discussion on Consensus Based Decision Making (CDBM) and why we were leaning toward using this type of format for our ASC meeting when the topic of CDMB has not been brought to the body for consideration. We are presently researching a method of implementing CDMB on the Area. There is a motion out to the groups which will be brought back to the Area at the May ASC There is also under consideration by the ASC chair to create an adhoc to research the issues of implementation.

ILS Duncan M. RCM alt. SSA

WESTERN MASS -

AREA CONCERNS / OPEN FORUM

One addict brought about “how to populate track”. This means having multiple meeting happening at the same time in different rooms. Each room is on a track – Fellowship Development has a room at the regional convention. A Flash Group – take passage from literature – break rooms into small groups – then each table would have a micro meeting on the topic (quick 4 minutes per group). Any ideas – should be emailed to Jaime at: fellowshipdevelopment@newenglandna.org

The website has created 2 logins for each area. People in areas to go on the website and edit area events, meetings and such. The logins will be passed out via RCM.

One addict began noticing events that are happening in the region are in conflict. It would appear as though areas are not checking with other areas to coordinate schedule of events. Can everyone be considerate and look at the calendar. This is for RCMs to bring back to groups.

OLD BUSINESS

It was determined that by doing a straw pole. That there is interest in having a World Convention in Boston.

NEW BUSINESS

OPEN POSITIONS:

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Literature
Finance:
At Large:

MOTIONS

Voting Members : 10 Simple: 6 2/3: 7

Non-Money Motions:

- 1) Maker: PR Chair
Motion: To close the Phonenumber Bank Account and change the policy of billing areas for the phonenumber expenses. Payment of phonenumber bills will become the responsibility of the RSC in the future
Intent: Return to a single point of accountability for NA funds.
In Favor: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 3

- 2) Maker: NEMA Second: GPA
Motion: To direct the finance committee to create and implement a plan to create a “set aside account” for Public Relations
Intent: To avoid ever declining them the ability to perform service due to a lack of funding.
In Favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 2

- 3) Maker: Fellowship Development
Motion: To create a set aside account for the Fellowship Development Committee, based on own spending plan for the upcoming World Service Conference Cycle.
Intent: With respect to own 11th Concept, we believe this is the most responsible way to fiscally plan for possible expenditures.
In Favor: 8 Opposed: Abstained: 2

- 4) Maker: Policy
Motion: to change the wording of Article IV Section 1A FROM: All NERSC officer or subcommittee chairs are non-voting members. TO: All officers and subcommittee chairs (except RCms, RCM alt. and representatives of areas so elected by those area to carry their vote to the NERSC for that specific NERSC meeting) are not voting members.
Intent: To clarify the original intent and to eliminate questions of voting privilege.
In Favor: 7 Opposed: 3 Abstained:

Money Motions:

- 1) Maker: PR Committee Total: \$263.28 Payable To: NAWS
Motion: Per spending plan , replenishment of PR Literature supplies for \$263.28
Intent: To re-plenish literature given out during last cycle, to meet requests from MARC to regional PR.

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In Favor: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

- 2) Maker: Activities Total: \$350.00 Payable To: Moke
Motion: May activity in Greater Providence
Intent:
In Favor: Opposed: Abstained:
- 3) Maker: Activities Total: \$150.00 Payable To: Amos House
Motion: May activity in Greater Providence
Intent:
In Favor: Opposed: Abstained:
- 4) Maker: Activities Total: \$250.00 Payable To: Moke (DJ)
Motion: May activity in Greater Providence
Intent:
In Favor: Opposed: Abstained: