

The Greater Providence Area (GPA) Service Committee of NA

**April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**The next meeting is May 23<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Area Meeting Times:**

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Administration       | 12:30–2:00pm                      |
| Literature Sales     | 1:45 to 2:45 pm**Note time change |
| H & I Panel Leaders  | 1:30-2:00 pm                      |
| Subcommittees        | 2:00–3:00 pm                      |
| New GSR Orientation  | 3:15–3:30 pm                      |
| Area Service Meeting | 3:30–5:30 pm                      |

**Area Service Meeting Agenda:**

1. Meeting called to order / Moment of silence / Service prayer
2. Reading of the Twelve Concepts
3. Introduction / Roll Call / GSR Report
4. Secretary Report- No present- attendance letter will go out
5. Treasurer Report- Present at Admin meeting
6. Vice-Chair Report- Present
7. RCM Report- Present
8. BOD Report- Present
9. Subcommittee Reports including:  
Activities-Present, Finance-Present, H&I- Present, Literature- Open , Phone Line- Present, Policy- Present, PI- Present, Convention-Present, Ad-Hoc- New Meeting Space, History of NA in RI- not present
10. Old Business
11. New Business
12. Motions (submit at beginning of ASC meeting)
13. Open Forum

**Roll Call and GSR Reports:**

Groups in Attendance ()

Total Area Meetings (42\*)

Addicts “R” Us

Breakfast Club-

Blackstone NA-

Choose Life

Clean & Crazy- In need of support

Dig Deep

Faith in Recovery-

Gimme Shelter-

Hardcore Recovery-

Jamestown NA

K.I.S.S-

Late Nite

Living Free

Loveline-

Lie is Dead-

Meeting Street Meeting.

Men in Recovery

Narragansett Recovery System.

Never alone again-

New Associations-

New Way of Life

Opt for Life---

Ray of Hope...

**Recovery and Beyond**  
**Recovery in the Chapel-**  
**Recovery in the Country-**  
**Recovery in the Lake**  
**Recovery is More than Abstinence-**  
**Resurrection**  
**Road to Recovery-**  
**Sisters in Recovery**  
**Smith Hill NA**  
**Start your Nite Right**  
**Starting Over-**  
**Sisters in Recovery-**  
**Step Sisters-**  
**Stepping into Recovery**  
**Straight Today**  
**Stepping Out Wednesday**  
**Sunday/Insanity-**  
**Surrender or Die...**  
**We do Recover**  
**Why are we here-**

**Administrative reports**  
**Chair- Robert – No report**

**Vice Chair: Delia F- No report**

**Secretary: Open Position**

**Alt Secretary: Sheemeka-**  
**Not present**

**BOD: Kev V –**  
**Not present Verbal report given by Vice Chair**

**Treasurer Report: Please see attached reports**

**RCM: Brian C.**  
GPA Report 4/25/10  
Hello family,

The New England Regional Service Committee (NERSC) met at Bromley Hall in Jamaica Plains on April 11<sup>th</sup>. 9 of our Region's Areas were represented at this event. A report was given by our Finance Chair, Sara O., which concerned our Region's interest in participating in an effort to help protect our environment by "going Green". This report contained too many details for me to capture them all in my notes, but I can report to you that Sara's research was thorough that she delivered it to us in a very professional manner. She is to be commended for her effort. She compiled an extremely large volume of valuable information. I will provide you with the details of this report when I receive my copy in the minutes. The recurring theme in her presentation was that the Areas of our Region would benefit in 2 ways by "going Green". We would save both money and our planet's natural resources at the same time. Good work Sara! Thanks to a lot of hard work on the part of our Region's Public Information (PI) subcommittee we now have a "New and Improved" Regional Meeting Directory. I have 1 copy for all GSR's present here today to

look at. It is larger in size, easier to read (due to a larger font) and it includes 30 lined spaces for tel. #'s and other information to be stored. It should be available to us all by our next Area Service Meeting. It was suggested at last week's Free Spirit Area meeting that Groups might want to ask their members to consider "Do we really need our Local Meeting List anymore?" NE Region is interested in helping our Area (and other Areas in our Region) to save money on the Area Liability Insurance that we carry. The Regional Finance Chair (once again Sara O.) and several other members have offered to explore the possibility of obtaining a "blanket" insurance policy that will cover all of the Areas within our Region. It is expected that if this can be done it will save us in excess of 40% on what we are currently paying for our Area Liability Insurance. More will be revealed. The Regional Convention Committee has selected the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Sturbridge MA to be the sight of its next convention. The exact dates of the convention are not yet known to me, however, it is expected to be sometime in the early spring of 2011. Once again, more will be revealed. Congratulations to 2 of our Greater Providence Area members who were elected to serve the NE Region on its Convention Committee. Dave A. was elected to fill the position of Convention Committee Chair, and Doug L. was elected to be the Convention Committee Treasurer. Our best wishes for success to both of you. Our Region's Finance Chair and Treasurer have been working diligently to overcome the financial situation that our Region has been challenged with for the last few Regional cycles. Since this shortfall was discovered last fall our Region has been operating below its Prudent Reserve. It is presently at -\$245.03 below Prudent Reserve. ~~In the spirit of unity (Tradition 1) and in compliance with the 11<sup>th</sup> Concept, I would like to urge our Area to try to find a way to assist its Region in its time of need. May I suggest asking your Groups to give some careful consideration to this matter?~~ The World Conference is being conducted in California as we speak. Our Region is well represented at this Conference by Bill H. (Regional Delegate) and Andrew L. (Regional Delegate Alternate). We wish to thank all Groups in the GPA that participated in the Conference Agenda Report (CAR). Your input is very helpful to our delegated and we greatly appreciate your effort. Thank you! The next Regional Weekend will be hosted by SEMA on the weekend of June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at Bristol Community College, 777 Ellsbury St., Fall River MA 02720. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend. ILS, Brian C.

#### **ADHOC-NEW AREA MEETING SITE: New Chair appointed John D**

Adhoc for new hall. Not a lot to report. I've gotten 2 new leads from addicts that approach me. Amos house and John Hope settlement house. The Amos house is not available on Sunday due to their own functions they have. I called John Hope settlement house and left a message with a Peter Lee. Never got a return call back. I'm still willing to look for new places and to follow up on the one's we already have. I.L.S john D.

#### **ADHOC Committee on Area History: Steve S.**

Hello Family, I attended a function in the South Shore Area. At this even I acquired a copy of one of the first printed meeting lists in New England Geographic region. It is dated 1982. In this list the Pawtucket meeting, "Living Free" is not listed.

In 1981, a group of addicts from around Boston, while vacationing in Florida, happened upon the NA World Convention, held at the Marco Polo Beach Hotel, Sept. 10 – 13, 1981. They acquired some literature and returned to Mass. In 1982, the first printed meeting list in New England was printed and distributed. In 1983, Kenny N. and Howie attended the World convention in NYC. It is believed that sometime in 1982 the first NA meeting was opened at Carties Health Center, 21 Lincoln Avenue, Central Falls, RI. This information has not been validated; it is anecdotal, meaning it has been passed down by word of mouth. I am continuing to speak with members from around New England who have 25+ years to document their experiences. When the timeline has been established I will begin to collect individual group histories.

This committee is also looking into the possibility of hosting a history workshop, the date and location will be announced when finalized. There will be 7 speakers with 28 through 22 years respectively. They will share their experiences and perspectives on NA's early years in our area.

At this event we will be asking any addicts who have meeting lists from previous years to bring them. They will be scanned and immediately returned to those that brought them. Our goal is to document every meeting list we ever produced.

More will be revealed. Steve S. [Srstorti@aol.com](mailto:Srstorti@aol.com) 401-338-1937

## **Subcommittee Reports:**

### **Literature:**

#### Greater providence area Literature report

April, 2010

| Literature Sales for the month of March, 2010 |             |
|---|-------------|
| HI:   | \$ 104.00   |
| PI:   | \$ 7.50     |
| Phone line:                                   | \$ 0.00     |
| Group Sales total                             | \$ 1,016.55 |

Total RI meeting lists sold: 675

Total New England region meeting lists sold: 15

Costs for literature restock: \$680.70

I have created a new Greater Providence Area of Narcotics Anonymous literature order form for the groups. Some minor changes have been made. Among these changes include updated prices for IP #13, By young addicts for young addicts & IP #27 For the parents or Guardians of young addicts, to a cost of \$0.30. Also now available to the groups are It Works How & Why in soft cover, The Basic Text Gift Edition, as well as two more service pamphlets, Principles & Leadership in NA Service, & An introduction to NA meetings. The Group Starter Kit is now also listed on the new order form.

We would ask that all groups begin using the new order form starting next ASC meeting in May. There are plenty of order forms available & I would encourage all GSR's to bring some back to their respective home groups. Also the new order form is available on the Areas website at [WWW.GPANA.ORG](http://WWW.GPANA.ORG).

In other news I have been working diligently on the Area's literature inventory. I have created an extensive spreadsheet detailing how much literature is on hand & how many items we have an overstock of. Due to scheduling conflicts I have not yet had a chance to meet with Finance & the area's Treasurer to incorporate this information into an area budget. Much progress is being made though. ILS, Ned L.

### **H&I: Steven C /Sam Q**

Hello Family,

The H&I subcommittee meet on April 25. For the most part, all commitments were filled except for one Saturday morning commitment at RW Detox and all Thursday RW psych ward during the month of April. The Panel leader for RW psych ward has not shown up for her commitments nor has she been to an area meeting for 2 months. The H&I chair will reach out to her in an effort to resolve this situation. In the meantime, trusted servants have agreed to cover this commitment until a permanent solution is found.

The Secretary of our H&I subcommittee has not shown up or called for three consecutive months. The Chair will reach out to her one more time and then begin the impeachment process in order to resolve this situation. Due to her continued absence, we had to table the vote on the change of language motion brought forward by Recovery is more than Abstinence as she has the existing policy in her procession which we need to move forward with discussions on the motion.

A Corrections report was given. All commitments were filled, however there was concern expressed about the very poor participation of females for female only commitments. There are only 5 females in the area that have been cleared to enter correctional facilities. There was an additional 13 females that have cleared step one of the application process; however they neglected to report for the second step of the process which is taking their photo. The second step needs to be completed within 30 days of step one, therefore their application is now null and void and the entire process must be restarted in order to get them cleared. We are asking GSR's to take back to their groups that it is imperative that both steps are completed in a timely fashion in order to get full clearance and participate in carrying a message of experience strength and hope to the sick and suffering addict.

Commitments were given out and once again there was extremely poor participation on the part of groups via their H&I representatives. There were only 7 H&I group reps present for our entire area therefore only 18 commitments out of 53 were taken leaving 35 open for the month of May.

Although we are filling these commitments to the best of our ability, this situation is in dire need of attention. It is the Group's responsibility to send H&I representatives to our meetings and to fill these commitments. This is our primary purpose. We have asked all Panel Leaders and H&I representatives to call for help at all area meetings

The Greater Providence Area H&I subcommittee in conjunction with the Free Spirit Area have one more meeting which will take place on Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at St-Rita's church in Warwick to go over final places for the upcoming H&I/PI learning day that is being held at the Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Warwick on May 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 from 12:00 to 4:00PM. All are welcome to join us. In loving Service, Sam Q Vice Chair H&I

**Phone Line: John D.**

Info on the motion regarding the toll free telephone # 877-461-1110. First thing I did is called the number. The number was busy. Then I called Verizon. I asked them how much activity was going on the line. They went back 4 months and found that there was no calls coming in. They also said that more than half the bill is for advertising in the phonebook. Over 12 dollars is charged for that. The total bill is 25 dollars. Also if we send them our State exemption forms and account number, we probably won't have to pay state tax. I also asked if we had a contract with this line. They said no. So no fees will be charged if we decide to cancel the line. This number is advertised in the Verizon yellow pages. Prov., Warwick, & Narragansett I.L.S. John D.

**Policy: Robin D**

No report- Not present

**PI: Lewis S.**

Not present

**Website: Christine**

The website was down for several weeks this month due to some malicious code that was placed on it. We contacted our server several times in an effort to remove all of the bad code and were eventually able to delete it all and get the site back up. Now that the site is back up we would like to work on expanding the "Upcoming Events" section to have it be more of a resource. We are currently recruiting for additional team members; anyone with web design experience would be especially welcome. We've also been concentrating on updating links to na.org, World's site, which were dead since World changed their web address. Please contact us through the site (at web@gpana.org) if you find any typos or dead links on the site. We are also trying to streamline the process of making changes to meeting times, etc to

make sure that there is consistency and accuracy between the website and the printed meeting list. I'm grateful for the opportunity to be of service to the Greater Providence Area. ILS, Chris E.

**Convention Committee: Wayne G 473-1749 (subcommittee chairperson)**

**Finance: Tom C**

The Finance Committee did not meet this month due once again to scheduling challenges. We have scheduled a meeting for Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. It will be held immediately after the Keep it Simple Saturday, meeting at St. Patrick's School on Smith Street.

There will be 3 agenda items: 1) receiving direction from the area chair and vice chair about the 2010 budget, 2) Filing 2009 taxes, and 3) audit of literature policies.

All are welcome to attend.

In service, Tom C. Cell: 401-441-8632 tomcoderre@yahoo.com

**Activities: Mara**

**See flyers attached.**

**Old Business:**

**Motions:**

**032810-01 Maker Steve S Seconded by Wayne**

To immediately cease the use of the in state 1-800-736-4597 number.

Intent: To save money. This number dates back to the late 80's when RI was divided into & instates toll zones. In the mid 90's RI adopted a 1 state 1 rate structure. This number actually became unnecessary at that point. It was further unnecessary when cell phone carriers stopped charging for instate calls. **\*\*This motion was table for discussion with Free Spirit.**

**New Business**

Motions: 042510-01 Maker Convention subcommittee Seconded Susan

Purpose #9 to read- All Greater Providence Area Convention Executive Committee positions will be nominated and elected at the GPASC meeting. This is to take place ninety (90) days after the conclusion of the previous convention.

Intent: So Convention Committee can have elections when needed depending on when convention is concluded and not in July as our Area Policy states.

**\*\*This motion was table for more information/ clarity on how it affects the current ASC Policy.**

**Elections: None**

**Open Positions that are elected at the ASC meeting Are as Follows:**

**(Please see attachment with all Qualification and Responsibilities)**

**Alt RCM- Still Open**

**ASC Secretary - Open**

**Convention Committee Secretary- Still Open**

| Description | Income | Expenses | Check # |
|-------------|--------|----------|---------|
|-------------|--------|----------|---------|

|                                |          |   |                    |
|--------------------------------|----------|---|--------------------|
| Literature Sales               | 1,145.35 |   |                    |
| Group Donations                | 503.64   |   |                    |
| Free Spirit Area               |          |   |                    |
| Church Hall Rent               |          | 50.00   | 2069               |
| Verizon (Local/Toll Free)      |          | 24.56 /66.96  | 2072/2073          |
| Answering Service              |          | 109.34  | 2071               |
| Regional Phone line            |          | 63.49   | 2070               |
| Secretary Expenses             |          |   |                    |
| Treasury Expenses              |          |   |                    |
| Literary Purchase              |          | 1,229.54  | 2075               |
| Meeting List Purchase          |          | 62.10   | 2075               |
| H&I Subcommittee               |          | 125.00  | 2067               |
| PI Subcommittee                |          |   |                    |
| Activities Subcommittee        |          |   |                    |
| Literature Subcommittee        |          |   |                    |
| Policy Subcommittee            |          |   |                    |
| RCM Expenses                   |          | 21.23   | 2068               |
| Professional Fees (Accountant) |          |   |                    |
| Region or World Donation       |          |   |                    |
| Miscellaneous                  |          |   |                    |
|                                |          | <b>*Previous Balance</b>                              | <b>\$ 8,704.27</b> |
|                                |          | Monthly Income  | <b>1,648.99</b>    |
|                                |          | Monthly Expenses                                      | <b>(1,752.24)</b>  |
|                                |          | <b>Final Balance</b>                                  | <b>8,601.02</b>    |
|                                |          | Area Prudent Reserve                                  | <b>(3,500.00)</b>  |
|                                |          | Area Insurance Reserve<br>(11) months - \$173.30/mnth | <b>(1,906.30)</b>  |
|                                |          | <b>Available Funds</b>                                | <b>\$ 3,194.72</b> |

**\*Includes FSA Reimbursement from Feb.2010 not previously reported**

**Qualifications of the ALTERNATE REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER (ALT RCM):**

- A. The stated qualifications of general service apply To this position.
- B. Two (2) years continuous abstinence from all Drugs.
- C. Previous GPASC service experience.
- D. Communication and organizational skills and has Displayed significant leadership skills.
- E. Objectivity and tolerance with those who are unable to see beyond the needs of their areas.

**Responsibilities of the ALTERNATE REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER:**

- A. Attend each meeting of the RSC and the GPASC.
- B. Suggested participation with a Regional Subcommittee to promote the Alternate RCM

- involvement with the Region.
- C. Vice Chair a special session of the GPASC to vote on the WSC Agenda Report.
  - D. In the absence of the RCM, assume the responsibilities of the RCM stated above.

### **Qualifications for GPASC Subcommittee**

#### **Officers:**

- A. The stated Qualifications of General Service apply to these positions.
- B. Clean time requirements for subcommittee officers:  
Activities, H&I, Literature, Phone Line, Policy, PI:  
Chairperson Two (2) years  
Vice Chairperson Six (6) months  
Secretary Ninety (90) days  
Treasurer Two (2) years  
Finance:  
Chairperson Five (5) years  
Convention:  
Chairperson Five (5) years  
Vice Chairperson Four (4) years  
Treasurer Five (5) years  
Secretary Two (2) years

### **Qualifications of the GPA Convention Subcommittee**

#### **SECRETARY:**

- A. Two (2) years continuous clean time.
- B. Accurate typing ability.
- C. Demonstrated responsibility that indicates ability to ensure that accurate minutes are distributed to the Convention Committee Members.

#### **Responsibilities of the GPA Convention Subcommittee SECRETARY:**

- A. Keeps minutes of each Convention Committee meeting and all subcommittee reports.
- B. Mails minutes to committee members after approval by the Executive Committee Chairperson. Minutes are mailed out within ten days after the Convention Committee meeting. An agenda for the next meeting may be attached to the minutes if it will help the committee function.
- C. Maintains a list of names, addresses, and phone numbers of committee members for committee use.
- D. Keeps extra sets of minutes, updated after each committee meeting, for members who request a complete set.
- E. Communicates to the local NA membership regarding the progress and planning of the convention. Assists all committees in mailing and correspondence.
- F. Mails a copy of the minutes to the Greater Providence Area Service Committee.

### **Qualifications of the Area SECRETARY:**

- A. The stated qualifications of general service apply to this position.
- B. One (1) year continuous abstinence from all drugs.
- C. Adequate secretarial skills.

#### **Responsibilities of Area SECRETARY:**



- A. Is a member of the Executive Committee, which meets prior to the GPASC meeting.
- B. Record attendance at the beginning of the GPASC meeting.
- C. Compile and maintain a current list of all recipients of the GPASC minutes.
- D. Provide a brief overview of the prior ASC meeting in a written secretary's report. To be read at the present ASC meeting.
- E. Tabulate an accurate vote count for motions, to be recorded on the submitted motion form, and to be included in the minutes. Each motion is to include: month, day, year, number (01-22-06-1 is January 22, 2006, motion #1).
- F. Organize and create concise minutes of each GPASC meeting.
- G. Distribute minutes no later than ten (10) days after the GPASC meeting. Make additional copies available at the next GPASC meeting.
- H. Distribute a copy of GPASC minutes to the New England Regional Service Committee and the Free Spirit Area.
- I. Keep an accurate record of GPASC motions and policy created during their term and make copies available at the ASC meeting upon request. Turn this record over the Policy Chair at the end of each term.
- J. Compile (to be included in the minutes); Groups in Attendance at ASC meeting, and Groups that Donated to the ASC. Provide a Legend of Symbols to facilitate understanding of above lists. (As provided in past minutes.)
- K. Compile a current Group contact list containing; Group name; GSR name, phone number, mailing address, and email (if available).
- L. Provide a current list of Administrative Officers names and phone numbers to be published in the GPASC minutes.
- M. Provide a Group Announcement page to be published in the Area minutes.
- N. May vote on administrative motions only.
- O. Care for and maintain the laptop provided for the Area Secretary position.
- P. Maintain the supply of ASC forms (subcommittee report, motion, and announcement) and makes these available at the ASC meeting.