

The Greater Providence Area (GPA) Service Committee of NA - August 26, 2012

The next meeting will be held on September 23, 2012

Area Meeting Times:

Administration 12:30–2:00pm
Literature Sales 1:45 to 2:45 pm
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. Officer reports including: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer
5. Regional Committee Member Report
6. Board of Directors Report
7. Subcommittee Reports including: Activities, Convention, Finance, Hospitals and Institutions, Literature, Phone Line, Policy, Public Information
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Motions (submitted at beginning of ASC meeting)
11. Open Forum

Roll Call and GSR Reports:

Groups in Attendance 15

Total Area Meetings 43

** = GSR representation*

Addicts "R" Us	Opt for Life
Basic text	Ray of Hope
Better Way Breakfast Club *	Recovery and Beyond
Change or die	Recovery in the Chapel *
Choose Life	Recovery in the Country
Clean & Crazy	Recovery in the Lake
Dig Deep	Recovery is More than Abstinence
Faith in Recovery *	Resurrection
Gimme Shelter	Road to Recovery *
Hardcore Recovery *	Sisters in Recovery
Jamestown NA	Smith Hill NA
K.I.S.S *	Start your Nite Right * <i>in need of support</i>
Living Clean	Starting Over * <i>in need of support</i>
Late Nite	Step Sisters * <i>in need of support</i>
Living Free *	Stepping into Recovery
Loveline	Straight Today
Lie is Dead * - <i>in need of support</i>	Stepping Out Wednesday
Meeting Street Meeting *	Sunday Serenity/Insanity *
NA in the day	Surrender or Die
Never alone again	We do Recover *
New Associations	Why are we here *
New Way of Life	

Announcements:

1. GPA ASC elections for officers will be in October
2. GPA ASC elections for sub committees will be in November
3. There are several open positions. Literature chair, alternate secretary, and convention committee alternate treasurer. Please see qualifications at the end of the minutes.
4. Activities committee is in desperate need of active members. Please call Charlene L. (401-516-5581)

Administrative reports:

Chair: Mike G. / 401-831-8958 / mgianfrocco@msn.com

No report given

Vice Chair: James M / no phone / no email

No report given

Secretary: *Newly elected* Gail L / 401-954-6642 – gaillandi@yahoo.com

Alternate Secretary: *Open – see information at the end of minutes for qualifications*

Board of Directors:

No board member present

Treasurer: Peter S. / 401-255-7197 / peter041486@yahoo.com

See the attached treasurer's report

Regional Committee Member: John D. / 401-774-1260 / john.delicio03@gmail.com alternate: Ned L. / 774-254-7968 / nedlandry4@gmail.com

Hi Family,

I was able to attend the last Regional Service Committee meeting. There were 12 out of 13 Areas represented. There are still several open positions available. Assistant treasurer, Convention chair, Literature chair, & Regional Meeting Directory chair.

The next RSC will meet Sunday October 15th, 2012 at 11:00am at the Masonic Temple, 20 Washington St. in Beverly, MA. Subcommittee Saturday will be held on October 14th, 2012 starting at 12:00 noon, at St. Paul's Church, 26 Washington St. Malden, MA.

Fellowship Development - had zero addicts in attendance. The Fellowship Development subcommittee is seeking suggestions from areas as to what if any interest there may be in Fellowship Development.

Regional Meeting Directories – sold 5,050 meeting lists this cycle.

Phoneline – The Free Spirit Area is requesting the Regional Phoneline to put out a fielder to all Areas asking if any of the Areas would be willing and/or interested in having a live addict to addict contact option.

Website – Here are some statistics from the website over the last two months: Over 37,000 Pageviews, Over 5,700 Unique Visitors, Approximately 40 informational emails answered.

RD/RDA – Firstly, our new book-length piece of literature, Living Clean: the Journey Continues, is set to be made available in hardcover this October, followed by a commemorative edition in December. Upcoming is the Traditions Book project plan, which will run its course over the next two conference cycles. For this cycle we will use technology to solicit input and ideas for

this book to frame an approach as we develop this highly demanded work. The RDA reported on their experiences at the June 2012 North East Zonal Forum in Somerset, New Jersey.

Convention – Our next fundraiser will be in October. Deadline for submitting tapes is December 1, 2012. The chair had to submit their resignation for personal reasons.

Public Information - We have the Cape Cod Symposium coming up September 7th and 8th at the Old Sheraton in Hyannis MA.

Three money motions were passed. 1.) PI for RMD's, \$120.00 2.) PI for \$174.27, literature restock 3.) Money to send the RD/RDA to the Western Service Learning Day in Denver, CO. October 12-14, 2012, \$1175.17

NAWS donation of \$1193.18

A Regional reimbursement policy as well as a Group Service Unit presentation has been included in the minutes for discussion amongst the groups.

In Loving Service,

Ned L. / John D.

Note – the Regional reimbursement policy and GSU presentation are located at the end of the minutes.

Activities: Charlene L / 401-516-5581 / sassymb411@aol.com

Announcement – Activities committee is in desperate need of active members. Please call Charlene L.

Convention: Susan W / 401-438=2375 / susanw87@verizon.net

Chair Susan W.

V.Chair Marc R

Treas. Dave A.

Sec. Lilly B.

The convention comm. had its first meeting 8/19/12 at anchor recovery with 19 addicts in attendance. Our main focus for this meeting was to hold elections for sub-committees. And I am happy to report that all of our sub-committee chair positions were filled.

They are:

Hotel & Hospitality	Rosalind M.
Programming	Cindy W.
Registration	Brenda
Merchandising	Michael C.
Arts & Graphics	Larry
Convention	Chip
Fundraising & Entertainment	Daryl F.

Congratulations to all. We still have open positions for Alt. Treasurer and Alt. Secretary.

Our next scheduled meeting is Sunday Oct. 21, 2012, 4-6 at Anchor Recovery.

ILS

Susan W.

Finance: Courtney B. / 401-440-2182 / cb.gpana@me.com

The finance subcommittee did not meet during the month of August. We will be meeting in the month of September to discuss the following:

- Subcommittees have submitted their desired budgets so we will consider them vs. the current budget and come back with any revisions and motions for you to consider
- Prudent reserve
 - We've been asked to evaluate the current prudent reserve amount
 - We will also bring a motion for your consideration

Thanks...Courtney B

Hospitals and Institutions: Stephen C. / 401-286-3554 / no email

Vice Chair: Sully D. / 401-261-1482 / no email

H&I needs help from all groups not sending an H&I rep to area. We have R.W. Detox commitment in need of a panel leader. Prov. Center we are still waiting to see if we are to continue that commitment based on clients attending. New panel leader for Butler Wed. night psych ward. All commitments that are taken are going well.

I stress again H&I needs help!! (30 commitments, 11 were filled).

Sincerely,
V. Chair
Sully D

Literature: *Open – see information at the end of minutes for qualifications*

Phone Line: Mike C. / 401-588-9869 / mcantone00@gmail.com

No report given

Policy: Lewis S. / 401-952-8109 / lminor02@yahoo.com

Hello Service Members: Policy has been working on making changes, and updating current PA Policies.

Within the upcoming month, the policy subcommittee is in the process of clarifying all policies and preparing a set of copied for all subcommittees and will submit a motion to cover expenses to cover that.

As well as, backing-up policy documentation to make a permanent records to a storage device (stick drive).

There are still policies on record that require review, and opening for discussion with the body. Whether some of the policies can to be changed by the policy subcommittee , or a motion be entered as to whether they be changed and/or modified by ASC, or by a motion.

EX: Motion 192-03 Change ASC Administrative Meeting from 2:00 to 3:00 pm to 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

Subcommittee from 2:00 to 3:00, ASC meeting from 3:30 to 5:30, and change to every 4th Sunday of the month.

EX: Motion 6-27-4 Policy currently states that the clean time requirement for subcommittee chair person, be changed from two to one year. (clean time)

(however, subcommittee suggests this should be reviewed. For certain subcommittee s. Qualifications of general service states that: A clean time requirement for subcommittee officers, activities, H&I, Literature, Phone line, Policy, and P&I. states that two years in the clean time requirement.

IE: However the Literature subcommittee should meet the two year clean time requirement.

Policy subcommittee would like to open a discussion concerning the transition to a new subcommittee chair-person to review current subcommittee activities and responsibilities, to ensure a smooth transition (motion to be entered).

Policy subcommittee is still in need of support. We currently have myself, and Debra W. as secretary. ILS Lewis S.

Public Information: John N / 774-208-2285 / jnorton@paragonnt.com

Website: Johnny Wheels / 401-714-9765 / john.fallon1@verizon.net
Verbal report given

Old Business:

Motion 7-22-2012-01 maker: finance/policy subcommittee – **withdrawn**

Clarification on prudent reserve: the area prudent reserve can only be used to pay for non-discretionary expenses. Subcommittee or other non-discretionary expenses can only be fulfilled from the monthly available funds. Non-discretionary expenses are detailed in the treasurers report and include rent, website, phone service, secretary, administration, RCM, literature expenses, state and government fees, and any other fees where the GPA has a contractual agreement. Any motions to spend into prudent reserve for discretionary expenses shall be called out of order.

Intent: The area policy regarding when it is appropriate to spend the prudent reserve was not complete. Prudent reserve is intended to allow the GPA to meet all non-discretionary needs for up to 3 months and should never be used for discretionary expenses

Motion: 7-22-2012-03 Maker: convention subcommittee – **awaiting bids**

The convention committee is requesting \$700.00 to purchase a laptop and QuickBooks program.

Intent: To manage our funds more efficiently and to be able to access our data in a timely manor.

New Business:

Elections

A new area secretary was elected: XXXX

A new board of director's member was elected: Peter R

Motion 8-26-2012-1 Maker: Policy subcommittee - **Back to groups**

To put into policy, that any subcommittee or administrative position in rotation of service by vote, that outgoing chair, work with in-coming chairperson for one-month and this to be added to administrative and subcommittee responsibilities.

Intent: *no intent provided*

Motion 8-26-2012-2 Maker: Policy subcommittee – **Passed unanimously**

To change administrative meeting to 12:30 to 1:30 PM and subcommittee meeting to 2:00 to 3:00 pm and ASC to 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm and GSR orientation to 1:45-2:35 Literature sales 3:15 pm

Intent: to change list in policy to make correct

Motion 8-26-2012-3 Maker: Public Information subcommittee – **Passed unanimously**

To purchase \$65.50 worth of literature for the Rally for Recovery event

Intent: to further our primary purpose

Motion 8-26-2012-4 Maker: Courtney B, Seconded: Peter S – **passed unanimously**

To donate \$1,500 to region and \$1,500 to world service

Intent: to practice fund flow

Addendums:

1 – Qualifications for open positions

Positions currently open: Literature chair, alternate secretary, and convention committee alternate treasurer

Qualifications of General Service for Convention Subcommittee Officers:

- A. Clean time requirements for Convention Subcommittee Officers:
 - Chairperson Five (5) years
 - Vice Chairperson Four (4) years
 - Treasurer Five (5) years
 - Secretary Two (2) years
 - Subcommittee Chairs Two (2) years
- B. Working knowledge of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of N.A.
- C. Willingness to give the time and resources necessary.
- D. Ability to exercise patience and tolerance.
- E. Active participation in Narcotics Anonymous.

Qualifications of the GPA Convention Subcommittee CHAIR:

- A. Five (5) years continuous clean time.
- B. Demonstrated stability in the local N.A. community.
- C. Administrative abilities.

Qualifications of the ALTERNATE

Area SECRETARY:

- A. The stated qualifications of general service apply to this position.
- B. Six (6) months continuous abstinence from all drugs.
- C. Adequate secretarial skills.

Responsibilities of the ALTERNATE SECRETARY:

- A. Assist the GPA Area Secretary in performance of all previously stated responsibilities.
- B. In the absence of the Area Secretary, and at the direction of the Area Chair, perform the ASC Secretary responsibilities.
- C. Is not required to relinquish concurrent GSR position (if applicable).

Responsibilities of the LITERATURE SUBCOMMITTEE:

- A. In keeping with the Sixth Tradition of N.A., maintain an accurate inventory of literature on hand to supply all the needs of the GPA.
- B. Coordinate the sales, and inventory count and reorder, of the literature inventory.
- C. Meet prior to the GPASC meeting to sell literature to groups and as often as the subcommittee deems necessary.
- D. Review and supply input on literature submitted by the World Service Committee Literature Committee (WSCLC).
- E. Submit literature to the WSCLC from Area groups and individual addicts.
- F. Make the starter kit:
 - One (1) of each IP
 - One (1) NA Way Magazine

- One (1) Group booklet
- One (1) group starter kit checklist
- Fifty (50) meeting lists

- G. Maintain and care for the laptop provided for the Literature Subcommittee Chair position.
- H. Attend the GPASC meeting, provide a verbal subcommittee report to the service body and a written report for inclusion in the Area minutes.

2 – Region GSU Handout

ERRON C. - SEMA

GSU ADHOC PRESENTATION

I. INTRODUCTION

I'm going to begin by discussing the initial bits of information World sent down to us at first. Also, how they defined the new format, what GSU stands for and the many options areas have to choose from, including: how often to hold a GSU, whether or not to run it parallel to your ASC or as a completely separate body. It was this info that propelled us to implement the GSU on a trial basis.

A. World Service Information

Within the past 2 to 3 years World Service has been coming up with new ideas for how we can improve our fellowship. One of the ideas was the GSU Area format. Before the GSU, Area Service Committees were faced with the task of both taking care of Area business, and supporting local groups. The group support unit (GSU) was initially intended to help groups better carry the message within their meetings by separating out the group support function from the "business" of NA. World Service initially proposed that Areas use two separate bodies, a GSU and an LSU (Local Service Unit). The GSU to handle NA concerns members and groups had, and the LSU to handle local business.

B. Options for administration

For areas that are experiencing a lack of support, growth or participation, the GSU can provide a new, fresh method of addressing some concerns your area may have. We have found at the SEMA area that not all concerns and difficulties can be solved with traditions and concepts. Let me clarify, all areas are autonomous, and you do not have to adopt a GSU format if your area doesn't feel that the format fits its needs. I am just here to present you with the options World Service has outline for us, and share with you my areas experiences with implementing this new format. Areas have many different options when it comes to implementing a GSU. They are all outlined on the NAWS website, and if you'd like to learn more please see me after today's meeting. When they first defined the GSU, World kept in mind that different areas face different challenges.

II. IMPLEMENTING THE GSU ON A TRIAL BASIS

Next we will discuss how our area interpreted the information given to us by world and how we initially implemented one set of "trial runs", and how that progressed. Some of the first few attempts were met with some opposition due to confusion about the format. This caused an inability to keep discussions solution based. But, that's how we eventually learned to come up with a solid foundation and eventually develop guidelines that served as a format, based on what went wrong initially. Like I mentioned earlier, We have found at the SEMA area that not all concerns and difficulties can be solved with traditions and concepts.

A. Implementing the "trial runs"

When the SEMA area adopted the GSU format, we made our own interpretation of what World Service had defined as a GSU. What we did, was decided to hold the GSU on alternating months during the same time as the ASC. Initially, we tried the GSU for 3 sessions on alternating months. During our first session, we suspended ALL business and delegated the time solely to group concerns. No money matters were discussed, no elections took place, and members had pressing business related issues that were not addressed. This caused some opposition, as some members felt that there are some business matters that need to be handled every month.

As a result of this opposition, we changed our format slightly on the second session. We did not completely replace regular business with a GSU. Rather, what we did was delegated more time to group

concerns while still handling all pressing and necessary business matters. During those 2 sessions we began area by handling any money motions or elections that we deemed absolutely necessary at the executive committee. Then we got into group concerns.

We began announcing the new GSU at Area, and told GSR's to stress to their groups that the new GSU format would be focused on Group Concerns, and if their group had any, now would be the time to voice them. We had many reasons for holding the GSU during the ASC. Primarily, we initially wanted to make sure we had members there to participate. Since GSR's go to area every month, we knew that when we implemented the new format that they would at least be there to take part in discussions. Over time we began to have our GSR's stress during NA related announcements that when a GSU is held ANY MEMBER can come and participate. You do not need to have a service position to take part in GSU discussions. ANY MEMBER with any input, concern or suggestion can come to a GSU and join the discussion: which strongly encouraged some enthusiasm and participation across our area.

B. Difficulties and Opposition faced

At first, the GSU was very hectic and chaotic. We hadn't set any guidelines or implemented any type of format. People were putting their hands up to voice their concerns, and everyone wanted to make sure their concern was heard. So, our area Chair would choose someone to voice their concern, then, instead of delegating a few minutes to this concern and keeping the discussion solution based, the next member who had their hand up would just announce the next concern.

This caused the discussion to get out of hand and in turn, no suggestions were given and no progress was made. Those members that voiced concerns never received suggestions, and therefore were very opposed to the new format.

C. How this turned into a solid format and foundation

As a result of the confusion and opposition met during the previous session, the third session went much more smoothly. We had discovered an efficient format for the GSU that kept discussions solution-based and encouraging. It also kept the room attentive and restored some order to the GSU.

The new format urged members to either e-mail, type or write your concern before the GSU. Then, members were told to give your concern to the Area Secretary before the session was held. This way, we were able to count exactly how many concerns we had to discuss for the month's session. Since we knew how many concerns we had to cover, we were able to delegate a certain amount of time to each concern to ensure that we would leave at a reasonable time. Since we knew how long each concern was going to be discussed, we were also able to ensure that during the time delegated to a concern that discussion was kept solution based.

D. Result of the first Trial Run

Due to the new format established, and the productive discussion that took place in the last session, we decided to implement another trial basis of six months- holding a GSU on alternating months. These sessions also proved to be very positive, efficient, and productive. We began to see groups make huge strides and improvements. We began to see participation at these groups grow, and we began to see our parts of our area flourish as a result of the new GSU format.

At some GSU's we were able to work out money concerns a sub-committee or the treasurer might've had. At other sessions, we were able to discuss issues with events and activities that had taken place out of order. And during some sessions we were able to prevent potentially major problems.

As a result of all the production our area accomplished, and because of all the growth our groups achieved, we now have Implemented the GSU on a permanent basis. We also added something to the format recently. At the end of each GSU, we now delegate 15 minutes for groups or members to come and discuss any improvements they've made and progress they've achieved as a result of the suggestions given at the GSU. This will give us the ability to witness some measurable growth, and it will encourage other members to participate more in the GSU and reap all the benefits it has to offer.

III. Exciting Ideas Resulting from Regional Participation

Recently, I have discovered a huge benefit we may be able to realize as a result of adopting the GSU. I have decided that at the SEMA area, going forward, when a GSU is held, I will be recording all of the concerns mentioned and the suggestions made based on those concerns. Over time, I will start to build a computer file with all the concerns our area's members and groups have ever been faced with, and all of the suggestions that have been made. I will also record any progress groups and members report after

they have come in and voiced a concern.

If other area's do decide to participate in the GSU, together we can accomplish something pretty exciting. If you elect a GSU AD HOC chair, as we have at our area, this person can also begin to record all of your areas concerns and the suggestions offered based on those concerns. Then, my goal is to begin an information flow, area to area, and region to region of ALL OF THIS INFORMATION regarding all of the concerns we have across areas, regions, zones and countries.

This could prove to be SUCH a valuable piece of information for Narcotics Anonymous. We could pool together every area in Narcotics Anonymous' concerns and essentially have a "How To" guide available to groups and members who may be faced with concern. This could even begin to materialize into a piece of literature. The possibilities are endless.

If you'd like to learn more about the GSU, or if you have any questions, please see me after the meeting. If you'd like to bring up the prospect of trying the GSU, to members of your area, I'd be glad to travel to your area and make a similar presentation, outlining the benefits of the format. If you'd like to join us at the SEMA area and observe the GSU, we would love to have you. Thank you all for your patience, and thank you again for your time.

IV. MEMBERS FROM THE SEMA AREA'S OPINIONS AND INPUT

ARMAND B.

The Group Service Unit format has been an exceptional learning tool and has the potential to expand the service structure to local areas in unprecedented ways. In the past year, SEMA has explored using this format and it has been my observation that it has increased participation at group business meetings in several ways. By scheduling this method on alternating months, GSR's have been inviting group members to participate without commitment to area, but only to contribute to active discussions set on topics. Though it has has a few bumps and bruises on the way, the current format allows for creative input with solution based results.

In one example, a group that meets daily, 6 times a week, that services an overwhelming number of new addicts but suffered from lack of group support, has had a huge growth in it's monthly business meeting. They went from 3 to 4 members to 15+ which allowed them to completely restructure themselves. Having split the secretarial duties to 2 people and 2 alternates, the same with other positions, a foundation was now established to improve the quality of such a valued meeting. It is not perfect, but because of continued support from the GSU, this group as well as others now have support and feedback to how to grow. It has been my observation that other groups have adapted some new changes they have learned from the GSU. This is still in it's infancy, so after only having 6 meetings of this type, growth has been slow but gradual. By the ASC taking care of monthly business and withholding sub-committee reports to alternating months, the ASC established a reasonable time frame to keep discussions focused and solution based. As SEMA continues to explore this format, it is my hope that groups can become stronger and more enlightened so NA can better save,keep, and change the lives addicts that are here and for those yet to come.

Armand B.

RAFAEL G- SEMA AREA CHAIR PERSON

The GSU is something that can be beneficial to ASC's as well as the groups. On the group level, we as members and trusted servants of our homegroups find that there are different difficulties that can arise, difficulties that are not easily solved by traditions and concepts, difficulties that will have us compromising the very principles that keep our fellowship alive and free. And as we go to meetings to express our difficulties in life and find identification and stay to hear the solution, the groups can find that same empathy with the GSU. We in SEMA have found that the old ways of "OPEN DISCUSSION" or "GROUP CONCERNS" during the ASC was not sufficient. It's like the newcomer pouring their heart out at a meeting and then the chairperson says "Thanks for Sharing" and then letting that newcomer leave without resolve or hope. We believe that the GSU will help in solving some of the seemingly hopeless dilemmas that the groups may face through an "Area Conscience." On the ASC level, the GSU could be used for the inventory process. Just as we continue to take a personal inventory and promptly admit we

were wrong (10th step), the ASC could do the same during the GSU. A couple questions could be sent back to groups for discussion and answers could be brought back to the GSU to inform the ASC how to better serve the groups. This could be a constant process. The GSU could streamline the business at the ASC. When the GSU is on an alternating schedule (every other month), the ASC must have proper preparation to prevent poor performance. There are many applications for the GSU and what we at SEMA have done with the GSU is always up for discussion and change and we invite all the Areas to come sit in on a GSU and if you have any ideas please pass them along to us, or better yet start a GSU for yourselves and tell us your struggles and your successes so Narcotics Anonymous can benefit from our experiences.

ILS, Rafael G South Eastern Mass Chair Person

GREG F.- SEMA RCM

I feel that our GSU/LSU hybrid model is beneficial to the groups which is the most powerful tool to carry the message with I also believe that our current format is beneficial because the groups that are strong and have experience in many different areas can help the groups that struggle and may not have the experience that other groups and members do. Personally, I feel every other month is too much I feel that four times a year would be sufficient because we still have room in regular business for group concerns. I feel that we have made a smooth transition with this and that it is and has been successful.

D'LANOR H- SEMA PI CHAIR

I was recently asked to ask a paragraph about my experience with a GSU/LSU format. I have both positive and negative things to say about it, but all in all I am not in favor. The problems that I see are with the GSU format, the issues that are coming up are repetitive, single purpose driven, and to "group specific". We commonly hear the same issues every other month and after around nine months of this I have yet to hear any group come back with the results of a solution. I think it is great that we sped all of the ASC supporting our groups, but I think that there should be time in the format for groups to come back and share the results, as of now we dont have that. The group concerns also often tend to be used as a tool to victimize specific members. I think it would be better if the groups left personalities out of the principals. I know this is Utopian.

In terms of the LSU, I dont feel as a subcommittee chair person I am able to conduct buisness efficantly and time sensitivley. It seems all of my buisness is delayed due to an alternating GSU. I think a solution is to hold the GSU quarter annually. That way the groups have enough time to see the affects of the solutions that have been put in place, and my buisness isn't being delayed. I just feel that doing a GSU every other month is a little redundant. Thank you for taking the time out to listen, I hope this has been helpful.

ILS, D'Lanor H. PI Chair SEMA

3 – Region reimbursement policy

AD-HOC Committee – Funding of Unfunded Trusted Servants

The committee met on Saturday, August 11, 2012 with 9 members in attendance. We discussed how to best arrive at some suggestions to this body regarding the difficult task of putting policy in place with regards to funding unfunded trusted servants. Below you will find our suggested course of action, as well as a suggestion of the policy associated with the task of this committee.

- 1) This should be sent back to member area's to get their input and should be amended and voted on accordingly at the October 2012 meeting of the NERSC.
- 2) At that time each member area should provide the Policy chairperson David P. (Central Mass) with a copy of their current policy specifically highlighting the section which addresses funding of area trusted servants to the regional body.
- 3) If the policy suggested below is adopted it would be put into place for a trial period of one year from ratification at which point it would need to be assessed by a reconvening of this ad-hoc committee and if appropriate a re-vote by this body to make it permanent for Winter 2014 and beyond.

I. Unfunded Regional Trusted Servants – Reimbursement Policy

- A) An Emergency Reimbursement fund of \$500.00 will be set aside for each meeting of the NERSC, this set asides total allocation will never exceed \$500.00.
- B) Unfunded trusted servants are defined as all Executive Committee Members, NERSC Subcommittee Chairs, as well as ad-hoc Committee Chairs. These individuals are only eligible for Regional Emergency Reimbursement if they are not covered for reimbursement by their member areas own reimbursement policy. (Potential Maximum number of people eligible is 23 not including ad-hoc committees.)
- C) Each qualifying member is eligible for a maximum of \$21.73 (500/23) – This is to fairly distribute all funds in the event the maximum number of eligible members request assistance.
 - 1. If total allocation of \$500 per region is not utilized at a specific region and an eligible member needs more assistance than the \$21.73 allows for they may request additional funding from the set aside in the form of a money motion.
 - a) If there are ad-hoc chairpeople at the time of reimbursements that are requesting reimbursement the \$500 should be divided by 23+ad-hoc chairs.
 - 2. In order to be eligible for said reimbursement the eligible member must present receipts for any requested reimbursement outside of mileage.
 - 3. Mileage will be calculated by the starting point address (Provided by member) and the destination being the location of the specific Regional Meeting in question.
 - 4. The mileage rate to be used will be the government's non-profit mileage reimbursement number plus ten cents (Current government rate is \$0.14 per mile, our reimbursement rate would therefore become \$0.24 per mile traveled.)

At the discretion of the chair we would ask that this suggested policy be sent back to area's as is, with the hope that member area's may come back with their own comments, concerns, or suggestions on Regional Saturday in October, where this ad-hoc committee will meet a final time to incorporate said suggestions into the finalized proposal, which will be voted on at the Sunday, October NERSC.

At this point we would like to open it to any questions you may have.

ILS, Chip K, Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Chair & Regional Vice Chair