

THE GREATER PROVIDENCE AREA (GPA) SERVICE COMMITTEE OF NARCOTICS

ANONYMOUS SEPTEMBER 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Next meeting Oct 18, 2026

Area Meeting Opened 15:30

Opened with Service Prayer & Concept of the Month

KEY TAKEAWAYS, ACTION ITEMS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Groups and individuals can **order literature online** and it **reduces the wait time** when picking up as your order can be prepared in advance and waiting for you when you arrive. Place your order [HERE](#)
- From Active to Action 6 year group Anniversary. Oct 18 6-8:30pm. Cameron Building 68 Falmouth st. Attleboro, MA 02703. Food, Fun, Fellowship and Speakers.
- Men with a Vision 15 Valley Street in Providence 7th Anniversary. Oct 3rd 5-9pm. Food, Fun, Fellowship, speaker, cleantime countdown
- The New Normal Group is having it's 6th Anniversary Oct 19th 6:30-8pm at 15 Valley Street in Providence
- Ad Hoc for Area Improvements Next meeting is Thursday Oct 8th 7-8pm on Zoom [Zoom Link](#) [PWord 0000](#) For more info contact Taylor H at 401-369-5844
- Open Positions at area are Secretary, Alternate Secretary, Literature Chair, IT, and 1 BOD members. Requirements and Qualifications can be found in the area policy on [GPANA.org on the Area Service page](#) or download here... [Current GPA Policy](#)

GROUPS NEEDING SUPPORT/ACTIVE MEMBERS

- Clean and Serene Friday nights 7-8:15pm can use support. Faith Baptist Church 765 Commonwealth Ave, Warwick RI, 02886
- Step Sisters Monday Nights 7-8:30 meets at Amos House Needs support and active members

MEETING TIMES

- Literature Sales: 1:00 - 2:30
- Convention Subcommittee: 1:00 - 2:30
- H&I Subcommittee [HYBRID]: 1:45 - 3:15
- PR Subcommittee: 2:00 - 3:00
- Activities Subcommittee: 2:30 - 3:15
- New GSR Orientation: 3:15 - 3:30
- Area Service Meeting: 3:30 - 5:30

AREA CONTACTS

Those who were present are highlighted

- Chairperson: **Marshall H.** 401-470-0739 chair@gpana.org
- Vice Chairperson: **Steve L**
- Secretary: OPEN secretary@gpana.org
- Alternate Secretary: OPEN
- Website: OPEN Johnny Wheels filling in. 401-714-9765 web@gpana.org
- Treasurer: **Brian F.** 401-225-2452 treasurer@gpana.org

- Alternate Treasurer: OPEN
- Board of Directors (BOD): **Robin B.** bod@gpana.org
- Regional Committee Member (RCM): **Gene F.** rcm@gpana.org
- Alternate RCM: Mike M.
- Activities: **Rene G.** activities@gpana.org
- Policy: **Carrie B** policy@gpana.org
- Convention Chair: **Rob S.** conv.chair@gpana.org
- Hospitals & Institutions: **Jenn V.** handi@gpana.org
- Literature: OPEN literature@gpana.org
- Public Relations (PR): **Pride** pr@gpana.org

Voting GSRs- 17 in Attendance [Highlighted]

Back 2 Basics	Loveline	Serenity Maniacs
Basic Text Message	Men with a Vision	Serenity Seekers
Better Way	Meeting in the Bucket	SPA Day
Breakfast Club	NA in the Day	Spiritual Solutions
Clean and Serene	NA in SA	Start Your Night Right
Cookies and Recovery	New Freedom	Step Sisters
Dedication	New Life	Steps to Freedom
Dig Deep	New Normal	Straight Forward
Each One Teach One	One Day at a Time	The 3 rd Tradition Meeting
Edgewood NA	Opt for Life	The Journey Continues
From Active to Action	Recovery and Beyond	The Journey of Hope
Hope in the Dark	Recovery in the Beach	The Lie is Dead
Hope Not Dope	Recovery in the Chapel	The New Normal Group
IP Time	Recovery in the Country	The Offshore Meeting
J.J.D.	Recovery is More than Abstinence	Warehouse Meeting
Journey of Hope	Regardless of Sexual Identity	Why are we Here?
Keep it Simple Saturday	Room to Grow	
Learn to Live	Sunday Serenity Insanity	
Living Free		

REPORTS

Chairperson (Marshall H) Thank you to everyone who helped with the distribution of August meeting lists.

Vice Chairperson (Steve L) No report

Secretary (Open) (Carrie filling in) No report

Literature (Open) (Carrie filling in)

Greater Providence Area
P.O. Box 72792, Providence, RI 02907
GPANA.ORG

Literature Sales Report

INCOME	
NAWS Total Sales	\$1,564.64
NA Wears Total Sales	\$0.00
Meeting Lists Sold (Group/Individual)	\$0.30

TOTAL SALES	\$1,564.94
EXPENSES	
NAWS Restock	\$1,469.66
NA Wears Restock	\$0.00
Meeting List Restock	\$195.00
Total Expenses	\$1,664.66
Subcommittee	
Subcommittee (At Cost) Literature orders	\$376.25
Subcommittee (At Cost) Meeting lists	\$60.00
Value given to subcommittees	\$436.25
Free Meeting Lists	
Meeting Lists Given Away Free (25 per Group/Individual order) - Qty	700
Meeting Lists Given Away Free - Est. Cost	\$105.00

Treasurer (Brian F)

GPANA Treasurer's Report

09/20/26

Opening Balance		\$4,148.94
Plus Income:		
	Literature Sales	\$1,564.94
	In-Person Contributions	\$695.32
	Online Contribution	\$38.71
		<u>\$2,298.97</u>
		\$6,447.91
Less: Prudent Reserve	\$1,700.00	
Set Asides:		
	Activities	\$250.00
	Hospitals & Institutions	\$350.00
	BOD Insurance	\$500.00
	Public Relations	\$300.00
	IT	<u>\$300.00</u>
		<u>\$3,400.00</u>
Operating Balance		\$3,047.91
Minus Expenses:		
	Printing (Meeting List)	\$195.00
	Zoom	\$18.18
	Rent	\$100.00
	Literature	\$1,469.66
	Storage	\$193.00
	Area Refreshments	\$48.58
	IP Address	\$5.99
	Area Hybrid Equipment	\$358.00
	Learning Day	\$400.00
		<u>\$2,788.41</u>
Ending Balance		<u>\$259.50</u>

***Contributions for August were reported \$70.00 lower than recieved after deposit was done, opening balance in September's report is corrected difference**

Convention (Rob S) Report given by Celia W.
8 in attendance at today’s meeting. Several positions remain open and they are Arts & Graphics chair, IT, Hotels & Hospitality, Treasurer, Alt. Treasurer. Will have an item to discuss in new business.

RCM (Gene F) No report

BOD (Robin B):

Reserve and set-aside review

Greater Providence Area of Narcotics Anonymous | BOD discussion draft | Records through September 20, 2026

Purpose and preliminary conclusion

Review whether the \$1,700 prudent reserve and committee set-asides match the area’s actual obligations. The policy calls for a reserve covering 1 to 3 months of necessary, non-self-supporting expenses and consideration of a large annual bill. The present \$1,700 should be reviewed, but these records alone do not support a change to it.

Current cash allocation

Balance-sheet line	Amount
Prudent reserve	\$1,700.00
Activities / H&I / Insurance / PR / IT set-asides	\$1,700.00
General Bank of America line	\$630.76
Total bank accounts	\$4,030.76

The five set-asides are \$350 H&I, \$250 activities, \$500 insurance, \$300 PR, and \$300 IT. These balances and the prudent reserve have no posted activity during the ledger period; related expenses appear in the general bank account. The records do not establish whether the cash is held in physically separate bank accounts.

Reserve test using identified bills

Observed recurring payment	Current monthly amount
Storage / rent	\$193.00 / \$100.00
Zoom / Bluehost IP charge	\$18.18 / \$5.99
Total identified recurring payments	\$317.17
Three months at current rates	\$951.51
Three months plus observed annual insurance (\$380)	\$1,331.51

This is an illustration, not a recommended reserve target. The BOD must include other unavoidable bills and due dates, confirm which costs are self-supporting, and decide how the separate insurance and IT set-asides work in an emergency. Do not count the same designated cash twice.

Set-aside findings and decisions

Greater Providence Area NA | BOD discussion draft

Insurance — \$500

The ledger shows a \$380 insurance payment in August of both years. Confirm the next premium and whether the \$500 allocation pays it or is only an emergency buffer.

IT — \$300

Bluehost was categorized as Web Site Expense in 2025 and Administrative Expenses in 2026. The April 2026 charge was \$125.94; smaller \$5.99 charges recur. Reconcile all website charges against the IT allocation.

PR — \$300

Rally for Recovery was \$500 in each year. Decide whether the \$300 set-aside is meant to cover this event, part of it, or different PR costs.

Activities — \$250

Activities expenses were \$1,600 in 2025 and \$750 through September 20, 2026. Clarify the purpose and timing of this allocation.

H&I — \$350

Policy states \$350 a month. The ledger shows \$411.70 of separately categorized H&I expenses in 2025 and none in 2026. Check whether H&I literature was posted under general Literature Expense.

Bookkeeping and available cash

The ledger reports no debits or replenishments in the reserve or five set-aside accounts from January 2025 through September 20, 2026, even when corresponding bills were paid. The treasurer and BOD should agree on how those uses and replenishments will be recorded so future reports show the actual amount available for each purpose.

The 2026 P&L includes \$3,289.67 of convention income. Confirm whether it is designated for convention purposes before treating the \$630.76 general line as unrestricted cash. The policy also refers to \$15,000 in convention seed money every two years; establish its next due date and funding source.

Proposed BOD actions

1. Agree on the list of bills the area must pay during a funding shortfall and the dates of large annual payments.
2. Document what each set-aside covers, its approved amount, and when it is replenished.
3. Recalculate the prudent reserve under the policy after resolving overlap with set-asides and convention commitments.

Sources: GPA Policy Revised Aug 2026, p. 8 (financial policies); 2025-2026 General Ledger, pp. 1-10 and 48-57; 2026 BalanceSheet, p. 1; 2025 P&L, p. 1; 2026 P&L, p. 1. The file labeled 2025 BalanceSheet also displays a September 20, 2026 balance, so it was not used as a historical comparison.

Activities (Rene G): Good afternoon

Me and the activities committee had put an all women's speaker jam on October 17th, unfortunately we were unable to secure a spot. We are looking to have the event November 14th, more will be revealed.

Thank you for allowing me to be a service activities committee Rene G Sent from my iPhone

H&I (Jenn V): See Commitment list at end of document

The GPA H&I subcommittee met (hybrid) on Sunday 9/20/26 from 1:30pm-3:15pm with 16 addicts in attendance. We are currently in 9 facilities with about 26 commitments per month plus Corrections.

The Policy chair is an open position. We have no open panel leader positions but we are always looking for more panel leaders to help us continue to get into more facilities and add more commitments to carry the NA message.

The new commitment at Butler hospital is going great. We voted in one more commitment the 2nd sunday of the month and filled that panel and the coordinator position.

We discussed the H&I PR Learning Day which will be held on Saturday 10/24/26 from 1:00pm-5:00pm. The event will be at 765 Commonwealth Ave, Warwick RI. We finalized speakers and discussed topics. A flyer will be sent out in minutes.

Our next Adhoc meeting to finalize the learning day will be on Tuesday October 6th at 6pm on zoom. Meeting ID (719 036 7110 Password 0000) All our welcome.

The updated commitment schedule will be sent out in the minutes. Please contact a panel leader if your home group is interested in coming on a commitment.

Our next H&I subcommittee meeting will be on Sunday 10/18/26 from 2:00pm-3:15pm.

Thank you
ILS,
Jenn V.

Policy (Carrie B): Policy Report for Sept 2026

GPA Accounts are not for personal use. Do not create accounts using a GPA email and include your personal credit card. Do not create forms or storefronts for personal use. These accounts are all accessible by GPA admin and are meant to be rotated with the change of trusted servants. Please protect your personal information.

Policy met on Sept 10th with 2 addicts present. The policy and log were updated with new motion and uploaded to website. Policy was also reorganized for clarity. For example all statements about motions were put in the same area of the policy and titled Motions.

2 motions are being brought today to address the spending of funds which was referred to policy at the last area meeting. One is regarding reimbursement and the other customary expenses.

Next Policy meeting will be held on zoom at 10am on October 8th

PR (Pride I): Gmail account is being checked regularly with no inquiries. Regional helpline being monitored. Posters were made and not acceptable. To redo. Rally 4 Recovery was well attended. Thank you for all the volunteers. Used set aside to restock the literature that was distributed. Working with H&I on learning day. Continue communication with Butler. In discussion with Community Care Alliance in Woonsocket. Discussions with Samhsa regarding opportunities.

IT OPEN: (Johnny F filling in) Website is up to date

Ad Hoc on Area Improvements (Taylor H):

On September 12th there were 8 people in attendance.

We discussed the service slam we are aiming to have on January 16th

We discussed the format of the event and how long each segment of the event would take.

We discussed handouts to be distributed at the event. Such handouts involved:

a flyer for mentorship
A primary focus/objective of the service slam
And a survey for those to fill out.

We discussed raffles. How many should we have? What kinds of prizes should we have?

We discussed coming up with a flyer for the event

We discussed what kind of food

We discussed a venue and options for them in a central location.

We discussed what kind of budget we need to have the event.

Our next adhoc meeting will take place on Thursday October 8th on the zoom platform from 7-8pm

For any further information please contact
Taylor H. 401-369-5844

Questions on reports:

H&I: Please repeat H&I learning day. October 24th 1-5pm

Does H&I learning day flyer need to be approved at area? Yes. Unfortunate as there was a glitch and we don't have it today. Erika volunteered to help draft one today so approval can happen.

BOD: What is the status with the storage unit? **Rob has 3 quotes and we need to move forward with that.**

We can get a smaller space for half the price and if we buy racks it will increase the storage capacity. Maybe some additional funds on totes.

What is the status on the budget? **Still need to meet with treasurer to complete budget**

What is the status on the convention audit? **I have all the stuff but I still need to complete the audit.**

GROUP CONCERNS

Several mentions of needing support and anniversary's. All are at the top of the minutes. Discussion regarding the difference between group concerns and announcements. This portion of the agenda is for groups to bring up anything they have questions or concerns with not just announcements.

Old Business

Elections:

Secretary – Remains OPEN

Alt Secretary Remains OPEN

IT Remains OPEN

Convention Treasurer: Peter R nominated and elected. Congratulations

Some discussion regarding whether knowing quickbooks is a requirement for any of the treasurer positions. It is not but computer saavy is helpful. Currently area treasurer uses quickbooks and convention treasurer uses Wave.

1 BOD members Remains OPEN

Motion back to groups: **Motion #2026-08-16-1 to purchase equipment to run the zoom meeting.**

Option 1: \$269 for Lenovo Chromebook

Option 2: \$358 for HP Chromebook

- Approve Option 1 vote -1
- Approve Option 2 vote - 5
- Approve both options (subcommittee will determine best purchase) - 8
- do not approve - 0

Motion passes to approve both options.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee determined that the HP Chromebook is the most suitable.

OPEN FORUM

Reviewed for approval H&I flyer and Convention F&E flyers.

Feedback on Project plans from region:

Loveline: lots of positive feedback, aligns with area actions.

Clean n Serene: Appreciate the work that was done. We are sort of old school and trying to wrap our heads around newer generations and how things change, we are really impressed with the proposals.

Ad Hoc on holding questions to end of reports (held from prior month open forum):

It seems to be moving things along. Before these small changes we weren't making it to open forum before 5:00 – 5:30. Now we're there at 4:30. Any feedback. Moving along better and with less tension. Yes agree area is moving quickly but would like to see flexibility, for example we don't stop discussion and be rigid - like you can't ask that question right now because it's not the right time. Do we want to vote on this? Straw poll - with the changes that have been implemented how many are in support - majority in support. Chairperson sets agenda so while we are in general approval doesn't mean a new person will not change the agenda. I find the money motions presented together after reports to be helpful

Literature Pricing: We price everything at 8% above NAWS prices. Want to put into policy so that it's clear this is what we do even though we've done it for a very long time. Asking for feedback now and **will come with a motion next month if that seems appropriate after discussion.**

Literature expenses per month range from 450 to 650

Approx \$45 for NAWS order after discount.

\$10 shipping for NAWears (not every month)

\$200 for meeting lists These are for the most part given out free.

Subcommittee literature 200-400

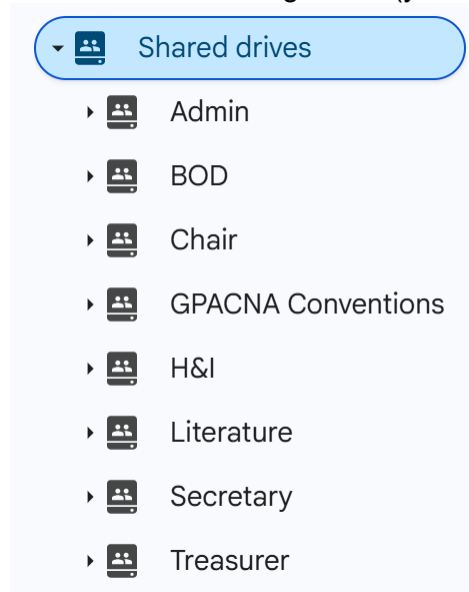
Income from sales runs in the neighborhood of 100/month

Relying solely on contributions can be unreliable. We already know the 8% increase so sure put it in policy. Putting it in policy would be beneficial for future chairpersons. Would like to see it come close to the cost of the meeting lists.

Convention secretary received notice that Microsoft products are expired. Reviewed office subscription it is approx. 100 annual for single person or 130 annual for 6. We do have a tech soup account for discount software/hardware for non profits. We can use google products. We have a google workspace account for the area. All the subcommittees have a google drive for storage. They can log in with the area gmail account and access their drive, create google docs and spreadsheets which can be saved in google drive and shared from the google drive. This is all free.

The google drives are shared with your GPA gmail address. For example secretary@gmail.com Log into [google drive](#) with your gmail address. On the left side choose shared drives or shared with me. You should find the appropriate drive there.

These are the existing drives (you will only see those drives that you are a member of).



NEW BUSINESS

MOTIONS (Money Motions first)

Total monies available for motions = \$953.43

Total of all money motions = \$1258

Discussion regarding two motions 1 for learning day and another for service slam. It was determined that the service slam which is not until January can go forth (\$500) to create the set aside but it will be funded when funds are available. Can start with a 0 balance. Further discussion regarding whether we shouldn't just have an event set aside since it is not uncommon usage of funds. **This was deferred to the BOD and Treasurer who are in the midst of reviewing the finances, budget and set asides currently.**

Motion #2026-09-20-1

Maker: Jenn V Second Melanie M

Motion: H&I learning day October 24, 2026 Saturday requesting \$400 to support the learning day.

Intent: To spend \$300 on food, paper products, drinks. Donation to the venue which is allowing us to use their space \$100

For 19 Opposed 0 Abstain 0 MOTION PASSES

Motion #2026-09-20-2

Maker: Taylor H Second: Carrie B

Motion: Request that area provide a \$500 set aside for the AdHoc to have the necessary funds for the future service slam in January.

Intent: To fund the January 2027 Service Slam. Funds are for the venue, food, and all necessary expenses.

For 16 Opposed 3 abstain 1
MOTION PASSES

Discussion: Do we not ask if the abstentions need further information? Does not seem we've done this. The abstention offered that they would vote in favor only on necessities until the review by treasurer and BOD is completed.

Motion #2026-09-20-3

To provide check to Ross for \$358 to purchase the chromebook, speaker bar and camera for the Zoom activity.

Intent: To follow through on the previously passed motion by groups.

For 17 Opposed 0 Abstain 2
MOTION PASSES

Motion #2026-09-20-4

Maker: Policy

Motion: To rewrite section 8.1 in the current GPA Policy to the following....

8.1 Customary Expenses:

Customary expenses are defined as routine, re-occurring expenses which do not require a motion at the ASC to be paid. For any expense to be deemed a customary expense a motion must pass defining it as such

Current approved customary expenses

- Monthly or annual Zoom fee ~~to be a customary expense not to exceed \$200 annual~~ for a pro account
- ~~Use Extra Space Storage (8x10 for approximately \$88) to storage fees (monthly or annual) not to exceed \$200 per month and may be direct deposit~~
- H&I literature not to exceed current H&I set aside amount

For 10 Opposed 0 Abstain 4
MOTION PASSES

Motion #2026-09-20-5

Maker: Policy

Motion: Add to current GPA Policy section 8.4 under finances the following....

8.4 Reimbursement. A trusted servant may not make purchases on behalf of the GPA and expect reimbursement unless:

- (a) A motion has been passed at an ASC meeting approving the purchase before it was made: or
- (b) A motion has been passed at an ASC meeting approving tof the purchase after it was made, and such purchase is less than \$100

This policy does not prevent any trusted servant from donating equipment for use by Narcotics Anonymous

Intent: Ensure that the spending of NA funds is done transparently and with a group approval process

For 15 Opposed 0 Abstain 0
MOTION PASSES

Discussion: Can we spend against set asides without a motion? No we cannot. We set aside money but it is to ensure that money we anticipate needing is there when we need it. Unless something is a customary expense a motion has to be made regarding any spending of NA funds. Receipts should also be provided. This last motion allows for the \$100 reimbursement so that we don't hamstring ourselves. For example say a trusted servant had to go to an event and when they arrived must pay for parking which wasn't anticipated. They can reasonably expect that they will be reimbursed for that expense. It is always preferable to have a motion in advance for all spending Set asides are not a guarantee of funds. A motion still must go through the body to approve.

Meeting closed at approximately 5:25

H&I Commitments

Commitment Schedule	Week #	Panel Leader	Phone #
Bridgemark (Monday 7p-8p)			
1990 Elmwood Ave. Warwick RI			
	1	Chris P	401-636-8602
	3	Rich W	401-585-2893
Coordinator		Chris P	401-636-8602
Zinnia (Saturday 245p-345p)			
251 Main St. Exeter, RI	1	Jim L	401-230-6519
	2	Med	401-204-6528
	3	Bill L	401-440-3141
	4	Al B	401-499-2744
Coordinator	5	Mike M	619-347-9425
Adcare (Tuesday 7p-8p)			

1950 Tower Hill Road N. Kingston RI	1	Jamie	401-999-5363
	3	Russ L	401-699-4885
	4	Bill L	401-440-3141
Coordinator		Bill L.	401-440-3141
ASU (Wednesday 7p-8p)			
100 Randall St. Providence RI	1	Mike G.	401-524-1114
	2	Melanie M	401-523-4686
	3	Rich G	617-755-1628
	4	Garrick W	401-390-9165
Coordinator	5	Melanie M.	401-523-4686
CSU Butler (Monday 7p-8p)			
360 Duncan Drive Providence, RI	1	Marshall	401-470-0739
	2	Mike M	619-347-9425
	3	Steve L	401-332-6619
	4	Alex J	401-219-2703
Coordinator	5	Steve L	401-332-6619
Galilee Mission (Tuesday 7p-8p)			
1220 Kingstown Rd, Peace Dale, RI	2	Ray D	401-255-3414
	4	Ray D	401-255-3414
Coordinator		Ray D	401-255-3414
Eleanor Slater (Thursday 5p-6p)			
111 Howard Ave. Cranston RI	1	Jenn V	401-248-1727
	3	Angel	401-696-1173
Coordinator		Jenn V.	401-248-1727
Fuller Hospital (Thursday 7p-8p)			
200 May St. Attelboro MA	2	Brian T.	401-516-8722
	3	Eddie M.	401-200-0863
	4	Erica E	774-225-5513
Coordinator		Erica E	774-225-5513
Butler Detox (Sunday 7p-8p)			
345 Blackstone Blvd, Providence RI	2	Pride	401-742-8663
	4	Lauren H.	401-391-4002
	5	Steve I	401-332-6619