

# Central Massachusetts Area of Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Minutes

September 9th, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Mailing Address: Central MA Area Service Committee  
P.O. Box 60492  
Greendale Station  
Worcester, MA 01606

Next Meeting: October 7th, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.  
Hybrid Format  
Physical Location: Greendale People's Church  
25 Francis Street, Worcester, MA. 01606  
Zoom: Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502  
Passcode: NA1953

## Meeting Opened

The meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of silence, followed by the "We" version of the serenity prayer, the 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts, and A Vision for NA Service.

## Announcements to Groups

GSRs are asked to please read all announcements at your group business meeting. If your group does not have a GSR, any trusted servant or group member can attend the Area meeting to bring concerns, changes, or announcements from the group and to bring information and Area news back to the group.

- Anyone new to Area should attend at 6:00PM for orientation
- Events:
  - Chili and Chowdah Cook-off and Service Slam on Sunday September 15th from 12pm-5pm @ 639 High St. Hanson MA
  - Halloween Dance on Saturday October 26th from 7-10pm @ 44 Temple St. Worcester MA with a \$10 suggested contribution
- New Meetings:
  - None
- New GSR:
  - None
- Announcements:
  - "Oxford Group" on Sunday nights 7pm-8pm is now meeting at 355 Main St. Oxford MA
  - The inventory scan is now available to be filled out and submitted by groups, service bodies, and individual members. You can find the link to the survey [here](#).
  - There is now a survey to gather data on what option groups and members would prefer for how CMA would host IDT workshops. More information on this is covered in the reports below; you can find the survey [here](#).
  - NA World Services now has a survey available for individual members in an effort to anonymously gather demographic and related data. You can find the survey in English [here](#).  
**PLEASE ONLY SUBMIT ONCE.**

- Meetings in need of addict support:
  - “Get it Together” on Sunday nights 7pm-8:30pm at 19 Concord St. Framingham MA (ENTRANCE IN BACK)
  - “Message is Hope” on Tuesday nights 7:30pm-8:30pm at 33 Main St. Marlborough MA
- Motions:
  - (Was brought back to groups) Permanently close the Dropbox account. All existing files will be downloaded and uploaded to the Google drive.
    - PASSED
- Motions that affect policy and will need to be brought back to groups:
  - None

### Attendance Report

Attached to these minutes.

### Area Trusted Servants and Subcommittee Reports

**Chairperson:** Dennis M.

No report

**Vice Chair:** Craig R

- The next Executive Subcommittee Meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Monday September 30  
Zoom Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502  
Passcode: NA1953
- The Executive Subcommittee met on August 26th
- We continued a review of the duties of the subcommittee and other Policy issues. Further review will be done by the Policy Subcommittee

**RCM:** Teri T.

See attached report

**Alternate RCM:** *Vacant*

**Secretary:** Lila H.

Reformatted and organized the master document where the attendance is recorded. Will continue to optimize Google drive records.

**Asst. Secretary:** *Vacant*

**Campout Committee:** Evelyn F.

The Campout was a success. I will have Financials for the next service meeting.

-Evelyn F.

**Hospitals & Institutions:** John D.

Meeting opened with a moment of silence, the unity version of the serenity prayer, and collective reading of; the 12 Traditions of NA, the 12 Concepts for NA service and, A Vision for NA Service.

We held our annual Learning Day on September 7th 2024 at SPUR of the moment campout with approximately 45 attendees. I'm pleased to say it was a great success. I'd especially like to thank Patti M., Sean B., Julie M and Riss and all the other volunteers who helped us.

Washburn and the Haven are currently in need of Panel Coordinators. We are currently in 15 facilities of which 8 are active. We have open commitments and many facilities want more commitments. The Open Commitment Sheet and Commitment Sign Up Sheet are active.

ILS,

John D.

H&I Chairman

Links:

Draft of the Panel Member Survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScOtjC9w40bkpvakgovRYTyiG8RUt0M2DC2ZwpINnJEggRhQA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

H&I Orientation video: <https://youtu.be/izqiNI81qeM>

Next Subcommittee Meeting:

September 15th, 6:00pm at 44 Temple Street (Saint John's Church) in the Rectory, with orientation held at 5:30pm. The meeting will also be available via Zoom: ID: 98215126502 Passcode: NA1953

**Events:** Courtney B.

Halloween Dance scheduled for October 26th from 7-10pm @ 44 Temple St. Worcester MA with a \$10 suggested contribution. More information to come.

**Outreach Committee:** *Vacant*

**Website/Media:** Jonathan

- A reminder that for any events that groups or subcommittees would like placed on the [NERNA calendar](#), we will do so for you and to let us know as soon as possible (you do not have to wait for the next ASC meeting)
- Please email event information to [websitechair@centralmassna.org](mailto:websitechair@centralmassna.org) so it can be uploaded to our [area calendar](#).

- Logos for the contest will be tallied this month and the winner will be announced at the next ASC meeting. To vote [click here](#)
- Will continue to ask for contacts for every group that is currently meeting to get email contact information for the BMLT. (this does not have to be a GSR).
- [ASC minutes and Attendance](#) were uploaded when they were emailed out.
- Discussion around how the public may perceive the website as well as its navigation.
- Discussion about inclusion of the JFT and SPAD being added to the website.
- Discussion about possibly changing hosts will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The zoom team is still looking for members to train in using the equipment.
- There was an issue with our jetpack which will be troubleshot this month: **Total views: 1,899 and total visitors: 887**
- We continue to offer walk-thrus for any interested member, please contact [websitechair@centralmassna.org](mailto:websitechair@centralmassna.org) to schedule.
- [Full report can be found here](#)

Next Meeting will be held on September 15th at 3:00pm on the ASC Zoom:  
[Zoom: ID: 98215126502 Passcode: NA1953](#)

ILS,  
 Website subcommittee

**Policy:** Michelle B.

Executive sub-committee met on 8/26 and discussed policy review and creating an ad hoc with members that are willing to help go through policy. We have found a need to review all duties written in policy for sub-committees to make sure this is being practiced and note any changes that may need to be made (with motions and bringing back to groups depending on how the policy affects the area). There are financial audits, budgets and reports written in policy that are not being completed by sub-committees. The purpose of the ad hoc is to have our policy mirror what the CMANA is doing in service. This could mean continue as they are, revise what needs to be revised or remove if that is what is decided either by the Executive sub-committee or groups depending on the change/motion.

**Public Relations:** Riss R.

Public Relations Subcommittee will be introducing new small focus groups in the upcoming months/year. Some have no clean time requirement and others do have a requirement. The first to be streamlined is the Flier Hanging Focus group which has no clean time requirements and has lots of open service positions! We are still looking for a Vice chair, Secretary, and Treasurer which all have various clean time requirements and have pushed off our Learning Day until we hear further from Region.

Public Relations is a subcommittee that spreads the message of recovery to the public and professionals for people who may not know that Narcotics Anonymous exists. We are looking for new task group members for the Flyer Hanging Event Group which has a no clean time requirement and is open to all members please reach out after the meeting if you're interested!

If they do in fact reach out afterwards and have questions they can either reach out to my email which is [prchair@centralmassna.org](mailto:prchair@centralmassna.org) or let them know that it is creating an event for a flyer hanging day and/or executing that flyer hanging day.

ILS, PR

**Inventory/Scan Ad Hoc:** Jonathan S.

The subcommittee did not meet this past month and is currently awaiting more responses from groups.

A reminder to groups to please fill out the [form found here](#) before the October ASC meeting.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THERE WILL BE A PRIZE DRAWN FROM THE GROUPS THAT SUBMIT RESPONSES!

Next meeting TBD, check the calendar on the website for updates.

[Zoom: ID: 98215126502 Passcode: NA1953](#)

- Anyone interested may contact [adhocchair@centralmassna.org](mailto:adhocchair@centralmassna.org) and/or [CoraleeDNA@gmail.com](mailto:CoraleeDNA@gmail.com)

ILS,

CMANA Inventory Ad-Hoc

**Phone Line:** Anthony L.

After much research and troubleshooting, it seems the issue of the old number still receiving phone calls has been resolved by changing the priority of the new number with the carrier. The new number has now begun to receive calls as it should.

**Treasurer:** Anastasia D.

Prior Bal: \$154.59  
Donations: \$440.51  
Paid Out: (Rent, PR, H&I, Learning Day)- \$228.16  
Prudent: \$1900  
Events:\$0  
NESSNA Set Aside: \$500  
**GROSS:** \$2766.94  
**AVAILABLE:** \$366.94

**Asst. Treasurer:** *Vacant*

### Old Business

- There has been no update in regards to feedback from NERNA on the issue of finding a digital means for groups to contribute to CMA. Will update on any developments next month.
- The Area Inventory Scan is now live and has started receiving responses. Please continue to fill out the survey as a subcommittee, group, and individual. The link to the survey is located both at the top of this document under announcements and in the Ad Hoc report.
- Fellowship Development presentation will be done by Region after the inventory scan has been completed.
- The results are in! The winner of the contest for the new logo on the area website is option #5 which depicts the state of Massachusetts inside the NA symbol in black and white.
- Around CMA potentially hosting IDT workshops and what this would look like, a decision was reached that a short digital survey is to be created to determine what groups and members would prefer.
  - ***\*Please see announcements at the top for the now live link, or click [here](#).\****
- Policy is still in the process of being reviewed and revised, will continue to provide any updates.
- Open positions include Asst. Secretary, Asst. Treasurer, Alt. RCM, and Outreach Chair
  - New Outreach Chair elected: Mike A
  - A member expressed a sense of urgency around the lack of an Alt. RCM as it is a learning position, and they would then assume the position of RCM at the following election cycle. They stated how this vacancy leaves the area vulnerable to the possibility of not having a RCM come next election.

### Group Concerns

- GSR from “Get it Together” in Framingham expressed concern over lack of attendance and lack of trusted servants. They stated that if the issue persists they may have to close the meeting.

- GSR from “The Message is Hope” in Marlborough expressed concern over lack of attendance. They stated that the meeting is consistently small with a limited amount of home group members.

### Open Forum opened @8:02pm

- (Discussion around meeting procedures Robert’s Rules vs. CBDM tabled for a later date)
- Much conversation around the issue of CMAs financial procedures per policy, and finances in general. Multiple members stated an interest in changing policy financial procedures (around audits/reviews/spending plans) to something that is less complicated and adhered to consistently. It was expressed that the current policies in place are overly complex and unnecessary, leading to these policies not being followed. Conversation included general concern for the financial standing of CMA and the fellowship as a whole, mentioning how 7th Tradition contributions are low due to various factors. In turn, this has led to financial strain. It was brought up to brainstorm ways to improve our treasury, however a member expressed that it may be best to wait until we have the results of the inventory. This way, we would be able to utilize the feedback given and create the best plan for next steps.
- Around the interest in CMA holding an IDT workshop, the Chair posed three options for ways we could host them in terms of time and planning:
  - Set aside a specific amount of time before/after CMASC meeting to hold IDT workshop
  - Select a separate date and time for the workshop
  - Replace one months CMASC meeting with the IDT workshop

With these three options in mind, as well as the 4 IDTs, it was decided that a digital survey would be created to gather information on what the groups and members of the area would prefer. This will then narrow down how we are going to schedule the workshop, as well as the 1-2 topics that will be covered.

### New Business

- **NONE**

### Motions:

- (*Policy motion from previous month*) Permanently close the Dropbox account. All existing files will be downloaded and uploaded to the Google drive.
  - **PASSED** (*unanimous*)

ILS,  
Lila H.