

Central Massachusetts Area of Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Minutes

March 3rd, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Next Meeting: April 7th 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 6:30pm 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:
 - NERC Regional Convention March 14th-16th @ Sturbridge Host Hotel, 366 Main St. Sturbridge MA. The link for registration can be found [here](#).
 - "The Truth Is In The Book" group's 22nd anniversary March 22nd 6pm-8:30pm @ 9 Prichard St, Fitchburg MA, 6pm-7pm food, fun, and fellowship, 7pm-8:30pm meeting
 - Pasta and Game Day April 5th 1pm-5pm @ 44 Temple St. Worcester MA, \$10 suggested contribution but no addict will be turned away
 - Spur of the Moment Campout Fundraiser: International Online Speaker Jam April 6th 12pm-5pm
 - Zoom ID: 841 3715 2762
 - Password: Spur2025
- New Meetings:
 - None
- New GSR:

- “Fresh Start”- Julie M.
- Announcements:
 - **ELECTIONS for CMASC service positions** will be held **NEXT MONTH** (April)
 - “Get it Together” on Sundays in Framingham has **now closed**
 - NA World Services has a survey available for individual members, groups, and service bodies to gauge opinion on the current step working literature. The goal is to utilize the gathered data to improve the available NAWS-approved resources. You can find the survey in English [here](#). **The deadline for submitting this survey is March 17th.**
 - NA World Services has a **NEW** survey available for individual members to collect input regarding this year's World Convention and World Conventions to come. The goal is to gather opinions and experiences and take this data into account when planning future WSCs. You can find the survey in English [here](#). **There is currently no deadline listed for this survey.**
- Meetings in need of addict support:
 - “Bringing the Hope” on Mondays 6:30pm-7:45pm @ 437 Main St. Fitchburg MA
 - “Dose of Hope” on Mondays 7pm-8:30pm @ 14 High St. Gardner MA
 - “1,2,3 Follow Me” on Thursdays 7pm-8:30pm @ 416 Main St. Athol MA
 - “Lost and Found” on Fridays 7pm-8:15pm @ 297 Central St. Gardner MA
 - “Back to Basics” on Fridays 7pm-8pm @ 695 Southbridge St. Worcester MA
- Motions:
 - Money motion: \$200 for events to host Pasta and Game Day event
 - 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.

The chair went to the P.O. Box to retrieve mail and found that, despite action being taken to resolve this issue and payment being rendered, the P.O. Box is still inaccessible. Further action will be taken, updates to come.

*The chair has since been given a new key and now has access to the P.O. Box

Vice Chair: Craig R.

- The next Executive Subcommittee Meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Monday March 31
Zoom Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502

Passcode: NA1953

- The Executive Subcommittee met on February 24th
- The Treasurer has been added to the checking account and the next step is to set up online banking. Then we can start the financial review and audit for 2023 and 2024.
- The Strategic Planning presentation was discussed, and we recommend it take place at the May Area meeting.
- The timely submission of trusted servants and subcommittee reports was discussed, and we recommend this be a topic for open forum.

*It was discussed during the website subcommittee report that the task of deciding an appropriate password for specific pages on the website with sensitive information had been delegated to the executive subcommittee. This was not done at the subcommittee meeting, but will be revisited this month.

RCM: Teri T.

All areas were present except Boston Area and all areas gave reports. Even Marthas Vineyard that had to go through extensive lengths just to be there. Upcoming regional events are in the regional website and the expanded report including old and new business that was discussed at NERNA, RSM. A donation of 512 dollars was given on 2/9/25 from CMA to NERNA. I would like to ask the Area to please complete the surveys on the CMA website and also let us know if there are any concerns that you would like passed on to the regions open forum. We are here to better help your home groups while welcoming the unconditional loving atmosphere of Recovery in the Rooms.

Next NERNA meeting is April 12-13, 2025 via Zoom.

Any questions please let me know and feel free to contact me at ttirado34@gmail.com

In Loving service,

RCM

Teri.T

Alternate RCM: *Vacant*

Secretary: Lila H.

Until now, there has not been a deadline for submitting reports; this has led to the minutes being sent out far after a reasonable amount of time and some reports never being sent at all. More discussion on this issue will come in open forum with the goal of developing a structure for report submission.

Asst. Secretary: *Vacant*

Campout Committee: Kyle C.

- The Spur Campout met multiple times since the last Area Meeting and our primary focus has been on our Virtual Fundraiser. We are hosting it on Zoom - April 6th from 12-5pm EST. We are aiming for 6 international speakers (in english) and 4 US based speakers. We believe this will carry the message and also show an example of how far and wide the fellowship truly extends.
- Aside from that we have been working diligently to see how we can reduce costs by speaking with multiple campgrounds and trying to negotiate the approach the current campground uses to charge us. We believe that if we get 100 participants the campoff will be very successful, so make sure everyone you know pre-registers! Pre-registration will go live in the next couple of weeks.
- We are currently reserved for Camp Marshall on September 5, 6 and 7th this year. Barring no unforeseen circumstances, it is likely this is where the campout will take place.
- The link for the Spur Committee meetings can be found on the area website and the facebook group. We are always happy to have drop-in participation. We meet every 2 weeks.
- Lastly, shout out to Gina W whose logo was voted as being the choice for this year's theme "A Better Perspective".

Thanks to all those who have been making all of this possible and please share the flyer for the speaker jam!

-Kyle C.

Hospitals & Institutions: John D.

We had our subcommittee meeting on February 16th with 10 (Ten) addicts in attendance. Literature is available if people need it. We had a presentation at the FNSoG retreat I would like to thank Chelsea, Justin and Will from the regional body who travel out and spoke. Our Vice Chair Patti is doing a workshop at the upcoming NERNA convention in Sturbridge March 14-16th. We have commitments in 9 facilities and are always looking for speakers and panel leaders.

ILS,
John D.

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/izgiNI81qeM>

Next Subcommittee Meeting:

Sunday, March 16th at 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:

Included in the attachments to this email will be the complete expense report from the Valentine's Day Dance. The overview is as follows:

- Starting seed money: \$200.00
- Collected contributions: \$531.00
- Event expenses: -\$312.07
- Final balance: \$418.93

The events chair has stepped down, and the vacant position will be discussed further during new business. Also, the events subcommittee is requesting \$200 to host the upcoming Pasta & Game Day event; a motion for this will come later.

Outreach Committee: Mike A.

No report given

Website/Media: Jonathan S.

- Please email event information to websitechair@centralmassna.org so it can be uploaded to our area calendar. 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)
- 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 by the Vice-Chair.
- Currently have a task team led by bubbles to review other sites for ideas on how we may improve ours, anyone is welcome to participate. Contact websitevicechair@centralmassna.org for more information.
- Several updates were made to the Calendar for groups and service bodies as well as upcoming and concluded group and area events.
- The zoom team is still looking for members to train in using the equipment. equipment has been purchased and lent by members.
- Full analytics in Addendum A of full report
 - **Total Views:** 1,732 **Total Visitors:** 1,002
- We continue to offer walk-thrus for any interested member, please contact websitechair@centralmassna.org to schedule.
- Next Meeting will be held on March 17th at 7:00pm on the ASC Zoom:
 - Zoom: ID: 98215126502
 - Passcode: NA1953

ILS,
Website subcommittee

Policy: *Vacant*

Public Relations: Riss R.

Hello CMA-ASC! Public Relations is so excited to announce that we have a TABLE EVENT!! It will be at the DCU center from April 16th-April 17th and we need all hands on deck! Even if a service member cannot commit to PR we still need 2 trusted servants at the table for both days at all times and need help filling time slots! I have the excel sheet on my laptop so please call/text/email/fax/pigeon me during or after Area or anytime up until and sign up and we can talk about a time to go over Public Relations Basics!

This requires further discussion however seeing as there is a motion being submitted for \$200. Originally Regional PR had asked CMA PR to take on this task and split the bill 50/50. As CMA chair this seemed like a last minute decision, and it is an annual conference. CMA had said they would help not completely take over the event and the PR chair does not believe we are able to handle this in such a short amount of time. PR Chair does not recommend this at this time.

Public Relations will also be meeting TWICE this month and ask that you join us or if you are AT ALL interested in what we do when it comes to presentations, what a presentation entails or what PR basics look like! We will be doing a Presentation Workshop on Zoom on 3/19/25 at 6:30pm and will be having our regular meeting on 3/26/25 on Zoom at 6:30pm both are on the calendar!

ILS,
Riss

Inventory/Scan Ad Hoc: Jonathan S.

The strategic planning session following the recent presentation of the survey results will be held at the May CMASC meeting on May 5th.

IDT Ad Hoc: Jonathan S.

Since a fair amount of time has passed since the IDTs were announced, and most areas have held their workshops already, feedback on the topics has already been given, and revisions on the workshops are currently underway. It is recommended that this body wait until the revisions are posted and use the updated material to host the discussed workshops.

Service Slam Ad Hoc: CJ

No report given

Phone Line: Anthony L.

Phone line received one phone call this month.

Treasurer: Annastasia D.

Prior Bal: \$0.00

Contributions: (14) \$1,074.00

Payed Out: (*Rent, H&I, Events, Zoom*)- \$626.89

Campout: \$775.00

Prudent: \$1900

Events:\$0

NESSNA Set Aside: \$500

GROSS: \$3,622.11

AVAILABLE: \$447.11

A few other treasury matters were discussed:

- Due to the ongoing transition between the old and new treasurer, the debit card linked to the area bank account has expired and been destroyed. This causes some disruption when it comes to recurring charges linked to the card; further investigation to possible solutions to come.
- There was confusion about whether the annual zoom charge had already gone through or the most recent charge listed is from last year. Since the area debit card is no longer in use, one member generously offered to pay the zoom fee and be reimbursed shortly after.
- The dropbox account was thought to have been cancelled but was found to still be open. The next step is to verify that all necessary documents have been transferred out and to cancel the account fully.

Asst. Treasurer: *Vacant*

Old Business

- The transition from outgoing to incoming treasurer is still underway, as long as effort towards solutions for the aforementioned bank account issues. More updates to come.

Group Concerns

- None

Open Forum opened @ 8:05

- Jonathan S. and Teri T.'s names were passed along to region as the area's nominees to be funded to attend NESSNA. For the two additional members being funded by the area to attend, Patti L. remains as the first selection, leaving one remaining slot. *If you or someone you know are interested in being funded by the area to attend NESSNA and report back what you learned, please attend the next ASC meeting on April 7th.*

- As mentioned during the secretary’s report, there has been a long ongoing issue of reports needed to compose the minutes being submitted weeks late or not submitted at all. This leads to the minutes not being sent out until the end of the month, often after groups have already had their business meetings. Discussion around this issue and what would be a reasonable deadline for report submission ensued, concluding that **reports will be accepted until 72 hours after an area meeting. Reports given after this time will not be included in the minutes.** A reminder was given that **the secretary requires both a full report/minutes from the respective body as well as a brief summary to be directly copied and pasted into the minutes.**
- It was suggested that the events subcommittee could utilize the area’s CashApp account to collect contributions at events when members do not have cash. Going forward, events will have the CashApp information handy at any given event, and members can contribute while entering into the memo line “events” or the name of the specific event it is for.
- A member expressed concern that important information seems to not be flowing between the different levels of service, namely from NAWS to the individual groups. This member gave the examples of the lack of awareness around a current NAWS project to revise H&I Basics, and the lack of awareness around the several surveys NAWS has posted to gather input on different topics. Discussion ensued around where these communication failings could be occurring, concluding that while there are specific service positions that directly function to convey information between service bodies, this issue is too broad and all-encompassing for accountability to be claimed by specific trusted servants.
- A member expressed concern that helpful and relevant information about NA service, NA history, and common procedure are not being communicated to newcomers and incoming trusted servants. It was mentioned that due to the ratio of experienced members to newcomers, it is incredibly difficult to convey this information to the volume of people that could benefit from it. Conversation occurred around the willingness of members, widespread burnout from service, and more. One member suggested that an aide to this issue could be for this body to create a living document(s) where experienced members could record useful information across a variety of topics that newer trusted servants could reference. This idea was likened to the Local Service Toolbox that is available through NAWS, and other members agreed that it could be helpful to have that wealth of information recorded and tailored to the area’s needs. More on this to come later.

New Business

- **Nominations:** CJ for the position of events chair, Gina W. for the position of policy chair
- **Elected:** Gina W. for the position of policy chair, Josh M. for the position of assistant treasurer
- **All other elections are to occur at next month’s ASC meeting**

Motions:

- Money motion: \$200 for events to host Pasta and Game Day event
 - PASSED

Next Subcommittee Meetings:

- Events: Wednesday, March 12th @ 6:30pm over Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
 - Passcode: NA1953
- Outreach: Friday, March 14th @ 6:15pm in-person
 - St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 60 West St. Leominster MA
- H&I: Sunday, March 16th @ 6pm hybrid
 - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
 - Passcode: NA1953
 - (In-person) Saint John's Church, 44 Temple St. Worcester MA
- Campout (2): Sunday, March 16th and Sunday, March 30th @ 7pm over Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 863 7003 1211
 - Passcode: Spur2025
- Website: Monday, March 17th @ 7pm over Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
 - Passcode: NA1953
- PR (2): Wednesday, March 19th and Wednesday, March 26th @ 6:30pm over Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
 - Passcode: NA1953
- Executive: Monday, March 31st @ 6:30pm over Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
 - Passcode: NA1953

ILS,
Lila H.