

# Central Massachusetts Area of Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Minutes

May 5th at 6:30 p.m.

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

Next Meeting: June 2nd 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:
  - CMA Service Slam- Saturday, June 21st 1pm-8pm @ 219 Everett St, Southbridge MA: complete with an auction and karaoke, please join us in learning about service and having some good NA fun!
- New Meetings:
  - "Bridging the Gap" Tuesdays 6:30pm-7:45pm @ 219 Everett St, Southbridge MA
  - "Stick and Stay" Wednesdays 7pm @ 44 Temple St, Worcester MA
- New GSR:
  - "Hope Not Dope"- Chris P.
- Announcements:
  - Public Relations Demographics Survey is LIVE and available for both individuals and groups, you can find the survey [here](#). **The deadline for submission is June 1st.**
  - NA World Services has a survey available to gather input on a proposed draft for the revision of IP #21 "*The Loner- Staying Clean in Isolation*". The draft for revision is available [here](#) and the survey is available [here](#). **The deadline for submission is May 15th.**
  - NA World Services has a survey available to collect any proposals for the upcoming Conference Agenda Report (CAR) where members/groups/service bodies can submit ideas for changes in

literature, policy and procedure, etc. The survey is available [here](#). **The deadline for submission is May 20th.**

- NA World Services has a 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:
  - None
- Motions:
  - *(money motion)* \$226.56 for H&I to purchase x9 8-slot literature racks to place in their 9 active facilities
    - **TABLED** to preserve prudent reserve
  - *(money motion)* \$87.49 to reimburse Riss R. for purchases of PR literature
    - **PASSED** unanimous
- 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 7:00 PM on Monday May 19

Zoom Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502

Passcode: NA1953

- The Executive Subcommittee met on April 28
- The Treasurer opened a new checking account at Citizens Bank and the Vice Chair is also an authorized signer on the account. If the checks are received in time, we will use the new account beginning at the Area Meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The Citizens account has an option for us to add an Observer that can view the account but does not have the authorization to conduct any transactions. This can be assigned to any trusted servant that is not an authorized signer. We can add this to policy and include the assistant treasurer as an option.
- Santander has already charged us \$15 for April and we will likely be charged \$15 for May before we close the account.

- Information for the financial review and audit for 2024 will be organized and distributed to the treasurer, vice chair, asst treasurer and secretary. It was suggested the Central Mass Area create a finance committee to handle this in the future.
- The Treasurer and Asst Treasurer are revising the excel spreadsheet and will have an update at the next Executive Subcommittee meeting.
- The Service Slam is now scheduled for June 21st and needs additional organizing and will be discussed at the Ad Hoc Service Slam Subcommittee mtg on May 14 at 6:00 PM.
- Everyone is invited to attend the next Policy Subcommittee meeting on May 12 at 7 PM.

**Additional Information:**

In attendance – Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Asst Treasurer, Secretary, IT Chair, PR Chair -- Absent – Chair, RCM, Policy -- Position Open – Alternate RCM.

**RCM:** Teri T.

No report

**Alternate RCM:** *Vacant*

**Secretary:** Lila H.

None

**Asst. Secretary:** *Vacant*

**Campout Committee:** Kyle C.

No report given

**Hospitals & Institutions:** John D.

Please see attached full report

H&I Orientation video: <https://youtu.be/izgiNI81qeM>

**Next Subcommittee Meeting:**

Sunday, May 18th, 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:** CJ

Chair- Vacant

Vice Chair- CJ

Treasurer- Michele

Secretary- Vacant

- Service Slam
  - Members from Events will be attending the Service Slam meeting to discuss a venue then following a karaoke event.
- Unity Day-
  - Members from Events will be attending the Campout Subcommittee to discuss having the event during the Campout in hopes to gain more attendance.
- Events will have their next subcommittee meeting for the Service Slam on May 7th @ 6pm and a regular monthly meeting on May 21st @ 6pm.

ILS, CJ

**Outreach Committee:** *Vacant*

**IT Services:** Jonathan S.

- Please email event information to [it@centralmassna.org](mailto:it@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.
- 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.
- Several updates were made to the ASC 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/or lent by members.
- We helped to facilitate the tech equipment at NESSSNA III which was a wonderful success! Thank you for allowing us to help serve!
- Task team led by VC to review other sites for ideas on how we may improve ours, anyone is welcome to participate. Contact [it@centralmassna.org](mailto:it@centralmassna.org) NEZF has given us a Service Volunteer, Craig R. (Carolinas Region) to help us develop Guidelines/Policy.
- Task Team has been set up for the IT Services portion of the upcoming Service Slam to be led by Sean B. and Courtney D.
- CAR Idea Submission form which has a deadline of May 20th:
  - [https://naws.formstack.com/forms/car\\_survey\\_idea](https://naws.formstack.com/forms/car_survey_idea)
- Full analytics in Addendum A of full report from Total Views: 1,755 Total Visitors: 1,060
- We continue to offer walk-thrus for any j member, please contact [websitechair@centralmassna.org](mailto:websitechair@centralmassna.org) to schedule.

Next Meeting will be held on May 19th at 7:00pm on the ASC Zoom:

Zoom: ID: 98215126502 Passcode: NA1953

ILS,

IT Services subcommittee

**Policy:** Gina W.

We met on April 14, 2025 at 7:00 pm and there were 3 addicts in attendance. We have one open position (Vice Chair: Duties: Work alongside the Chair and learn the position, attend region when the Chair cannot) and there were no nominations.

Our main focus is the review and amending of the current Policy. Craig went through the old minutes to uncover any policy motions that were passed but not included in our current copy of Policy yet and we are now moving on to a full review of the current policy to read, evaluate and edit it before finally presenting to the Executive Subcommittee for review. We discussed that we will all use the same digital copy and add our own notes and that certain items will need to go back to groups for a vote.

Our next meeting is May 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm and the Zoom link is the same every month (<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89537705637?pwd=Jp8EIWSOBFCgpMbJFEpTzi51y8XIRx.1>) Meeting ID: 895 3770 5637, Passcode: 1953. All are welcome to attend.

In Loving Service,  
Gina W

**Public Relations:** Riss R.

Good evening,

Public Relations completed a table event at a 5k in Townsend on 4/27/25, replenished our stock at the Fitchburg Sheriff's Office, and have 1 more table even at the annual health fair held at Fitchburg High School on 5/9/25. We have also been asked to do classroom to classroom presentations at the end of May for Fitchburg High and are waiting for confirmation on one more table event and another presentation! With all of this in mind we are looking for support more than ever and would like to discuss more about the Poster Drive Task Team once again! PLEASE GSR'S remind your home groups that the Demographics Survey is LIVE on the [centralmassna.org](http://centralmassna.org) website and is encouraged for individuals and groups to be filling out! DEADLINE IS JUNE 1st!

ILS,  
Riss

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

No report

**Phone Line:** Anthony L.

1 phone call received this month

**Treasurer:** Annastasia D.

Prior Bal: \$0.00

Contributions: \$683.66

Paid Out: (*H&I+lit, rent, cust. exp*)- \$477.32

Prudent: \$1900

Events: \$300

Campout: \$775

**GROSS: \$3,181.34**

**AVAILABLE: \$206.34**

**Asst. Treasurer:** Josh M.

None

### Strategic Planning

This month, we were joined by Coralee who traveled from SEMA to facilitate a strategic planning session based on the responses the area received on the recent area inventory scan. This body collaborated to choose the top 3 problem areas that were relayed via the inventory survey:

1. Mentorship and Training for Service at the Group and Area Level
  - Causes:
    - Lack of knowledge/experience on how to mentor
    - Lack of guidance
    - Lack of newcomers in service
    - Burn out and stress among trusted servants
    - Newcomer attitudes and a general lack of commitment
  - Potential solutions:
    - Emphasis on the importance of service work from sponsors and encouragement to engage from fellowship
    - Fun events that encourage participation
    - Workshops and structured learning opportunities
    - Building/maintaining a more accepting and inclusive environment
    - Increased efforts in the areas of H&I, PR, and Outreach
    - Formal guidelines on the WHAT, WHY, and HOWs of mentorship in service work
    - Workshops/events on the history of NA to build excitement for the program and service efforts

- Connecting experienced members with newcomers to facilitate the transfer of valuable information and experience (outside of direct transfers of service)
- 2. Building Strong Homegroups
  - Causes
    - Lack of consistency in attendance and service efforts
    - Confusion around meeting dates/times/locations
    - Lack of communication between groups and service bodies
    - Misunderstanding of meeting and service structure
  - Potential Solutions
    - Reestablishment of Outreach subcommittee
    - Virtual outreach and virtual resources
    - Word of mouth
    - Fellowshiping
    - Experienced members attending and aiding struggling meetings
    - Physical meeting lists
    - Events such as “Bring a Newcomer” day
- 3. Awareness and Attraction of Service
  - Causes
    - Unfamiliarity with service structure and commonly used terminology
    - Negative reputation/atmosphere
    - The appearance of service as intimidating and daunting
  - Potential Solutions
    - Being clear and direct with communication, offering explanations and materials to reference
    - Using positive language when describing NA service
    - Offering examples over descriptions about the benefits of service work
    - Creating service positions specifically for newcomers
    - Offer clarity on MAT in relation to service work, highlighting the love and acceptance of the fellowship
    - Diversifying the mentioned benefits of service work
    - Increasing attraction with food, games, prizes, etc.
    - Using service work as a topic in discussion-based meetings
    - Creation of a “service menu” on the area website

### Action Plan

- IT Services to create “service menu” for area website
- Pairing new and experienced members in 3 teams, each team to brainstorm further solutions on each problem area and present to next ASC meeting

### Other Area Business

#### Old

- Policy review remains underway.
- New Citizen’s bank account allows for an “authorized observer” who can view the account without the permissions to make any changes. It was suggested that this access go to the Assistant Treasurer but was tabled for a later date.

### New

- Gina W. has been elected as the new Policy chair, **open positions now include Vice Chair, Alternate RCM, Assistant Secretary, and Outreach Chair**. Please see attached documents for further descriptions and qualifications.
- “Rise and Shine” asked permission to submit a CAR survey response in the area’s name to request that a line in the Basic Text be revised/removed as the line references a piece of NA literature that is no longer in circulation. The hope in using the area’s title is that it may be weighted more heavily than a single group when the responses are being viewed. As CAR survey submissions are due May 20th, this did not allow time for GSRs to bring this idea back to their groups. Consensus was for “Rise and Shine” to submit the survey under their group’s name due to disagreement with being asked to make a decision on the groups behalf that the groups are unaware of.

### Motions:

- (money motion) \$226.56 for H&I to purchase x9 8-slot literature racks to place in their 9 active facilities
  - **TABLED** to preserve prudent reserve
- (money motion) \$87.49 to reimburse Riss R. for purchases of PR literature
  - **PASSED** unanimous

### **Next Subcommittee Meetings:**

- **Events:** Wednesday, May 7th @ 6:30pm over Zoom
  - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
  - Passcode: NA1953
- **H&I:** Sunday, May 18th @ 6pm hybrid
  - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
  - Passcode: NA1953
  - (In-person) Saint John’s Church, 44 Temple St. Worcester MA
- **Campout:** Sunday, May 11th @ 7pm over Zoom
  - Meeting ID: 863 7003 1211
  - Passcode: Spur2025
- **Policy:** Monday, May 12th @ 7pm over Zoom
  - Meeting ID: 895 3770 5637
  - Passcode: 1953
- **Service Slam:** Wednesday, May 14th @ 6pm over Zoom
  - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
  - Passcode: NA1953
- **IT Services:** Monday, May 19th @ 7pm over Zoom
  - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
  - Passcode: NA1953
- **PR:** TUESDAY, May 20th @ 6:30pm over Zoom



- Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
- Passcode: NA1953
- **Executive**: Monday, May 19th @ 7pm over Zoom
  - Meeting ID: 982 1512 6502
  - Passcode: NA1953

ILS,  
Lila H.