Greater Philadelphia Regional Service Committee Meeting



Minutes of June 6, 2021 Meeting

2020 Greater Philadelphia Regional Service Committee					
	•	Telephone			
2020 Administrative Board	Name	Number	E-Mail Address		
RSC Chairperson	Matt O.	484-320-0011	olenik227@gmail.com		
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RSC Treasurer	Scott D.	215-500-4327	flyoldhead@gmail.com		
			secretary@naworks.org		
RSC Secretary	Arlene C.	267-265-2347	richardchappelle@aol.com		
Policy Chairperson	Curt L.	267-825-5156	cl5497@gmail.com		
ABC Chairperson	Billy W.	215-868-1969	billywolf3@gmail.com		
ABC Co-Chairperson	Lea H.	856-264-1348	leboneh@yahoo.com		
ABC Secretary	Open Position				
ABC Treasurer	Abu S.	267-237-1840	abusutton@yahoo.com		
Regional Delegate	Clarence A.	610-659-4304	llewtra1949@gmail.com		
Regional Delegate Alt	Ted D.	215-715-4847	Teddawson.td@gmail.com		
Special Worker - Admin	Theresa T.	267-304-3253	ttovercomer@verizon.net		
Special Worker - IT	Michael J.	610-842-4691	michaelj@naworks.org		
2020 RCMs					
Clean Acres Area RCM	Harvey E.	610-563-7014	harveyellison2@gmail.com		
Clean Acres Area RCM Alt	Eric M.	484-838-2778	egotabenz@gmail.com		
Delaware County Area (Delco) RCM	Mike S.	610-368-6122	trollvis153@comcast.net		
Downtown Area (DT) RCM	Michael D.	810-265-1276	rrehobo99@gmail.com		
Greater Camden Area (GCA) RCM	Bob R.	609-605-2609	rprogerssr@gmail.com		
Greater Camden Area (GCA) RCM Alt	Juana M.	609-707-0058	jminney993@gmail.com		
Inner City Area (ICA) RCM	Apirl S.	267-210-3026	ilethia92@gmail.com		
Montgomery County Area (Montco) RCM	Jim H.	267-282-5325	jimmiehoffman@gmail.com		
Montgomery County (Montco) RCM Alt	Pasquale P.	443-935-1731	pozz1111@yahoo.com		
Northwest Area (NW) RCM	Eugene G.	267-726-1641	genegist.com@gmail.com		
Northwest Area (NW) RCM Alt	Laurence D.				
Philadelphia Area RCM	Alex D.	215-518-1633	alexd3playngolf@yahoo.com		
Pyramid of Freedom (POF) RCM	Diane K.	215-954-9071	kirby diane@yahoo.com		
Pyramid of Freedom (POF) RCM Alt	Earl W.	215-264-8879	herew58@aol.com		
Schuylkill Valley Area (SVA) RCM	Joanna G.	856-649-4536	breatheletgo@ymail.com		
South Philly Area (SPA) RCM	Wahidah	215-966-2936	wahidahllee1954@gmail.com		
West Southwest Area (WSW) RCM	Tony F.	215-987-7821	clifffullwood@gmail.com		
West Southwest Area (WSW) RCM Alt	Cammy C.	267-242-7340	bornapril2@gmail.com		

2020 Greater Philadelphia Regional Service Committee

2020 Regional Subcommittees					
			babcockheather420@gmail.com		
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H & I Outreach	Duwan	215-920-6262	kameelah43@yahoo.com		
			kfarmer113@yahoo.com		
Cleansheet Chairperson	Keith F.	215-571-5167	cleansheet@naworks.org		
Public Relations Chair	Marvin E.	267-593-7323	marvinellis39@yahoo.com		
Public Relations Co-Chair	Brother James	215-668-5252	jastone55@gmail.com		
IT Committee Chair	Pete B.	215-205-8033	petebrown66@gmail.com		
Meeting List Chair	Monique H.	267-250-8550	mofhoto@yahoo.com		
Meeting List Co-Chair	Mark B.	215-327-4859	markel811.na@gmail.com		
Phone Line Chair	Brenda M.	215-397-0431	byfaithenternal@gmail.com		
Unity	Matt S.	215-410-4577	sirchoya@gmail.com		
Convention Committee Chair					
Trusted Servants / Visitors					
Northwest Area IT Tech	Pat C.	267-456-8708	pat.clark58@gmail.com		
Donate to GPRNA via Venmo: @GreaterPhiladelphia-RegionOfNA					

Greater Philadelphia Regional Areas

Or via Cash App: \$1NAWORKS Or PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/GPRNA

1.	Clean Acres Area	7. Northwest Area
2.	Delco Area	8. Philadelphia Area
3.	Downtown Area	9. Pyramid of Freedom Area
4.	Greater Camden Area	10. Schuylkill Valley Area
5.	Inner City Area	11. South Philadelphia Area
6.	Montgomery County Area	12. West Southwest Area

Greater Philadelphia Regional Subcommittees			
1. Regional Delegate	10. Public Relations		
2. ABC Chair/Office Manager	11. IT/Webmaster		
3. ABC Treasurer	12. Clean Sheet		
4. Convention Chairperson	13. Administrative		
5. Convention Treasurer	14. Policy		
6. Meeting List	15. JAC		
7. Phone Line	16. RSC Treasurer		
8. Hospitals & Institutions	17. Special Worker - Admin		
9. Unity	18. Special Worker - IT		

PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the Greater Philadelphia Regional Service Committee (GPRSC) is to unify the Areas within the region and help carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

The GPRSC provides a meeting place for all the Regional Committee Members (RCMs) within the region to express their collective group consciences.

The GPRSC meeting is the center of communications to share information and ideas between each area and other regions. It is the intermediate position linking our area services with the worldwide services of NA.

The GPRSC provides and promotes more active service committees to fulfill the common needs of the areas they serve and the communities they service.

The GPRSC participates in the continuation and growth of NA by initiating and contributing to the worldwide services of NA each year. The GPRSC will send the Regional Delegate (RD) and RD-ALT to the biennial WSC meeting and other World Services and NAWS, Inc. functions, when funding is available. The GPRSC will also participate in World Service by involving itself in literature review and development and all other World Service projects requiring fellowship-wide input and support.

The GPRSC is a service committee created by the Areas within. The elected officers are but trusted servants to the areas; a loving and caring Higher Power has the ultimate authority to guide all the regional meetings. The Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts and Guide to Local Service are the foundation by which the region operates.

The GPRSC is responsible for bringing together all members within the region to promote unity and harmony by celebrating our mutual recovery in NA. At least once each year, the region will accomplish this goal by holding activities such as conferences, conventions, campouts, unity days, etc. The planning and implementation of these events is left to a regional sub-committee specifically established to carry out this purpose.

Regional Service Committee Meeting – 6/6/2021

Note: If there is no quorum by thirty (30) minutes after the meeting starts, we will begin with an informational meeting, which will include the reading and acceptance of reports.

The meeting was opened at 10:05 a.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The meeting was conducted via the Zoom Platform.

The 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts were read.

The Purpose of the GPRSC was read.

Roll Call: 11 Areas Represented

A quorum was established.

Clean Acres Area Philadelphia Area

Pyramid of Freedom Area Downtown Area Greater Camden Area Schuylkill Valley Area South Philly Area Inner City Area

Montgomery County Area West Southwest Area

Northwest Area

Minutes were read from the April 11, 2021 RSC meeting.

Joint Administrative Committee (JAC) – Matt O., Regional Co-Chair

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

The JAC met yesterday. (The JAC meets the Saturday before the RSC at 2 pm. All subcommittee chairs should attend.)

Planning will begin for the reopening of the RSC meetings in person.

The Regional website has been experiencing a communications breakdown. Updates are not being submitted when meetings are re-opening in person.

There was also discussion of our Regional insurance. Details will be presented in the ABC report.

RCM/Area Reports:

Philadelphia Area – Alex D., RCM

I was not able to attend the ASC due to work obligations.

We have had many more meetings open to live attendance. We are trying to develop a full list in order to provide information to our webmaster to include on the list on our website.

We also need to find out about insurance – what we owe and how to get caught up.

Area is doing ok.

In loving service, Alex D., RCM

Montgomery County (Montco) Area – Jim H., RCM

The Montco Area Service Committee meeting was held on May 23, 2021.

Jared stepped down as Co-Secretary. That position is now vacant.

Alicia made a motion to open a PO Box for PR. Duane mentioned that the law was changed after 9/11. The PO Box will need to be in someone's name. We are unable to open one under the Montco Area because we do not have an EIN number. Dave used the EIN number for the World on the bank account. He believes he may be able to use it for the PO Box. Dave will look into what is needed to open a PO Box.

Alicia looked into a location for the Area meeting. We are not permitted to meet at the current location for the remainder of this year. We can revisit this issue at the end of this year for next year. Please reach out to Jake if you have a possible location for Area to start meeting in person.

In regards to the RCM request for a phone line, Duane mentioned that the last time we had a phone line was because our Region had one and we volunteered hours through theirs. Jim's proposal would be to open a subcommittee that reports to the Regional subcommittee rather than start a new phone line.

Regarding where literature is being ordered from, the literature chair will decide the best process based on trial and error. Some existing challenges are based on not meeting in person

RSC Minutes – June 6, 2021

every month. Jake and Craig will meet and discuss pros and cons of ordering from World vs. Free State.

Donation to GPRSC \$500.00.

Open positions:

- Secretary
- Co-Secretary
- Co-Treasurer
- Unity Co-Chair
- Literature Co-Chair
- Meeting List Co-Chair
- Web Servant

The next Montco Area Service Committee will be held via Zoom on the last Sunday in June, June 27, 2021.

Respectfully submitted, Jim H., RCM

West Southwest Area - Tony F., RCM

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

WSW Area now has its own Area website – https://wswana.naworks.org.

We will be holding our Area Celebration on Saturday, July 3, 12 - 7 pm, at N. Georges Hill (behind the Mann Music Center).

Our H&I Committee is currently serving 3 facilities through virtual presentations.

Our Literature Review Subcommittee needs support.

We are donating \$326.64 to Region and \$271.19 to insurance.

We have a proposal to present in New Business concerning a Regional forum to address the decreasing fund flow.

In loving service, Tony F., RCM Cammy C., RCM Alt.

Northwest Area – Eugene G., RCM

All is going well in the Northwest Area.

We have 22 home groups in the Northwest Area.

Recovery In The Morning is now open for in-person meetings at Happy Hollow Rec Center (4800 Wayne Avenue), 9 am - 11 am, Monday through Saturday.

Life Is a Terrible Thing to Waste is holding an outdoor in-person meeting on Thursday at 7 pm in Ardleigh Park at Ardleigh & Haines Sts.

Pleasant Afternoon is holding an outdoor meeting at Chelten & Sprague Sts., on Friday, from 12-2 pm.

Our Area Service Committee meets every 3^{rd} Saturday of the month from 11 am -2 pm via Zoom. Meeting id: 849 9806 6667. Password: 395352.

In loving service, Eugene G., RCM Laurence D., RCM Alt.

<u>Discussion</u>: There was a question from the SVA RCM concerning the H&I commitment at DRC. The Northwest Area H&I Chair has stepped down, and the Co-Chair is filling in. Their H&I Subcommittee is not servicing any facilities currently. SVA met with DRC on Henry Avenue to try to re-start H&I meetings there. Other Areas had been involved with that commitment. Eugene will let the Northwest H&I Subcommittee know about the situation.

Clean Acres Area – Harvey E., RCM

Clean Acres Area meets the 3rd Sunday of each month at 7 pm. We are still meeting virtually. Meeting id is 275 856 6387. Password is 123456.

We have 33 groups. 11 are meeting virtually; 2 are holding hybrid meetings; and 17 are meeting in person. 3 groups are currently not meeting.

The Unity Committee held an event on Saturday, May 22, 2021, from 12-6 pm. All went well.

RSC Minutes – June 6, 2021

Clean Acres Area Unity Committee will be having a picnic in August. A flyer with information will be provided at a later date.

Donations for this month are \$108.41 to Region and \$108.41 to World.

Trusted Servants Harvey E., RCM Eric M., RCM Alt.

Inner City Area – Apirl S., RCM

There was much conversation at our Area Service Committee meeting about revising the pamphlet Illness In Recovery to include discussion of medical marijuana.

There was also discussion about meetings opening up.

There is still talk about insurance. I have explained that groups cannot get a copy of the actual insurance policy. I did give a copy of the proposal made in August 2019 concerning the financial responsibility for our Regional insurance, including the clarification statement, to a member of the Together We Can Group.

In loving service, Apirl S., RCM

<u>Discussion</u>: There was extensive discussion about the possible revision of our literature to address the issue of medical marijuana. A proposal would have to go to World to be included in the next Conference Agenda Report (CAR). Because the cut-off date for submission of proposals for the next CAR is coming up soon (possibly before our next RSC meeting), a proposal would have to be submitted today and voted on by the RCMs.

Schuylkill Valley Area (SVA) – Joanna G., RCM

This is my last report as RCM; my term is completed. Our Area has not yet filled the RCM position, so it remains open at this time of this report. Thank you to everyone in the RSC who helped, taught and encouraged me for the last 2 and a half years. Looking forward to continuing to serve with you at Region in another capacity.

- SVA holds their Area Service Committee meeting (virtually/ online) on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Many positions remain open, and there continues to be less interest/ engagement with Area level service.
- Prior to the pandemic, SVA had 14 member groups. To my knowledge, three of the groups are currently not meeting, leaving 11 member groups. Out of the 11 groups that are meeting: four are meeting (only) in person: Here At Last group on Sundays (Roxborough); Turning Point group on Mondays (Roxborough); Living the Dream group on Thursdays (Manayunk); Point of Freedom group on Fridays (Lafayette Hill). The remaining seven groups are meeting only online. All meeting information for SVA (including addresses for the in-person meetings) on naworks.org is accurate/up-to-date.
- SVA did not make a donation to Region this month. (Donations to our ASC from our groups were low.)
- Though our Area does not have a current Literature Purchase Chair, a member who serves as Policy Chair is temporarily filling in to fill literature orders for our groups. They were able to contact a member in a neighboring Area with experience to get suggestions on best practices, re: handling distribution.
- Our area elected a Unity Chair (Tyler T.).
- Upcoming change to meeting info:

The Monday afternoon group, Our Diversity Is Our Strength (ODIOS), which is currently meeting online, will not be meeting between the first week in July and early September. Their last online meeting before their break will be the last Monday in June (6/28), and they will resume their meetings on the first Monday after Labor Day in September (9/13).

In grateful	servi	ce,
Joanna G.,	SVA	RCM

Greater Camden Area – Bob R., RCM

Our Area Service Committee continues to meet every 3rd Sunday of the month on the Zoom platform at 4 pm. The subcommittees meet an hour before Area in breakout rooms. As RCM, I inform the Area chairs about Regional weekend.

The Area has 21 groups that meet on Zoom and 1 in-person meeting. The 11^{th} Hour Group, which meets on Saturday at 9:30-11 am, no longer meets on Zoom.

The Area along with the groups have made donations to the Region and the World. Some groups have been donating to Region on their own (not through the Area), so I do not know the total donations from the Area.

Giving Back What Was So Freely Given To Us is hosting a Speaker Jam on July 10, 2021, from 1-7 pm at the Farnham Park located in Camden, NJ 08103. On the same day, Rudy W. will be celebrating 30 years of recovery. You have to bring your own chairs. Food, fun, & fellowship.

In loving service, Bob R., GCA RCM Juana M., GCA Alt. RCM

<u>Discussion</u>: The RCM would like to get accurate information about what the financial needs are at the World. Some groups are making decisions about donations based on hearsay.

South Philadelphia Area – Wahidah, RCM

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

The South Philadelphia Area meets virtually on the 3rd Saturday of the month. All is well. Groups are still meeting on Zoom.

South Philly Do Recover is celebrating its 32 Year group anniversary on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, from 1-6 pm. The regular group meeting will start at 6:30 pm. Meeting id is 762 1597 0904. Password is 1234.

H&I is discussing re-starting meetings at facilities.

The Area made a donation to Region of \$160.

In loving service, Wahidah, RCM

Pyramid of Freedom (POF) Area – Earl W., RCM Alt.

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

The Area Service Committee has started meeting every 2 months. We have no active subcommittees at this time. Only H&I is meeting on Zoom.

The Area has 11 groups. All are meeting on Zoom.

We have talked to the church about re-starting our Area meeting in person. The church is not having any activities there until the end of the year.

I have no information on donations.

In loving service, Earl W., RCM Alt.

Downtown Area (DANA) - Michael D., RCM

All is well as we continue to serve the addict who still suffers.

We have opened 3 meetings as hybrid meetings (combination of in-person and Zoom). More meetings are being considered for in-person.

The H&I commitment at Penn Presbyterian Hospital has started back.

Area donated \$772.00 to Region.

Love and respect, Michael D., RCM

<u>Discussion</u>: The Regional Treasurer reported that the total donations from the Downtown Area this cycle were \$2066.13.

Delco Area - Michael S., RCM

6/6/2021 – Absent / No report

RD Report – Clarence A., RD

Greetings,

We have a few things that we are reporting.

Regional Information:

We want to thank the IT Team for making the audio portion of the last Regional Information Day available for listening on our Regional website – www.naworks.org – GPRNA Information Day–Recordings. Please let members in your Areas know that this is available.

Topics are:

What's The Basket For
Our Fellowship, Our Responsibility
The Services That Donations Support and Provide
Virtual Donations
State of the Region

Thanks to all that participated and those that shared their experience.

We have meetings in our Region that are going back to in-person meetings. We would like to suggest that members go to www.na.org and enter in the search box: COVID-19 Suggestions for Online and In Person Meetings. Also, please contact the Public Relations rep in your Area or Region to help with any presentations that may be needed.

Our next Regional Information Day is scheduled for August 22, 2021, 2pm-6pm.

Topics are:

Why Aren't You Interested in Service? What Makes NA Service Unattractive? Information on Zones / Fellowship Development These meetings will be open discussion.

A flyer will be posted on our Regional website and included in the minutes.

The next World Conference Participant meeting is scheduled for June 12th. The topics of discussion will be Financial Update and World Service Conference 2022.

RD Report (continued)

Zonal Information:

The Autonomy Zonal Forum (AZF) meeting was held on April 19th. These meetings are open to any members that care to attend. Some items that were discussed: Meeting of the US Zones, AZF Task Team, Results of the Survey that was posted to our Regional website.

There were some recommendations for the US Zones. These will be attached to the minutes.

The RDs of the AZF approved two Task Teams:

Fellowship Development Task Team. This meeting is open to anyone that cares to attend.

They meet every second Thursday of the month. The next meeting is June 10th 7pm.

Zoom Info: 449 253 6438

Web Task Team. We are asking anyone with any type of web or IT experience to attend. Our

Regional IT Chair has agreed to attend. The next meeting is June 7th 7pm.

Zoom Info: 896 1468 2498

The next Autonomy Zonal Forum is being hosted by EPARNA. The dates are Saturday and Sunday, July 24th & 25th. The Zoom id is 815 5063 5679. Password is 112241.

Saturday, 10 am - 9 pm, schedule includes workshops, 2 recovery meetings, and entertainment. Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm is the AZF Business Meeting.

The topic of the meetings is "Role of the Zonal Forum, Past, Present, Future." This meeting is open to all members. Please encourage your Area members to attend. For anyone wanting to find out more information on what and how zones work, this will be a very informative event.

NA World Service (NAWS):

Our Basic Text is printed in 37 Languages. Basic Text audio is free to listen to. It can streamed or downloaded. Go to www.na.org and type "Basic Text Audio" in the search box.

Financially, and as always, NAWS still needs member contributions. NAWS depends on literature sales to finance the business part of our Fellowship. However, due to the pandemic, literature sales have dropped dramatically. If members can make a monthly contribution for every year they have clean that would be a significant help. Also, if each home group donated \$10 a month, NAWS would not have to depend on literature sales to stay financially afloat. Part of the Regional Information Day covered that very subject – The Services that Donations Provide and Support. Remember, your donations allow Our Message to be carried worldwide.

In Service Clarence A., RD, and Ted D., RDA RD Team

RD Report (continued)

In response to questions concerning the financial situation at the World, the RD submitted the following additional information:

NAWS Financial:

Literature income is down 32%. Currently down 31% of the financial plan for this period.

There are cost increases due to the pandemic, and shortage of materials needed for literature, key tags, and medallions.

NAWS experienced a malware attack. They refused to pay the ransom, as there was no guarantee that the files would be released. This was an unexpected expense, due to the fact that people had to be hired to rebuild the system.

Currently there are two lawsuits against the Fellowship. As of now, there is no information on cost for the lawsuits. The lawsuits are from California and the Philippines.

NAWS still needs member, Area, and Regional donations. To contribute, go to www.na.org/contribute.

ABC Chair - Billy W.

We had our meeting with Lea, Abu, Theresa, Special Worker, and Scott, Regional Treasurer.

We got word from the insurance people that we got a \$487 credit for Covid considerations, and we are now seeing if we can get another discount for the next 6 months. We currently have about 140 meetings that are open or hybrid, which is about 30% of our pre-Covid numbers. Covid-related injuries are not covered. Our insurance costs approximately \$11,000/year and is the largest Regional expense, at about 25% of our yearly expenses. We've been in discussions to see how we can lower our overall insurance bill permanently. I am not holding out much hope.

Part of what this Subcommittee is for is to find ways to penny pinch our costs. Money, in the end, is not NA's purpose, it's to carry the message, and saving money should never override our goals here. That said, there are always ways to make our costs more efficient, and that is what this subcommittee is for.

ABC Chair Report (continued)

Tax filings. Remember that we don't owe anything, but we still have to file to maintain our tax-exempt status. We paid the CPA their \$500 for this year's tax stuff. (Scott cut a check, as approved by this body.) We are all filed and in line with taxes.

Our Special Worker, Theresa, asked for approval to go ahead and update the Region's laptop with this year's security software. This is something that has to be done every year and was part of the maintenance costs of the laptop that was approved before. Cost will be \$50-\$60.

ABC, in conjunction with the Treasurer and Special Worker, Theresa, will be reviewing all cash flows that are currently in place to see if we can become more efficient. We started to discuss future planning, what to expect when we go to full opening. We discussed possible scenarios of when physical meeting lists might be back in play. This body does not see a near-term need for the books, and it may be quite some time before it's felt that NA has stabilized enough to print. We would recommend reviewing this again in 6 months.

Some of the conversations were around rents paid by Region for the space at Roxborough Hospital. At some point, the Region (RCMs) will decide what the future of our service needs are, for example, in-person vs Zoom, hybrid, and the costs. The cost for Region's rent is roughly \$900/year -- \$600 for subcommittees, and \$300 for Regional Sundays. The Region's Zoom account costs \$175/year. We discussed possible scenarios that are likely.

Remember, Region's goal is not to save or make money. ABC's goal is just to be more efficient in our planning.

More will be revealed on this front, we are sure.

In loving service, Billy W., ABC Chair

<u>Discussion</u>: Our liaison, Charles C., will be checking again with Roxborough Hospital about the possibility of our returning for in-person meetings. There was a question about how non-voting members could participate in the decision to re-opening in-person RSC meetings. Many participants (administrative committee members, subcommittee chairs, etc.) will be affected by that decision. One suggestion was to do a straw poll to see how many people are willing to come back to in-person meetings. The health of all of our members is important. In reference to printing of meeting lists, there was a suggestion that the individual Areas may want to print their own meeting lists. With meetings continuing to re-open, the information is continually changing. Area meeting lists could be updated monthly.

ABC Treasurer – Abu S.

Information is included in the ABC Chair Report. The ABC Treasurer is continuing to work with other members of the ABC to reduce Regional costs.

Subcommittee Reports:

Meeting List – Monique H., Chair

Total Active Meetings: 345 meetings

Breakdown: 137 In-person only

192 Virtual only16 Hybrid

Thanks for allowing me to serve. Monique H., Meeting List Chair

Michael J., the IT Special Worker added that there are 163 meetings that are unpublished. These are not included in the numbers that Monique reported. These meetings are in our database but are not visible on the meeting list on the website, possibly because they are temporarily closed. Clean Acres is the only Area with no unpublished meetings. Michael asked that we make sure our groups are contacting IT about any changes in their meetings by submitting the meeting list update forms on the website. This will ensure that we have accurate information on all meetings. Just making an announcement at the Area Service Committee meeting does not automatically translate to the information being passed on to Region. Each Area should have a single point of accountability for this. If there is not an active Meeting List Rep, the RCM should step up to take on this responsibility.

<u>Discussion</u>: Some RCMs asked about their Area's unpublished meetings. Philadelphia Area has 20 unpublished meetings; South Philly has 4 unpublished meetings; and Pyramid of Freedom has 9 unpublished meetings.

There were a few questions about the update form. When updating a virtual meeting that is becoming an in-person meeting, select "delete virtual meeting" when indicating the reason for the update. IT was asked if the options for the update could be explained on the form. It is important that basic information, such as day, time, and facility information, is provided. Someone asked why there was an option for special interest group, when our Region does not recognize special interest groups. Our form was created to correspond with the NAWS format. This simplifies sending our information to NAWS.

Phone Line – Brenda M., Chair

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

This is my last day as Phone Line Chair. Thanks for allowing me to serve for the past 6 years.

There were 12 people in attendance at yesterday's committee meeting.

For the past month, Phone Line had 112 calls and used 336 minutes. (This is an increase in the number of calls.)

Our recent Learning Day was successful. Thanks to all the trusted servants that helped out.

Because many H&I meetings are not functioning now, we have been directing people to our website for information on our meetings. We need help getting information on open meetings to new people.

Brenda M. Regional Phone Line Chair

<u>Discussion</u>: Pete and Michael from IT will meet with Brenda to come up with a solution for the issue of getting meeting information to new members.

H & I – Heather B., Chair

<u>Areas & Members Present</u>: Clean Acres, Downtown, South Philly, Montco, Schuylkill Valley, West Southwest Chair and Co-Chair, Pyramid of Freedom, Philadelphia, Brother James, Jim

Areas Not Present: Camden, Delco, Inner City, Northwest

Administrative Report:

Received 2 inmate letters (1 male & 1 female) in May requesting correspondence and literature. Forwarded the letters to the Schuylkill Valley and Philadelphia Areas. Received another letter from the same female inmate reaching out again for support as she had not yet received a letter. Myself and the Philadelphia Chair responded to this letter and apologized for the delays. Inmate letters are rerouted through a mail processing center in Florida, which adds additional delays to our receiving them. Subcommittee had concerns about when we might be checking our PO box to try to speed up the process on our end.

H&I Report (continued)

We want to thank the Regional Phone Line for including H&I in their Learning Day. It was an honor and success to work together in the spirit of service.

There was an oversight in the H&I flyer going out to all facilities in the Region. The phone line number has now been added, and the flyer will be redistributed. The flyer is bilingual, has a QR code for meetings, Regional website, and helpline information.

Passed along Women's Space facility information to the Montco Area, as it falls in their Area and previous Area was lacking support.

Participated with Downtown H&I Chair and PR Co-Chair for virtual H&I presentation for new director at Penn Presbyterian. It went well and meetings were established.

Area Reports:

<u>Clean Acres</u>: No meetings in person, 1 virtually, 0 misses. New H&I Co-Chair and Literature Chair. Put together 50 newcomer packets to send to the prisons. RCA requested in person meetings; however, required that speaker and panel leader show up 15 minutes before to submit to a rapid on-site Covid test. We took the temp of the members to see if we could facilitate this request, and we do not have the support for this at this time.

<u>Downtown Area (DANA)</u>: Imeeting in person, 0 misses. Had a virtual presentation at Penn Presbyterian. It went well. Started meetings. Time has now changed to 6-7 pm. Charter Fairmount is testing out tech stuff on their end for future virtual meetings. Dropped off literature at facilities.

<u>South Philly</u>: No meetings virtually or in person. Been providing literature to addicts at facilities. Held the first H&I Subcommittee meeting since the pandemic. Nobody showed up.

<u>Schuylkill Valley</u>: 3 meetings virtually, 0 misses. Established virtual meetings at Charter Fairmount 3 times a week on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday @ 8-9 pm, using two-speaker panel. Meetings have been going well other than working through some technical issues together. We showed up for Memorial Day; they didn't. Delivered literature. Responded to inmate letter, and letter got returned with no forwarding address.

<u>West Southwest</u>: No meetings in person, 3 virtually, 0 misses. Learning Day on 4/10, 12-4pm went very well. Kirkbride hasn't been showing up for meetings on their end. Contacted the point of contact, and we are working on changing meeting dates. Women's facility every week we have to call and remind them to sign in for the meeting.

H&I Report (continued)

<u>Montco</u>: 2 virtual meetings, 3 in-person meetings, 1 miss: One miss at Valley Forge. Panel leader got in a car accident and it was too late to get a hold of new people to cover the commitment. Horsham All: Meetings covered; all is well. Started Women's Space every Friday, weather permitting, outside in the parking lot. Eagleville will be going from virtual to in-person meetings this upcoming week. Staying in contact with other facilities to let them know we are here.

<u>Pyramid of Freedom</u>: 2 virtual meetings, 0 in person, 5 misses. Two (2) virtual meetings at DRC – 1 for men and 1 for women. The women's meeting has been going very well. Men's side has been having a lot of issues on our end and their end. Subcommittee is going to be looking for a new panel leader who doesn't have issues with the time and can better communicate with subcommittee. Dropped off hard copies of suggested meeting readings.

<u>Philadelphia</u>: No virtual meetings, 1 in person, 0 misses: One commitment at Self-Help on Wednesday trying to get 2nd meeting established. Took female inmate letter to correspond with.

Outreach: No report given.

<u>Old Business</u>: Until we are able to meet in person, we will continue to meet the 1st Saturday of each month @ 9am via Zoom. ID#: 275-856-6387. Password: 123456.

<u>New Business</u>: Reviewed H&I RSC Policy. We will now be reading the Tradition and Concept of the month instead of 1-12.

Open Forum: We need help! There are Areas struggling with the same few people in service. If you know members who are comfortable carrying our message through H&I virtually or in person, we would love help putting together an availability list of trusted servants. RCMs, if you can ask your Areas, this would be so helpful! You can have people contact me at 267-310-8329 or hi@naworks.org. Also, how can we change the incorrect information for when the H&I RSC meets in the Cleansheet? Sent out email...no response. Disburse new H&I flyers and check on P.O. Box procedures. Contact information for Area H&I Chairs who have not been attending so we can establish communication and support with them. Clean Acres and Montco have invited DANA and Schuylkill Valley to attend their subcommittee meetings for support and to combine our resources.

In Loving Service, Heather B., H&I Chair

<u>Discussion</u>: Inmate mail often takes 2 weeks to a month to reroute because of privacy issues. Theresa and Scott regularly check the mail when notified by the virtual office. We do not have a p.o. box.

Unity – Matt S., Chair

[Unity Chair was not present. The following information was given by Antonio C., WSW Unity Co-Chair.]

The Unity Chair did not show up for yesterday's subcommittee meeting. No meeting was held.

There is a Unity marathon scheduled for next Sunday, June 13. There are still open slots that have to be filled. Antonio will try to get updates on that.

<u>Discussion</u>: The Secretary did not receive a written report from the Unity Chair. Schuylkill Valley Area took the 5 pm slot. There were volunteers for the 2 remaining slots. Tarwan, Policy Co-Chair, said that the Policy Committee would be willing to take one of the slots if needed. Clarence A., RD, also said he would be available if needed. There are no assigned topics for the meetings.

Public Relations – Marvin E., Chair

Attendance:

Marvin E., Chairperson (South Philly Area)

Keith (Schuylkill Valley Area)

Brother James, Co-Chair (West Southwest Area)

Tanya W., Secretary (West Southwest))

Michael W. (Northwest Area)

Paul L. (Northwest Area)

Jessie (Montco Area)

Terrance (Downtown Area Secretary)

Rob (Downtown Area Chair)

Brenda P.

Clarence (RD)

Gamel Aziz

Tarwan

Chairperson Report:

The PR budget is \$4500. The opening balance is \$3500. PR was approved to receive \$100 from the Region. PR was previously approved for \$50. The Chair or Co-Chair will connect with the Regional Treasurer to get those funds. We did receive the funds on 06/05/21. We received \$133 instead of \$150.

PR Report (continued)

PR Chair stated that they have not got back in touch with Councilman Greene regarding the letter sent out to City Council on PR PSA concerns. The Chair will connect with the work group coordinator, Paul L. The Chair received a call from the Northwest Area Chair asking how Public Relations can help home groups who will be reopening inside of City recreation centers under new Covid-19 guidelines of sign-in sheets. The Chair also received a call from the Camden Area, which reached out for support in reopening in a new facility.

Area Reports:

Downtown: The Downtown Area Subcommittee reported they, the Chair and Secretary, are new representatives who have been reading the PR Handbook, reaching out to other Areas, and showing up to listen in on Area / Regional meetings.

Schuylkill Valley: The Subcommittee Chair reported they did not have a subcommittee meeting last month, but they did receive support from H&I. The elections were recently held, but no one took the position as PR Chair, so they will remain in position on a month-to-month basis in hopes of someone stepping up. The Chair also reported they received posters and have posted them in a Shop-Rite at Roberts Avenue and in Roxborough. They followed the procedure by connecting with a manager for permission.

Northwest: The Chair stated that the subcommittee is in need of new posters and would like to know where they can distribute them. The Chair also asked for guidance in how to move forward with reopening meetings in the area under the new Covid-19 guidelines.

Montco: We are still a combined subcommittee between H&I and PR. PR is working on getting our PO Box figured out so we have a spot for people to contact us. We have our flyers and information cards. Now we need to get them distributed to local locations with a poster drive. We did distribute flyers and posters to facilities that allow H&I meetings. Montco Area thanks everyone for being in service and allowing us to participate.

Old Business:

Mock Presentations: The PR Chair and Northwest Area Chair went through a non-addict mock presentation with the group. Never go alone when doing presentations.

PSA: Never go alone when putting up posters or when going to speak with someone in authority to get permission.

PR Report (continued)

Continuing to discuss PR Learning Day, poster drive, and mock presentation. All Areas received posters and flyers except Downtown, but they were supposed to get them yesterday. We now have QR cards available. We discussed following up with councilman about PSA so we can move forward with this task.

New Business:

The Northwest Area Chair expressed concern regarding home group members challenging the city's Covid-19 guidelines for groups looking to reopen. Criminal background checks and child abuse clearances and protecting anonymity when having to sign in with name and telephone number in order to attend in-person meetings inside of city recreation centers. The RD stated that groups going into any facility need to be prepared to follow the policy and guidelines of that facility in order to hold in-person meetings. The PR Secretary stated that groups in need of clearances can go to compass.state.pa.us to apply for and submit clearances, both free of charge if they choose the volunteer option. We discussed staying on Zoom.

Upcoming Agenda:

Recap of PR Day June 5th, 2021(week of June 1-7)
Mock Presentations
Work Group and letters to City Councilman

Next PR Meeting is scheduled for Saturday July 3, 2021 @11AM on the Zoom platform.

Marvin E., PR Chair

Discussion: There was extensive discussion about the new Covid guidelines at facilities. Background checks and child abuse clearances are required only for liaisons with the facilities. Signing in with names and phone numbers is needed so that contact information is available for Covid. A PR presentation may be necessary with the city's Department of Parks and Recreation. Even with that, there are some recreation centers that are acting independently. It is up to each home group to make a decision about their ability to comply with facility requirements. If you feel you can't follow the guidelines, the home group may have to move. It was also noted that we can't dictate to groups if they want to do their own presentations for their meeting facility.

IT – Pete B., Chair

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

Attendance at the IT Subcommittee meetings is steady and going well. We still welcome new participants.

Information to be added to the Events calendar can be sent to events@naworks.org, either as a pdf or document format.

Subcommittees can use the Regional Zoom account for their meetings. IT is continuing to monitor Zoom meeting usage.

We created a Zoom account to be used by Fairmount Institute for their H&I meetings.

We will be requesting a \$71 disbursement to pay for the Zoom account.

Pete B., IT Chair

Special Worker – IT – Michael J.

Greetings,

- The April Minutes An error was discovered in the South Philadelphia RCM report. The incorrect website address was included that gave an error. The address was listed as "www.spa.naworks.org" and should not have included a "www." The correct address is https://spa.naworks.org. Because this does not change the content of the report and could have lead to confusion, the change was made for the posted minutes online.
- **Meeting Counts** We created a new program that will automatically create a page to show the meeting counts for the Region in total and then also for each Area. The page is at: https://meetings.naworks.org/docs/count/
- Meeting Update Form RCMs, please urge your groups to use the online meeting update form. Many groups just assume if they announce their opening at an Area meeting that this information is passed along. The form is at: https://naworks.org/meeting-update-form/
 - o NOTE: There was an issue with the form where the person filling out the form did not know what ASC the meeting is under and they would just use "Philadelphia Area" assuming this was the same as the Philadelphia Region. We think we fixed any errors this

<u>Special Worker – IT Report (continued)</u>

caused, but if a meeting is not showing up in the correct meeting list, let us know. We have also added an option for "Not Sure" to reduce the errors.

- o An update for each update type has been added to the top of the Meeting Update Form.
- Unpublished Meetings There are 163 meetings in the database that are unpublished and need to be addressed. There may be some meetings that have opened and not sent an update to the committee, and some may have closed permanently. We would like to send a spreadsheet to each Area to have them review and let us know if the meetings have closed or are now open.
 - o NOTE: NAWS relies on our database to update the NAWS meeting list. We want to get our meetings updated as much as possible to be able to send a file to NAWS for them to upload to their website and mobile phone apps.
- Information Day Audio Files The audio files of the March 14th Information Day are now on the website. They can be reached through a link on the main naworks.org page or directly at: https://naworks.org/gprna-info-day/
- Autonomy Zonal Forum The AZF is meeting on July 24th & 25th. Administrators from all participating Regions are needed to help facilitate the meeting. The hope is to have a number of people who can take a "shift" to serve as troll patrol, people to share screen, and work as "ASK ME A QUESTION" so participants can send a chat message to ask the presenter at the end of their presentation. Anyone who wants to participate, email michaelj@naworks.org.
- Website Policy and Procedures Work has begun on updating the website / webmaster Policy and Procedures. When a working document is ready, it will be sent to the Policy Subcommittee for review.

If you have a Regional trusted servant position and would like a @naworks.org email, please reach out and we will set up the account. We will need your personal email and a cell phone number. Email michaelj@naworks.org to get this process started.

If you want an event, group, or subcommittee posted on the events calendar, send an email to events@naworks.org. Please include the text of what you want posted in the body of the email. Even if you send a flyer, it helps if you include the text to copy and paste.

The website is monitored daily, and updates are installed as they become available. This keeps the website as secure as possible. We continue to review the website and make changes as needed.

In Loving Service, Michael J., IT Special Worker

Regional Cleansheet – Keith F., Chair

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

The newsletter has been delayed until next week.

The Cleansheet has been increased to 14 pages. There is no cost for the increase. We will be returning to 10 pages when we start printing copies of the Cleansheet again.

We have a new Arts & Graphics editor, Michael S.

Keith F., Regional Cleansheet Chair

Policy – Tarwan, Co-Chair

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

The Regional Policy Subcommittee met yesterday. We do not have reps participating from the following Areas: South Philly, Clean Acres, Delco, Camden, Inner City, Philadelphia, Pyramid of Freedom, and Downtown. RCMs, please ask your Area to send your Policy Chair to our meeting.

We are holding off on the policy review for the Convention Committee.

We are waiting for policy for IT and the Webmaster.

We are trying to attract members. RCMs, please ask your groups to verbally announce meeting information. We are not getting a lot of participation from chat information only.

No decision has been made about meeting in person.

A policy service marathon is being discussed.

Tarwan GPRSC Policy Co-Chairperson

Special Worker – Admin – Theresa T.

[No written report. The following is from the Secretary's notes.]

Everything is ok at the virtual office.

Mail has been slow coming in. The number of phone calls are also very low. The best way to contact the office is through email.

Convention Committee Chair Convention Treasurer

No reports.

RSC Treasurer – Scott D.

[See attached Excel file for the complete Treasurer's Report, which includes results of all financial proposals made today.]

Total donations of \$6,579.53 were made. Of this amount, \$65,576.34 was for Region, \$958.19 was for insurance, and \$45.00 was for the Phone Line.

The attached Excel file shows opening balances, total donations, and payments/disbursements for those three accounts.

In addition to the funds in the RSC account, the Region also has \$6,732.29 in the Convention account and \$6,636.98 in the Meeting List account.

The final RSC balance following disbursements approved today is \$7,526.72.

Scott D., GPRSC Treasurer

<u>Discussion</u>: Someone asked whether the Special Worker was allowed to spend money without first coming to the RSC for authorization. It was noted that reimbursement is allowed for expenses under \$100. Also, there is oversight structure for the Special Worker positions. The Regional Special Worker reports to the ABC, and the IT Special Worker reports to the Webmaster. There was also a question whether we receive a discount for early payment of our insurance premium.

Financial Proposals

PROPOSAL (IT): Disburse \$140.38 to pay for our Regional Zoom account. Proposal approved without objection.

PROPOSAL (Special Worker): Disburse \$41.33 as reimbursement for renewal of the antiviral software on the computer.

Proposal approved without objection.

There was a recommendation to donate \$2000 to the World. After discussion of our current financial situation, including the money being held in the accounts for the Convention Committee and meeting lists, the following proposal was made:

PROPOSAL: To donate \$5,000 to World. Proposal approved without objection.

OLD BUSINESS:

Elections:

RSC Chair

Matt O. was elected.

RSC Co-Chair

Tarwan was elected.

RSC Secretary

Arlene was elected.

Advisory Board Committee (ABC) Secretary

No nominations. *Open position*.

Phone Line Chair

Brenda M. was elected.

Meeting List Chair

No nominations. Open position.

<u>Discussion</u>: There was a question whether elections for all positions should have been held today. Our Policy clearly states that elections are held in June. (The start of the pandemic last year has caused some confusion about the terms for some positions.)

PROPOSAL: That all remaining positions go out to the Fellowship as open, per policy, and we hold elections in August.

Proposal passed.

<u>Note</u>: Because of the absence of the Unity Chair for the second consecutive RSC meeting, Joanna G. had been nominated and elected as Unity Chair. However, our Policy requires that notification for any open position go out two months in advance. Therefore, today's election was rescinded. The RCMs did give Joanna the vote of confidence to work along with other committee members on the upcoming Unity event until elections are held in August.

RSC Open Positions (Elections to be held at the August 2021 RSC)

RSC Treasurer

ABC Chair

ABC Co-Chair

ABC Secretary

ABC Treasurer

Policy Chair

Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) Chair

Public Relations (PR) Chair

Unity Chair

Cleansheet Chair

Meeting List Chair

IT Committee Chair

Convention Committee Chair

Qualifications and duties for all Regional service positions are listed in our Regional Policy, which is available on the website – www.naworks.org. Go to the Regional Info menu, select Regional Service Committee, and click on the link for RSC Policy.

NEW BUSINESS:

RSC Meeting Re-opening

Our liaison, Charles C., said that as of last week Roxborough Hospital was not letting people use the auditorium and visitors are still not allowed in. He will meet this week with the Infectious Disease Control Director and bring back further information. Until we hear from the hospital, is any further discussion necessary? The RSC will still need to make a decision about possibly going in the future. Subcommittees may be able to meet in July, depending on the hospital's decision. This issue will be brought up again in Old Business at our next meeting.

Anniversaries

PROPOSAL: To add to the format, after member recognition, that Chairperson ask "Is there anyone that would like to announce their anniversary since the last Region?" Proposal passed without objection.

Note: Earlier in today's meeting, we acknowledged the following two anniversaries:

- Jim H., Montco RCM, 47 years
- Brenda M., Phone Line Chair, 30 years

Congratulations!

Medical Marijuana

We again brought up the suggestion of asking the World to revise literature to include discussion of medical marijuana. A proposal for this would have to go into the next CAR. One member felt that the pamphlet "NA and Persons Receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment" already covered this topic. There is also a service pamphlet on "NA Groups & Medication." Based on this, no specific proposal was made or vote taken.

There was further discussion about how to handle situations where members might be smoking outside a facility or a member who may use "street weed" when unable to afford dispensary prices. It was generally felt that these are individual issues. Many home groups already have statements in their formats to address such issues – "No drugs or paraphernalia be on your person …" "If you have used today, please hold your comments until after the meeting."

<u>Note</u>: One of our members contacted NAWS about this question while at the RSC meeting. Their response is attached to the minutes.

Forum on Fund Flow

PROPOSAL (WSW Area): That the Greater Philadelphia Region establish a Forum for discussion aimed at addressing the decreasing funds flow (7th Tradition) because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Rationale: The past year has made it abundantly clear that the understanding of "fully self-supporting" through our members' contributions is not well understood by our members. The dramatic decline in our funds flow for our groups, areas, and region has reached crisis proportion. What we are asking of the Region is to bring together a Forum of members to address this by discussion and input about best practices throughout our Region. The goal is to increase awareness and understanding of the importance of our "contributions" in support of our Primary Purpose.

<u>Discussion</u>: In discussion of this proposal, the Regional Treasurer said that donations have gone up for our Area. The RD said that an Information Day was held specifically addressing the question of fund flow.

Proposal failed.

Unity Event

Joanna will work with Antonio and Tarwan on next week's Unity event. RCMs were asked to send Joanna contact information for their Area Unity Chairs so she can reach out to them to get their assistance as well.

OPEN FORUM:

No discussion.

Agenda for Next RSC Meeting

Our agenda for the August RSC meeting will include:

- RSC Re-opening
- Discussion of the Convention Committee
- Proposal concerning the Literature Review Subcommittee

Meeting closed with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

The next regularly scheduled RSC Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 8th, 2021, 10:00 am, on the Zoom platform. Meeting id is 532 740 6231. Password is 1234.

In loving service,

Arlene C., RSC Secretary