

Greater Philadelphia Regional Service Committee Meeting



Minutes of August 8, 2021 Meeting

2020 Greater Philadelphia Regional Service Committee			
2020 Administrative Board	Name	Telephone Number	E-Mail Address
RSC Chairperson	Matt O.	484-320-0011	olenik227@gmail.com
RSC Co-Chairperson	<u>Tarwan</u>	267-591-5452	superdeliveryman@gmail.com
RSC Treasurer	Scott D.	215-500-4327	flyoldhead@gmail.com
RSC Secretary	Arlene C.	267-265-2347	secretary@naworks.org 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	<u>April S.</u>	267-210-3026	ilethia92@gmail.com
Montgomery County Area (<u>Montco</u>) RCM			
Montgomery County (<u>Montco</u>) 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	alex3playngolf@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			
South Philly Area (SPA) RCM	Wahidah	215-966-2936	wahidahlee1954@gmail.com
West Southwest Area (<u>WSW</u>) 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			
H & I Chairperson	Heather B.	267-310-8329	babcockheatherr420@gmail.com hi@naworks.org
H & I Outreach	Duwan	215-920-6262	kameelah43@yahoo.com
Cleansheet Chairperson	Open Position		cleansheet@naworks.org
Public Relations Chair	Brother James	215-668-5252	jastone55@gmail.com
IT Committee Chair	Pete B.	215-205-8033	petebrown66@gmail.com
Meeting List Chair	Open Position		
Meeting List Co-Chair	Mark B.	215-327-4859	markel811.na@gmail.com
Phone Line Chair	Latrese W.	215-316-1964	whiteboyce@yahoo.com
Unity	Marvin E.	267-593-7323	marvinellis39@yahoo.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 Or via Cash App: \$1NAWORKS Or PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/GPRNA			

Greater Philadelphia Regional Areas

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 – 8/8/2021

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 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: 9 Areas Represented

A quorum was established.

Clean Acres Area	Northwest Area
Downtown Area	Philadelphia Area
Greater Camden Area	Pyramid of Freedom Area
Inner City Area	West Southwest Area
Montgomery County Area	

Minutes were read from the June 6, 2021 RSC meeting. They were discussed and accepted.

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

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

The JAC met yesterday. The meeting was chaired by Curt L., Regional Policy Chair, in the absence of the Regional Co-Chair.

Tarwan, Regional Co-Chair, read the notes from the 8/7/2021 JAC meeting. This was followed by questions and clarification of information.

RCM/Area Reports:

Greater Camden Area – Bob R., RCM

The Greater Camden Area Service Committee meets every 3rd Sunday of the month on the virtual platform at 4 pm. The subcommittees have yet to meet.

We have 23 meetings on the Zoom platform. One that is hybrid is the Stepping Into Serenity Group that meets on Friday at 7:30 pm. They are now meeting in person at the Methodist Church located at 8th & Ferry Ave. The Afternoon Recovery Group is planning to open up on August 23rd, 3 days a week, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, at 422 Market St., at St. Paul’s Church. Surrender Or Die meets on Tuesday and Sunday at the same location.

The Unity Committee is planning to have a picnic sometime in September.

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

Montgomery County (Montco) Area – Pasquale P., Alt. RCM

A \$250 Regional donation was made in July.

We have one new meeting, Always Welcome Group. It meets on Tuesday at 6:30 pm, at 203 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA. Complete information on the website.

Our Area is holding an event today at Evansburg State Park, 851 Mayhall Road, Collegeville, PA, in the picnic area and Pavilion B. It goes until 6 pm. Speakers at 5 pm.

The next Montco Area Service Committee will be held via Zoom on August 29, 2021.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Pasquale P., Alt. RCM

Note: The following email was sent to the Montco Area on Friday, August 6, 2021:

Dear Committee Members,

Effective immediately I am resigning my position as the Montco Area Regional Committee Member. I want to thank the Area for allowing me to serve in this position.

Sincerely,
Jim H.

Downtown Area (DANA) – Michael D., RCM
[No written report submitted.]

Clean Acres Area – Eric M., RCM Alt.

The Clean Acres Area meets every 3rd Sunday of the month virtually. We currently have 40 meetings – 26 in person, and 14 virtually.

We are currently working on resources to assist home groups expressing interest in going hybrid.

We have reached 500 years of clean time for this year.

On Saturday, August 21, the Unity Committee will be hosting a Unity Day Picnic. I have attached a flyer to these minutes.

Our Area donation to Region is \$397.35.

In loving service,
Eric M., RCM Alt.

Northwest Area (NWA) – Eugene G., RCM

All if going well in the Northwest Area. We have 22 home groups in the NWA. We meet every 3rd Saturday of the month from 11 am – 2 pm via Zoom until further notice. Meeting id: 849 9806 6667. Password: 395352.

The NWA has several meetings that have re-opened to in-person status or hybrid.

Recovery in the Morning

In person

Monday – Saturday, 9 – 11 am

Happy Hollow

4200 Wayne Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19144

Via Zoom

Monday – Saturday, 9 – 11 am

Meeting id: 812 031 4327

Password: Just42day

Mount Airy Group

In person

Tuesday, 6 – 7:30 pm

Dorothy Emanuel Recreation Center

8501 Provident Road

Philadelphia, PA 19150

Via Zoom

Thursday, 7:30 – 9 pm

Meeting id: 810 2804 7063

Life Is a Terrible Thing to Waste

In person

Tuesday, 7 – 8:30 pm

DePaul House

5725 Sprague Street

Philadelphia, PA 19138

Thursday, 6:30 – 8 pm

Awbury Park (outside)

61 Ardleigh Street

Philadelphia, PA 19138

Bring your own chair.

This group no longer meets virtually.

Pleasant Afternoon

In person

Friday, 12 – 1:30 pm

DePaul House

5725 Sprague Street

Philadelphia, PA 19138

One Solution

In person

Wednesday, 5:30 – 7 pm

Waterview Recreation Center

5826 McMahon Street

Philadelphia, PA 19144

Serenity on Sunday

In person

Sunday, 3 – 4:30 pm

DePaul House

5725 Sprague Street

Philadelphia, PA 19138

West Oak Lane Group

Hybrid

Monday, 7 – 8:30 pm

In person

Day Care Center

6101 Limekiln Pike

Philadelphia, PA 19138

33 person max; masks required

Via Zoom – Audio only

Meting id: 899 255 7734

The NWA would like to thank the Regional IT team for their efforts and timely updates.

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

Inner City Area – April S., RCM

[No written report submitted.]

Pyramid of Freedom (POF) Area – Diane K., RCM

We currently have 4 home groups meeting virtually: Lion’s Den, If You Want What We Have, Miracles Continues, and Women and Men About Change. Two home groups have returned to in person meetings: Brand New Conscious, and Commitment to Recovery. All meeting information has been updated on the Regional website.

The How You Living Group is waiting to hear back from the facility about reopening. I have not been able to contact the GSRs of Principles Before Personalities, Recovery in the Basement, and Daily Surrender. Women and Men About Change has discontinued their Wednesday meeting, and Miracle Continues has discontinued their Saturday meeting. I don’t know if these home groups have folded or if they plan to reopen.

Michael J. reached out to me about unpublished meetings, and this is the most up-to-date information I have at this time.

Questions that came up – What happens to unpublished meetings? What if they come back to Area?

In loving service,
Diane K., RCM

Discussion: The Area’s questions about unpublished meetings were answered by Michael J. That information is in his IT Special Worker report.

West Southwest Area – Tony F., RCM

We will be planning a GSR Learning Day Workshop on September 11 (flyer attached), and a second follow-up workshop on November 13.

Our Area website is up and running, and our webmaster will soon be given his duties from the Area body. We had a question whether we can upload the Regional minutes on our site. The answer is yes. Once our webmaster makes contact with the IT Committee, we will be able to do that.

We have asked all our meetings to please update their information on the Regional website if they have re-opened or if there are any updates.

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

Philadelphia Area – Alex D., RCM

[No written report submitted.]

Schuylkill Valley Area (SVA)

- SVA currently has no RCM. Joanna G. is willing to continue to be a contact person, if anyone has questions or needs info re: SVA.
- SVA holds their Area Service Committee meeting (virtually/ online) on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Most positions remain open, and there continues to be less interest/ engagement with Area level service, despite the ease of the meeting being online. Last month, both the PR and H&I Chairs stepped down.
- 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, there are two groups that are still online only (Roxborough Group and Recovery in East Falls), and one hybrid meeting (Friday Night Abington Group, which meets physically in Willow Grove and online). The remaining eight groups are meeting only in-person. 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, because we haven't had quorum for 2 consecutive months. (Donations to our ASC from our groups continue to be unusually low).
- There's a new meeting that joined our area: Miracles On Mill, 7 pm on Mondays, in Flourtown (info is listed on naworks.org).
- SVA was supporting an online/virtual H&I commitment that was started at Fairmount and held 3 nights a week. Fairmount wanted to shift from online meetings to in-person, and there was no subcommittee or support. Our H&I Chair stepped down. Thankfully, with the help and effort of our Regional H&I Chair, and the Area H&I Chairs from neighboring Areas (Philadelphia Area, Downtown Area, and Montco Area), willing members were able to cover the 3 nights in-person so that it wasn't necessary to discontinue/suspend the commitment.
- Feel free to contact me with questions.

In grateful service,

Joanna G.

856.649.4536; [breatheletgo @ ymail.com](mailto:breatheletgo@gmail.com)

Discussion: It was strongly recommended that the GSRs take the issue of virtual meetings and GPRNA service back to their Areas and start discussing what they want to see our committees do regarding policy. The decisions we make about how we choose to restrict service opportunities for disabled members are serious decisions, and the groups need to be aware.

Delco Area – Michael S., RCM

8/8/2021 – Absent / No report

South Philadelphia Area – Wahidah, RCM

8/8/2021 – Absent / No report

RD Report – Clarence A., RD

Good Morning.

We have a lot of information to report to you this morning.

First finance. We are requesting \$700.00. This will be part of the contribution to the Autonomy Zonal Forum (AZF). The next AZF bi-annual meeting will be in January 2022 in person. To date, we don't know what the expense for that will be. We'll keep you updated.

It was suggested that RDs and RDAs attend symposiums that are hosted by other Regions.

A reminder that GPRNA Information Day 2 is on August 22nd, 2pm - 6pm. (See attached flyer.) Zoom meeting id: 532 740 6231. Password: 1234. Please pass this on to members in your Areas. They can visit our Regional website, www.naworks.org, and look at the events calendar for additional information.

This report will cover information from the AZF and World. Those reports contain a lot of information, so I'll just cover the main topics. The full reports will be attached to these minutes.

RD Report (continued)

The AZF is starting to develop 2 teams:

Communications Team

The next meeting is August 23rd at 7 pm. Zoom meeting id: 896 1468 2498

We are asking that a Regional IT member attend.

Service Work Group

They will meet every 2nd Tuesday at 7pm. Zoom meeting id: 449 253 6438

We would like for all subcommittee chairs from all Areas to attend.

Both meetings are open to everyone.

In Service,

Clarence A., RD, Ted D., RDA, and the RD Team

AZF – Rob U., AZF Facilitator

Rob. U., provided a short presentation of “What is the AZF” and conducted a question and answer session with the RSC body.

More information on the US meetings of Zones can be found at the following website:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/mobile/folders/1GHURJZE621ehIuIpzUIaOOOzttlVzQp5>

The Autonomy Zone website can be viewed at <https://autonomyzonalforum.org>.

Regarding the discussion on EPARNA, information on Metro Service Committee (MSC) can be found in the Guide to Local Service, starting on p. 73.

https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/handbooks/GLS_Jul20_WEB.pdf

ABC Chair – Billy W.

[Today’s report was given by Lea H., ABC Co-Chair]

We had our meeting with Lea; Abu; Theresa, Special Worker; and Scott, Regional Treasurer. We reviewed the last two months.

Taxes: NJ State sent us a notice on missing a tax filing. Because we had our convention in NJ, and filed with them for that, we are now on their radar, even though there has been no revenue. This is standard stuff, and it was turned over to our accountant. Most likely, we just have to let them know we had no revenues in NJ since the convention. We want to keep our status with Jersey in good order in case we want to do another convention there.

Insurance: We are all up to date with insurance and payments. Scott will talk to that in more detail. But we would like to reiterate that insurance is very expensive, and please keep that in mind when discussing donations to Region. Now, with meetings opening back up, we are seeing requests for COIs (certificates of insurance) again. We think that facilities might be asking for them more and more due to our current health crisis. Theresa has been pumping them out with a turnaround time of about a week. That’s pretty fast!

Meeting Lists: Abu is looking into how our Regional site is doing with updates and accuracy of what’s on there. We suspect that it is behind our true picture of what’s open, what’s online, etc. We want to remind all Areas and groups to remember that our Regional site is the only place people can go to find meetings, and it’s what’s used when someone asks on the Helpline, so please update. We believe that a paper Regional meeting list will still be 3-6 months away, and with the Delta variant, could be longer. We would like to recommend to all Areas to consider printing a one page list of in-person local meetings. Something simple, easy to copy and update. Our personal experience is that there are newer people out there asking about meetings, and during this transition period, our website won’t always be reliable.

In loving service,
Billy W., ABC Chair

ABC Treasurer – Abu S.

[No written report submitted.]

Abu asked that the new Meeting List Chair contact him at the number listed in our minutes.

Subcommittee Reports:

Meeting List

No report.

Unity

[Today’s report was given by Tarwan, Regional Co-Chair.]

GPR Unity Subcommittee Meeting – July 3, 2021

Attendance: 14 members attended; 11 areas represented: Lettie B. (SPA Unity Chair); Chuck (NWA Unity Chair); Tyler T. (SVA Unity Chair); Debora B. (CAA Unity Chair); Christine E. (POF Unity Chair); Amanda M. (DANA Unity Chair); Sandy H. (GCA Unity Chair); Carlos A. (Montco Area Unity Chair); Ron S. (Phila. Area Unity Chair); Robin (CAA Unity Co-Chair); Tarwan (GPR Co-Chair); Randy B. (Delco ASC Chair); Rasheeda W. (ICA); Joanna G. (SVA).
Absent: Chairs and Co-Chairs for WSW and ICA (They were prepping for large events that they were putting on that day or the next day.)

Subcommittee currently has no Chairperson (or Co-Chair or Secretary). Tarwan (GPR Co-Chair) chaired the meeting.

Regional Unity Day: Planning and discussion re: the regional unity event to be held in September. This will be the 3rd annual; event was previously held in 2018 & 2019. It was not able to be held last year due to the pandemic. Location will be Burholme Park (401 Cottman Ave, 19111), where it was held previously. Tarwan reported that he is still working on the permit. Our contact in Philadelphia Area who helps with permits explained complications with the process now. Potential dates were discussed: the Saturday of Labor Day weekend (9/4), when NAWS recognizes World Unity Day, or another Saturday in September. After discussion, members voted, and the date of 9/4 passed as the preferred date. Back-up date (if we can’t get the permit for 9/4) will be the 4th Saturday in September (9/25). Time discussed was noon to 6pm. Members were asked if, once the date is set, we have their okay to make a flyer. Yes. Some ideas included a game truck, face painting, member who makes balloon animals for kids. Budget was addressed. Last budget was roughly \$3000, though some prices (e.g., meat) may be up after the pandemic.

*Addendum: After this meeting, Tarwan did hear back that we will be able to hold the event on 9/4. Permit will be \$140.

Unity Report (continued)

Area Reports

Pyramid of Freedom Area (POF) – No known upcoming events. Christine shared that she has been trying hard to get the Area groups to send a group Unity Rep to the Unity Subcommittee, but hasn't had success getting members involved or willing to participate, and she needs support.

Greater Camden Area (GCA) – Their area needs to hold a learning day. Sandy shared ideas about how we could do things differently/ more effectively. One idea she offered: since we have 12 member areas, and 12 months in the year, maybe each Area could try to have their annual event on a designated month, so that we can support one another and not have competing events. She also pointed out that every subcommittee can get support and participation from members anywhere/ everywhere; we are not limited to folks in our own area.

South Philly Area (SPA) – Lettie was present and participated. No known upcoming events. Their ASC meets (online still?) on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Subcommittees at 11am; area begins at 1pm.

Northwest Area (NWA) – Chuck reported that they will be having their Area's unity event on August 14th. Their ASC meeting is meeting online on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 11am-2pm.

Downtown Area (DANA) – Amanda shared that she had tried to connect with the previous chair, but didn't get a response. DANA is planning an event that will be on September 18th (NA Olympics/competition). Their Area has a unity page on Facebook (not a private group, but a community organization page) called DANA Unity. Their ASC meets online on the last Sunday of the month at 2pm; subcommittees are at 1pm.

Clean Acres Area (CAA) – Their Area Unity picnic will be on August 21st, from noon-6pm, at East Goshen Township Park, 1661 Paoli Pike, Westchester, PA, 19380 (see attached flyer). ASC meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month, still online; subcommittees at 5:30pm; ASC at 7pm.

Philadelphia Area – They held a unity event/ picnic on 7/4 at Neshaminy State Park. Ron shared that they will be having a camping trip to French Creek State Park on August 20th-22nd. Also may be planning a bowling competition event, Bucks County vs. Phila Area. Their Area uses a Facebook group page called "Recovery Events in Philadelphia," that is open to any recovery groups, not just NA.

Unity Report (continued)

Montco Area – Carlos shared that they will be having their Area’s picnic on August 8th (noon to 6pm) at Evansburg State Park, 851 Mayhall Rd., Collegeville, 19426 (picnic area/ pavilion B). Speakers at 5pm. Their ASC meets on the last Sunday of each month at noon (subcommittees meet at 10:30am). Location: Phoenixville Hospital, 140 Nutt Rd., (19460), Medical Building II, 3rd floor conference center.

Delco Area – Delco doesn’t have a current Unity Chair. Their Area put on a very successful event on Memorial Day. Their Area Chair, Randy, attended our meeting, and contributed ideas/ input. No known upcoming events. Their ASC meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in person at 7pm; subcommittees at 6pm. (Location: Our Lady of Peace, 200 Milmont Ave., Milmont Park, PA, 19033.)

Schuylkill Valley Area (SVA) – Tyler reported that they had a successful “Meeting Night Out” on June 27th, attending an in-person meeting in their Area. They will be having an event: Kickball/ games and picnic, on July 17th from 2pm–6pm (speakers at 4), at Daisy Field in Roxborough, 5000 Hermit Lane, Philly, 19128. SVA Unity Subcommittee meets online before ASC, the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6pm.

Inner City Area (ICA) – Danielle and Co-Chair did not attend the subcommittee meeting because they were preparing for their Area’s event the following day. Rasheeda from ICA attended and participated. Their Area had a very successful event on 7/4. No other known upcoming events. Their ASC meets on the second Saturday of each month at 1pm-5pm. (Not sure if they are still meeting online or back in-person for ASC.) Subcommittees did historically meet before ASC from 9am-11am, but currently the Unity Subcommittee meets online at a different day/ time.

West Southwest Area (WSW) – Antonio and Joe were not able to attend the subcommittee because they were setting up for their Area’s event, which was starting this meeting. They had a very successful event and were able to donate food to the ICA event happening the next day. No other known upcoming events. Their ASC meets online on the third Saturday of each month at 1pm; their Unity Subcommittee meets before ASC at 10am.

Old Business

Subcommittee has not met since April. (Area chairs logged in for the meetings in May and June, but Chair did not attend, so the meeting was not held.) The minutes from the April subcommittee did not have any new business aside from planning the online Unity event on June 13th, and the positions of Co-Chair and Secretary being open.

Unity Report (continued)

Regional Unity Event in June – We held a Regional (GPR) Unity event online on June 13th called Strength In Numbers Through Unity. It was a success. We had a bigger turnout than we hoped for, participants from outside our region, and the numbers sustained throughout the event. Special thanks to the trusted servants from 6 of our member Areas that took part in chairing and getting speakers: Lettie, Danielle, Tyler, and Linda (from the POF Area), and especially Joe, Antonio, and Chuck, who took on a second hour at the last minute to help make the event happen. Also grateful to Tarwan, who worked hard to gather support and engage folks, and our members in this Region who came out to support and participate.

Subcommittee Chair Position – The position of Regional Unity Chair remains open (along with Co-Chair and Secretary). At the June RSC meeting, Joanna G. was nominated, but since then she communicated that she will not be able to accept the nomination and fulfill the position. Tarwan informed the subcommittee that Rasheeda is considering the chair position. Rasheeda introduced herself to the subcommittee and talked about her experience in the past doing Unity. She shared some thoughts on her vision for how we could approach Unity differently and more effectively, in ways that will work better with the current realities in our fellowship. Tarwan asked members present if they were willing to give Rasheeda a vote of confidence for the Regional Unity Chair position, and all said yes.

Upcoming Events – We are attempting to gather/maintain an ongoing list of events planned in our 12 member Areas, so that we can avoid holding competing events on the same days and support other Area's events. The following are dates and events that we are aware of:

July 17th – SVA Kickball/Picnic
August 8th – Montco Area Picnic
August 14th – Northwest Area Unity event
August 20th - 22nd – Phila Area camping trip @ French Creek State Park
August 21st – Clean Acres Area Picnic
August 22nd – GPRNA Information Day 2 (online) – 2pm-6pm
September 18th – NA Olympics/Competition event (DANA & SVA)

Open Forum

This subcommittee needs a Secretary. Please let members in your Area know that the position is open.

Tarwan suggested that willing members could work on an event calendar and a Facebook page for Regional Unity events. Tarwan asked how members felt about a Facebook page. We discussed what kind of page it might be (e.g., organization page vs. private group, etc.), and associated concerns about anonymity and traditions.

Unity Report (continued)

Members discussed how some of our member Areas have chosen to have more general “recovery” pages for their Area, not restricted to only our fellowship. It would be good to have a more open website page/link for the info/calendar, rather than only having it on Facebook (or any social media site), since many members in our fellowship do not use social media, and it is not accessible to everyone.

GPR Unity Subcommittee Meeting – Saturday, August 7, 2021

Attendance: Amanda, Chuck, Kevin, Tarwan, Carlos, Lettie, Ron, Randy, Joe A., Antonio, James, Leslie

Area Reports

Montco Area (Carlos) – Reminder that Montco’s Unity Picnic event is tomorrow, August 8, 12- 6pm, at Evansburg State Park, 851 Mayhall Road, Collegetown, 19426. Picnic Area – Pavilion B. All are welcome! Looking for a volunteer to pick up two donated ice chests.

Greater Camden Area (Leslie) – Planning some upcoming events. Will be reaching out looking for support and suggestions planning a Fun Day. More details to follow.

Philadelphia Area (Ron) – Picnic was a success and was funded from their members. Donated \$177 raised at the picnic on July 4 to Region. Camping Trip at French Creek State Park on August 20-22 and planning a bowling event.

West Southwest Area (Joe) – Working on putting together a marathon fundraiser in Upper Darby, 12-8 pm, Marshall Road/Ridge Ave. Flyer to come.

South Philly Area (Lettie) – No events to report as of now.

Downtown Area (Kevin) – Show and Tell Event will be held on Zoom at 3:30 on Saturday, August 7. NA Olympics/ Picnic will be held at FDR Park on Saturday, September 18, 12- 5. All are welcome! Flyer will follow.

Delco Area (Randy) – Planning a picnic. Area is looking for an RCM.

Schuylkill Valley Area – (Tyler was not present, but submitted the following report.)

SVA Unity Subcommittee meets online on the 4th Tuesday of each month (before ASC) at 6 pm. Zoom ID: 795 483 2134. No password. Tyler T. is the SVA Unity Chair. There is no Co-Chair.

Unity Report (continued)

Despite having just reformed the subcommittee a few months ago, after a long hiatus with no Unity activity in SVA, we have enjoyed a good amount of support and interest. We are fortunate to have several committed and reliable members on the subcommittee already, who have been engaged, participating, contributing, and showing up.

Kickball Event

SVA held a Unity event (first in a long time) on July 17th at Daisy Field in Roxborough: kickball, games, food, and an hour of speakers. It was a huge success. About 50 people, including quite a few kids, in attendance.

Lessons Learned: Over-ordered food. I think people ate less than expected because of the heat/weather. Remaining food donated to homeless shelter at Norristown State Hospital.

Meeting Night Out

Sunday, June 27th, we did a “meeting night out” and went to the Here at Last Group in Roxborough. Great turnout and did seem to boost attendance at that group. Will be making meeting night outs a recurring event. Looking for meetings that could benefit most from support.

Virtual/ Online Fellowshiping

We are discussing ways to provide fellowship opportunities for members who are not able to do in-person events/meetings. Reaching out to trusted servants in DANA, because they have mastered this. DANA usually runs their virtual events at the close of a virtual meeting so they already have people engaged.

Side Adventures

Reaching out to Treetop Quest, high ropes course in Fairmount Park, for group booking/rates. Will be a pay your own way type of event.

Autumn In-person Event

Meeting and clean Quizzo type event at Daisy Field again after the heat breaks.

Social Media Reminders

Check out/ask to join SVA Unity Facebook group “SVA Unity” for upcoming events in and outside of SVA, new meeting alerts, meeting nights out, and general Area news. Remember to keep Facebook groups and events private to maintain 12th Tradition personal anonymity. Anything public can be trended in news feeds elsewhere.

Please feel free to contact Tyler T. with any questions or for more information:
267.638.7631 tmt5139 @ icloud.com

Unity Report (continued)

Old Business

Regional Unity Day:

Saturday, September 9, at Burholme Park, 401 Cottman Ave., 19111

Permit is from 10 am – 6 pm. Event will be from 10 am – 5 pm.

Insurance will not allow moon bounce. Food order has been placed. Looking into getting prizes from Five Below. Any food donations will be accepted the day of the event. Delco Unity will donate face painting. Ron will be looking into cup and toy donations from his Area. Montco Unity will be donating any leftovers from their event.

Budget is \$3000.

Food:	\$ 622.12
Game Truck:	\$ 540.00
Porta Potty:	\$ 190.00
Flyers:	\$ 30.00
Permit:	<u>\$ 140.00</u>
Total:	\$1522.12

Please keep all receipts for items you purchase. All members are in agreement for this budget.

Elections:

Unity Chair for Region – Elections will be held on Sunday, August 8. Rasheeda has agreed to volunteer for this position.

New Business

Fall Ball – Unity was asked to take over this event. More details to follow.

Looking to get as many volunteers for upcoming Regional Unity Day.

Discussion: Unity will submit a proposal for \$2,860.00 for the purchase of food and other items needed for the Unity Day Picnic on September 4.

Matt S. addressed the RSC body and gave a formal resignation and apology for his absence while holding that position.

Anyone who would like flyers for upcoming events (Clean Acres Unity Picnic, Philly Area Camping Event, etc.), can contact Joanna G., 856.649.4536, breatheletgo @ ymail.com.

Phone Line – Latrese W., Co-Chair

The Phone Line Secretary, Joi D., read the minutes from the subcommittee meeting on July 3, 2021. There was one correction: Darby Hilltop Group now only meets 1 day a week on Wednesday night at 7 pm. There is no longer a Sunday morning meeting. Toya and Lupe did not receive the minutes from July's meeting.

Agenda

- Discuss next orientation on August 29, 2021.
- Ask James if he's still going to be able to be our Technical Liaison.

Attendance / Area Reports

Brenda (outgoing Chair) – Present at the meeting to assist Latrese, if needed, in chairing the meeting.

Latrese W. (Co-Chair) – This is my first time chairing the meeting, so I'm going to need help from the committee members.

Natalie (Inner City) – Starting August 14, 2021, Area is opening back up in person at Sacred Heart Church, Old York Road & Hunting Park. Subcommittees meet from 9 – 11 am. JAC meets from 11 am – 1 pm. Area meets at 1 pm. As of today, Area will still meet virtually on the Zoom platform.

The We Need Help Group is back open in person at 25th & Lehigh, Monday through Friday, 10 am – 12 pm.

Joi D. (Secretary / Downtown Area Rep) – All is well. A lot of meetings are opening back up in person, so I asked the GSRs and home groups to update their information online at the Area and Region.

Toya (POF Chair / Volunteer) – All is well.

Harry (Northwest Area Chair) – A lot of meetings are opening back up in person. As of August 1, 2021, the DePaul House at Chelton & Sprague opened up. The facility was cleaned last week.

On August 14, 2021, the Unity Committee is having a Unity Day Potluck Cookout at 6101 Ardleigh St. (Awbury Park) from 12 – 6 pm. A permit has been obtained. Bring your grills, food, chairs, etc.

Philadelphia Area – No report.

Greater Camden Area – No Phone Line Committee.

Phone Line Report (continued)

Clean Acres Area – No report.

Delco Area – No report.

Schuylkill Valley Area – No report.

South Philadelphia Area – No report.

West Southwest Area – No report.

Tee (Schedule Coordinator) – All is well. There are no changes.

James C. (Technical Liaison) – We had 104 calls and used 294 minutes.

I'm going to have to resign from my position. I golf on Saturdays and am unable to make the Phone Line Subcommittee meetings. Tee volunteered to be the new Technical Liaison, and James said he will train her.

Lupe (Bi-lingual Coordinator) – I checked Public Relations voicemail, and there is a prompt for people to access someone who speaks Spanish. I asked Brother James if PR is making facilities aware that we have bi-lingual members who speak Spanish as part of their presentations. He informed me they haven't yet, and that was one of the topics he was going to bring up at their subcommittee meeting.

Old Business

Harry asked about our plans for orientation on 8/29/21.

New Business

Natalie suggested we postpone our orientation until Tee can be trained. Members of the committee agreed.

Tony asked how can people who call in access someone who speaks Spanish, and Lupe explained to him how it works.

Tee mentioned she has hearing in only one ear, and we should look into how we can also serve the hearing impaired community by looking into getting a TTYL so the caller can be directed to an interpreter (signer). Joi suggested for Latrese to ask Brenda if we have any information about this when they attend Region tomorrow (8/8/21).

Discussion: Latrese W. has been nominated by the subcommittee for the Chair position. The subcommittee is in need of a new Technical Liaison. (Following their meeting, it was learned that the position must go out to the home groups in the Region before it can be filled.)

H & I – Heather B., Chair

Areas & Members Present: WSW Chair & Co-Chair, Philadelphia, South Philadelphia, Montco, Downtown, Pyramid of Freedom, Clean Acres Co-Chair, Northwest, Regional Chair.

Areas Not Present: Camden, Delco, Inner City, Schuylkill Valley

Administrative Report:

Received an inmate letter from a female who has been incarcerated for 34 years and is requesting correspondence and information on our program. The letter was disbursed to the Philadelphia Area for correspondence and literature to be provided. Held a virtual presentation at Charter Fairmount with Downtown Area, Philadelphia Area, and Regional PR. In-person meetings were established and will start next week.

Please continue to push the current H&I flyer with the help line number, QR code, and Regional website! There are still a lot of changes going on with meetings throughout our Region. The flyer will allow the newcomer the best chance possible to locate an accurate meeting upon discharge.

Area Reports:

Clean Acres: 1 virtual meeting, 0 physical meetings, 0 misses. VA and prison still not ready for physical meetings. Gaudenzia, Malvern, and RCA are ready for physical meetings to resume this week. Trusted servants are asked to wear masks. Gaudenzia is very happy with the service we have been providing their clients thus far.

Downtown Area (DANA): 0 virtual meetings, 1 physical meeting, 1 miss. Held a virtual presentation with other Areas and Regional PR to lock down in-person meetings at Charter Fairmount. We will be doing every Friday, starting the 20th, from 8-9pm. Will send out presentation info.

South Philly: 0 virtual meetings, 1 physical meeting, 0 misses. Started going into Rivers Bend every Monday and Wednesday from 7-8pm. Chair and speaker must be fully vaccinated & wear a mask. Using H&I flyer in place of meeting list.

West Southwest: 3 virtual meetings, 0 physical meetings, 1 miss. Meeting the first Monday of the each month from 7-8:30pm. The last ½ hour is dedicated to training on Do's & Don'ts required to go into facilities. Zoom id: 222 673 8711. Password: 052607. Mercy Hospital has been taken over by the University of Penn and is known as HUP54. They contacted us, and we will be following up this week. Interim House is requesting to change the day and time of its meeting.

H&I Report (continued)

We have some facilities that are not interested in physical meetings, and we have not been in there since the pandemic started. We have noticed it's hard to keep the newcomers' attention on the virtual meetings as well. We have had discussion about physical meetings; support is split 50/50 on folks who are for it and those against it.

Montco: *1 virtual meeting, 0 physical meetings, 2 misses.* Ordered and delivered Basic Text for the prison. Moved forward with physical meetings at Valley Forge. Speaker and chair must be fully vaccinated and wear masks. Going to move forward with Charter Fairmount commitment in person.

Pyramid of Freedom: *1 virtual meeting, 0 physical meetings, 2 misses.* DRC has missed the meeting 8 times within the past 2 months. Very frustrating as we show up and sit there. Facility did request physical meetings and literature; however, the point of contact has not been returning our calls. Chair has been paying for the Zoom account.

Philadelphia: *0 virtual meetings, 1 physical meeting, 0 misses.* Will be moving forward with Charter Fairmount on August 16th.

Northwest: *0 virtual meetings, 0 physical meetings, 0 misses.* New Chair! Subcommittee will be meeting the 3rd Saturday this month. Subcommittee will be starting from scratch.

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

New Business: Calling all members within the Region who are interested in H&I work! Everyone is welcome to join the WSW Area the first Monday of the each month from 7-8:30pm, last ½ hour dedicated to training on Do's & Don'ts required to go into facilities. Zoom ID: 222 673 8711 Password: 052607

Open Forum: Thank you so much to Kelsey from DANA and Brother James from PR! Both did an amazing job leading the multi-Area H&I presentation at Charter Fairmount this month. Thank you to Joanna from Schuylkill Valley who did an excellent job of being the communication liaison with the facility.

Please submit updated commitment contact list for all facilities in the Region! A lot of information has changed during the pandemic, and when new trusted servants take over positions, it's very helpful to have that information to guide them with.

Any Area that can't afford a Zoom account, please use the Region's account. You can request time and dates on the Google calendar, and the IT subcommittee members will help guide you.

H&I Report (continued)

There was a lot of discussion about facilities throughout the Region who aren't interested in virtual meetings and are not yet allowing us to carry the message into their facility. How do we reach the new potential addict? It was suggested that we remain in consistent contact with these facilities, drop off literature and our flyer, so the newer members are aware of our program and know where to find us.

At this time, there is no one interested in the H&I RSC Chair position. The subcommittee members are happy with the current chair and give Heather B. the full vote of confidence to serve another term.

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

Public Relations – Marvin E., Chair

[No written report submitted.]

The PR Subcommittee will submit a proposal for \$500 for the purchase of literature for the Recovery Walk on September 18, 2021.

IT – Pete B., Chair

[No written report submitted.]

IT Subcommittee will submit a proposal for \$140.38 as reimbursement for June and July Zoom account fees.

Special Worker – IT – Michael J.

Greetings,

● **Meeting Counts** – Reminder, 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. This information can be used by the Areas to keep track of how many in-person, virtual, and hybrid meetings are currently listed in the database.

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/>

It is important to use the meeting update form. Please urge all members to use the form and not text, phone, or email anyone directly. We are trying to create an environment that empowers all members to get information about their group's information directly to the trusted servants who can make the changes. It is not unusual for many of us to feel like we need to know someone and that online forms are just an empty hole that will never be acted on. We need to work together to change this.

● **Unpublished Meetings** – On June 11th and 12th, each RCM and Alt. RCM that was currently on the contact list was sent a list of unpublished meetings for their Areas. If your Area needs a copy of this list, let me know.

We will only remove groups from the meeting list that have been confirmed as being closed with no chance of reopening. *Note:* If we do remove a group from the list and the group does want to reopen at some point, it is easy to simply add them back to the list.

Please send meeting update information via the online meeting form.

<https://naworks.org/meeting-update-form/>

● **Ongoing Updates to Website** – We continue to review and make minor changes to the website to improve clarity and ease of use.

PR Committee – The PR Committee has reached out for clarification on their responsibilities pertaining to the website. We explained that the IT Special Worker and the IT Subcommittee only maintain and update the website and domains for the Region. All content that has not already been approved by the Regional Committee, needs to come from the PR Subcommittee. Simply, IT builds and maintains the billboard, PR decides what is printed on the billboard. We look forward to working together to be of service with the PR Subcommittee.

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.

Special Worker – IT Report (continued)

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.

In Loving Service,
Michael J., IT Special Worker

Discussion: The IT Special Worker reported that in the Greater Philadelphia Region there are 351 meetings. 181 are meeting in person, 148 are virtual, and 22 are hybrid.

Policy – Curt L., Chair

Regional and Area Concerns

Inner City Area: Needed members’ advice/experience. How can recommendations for policy changes be presented to his Area without a quorum within their policy subcommittee? Because there has been only himself and one home group rep at his Area’s Policy meetings. Members gave him suggestions based on their service experience.

Regional Policy Review

Due to the RSC adopting the use of Consensus-Based Decision Making, verbiage, grammar, etc. has to be addressed.

Resumed and completed Regional policy guidelines.

Note: Because of the addition of our newly hired Website/IT Special Worker, the IT Subcommittee guidelines in our policy have been and will continue to be revised as we, as a service committee, continue to evolve.

The goal is to present a draft of the revised guidelines to all RCMs and Regional Officers for review. Any wording that the subcommittee is not sure of, has questions about, or needs clarity from the Administrative Committee is highlighted in **yellow** with **red font**. We, as a subcommittee, request that ratification of the revised guidelines take place at the RSC meeting in October.

Policy Report (continued)

Any questions, concerns, and suggestions, please feel free to submit them through your Area Policy Subcommittee Chairs. We will address them to the best of our ability at our next subcommittee meeting on Saturday, September 4, 2021, at 10:00 am.

Yours in Service,
Curt L. , GPRSC Policy Chair

Regional Cleansheet – Keith F., Chair

We addressed several concerns with the newsletter needing support. We drafted a support flyer that will be included in the minutes. I am still seeking a suitable successor for our newsletter. Our current newsletter will be available this week.

Our next meeting will be held Saturday, September 4th, 2021, at 12:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to join our meeting on the Zoom platform. Meeting id: 823 6185 6848. Password: 1234. (RCMs please note this is the general subcommittee Zoom id and not the old id that had been used in the past.)

My contact info via phone: 215-571-5167
Email: cleansheet@naworks.org or kfarmer113 @ yahoo.com

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Keith F., Regional Cleansheet Chair

Special Worker – Admin – Theresa T.

As in the past, everything is running smoothly at the RSO virtual office. There are no pending issues.

All communications that come into the virtual office and through our voice mail are channeled to the appropriate Committee or Board Member.

The mailing address to the GPRSO “virtual” office is:

**Greater Philadelphia Regional Service Office, Inc. (GPRSO)
150 Monument Road, Suite 207-0026
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004**

Insurance:

For new meetings and/or meetings that are re-opening after the pandemic, if the facility requests a certificate of insurance (COI), please send an email to me with the following information:

1. Name of Group
2. Name of Facility
3. Address of the Facility
4. Meeting day(s) and time(s)

Also, please remember to complete a Meeting Update form by going to www.naworks.org
Click on Meetings Tab
Click on Meeting Update Form and follow the instructions.

For more information:

Visit our Regional Website at: www.naworks.org
For Immediate Help – Call: 215-NA-WORKS (215-629-6757)
GPRSO Telephone Number is: 215-745-9494 – leave a message.
Special Worker E-mail Address is: ttovercomer @ verizon.net
Special Worker Mobile Number: 267.304.3253

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa T., GPRSO Special Worker

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 \$6,647.31 were made. Of this amount, \$5,335.31 was for Region, \$1,107.00 was for insurance, and \$205.00 was for the Phone Line.

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

The final RSC balance following disbursements approved today is \$4,145.69.

Scott D.,
GPRSC Treasurer

Financial Proposals

PROPOSAL (RD): Disburse \$700 for the Autonomy Zonal Forum (AZF). \$500 as a contribution to the AZF, and \$200 as a donation to the Free State Region, which is hosting the next AZF meeting in January 2022.

Proposal approved without objection.

PROPOSAL (Unity): Disburse \$2,860 for the Regional Unity Day event on September 4, 2021.

Proposal approved without objection.

PROPOSAL (PR): Disburse \$500 for the Recovery Walk.

Proposal approved without objection.

PROPOSAL (IT): Disburse \$140.38 to pay for our Regional Zoom account.

Proposal approved without objection.

OLD BUSINESS:

Elections:

RSC Treasurer

Scott D. was nominated and elected.

ABC Chair

This position will remain open until Billy W. returns.

ABC Co-Chair

Lea H. was nominated and elected.

Advisory Board Committee (ABC) Secretary

No volunteers or nominations. *Open position.*

Advisory Board Committee (ABC) Treasurer

Abu S. was nominated and elected.

Phone Line Chair

Latrese W. was nominated and elected.

Policy Chair

Curt L. was nominated and elected.

H&I Chair

Heather B. was nominated and elected.

Public Relations Chair

Brother James was nominated and elected.

Unity Chair

Marvin E. was nominated and elected.

IT Chair

Pete B. was nominated and elected.

Meeting List Chair

No volunteers or nominations. *Open position.*

Cleansheet/Newsletter Chair

No volunteers or nominations. *Open position.*

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:

Roxborough Hospital

Our liaisons with Roxborough Hospital, Charles C. and Joanna G., reported that there is a problem with the air conditioning in the Roxborough meeting room. As soon as it is fixed, the RSC will have access.

OPEN FORUM:

Regional Service Positions

A question was raised regarding members who choose not to return to in-person meetings and may live outside the Greater Philadelphia Region. Are they able to hold a position in the Regional Service Committee? Is there a home group or residency requirement to serve in the Greater Philadelphia Region? This is an issue for Policy to consider.

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

The next regularly scheduled RSC Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 3rd, 2021, 10:00 am.

In loving service,

Arlene C., RSC Secretary

RD Report 8-8-21

EPARNA regional meeting was held in June via zoom and will continue to do so, although there is a motion to be discussed in August session, as to whether we should return to in-person sessions. This motion will be discussed when the region meets again on August 1 st . During the June EPARNA session a motion was brought before the region that explores the options of continuing to operate as an unseated region within the WSC service structure or disbanding EPARNA. The intent of the motion is as follows:

There are two intents for this motion.

1. The first intent is to obtain a vote in Narcotics Anonymous.
2. The second intent is to foster unity with Greater Philadelphia Region, Narcotics Anonymous as a whole, and maintain the unity with the three remaining areas in EPARNA.

EPARNA region continues to refine this motion for consumption by its areas and groups. A new refined motion will be presented at the August 1 st meeting of EPARNA. This motion has not been formally presented to the areas and groups within EPARNA at this time.

The FSR put forward a motion to be placed in the CAR.

Motion:

To direct NA World Services to remove the Hospitals and Institutions Handbook from the inventory

Intent:

To remove an outdated service manual from WSO inventory

Rationale:

The H&I handbook has not been updated since the 1980's and with our current literature update process, will never be prioritized high enough. We believe a better approach would be to update the Public Relations Handbook Chapter 6 (Criminal Justice) resource section and H&I Basics with more information relevant to current practices and methods for carrying our message that could include using virtual platforms and tools. We believe this will better serve our trusted servants involved in H&I service by providing more current and better tools

The motion has been received by the WSO. We are awaiting a written response from the World Board.

The FSRCNA will be held 11/26-28 in person at the BWI Marriott. Registration is open at fsrcna.org.

Pre-registration is \$10 for members with 3 years or less and \$20 for members with more than 3 years.

There will be several eating meetings, bingo, karaoke, comedy show, a dance and much more.

Service Work Group - FD/PR Creation. Service Work Group Meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7pm

ZoomMtg Info: 449 253 6438

Anyone can join in this meeting.

WE WOULD LIKE FOR ALL SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRS FROM ALL AREAS TO ATTEND.

Agenda:

☑ Planning: Review Issues/opportunities, develop goals and prioritize

ISSUE 1

- Lack of coordination and communication with and within the AZF
- Lack of collaboration between area/regional subcommittees within our zone
- Ineffective communications throughout service bodies in the zone

Goals

- Information on service, resources, events, and contact with and within the AZF are more effectively broadcast
- Communications with the AZF and between its member regions are more effective, available and responsive
- Increase in fulfilled collaboration opportunities between the AZF's member regions/areas

ISSUE 2

- Service delivery inconsistent or lacking in some areas and regions
- Lack of continuity in service throughout our regions
- Inconsistency in service delivery amongst our areas and regions
- Lack of mentorship, training
- Few learning days, workshops

- Lack of a sharing of service information forum

Goals :

- More resources and training opportunities are available to members and service bodies
- Service and training workshops are made to be more fun and engaging
- There is an increase in service continuity and effectiveness, measurable through newcomers, website hits, and other similar metrics

Issue 1 original goals

- Increased service information sharing
- Networking
- Enhanced communications to support and enable service delivery

Issue 2 original goals

- Trusted servant development
- More training and mentorship of trusted servants
- Increased consistency in service delivery

Other issues/opportunities

- Lack of awareness, perceived value, understanding of the zone at the group level
- Apathy and lack of motivation to be involved at region or zone
- Lack of coordination and communication with service bodies outside of the AZF
- No interface to effectively collaborate on FD/PR with other zone

Other goals

- The AZF is viewed as a helpful resource to members, areas and regions
- Groups, areas and regions become more aware of the AZF
- Better, more effective collaboration within the zones and other zones

WB recommendations regarding WSC 2022

20 July 2021

As you may know, we have been trying to figure out how to plan for the next World Service Conference: Should it be in-person or virtual or a combination of some sort? The June Conference participant web meeting was partly devoted to the issue, and participants opted to add a CP web meeting on 24 July to discuss plans for WSC 2022. We have also been discussing the question as a board for some time, with two different sub-groups of the board (we called them *hives*) researching possibilities.

We are writing with a recommendation.

The board has considered every idea we've heard from participants and all of the possibilities we could think of. We talked about zones coming together to do some of the work, planning some combination of in-person together with virtual days, having some participants meet in person and some virtually. We created budgets and spread sheets. Every board member has gone to great lengths, and we have finally reached agreement on a recommendation from the board. It has not been easy for us to draft a recommendation, particularly given the gap between what many of us would like to see happen and what actually seems possible. None of us thinks this is an ideal situation, but we believe our recommendation is the most responsible and sensible way forward.

Our Recommendation

Put simply, we recommend that the WSC be postponed until 2023, at which time an in-person meeting may be more possible, and that a short, virtual interim conference meeting be held in 2022 to deal with the most immediately essential business..

One way to think about this idea is that we are recommending this Conference cycle be three-years, from 2020 to 2023. There would be a much abbreviated interim virtual meeting to deal with decisions that cannot wait; then the WSC would recess and reconvene in 2023.

This compromise feels like the best option, given the extreme circumstances beyond our control we all find ourselves in.

We will try to answer some of the questions you may have below. There will be opportunity for discussion with other participants during the 24 July CP web meeting, and as always, we encourage you to email us with any input or questions that this report does not answer.

Q: Does this mean WSC 2023 will definitely be in-person?

A: That is our hope. We will do our best to plan for an in-person meeting in 2023, if this recommendation is a direction participants can support. This approach would give us an extra twelve months to plan for the full WSC and determine what is practical and possible. We can do a lot of work together, board and delegates, between now and 2023.

Q: Is it impossible to have an in-person WSC 2022?

As recovering addicts, we are accustomed to long odds. We regularly defy expectations for what is possible. However, the board believes it is not practical to plan for an in-person conference next year, given the potential health and safety risks, the financial outlay, and the possible travel limitations.

The global health crisis seems to be resurging in many places. Just as a small window into that reality, a quarter of the board members live in countries that are in some form of lockdown as we write this report. As time goes on, it seems more and more obvious that we simply don't know what the travel and health situation will look like in 2022. It seems likely that even the best-case scenario for an in-person WSC would mean a global divide in terms of who could attend and who could not.

Q: Didn't we give you direction already at the last Conference participant web meeting?

The June Conference participant web meeting was not as well attended as many of the CP web meetings in the past. We took a number of straw polls during the web meeting, but the conscience of those who chose to participate was not clear. Here are two of the relevant questions we asked with the poll results:

Do you believe an in-person Conference is prudent or advisable in 2022? Again, we are just trying to take an initial pulse to get a sense of where we all stand.

Yes: 51 (54%) No: 33 (35%) Undecided: 10 (11%)

Given the factors mentioned today, do you believe an in-person Conference is possible in 2022?

Yes: 58 (62%) No: 21 (22%) Undecided: 15 (16%)

These were polls, not decisions, but it's worth noting that at the WSC, it takes a two-thirds majority (66%) to pass a motion, and neither of these questions reached that threshold.

Q: When do we need to make a decision about the WSC?

NAWS has already received pressure about the current hotel contract for WSC 2022. The longer we delay, the more likely we will be subject to financial consequences for a contract cancellation or change, which means we will need to make a decision with roughly the same information we have now. Will travel be possible in 2022 for most participants? What will the global health situation look like? What will World Services' financial situation be? Unfortunately, we need to decide about 2022 before the answer to these questions is clear.

Q: Why can't we have a full virtual WSC in 2022?

As we see it, the two most realistic options are either:

A) postpone the WSC until 2023 in the hopes that it can be in-person and do only the imperative business in 2022, which is the recommendation we are making, or

B) have a "full" virtual WSC 2022—a virtual WSC like the one we had in 2020—and then determine what is possible for WSC 2024, with the hopes that 2024 could be an in-person WSC.

We are not recommending the latter approach for a couple of reasons. First, we believe that most participants would rather meet together in person sooner rather than later. Second, we learned in 2020 that a virtual WSC isn't a real substitute for an in-person conference. We still haven't found the mechanisms and the methods to get through as much business in a virtual WSC as we are able to do in an in-person conference. Although we were able to make many other necessary decisions in the virtual WSC 2020, the WSC only dealt with 6 of the 16 motions from the 2020 *Conference Agenda Report*. The majority of the remaining 10 motions will be rolled to the next WSC.

At least as important to consider is what goes on at a WSC beyond decision-making. There are small-group sessions about important issues, planning sessions, and opportunities for delegates to share

with other delegates. When we meet virtually, we miss all of the intangible benefits of being together, the camaraderie and conversations, sharing meals and relationship building. The power of an in-person WSC is hard to put into words. One of the former board members calls it the “magic” of the Conference.

Q: What about time zones?

The reality of a global conference with participants from more than 40 countries is that time zones are a challenge with no easy answer or solution. Any WSC, whether in person or virtual, involves sacrifices and inconveniences for the participants. If more work is done virtually in the future, it may be that some of the discussions and WSC prep can happen in smaller groups such as zones, where members are closer in time zone. For now, the reality is that some number of members will have to participate in the middle of the night. That is regrettable but arguably less of an inconvenience than taking a week and a half at minimum off work to travel to participate on-site.

Q: What is Essential Business?

The essence of the recommendation is to hold steady as much as possible until 2023—no elections, no seating, only essential business.

When we discussed this question as a board, individual board members had a number of very different ideas about what is urgent or essential. After much discussion, we agreed that we would need to address the decisions that are *legally required*, such as approving a budget for one year, addressing trusted servant term limits and what is necessary related to the *FIPT*, and agreeing to a virtual meeting in 2022 and an in-person WSC in 2023 if possible.

The only item not required by law or policy that we believe the WSC needs to take action on behalf of the Fellowship is the Spiritual Principle a Day book draft because the work will have already been done. The approval draft will be finished in time for the *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)*, and it seems irresponsible to wait another year to begin to have this new piece of recovery literature available to the Fellowship and to begin to recoup the financial investment in the project.

Based upon our recommendation to recess until 2023, we would need to include an adjustment to the effective date of some decisions as part of the motions.

Q: When will the CAR come out, and when is the regional motion deadline?

If participants agree with the approach in this recommendation, we would release an interim report by 24 November 2021, the *CAR* publication date (December for translated versions). The interim report would include the Spiritual Principle a Day Book draft and all of the other decisions to be made at the interim WSC meeting in 2022, including those items that would ordinarily be in the Conference Approval Track material, such as the budget.

Prior to the 2023 conference meeting, a more “normal” *CAR* would be published no later than the customary deadline of 150 days prior to the meeting and perhaps even a bit earlier if that’s something participants want and it seems possible. The *CAR* for 2023 would include any regional motions and all of the substantive motions from the board that we were not required, by law or policy, to make in 2022.

We know some regions and zones are already working on drafting motions for 2022, and this recommendation requires an adjustment for everyone. We regret that challenge, but we still believe this approach makes the most sense. Even if more motions were introduced and passed in 2022, there

would be a delay in starting any new work because of the carry-over not yet accomplished from WSC 2020 and the ongoing task of rebuilding World Services.

Q: What about elections and term lengths?

This is another question that the board and delegates would need to discuss. Terms for relevant board members, HRP, and Cofacilitators would be among the crucial decisions made by the interim conference in 2022. The Executive Committee of the board met with the HRP and the Cofacilitators to have a preliminary conversation, and they will be prepared to help the WSC with whatever it decides. The HRP will be discussing related details and may have more for us as we move forward. Our hope is that, if the WSC takes the approach we are recommending, regions and zones will consider extending delegate terms through 2023, but that would be up to each service body to decide.

Q: What is the financial impact of this recommendation?

World Services has been hit with a metaphorical sledgehammer, and an in-person WSC in 2023 would provide more time for recovery. The future is still only speculation, but by 2023, we would know more about the reshaping of finances and staff.

The idea that the WSC is not financially sustainable is not new. In 2014 the board offered two motions in the CAR to try to control Conference costs—one limiting WSC seating to one delegate per region (no alternates), one to discontinue automatic funding of delegates. The essay preceding the funding motion began with the sentence, “NA World Services has funded all delegates to the past six Conferences, but this is something we simply can no longer afford to do.” Neither motion passed, and since then, 9 more regions and 6 zones have been seated, meaning 15 more funded participants and 30 more seats on the WSC floor.

The pandemic has highlighted the vulnerabilities of our current structure and model, and the board, other conference participants, and the staff are being forced to envision a new future for our Fellowship’s decision making biennial meeting.

Q: What are the next steps we need to take?

The Conference participant web meeting 24 July will give participants an opportunity to discuss these ideas in small groups. That way everyone gets a chance to talk, even the quietest participants. As always, we will upload those discussion notes to the CP Dropbox afterward. If the board has further details about our recommendation after that meeting, we will report them. The following CP web meeting, scheduled for 21 August, can also focus on plans for the WSC, with the idea that decisions can be made at some time after that web meeting through the polling software we used in 2020.

If the conference is postponed until 2023, that gives us twelve months to talk together about new ideas and creative approaches to deadlines, discussions and preparation.

Q: After 2023, when would the next WSC be?

Honestly, we don’t know. *A Guide to World Service in NA* says that the World Service Conference meeting occurs every 2 years, which would mean 2025 per that policy. But we are not making any recommendations right now beyond 2022 and 2023. First we must determine if participants agree in principle with the approach in this recommendation. If so, there are a number of other decisions that will need to be made. We are all in the position of figuring out our future together.

Q: What about the future?

This recommendation is deliberately limited to the next WSC.

In coming to consensus about our recommendation, we asked ourselves, How can we operate in a way that is not *only* based on hope? Hope is so important in our personal programs and in NA as a whole, but we have to temper our hope with practicality.

The board has begun discussing ideas for a more sustainable WSC beyond 2022 and 2023. We have had brief discussions about possibilities for a more effective and less costly WSC in the future, such as an ongoing three-year Conference cycle, combining in-person days with virtual days, hybrid options, and other ideas. It seems too early in this process of change for us to even consider a recommendation now. We look forward to discussing all of these ideas with you and hearing yours.

We hope to offer proposals for future changes by 2023, after the board and delegates have time to examine a new future together.

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE MISSION STATEMENT

The World Service Conference brings all elements of NA World Services together to further the common welfare of NA. The WSC's mission is to unify NA worldwide by providing an event at which:

- Participants propose and gain fellowship consensus on initiatives that further A Vision for NA Service;
- The fellowship, through an exchange of experience, strength, and hope, collectively expresses itself on matters affecting Narcotics Anonymous as a whole;
- NA groups have a mechanism to guide and direct the activities of NA World Services;
- Participants ensure that the various elements of NA World Services are ultimately responsible to the groups they serve;
- Participants are inspired with the joy of selfless service and the knowledge that our efforts make a difference.