

GUIDELINES FOR REPRODUCTION OF NA RECOVERY LITERATURE

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OPEN ARMS AREA SERVICE MEETING MINUTES

October 6, 2016

Meeting opened by Chairperson Robin at 7:30 with Serenity Prayer

The 12 Traditions and The 12 Concepts were read.

<u>In Attendance:</u>	Chairperson:	Robin V.	845-346-5510	deliadoxie@aol.com
	Vice Chair:	Gil M.	845-219-4324	i22rock@yahoo.com
	Secretary:	Lauren P.	845-820-1274	lpiazza830@gmail.com
	Co-Secretary:	Open		
	RCM:	Sandy C.	646-261-6215	thechef21@yahoo.com
	Policy & Proc Chair:	Aisha	914-290-9325	aisha@frontiernet.net
	Treasurer:	Craig F.	516-410-4460	craig.f@live.com
	Co- Treasurer:	Open		

Robin welcomed everyone.

Secretary Report: Previous months minutes read by Lauren P. – copies were distributed and reviewed.

Motion to accept by Randy seconded by Dan.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer's report was distributed by Craig F. (Please see attached)

Craig – We did not send any money to region because we have to pay insurance and we don't know how much that's going to be. Our prudent reserve is \$4,000.00 right now we have \$772.23 over our prudent so once we pay insurance, whatever is left over I will write a check and get it signed to be dropped off at region.

Sandy – did you say you don't know what the insurance is? It should be the same as last year.

Craig – I don't know the fee. I have to look back and see. Who was here last year? Does anyone know off hand?

Gina – it might be different because it goes by how many meetings are in the meeting list.

Sandy – you should get a bill in the mailbox. It's due every October so If you look last year you should get a round about.

Craig

– we haven't gotten a bill. She checks it twice a week. We don't want a round about number, we want to be exact because that's how trouble starts.

Robin – we can also call the RSO.

Derek – I just want to clear up that \$50.00 check, they never got it and they never cashed it. I have an analysis of all transactions that I paid personally and I think that the \$50 might be owed to me. But I will give you my notes.

Aisha – The check that was written to Gina what was that for?

Craig – they billed her Amex passed the time they were supposed to for the Homestead Website hosting. They were billing her.

Gina – if we pre-paid we would get 2 months free so I just put it on my credit card and they just kept it on file. It was for last year and I didn't notice it but Mark picked it up and I went back and saw it.

Craig – the last meeting Mark realized that we were still paying and weren't supposed to be.

Aisha – but that's from last year?

Gina – I paid it last year but it was for this year.

Mark – they were being paid and when I called them I found it was Gina's card on file. This year they're billing us monthly.

Craig – guys, if you pay something out of your pocket, please, as soon as possible at the next meeting give me the receipt this way we don't get behind. And I would suggest that we don't pre pay anything because we're not that type of organization, this way we don't end up in situations like this.

Aisha – going forward this will be addressed In policy because there is nothing that important that anyone should be going in their pockets and putting stuff on credit cards because it creates too much confusion. Going forward whatever will be done needs to be done here at an area level.

Craig – one more thing. Please do not give me any foreign currency or ripped bills because TD bank does not accept them.

Motion to accept by Jim B. and seconded by Alexce

Policy and Procedure: Aisha – met on September 10th at St. Anne’s in Washingtonville. Aisha and Robin were present. We discussed the issue of non-fellowship approved literature being distributed at meetings, fiscal policy, and fiscal allotments. It is suggested that website, speaker exchange, and Outreach submit an estimated budget. 3 new motions are going to be presented to the GSR’s (please see below) These are housekeeping motions that need to be voted on tonight. We will not meet this month due to conflict of schedule.

Ryan – how is the motion about the FIPT a housekeeping motion?

Aisha – we need to take care of this now because we’re going to be paying insurance in this next month. And so we can clear up all the controversy surrounding this issue, we need to put it to rest. It’s causing too much controversy so it needs to be dealt with tonight.

Ryan – the groups need to be heard on that.

Robin – I agree

Aisha – well the groups are going to decide whether or not a group can use literature that is not approved?

Ryan – yes

Aisha – well I would like to hear from the other GSR’s.

Billy – I have the 5th edition of the basic text and that’s no longer recognized by world so basically when I sit in a meeting I’m in violation? Groups have the right to print anything, they do not have a right to give it out.

Robin – we’re discussing this out of place and this should be discussed in new business when we present the motion

Billy – it needs to go back to the groups

Robin – I agree, the other two are housekeeping but I agree that this particular motion should go back to the groups. We’ll talk about it again in new business.

RCM Report:

Sandy—as you all know, the region has been going back and forth about moving or staying. A motion was put out at our last meeting that they make an action plan to remove themselves from that room. It was an all day thing back and forth and bottom line is we got to stop the bleeding and stop using the groups money to pay the rent. They’re also offering a smaller space there which is what they were looking for before. It wouldn’t be a meeting space and all that but it would be good for other committees to come and meet. There will be an emergency meeting Oct 8th where the BOD is supposed to bring back an emergency action plan. (Reports attached from meeting) Right now the manger of the office Lawrence resigned and the secretary of the RSO resigned. They’re going to remove some workers and put in volunteers until they can come up with a plan because they can’t afford to pay them.

Ad Hoc Report:

Marty – I just want to talk about the adhoc committee that is to form the region. We met in New Windsor where Men on Point meets. Ray from Hudson came up, Jay and Frank from Rockland came up, and Gina and Robin were there from this area. We just discussed ideas for forming a region, we went back and forth and 2 ideas came out. There are 2 types of regions, 1 like an information share region like the GNYR where all the subcommittee chairs go and share information. Then they have another that’s called shared services where the region actually helps those areas that have open commitments to fill those commitments. That’s basically the type of area that we’re looking to form. Right now we came up with a name for this committee that’s going to be represented by all 3 of the areas that are involved so far, whether or not those 3 areas continue to participate into the region we won’t know until we move forward. The name of the group is shared services committee so we’re meeting again on the 20th of this month between 7-9, we only have a 2 hour time frame but what I would suggest is that the chairperson of each subcommittee come and exchange information and help each other out without being locked into boundary lines. So if Rockland needs help we can go down there and help them and if we need help the Hudson area can come help us this way we can all help each other. That will work out good cause we’re pretty close to each other, it’s just the 3 counties. We’re still looking into different assignments as far as rentals, insurance, and tax exemptions. I would suggest for this area to have at least a single member come as a representative of the area. I may not be able to make it next month and you’ll want to have a report brought back. On top of that, anyone in the subcommittee chair positions are invited to this meeting along with anyone else that is interested in coming. We need people to come and people to get involved in service. Basically right now we’re moving at a snail pace.

Stacy – you meet at the same place as men on point?

Marty – yes on the 20th from 7-9

Gina – I just want to make sure that it's very clear what Marty is saying. There are members that are showing up from other areas but those areas have not yet officially passed a motion that they are joining us. They just have members that are interested that are coming to bring information back to their area. Everyone is welcome.

Marty – it's going to be up to the individual areas who wants to participate.

Laura – so the shared services committee is just an adhoc committee from the Open Arms Area. It's just to find out if we can do shared services but still be a part of or region?

Marty – well right now we're still part of the region but it's not an adhoc committee. It's a shared services committee among the areas who want to participate. It's not a region yet either. There's people who took on certain responsibilities but that's it.

Robin – it's still at a fact-finding level

Marty – it's not even a fact-finding level, it's more like a cost level that's we're looking at. The facts are all there and we know the steps needed to do it. We have people who are interested in every area. What I would be looking for is more of like any member that wants to participate should come but subcommittee chairs should come also because that's where the shared services will really be held.

Gina – what Marty is saying is that if someone from this area can come to get the information to bring back to the area that would be helpful.

22 GSRs were in attendance; 27 group reports were submitted

Group:	3 – 7 – 11	GSR:	Michael
Day, Place, Time:	Sunday – 6:30 – Montgomery	Donation:	Yes
Format:	Rotate Steps 3 – 7 – 11; 1 st Sunday Tradition of Month	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Report:	All is well	Glenn	12yrs 10/30/16
Special Needs:	None		

Group:	Alive and Free	GSR:	Sarah A.
Day, Place, Time:	Mondays- 7 PM – Milford, PA	Donation:	Yes
Format:	Rotating	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Report:	Attendance is up.	None	
Special Needs:	Need more trusted servants		

Group:	Back from the Grave	GSR:	Lauren P. (Fill in)
Day, Place, Time:	Mondays- 7:30-9PM – 2839 Rt 32 Washingtonville	Donation:	Yes
Format:	Beginner, Rotating	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Report:	Well attended	Jim K.	1 year
Special Needs:	None		10/24/16

Group:	Change or Die	GSR:	Alexce R.
Day, Place, Time:	Friday 7:30-9PM – Beacon	Donation:	yes
Format:	Steps and Traditions	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Report:	The group is problem free at this time	Susan	2yrs 10/28/16
Special Needs:	None		

Group:	Clean and Crazy	GSR:	Rafael M.
Day, Place, Time:	Sundays – 7PM-9:30PM – 1 st Presbyterian Church Monroe	Donation:	Yes
Format:	Rotating format	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Report:	Well attended, all good, no issues	Alex	4yrs 10/23/16
Special Needs:	None	Sandy	9yrs 10/23/16

Group:	Dopeless Hope Fiends	GSR:	Doug B.
Day, Place, Time:	Tuesday 7PM Rock Hill Ambulance Building	Donation:	No
Format:		<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Report:	Attendance has dropped since summer people went back south but a treatment facility has been attending the past month	None	

Special Needs:	Trusted servants
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Group:	Friday Night Lights	GSR: Jack H.
Day, Place, Time:	Friday 10-11PM – 115 Main St. Goshen	Donation: Yes
Format:	Rotating	Anniversaries Mike S 2yrs 10/28/16
Report:	Meeting is well attended. A lot of unity and a lot of love.	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Innervisions	GSR: Laura S.
Day, Place, Time:	Friday 8PM-9:30PM – Highland Mills	Donation: Yes
Format:	Speaker/Topic Discussion	Anniversaries None
Report:	No meeting Oct. 7 th due to event at senior center. Group anniversary is 10/28 at 7PM eating meeting.	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	It Works How & Why	GSR: Corey W.
Day, Place, Time:	??	Donation: No
Format:	??	Anniversaries Frank 1yr Jack 10yrs
Report:	No Report	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Just for Today	GSR: Jim B. filling in
Day, Place, Time:	Tuesday 7:30PM, Friday 8 PM – Port Jervis	Donation: No
Format:	Rotating Format	Anniversaries
Report:	Tues. meeting is doing well and well attended. Fri. meeting is small and needs support.	
Special Needs:	Sat. Oct. 8 th is the second softball game against Middletown	

Group:	Keys to Success	GSR: James B.
Day, Place, Time:	Monday 6-7:30PM 3 Commercial Pl.	Donation: Yes
Format:	Beginner/Speaker	Anniversaries None
Report:	Group is doing well	
Special Needs:	Need trusted servants	

Group:	Kickin It Live Gut Level	GSR: Wanda M. (fill in)
Day, Place, Time:	Sunday - 12:00PM - 40 Smith St. Middletown	Donation: No
Format:	Rotating Format	Anniversaries Crystal S. 1yr 10/30/16 Holli R. 13yrs 10/30/16
Report:	No Report	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Man Up	GSR: Doug W.
Day, Place, Time:	Monday 7-8:30PM – Advent House Middletown	Donation: No
Format:	Men’s Meeting	Anniversaries None
Report:	No report	
Special Needs:	Needs support	

Group:	Men on Point	GSR: Joe M.
Day, Place, Time:	Monday 7:30PM – New Windsor	Donation: No
Format:	Rotating	Anniversaries None
Report:	All is well. Group is celebrating 18 years on 10/12	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Never Alone	GSR: Aimee H.
Day, Place, Time:	Wednesday 7PM Warwick Center, Warwick	Donation: Yes

Format:	JFT, 1-3 Step, Speaker	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:	Group is doing well, lots of new members and newcomers. Change in format, announcing name and clean time to help newcomers feel included.	None		
Special Needs:	None			

Group:	New Way of Life	GSR: Randy N.		
Day, Place, Time:	Friday 7PM - 40 Smith St. Middletown	Donation:	Yes	
Format:	Rotating	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:	All is well	none		
Special Needs:	None			

Group:	The Nooners	GSR: Barbara T.		
Day, Place, Time:	Mon-Fri Noon – 33 Park Place Goshen	Donation:	Yes	
Format:	Rotating Format	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:	No report	Donna	27yrs	10/31/16
Special Needs:	None			

Group:	Reach Out	GSR: Kylee		
Day, Place, Time:	Tuesday 7-8PM - 33 Park Place Goshen	Donation:	Yes	
Format:	Rotating Format	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:		Kylee	5yrs	10/25/16
Special Needs:	Need support from more experienced members			

Group:	Recovery By The River	GSR: Stacy		
Day, Place, Time:	Thursday-7 P.M- 176 First Street Newburgh	Donation:	Yes	
Format:	Speaker	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:	Group is doing well	Kiera	1yr	10/27/16
Special Needs:	Annual thanksgiving brunch on Thanksgiving day 10AM-1PM Bring a dish if you wish.			

Group:	Relationships	GSR: Ronzette B.		
Day, Place, Time:	Tuesday 7P.M. – 439 North Street, Middletown	Donation:	No	
Format:	Open	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:	Doing very well, attendance is picking up. Because of holidays at Temple Sinai, meeting will be held at Maddy's Diner for the month of October.	None		
Special Needs:	None			

Group:	Saturday Night Fever	GSR: Dan N.		
Day, Place, Time:	Saturday, Methodist Church Goshen, 10pm	Donation:	No	
Format:	Rotating	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:	Meeting is well attended	Ken	1yr	10/29/16
Special Needs:	Trusted servants			

Group:	Spiritual Solutions	GSR: Carlos V.		
Day, Place, Time:	Thursday 7:30 1 st Presbyterian church Washingtonville	Donation:	No	
Format:	Book Study	<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Report:	No report	None		
Special Needs:	None			

Group:	Spiritual Foundation	GSR: James B.		
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Day, Place, Time:	Friday 6-7:30PM – 9 Johnston St. Newburgh 2 nd Floor	Donation:	No
Format:	Step Meeting	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Report:	Group is considering moving to a new location		
Special Needs:	Need trusted servants		

Group:	Steps On Sunday	GSR: Stacy P.
Day, Place, Time:	Sunday-1 P.M- 172 Liberty St, Newburgh	Donation: Yes
Format:	Step meeting	<u>Anniversaries</u>
Report:	Doing well	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Steps to Life	GSR: Gina B.
Day, Place, Time:	Saturday 7:30 PM – St. Ann’s Washingtonville	Donation: Yes
Format:	Open, Steps, Traditions	<u>Anniversaries</u>
Report:	Candlelight meeting and have comfy couches.	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Turn it Over Group	GSR: Mark filling in
Day, Place, Time:	Tues, 7:30PM, St. Andrews, Beacon	Donation: Yes
Format:	Open Rotating Format	<u>Anniversaries</u>
Report:	Group is doing well	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Up Front	GSR: Lexi
Day, Place, Time:	Sunday 5:30PM – Beacon	Donation: Yes
Format:	JFT	<u>Anniversaries</u>
Report:	No report	
Special Needs:	None	

Group:	Women’s Time for Change	GSR: Ronzette B.
Day, Place, Time:	Mon 7:00 PM 40 Smith Street, Middletown	Donation: No
Format:	Rotating Format	<u>Anniversaries</u>
Report:	The group is doing well, attendance is awesome, all commitments filled except for PI	
Special Needs:	None	

Sub –committee Reports:

Area Website - www.openarmsarea.com Mark R - 914-447-4566 mark@albrohvac.net	Meeting – TUESDAY BEFORE AREA - 5:30PM 18 Little Britain Road Newburgh, NY
Report: Website updated as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes were posted to website • Halloween dance flyer was posted • Meeting list was fixed on the website • Hoping to make progress on the new GoDaddy site this month 	
EVENTS & ACTIVITIES Ronzette B. 845-820-1274 piazza830@gmail.com	Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday, 6:00PM RECAP, 40 Smith Street Middletown, NY
Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Got off to a rocky start but the committee was able to meet occasionally to discuss Halloween dance • The Halloween dance will be Friday October 28th from 8PM-12AM tickets are \$10 	
HELPLINE Derek D. 845-803-2211 oaahelpline@gmail.com	Meets First Thursday of the Month 7:00PM Before Area
Report:	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still acting chair until someone steps up • Good month, took 32 calls in September an average of 1.8 minutes long • When a call doesn't get answered it goes to the person on duty. The abandonment rate is only 26% which is good 	
Hospitals and Institutions Wanda M. (845) 313-8476 wandam_naservice@yahoo.com	Meets every 1st Wed of the month 7:30pm 75 Highland Ave Middletown, NY
Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We met last night • 17 members present, 4 received orientation, 2 finished their panel member trainings • We discussed the possibility of going into New Hope Manor up in Barryville. I called and left a message for the director who hasn't gotten back to me yet • We are currently revising our policy. • I spent exactly \$350 on literature - here is a receipt 	
LITERATURE James T.	N/A
Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last month we sold \$762 in literature. • There was no literature this month but we should be getting it next month • We will be needing extra funds for IP's, key tags, and medallions 	
MEETING LIST Mark H. (845)-797-5571 email – flat3flat7flat5@aol.com	N/A
Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,000 new lists were printed for distribution to GSRs for \$75.00 • A few changes have just come in so please change them on your lists • Monday in Monticello will now meet at 5:30, Wednesday in Monticello will now meet at 4:30, Tuesday in Middletown for the month of October will meet at 7 in Maddy's Diner, and the E&A subcommittee will meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday instead of Monday, the Sunday Miracle on the Mountain in Newburgh will no longer take place • Robin asked to look into printing on different color paper for different months to be able to better rotate new lists 	
PUBLIC INFORMATION openarmsareapi@gmail.com	OPEN
Report: None	
Speaker Exchange Jim 646-753-2527 jbeaton63@gmail.com	Monthly meeting to be held immediately prior to Area Service at 7:00.
Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee still needs support • There were no groups or exchanges made this month • If you want to make an exchange you can call or email me • Our next meeting is November 3rd • This is the 8th month I've been doing this and it's slowed down a lot, there doesn't seem to be much interest • Gina – what if you set up a google calendar that everyone can see? Marty – you can do that but you'd have to keep a regular meeting too this way people who don't have google can still be a part of Robin – I wonder if Mark can set up an email for speaker exchange this way you don't have to use your personal email 	
Outreach John 917-716-3102 jbet250@yahoo.com	2 nd Wednesday of each month-Goshen Presbyterian Church 33 Park Place
Report: See attached report	

OLD BUSINESS:

Quorum - 17

OPEN POSITIONS:

Co-Secretary(2yrs clean time), Co-Treasurer(5yrs clean time), Policy & Procedure(5yrs clean time), Helpline, Alt. RCM, Public Information

Motions that went back to groups from last month-

Motion #1

Motion Maker: Gina B

Seconded: Corey W

Motion: To make aware and report any groups in our area that are violating our FIPT

Intent: To ensure our groups are informed and following guidelines of a registered NA group
Craig – I remember the question you asked so I think they're talking about NA approved literature. So the older editions of the basic text are fine because they are already approved they're talking about stuff that was never approved before and after NAWS. I think what they're talking about is when people take that stuff that's never been voted on
Billy – but that's not what we're going to argue here
Craig – I'm not arguing I'm talking about what we're debating
Marty – what they're actually talking about is outside the NA service structure, the FIPT specifically talks about it ending up in an institution.

Billy – In other words, any group can print any literature that's been approved at any point in time. We're not here to police groups first of all. What they can't do is take it to an H&I commitment or hand it out or sell it
Marty – it was in the April 2015 FIPT but you gotta read the whole thing, not just what's illegal. According to that flyer they've run across it ending up in an institution. It was literature that circulated through NA but never approved
Aisha – reads from the guide of local services page 114 (see attached) are we discussing a motion?
Mark – didn't we do pros and cons last month, we should just be voting
Ryan – Reads from the updated FIPT from NAWS in April 2015 on website. Isn't this motion in violation of the second tradition? We do not govern.
Robin – unless it affects NA as a whole
Ryan – how is that affecting NA as a whole?
Robin – because we're sending out a mixed message
Billy – but it's NA approved literature. You're saying we have a mixed message, what is it?
Gina – you know those booklets were never approved by NA
Laura – I though last month we decided we were not going to bring this back to the groups because it was already in policy. I thought this motion was dropped, I didn't bring it to my group.
Aisha – that's what is has here, should not go back to groups, it is part of policy
Robin – okay then it's out of order

Motion #2

Motion Maker: Happy Jon

Seconded: Kylee B

Motion: To change Outreach subcommittee Chairperson clean time requirement to 3 years

Intent: To keep in accordance with other subcommittee chairs

For: 11

Against: 1

Abstained: 5

Passed

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion #1

Motion Maker: Policy & Procedure

Seconded: Barbara T.

Motion: Any group within the Open Arms Area that is not adhering to the NAWS FIPT policy concerning distribution of current fellowship approved literature shall be removed from the area meeting list and will not be supported by area

Intent: To be in line with the 4th tradition-to fulfill our primary purpose of carrying a clean, concise, and consistent message of NA

Carlos – what does that mean?

Aisha – it's a follow up from the motion that was made last month regarding groups that are violating our policy regarding the literature. My intent was, we're not the NA policy, my intent was so we can put this to rest and just be done with this. When this groups sends out messages threatening a lawsuit against members that is devising and affecting all of us. They have a group on Saturday that belongs to the PA area and they can take this groups and belong to the PA area as well so we can stop the controversy.

Gina – It's so they can be taken off our meeting list and not be covered by our insurance

Carlos – all I'm confused about is what is FIPT?

Gina – it's to protect us and our literature in the supreme court

Aisha – I suggest that everyone get a copy of the guide to local service

Ryan – again this is still in violation of the second tradition according to our literature. A service body doesn't dictate to a group, a group dictates to a service body. We can't police groups, we don't govern.

Gina – when you're a newcomer and you walk in to a registered NA meeting, the registration states that you will use NA approved literature. If that group does not do that, they are in violation of the registration.

Billy – you keep saying non-approved NA literature. Are you saying they can't use a third edition basic text?

Gina – no that's not what we're talking about. You can use 1st edition basic texts you can use them

(lots of discussion unable to understand)

Aisha – this is my point.

Robin – we should take this back to the groups for discussion with the groups

Marty – which FIPT are you talking about? There is a flyer addressing this from April 2015 which addresses it pretty clear. Is the motion based on that? It has to do with literature. It's addressing the same thing.

Aisha – it's the same version. NAWS was just sending out a second notice because it has become a big issue, not just here but everywhere.

Barbara – can I hear the motion again?

Carlos – what is the point overall? What are we trying to do here?

Gil – they're trying to get rid of your group. I'm stepping down because I can't deal with this. I'm holding things back and I can't do this. Our group voted on this. You got 6 people with 150 years clean who have done so much service and we know what we're doing. We're not affecting traditions; we're going by traditions. These are you friends and if you go to that meeting it's a loving meeting. What's the purpose? Helping another addict. This is bullshit

Marty – reads from FIPT from NAWS posted in April 2015

(lots of discussion)

Barbara – I'm not clear on the issues regarding the literature and personally I don't really care. What disturbs me about that particular group that Gil is talking about is that there have been several people who were told 1-you can't come to this meeting if you're still taking your psychotropic medication, I've spoken to 3 people so far.

(lots of discussion)

Barbara – what I know is this, there's no doctors in here. When you come in here, you're an addict. And when you start telling newcomers, which it's usually newcomers, that they stop taking it-1 wanted to slam her car into a wall and relapsed, another relapsed and is still trying to come back, and another we cant find. We don't tell people they can't come to an NA meeting.(lots of unclear discussion)

Robin – we're getting off topic, we're talking about literature not medication. We need to get back on topic and I suggest that we take this for discussion with the groups(lots of unclear discussion)

Aisha – first of all, it was just Robin and I in the meeting. And I don't understand because you agreed with me that this is a housekeeping issue and we can't keep coming back month after month dealing with this same issue. It's simple as this, that group can do whatever it wants it's just not going to be supported by the area. Look at the controversy it's creating.(lots of discussion and yelling) Moment of silence is asked for and serenity prayer.

Robin – it's not about each individual opinion, it's about this body as whole. It needs to go back to the groups for discussion and to learn more information. Each group is encouraged to bring back more information. We don't want to shut down or put out any group, that's not what we're here for.

Aisha – let me just be clear about something, I'm not here to govern. When we wrote up that motion it was in response to e-mails I received regarding a lawsuit. We need to squash that. Simple as this, that group can join the PA area with the other group. I take offense to someone telling me I'm trying to act as god. I'm the policy chair, who shows up to policy? Robin and myself. So I came up with the best way that I could for us to squash this so it doesn't keep coming back up month after month.

Robin – just to follow up, this is affecting NA as a whole, look at the controversy. We don't need that. We need to be unified. (lots of unclear discussion)

Laura – I've lost track of the motion.

Robin – it'll go back to the groups for further discussion

Ryan – doesn't it need pros and cons?

Robin – we just did all that with all this discussion

Goes back to groups

12 GSR's present

Motion #2

Motion Maker: Policy & Procedure

Seconded: Barbara T.

Motion: Fiscal policy item X/E (reimbursements to subcommittee members) to remove the word "monthly" and replace with "within a two month period"

Intent: To maintain accuracy and transparency regarding NA funds

Robin – I'll read it "all subcommittees must submit original receipts for replenishment of their revolving fund or reimbursement of their expenses monthly" the idea is to remove monthly and replace it with "within a 2 month period". This is just a housekeeping motion.

Lauren – so basically if you don't turn in your receipts within two months you don't get paid

Wanda – I'd like to make a friendly amendment that you just change the verbiage to "reimbursement of monthly expenses"

Lauren – that would change the intent, the intent is that if it doesn't get to us in two months we won't pay whatever it is so that we don't have things going out for longer than necessary

For: 10 **Against:** **Apposed:** 2 **Passed.**

Motion #3

Motion Maker: Policy & Procedure

Seconded: Barbara T.

Motion: To add to fiscal policy (item X) "all disbursements of funds are to be conducted during the Open Arms Area Service Committee meeting only"

Intent: To adhere to the 5th and 7th concepts and to discourage any NA member from using personal monies in the purchase of any NA related necessities.

Lauren – what about flyers? Every month I pay out of pocket for the copies of the minutes and then give Craig a receipt and he writes me a check.

Aisha – you have a budget

Lauren – yeah but I pay for it and then I get paid back

Gina – that would be in violation of that motion

Robin – yeah it would be

Jim – what does the policy state right now?

Lauren – I think we all do that, meeting list, helpline, E&A so how would we conduct business?

Aisha – what we're trying to do is stop people from putting stuff on credit cards or writing a personal check of \$3-400 and then later on it becomes an issue so we're trying to discourage that.

Derek – I understand what you're trying to do but I think there could be consequences to that motion. The helpline was shut down for a period of time due to non-payment so when I can in here I was unemployable and I have a good job so I paid the bill and I knew area would be good for it. But the helpline needed to be up and things need to get done.

Aisha – unless someone can reword it. We're trying to discourage it

Mark R – I use a credit card to do a website so what would I do?

Gina – it's not possible for subcommittees to function without having to do reimbursements to the chairs

Craig – I gave Gina a check outside of the meeting but permission was asked and things just need to be known. We didn't do it in secret and everyone here is a trusted servant. If you can't be trusted, you shouldn't hold a position. That's a personal attack about what went down. This is how it's been functioning. People come out their pocket because people have a love for the fellowship. That will discourage people from doing anything. (lots of unclear discussion)

Tabled

Motion: Verbal - to suspend order of the day presented verbally by Wanda L.

Robin – well outreach is asking for money (lots of unclear discussion)

Motion #4

Motion Maker: Jon – Outreach Subcommittee

Seconded: Kylee

Motion: Requesting \$100.00 for Outreach/Homebound start up expenses

Intent: To be cover expenses for 5 sets of readings, 5 infinite medallions, 3 binders, 1 plastic storage bin, 1 notebook for minutes. Any balance, if any, will be used for rent.

Tabled

GREIVANCES:

Meeting closed at 9:45

In Loving Service,
Lauren P.

October 2016

Open Arms Area Committee Meeting

Outreach Sub-Committee Agenda

1- Meeting Location, Date and Time

- Meeting Location- First Presbyterian, Goshen NY
- We Meet- Second Wednesday of each Month, Meeting Starts at 7 PM

2- Completed Items

- Sub-Committee Policy and Guidelines - Completed and Delivered to Area Service Committee
- Homebound Meeting Format- Completed and Delivered to Area Service Committee

3- October Meeting Topics

- Flyer with contact information, including Coordinators by Location- In Progress, Revision required
- Outreach Website Page and Email Address-Subcommittee to Discuss requirements and then discussing with web designer.
- Visiting isolated groups- The list of groups with no representation at 2 consecutive ASC Meeting has gone to the Outreach Subcommittee for review and members are working scheduling visits.

4- Gathering Sub-Committee Members and Support

- Still need Outreach Coordinators for:
 - o Beacon
 - o Newburgh, New Windsor
 - o Monticello, Rock Hill
 - o Highland Mills, Monroe, Washingtonville, Chester, and Goshen
- Subcommittee Members visiting Groups in towns where Coordinators are still needed.
- Requesting GSRs announce at groups of the need for Outreach Coordinators.

5- Homebound Meetings

- 3 Outreach Homebound Meetings Scheduled
 - o 2 Meeting completed
 - o 1 Meeting cancelled by homebound member

6- Items for ASC

- Subcommittee request \$100.00 to cover expenses: consisting of 5 Sets of Meeting Readings, for committee members to utilize at Homebound Meetings, 5 Infinite Medallions to have on hand, purchase of plastic storage bin, rent (Oct- Dec 2016) etc. Receipts on all expenses will be provided as funds are utilized.
- Requesting confirmation of donation to church for rent months May-Sep 2016 (\$50.00).
- Rent set at \$10 a month. Rent for Oct required.

Friday 7 October 2016

Dear RCMs, Regional Steering Committee Members (Chair, Vice Chair, Policy Chair, RD, RDA) and Sub Committee Chairs:

Since the September Regional session, when we were asked to create an actionable strategy plan (both to exit 154 Christopher and to stay at 154 Christopher), the BoD has been actively and faithfully abiding by the conscience of the Region.

During this process, we have learned much about what needs to be changed so we can improve what it is we were originally created to do and fix all of the mistakes we have made that have contributed to our current situation.

Attached to this “report” is an excel document that shows the current expenses and what our expenses will look like if “Plan A” is put into effect.

What the excel document does not show is what will be outlined here – namely, the actions we need to take in order to become self-sufficient and to once again provide the services we are supposed to provide that enable the Region to carry the NA message of recovery.

It turns out that the RSO actually does sell enough literature to support the office in its Plan A form. We average about \$8000 a month now in sales. We believe we should be able to bring that up to at least 12,000-15,000, which would bring us to breaking even. We are also in talks with NAWS about renegotiating our terms – even if only for a period of 6 months to a year – enabling us to gain a real foothold in regards to stocking our shelves and eliminating back orders.

We are also aware that lit sales alone will not stabilize the RSO and what is required is alternative fund raising and selling alternative merchandise. This was the reason for the creation of the convention committee, the existence of which is (long term) to generate a steady source of revenue for the RSO, as was the case when we had a regional convention previously. We are also currently researching the feasibility of organizing one or two retreats over the course of 2017 (as it will take a year or two for the convention to become a reality) and adding alternative merchandise to purchase.

The goal is complete self-sufficiency, eliminating the need for the Region to donate money to the RSO. The only thing we need from the Region is that the Areas and their H&I committees purchase literature from us. We believe that by rectifying the mistakes as stated above, we can provide literature to our Areas in a timely fashion but it is their business we need in order to make Plan A truly successful.

At the September session, the Areas were asked, “Are you willing to commit to buying literature from the RSO again?” We believe the overwhelmingly positive response to this question was a real indication of unity and willingness to give Plan A a chance.

As for Plan B – there is no such thing as finding another place from whence we do business and where the Region and its subcommittees can meet that is less expensive than where we are right now. In order to move to another space, the Region must incur all of the fees associated with making a move: opening up new phone

accounts, new electric account, a down payment and security deposit, the cost of moving and/or storing all of the property that belongs to us (tables, chairs, equipment, etc). And because the RSO will just be starting to rebuild itself, the RSO has no money to contribute to this move. It means any bills left unpaid (including NAWs) will have to be paid by the Region.

October's bills are paid, including rent.

IF the Region believes – as does the BoD – that Plan A is feasible, this is what the BoD is asking from the Region:

IF the new rent rate begins in November, all we are asking from the Region for November is ... nothing. Rock Rose Management will reimburse us approximately \$2,400 from our security deposit, to compensate for the new rent. We would be asking for nothing from the Region because the money reimbursed to us by Rock Rose will cover our expenses.

IF the rent rate does not change until December, we are going to need \$1,000 from the Region to pay November's bills. We can re-assess the situation at the January Regional session.

In loving service,

GNYRSO BoD

Open Arms Area Treasure's Report
September 1, 2016 thru September 30, 2016

<u>Beginning Balance (in Bank) including Prudent Reserve</u>	<u>+\$4903.27</u>
Total Group donation	+ \$ 673.35
Total Literature Sales	+ \$ 691.40
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Total Collected on September 1, 2016 Area Meeting	= <u>\$1,364.75</u>
Money paid out during September 2016:	
Check# 1392 August Rent First Presb.	\$60.00
Check #1394 Freedom Voice July8th – Aug 7 th	\$25.34
Check #1395 First Presb. Rent for Sept.	\$60.00
Check# 1396 First Presb. Rent for Committee Mtgs. May – Sept	\$50.00
Check# 1397 NY Region Literature Bill Payment	\$649.15
Check# 1398 H&I Literature Purchase	\$260.00
Check# 1399 Copies of Minutes Lauren P.	\$55.31
Check# 1400 Copies of Meeting Lists Mark H.	\$75.00
Check# 1401 Homestead Website Payments Reimbursement Gina B.	\$249.99
<u>Total checks written and cash paid out</u>	<u>= \$1,484.79</u>
Total Beginning Bank Balance July 1, 2016	+\$ 4,903.27
Deposits and Other Credits	<u>+\$1,364.75</u>
Sub Total	+\$6,268.02
Other Debits –Statement fee(\$2) x 3 = 6	-\$6.00
Checks	<u>-\$1,484.79</u>
<u>Balance Available 8/31/16</u>	<u>\$4,773.23</u>

GROUP DONATIONS

Literature Money Returned	\$ 14.55
3-7-11	\$ 6.50
Turn It Over	\$ 45.00
Clean & Crazy	\$100.00
Back from the grave	\$ 34.00
The Nooners	\$ 53.25
Recovery by the River	\$ 30.00
Keys to success	\$ 17.00
Back To Basics	\$25.00
Joy is in the Journey	\$ 10.00
Steps on Sunday	\$ 10.00
Never Alone Group	\$ 16.00
Innervisions Group	\$ 20.00
Steps to Life	\$ 28.00
Some are Sicker Than Others	\$ 10.00
Saturday Night Fever	\$ 5.00
New Comers Group	\$42.00
Hope on Thursdays	\$40.00
Reach Out	\$20.00
It Works How Why	\$10.00
Steps In The Right Directions	\$93.05
<u>Spiritual Solutions</u>	<u>\$ 44.00</u>
<u>Total Group donations</u>	<u>\$673.35</u>