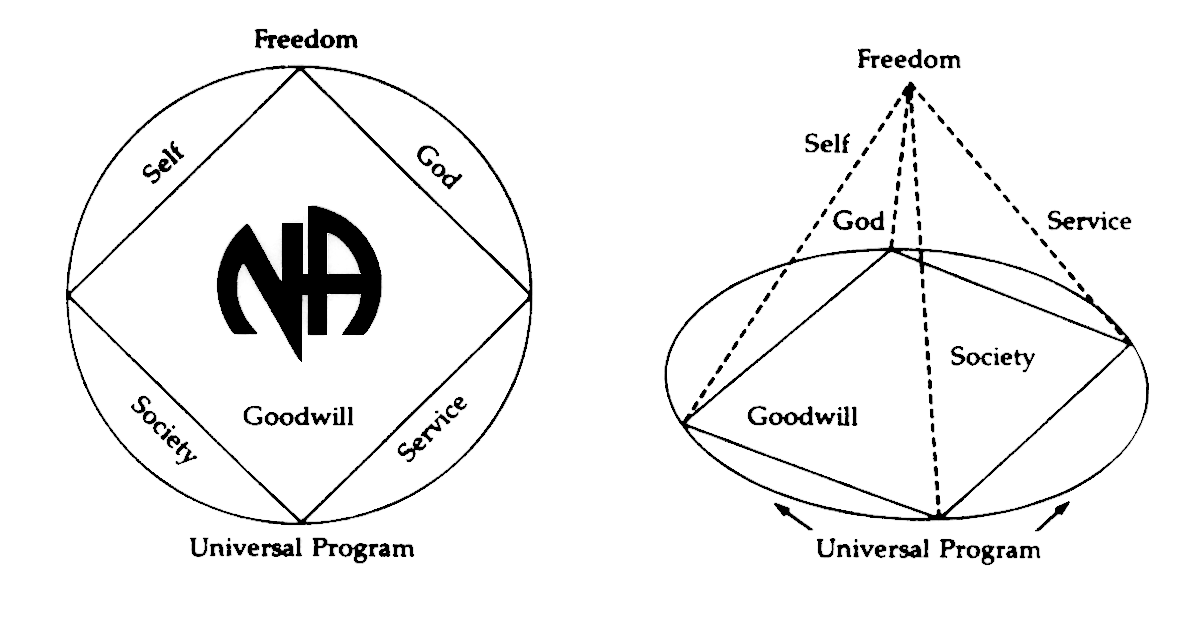
**Date:** November 12, 2017 **Next ASC**: Sunday December 10, 2017 at 10:00 AM



**GSRS**

**PLEASE ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING OPEN POSITIONS AT YOUR MEETINGS. WE CURRENTLY HAVE NO NOMINATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSOTIONS AND AREA IS IN NEED OF SERVICE:**

**ALTERNATE SECRETARY**

**Please contact Admin Committee members if you have any questions or suggestions. All Admin positions are up for new elections except for Secretary at our next ASC business meeting. All contact will be updated in the September minutes:**

**YO Frank (Chair):** [**Yofrank@bellsouth.net**](mailto:Yofrank@bellsouth.net) **954-963-7265**

**Prescott K (Vice Chair):** [**Hawaiiguy73@gmail.com**](mailto:Hawaiiguy73@gmail.com)  **954-662-2801**

**Horacio M. (Treasurer):** [**Horacio.f.moreno@att.net**](file:///C:\Users\New%20User\Desktop\Horacio.f.moreno@att.net%09)  **954-479-9447**

**Ashley C. (Secretary):** [**SBAreaSecretary@gmail.com**](file:///C:\Users\New%20User\Desktop\SBAreaSecretary@gmail.com) **954-551-5687**

**Robert S. (RCM):** [**RobertStuart5611@yahoo.com**](mailto:RobertStuart5611@yahoo.com) **954-483-9147**

1. **Opening 10 AM**
2. **Yo Frank** read Serenity Prayer
3. **Austin** read 12 Traditions
4. **Mike** read Definition of an ASC
5. **Yo Frank** called for check requests and/or motions called to be turned in.

**Yo Frank:** The first Admin meeting was planned and held at a local meeting room at the cost of $15.00 per hour, We expected to be just an hour , but much discussion was had, and we had to pay for another hour. I am turning in a check request for $30.00 today for the Meeting space.

**Barbara:** Activities needs a check for $570 for food for Thanksgiving.

Activities will also need a check for $575.00 for Christmas and New Years Event for Lutheran Memorial Church.

**NO MOTIONS SUBMITTED**

1. **Open Forum**

[*All thoughts and opinions expressed in open forum are that of the individual and do NOT represent NA as a whole]*

1. **Introduce New GSRs**

**Brother Brian**  New GSR for We have a choice Group [comehome2007@gmail.com](mailto:comehome2007@gmail.com)

**Pam R:** New GSR for A Day At A Time Group [lpnpregan@aol.com](mailto:lpnpregan@aol.com)

**Tim L :** New Alt GSR for Step It Up Group [Timothyshepore@gmail.com](mailto:Timothyshepore@gmail.com)

**Herbie:** New GSR for Negative Thoughts Positive Reactions Group [HLOEBL@gmail.com](mailto:HLOEBL@gmail.com)

***OPEN FORUM IS FOR ANYONE WHO NEEDS TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OR BRING SOMETHING TO AREA’S ATTENTION. THIS IS NOT FOR DISCUSSION. TWO QUESTION LIMIT PER PERSON.***

**Yo Frank:** “I am protempting Prescott for vice chair to help me out today.”

**Prescott:** Announced orienatation information for GSRs

B. Zoom Zoom collections were collected.

**3. Roll Call: Present = P Absent = A Open = O**

A. Administrative Committee- Please notice positions up for nominations and elections

B. Subcommittees - Please notice positions up for nominations and elections

C. Groups

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ADMIN COMMITTEE** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **ADMIN COMMITTEE** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** |  |
| **Chair:**  **Yo Frank** |  |  |  | **H&I Chair:**  **Ryan W.** |  |  |  | |
| 954-963-7265 | **P** | **P** | **P** | 267-980-4623 | **A** | **A** | **A** |  |
| Yofrank@bellsouth.net |  |  |  | [Ry85AN@yahoo.com](mailto:dukehlwd@yahoo.com) |  |  |  |  |
| **Vice Chair:**  **Prescott K**  [Hawaiiguy73@gmail.com](mailto:Hawaiiguy73@gmail.com)  **954-662-2801** | **O** | **P** | **P** | **Literature Chair:**  **Linda S**  954-295-8473  [linnie91557@yahoo.com](mailto:Frankrebel2011@hotmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Secretary:**  **Ashley Q** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **Policy Chair:**  **Max S.** | **P** | **P** | **P** |  |
| 954-551-5687 |  |  |  | 954-549-8728 |  |  |  |  |
| [SBAreaSecretary@gmail.com](file:///C:\Users\New%20User\Desktop\SBAreaSecretary@gmail.com) |  |  |  | [maxlj334@gmail.com](mailto:maxlj334@gmail.com) |  |  |  |  |
| **Alternate Secretary:** | **O** | **O** | **O** | **Activities Chair:**  Frankwas pro tempted by Area Chair | **O** | **O** | **P** |  |
| Open Position |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Treasurer:**  **Horacio M** |  |  |  | **Activities Treasurer:** |  |  |  |  |
| 954-479-9447 | **P** | **P** | **P** | Betty was pro tempted by Area Chair | **O** | **O** | **O** |  |
| [Horacio.f.moreno@att.net](mailto:Horacio.f.moreno@att.net) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Alternate Treasurer:**  **Barry** |  |  |  | **Helpline/PR Chair:**  **Steve**  954-588-0785 |  |  |  |  |
| 954-298-5971 | **P** | **P** | **P** | [stevewr57@outlook.com](mailto:stevewr57@outlook.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |  |
| na51998@aol.com |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **RCM:**  **Robert S.** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **Alternate RCM:** | **P** | **P** | **P** |  |
| 954-483-9147 |  |  |  | **Joanne G**  754-423-5035  realtorjoanngamble@gmail.com |  |  |  |  |
| [RobertStuart5611@yahoo.com](mailto:e.southers@outlook.com) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |
| --- |
| **Three consecutive absences from one group will result in being deleted from roll call. The Following groups were removed due to lack of attendance.**  **Tuesday Night Steps** [**Mccottrie@yahoo.com**](mailto:Mccottrie@yahoo.com)  **The Feminine Principles** [**kir.schneider@yahoo.com**](mailto:kir.schneider@yahoo.com)  **Hollywood Monday Night** [**kcar747@icloud.com**](mailto:kcar747@icloud.com)  **The Following groups were added due to being a new group or back in attendance with Area.** |
| Quorum is Established at (1/2 of 26+1)=12. |
| **Present 22 of 26 = Quorum Met** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Group** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** |
| **1** | **10 PM Recovery** [kevinfisher785@gmail.com](mailto:kevinfisher785@gmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **2** | **12 O’clock High Group** [**dgree714@bellsouth.net**](mailto:dgree714@bellsouth.net) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **3** | **We have a choice** [Orlando.774@hotmail.com](mailto:Orlando.774@hotmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **4** | **A Day at a Time** [**SJGamble@comcast.net**](mailto:SJGamble@comcast.net) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **5** | **Conscious Contact** [**Pkelner.realestate@gmail.com**](mailto:Pkelner.realestate@gmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **6** | **Back to Life We Live** [johnboatjerry@gmail.com](mailto:johnboatjerry@gmail.com) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **7** | **Bitter Ends** [**7542451339ly@gmail.com**](mailto:7542451339ly@gmail.com) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **8** | **Sunrise Serenity** [**jrwashington954@gmail.com**](mailto:jrwashington954@gmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **A** |
| **9** | **A Burning Desire** [**eric@dbamericas.com**](mailto:eric@dbamericas.com)[**santiago44jsj@aol.com**](mailto:santiago44jsj@aol.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **10** | **The Feminine Principles** [**kir.schneider@yahoo.com**](mailto:kir.schneider@yahoo.com) | **A** | **A** | **A** |
| **11** | **Free to Choose** [**Bettymunro1@gmail.com**](mailto:Bettymunro1@gmail.com) | **A** | **A** | **P** |
| **12** | **Fridays on Foster** [**frankt@dockproducts.com**](mailto:frankt@dockproducts.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **13** | **Hollywood Monday Night** [**kcar747@icloud.com**](mailto:kcar747@icloud.com) | **A** | **A** | **A** |
| **14** | **Tuesday Night Steps** [**Mccottrie@yahoo.com**](mailto:Mccottrie@yahoo.com) | **A** | **A** | **A** |
| **15** | **I Can’t We Can** [**Jaswaltermi@aol.com**](mailto:Jaswaltermi@aol.com) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **16** | **The Journey Begins** [**norma-94@comcast.net**](mailto:norma-94@gmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **17** | **Let Go, Let God** [**amsmacho1545@gmail.com**](mailto:amsmacho1545@gmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **18** | **Negative Thoughts, Positive Reactions** | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **19** | **No Rezervations** [**adwest118@gmail.com**](mailto:adwest118@gmail.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **20** | **Women’s Group** [**jbillie99@bellsouth.net**](mailto:jbillie99@bellsouth.net) | **PP** | **A** | **P** |
| **21** | **Road to Freedom** [pamhott@mac.com](mailto:pamhott@mac.com) [**goraiders.kt@gmail.com**](mailto:goraiders.kt@gmail.com) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **22** | **Spiritual Awakenings** [**philkas@comcast.net**](mailto:philkas@comcast.net) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **23** | **Step It Up** [**maxlj334@gmail.com**](mailto:maxlj334@gmail.com) | **PP** | **P** | **P** |
| **24** | **Sunset Recovery** [**myflagandbanner@aol.com**](mailto:myflagandbanner@aol.com) | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **25** | **Take a Break** [**austin11b@yahoo.com**](mailto:austin11b@yahoo.com) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **26** | **Veterans in Recovery** [**Mkeels@broward.org**](mailto:Mkeels@broward.org) | **A** | **P** | **P** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**4.** **Janice** read the second to last paragraph of Prefix (Page XXVI) of Basic Text

**5.** **Norma** gave a Trusted Servants Presentation: (Admin Member, Committee Chair, or GSR) will share a short presentation of their service position including their role within the body they serve, the responsibility of their position, and any other pertinent information that may be helpful to those members new to the service structure. (Policy P. 2 lines 41-44)

**6.** Acceptance/Corrections of last month’s Minutes: Accepted **by Bruce** and second **Sunset Recovery.**

**Format**

**7. Administrative Reports:**

1. **ASC Chair Report: YO Frank**

Yo Ya’ll, First of all, thank you to all the groups and their members, for allowing me to be in this position, to be of service ot area, where I grew up in NA and my life changed for the better. I put together and admin meeting on Thursdays November 2nd. The meeting was attended by most all of the SB area admin members an also a couple of interested NA members. I would like everyone here today to know, that , as per area policy page 7 line 35-37, it states any NA member that would like to attend can. Learning more about our service structure can be done at these meetings. Hopefully some of you can possible become some of the admin members in the future. This month, we discussed the upcoming Thanksgiving activities function and the availability funds for the event plus payments or rent for our activities/public relations warehouse and also, the member that will be holders of keys fro that warehouse. We discussed future admin meetings, as they are to be held after area, every month, to go over monthly events and discuss motions and/or issues that concern our area and or any of our groups. The upcoming monthly meetings will be held on the Sunday before area at 6pm 4700 Sheridan Street Suit P Hollywood FL 33021. This space is being donated by one of our South Broward members. The first meeting was planned and held at a local meeting room at the cost of $15.00 per hour, We expected to be just an hour , but much discussion was had, and we had to pay for another hour. I am turning in a check request for $30.00 today for the Meeting space. We discussed the area bank accounts and who can and will be signers on the account, and hopefully, we handle that before the next area.

1. **ASC Vice-Chair: PROTEMP Prescott K**

Ariea vice-chair report November 12th 2017

Good morning South Broward na area

I was nominated for vice chair of area admin committee at last area meeting. I attended an admin committee meeting on November 9th and was appointed as pro-temp chair by the Admin committee and chairperson yo Frank.  I am committed to following all the duties of the vice chair position and I'm blessed to serve both the area the attic still seeking recovery and to serve and furthering my own recovery through service.

    I would like to let everyone know that during my tenure I will be dedicated to improving and growing our area and improving the function of the area admin committee and subcommittees 2 help make service in area more attractive to the newcomer and Nae Nae member with an inclination to serve at area level or even as a GSR. In pursuit of this goal please no that I may be a little anal sometimes about it but I consider my mantra from what I've observed to always make sure that we put principles before personalities and always remember that each of us is entirely equal as members of Na despite many mistakes anyone may make at anytime we are to focus on the principles and the surface of an NA member we are all in a members seeking recovery there is no one at area in my mind more entitled or more important than any other and I will do my best to make sure that this is clear always and that the newest member or a newcomer always has an equal voice as anyone else.  I believe to make service at the area level more attractive to all we have to remove the perception of there being an old guard to allow New Blood to become involved, again another Foundation of area extremely important is rather than attraction rather than promotion...

   My report on my activities as your Vice chair since last month's area are as is as follows:

I attended the last two activities sub committee meetings on November 2nd and November 16th activity subcommittee is up and running well Thanksgiving Day activity is planned out and we will be getting checks today to fund it activities has nominated a chairperson vice-chairperson and area treasure which will be brought before area today for confirmation. just a note to all members reading this you only need one day clean two and a desire to serve to participate in the activities subcommittee which is the fundraising Hub of our whole area, it is a lot of fun and a lot of great people to work with as we put on events throughout the year.  New and old GSR orientations will be handled by South Broward RCM Rob hopefully all will participate so we can all get on the same page and know what our responsibilities are and fulfill them so that we may function as effectively as servants at the area level.

Again thanks for allowing me to serve.

Precott K.

1. **Secretary: Ashley Q – Nothing to report**
2. **RCM: Robert S**

Rcm Report November 2017

Hello an area we attended region last month

And there are several motions to vote on. I need to know how many groups want a copy of the car Report to order as this com Ming year is the world Service conferance I have enclosed Info on our regions request to review naws books

**PLEASE SEE ALL REGIONAL INFO AT THE END OF THE MIUNTES. PAGES 16-39**

**E. Alternate RCM: Joanne G.**

No Report Submitted.

**8. Subcommittee Reports**

1. **Activities Chair: PROTEMPT BARBARA**

I am acting secretary of South Broward Activities. I have some positive changes to present to area regarding activities. WE have nominations for chair and treasurer of activities. Activities has voted to move to a new location. The money that will need to be allocated for rent is $10.00 a month. We will meet the first and third Thursday of the month. Activities needs a check for $570 for food for Thanksgiving. Activities will also need a check for $575.00 for Christmas and New Years Event for Lutheran Memorial Church.

THIS IS BARBARA FROM ACTIVITIES.

SEE ATTACHED TIME SLOTS LIST FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS 24 HOUR TIME SLOTS.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sign up Sheet New Years 24 hour room | | |  |
| Time | Name of Group | Contact Person | Phone # |
| **6-8pm** | ACTIVITIES MEMBERS | FRANK- CHAIR | 954-646-4895 |
| **8-10pm** | ACTIVITIES MEMBERS | FRANK- CHAIR | 954-646-4895 |
| **10pm-12am** | CONSCIOUS CONTACT | PAM K | 954-258-1640 |
| **12-2am** | A DAY AT A TIME | PAM R | 954-588-1818 |
| **2-4 am** | ROAD TO FREEDOM | PAM H | 917-400-2474 |
| **4-6 am** | VETERANS IN RECOVERY | MIKE K | 954-394-9587 |
| **6-8 am** | LET GO LET GOD | RAGAEL M | 954-865-7634 |
| **8-10 am** | TAKE A BREAK | HORACE AUSTIN | 240-432-2213 |
| **10-12 pm** | STEP IT UP | TIM L | 707-892-3505 |
| **12-2 pm** | NEGATIVE THOUGHTS POSTIVE REACTIONS | HERSIE L | 786-252-2056 |
| **2-4 pm** | WE HAVE A CHOICE | BRIAN D | 954-624-5803 |
| 4-6pm | BACK TO LIFE/WE LIVE | JERRY C | 954-868-2202 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sign up Sheet Christmas 24 hour room | | |  |
| Time | Name of Group | Contact Person | Phone # |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10pm-12am | 10 PM RECOVERY | KEVIN | 754-281-3933 |
| 12-2am | BURNING DESIRE | ERIC | 786-348-8262 |
| 2-4 am | FREE TO CHOOSE | BETTY | 954-615-7260 |
| 4-6 am | WOMEN'S GROUP | JANICE B | 863-447-1312 |
| 6-8 am | FRIDAYS ON FOSTER | FRANK T | 754-260-0562 |
| 8-10 am | 12 O'CLOCK HIGH | DAVID GREER | 954-296-2750 |
| 10-12 pm | SUNSET RECOVERY | BRUCE | 954-562-7000 |
| 12-2 pm | JOURNEY BEGINS | NORMA R | 654-534-3946 |
| 2-4 pm | BITTER ENDS | LARRY | 745-245-1339 |
| 4-6pm | NO RESERVATIONS | RYAN D | 754-368-8090 |

**B. Activities Treasurer NO REPRESENTATIVE OPEN POSITION**

**C.** **Helpline/PR Chair: Steve R**

Helpline/ Public Relations November Area Report

Greetings from your Helpline/Public Relations Subcommittee. We met last on October 19, 2017. Of our 13 current members we had 8 in attendance. We have created an email address to be incorporated into our website as well as our business cards. Our email address is: [sbapublicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:sbapublicrelations@gmail.com). We have created a business card with our Helpline number and our email address. After our members review and approve of its design, we will have them produced. We will be contacting several health fairs in hopes of setting up our PR booth. Discussions were held on having a poster day in December or February. When a date is set a flyer will be produced and all members will be invited to participate. Chair will be trained by Barry on how our meetings are kept current on NA.ORG. Password for our One box system was given to chair. Password and recovery email and phone number will be given to Area Chair for our new email address. Chair will put in check request in the amount of 20 dollars for our November rent. We have no issues with One box and all phone shifts are currently covered. For the month of October we received 102 calls for live person, 29 for days of the week,1 for activities and Subcommittees.

1. **H&I Chair: Ryan W. Not Present**

No report submitted.

1. **Literature Chair: Linda S**

ORDER DETAILS  
  
QTY       PRODUCT                                      UNIT PRICE          TOTAL  
================================================================================  
5         Bronze (28 Years) (EN-4328)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (30 Years) (EN-4330)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (31 Years) (EN-4331)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (33 Years) (EN-4333)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (34 Years) (EN-4334)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (35 Years) (EN-4335)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (37 Years) (EN-4337)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (38 Years) (EN-4338)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
3         Bronze (41 Years) (EN-4341)                       $3.20          $9.60  
  
  
5         Bronze (42 Years) (EN-4342)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
3         Bronze (43 Years) (EN-4343)                       $3.20          $9.60  
  
  
2         Bronze (44 Years) (EN-4344)                       $3.20          $6.40  
  
  
100       IP 8 - Just For Today (EN-3108)                   $0.24         $24.00  
          (EN-3108)                                 
  
  
30        IP 19 - Self-Acceptance (EN-3119)                 $0.24          $7.20  
          (EN-3119)                                 
  
  
4         Laminated Group Reading Cards (EN-9130L)          $7.00         $28.00  
  
  
200       Introductory Guide to NA (EN-1200)                $2.00        $400.00  
          (EN-1200)                                 
  
  
200       White Booklet (EN-1500) (EN-1500)                 $0.75        $150.00  
  
  
25        By Young Addicts For Young Addicts                $0.31          $7.75  
          (EN-3113) (EN-3113)                       
  
  
250       For Those in Treatment (EN-3117)                  $0.31         $77.50  
          (EN-3117)                                 
  
  
25        The Loner (EN-3121) (EN-3121)                     $0.31          $7.75  
  
  
25        For The Parent of Young People                    $0.31          $7.75  
          (EN-3127) (EN-3127)                       
  
  
100       Chips (White - Welcome) (EN-4200)                 $0.35         $35.00  
  
  
30        Chips (Black - Multiple Year) (EN-4208)           $0.35         $10.50  
  
  
100       Keytags (White - Welcome) (EN-4100)               $0.53         $53.00  
  
  
40        Chips (Orange - 30 Days) (EN-4201)                $0.35         $14.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (1 Year) (EN-4301)                         $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
10        Bronze (2 Years) (EN-4302)                        $3.20         $32.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (3 Years) (EN-4303)                        $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (4 Years) (EN-4304)                        $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
10        Bronze (5 Years) (EN-4305)                        $3.20         $32.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (7 Years) (EN-4307)                        $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (13 Years) (EN-4313)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (16 Years) (EN-4316)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (17 Years) (EN-4317)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (18 Years) (EN-4318)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (19 Years) (EN-4319)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (20 Years) (EN-4320)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (21 Years) (EN-4321)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (22 Years) (EN-4322)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (23 Years) (EN-4323)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (24 Years) (EN-4324)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (25 Years) (EN-4325)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
5         Bronze (26 Years) (EN-4326)                       $3.20         $16.00  
  
  
  
                                                       Subtotal:       $1,312.05  
                                            Less discounts used:         -$89.88  
                                               Shipping Charges:          $71.96  
                                  MIAMI-DADE County Sales Tax 7%:         $85.55  
                                                  ==============================  
                                                          Total:       $1,379.68

1. **Policy: Max S. No report submitted**
2. **Adhoc Committees: N/A**
3. **Convention Committee: N/A**
4. **Treasures Report- Horacio and Barry**

**GSR’S – GROUPS MUST VOTE ON NOMINATIONS & MOTIONS**

**Please Reflect to POLICY on the website to view qualifications for open positions and nominations until each group is provided their own by the Policy Chair. Thank You**

**9. Nominations & Elections**

1. **South Broward Area Nominations & Elections**

**VOTE**

* **Activities Chair Nomination Protempted by Chair for now**

**Phil nominated Frank Activities Chair of Area**

**Max:** Read all responsibilities and qualifications for **Activities Chair of Area**

**Frank:** I am a 2 time member of Activities. I have a sponsor and sponsor people. I have a homegroup and go to meetings. I have the willingness to serve.”

* **Activities Treasurer Nomination Protempted by Chair for now**

**Joanne nominated Betty for Activities Chair of Area**

**Max:** Read all responsibilities and qualifications for **Activities Treasurer** of area.

**Betty:** “I have 22 years clean and I am the treasurer at my condo association.”

**Email:** bettymunro1@gmail.com

**PLEASE BRING ALL NOIMATIONS BACK TO YOUR GROUP AND VOTE ON HELPLINE BUDGET**

* **Vice Chair Election**

**NO OPPOSITION. UNAMIMOUSE VOTE. PRESCTOT WAS VOTED IN FOR LIT CHAIR**

1. **Regional Nominations & Elections**

**NONE REPORTED**

**10. Old Business:**

**A. South Broward Area Old Business:**

**NONE**

1. **Regional Old Business:**

**NONE REPORTED**

**11. New Business:**

1. **South Broward Area New Business**

**NONE REPORTED**

1. **Regional New Business**

**PLEASE SEE ALL REGIONAL INFO AT THE END OF THE MIUNTES. PAGES 16-39**

12. Announcements- Ask for volunteers to help clean up.

13. Motion to Close with Serenity Prayer: Let Go Let God Seconded: All

**NAWS Inspection Report To October, 2017 RSC**

Part 1 - Chronology of Events – 5 pages  
Part 2 - The Inspection Motion and the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust – 2 pages Part 3 – Inspection Request – 2 pages  
Part 4 – NAWS Response to Inspection Request – 13 pages  
Part 5 – Initial RD Response to NAWS – 3 pages  
Part 6 – Legal Opinion – 1 page

**NAWS Inspection – Chronology of events (Note: The documents noted as enclosed and referenced in these items are included in separate sections of this report):**

**September 10, 2016** – East Central Florida passes motion concerning the region inspecting the records of NAWS in accordance to the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust.

**November 13, 2016** – I informed my World Board liaison (Jack H) via email about the motion adopted by the East Central Florida area concerning the inspection. This is how I reported it to him:  
“We have another motion that was passed by an area that will be brought to our December RSC (it was supposed to have been brought to our October RSC, but the RCM was not in attendance). The motion will ask that we perform an inspection of the Trust as outlined in the FIPT. I'd expect this motion to be tabled to our groups and be voted on at our February RSC.”

**December 17, 2016** – East Central Florida motion (#12-05-16) concerning the inspection of the records of NAWS as outlined in the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) passed at South Florida RSC meeting by a vote of 10-0-1

**December 19, 2016** – I posted the motion on the WSC Conference Participant Discussion Board.

**December 20, 2016 thru April 16, 2017** – I worked with members of the East Central Florida area as well as other regional members on the issues they wanted included in the inspection request.

**April 17, 2017** – The official inspection request was emailed to the World Board and Executive Directors of NAWS. I received a confirmation of receipt of the inspection request the same day.

**May 4, 2017** – I received the following letter from the World Board Chair, Arne H:  
Dear Jeff,  
We received your request to the World Board dated April 17, 2017. You stated this request was made and approved by the South Florida Region at their December 16, 2016 RSC meeting.  
Your request came in a week after the World Board’s April meeting and the next WB meeting will take place 19-22 July 2017.  
We take this request seriously. In order to not delay the board’s consideration in July and confirm the requirements of the FIPT, we are asking for copies of your December regional meeting minutes and agenda that created this request. We need to gather all of the documentation possible that the board might need to be prepared to have this discussion in July.  
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

**May 4, 2017** – I responded to the World Board request for our December RSC minutes. I was unable to provide the agenda for that RSC as they get overwritten for use at the next RSC.

**August 7, 2017** – I waited until over two weeks after the July World Board meeting to send an email to the World Board Chair and NAWS Executive Directors which said:  
Arne,  
What's the status of our inspection request?

**Chronology Page 1 of 2**

Thanks, Jeff  
**August 10, 2017** – I received the following response from the World Board Chair: Jeff,

Sorry for the delay.  
We're taking this request seriously, and we're still in the process of investigating what it will require. Since this has been a legal request, it has necessitated the involvement of our attorneys.

The board had the opportunity to begin to review your request in person, at our July meeting. The EC has also continued to forward the discussion in their meeting yesterday.

Rest assured we are processing this request as expediently as we can. Any results will require board sign-off.

Will keep you in the loop. Thanks,  
Arne

**August 30, 2017** – I received the following email from the Assistant Executive Director of NAWS. Inc, Becky M:

“Dear Jeff  
Attached is the boards initial response to your request.

I have also attached a copy of the notification to conference participants that will go out tomorrow.

Respectfully...”

**August 31, 2017** – I emailed an initial response to the Assistant Executive Director and the World Board Chair along with the following note:

“Dear Becky,

Enclosed is my initial response. I'm going to be in NYC (at their RSO to label and ship the books from the East Coast Convention) from Sept 14-18. I'd like to see if I could meet with Mary Ellen (if she'll be in Connecticut during that time) or Tana, so we can talk (at least....an initial discussion; I'm not expecting them to be able to make any commitments....just a face-to-face talk) and see if there's any way we can achieve some sort of compromise.

Also, I'd like to request that this enclosed response be included on the ftp site.”

*<Note: I never received any response from NAWS to this first request to meet with members of the World Board for the purpose of discussing a compromise>*

**Chronology Page 2 of 2**

**September 1, 2017** – I contacted a friend of mine in California to see if he knew of an attorney that could give our region some guidance as to the validity of our inspection request, and if it conformed to the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust. The attorney reviewed the information and emailed me a response. The response is enclosed with this report and is similar to other opinions I received; one on facebook from an attorney who is a member of the fellowship, and another from an Intellectual Property attorney who also happens to be a Regional Delegate.

**September 9, 2017** – I was informed by our Regional Chair that he had been in contact with Jack from the World Board and then had an email from Jack which had Arne (Chair of the World Board cc’d). Mat forwarded me that email, and the following is the string of emails from this day (times are noted):

**5:03pm; forwarded email from Jack to Mat with cc to Arne:**

“Hi Mat,

First and foremost, I hope you are well. The news paints a dire picture for the potential impact of the hurricanes.

After our conversation, I spoke with Arne. I shared your hope that we all find a solution that keeps fellowship unity and preserves your Region’s Home Group’s ability to feel comfortable that NA funds are managed responsibly. I explained to Arne that you and others in your region appear to have a different perspective than the World Board about the scope of a FIPT audit, and I reiterated that you emphasized with me that your hope is to help find a spiritual path through this, but you are accountable to the conscience of your region and your influence only extends so far.

Hopefully you and Arne can find a time to talk, and if there is any way I can support your Region’s hope to find a spiritual solution through this, I am happy to help. As I said on the phone, although I am your World Board region liaison, as World Board Chair Arne is the best person for you to talk to and I’m confident your conversation will be valuable.

I really enjoyed getting to know you and thank you for your time and effort and willingness to dialog.

Stay well, and I hope the next few days aren’t as tragic and devastating to Florida as predicted in the news.

Thanks,

Jack”

**7:56pm; my email to Jack, Arne, and Mat:**

“Jack,

Mat called me yesterday and informed me of your conversation. If you guys want to talk to our Regional Chair, I certainly can't stop you, nor would I necessarily want to. It's a free country

**Chronology Page 3 of 2**

(even Canada). I do find the timing of the call, and especially this follow-up email to be a bit...interesting.

We just had a CP webinar on Unity and Collaboration, and a couple hours later came this email. Obviously, there's no conflict with any Tradition, any Concept, any Guideline, any...whatever. I do think it's a matter of right and wrong, though. For better or for worse, I am the representative of my region. If nothing else, I think you should have notified me of your intention to have conversations with our Regional Chair concerning our inspection request.

Now that I've said how I feel, I'm totally letting it go. I'll have faith that your intentions were good.

I'm getting the impression that you guys don't feel you can have just as productive a dialogue with me as you could with Mat, or just about any other member of our region. I'm not all that sure why you might feel that way, but I'll accept responsibility for it.

When I sent my response to the board on our inspection request, I made an offer to meet in New York next weekend with Mary Ellen or Tana (Arne...for whatever reason...I keep thinking you live in Vancouver (maybe because of correspondence years ago about Basic Texts from the East Coast Convention for prisons in Vancouver?)) to discuss how we might come to some compromise that we, the WB and S Florida Region, might each find acceptable. I've yet to receive a response to that offer. I'd like to reiterate it, and include you as well, Arne. Also, these would just be conversations. I'm sure we all realize that it's the board as a whole that would have to agree to anything and my RSC as a whole, as well.

As was discussed on today's webinar, we're all on the same team. Each of us is looking for what's best for the addicts that are here and the addicts yet to come. While we might disagree on the best methods to achieve that goal, they're still the same goals.

Hugs,

Jeff”

**8:44pm; email from Jack to me, Arne, and Mat:**

“Jeff,

The timing is simply Mat and I dialogued on Facebook and decided a phone conversation was easier than to try communicates online. I've publicly and privately offered to talk to anyone about this who is regularly posting as I believe conversation leads to better communication than online back and forth posts. At my invitation, Mat called me on Thursday and we talked and I suggested he talk to Arne.

We come from different Regions so I am ignorant to how things work in South Florida. In my home region, it wouldn't occur to me that there was anything remotely inappropriate about a discussion with any member of another service body who was interested in dialoging and brainstorming about solutions with any other NA service member from a home group member to world board member. It never occurred to me to tell you Mat and I made a plan to talk. I can

**Chronology Page 4 of 2**

see there is a lot I don't know. Really. I didn't even consider this might offend or bother you and for that I am sorry.

Thanks and again, wish all of you will as the hurricanes approach. Jack

**8:51pm; my email to Jack, Arne, and Mat:**

“No prob, Jack.

What about any meeting in New York?

Thanks,

Jeff”

**8:58pm; final email from Jack to me, Arne and Mat:**

“Jeff,

Arne will need to respond to that. Sorry I don't have that answer. :)

Be well and stay safe.

*<Note: I never received any response to my two additional requests to meet with members of the World Board for the purpose of discussing a compromise>*

**Chronology Page 5 of 2**

**NAWS Inspection – The Motion and the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)**

**Motion adopted at December RSC:**

Maker: East Central Florida  
Second: South Broward  
Motion Reads: We agree in principle that the South Florida Region request an  
inspection of the records and operations of NA World Services per the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) dated May 2012 in accordance with ARTICLE V: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY pages 16-17.

**Applicable section of the FIPT:**

From pages 15-16 (Please note the following definitions for terms used in the following; The Trustee of the Trust is the World Board. The Beneficiary of the Trust is the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, and the Trustor of the Trust is the Fellowship as represented by their Regional Delegates at the World Service Conference):

**SECTION 3: INSPECTION OF TRUSTEE ACTIVITIES**

**Conditions of inspection**

Any regional service committee or equivalent service body may inspect the records and operations of the Trust on behalf of the Beneficiary, provided the following conditions are met. 1. A motion to conduct an inspection of the Trust must be approved by a regional service committee or its equivalent.  
2. The regional service committee wishing to inspect the Trust must assume the expense associated with the participation of its own representative in the inspection. All other costs associated with the inspection shall be borne by the Trustee.

3. The regional service committee must present a written request for inspection of the Trust, detailing its concerns and any particular areas of Trust operations it wishes to inspect.

**Selection of inspection team**

1. The regional service committee requesting the inspection will select two members of the World Board for inclusion on the inspection team. These two members will facilitate the inspection.  
2. The regional service committee requesting the inspection will designate one of its participants to be included on the inspection team.

**Inspection limitation**

A Trust inspection conducted by a regional service committee on behalf of the Beneficiary may examine any aspect of the Trustee’s operations, including all records, with the exception of documents privileged by law, including but not limited to the Trustee’s personnel records.

**Report of inspection**

1. One of the two inspection team members drawn from the World Board will develop a report of the team’s findings relative to the region’s stated concerns. The report will include full documentation of the inspection team’s findings.  
2. The final report, along with a copy of the original request for inspection, will then be published in the next Conference Report.

----------------------------------------------------------END OF SECTION 3 OF FIPT------------------

**Motion and FIPT Page 1 of 2**

After all of the Articles of the Trust, the FIPT includes readers notes to the Trust. These notes include an Introduction and then notes on each of the Trust Articles. The provisions appropriate to our request are:

**From Page 23 of the FIPT, in the Introduction:**

The intent of the trust is to provide assurance to our present and future membership that NA’s properties are duly protected from misuse by anyone, including our world services. The trust clarifies and limits Narcotics Anonymous World Services responsibility and authority in administering those properties on the fellowship’s behalf. NA’s literature and logos belong to no one individual, board, or committee, but are held in trust for the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. By casting the policies affecting this arrangement as a registered legal document, we ensure that those policies can be enforced, if need be, by the California state government.

**From Page 37 of the FIPT, regarding Article 5:**

**ARTICLE V**

This article describes the role of the beneficiary, the NA Fellowship as a whole, in the trust. One section deserves particular attention: Section 3.

**Section 3**

This section goes far beyond the legal requirements normally imposed on trusts. Normally, the beneficiary of a trust is not permitted to examine the trustee’s records under any circumstances. Such an arrangement, however, would not be appropriate in Narcotics Anonymous, especially in light of our Ninth Tradition and Second Concept. Therefore, we have drafted Section 3 in such a way as to allow segments of the fellowship to review the records of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Any region may inspect any NAWS records except its personnel records. (USA federal employment codes require that employers keep these records completely confidential.) The inspection team would be led by a member of the World Board who is intended to serve as mediator and controller of the inspection. The reporting coming out of the inspection is designed to be objective, and its results are to be distributed to all RDs. This inspection procedure can do two things:

1. It can defuse controversy by thoroughly and objectively investigating any suspicion of impropriety on the part of NAWS in its administration of the trust.  
2. It allows for open communication, thereby removing any air of suspicion or doubt.

**Does there need to be a specific “concern” to justify an inspection?**

Item 3 under “Conditions of Inspection” requires the RSC that requests the inspection to “detail its concerns and any particular areas of trust operations it wishes to inspect.” This provision facilitates easy inspection of particular aspects of trust operations, should only limited areas be of concern.

**Motion and FIPT Page 2 of 2**

**SOUTH FLORIDA REGION OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS PO BOX 5842  
LIGHTHOUSE POINT, FL 33074**

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. 19737 Nordhoff Place  
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Dear World Board,

As per the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (updated May 2012) pages 16-17, in accordance with Article V: Rights and Responsibilities of the Beneficiary, and by motion made and approved by the South Florida Region at our December 16, 2016 RSC meeting, we herewith request an inspection of the records and operations of the Trust as well as Trustee activities. The following is a list of our concerns and particular areas of Trust operations we wish to inspect (unless otherwise noted, the period of the records requested are the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2016):

Concern: That literature margins, developmental literature, developmental subsidies, and allowances are being overstated by recording the developmental items and allowances at values greater than cost. We wish to inspect all financial records, documents, and general ledger postings to developmental literature, subsidies, and allowances accounts. We also wish to inspect all records/calculations relating to the cost of literature.

Concern: That all World Board expenses are not being reported accurately and completely. We wish to inspect all financial records for the World Board posted to World Board or other general ledger accounts, and any reconciliations to World Board expenses in the financial statements included in annual reports.

Concern: That all commercial interests in literature distribution centers outside of the United States have not been disclosed or reported to the fellowship. We wish to review all documents, minutes (internal WB and EC) and financial records relating to ownership or interests in distribution centers around the world.

Concern: Customer discounts are not being applied equally to fellowship and non-fellowship sales. We wish to inspect a list of the twenty largest (in terms of annual sales) fellowship and non-fellowship customers as well as invoices to those customers.

Concern: That all travel expenses are not being reported correctly to the fellowship, and Trust financed travel is not being reimbursed according to the guidelines outlined in the Guide to World Services (GWSNA). We wish to examine all travel-related financial documents (general ledger details, expense reports, reimbursement request forms, travel receipts, etc.) as well as all Executive Committee minutes where decisions were made to exempt room-sharing.

Concern: That the Trustee is not performing its duties noted in the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust as it relates to the designation and separation of Trust and non-Trust property. We wish to inspect all lists, designations and separations of Trust and non-Trust properties.

**Inspection Request Page 1 of 2**

Concern: Credit card guidelines as outlined on pages 34-35 of the 2016 GWSNA are not being followed. Records requested include all EC minutes approving the issuance of credit cards for WSC responsibilities; All signed condition of use forms; Invoices or other accompanying documentation for temporarily issued credit cards, credit card receipts, expense statement(s), and accompanying invoice(s) resulting in card use; and all EC reports resulting from their quarterly audits and/or reviews of WSC credit card activity.

Concern: That World Convention (WCNA) costs are not being reported accurately and completely due to the combining of non-WCNA expenses into them. We wish to review all financial records and backup receipts for all expenses reported for the world convention in Brazil.

Concern: That all World Service Conference expenses are not being reported accurately and completely. We wish to inspect all financial records for World Service Conference expenses posted to World Service Conference or other general ledger accounts, and any reconciliations to World Board expenses in the financial statements included in annual reports.

Concern: There is an appearance that NAWS is targeting NA service bodies over non-NA entities in the enforcement of the FIPT as it relates to the online posting of our copyrighted literature. We wish to inspect all Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) takedown notices sent by NAWS over the course of the inspection period.

The South Florida Region designates its Regional Delegate, Jeffrey Paul to be included on the inspection team, and selects Jack Hovenier as one of the two World Board members on the inspection team. The South Florida Region authorizes and allows the World Board to select the second World Board member on the inspection team.

We estimate the inspection could take a week to perform and would like to schedule it for some time in either July or August of 2017.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Paul Regional Delegate South Florida Region

**Inspection Request Page 2 of 2**

**NA World Services**

PO Box 9999 Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA Telephone (818) 773-9999 Fax (818) 773-2659

Email: Worldboard@na.org

29 August 2017

South Florida Region of Narcotics Anonymous PO Box 5842  
Lighthouse Point, Florida 33074

Dear All:

The April 17, 2017, letter from the regional delegate on behalf of the South Florida Region of Narcotics Anonymous requesting inspection of the records and operations of the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* and the activities of its Trustee was considered by the World Board on July 21, 2017, its first meeting after receipt of the request. The World Board is taking this request seriously, and has spent significant time and resources in addressing its form and contents. This letter outlines the action requested of the South Florida Region in furtherance of the request after a detailed discussion and analysis by the World Board. We have also included an Addendum that explains our related thoughts and reasoning.

We all are aware that this is the first time a region has sent a request for inspection, so we are all covering new ground here. The World Board will therefore be sending the South Florida Region's request to the World Service Conference for guidance, inasmuch as Section 3 of Article V of the Operational Rules of the *FIPT,* set forth below, makes clear that any inspection is to be made on behalf of the Beneficiary, which the *FIPT* defines as the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole.

***ARTICLE V:  
RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY***

***SECTION 3: INSPECTION OF TRUSTEE ACTIVITIES Conditions of inspection***

*Any regional service committee or equivalent service body may inspect the records and operations of the Trust on behalf of the Beneficiary, provided the following conditions are met.*

*1. A motion to conduct an inspection of the Trust must be approved by a regional service committee or its equivalent.*

*2. The regional service committee wishing to inspect the Trust must assume the expense associated with the participation of its own representative in the*

**NAWS Response Page 1 of 2**

South Florida Region of Narcotics Anonymous 29 August 2017

*inspection. All other costs associated with the inspection shall be borne by the Trustee.*

*3. The regional service committee must present a written request for inspection of the Trust, detailing its concerns and any particular areas of Trust operations it wishes to inspect.*

This same section requires both a motion to conduct an inspection approved by the regional service committee and a written request by the regional service committee detailing its concerns and any particular areas of Trust operations it wishes to inspect. The World Board believes that the concerns in a written request must be specifically approved in the underlying motion of the regional service committee, after discussion and deliberation.

We asked for the underlying motion and were provided the minutes of the December 17, 2016, motion of the South Florida Region. The motion, identified as Motion 12-05-16, reads as follows:

*Motion Reads: Motion: We agree in principle that the South Florida Region request an inspection of the records and operations of NA World Services per the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) dated May 2012 in accordance with ARTICLE V: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY pages 16-17.*

This motion is most general in nature, seeking a review of records and operations of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc., not the Trust, without mentioning the records and operations of the Trust or detailing concerns or any particular areas of Trust operations the South Florida Region wishes to inspect. If, as it appears, this is the sole motion approval by the South Florida Region of the request for inspection, the World Board does not see how the request complies with the requirements of the Operational Rules or is capable of appropriate response.

We want to share with the region the Board’s thoughts on the purpose of a request for inspection. We feel, and the Operational Rules and comments support, that an inspection request is to address legitimate factual concerns in a region that arise out of the unique nature of the Fellowship with respect to the Trust. The request for inspection should therefore be completely consistent with the supporting motion and discussions at the region. Without this, a vague and seemingly innocuous motion can be used as the basis for a request for inspection on completely different issues, or without any real understanding by the region of the time, personnel hours needed, financial costs, and problems within the Fellowship that a request for inspection without a true foundation will cause.

By the same token, we think that a request for inspection really needs to be useful and not just an empty exercise. So it should not be a request to repeat parts of routine accounting audits conducted by a CPA firm each year, to indirectly challenge the WSC on an issue or matter where the Fellowship has already spoken, or otherwise be rather pointless.

The Operational Rules lay out a process that needs to be followed, and the April 17, 2017, request for inspection you have sent does not follow the process. First, the ten “Concerns” listed are not consistent with the matters discussed in the December 17, 2016, minutes for Motion 12-

**NAWS Response Page 2 of 2**

South Florida Region of Narcotics Anonymous 29 August 2017 05-16. Second, each Concern is followed by a request to review wide categories of documents and sometimes documents that do not even relate or respond to that Concern.

Finally, responding to any request for inspection is going to be expensive. In addition to the region’s cost, estimated at $2,000, there is the expense of personnel at NAWS who will be taken off their regular duties to deal with this, plus the charges from trusted servants and outside accountants and lawyers to review and deal with the request, locate documents, and then participate in the inspection.

The minutes for Motion 12-05-16 continue with three more paragraphs under the headings of “Intent” and “Related Issues.” Assuming those paragraphs can be construed as the attempt of the South Florida Region to detail its concerns and identify the particular areas of Trust operations it wishes to inspect, we make the observations below about each of those paragraphs.

The following paragraph of the motion minutes is headed “Intent” and reads as follows:

*Intent: To hold Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc (NAWS, Inc) accountable to the fellowship and to accurately account for all money coming in and out of NAWS as well as looking at literature related contracts between NAWS, Inc and outside organizations. In all the time since the FIPT was created this has never been requested. It is time to do so!*

Again, the statement in the first half of the first section of this paragraph relates only to NAWS without referencing the Trust or distinguishing between the operations of NAWS that relate to the Trust and those that do not. The second half of the first sentence relates to the operations of the Trust, but does not detail any concern or the basis for that concern.

The next paragraph of the motion minutes is headed “Related Issues” and reads as follows:

*Related Issues: The current financial statements coming out of NAWS, Inc do not tell us what they are spending money on except in highly generalized terms. They refuse to clarify their financial information claiming that what they have provided is in accordance with California and Federal law. They also refuse to state what kind of deals they make with outside organizations in relation to literature sales saying they don't legally have to.*

This paragraph is also general in nature, beginning by addressing all NAWS activities without limitation to the Trust and ending with a specific issue related to literature sales but failing to detail a concern.

The following paragraph of the motion minutes does not have a heading and reads as follows:

*NAWS, Inc was advised of the Drug Strategies website*

**NAWS Response Page 3 of 2**

South Florida Region of Narcotics Anonymous 29 August 2017

*(http://www.drugstrategies.org/NA-Meetings/Florida/) giving away free NA literature in November 2015. We have been advised that it will take at least a year to investigate and even more time to go through a legal action. On the other hand, an online Group () was issue a Digital Millennium Copyright Act takedown notification within 24 hours of the website going live by NAWS, Inc.*

This paragraph provides a narrative of a characterization of two events that are believed to have occurred, but again, no specific concern is described.

If these paragraphs of Intent and Related Issues, together with the “Motion Reads” paragraph, reflect the concerns intended to be addressed in a request for inspection authorized by the South Florida Region, please so confirm and they will be addressed by the Conference. However, if the South Florida Region wishes to take the above World Board comments into account by passing resolutions that more directly focus on the records and operations of the Trust and that provide specific details of concerns, it should do so promptly, as that may require further Board analysis before the Conference meets and further delays if deadlines for the process of bringing matters before the Conference are not met.

You should know that the World Board has concluded that even if the South Florida Region had made a valid request in accordance with the Operational Rules that included all ten of the “Concerns” in the April 17, 2017, letter, it would not be possible to carry out those requests as drafted within the time frame specified in that letter, and it would be extremely difficult, time-consuming, and expensive to attempt to fully respond over a longer time frame.

However, to keep this process moving forward, we have identified what we think are the actual concerns of the South Florida Region from the Motion 12-05-16 minutes, which are the following:

Concern A: That the current financial statements identify expenses in “highly generalized terms.” The simple fact is that financial statements are prepared using standard terms, and have satisfied not only our accountants but also the WSC. A request that your region seconded last year for more detail about WCNA finances was not supported by the WSC. This is routine accounting practice by NAWS, and therefore not really a concern that is appropriate to be addressed in a request for inspection.

Concern B: A refusal to state “what kind of deals” are made with outside organizations with respect to literature sales. Part of the annual accounting audit ensures that uniform prices are charged and pricing policies are followed. The price lists and discount terms all come from one place and are not different for non-Fellowship customers.

Concern Detail C: There is a reference to the time it takes to close down unauthorized sales of literature online at the Drug Strategies website versus those of an online group. As far as NAWS is aware, it has sent notices only to non-Fellowship posters of literature.

It should be noted that much has changed at NA World Services, as well as in NA as a whole, since 1993 when the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* was adopted. There were 16,575 meetings represented by 72 regions at the opening roll call of WSC 1993. In 1993, WSO

**NAWS Response Page 4 of 2**

South Florida Region of Narcotics Anonymous 29 August 2017 controlled its own general operations. The WSC had direct control only over the WSC finances. The WSC budget included all contributions from the Fellowship and paid for the Conference, its committees, workshops, H&I literature, and Conference publications. The WSO and WCNA bylaws “acknowledged the right of the WSC to make specific recommendations to the WSO regarding its general operations,” but the WSC had no direct control or approval rights over the WSO budget.

In 1998, WSO, WSC, and WCNA were consolidated into NA World Services, which is directly responsible to the WSC. For the first time, all of NA World Services’ policies—its budgets, financial reports, auditing and reporting, etc.—were accessible and directed by motions at the WSC. As a result, comprehensive audited financial statements and reports to the California Attorney General provide most of the safeguards that the Operational Rules lay out.

For this reason and all of the other reasons stated above, the expenditure of time, money, and resources related to addressing most, if not all, of the items addressed in the delegate’s letter of April 17, 2017, does not appear warranted or of benefit to the Fellowship. We urge you to take the contents of this letter to heart and tailor your response accordingly.

In fellowship,

Arne Hassel-Gren World Board Chair

Encl: Addendum

**NAWS Response Page 5 of 2**

**Addendum: Initial response to the South Florida April 2017 request**

**Excerpt from December 2016 South Florida RSC Minutes**

Motion Reads: Motion: We agree in principle that the South Florida Region request an inspection of the records and operations of NA World Services per the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) dated May 2012 in accordance with ARTICLE V: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY pages 16-17.

Intent: To hold Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc (NAWS, Inc) accountable to the fellowship and to accurately account for all money coming in and out of NAWS as well as looking at literature related contracts between NAWS, Inc and outside organizations. In all the time since the FIPT was created this has never been requested. It is time to do so!

Related Issues: The current financial statements coming out of NAWS, Inc do not tell us what they are spending money on except in highly generalized terms. They refuse to clarify their financial information claiming that what they have provided is in accordance with California and Federal law. They also refuse to state what kind of deals they make with outside organizations in relation to literature sales saying they don’t legally have to.

NAWS, Inc was advised of the Drug Strategies website (http://www.drugstrategies.org/NAMeetings/Florida/) giving away free NA literature in

November 2015. We have been advised that it will take at least a year to investigate and even more time to go through a legal action. On the other hand, an online Group (www.nabasictextscom) was issued a Digital Millennium Copyright Act takedown notification within 24 hours of the website going live by NAWS, Inc.

Cost: Indeterminate as Jeff P (SFR Regional Delegate) originally estimated around $2,000, but this could be considerably less depending on whether we can get other Regions to help pay for this.

References: http://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/legal-sales/2012\_FIPT\_Final.pdf http://www.nabasictext.com http://www.grugstrategies.org/NA-Mettings/Florida/

Vote 10 – 0 – 1

**Although the RSC minutes only provide a general request, the letter we received from the delegate outlined ten concerns. They are addressed below:**

**CONCERN 1**

***Concern 1:*** *That literature margins, developmental literature, developmental subsidies, and allowances are being overstated by recording the developmental items and allowances at values greater than cost. We wish to inspect all financial records,*

**NAWS Response Page 6 of 2**

*documents, and general ledger postings to developmental literature, subsidies, and `allowances accounts. We also wish to inspect all records/calculations relating to the cost of literature.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: This is actually two different issues. What is being referred to as cost of literature and margins is included in the financial statements of NAWS under Developmental Subsidies & Allowances as an adjustment to income, and what is under Developmental Literature is direct expense.

The contents of the documentation related to these and all other financial issues are reflected in ledger entries made by NAWS accounting personnel throughout the year. Those ledger entries are reflected in the monthly financial statements, which in turn are used each year to prepare annual financial statements. Those annual financial statements are then audited by a team of certified public accountants with special expertise in matters related to nonprofit corporations.

It is not clear what is meant by “cost,” what concern is being articulated, or what is the basis of that concern. The issues of margins, pricing, costs, etc., are all provisions left to NAWS in Section 7 of the *FIPT*.

SECTION 7:

TRUSTEE AUTHORITY WITHOUT NOTICE OR PERMISSION

In the absence of the Trustor’s specific direction to the contrary, the Trustee may make the following decisions relative to administration of the Trust without prior notice to or permission of the Trustor:

1. The Trustee has complete discretion as to the manufacturing format of products generated from Trust Properties, including appearance, design, typeface, paper grade, binding, cover, ink, or other material.
2. The Trustee has complete discretion in the management of all affairs related to the perpetuation of the Trust’s business, including contracts, leases, licenses, covenants, manufacturing specifications, inventory and production quantities, distribution and marketing policies and programs, and pricing of products generated from Trust Properties.

**CONCERN 2**

***Concern 2:*** *That all World Board expenses are not being reported accurately and completely. We wish to inspect all financial records for the World Board posted to World Board or other general ledger accounts, and any reconciliations to World Board expenses in the financial statements included in annual reports.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: It is difficult to see how this relates directly to the *FIPT,* except as an item of NAWS expense. There is also a concern that asks for the credit card receipts, which for the World Board are all included in this same expense area.

The right of inspection relates only to the Trust, and it is unclear how an inspection by a few people for a few days would be more complete and accurate than the work of many weeks by dedicated, trained personnel and outside professionals.

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**CONCERN 3**

***Concern 3:*** *That all commercial interests in literature distribution centers outside of the United States have not been disclosed or reported to the fellowship. We wish to review all documents, minutes (internal WB and EC) and financial records relating to ownership or interests in distribution centers around the world.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: It is not clear what is being said here. NAWS has two branch offices (WSO Europe and WSO Iran) whose income and expense are included in NAWS financial statements, as well as three literature distribution locations in India, Canada, and Russia. All of their income and expense is included in the NAWS financial statements and addressed by the audit.

Internal World Board meeting records are a detailed account of their meetings and are considered unedited notes used only by the Board. These are not checked for accuracy and are much different from the legal World Board minutes that are available upon request once approved by the World Board. Executive Committee records are similar. There is nothing in those records related to “ownership or interests.” These are not books or records and should not be included. In the future they will more accurately be named “notes.”

Section 7 from the *FIPT* also seems to apply here. There are no activities that have not been reported.

**CONCERN 4**

***Concern 4:*** *Customer discounts are not being applied equally to fellowship and nonfellowship sales. We wish to inspect a list of the twenty largest (in terms of annual sales) fellowship and non-fellowship customers as well as invoices to those customers.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: Part of the NAWS audit each year is to ensure that uniform prices are charged and policies are adhered to.

A contract is offered after any customer reaches $80,000 in sales for the prior year.

The NAWS literature sale terms for single purchasers for credit, shipping charges, and available discount levels are posted online, and if the terms were not applied correctly, we would receive a complaint and it would be noted by the auditors.

What is not posted online are the annual contract discount levels, credit terms, and shipping charges. This currently covers 13 (10 for Chatsworth and 2 for Canada) Fellowship customers and 2 non-Fellowship customers. The discount levels are the same for all types of customers and are all stated in the Sales Policy which is available upon request.

We make no distinction in the application of discounts to Fellowship or non-Fellowship customers―it is based solely on amounts. The *FIPT* does not call this out as a requirement. The estimate is approximately 800-plus invoices with multiple pages for each year.

**CONCERN 5**

**NAWS Response Page 8 of 2**

***Concern 5:*** *That all travel expenses are not being reported correctly to the fellowship, and Trust financed travel is not being reimbursed according to the guidelines outlined in the Guide to World Services (GWSNA). We wish to examine all travel-related financial documents (general ledger details, expense reports, reimbursement request forms, travel receipts, etc.) as well as all Executive Committee minutes where decisions were made to exempt room-sharing.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: It is difficult to see how this relates directly to the *FIPT,* except as an item of NAWS expense. This is not Trustee operations as it relates to the *FIPT.* Adherence to *GWSNA* is not applicable to the *FIPT,* and the Conference’s consideration of this issue was not done as a *FIPT* issue. This was a WB decision and reported as such to the World Service Conference and was not an Executive Committee decision.

This issue has been discussed at several Conferences and includes:

WSC 2014 — considered the following regional proposal at length:

Proposal AI  
For the purposes of the WSC, we ask that World Board members follow the same double

occupancy lodging requirements that the Regional Delegates have to follow (see GSWNA pg. 32 – last paragraph).  
Intent: This could save about $15,000 USD for the duration of the WSC. Also, it would eliminate the perception that there are different “classes” of WSC participants. Maker: Connecticut Region

The final decision was 42-72-6-7 (yes-no-abstain-present not voting) Failed by standing count

And it was again discussed and decided at WSC 2016:

Proposal U  
To change the policy in the GWSNA regarding double room occupancy to allow for single

room occupancy, for World Board members, without the need for prior request and approval. Intent: To update our policy to reflect our current practices.  
Maker: Connecticut Region  
Adam H (RD Connecticut) said the change was a housekeeping issue to reflect current practices of the Board. At WSC 2014, we asked the Board to adhere to the policy as it’s written in GWSNA, and we heard that one-third of the Board would have valid reasons for single occupancy and another third would pay additional costs on their own, which would create two classes of Board members. We are asking that the policy be changed accordingly, said Adam.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that it is not necessary to change the current policy. The policy as it is written does accommodate these World Board decisions, but if the body feels a change is necessary, the Board would certainly not be in opposition.  
Straw poll Proposal U: lack of support 50-58-4-10

Laura R (RD Costa Rica) said she was confused because it seems that at times there are resources to accommodate special needs and other times we do not. This was discussed at the last Conference, and the body decided to accommodate these needs. Kathleen M (AD Mid-Atlantic) said policy should reflect current practice.

Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) reiterated that this was discussed for an hour and decided at WSC 2014.  
The proposal required a 2/3 majority.  
Proposal U failed: 51-59-2-9

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**CONCERN 6**

***Concern 6:*** *That the Trustee is not performing its duties noted in the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust as it relates to the designation and separation of Trust and non-Trust property. We wish to inspect all lists, designations and separations of Trust and non-Trust properties*.

WB Thoughts and Comments: Other than the financial report designations that distinguish between “Recovery Literature” and “Other Income” and a summary adopted each cycle as part of the corporate resolutions, there are no lists, designations, and separations. The corporate resolutions are not published and include a list of designations that appear in the published version of each piece published by NAWS. This includes Fellowship-approved recovery literature (FA), as well as adaptable and nonadaptable service material designated as CA (Conference-approved) or World Board–approved. The corporate resolutions also include all of our banking information.

The one page adopted each year could be provided.

**CONCERN 7**

***Concern 7:*** *Credit card guidelines as outlined on pages 34-35 of the 2016 GWSNA are not being followed. Records requested include all EC minutes approving the issuance of credit cards for WSC responsibilities; All signed condition of use forms; Invoices or other accompanying documentation for temporarily issued credit cards, credit card receipts, expense statement(s), and accompanying invoice(s) resulting in card use; and all EC reports resulting from their quarterly audits and/or reviews of WSC credit card activity.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: It is difficult to see how this relates directly to the *FIPT,* except as one of many mechanism used for NAWS expenses. This has nothing to do with the *FIPT* duties or responsibilities and no effect on the preservation of the Fellowship’s intellectual property.

All World Board members are offered credit cards and there has been no reported misuse and therefore no records of such. This concern states that the policy is not being followed but does not provide any example.

The policy states:

Credit Cards  
We have found it productive to use credit cards to facilitate the service responsibilities of specific individuals in World Services. NA World Services maintains a policy on the use of credit cards for employee responsibilities, and has since their initial use. It seems responsible to apply those parameters to credit card use for WSC responsibilities. These policies ensure that credit card use conforms to a standard set of guidelines.

Distribution of Cards  
A. The issuance of credit cards for WSC responsibilities is subject to the

approval of the Executive Committee of the World Board. Each person approved for credit card issuance shall be provided a Conditions of

**NAWS Response Page 10 of 2**

Authorized Use form, which must be completed, signed, and on file prior

to issuance of a credit card.

1. Board or committee members who reside outside the continental United

States may be issued credit cards to facilitate the fulfillment of their service responsibilities, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

1. Board or committee members may be issued credit cards on a temporary basis for a designated trip or function. All cards issued under this criterion must be returned to the WSO by registered mail within thirty days of completion of the trip or function. All invoices or other accompanying documentation should be returned at the time of card surrender.
2. All cards must be returned within thirty days of the closure of the term of office of the cardholder. All invoices or other accompanying documentation should be returned at the time of card surrender.
3. WSO executive management have the authority to cancel all cards on the closure of a term of office based upon the surrender criteria outlined above.

Credit Card Expenditures  
All expenditures on the credit card must be substantiated by the receipts issued at the time of card use. Individuals utilizing the credit cards should submit an expense statement accompanied by the invoice(s) resulting in card use—not the credit card slip, but the actual hotel bill, car rental agreement, etc. All receipts should be attached to the permanent record of the trip or function. World service credit cards should not be used to cover personal expenses not directly related to the trip or function, even though the individual may intend to repay the conference for the expenditures. The Executive Committee of the World Board conducts quarterly audits and/or reviews of WSC credit card activity by all trusted servants and reports such findings to the Fellowship in the Conference Report.

**CONCERN 8**

***Concern 8:*** *That World Convention (WCNA) costs are not being reported accurately and completely due to the combining of non-WCNA expenses into them. We wish to review all financial records and backup receipts for all expenses reported for the world convention in Brazil.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: It is difficult to see how this relates directly to the *FIPT,* except as an item of NAWS expense. This issue was addressed in the 2016 *Conference Agenda Report,* workshopped throughout the Fellowship, and decided at WSC 2016:

Motion #5  
That all Financial Reporting for the World Convention of Narcotics

Anonymous be provided in a detailed line item format and not in a summary as is currently available. This report will be posted on na.org and be downloadable.

Intent: Financial Transparency Maker: Show Me Region

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Rob B (RD Show-Me) said that this was presented previously in 2010, and that in their regional assembly it was noted that the miscellaneous expenses seem to be somewhat high.  
Franney J (WB Chair) explained that all expenses for WCNA can be found in the Annual Report and that information about a specific item can be obtained from NAWS. She gave an example using the expense for a pallet of water and how it could be divided between different expense areas. A line item format is not standard operating procedure for accounting for an event that large that occurs over an extended cycle of two or more years. No information has been provided as to what specific information is being sought.

Anthony E (NAWS ED) added that WCNA spans multiple fiscal years and makes it hard to get an accurate financial picture for a convention when you look at a single year’s summary. That’s why we create a summary. Also, Anthony said, we just looked at the summary for WCNA 36 and the Annual Report and we can’t find the Miscellaneous entry you’re referring to. So maybe you can get with us and let us know where you found that entry. We believe there is enough detail published for most NA members to understand the information.

Initial straw poll Motion 5: lack of support 39-71-1-1  
Kathleen M (AD Mid-Atlantic) said that her region voted yes to the motion because there seems to be many motions in the CAR from regions concerning the lack of transparency on the World Board level and this a big concern for her region.  
Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) said this motion was controversial in his region. They were not as concerned with details of numbers as with understanding the expense categories.  
Final straw poll Motion 5: lack of support 39-72-1-0

**CONCERN 9**

***Concern 9:*** *That all World Service Conference expenses are not being reported accurately and completely. We wish to inspect all financial records for World Service Conference expenses posted to World Service Conference or other general ledger accounts, and any reconciliations to World Board expenses in the financial statements included in annual reports.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: It is difficult to see how this relates directly to the *FIPT,* except as an item of NAWS expense. Again, this concern does not state how expenses are not being reported accurately or what example led to this conclusion.

**CONCERN 10**

***Concern 10:*** *There is an appearance that NAWS is targeting NA service bodies over nonNA entities in the enforcement of the FIPT as it relates to the online posting of our*

**NAWS Response Page 12 of 2**

*copyrighted literature. We wish to inspect all Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) takedown notices sent by NAWS over the course of the inspection period.*

WB Thoughts and Comments: The application of the assigned responsibility to protect the Fellowship’s copyrighted literature is not a “target.” We respond to issues of posting literature online by anyone other than NAWS as we become aware of them. WSC 2016 actually asked us to go further with NA areas and committees than we are typically prepared to do.

We have to investigate further but believe only non-Fellowship posters received DMCA notices.

This is also an issue that was discussed in more than one session of WSC 2016. We follow up on attempting to remove literature posted online as we become aware of it and do not keep one central log.

Anthony asked the conference how far NAWS should pursue Fellowship entities that post NA literature online because of the following:

The reason the conversation about service committees posting NA material was prioritized is because there’s no reservation about shutting down a website or issuing a cease and desist order in a situation outside the Fellowship, but it’s different when we are talking about fellowship entities.

At the end of this session at the WSC a straw poll was conducted:

Straw polls  
Anthony E polled delegates on several questions. He explained that these

polls were to help frame the small-group discussions, not to make binding decisions.  
Question One: Do we believe that the Fellowship still affirms the rules we have agreed on in the FIPT?

Results: 96-5

Question Two: Should we register and list on the meeting locator NA groups that clearly intend to use material that is not NA-Fellowship approved?

Results: 28-78.

Question Three: Should we take action to remove NA recovery literature from ASC/RSC sites, even if it means shutting down the site (this may require ongoing action if a new one is created)? Anthony clarified: typically when we contact ISPs to let them know that there is an infringement on a site they host, they will shut down the entire websites.

Results: 75-31.

There was also a motion in the 2016 Conference Agenda Report to have PDF’s of all recovery literature posted online and there was so little support that the motion died at WSC 2016 for lack of a second to the motion.

**NAWS Response Page 13 of 2**

**SOUTH FLORIDA REGION OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS PO BOX 5842  
LIGHTHOUSE POINT, FL 33074**

Dear Board,  
Enclosed is an initial, incomplete first response to your letter dated August 29.

Our Concern3 was: That all commercial interests in literature distribution centers outside of the United States have not been disclosed or reported to the fellowship. We wish to review all documents, minutes (internal WB and EC) and financial records relating to ownership or interests in distribution centers around the world.

Your response was (in part): WB Thoughts and Comments: It is not clear what is being said here. NAWS has two branch offices (WSO Europe and WSO Iran) whose income and expense are included in NAWS financial statements, as well as three literature distribution locations in India, Canada, and Russia. All of their income and expense is included in the NAWS financial statements and addressed by the audit.

Neither the 2015 or the 2016 NAWS Annual Reports state that there is a distribution center in Russia. All the others are reported on and shown; not Russia.

The end of this letter has a picture of the NAWS tax return, Form 990, Schedule F – Statement of Activities from Outside the US for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. That form shows one office in Europe. I assume that is the Brussels office. Again, no Russia (or no Brussels). I don’t have the 2016 Form 990, but I assume that tax return does not include an office in Russia (or Brussels) either.

The information contained in the annual reports concerning the staff and offices is prepared under your control. The Form 990 is prepared using the CPA firm that performs the audit. You expect us to rely on your statements as being fact yet your annual report seems to say something else. You expect us to rely on the fact that the CPA firm performs an audit as statements of fact. Yet, they appear to have missed a distribution center in Russia in the preparation of the tax return.

Having had a very long day working, it took me all of 2 hours to finally read your response in its entirety and find an inconsistency. And that’s without inspecting any records that we have requested. What might we find then? This is the rationale for an inspection.

You noted the following concerning the form of the motion passed at our Regional Service meeting requesting the inspection:  
“This motion is most general in nature, seeking a review of records and operations of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc., not the Trust, without mentioning the records and operations of the Trust or detailing concerns or any particular areas of Trust operations the South Florida Region wishes to inspect.”

**Initial RD Response Page 1 of 2**

Please note that this motion came to our RSC from a home group of members and not a firm of lawyers. As a result, I will suggest to my RSC that we rescind that December motion and adopt a new one that includes the concerns stated in our April inspection request as the intent of the motion. That should address the issues you had with the form of the motion. It will be up to my RSC as to whether to follow that suggestion.

A majority of your comments have to do with our concerns not having anything to do with the FIPT. For us to make a case against this logic will require us to retain legal counsel. This could lead to a situation where we end up in Superior Court in California. I assume that neither of us wish for this to happen, and we each wish to avoid public controversy.

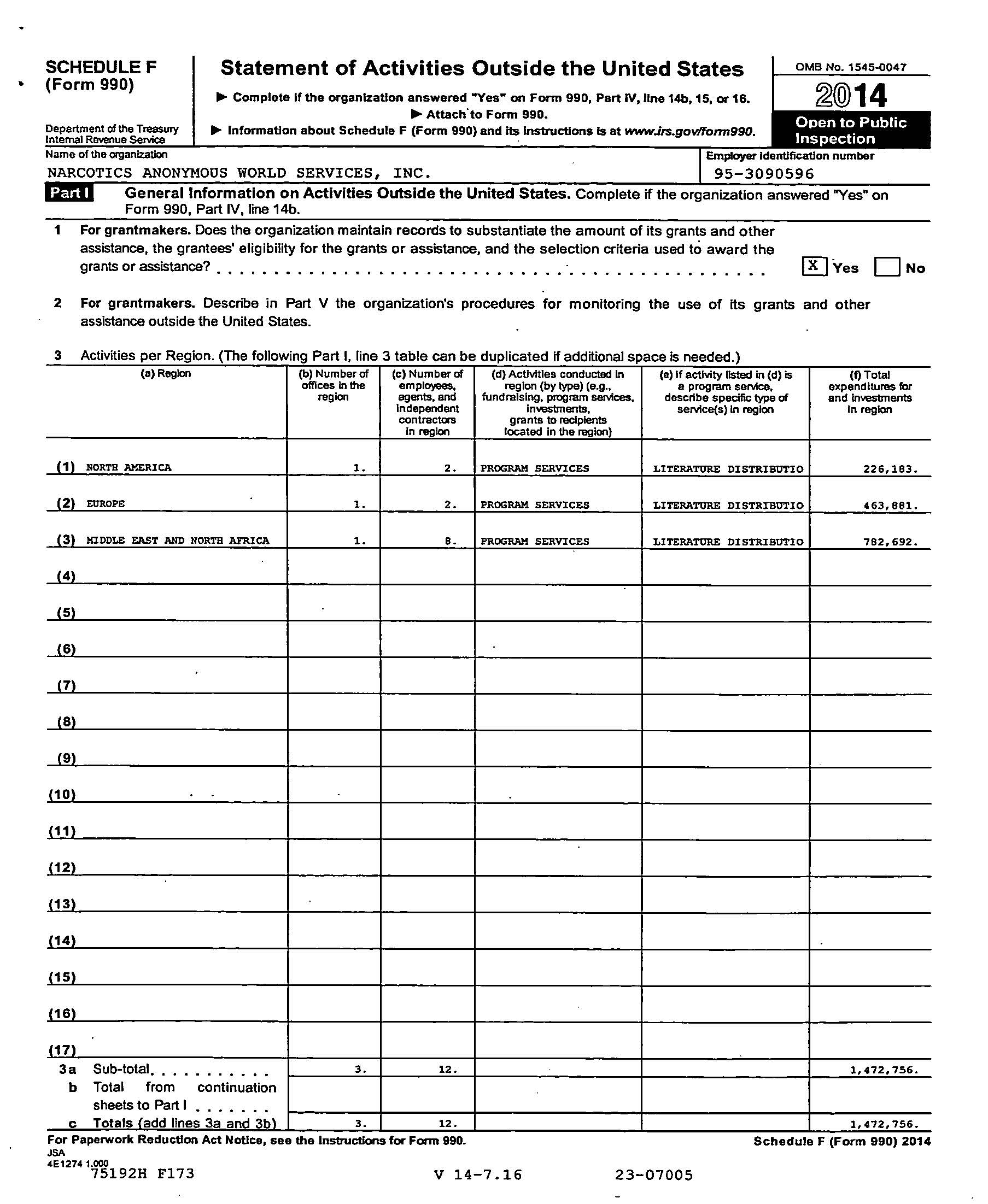
As far as the remainder of your comments, I will have to review them more thoroughly at a later time. Our regional convention starts on Friday, and I have a service commitment there as well.

While I sense that there might be some hard feelings, I believe that all of us can work together since we each want what’s best for the fellowship. I’d like to see if we could reach some compromise where the Board and the South Florida Region can each be satisfied.

In Service,

Jeff P  
Regional Delegate South Florida Region

**Initial RD Response Page 2 of 2**

 **LEGAL OPINION**

As we discussed earlier today, it looks to me like the World Board is trying to find reasons/excuses why it doesn’t have to honor a very appropriate request from the South Florida Region to inspect the books and records of the FIPT. Without getting into any of the reasons why they’re refusing to comply, let me give you a brief analysis why I think the inspection should proceed and what can be done if the WB won’t change its untenable position.

First of all, the FIPT says that a regional service committee may inspect the records and operations of the Trust on behalf of the Beneficiary provided certain conditions are met. California courts have almost universally held that “may” is synonymous with “shall” or “must”. This is why I said that it’s not really a request (even though that word is used in the trust) to inspect as much as it is an exercise of a right to inspect.

1. 2.

3.

Secondly, there are only 3 prerequisites to being able to inspect the books: An approved motion;

You must pay for your own representative in the inspection. The Trustee pays for all other expenses.  
A written “request” must be submitted detailing its concerns and the specific areas of operations it wishes to inspect.

The motion doesn’t have to be specific or align with the concerns. It can be a one liner as long as it’s a proper motion made, seconded and passed in accordance with the bylaws of the organization. It looks to me that the motion is proper.

The second item is a non-issue. As for #3, the letter of April 17, 2017 has quite a bit of detail. All you have to do at this juncture is put the Trustee on notice of the general topics and areas you want to inspect. Until you conduct your inspection you can’t know if you’ve seen everything you need and are entitled to see.

Insisting on time constraints is probably improper but that’s the only thing that struck me as overreaching. This is the first time an inspection has ever been sought so both sides should be flexible and be willing to adjust as the process moves forward.

As I mentioned to you on the phone, California courts are strongly in favor of transparency and providing beneficiaries as much information as reasonably possible. That doesn’t mean everything under the sun but it does mean anything that realistically relates to the operation of the trust.

In my opinion, the Trustee should acquiesce to the inspection. If it doesn’t I think a petition should be brought to compel the Trustee to do so. The Probate Code has a series of statutes (17200 et seq.) reserving jurisdiction to the Superior Court to resolve trust disputes. Although this dispute could quickly mushroom into a much larger issue I recommend limiting the scope of the initial petition to seeking the inspection. You can certainly request attorneys’ fees and costs but I wouldn’t try to expand the scope of the petition as your position is quite strong and straight-forward on this point.

If you have to file the petition I estimate that it would cost around $10,000 for our firm to properly evaluate the trust, the Trustee’s position and then craft the appropriate petition and supporting documentation. That also includes the actual hearing and preparing the order but would not include any appeals. Hopefully it won’t come to a petition but if it does this is an approximate cost.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. Steve

**Legal Opinion Page 1 of 1**