MINUTES

Friday, November 6, 2026 | 1130-1215 | IDX Building, South Burlington, VT

Attendance

Board present, in person: Roz King (President); Michelle Nadeau (President-Elect); Mike King (Treasurer); Liz Couto (Director at Large); Erica Carlson (Director at Large); Dez Kirtlink (Director at Large)

Board present, virtual: Emily Tessier (Secretary)

Board absent: Matt Choate (Immediate Past President)

Members present: Jada Barton; Margaret Belensz; Michelle Broaddus; Chelsea Cole; Sam Demers; Elizabeth Guido; Catherine Howland; Mariah Klusmire; JoAnn Manahan; Tyler Molleur; Val Nick; Heather Dale Porter; Leslie Scribner

Guests: Marie Ato; Colleen Bell; Jennie Clawson; Sabrina Fowlkes; Daniel Frederick; Danielle Hamilton; Karolyn Jarodsky; Rian Jock; Ella King; Wilhelmina Maher; Amanda May; Alyssa Miller; Hannah Riper; Capricia Smith; Nichole Sweenor; Mary Weinstein; Hannah White

Quorum: Seven of eight board members present. Quorum confirmed by the President.

Presiding: Roz King, President

Minutes recorded by: Emily Tessier, Secretary

Called to order: 1147

A. Welcome, Introductions, and Quorum

- Board members introduced themselves and welcomed first-time attendees.
- 39 people registered for Annual Education Day, 19 of them ENA Vermont members.
- Four nurses in the room, Wilhelmina (Mieneke) Maher, Catherine (Kathy) Howland, JoAnn Manahan, and Heather Dale Porter, were recognized for more than 160 combined years in nursing. Several graduated from nursing school between 1978 and 1980.
- Several board and committee chair positions are open. Volunteers are welcome, and no experience is required.

B. Approval of Minutes

- The September 11, 2026, minutes (Gifford Medical Center) were approved by the board by email and are posted at vermontena.org/minutes.

C. Treasurer's Report (M. King)

- Cash on hand: $13,134.70 (checking $5,197.06, money market $7,937.64)
- Credit card balance: $0
- Outstanding: $1,500 scholarship check to Laura Simpson, not yet cleared
- Since 9/11: $1,911.82 received (Q3 ENA assessments, card cash back, and EN26 table sales), $2,606.85 paid (mostly General Assembly delegate support)
- Year to date: council net +$987.16
- NERS 2027: 3 of 4 Outbound Stowe deposits paid; RI seed money ($5,500) received and held for NH 2028

- The ENA Vermont State Council income and expense report is up to date and available to members for review on request to the Treasurer.
- Cash on hand is lower than in past years because $15,000 in NERS 2027 deposits sits with Outbound Stowe. About $10,000 of that is net of the Rhode Island seed money.
- Almost $900 in council credit card rewards was cashed back into the council account.

D. Committee Updates

Education and Practice - Chair, Sam Demers and Mike King

- Sam Demers and Mike King are co-chairs. The committee organizes education such as Annual Education Day, and committee members are welcome.

Forensic Nursing - Chair, Abigail Garrett

- No update. Abigail was not at the business meeting and presented on forensic nursing in the afternoon.

Fundraising - Chair, vacant

- Chair and committee open. Fundraising also supports the ENA Foundation, which funds grants and scholarships for members.

Government Affairs - Chair, Liz Couto

- Liz is sending congratulations to legislators elected on November 3 and will share her message template with any member who wants to reach their own legislators.
- Priorities for the 2027 session include access to inpatient psychiatric care outside the emergency department.
- Nurses' Day on the Hill is February 1-2, 2027, hosted by a coalition of Vermont nursing organizations that includes ENA. Attendance has grown from about 30 to 150. Day 1 covers the bills and building your message; on Day 2, attendees meet with legislators at the State House.
- Liz continues to present Advocacy 101 to students and nursing organizations, and has a reusable ENA-branded poster for future presentations.

Institute for Quality, Safety & Injury Prevention (IQSIP) - Chair, Jada Barton

- Jada Barton is the new IQSIP chair, taking over from Tyler Molleur, who will stay on to help.
- Red Ribbon Ceremony: Tuesday, December 8, 2026, 1100, Vermont State House, hosted by the Vermont Highway Safety Alliance. It honors people lost to impaired and distracted driving. Members were asked to encourage local high schools, driver's education instructors, and guidance counselors to bring driving-age students. The flyer is on vermontena.org.
- Next projects: restarting the Think Don't Drink roadside sign program, and injury prevention topics such as e-bike and helmet safety, with the Trauma and Pediatric committee. Jada is meeting with the UVMMC injury prevention coordinator.
- JoAnn Manahan offered to connect Jada with a St. Albans driver's education instructor interested in the sign program. Committee members are welcome.

Media and Communications - Chair, Mike King and Liz Couto

- vermontena.org is on a new platform and also hosts the NERS 2027 site. Feedback on the site is welcome.
- Council emails come from no-reply@vermontena.org and may land in Junk. Members were asked to mark them "Not junk" and add the address to Safe Senders.
- Mike will ask ENA to retire the old ENA Connect page for Vermont.

- The council's social media following has grown about sixfold. Send Liz photos, projects, and education to share.

Membership - Chair, Roz King

- 211 active members as of 11/05, up from 203 in September, with 11 new members since September and 40 members joining for the first time in 2026.
- Roz writes the member birthday cards, mailed monthly.
- Members who live or work near the border can ask ENA to make Vermont their home state council.
- Three attendees joined or renewed ENA at Annual Education Day and received $20 cash back.
- Two free ENA memberships were raffled to attendees during the day, won by Danielle Hamilton and Nichole Sweenor, both of SVMC.

Research - Chair, Roz King

- No update.

Trauma and Pediatric - Chair, Mike King

- TNCC and ENPC courses continue in a hybrid format: online content, then hands-on testing. The goal is instructors at local hospitals so nurses can test close to home. Courses are listed on vermontena.org.
- Written report as published on the agenda: spring 2027 course dates to be announced around 11/15, ENPC moving to the 7th edition, and a TNCC instructor course planned for January.

E. Old Business

1. **New England Regional Symposium (NERS) 2027 - April 21-23, 2027, Outbound Stowe**
   - The New England state presidents or their delegates now meet monthly on NERS so the work carries over from year to year.
   - Outbound Stowe is a smaller, more intimate venue than a conference hotel.
   - A triage education preconference will be held Wednesday, April 21.
   - The call for speakers is closed. The steering committee is selecting speakers, and the agenda and registration open in January.
2. **Annual Education Day 2026**
   - Held the same day. Thanks to everyone who planned and attended.
3. **Follow-up from September action items**
   - Government Affairs update circulated to the board and membership.
   - IQSIP chair: Jada Barton is now chair (see Committee Updates).
   - Welcome cards for new members: planned, not yet started.

F. New Business

1. **General Assembly and EN26 - September 27-October 1, 2026, Phoenix, AZ**
   - Vermont's delegates were Roz King, Mike King, and Matt Choate. Each received a $1,500 stipend from the council. Vermont did not fill all of its delegate spots this year.
   - General Assembly 2027 is in Kansas City. A call for delegates will go out, and members are encouraged to apply.
   - The council's EN26 conference scholarship went to Laura Simpson (CVMC), chosen by random draw. Conference attendance includes about 3 months of digital access with up to 60 CE.
   - Debrief on the shared New England booth: not discussed further.

2. **Karen O'Neil Professionalism Award**
   - Each New England state chooses a finalist, and one recipient is selected from the six. Vermont's Liz Couto received last year's award.
   - Nominations close December 1, 2026. Nominate through vermontena.org.
3. **Poster reimbursement request (L. Couto)**
   - Liz printed a reusable Advocacy 101 poster on poster board for presentations, including NERS and other conferences. Cost: $200.
   - For future posters, the board encouraged fabric posters, which travel and store better.

   > **Motion:** Reimburse Liz Couto $200 for the Advocacy 101 poster.
   > Moved by Roz King, seconded by Mike King.
   > **Result:** Approved, no opposition.

4. **2027 calendar**
   - The board will schedule its 2027 retreat, a full planning day first held in January 2026, and set the 2027 business meeting dates and locations. Members will get an update when they're set.
5. **Get involved**
   - A chair is needed for the Fundraising committee.
   - Students are welcome to join ENA. Membership shows engagement in a professional organization to future employers.
6. **Open forum**
   - No other business.

G. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made and seconded. The meeting adjourned for lunch, and the afternoon program resumed at 1300.

Meeting adjourned: 1232

Action Items

#	Action	Owner	Due
1	Submit the poster receipt ($200) for reimbursement.	Liz Couto	11/30/2026
2	Reimburse Liz Couto for the poster.	Mike King	On receipt
3	Share the legislator congratulations template with interested members.	Liz Couto	Ongoing
4	Connect Jada Barton with the St. Albans driver's education instructor about Think Don't Drink signs.	JoAnn Manahan	TBD
5	Include the Red Ribbon Ceremony flyer with the minutes email.	Mike King	With the minutes
6	Ask ENA to retire the old Vermont ENA Connect page.	Mike King	TBD

#	Action	Owner	Due
7	Schedule the 2027 board retreat and set 2027 business meeting dates.	Roz King	TBD

Upcoming Business Meetings

2027 dates | To be set | vermontena.org/about

Regional Educational Opportunities

12/08 | Red Ribbon Ceremony | Vermont State House
12/09-12/10 | ENPC | University of Vermont Medical Center
02/01-02/02 | Nurses' Day on the Hill | Vermont State House
04/21-04/23 | NERS 2027 | Outbound Stowe

Respectfully submitted by Emily Tessier, Secretary.

Approved by the board: November 25, 2026