

MINUTES DISTRICT 3 GSR MONTHLY MEETING

January 20, 2017, Lee, Ma

15 in attendance

Meeting was chaired by Robin D. Co-DCM as Tom L. has been injured in an auto accident.

Mark B. read passage from A.A. Service Manual

Pete C. read minutes from December 16 meeting.

Krista M. read for Tradition 1; Larry B. read for Concept 12

Robin D. stated she went to Intergroup and is filling in for Tom L. while he is injured.

Mike S. Area 31 Alt. Delegate

Gave a PowerPoint presentation of the GSR path how it fits into participation in AA service, and the importance as a link between the GSO and local groups. He explained information on organization (the AA structure as an inverted triangle), GSR duties, and how to keep groups informed. He gave information about two mini-conferences throughout the year, workshops, tradition & concept meetings, and NERAASA which everyone is encouraged to attend. All information can be found on the website area31aa.org. The idea of acquiring a service sponsor for new GSRs was mentioned, someone with more service experience. Everyone from all the groups are all welcome to workshops, mini-conferences, and area meetings.

Groups wins and concerns

Mary E. – GSR Watch your Step Housatonic – They have 30 to 40 people with one chair for a month, chair chooses readings. They had 11 people at last business meeting. Contribute as per pie chart.

Paul S. – GSR SOS Lee – Did a group inventory which was interesting.

Steve H. – GSR Park Place Lee – Try to have a speaker from outside. When there is no speaker will have a topic or shotgun meeting.

Pat B. – GSR New Way of Life Pittsfield – In middle of elections, people don't understand what is involved in business meeting. Good solid sobriety.

Kate H. – GSR Keep it Simple Great Barrington – Business meeting very well attended.

Larry B. – GSR In Focus Step Cheshire – The church rearranged the furniture which as alcoholics it was accepted without any problems. Attendance increasing to 30 to 40 people. Have a core that shows up to business meeting. Looking for an intergroup rep. Financially good contributing as per pie chart.

Kevin B. – GSR Dalton YHH – Everything good, contributing as per pie chart. Institution committee with core people. People from group went to "Trustee at Large Presentation" which they were glad for going.

Krista M. – GSR Berkshire Group Pittsfield – New to being a GSR, was secretary newly voted in. Group is growing.

Tim M. - GSR Southern Berkshire Great Barrington – Speaker meeting with at least 75 people. Very social group. Ten to twenty people at business meeting. Good association with landlord.

Lisa S. – GSR Friday Beginners Group North Adams – This is a new group of eight months. Previously was a meeting at Hospital. Good meeting can range from 6-20 people. Last business meeting was a disaster. Need to put emphasis more on the theme for a beginner.

Nick M. – GSR Lenox Step – Discussed adding "The Spiritual Experience" to the reading at the meeting.

Pete C. – Northern Berkshire Group Williamstown – Had a successful holiday pot luck dinner with shotgun meeting after. Well attended and comments after suggest everyone enjoyed themselves.

LCM Mark B. report

His goal is to see the room filled with GSRs and visitors. He is attempting to get around to all business meetings.

General Discussion Topics

Robin D. Brought up the discussion for ideas of how to make the meeting more vibrant, engaging, and what to take to area meeting each month.

There was a discussion to confirm that the previously reported \$800k surplus of the GSO was correct and not a typo. It seemed very large. It was confirmed that the surplus was correct which was a result of cutbacks. The amount is not excessive considering the large budget of the GSO.

The above discussion evolved to ways payments can be made such as credit cards on the website.

The question was raised if there was a minimum payment that can be made. The answer was no minimum, and attention was drawn to the pie chart of donations for suggestions, as long as a prudent reserve was maintained.

There was a motion to close, and the meeting ended.

Submitted by Pete C.