

MINUTES DISTRICT 3 GSR MONTHLY MEETING

June 16, 2017, Lee, Ma

13 in attendance

Meeting was opened and chaired by the DCM. After a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer he introduced the secretary the LCM being absent.

The statement of GSR duties and responsibilities from page S26 of the AA Service Manual was read by the DCM.

The draft minutes of the March 17 meeting was read by the secretary.

Attendees went around the room introducing themselves, giving service positions, groups and what was happening, and any concerns. The general tone from everyone was that all was going well. The only concern from some was that they could use more support with attendance.

Area Committee Delegate – Attended the week long GSO meeting which reviewed over twelve thousand pages of material. He gave a report of our area at the meeting. The GSO material can be retrieved on line and it is encouraged that groups and areas become familiar and make recommendations. The pamphlets are decided by the General Service Board but need input. The Fellowship in general makes recommendations, the GSO does not dictate to the Fellowship.

It is recommended before handing out a pamphlet if a person read it first so they could judge if it were up to date, and pertinent. If they felt it wasn't, then it would be a good idea to suggest modifications. Glad more group inventories are being taken. If a group isolates it's just as bad as if a person does. The question was raised if there was an idea for a new pamphlet, how would one go about bringing it to someone's attention. The answer being, to bring it up at the district and area level, where it would be later discussed at conference level. An individual can send in direct to conference however it would be best to have it discussed through the chain and thought out.

There was a question regarding a lawsuit over the original manuscript of the BB held by an estate which the delegate didn't feel qualified to comment on. He explained to keep continuity any questions or comments should be directed to the Public Information Dept. of AA.

Invited Committees

BIG (Berkshire Intergroup) – Seeing a drastic decline in volunteers. Asked GSR's to mention this to their groups. Need an office manager to co-ordinate volunteers, co-ordinate with treasurer. Need a new treasure also, someone with a little booking experience, but not extensive. Recommended two years sobriety but that is not cast in stone. These positions are not on the website yet.

The workshop in Lenox will be on Sept 9th at the Community Center, 8am to 5pm. There was a decision not to use the lunchroom facilities to save on expenses. The topic is "Participation in All of AA – Is My Triangle Balanced?". Registration is at 9am, no fee, lunch will be in the hall not lunchroom as noted.

CPC (Co-operation with Professionals Committee)-

Present to Professionals fundamentals of AA. Have to get leads to get to the professionals with speakers, then take questions. There isn't anyone from the Berkshires that attends their monthly meeting the second Tuesday of every month in Holyoake. This meeting helps organizing leads of professionals. Sending out leaflets and information isn't effective.

DCM – attended the Round-up and was good to see some GSRs there. Distributed Accessibility form to take back to the groups so they can update the Area records. There is a new Yellow card on safety coming out next month. Workshop topics need to be discussed.

There followed a discussion regarding topics, and a vote taken to have “What is the Message” be the topic.

It was mentioned the low number of GSRs in attendance and a discussion was held with regards how to make the meetings more engaging. One suggestion was to omit the reading of the full minutes as they were distributed by e-mail, and available in hard copy at the beginning of the meeting. All present will have had a month to consider further suggestions.

There being no new business a motion to close was made, and the meeting ended with the Responsibility Pledge.
Submitted by Pete C.