

District 6 Meeting Minutes: Oct 16 2017

**Nov 20th at 7 30 Next month we are meeting at WMASS
Hospital 7:30 on Rt 20 East Mountain Rd (handicap accessible).**

Introduction:

Sonja DCM and Ray Co-DCM

Push for new GSR for replacement at the end of our tenure's.

Mark the Area Delegate visiting

Workshop Dec 16th confirmed in Westfield Ma (topic of Safety a possibility).

Meeting the location of meeting on the table with handicap accessibility.

Will have a new secretary in January.

Group Reports:

John Hand of Hope - meets at United Methodist church. 50-70 attendees on Saturday morning doing very well.

Brian East of river - MWF 20 -35 people looking for a new GSR.

Sue Women's step meeting Tues at St Bernard's Enfield on Wed.

- Anniversary Tues Oct 24th at St Bernard's food at 6:00 speakers at 7:00.

Rick Suffield Men's - Tuesday nights 8:00. All is well good attendance.

John Hazardville beginners meeting attendance light.

Tom Sunday beginners all saints Catholic church all is well.

Lisa Southwick Wed night 7:30. Group is not doing well at all. Only a few people doing any work. Attendance is dwindling some people driven away due to personality differences. May stop with business meetings.

Brian Tues night Westfield group 70th anniversary did not advertise due to a constrained meeting space.

Kathy M-F Southwick noontime meeting. Things are well. Found a new chairman until elections.

Mark Suffield Grapevine looking for new GSR.

Mark Delegate Report:

Last meeting here as our delegate.

The workshop is important for the delegate to bring back information to the New York conference.

75k people die of alcoholism every year our experiences are important to communicate properly.

Assembly this weekend venue will be full.

Contributions to the unheard we might need to help in Puerto Rico, Houston, Florida with literature as an example.

Service manual gives a good breakdown of the service positions. Considering a service meeting to replace traditions meeting for the area.

DCM report from the Area:

Treasurers are requested to include all of the group info on the check for the donations. This makes the processes easier for everyone.

Workshop in Westfield Fall Assembly Second Congregational Church Oct 21st and Oct 22nd.
Sat 10 -4 and Sunday 1-5.

Anonymity workshop Nov 4th put on by PI committee.

Workshop - 60 Broad St Westfield MA Dec 16th.

We will follow up with Sue either next month's meeting or at the Workshop.

WesternmassAA.org

Area31AA.org

Concept 10 read by Brian.

Concept 10

Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority – the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws

The first characteristic that any working structure must have is a point, or succession of points, where there is an ultimate responsibility and therefore an ultimate authority. We have already seen how, for AA's world services, this kind of final responsibility and authority resides in the AA groups themselves. And they in turn have apportioned some of their ultimate authority to the Conference and the Trustees.

We have observed how the Conference Delegates, directly representing the groups, are actually in a position of ultimate authority over the Trustees. We have seen further how the Trustees are in ultimate authority over the General Service Board's wholly-owned service corporations – AA World Services, Inc.

and The AA Grapevine, Inc. Likewise we know that the directors of these corporations are in ultimate authority over their officers who, on their part, are in like authority over their staffs.

The principle of ultimate authority runs clear through our structure. This is necessary, because all of our service affairs and activities have to head up somewhere for final responsibility. Ultimate authority is also needed so that each worker or each classification of servants knows where and who the final boss is.

Practical example (Al-Anon Concept 10)

In a family it must be clear who sets the rules. If children can get a different answer from each parent to a request to stay out late, this is “double-headed management.” If Dad prefers to defer to Mom on such matters, the entire family must know this. Then the children will know that they can’t manipulate Dad to stay out late. Likewise, Dad must have respect for Mom’s ultimate authority in this matter, trust that she will fulfill her responsibility in the best interest of the family, and not interfere.

Ultimate authority should be clearly defined in all situations, but seldom used. One of the most important principles of using ultimate authority is the recognition that when delegated authority is working well, it is best to leave it alone. Trusted servants need to be given the respect and trust to accomplish their jobs efficiently