

**Area 31 Website Committee  
Meeting of April 27, 2016**

Attending:

Chair—Sally  
Co-Chair—Terri  
Webmaster—Bob  
Group representatives—Brian  
Alternate Delegate—Mike

The meeting began with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

1. The Committee returned to the topic of the Handbook, discussed at the previous meeting. We await the final draft and Area approval of the new Handbook. We will then need to decide where it will go on the website. It is now under Area Documents and then under Area Committee, and we might want to move it up a level so it is directly under Area Documents. We will also need to decide its format (static pdf?). And we will need to develop guidelines for handling updates and changes: what is the Website Committee authorized to change (for example, anything voted by two Assemblies), and what changes need to come from other committees (for example, changes to the Area History)? This will be a continuing conversation for us in 2016.
2. The Webmaster pointed out some of the challenges of rotation and turnover in committees and districts. We need to do better at reaching new chairs, co-chairs, and DCMs with information about what can be posted on our website, how to get things posted, and what other uses can be made of the site. We considered developing a flyer to be available at every meeting of the Area Committee. We also thought the flyer we handed out in January about webmail access should be available at every meeting for newcomers.
3. The Committee discussed the upcoming Round-Up, where we are leading a discussion of “Guidelines to Carrying the Message Online.” We considered various approaches to this topic, and decided that we would use the Area 31 website itself as our launching point, since it is an example of carrying the message. Other topics may come up from there, including anonymity online and social media. The Committee chair will look into wifi and maybe a projector for the meeting room.
4. The Committee reviewed some topics from the NERAASA Website Roundtables, including the way several website committees in other areas are becoming the go-to place for questions and concerns about uses of the internet and technology. A few are now called technology committees.
5. We returned briefly to the question of the Webmaster’s workload and possible payment for work that requires special expertise and that is over and above reasonable A.A. service. We will need to do some research into what other areas are doing. We know from NERAASA that a number of other areas compensate their webmasters.
6. The Alternate Delegate shared information about the Mass State Convention and the Round-Up. The Committee welcomed him to his new position, and was grateful to hear of his enthusiasm for the work we are doing.

The meeting ended with the Responsibility Declaration.