

Area 31 Committee Meeting-December 14, 2016

Called to order 14 December 2016 7:30 PM

		Jan	Feb	Mar	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Nov	Dec
AREA DELEGATE	Mark N	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Mike S	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
AREA CHAIR *	Sue A	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
AREA TREASURER	Mary M	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
AREA SECRETARY	Mike B	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<i>AREA REGISTRAR</i>	<i>Jack A</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		
<i>AREA ARCHIVIST</i>	<i>Bobbi P</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR	Pauline D	•	•		•		•	•	•	•	•
ACCESSIBILITY CO-CHAIR	Mark C	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Wayne	•		•	•	•				•	•
ARCHIVES CO-CHAIR			•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
CPC CHAIR	Steve M	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
CPC CO-CHAIR					•	•	•		•	•	•
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Mary					•		•	•	•	•
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	Nancy P	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
P.I. CHAIR	Brennan M	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
P.I. CO-CHAIR		•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•
WEBSITE CHAIR	Sally S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
WEBSITE CO-CHAIR	Terri S			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<i>WEBMASTER</i>	<i>Bob B</i>	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
W. MASS IGP CHAIR	Tamara P	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Tom L	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•

INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	Rich J	•	•	•		•	•	•	•		•
<i>INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Holly W</i>				•				•		•
ROUND UP CHAIR	Marc G	•		•	•	•			•		•
<i>ROUND UP CO-CHAIR</i>	<i>Lee M</i>		•			•			•		•
WMYPAA CHAIR		•			•	•					•
<i>WMYPAA Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Jon S</i>						•	•			
District 1 DCM	Bruce C	•	•	•		•	•	•	•		
District 1 CO-DCM	Derek W	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
District 2 DCM	Janis A	•		•	•	•	•		•	•	•
District 2 CO-DCM	Mark B		•		•	•	•	•		•	•
District 3 DCM	Mike L	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
District 3 CO-DCM	Zack	•					•	•	•		
District 4 DCM	Steve C	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
District 4 CO-DCM	Ben E	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
District 5 DCM		•		•						•	•
District 5 CO-DCM	Jerry K	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
District 6 DCM	Eric M	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
District 6 CO-DCM	Sonja P	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•
0	* only votes to make/break a tie	24	23	28	29	31	28	26	29	25	30

Secretary's Report:

- Old Business
Budget 2017
- New Business
Motion to give \$1000 seed money to ad-hoc for a night with the Trustee .

Treasurer's Report:

- Beginning November Balance: \$13,238.86; Group Contributions: \$2235.03; Total Area Expenses: (\$3558.10); Closing November Balance: \$11,915.79 plus Prudent Reserve: \$7,500 = \$19,415.09 Total Funds Available.
- Further comments:
 - Contributions in November 2016 increased by \$825.03 from contributions in November 2015. There were 30 contributions made in November 2016. There were 45 in November 2015 . Contributions in November 2016 YTD increased by \$8,698.45 from contributions in November 2015 YTD.

Registrar's Report:

- None

Area Archivist Report:

- Will be trying to be at the archives office 1 Saturday a month for members to visit.

Webmaster:

- Attended NAATW workshop for the 3rd year and each year it becomes more interesting. The primary goal of the workshop is to determine how technology can assist in bringing the AA message to those that need to find us.
In particular interest to our website; Google has once again refined their search algorithm
to make it more mobile friendly.
They are also looking into multi language capabilities.
Google is also urging websites to obtain security certificates and I have done some research and will be filing for one in the near future.
The changes from Google will assist us with our latest version of Drupal.
I have volunteered to assist with bringing to life an AA Drupal implementation that could be shared by any AA organization as a first step in setting up a website.
I have still not found the missing piece for the calendar of Drupal for our site. I have spoken to the Drupal programmer and he gave me some suggestions, but my hope is to still obtain a stable version of the Calendar module.
This is only scratching the surface of all that was discussed at the workshop, more will be revealed later.

Accessibility:

- We had a casual meeting in November the Wednesday before thanksgiving and no one showed but the co-chair and I.
- We discussed the December commitments and all are filled.
- Thank you for allowing me to serve and welcome to the incoming Chair.

Archives:

- Welcome the new co-chair.
- Attended 4 anniversaries in November and 1 District workshop.
- Purchased a new laminating machine and fabric to rebuild the boards. We spent a total of \$86.30. We began working on the at the December meeting and expect to be finished 7 February 2017, but will be updated and refined for the remainder of the year.

CPC:

- DCF commitment in December.
- Attended the New England Association of Drug Court Professionals Conference in Marlboro Ma. The Chair and Co-Chair of CPC manned the AA table and developed 2 new Western Mass contacts.
- Upcoming BHN commitment and District 4 commitment to review what CPC does and educate the GSR's.
- Gave intergroup a contact for a different radio show that they passed on.

Grapevine:

- The Committee continues to work on the "Grow Your Grapevine" contest. Information explaining this contest available at aagrapevine.org.
- 1 request so far this month for our boards.
- 3 subscriptions for the Grapevine are being sent to two recovery houses and one to the Hampden County Pre-Release Facility.
- We continue to promote the "Record Your Story" 7 minute audio version of an AA's story. 3 GVR's have shared their stories and all are welcomed to come and learn how to do it at aagrapevine.org.audiogv.

Public Information:

- Received a couple of last minute presentations at the Westfield High School.
- Purchased literature to replace the literature that has gone missing.
- The committee was very busy this year with commitments and expects to be next year as well

Website Committee:

- Welcomed the incoming Co- Chair.
- The committee briefly returned to the idea of separating the history section from the rest of the handbook, so that the handbook becomes a service piece and the Area history cane

more easily be kept and updated by the archivist.

- We discussed a paid position for the webmaster as much of the responsibilities go well beyond the normal expectations of other area officers.
The committee thinks that \$600 a year based on 20 hours of work at \$30 per hour for the Drupal project will be asked for payment to the Webmaster. After the extensive hours needed to deal with NERAASA's website it seems fair to pay that amount.

Western Mass Round Up:

- June 9,10 and 11 at la Quinta in Springfield.
- Hospitality will have their own room this year.
- Will not have meetings scheduled during lunch this year.
- \$105 per night this year
- Alanon will have a 1 1/2 hour meeting this year.

Ad Hoc Committee's Report(s)

- **Area Inventory Ad-Hoc Committee**

Sally will write up the November ad hoc committee meeting minutes and send them to the secretary.

How to "Pass It On"

What needs to be maintained as servants rotate?

What procedures do we need to make it easier ?

Questions:

DCM:

1. What information was helpful when you started in this position?
2. What do you wish you would have known when you started in this position?
3. What AA resources have you used during your term as DCM?
4. What works best in your district to keep your GSRs involved?
5. Do you wish there was a way to exchange resources and best practices between districts on a regular basis? What might that be?
6. What part of your job as DCM do you feel you could have done better?
7. What materials do you plan to pass on? How is this going to be accomplished?

Standing Committees:

1. What information was helpful when you started in this position?
2. What do you wish you would have known when you started in this position?
3. What AA resources have you used during your term as committee chairperson?
4. What works best in your committee to keep your members involved?
5. Do you wish there was a way to exchange resources and best practices between standing committees on a regular basis? What might that be?

6. What part of your job as committee chairperson do you feel you could have done better?
7. What materials do you plan to pass on? How is this going to be accomplished?

Are we planning on questioning the current DCMs? Yes.

Do we need to ask the GSRs the same questions?

Have questions ready for 12/14 area meeting.

No invited committees or area officers.

Include a GSR set of questions.

GSR:

1. What information was helpful when you started in this position?
2. What do you wish you would have known when you started in this position?
3. What AA resources have you used during your term as GSR?
4. Do you wish there was a way to exchange resources and best practices between GSRs on a regular basis? What might that be?
5. What part of your job as GSR do you feel you could have done better?
6. What materials do you plan to pass on? How is this going to be accomplished?

Ad-Hoc Committee for Trustees Dinner.

- May have to cancel and will discuss in old business.

Invited Committees

Institutions:

- Treasurer's report: total donations \$1888.07 expenses \$759.90 – ending balance for book purchase \$1628.17
- BTG reports 4 calls received 3 unreachable, 1 referred to Berkshires.
- Last month at Northern Hope we were turned away because another meeting was there and this month 2 meetings were held at the same time on different floors and cause much confusion.
- Hampden County Men's Spanish commitment day changed resulting in lower attendance.
- The Carlson 1st Thursday has a lot of support.
- Cybulski is in need of support.
- 3 roll outs 3 roll ins.
- No old business.
- New Business.
 1. Berkshire intergroup has a surplus of funds they would like to contribute and after a discussion a motion was tabled.
 2. Motion was passed to spend \$1628.17 on books.
 3. Elections were held for officers.

Berkshire Intergroup:

- Holiday Alkathons are all set for Christmas and New Years.
- The committee has decided to contribute the excess funds based on the PIE chart.
- We elected a treasurer and a Co-Chair.
- Discussed the handling of the When and Where.
- Group contributions=\$1,020.66
Operating funds on hand=\$4,336.97
Literature funds on hand=\$4,952.20
Prudent Reserve=\$3000.00 for a total balance of \$12,289.17

Western Mass Intergroup:

- Alkathon for Christmas is all set.
- Christmas Party for the kids is all set.
- We make flyers for groups and will put them on our website.
- We will do commitments to groups and explain what we do.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 1:

- Newer group TSDG is struggling with attendance.
- Will be working on attendance from GSR's.
- Asked Webmaster for help with documents on website.

District 2:

- Thanked Co-Dcm .

District 3:

- Anonymity discussion (re: Tradition 11) variety of interpretations – the letter and the spirit
- Reported on area committee meeting - budget for 2017
- Report from Berkshire Institutions committee
- Report from Berkshire Intergroup – election of officers, contributions
- GSRS discussed experience with pie chart contributions, group histories and anniversaries

- District officers need to be elected

District 4:

- Alternate Delegate to give a GSR presentation at the district meeting.
- Elections of a new DCM and Secretary
- CPC visiting next meeting

District 5:

- Here and now having attendance issues
- Several group inventories.
- New group with a GSR showed up.
- Groups doing peachy.
- New calendar for visiting un-lit groups
- Discussed why and how to do these visits.

District 6:

- Will be passing on his briefcase that he received when he stepped in.

Delegate's Remarks

- Noted some points from 2016 financials.
- Revenues were up by \$72,000 surpassing expectations.
- Western Mass contributions to GSO were also up.
- 2 positions open for trustees for PI.
- New agenda items released.
- Lavina is no longer a profit center.
- Changes to Service manual, concept report and charter committee.

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- Mass state convention Nov 11,12 and 13th.
- If your district would like a GSR presentation please ask.

Area Chair Remarks:

- No remarks in lieu of much business to attend to.

Old Business:

- Treasurers 3 budget proposals.
- Motion to accept Budget C seconded, discussed and passed unanimously.
- Discussion to cancel trustee dinner and talk at East Mountain Country Club.
- Motion made to cancel the event at East Mountain and a discussion and vote ensued with several non-voting attendees voting and the Motion was withdrawn after a revote was considered.

The issue ended with the Area deciding to stay with the event therefore no action was required.

New Business:

- District 3 spent over their budget last year and the DCM's were reimbursed and reminded to stay within budget or seek approval for expenditure in advance if practical.
- Motion to set aside \$600 in the 2017 budget to cover the Webmaster's additional services in migrating the area 31 website from Drupal 7 to Drupal 8.
Motion was seconded, discussed and passed unanimously.

Meeting closed at 10:22PM.