Area 31 Meeting Minutes February 14th 2018 Called to order at 7:30 PM

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
AREA DELEGATE	Mike S.	Υ	Υ		·			,	J	·			
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Paul H.	Υ	Υ										
AREA CHAIR *	Mike B.	Y	Y										
AREA TREASURER	Karl H.	Y	Υ										
AREA SECRETARY	Steve M.	Υ	Υ										
AREA REGISTRAR	Sonja P.	Υ	Υ										
AREA ARCHIVIST	Bobbi P.	Υ	N										
ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR	Moira E.	Υ	Υ										
ACCESSIBILITY CO-CHAIR	Bob R.	N	Υ										
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Mike H.	N	N										
ARCHIVES CO- CHAIR	Jerry K.	N	Υ										
CPC CHAIR	Frank M.	Υ	Υ										
CPC CO-CHAIR	Chris O	Υ	Υ										
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Michael C.	Υ	Υ										
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	Tania H.	N	Υ										
P.I. CHAIR	Peg C.	Υ	Υ										
P.I. CO-CHAIR WEBSITE	Carol L.	Υ	Υ										
CHAIR	Ben E.	Υ	Υ										
WEBSITE CO- CHAIR	Amy G.	N	Υ										
WEBMASTER	Bob B.	Υ	Υ										
W. MASS IGP CHAIR	Andrew B.	Υ	Υ										
BERK. IGP CHAIR		N	N										
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	Eric P. M.	Υ	Υ										
INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR		N	N										
ROUND UP CHAIR	Lee M	Υ	Υ										
ROUND UP CO-CHAIR WMYPAA	Marion B	Υ	N										
CHAIR	Tatiana S	N	N										
WMYPAA Co- CHAIR	Alyssa F	N	N										
District 1 DCM	Lynne S.	N	Υ										
District 1 CO- DCM	Yolanda R.	N	Υ										
District 2 DCM	Rick W.	Υ	Υ										

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO- DCM	Tim G.	Υ	N										
District 3 DCM	Tom L.	Υ	Υ										
District 3 CO- DCM	Will H.	Υ	N										
District 4 DCM	Lisa W.	Υ	N										
District 4 CO- DCM	Michael B.	Υ	N										
District 5 DCM	Renee K.	Υ	Υ										
District 5 CO- DCM	Andy D.	Υ	Υ										
District 6 DCM	Ray M.	Υ	Υ										
District 6 CO- DCM	Brian M.	Υ	Υ										
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	25	27										

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

Committee's conscience was to seek an alternative meeting place as a backup for the Spring 2018 Assembly due to a fire at the United Congregational Church in Holyoke.

 New Business None

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning December Balance: \$ 4,119.55 Group Contributions: \$ 3,368.97 Total Area Expenses: \$ 1,695.72 Closing January Balance: \$ 5,796.01 Plus - Prudent Reserve: \$ 8,500.00 Total Funds Available: \$ 14,296.01

Further comments:

- Contributions in January 2018 have decreased by \$552.13 from contributions in January 2017
- There were 43 contributions made in January 2018 There were 41 in January 2017.
- Contributions January 2018 YTD have increased by \$552.13 from contributions January 2017 YTD.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Registrar's Report:

- Met with DCMs.
- New Group Change Forms Available.
- Committee co-chairs may not be in the GSO database.

Area Archivist Report:

No report

Webmaster:

• Searching for website software that is simpler and easier to maintain when compared to the current Drupal software.

Accessibility:

- Good turnout, 8 members (2 are new) and 2 visitors.
- Still doing meeting at Mt Marie on Tuesdays and Thursdays for past delegate Betty.
- Marc continues to pick up a couple of AA members who need assistance.
- No new phone calls or emails.
- Karen, a deaf member, will be speaking on a panel at NERAASA in Cromwell Ct.
- We had the opportunity to compare and share stories with Area 11 Accessibility committee
 members who were in attendance as visitors. This constructive dialogue reaffirmed how well
 Area 31 strives to meet the Accessibility needs in our community. We all shared gratitude for
 the opportunity to serve.

Archives:

- 7 attendees and the archivist.
- Old timer gettogether to share experience in Area 31, not financially supported by AA on September 9th, 2018 1-4 pm possibly located at St Andrew's Church, 355 Longmeadow St. Longmeadow, MA
- Other events are being planned.
- Group history forms are available on the website.
- Willing to give presentations at the district meetings.

CPC:

- A very modified presentation was given to new members.
- Continue to work at putting on presentations at the deaneries of Hampden, Franklin, Hampshire, and Berkshire counties. Second messages have been left. So far, we have a presentation at the Holyoke deanery on March 12th.
- Responded to an email from Carla H about Timberlyn Heights Nursing Home/Rehab in the Berkshires. No contact yet but we are in the loop and have contacted them to offer our services.
- We have reached out to the "Soldier On" program and have invited them to the CPC presentation at the Area Roundup in May.

Grapevine:

- 2 new members and lively discussion.
- February issue has the story "Life Support" by Carol B. from South Hadley on pg. 11.
- Great story on pg. 32, "Confessions of an Evolutionist" by Michelle K. form Ohio.
- Discussed how to make a Grape Vine announcement at a meeting.
- Discussed potential projects for 2018 including Workshop, writing workshop, audio workshop, GV workshop, and GV gallery online. Still undecided.
- Review Boards—They are available for group anniversaries/district or committee workshops.
- The co-chair's home group "Hadley Women's Group" will be in the picture section of the March issue.
- Read from service manual.

Public Information:

- Two new members
- Lots of commitments. Committee needs support.
- Do not have to join to participate.
- New commitments as well as renewed former commitments:
 - WMCAC 7-week intervals starting in February
 - Two SOA (Second Offense Aftercare) both are bi-monthly: one meets on the 3rd Monday, the other meets on the 2nd Thursday- both starting in March.
 - Recovery High School (may be moved to institutions to suit their needs)- The HS was adamant that they do not want our PI presentation to be part of our commitment with them- they essentially want a two-speaker meeting only. Our committee agreed that we would continue with the presentation as we feel it's our function as a committee to do so.
 - Somers High School waiting to hear back
- Review/Introduce to new PI members
 - PI Presentation- a brief overview of our presentation for new members
 - PI Posters made PI posters available to new members
- Discussed finding a way to air the radio show during the evening since the air time now is not as likely to reach as many people as it could (keeping the Sunday morning but adding maybe Friday evening)

Website Committee:

- Met on January 24th with seven people in attendance.
- Welcomed new group representative from the Holyoke group, a welcome addition to the committee
- Reformatting Website pamphlet from bi-fold to tri-fold, update soon
- Webmaster reported on progress of making area website mobile friendly, the use of 'WordPress" for that purpose was discussed
- The immediate Past Chair of the committee discussed the goals of the committee including getting the word out about the area website and explaining the difference between it and the Intergroup website
- Committee will visit District 5 on March 5th
- The Grape Vine committee is visiting this month.

Western Mass Round Up:

- Flyers available for round up in English and Spanish
- Registration form available on March 1st
 - Registration \$15
 - Dance \$10
 - Banquet \$25
- Program is on its way
- Will include the Traditions play and Friday night CPC/Alanon meeting
- Feel free to invite professionals to the Friday night meeting
- Banquet will be from 5-6:30 pm on Saturday
- Donations are being solicited including conference approved and money: See Marion or Lee
- There will be a raffle with many prizes again this year
- CDs will be produced to include Friday introduction and major meetings on Saturday and Sunday. Cost \$10. Ordered at the Round Up
- Bilingual Program to include two meeting and one alkathon slot
- Next meeting March 14th

Invited Committees

Institutions:

- Meeting held on February 7th, low attendance due to weather
- More than \$2600 donated during the previous month, spent on books
- Plenty of literature is on hand
- Committee is grateful for the group's donations
- Next meeting is on March 7th at Providence Hospital
- The committee may adjust the meeting format

Berkshire Intergroup:

No report

Western Mass Intergroup:

- Thank you to the groups for their donations
- Phone coverage, twenty calls received, thirteen were twelfth step calls, totaled 117.53
 operator minutes, looking for backups for phone coverage, sign up sheets should be turned in
 by the Wednesday before the week of phone coverage
- Website; added an institutions page, bridging the gap phone number, open meeting list
- Meeting list went to print, online version is downloadable as a PDF
- Intergroup has a new inclement weather policy, the office and store will be closed during severe weather, notices will be available on Western Mass News 3 or Channel 40 News
- Donations have been down by 20%, donations are used for: picnic, Children's Christmas Party, Christmas Alkathon, Website, Shipping of literature
- 2018 marks 65th anniversary of Western Mass Intergroup

WMYPAA

- Tatiana S. elected chair
- Committee has a commitment to the Southern Berkshire Group in Great Barrington
- WMYPAA and the NECYPAA bid committee have been separated
- Christmas Party was held.
- Discussed moving to a new meeting location

NECYPAA Bid Committee

- Members attended most recent NECYPAA in Maine
- Lost NECYPAA bid to Burlington, VT Area 70.
- Elections were held, Chris O. elected chair
- Bidding on 2019 NECYPAA
- Involved with roundup, will hold a young long timers meeting
- Will hold a dodge ball tournament in April, more information to follow
- Next meeting February 25th at 3:00 pm at Providence Hospital

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- Nine people in attendance including three new members
- Working to attract new members
- DCM will attend NERAASA

District 2:

- Sixteen people in attendance, one guest, one free agent
- LCM doing good work
- DCM to attend NERAASA
- Districts 2 & 4 are planning a combined workshop

District 3:

- Our last meeting was on 1/19/18. We had 13 GSRS in attendance, including four new GSRS.
- We continued to discuss possible changes to the format of the district meeting.
- We talked about having different area committees come in to give presentations.
- We also discussed having the area representative give a short presentation on the concept of the month. We decided to continue discussion at the next meeting.
- Paul the alternate delegate will do the GSR presentation at our next monthly meeting. it was suggested that all GSRs announce the presentation so that we might get some more interest from GSRs to attend District Meeting or become GSRs

District 4:

- LCM is Lena
- Discussed visiting groups that are not represented
- Meeting had low attendance due to snow

District 5:

- Four GSR and 3 Alternates in attendance
- The LCM visited five groups that are unrepresented
- Friday Belchertown Group has a GSR and Intergroup representatives for the first time
- Singleness of Purpose Group Anniversary on February 20th
- The Cold Spring Group that meets Thursday night in Belchertown is struggling
- Chicopee Beginner Step Group wants to know about integrating the Yellow Card due to its length
- Discussed District five's role in the Mass State Convention and the District Workshop

District 6:

- Meeting was well attended, thirteen GSRs with three being new
- Discussed NERAASA and Mass State Convention Planning
- Discussed workshop in June
- Intergroup Chair attended and addressed the meeting
- Discussed group inventories
- Meeting time is changing to 7:00 pm as the result of a unanimous vote
- GSRS are encouraged to attend the Service Manual Meeting
- Discussed outreach to unrepresented groups

Delegate's Remarks

- Interesting task- deadlines for everything
- The highlights for Area 31 are complete, they will be submitted to the General Service Office who will rewrite them
- The General Service Conference begins on April 20th
- The General Service Conference agenda items are available
- Please review report on language in AA literature regarding safety and give feedback to the delegate
- NERAASA 2/23-2/25 Please attend
- The mini-conference will be held on April `4th from 9am-3pm at the Holy Family Parish Center in South Deerfield, MA
- The General Service Conference agenda items and background material will be available for distribution on February 15th, the material I s available on CD, do not distribute this material

- outside of AA as it is confidential
- The delegate will be on the Agenda Committee at the General Service Conference.
- The mini-conference topics will be distributed at the district and committee meetings
- Round Up speaker has been chosen, the speaker works for the Grape Vine
- Berkshire Intergroup that serves district 3 is having difficulty finding servants

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- Agenda items do not stand alone, the background material is necessary to understand the issue and make an informed decision
- The General Service Representative (GSR) presentation will be given at District 1 on February 15th, District 2 on March 12th and District 3 on February 16th, District 4, 5, and 6 are complete
- Mass State Convention Planning Committee- Alternate delegate serves a co-chair of the program committee, the next meeting at will be at Sheraton Framingham on March 27th, remaining meetings will be in May, July, and September
- Designated carpool leaves at 6:00 pm from the bowling alley on Burnett Rd in Chicopee.

Area Chair Remarks:

- "What a Concept" meeting held on the first Thursday of each month at 474 Pleasant St Holyoke, MA at 7:30 pm
- Service Manual Meeting held on the third Wednesday of each month at 474 Pleasant St Holyoke, MA at 7:30 pm
- Spring Assembly will be held on April 14 and 15 at the Holy Name Parish Center 29 Sugarloaf St South Deerfield MA. The mini-conference is on Saturday from 9am-3pm with a pizza lunch and the area business meeting will be on Sunday from 1-5pm, volunteers from WMYPAA will man the registration table
- The District Committee Member (DCM) meeting was held prior to the area meeting on February 14th, the need for four DCM meetings per year was questioned
- Area Service Commitment 2/20/2018 at the Singleness of Purpose Group, St Rose de Lima Church Grattan St Chicopee MA at 7:30 pm.
- IF your group is looking to have an inventory the Area Chair has a contact list of willing past delegate facilitators

Old Business:

 It was the committee's consensus that a backup location for the Spring Assembly be investigated and that the location of the Spring and Fall assemblies should be rotated through the districts.

New Business:

None

Closed at 9:27 pm.