

Area 31 Meeting Minutes September 12th 2018
Called to order at 7:30 PM

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

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO-DCM	Tim G.	Y	N	Y		Y	Y	Y	N	Y			
District 3 DCM	Tom L.	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Y	N	Y			
District 3 CO-DCM	Will H.	Y	N	N		Y	N	N	N	N			
District 4 DCM	Lisa W.	Y	N	N		Y	Y	Y	N	Y			
District 4 CO-DCM	Anthony D.	Y	N	Y		N	Y	N	Y	Y			
District 5 DCM	Renee K.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N	Y			
District 5 CO-DCM	Andy D.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
District 6 DCM	Ray M.	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	Y	Y	Y			
District 6 CO-DCM	Brian M.	Y	Y	N		N	N	Y	N	N			
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	25	27	24		24	27	22	21	23			

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

- Motion made to add Bob B. as our first webmaster to the area history section of the area handbook on page 20 below 2013 after the paragraph stating the webmaster being voted in.
- Motion carries

New Business

- Motion made to have the area meeting meet on the second Wednesday of the month
- Motion carries

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning August Balance:	\$ 1,841.96
Group Contributions:	\$ 3,892.86
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 1,692.54
Closing August Balance:	\$ 4,042.08
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,500.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 12,542.08

Further comments:

- Contributions in August 2018 have increased by \$206.26 from contributions in August 2017.
- There were 38 contributions made in August 2018.
- Contributions August 2018 YTD have decreased by \$2,378.19 from contributions August 2017 YTD.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Respectfully Submitted
Area Treasurer

Area Archivist Report:

- I had the opportunity to listen to the CD of Dick D. that was recorded at the Western MA Intergroup Meeting in 1983. We are fortunate to have recordings of our early history. This CD can be made available.
- Now that the cooler weather is on its way, my hope is that the sorting and filing will start again.
- Not much else to report other than the Archives Committee is small but very productive.

Registrar's Report:

- Read email from GSO records dept concerning database update
- All DCM's and LCMs please refer any and all GSR's to call me xxx xxx xxxx if have not received packet in a timely manner 1 month or more, I am as concerned as anyone, maybe more so, that we clear this up ASAP.
- I want to visit dists 1 and 3, looking for DCM to schedule me in.
- I am gratefully enjoying my service in this position and if any committee member is in need of my services, please feel free to ask. Especially before I get busy again in January-Feb-chuckle

Webmaster:

- The Archives committee page on the area website has been modified
- A rolling list of 10 PI/CPC radio shows is now available on the website
- No security certificate has been obtained yet

Accessibility:

- 6 people attended the August meeting
- One new call from a committee member for a woman in a nursing home in East Longmeadow. Co-chair connected with her a brought her to a couple of meetings where the member was able to connect with other AAs.
- Weekly meeting for Betty at Mt Marie going well. The Better Life Group will be at the meeting on Thursday September 13th to present her with her anniversary medallion.
- Visited District 2 and discussed what the accessibility committee does and provided the district with some literature
- The committee will be attending the Mass State Convention planning meeting on the last Tuesday of the month and is looking forward to getting the final program so that it can be translated into Spanish
- The committee has been invited to District four's workshop on Saturday 9/29/18 which has a focus on accessibility. The event will be covered by the co-chairperson and a past chairperson.
- The committee will be attending the Grape Jam om 9/22 and will be setting up the hearing assist units for the event.

Archives:

- The Archives boards will be going to the Amherst Monday Night Group on 9/24
- The Archives boards will be going to the District 4 workshop on 9/29
- A new representative from the Florence Eye Opener group has joined the committee
- Discussed a display room for viewing archives material
- The committee will be presenting at the Fall Assembly
- The committee will be visiting district 3
- Discussed budget needs for next year including the need for WIFI access
- Reviewed the first draft of the new archives committee pamphlet
- The Archives committee page on the Area website has been updated

CPC:

- Attendance was light
- The committee will be attending an event at the Department of child & family on 9/19
- The committee will be attending an event at the Department of Children and Families on 9/20
- The committee will set up its boards, provide literature, and answer questions at both events
- The committee is in the process of setting up a presentation with the probation department of the Springfield Court System
- The committee will be attending a recovery event at the recovery high school in Springfield on 9/21

Grapevine:

- New issue "Young People's Issue" is available
- The last committee meeting focused on the upcoming Grape Jam being held on 9/22 from 5:30 to 11:00 pm
- Color fliers and Spanish language fliers are complete for the Grape Jam
- WMYPAA is involved in the Grape Jam and will host a dance
- There will be two speakers that have been published in the Grapevine from Area 31
- The committee visited District 5 and discussed what the Grape Vine committee does

Public Information:

- We had 4 new members sign up which brought the meeting attendance to 14!
- Still in communication with Patch about posting PSAs
- The PI committee will have a table for an event at the Liberty Prep School in Springfield on Friday September, 21st.
- Made changes to PI presentation:
- More detail to:
 - History
 - Alcoholism as a disease
 - Anonymity
- And 2 new pieces of info:
 - Sponsorship
 - Problems Other Than Alcohol
- Still need to go to Intergroup meeting to introduce idea of putting the radio show link on the Intergroup website – Marc volunteered to make the announcement this month if I am unable to be there
- WMCAC would like PI to host an additional meeting for Section 35 population

Website Committee:

- No report

Western Mass Round Up:

- This will be the Area 31 Roundup
- It will be held at the Clarion Hotel on Riverdale road in West Springfield on June 14th-16th
- The committee met tonight 9/12
- There was a good turnout and most positions are filled
- Rooms will \$109 plus tax
- The committee is waiting for a contract
- The 12th tradition play will be performed twice
- Fliers will be ready for the next meeting

Invited Committees

Berkshire Intergroup:

- 5 Intergroup representatives present as well as the District 3 DCM and the intergroup secretary and treasurer and one visitor
- Office is doing well
- New treasurer is working out well
- The intergroup has a \$3000 literature fund.
- $\$4,106.45 - \$395.42 + \$3,000 = \$10,720.38$
- Discussed district 3 workshop
- Discussed the upcoming Christmas and New Year's Eve alcohons.
- Discussed the year end elections
- Asked the intergroup representatives to announce the Berkshire Intergroup is looking for a co-chair

Institutions:

- No Report

Western Mass Intergroup:

- No report

WMYPAA

- No report

NECYPAA Bid Committee

- Pajama & Cereal Event at Rusty's Restaurant 930 Hampden St Holyoke, MA 6 pm -10 pm on September 16th
- Kickball Tournament September 23rd 10 am – 2 pm Russel Field East Longmeadow, MA \$5 per person donation

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- No report

District 2:

- 8 GSRs, 2 Alts, DCM and LCM in attendance
- Summarized Concept 9
- The LCM has been contacting district group that are not represented at the district meeting
- Meeting issue: A non-aa spouse attends and participates in a closed meeting of alcoholics anonymous. The district conscience was to approach to person and explain the idea of group conscience and closed meetings to the individual.
- Group wanted input on how to handle an intoxicated meeting attendee. The district conscience was to offer to help the person
- District 2 workshop December 1st 11 am – 2 pm at Providence Hospital in Holyoke. Details being finalized.
- Chair and co-chair of accessibilities attended the meeting and distributed questionnaires for the group to detail the accessibility of their meeting places and stressed noting if the meeting place is accessible in the area 31 meeting list

District 3:

- We had 12 GSRs in attendance. All GSRs reported that their Groups were in good shape without any problems.
- We formed an Ad Hoc committee to shepherd our service workshop. July and August the ad hoc committee met for an hour before the regular District meeting to plan service workshop. We had a Chair and Co-Chair and 4 other GSRs. The topic chosen was "Carrying AA's Message into Institutions, Getting Back To The Roots Of Our Service ". The format was: 3 Speakers, then round table discussion, then a summary of the discussion of each (6) of the groups, followed by a pizza lunch.
- We had the Workshop last Saturday, the 8th of September, with about 68 AAs in attendance. We felt it was a great success. I think that GSRs did an awesome job and felt more involved having organized it rather than it being led by the DCM. I want to thank all the GSRs, Berkshire Intergroup and all the District Groups that supported the Workshop.
- At our next meeting we will have Elections, we will need a new DCM and Co-DCM.

District 4:

- Workshop theme making meetings accessible to all
- Gave the work to the district GSRs
- Will have an American Sign Language Speaker and Interpreter
- Will have Spanish language speaker and translator
- Scheduled for September 29th from 10am – 12pm at the Quaker Meeting House in Northampton
- Monday Night Amherst Group Anniversary will be held on September 24th

District 5:

- Good turnout for Labor Day
- Discussed group inventories
- The Hitchcock Academy Group is interested in a group inventory
- South Hadley Group discussing changing their format from two meetings to one. The new format has not been decided and the issue will be voted on at the next business meeting
- Hampden Group anniversary meeting will be held on November 6th
- East Longmeadow group will hold its 26th anniversary on September 16th at 5:30 pm
- The Morning Light group has requested a group inventory
- The district's second workshop is being planned for December 1st from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm with a topic of "Giving Back to AA". The location is to be determined.

District 6:

- The district's workshop is still to be determined
- The meeting was well attended including the co-DCM, the LCM, 11 GSRs and 1 Alternate
- Discussed the merging of the GSO and Grapevine service providers
- Discussed the fall assembly
- The Suffield Monday Night Grapevine Group will celebrate their anniversary in October
- Two summaries of Service Manual sections were provided this month, one on concept 3 and one on the Grapevine
- Discussed district elections and the need to fill the co-DCM, LCM, and secretary positions

Delegate's Remarks

- Impact Collaborative report on AA is out, would like to put it on the website, it is 26 pages long and the conclusion is the AA is “not doing a good job”
- The AA smart phone app go live date has moved to December 2018
- Participated in a conference call with the North East trustee and delegates
- Regarding the AAWS/Grape Vine the information that the delegate requested from the GSO archivist has been provided
- Concept 8 page 33 paragraph 3 and concept 11 page 52 last paragraph and page 53 first paragraph should be referenced with respect to “Attempts to merge AAWS and Grapevine “, the reading suggests that they should be kept separate
- The possible merger will be discussed at the fall assembly
- Area 31 will be nominating a candidate for class B trustee
- It is recommended that DCM elections be held prior to the fall assembly

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- The trustee's committee on Public Information has reviewed the video Public Service Announcements and recommended that one “My World” be discontinued. The committee found the remaining PSAs relevant and useful
- The committee asked that language be developed for the “Understanding Anonymity” pamphlet reflecting that AA's tradition of anonymity is not cloak protecting criminal or inappropriate behavior
- There is a need for further submissions for Spanish speaking women pamphlet
- Text regarding safety in AA has been requested for addition to “Living Sober” and “Questions and Answers About Sponsorship”
- The next Mass State Convention planning meeting will be held on September 25th, meet at the bowling alley on Burnett Rd in Chicopee at 6:00 pm if interested in a carpool, A lot of the GSC topics for the year have been incorporated into the State Convention program
- Forms to submit topic for the next GSC need to be in by December 15th
- Service manual meeting at 7:30 pm on September 19th 474 Pleasant St in Holyoke
- Concept meeting at 7:30 pm on October 4th 474 Pleasant St in Holyoke

Area Chair Remarks:

- The area committee has phone coverage starting on September 15th
- The area committee has a commitment to the Northern Berkshire Group at 7:30 pm on December 9th located at St John's church, 35 Park St Williamstown, MA
- There will also be a commitment to the Friday Night AA Group at Providence Hospital in Holyoke, date to be determined

Old Business:

- Motion made to have the area meeting meet on the second Wednesday of the month
- Motion carries

New Business:

- Should we print handbook before changes will be made?
- There is no financial reimbursement for attending the state convention
- Motion made to “Cancel the Area Meeting in October”
- Motion carries
- WIFI for the area- will discuss with Intergroup about using their WIFI