

Area 31 Meeting Minutes December 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		Y	Y
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Paul H.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
AREA CHAIR *	Mike B.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
AREA TREASURER	Karl H.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
AREA SECRETARY	Steve M.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
<i>AREA REGISTRAR</i>	<i>Sonja P.</i>	Y	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
<i>AREA ARCHIVIST</i>	<i>Bobbi P.</i>	Y	N	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR	Maira E.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	N		N	Y
ACCESSIBILITY CO-CHAIR	Bob R.	N	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Carl G.	N	N	Y		N	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
ARCHIVES CO-CHAIR	Sarah F.	N	Y	Y		Y	N	N	Y	N		Y	N
CPC CHAIR	Frank M.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	N	N	Y		Y	Y
CPC CO-CHAIR	Chris O	Y	Y	N		N	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	N
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Michael C.	Y	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	N	Y		Y	N
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	Tania H.	N	Y	Y		Y	N	N	Y	Y		Y	Y
P.I. CHAIR	Peg C.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
P.I. CO-CHAIR	Carol L.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N	Y		Y	Y
WEBSITE CHAIR	Ben E.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y
WEBSITE CO-CHAIR	Amy G.	N	Y	N		N	Y	N	Y	N		Y	Y
<i>WEBMASTER</i>	<i>Bob B.</i>	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	N	Y	Y		Y	Y
W. MASS IGP CHAIR	Charlie R.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N	N		N	Y
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Mike M.	N	N	N		N	N	N	Y	Y		N	Y
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	Eric P. M.	Y	Y	N		N	Y	N	Y	N		N	N
<i>INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR</i>		N	N	N		N	N	Y	N	N		N	N
ROUND UP CHAIR	Lee M	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	N	N	Y		N	N
<i>ROUND UP CO-CHAIR</i>	<i>Marion B</i>	Y	N	N		N	Y	N	N	N		N	N
WMYPAA CHAIR	Tatiana S	N	N	N		N	Y	N	N	N		N	N
<i>WMYPAA Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Alyssa F</i>	N	N	N		N	N	N	N	N		N	N
District 1 DCM	Lynne S.	N	Y	Y		Y	Y	N	Y	N		Y	Y
District 1 CO-DCM	Yolanda R.	N	Y	N		N	Y	N	N	Y		Y	Y
District 2 DCM	Rick W.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y

		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		Y	Y
District 3 DCM	Tom L.	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Y	N	Y		Y	Y
District 3 CO-DCM	Will H.	Y	N	N		Y	N	N	N	N		N	N
District 4 DCM	Lisa W.	Y	N	N		Y	Y	Y	N	Y		Y	Y
District 4 CO-DCM	Anthony D.	Y	N	Y		N	Y	N	Y	Y		N	Y
District 5 DCM	Renee K.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N	Y		Y	Y
District 5 CO-DCM	Andy D.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 6 DCM	Ray M.	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 6 CO-DCM	Brian M.	Y	Y	N		N	N	Y	N	N		N	N
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	25	27	24		24	27	22	21	23		25	26

Secretary's Report:

Old 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

New Business

- NECYPAA Bid Committee would like a letter of support for their bid from the area
- Motion made to "Write a letter of support for the NECYPAA bid Committee"
- Motion carries
- Motion made to "Reimburse the Accessibility Committee Chairperson for their expenses associated with the Mass State Convention"
- Motion carries
- Motion made to "Keep the mileage reimbursement rate at 32 cents per mile"
- Motion carries

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning November Balance:	\$ 4,623.07
Group Contributions:	\$ 2,494.45
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 2,079.53
Closing November Balance:	\$ 5,037.99
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,500.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 13,537.99

Further comments:

- Contributions in November 2018 have increased by \$300.28 from contributions in November 2017.
- There were 34 contributions made in November 2018.
- Contributions November 2018 YTD have decreased by \$3,151.32 from contributions November 2017 YTD.

- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Respectfully Submitted
Area Treasurer

Area Archivist Report:

- Spent 2 hours sorting papers in the Archives room
- Would like to thank the Archives committee chairperson for stepping up
- Eight new group histories have been received
- The Audio CDs of the 2018 Mass State Convention have been received
- Would like to create a folder for committees and districts for their minutes and workshop flyers

Registrar's Report:

- New GSRs are being registered with the General Service Office
- Please call the Registrar if a GSR is registered and has not received a packet
- The new database is coming soon
- One GSR has been reported to have received a "mini" packet from the GSO

Webmaster:

- The Area email address mailboxes are filling up, please get rid of unimportant emails
- Our area meeting list is being set up for use with the "Meeting Guide" App

Accessibility:

- 8 members present at the November meeting
- Betty and Marie, who received assistance from the accessibility committee both passed during November
- There have been no new calls since September
- The Co-chairperson will be moving to the chairperson position in January
- The committee is always looking for support

Archives:

- 3 people attended the last meeting
- A tour of the archives materials was given to the area representative

CPC:

- Reestablished contact with the Springfield District Court Probation Department
- Planning on presenting to them in January 2019
- Had a discussion on increasing support for the CPC committee

Grapevine:

- 3 new Grapevine representatives attended the meeting
- A deaf member and an ASL interpreter also attended
- December Issue: Sober Holidays: Stories about alcohols, writing prisoners, watching out for boozy chocolates and more. " On the Grass Plains of Kenya", p. 38
- Mass State Convention Share Session with Boston Area GV Chair November 10 4:30 pm, a success
- Boards went to the Haydenville anniversary meeting on November 18

- Grapevine into Treatment Facilities and Institutions. Develop contact list; initiate contact; propose contact subscribes to GV and distributes.
- Inmates can request a (FREE) Grapevine/La Viña subscription by writing their full name & inmate ID NUMBER and send to AA Grapevine/La Vina, 475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor New York, NY 10115. (800) 631-6025 US, Español: (800) 640-8781
- Gave orientation to new Grape Vine Representatives

Public Information:

- We have finalized the 2 new commitments:
 - Mill Street 3rd Wednesday 3:00
 - Ludlow 1st Monday 3:00
 - Both will be every month
 - o Mill St will start on December 19
 - o Ludlow will start January 7 (if CORIs are cleared by then)
- PI was contacted by Berkshire Community College about participating in a Recovery event. I agreed to attend but then found out they just needed an AA speaker for about an 8 to 10 minute talk. I told them we'd be happy to come any time they want the PI presentation.
- We'll be going to Westfield HS all day on January 4th
- We need a Pi Committee secretary
- The Posters will be going back up at various locations
- 2 new members attended the December meeting
- There is an average of 13 commitments per month

Website Committee:

- 3 people in attendance
- No business conducted

Western Mass Round Up:

- No report

Invited Committees

Berkshire Intergroup:

- 7 Intergroup representatives present as well as the office manager, chairperson, co-chairperson, the intergroup secretary and treasurer
- Office is doing well, bought and installed some display shelves to showcase items available for purchase
- Flyers for the upcoming Christmas and New Year's alcohons were made available
- Website is being updated regularly along with data for the iPhone app Berkshire AA When & Where
- The Berkshire Institutions Committee Chairperson position may be filled
- The When & Where person is looking to create a new, easier layout for the document
- The intergroup has a \$3000 literature fund.
- Group Contributions \$526.10
- Literature Funds \$1,981.50
- Total Funds \$8,825.55

Institutions:

- No report

Western Mass Intergroup:

- Children's Christmas party December 15th 1-3pm gifts for all children 12 and under
- Christmas Alcothon 12/24 6pm to 12/25 6pm 474 Pleasant St Holyoke, MA

WMYPAA

- No report

NECYPAA Bid Committee

- No report

ICYPAA

- August 22nd-25th 2019 Copley Place Marriot Boston, MA \$30 Preregistration fee
- Ugly sweater party Saturday December 14th 7-10pm (meeting 6pm) in Groveland, MA
- New Year's Eve dance in East Boston, MA, meeting 8-9pm, dance 9pm-1am
- Snowypaa: March 15-17th at Jay Peak Waterpark and Resort
- Supersecret Facebook page, subcommittee and host committee meeting posted
- Host committee meetings are the first Sunday of the month (next meeting is 1/6/2019 time TBD)

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- 5 people in attendance
- Meeting short due to weather
- 2 new GSRs attended
- District elections to be held on 12/20

District 2:

- Good turnout, 17 in attendance 14 GSRs and Alts, DCM, Co-DCM and LCM
- Daily Reflections- morning meeting cancelled on Monday 12/10, waiting on more information, the church is experiencing water and electrical problems
- Wild Cats hosting potluck dinner on December 24th 6-9pm
- A motion was made to start the meeting 15 minutes later, motion did not carry
- Districts 2 and 5 held a workshop
- Mini GSR packet came from LCM but is believed to be different from the packet discussed by the Registrar

District 3:

- Our last District Meeting was on November 16th. We had 12 GSRs in attendance, including two new GSRs
- South Berkshire Friday Night Group is Sponsoring New Year's Eve Alcothon at the Senior Center in Gt. Barrington.
- Our LCM continues to visit Meetings to encourage Groups to have a GSR.

District 4:

- 8 people in attendance
- GSR has a disability and needs transportation, how should this be handled?

District 5:

- Friday Night South Hadley meeting voted to go from two meetings to one, they will drop the 7:30 pm speaker meeting and keep the 6:00 pm beginner's meeting
- The Back to Reality group donated to the various committees as recommended in the 'pie' chart for the first time in a year
- The Barnibus step group is having difficulty filling positions, suggested a group inventory and an area committee commitment

District 6:

- All positions filled: DCM, Co-DCM, LCM, and secretary
- Had a discussion regarding workshops, voted not to do two workshops in 2018
- Maybe only one workshop in 2019
- There will be a New Year's Eve party at Mt Carmel School in Enfield CT sponsored by Enfield Young People's Group

Delegate's Remarks

- Thank you all for your service
- Reminder to DCMs to book the GSR presentation with the Alternate Delegate
- NERAASA February 22nd-24th, Book rooms early, the area is renting a van
- Mass State Convention planning committee meeting January 29th meet at the bowling alley on Burnett Rd in Chicopee at 6pm to carpool
- November 26th North East Trustee & Delegates Conference call about communications audit, trying to improve communications
- There are 32 proposed General Service Conference agenda items. This will be whittled down
- There has been talk of a 5th edition of the book "Alcoholics Anonymous"
- Received a resume' from the class B trustee nominee

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- The "Impact Collaborative" report has recently been released and can be found on our website area31aa.org. It is called "A.A. Internal/External Communications Audit Report Bringing Bill W.'s vision into the 21st century (abridged)"
- The "abridged" means it does not have people's identifying information including names and positions and does not have all the aggregated data
- Current and former GSRs expressed a high level of frustration at the lack of focus on member and still-suffering alcoholic issues at district meetings
- AA is perceived as a religion
- Intergroup seem to have a closer relationship with the broader Fellowship than the areas within the Conference structure
- Information is not traveling up or down the Conference structure effectively or efficiently
- Reading from the report pg. 26 2nd paragraph

Area Chair Remarks:

- The area committee has a commitment to the Intergroup Christmas Alcolthon at 11am on December 25th

- The area committee has a commitment to the Sunderland Security Group located at the 1st Congregational Church 91 South Main St. Sunderland at 7pm on January 8th
- The area committee has a commitment to the Ludlow Group located at St Paul's United Church at the corner of Sewall & Hubbard Street in Ludlow at 7:30 pm on January 31st
- There will be a GSR/DCM workshop Hosted by Area 31 at 474 Pleasant St in Holyoke on February 2nd from 12:00 to 2:30 pm
- There will be one van rented for NERAASA, who is going? Will cap at ten people and there are eight now
- Keys: please pass keys to co-chair (incoming chairs) the old keys will not work
- The Ad Hoc committee researching the combining of AA world service and AA Grape Vine will start meeting in January

Old Business:

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- Motion carries
- Motion made to "Keep the mileage reimbursement rate at 32 cents per mile"
- Motion carries
- Motion made to adopt budget scenario "C"
- Motion carries

New Business:

- Too many workshops

The meeting closed at 9:03 pm with the unity declaration