

Area 31 Meeting Minutes May 8th 2019
Called to order at 7:33 PM

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
AREA DELEGATE	Mike S.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Paul H.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
AREA CHAIR *	Mike B.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
AREA TREASURER	Karl H.	Y	N	Y		Y							
AREA SECRETARY	Steve M.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
<i>AREA REGISTRAR</i>	<i>Sonja P.</i>	N	Y	Y		Y							
<i>AREA ARCHIVIST</i>	<i>Bobbi P.</i>	Y	Y	Y		Y							
ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR	Bob R.	Y	Y	N		Y							
ACCESSIBILITY CO-CHAIR	Joe K.	N	N	Y		Y							
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Frank M.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
ARCHIVES CO-CHAIR	Sue S.	Y	Y	N		Y							
CPC CHAIR	Chris O	Y	Y	Y		Y							
CPC CO-CHAIR	Dawn T.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Tania H.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	Renee K.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
P.I. CHAIR	Carol L.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
P.I. CO-CHAIR	Michael C.	Y	N	Y		Y							
WEBSITE CHAIR	Amy G.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
WEBSITE CO-CHAIR	Jenny A.	Y	N	N		N							
<i>WEBMASTER</i>	<i>Bob B.</i>	Y	Y	Y		Y							
W. MASS IGP CHAIR	Charlie R.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Mike M.	N	Y	N		N							
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	Jim R.	N	N	N		N							
<i>INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Charlie M.</i>	N	N	N		N							
ROUND UP CHAIR	Marion B	N	Y	Y		N							
ROUND UP CO-CHAIR	Mary D.	N	Y	N		Y							
WMYPAA CHAIR	Alyssa F	N	Y	Y		N							
<i>WMYPAA Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Kyle G.</i>	N	N	N		N							
District 1 DCM	Yolanda R.	Y	Y	N		Y							
District 1 CO-DCM	Joe B.	N	Y	Y		N							
District 2 DCM	Tim G.	Y	Y	Y		Y							

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO-DCM	Suzanne L.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
District 3 DCM	Tim M.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
District 3 CO-DCM	Joan P.	N	N	Y		Y							
District 4 DCM	Anthony D.	Y	Y	Y		N							
District 4 CO-DCM	Emily C.	N	N	N		N							
District 5 DCM	Andy D.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
District 5 CO-DCM	Bill H.	Y	Y	N		Y							
District 6 DCM	Cathy S.	Y	Y	Y		N							
District 6 CO-DCM	John M.	Y	Y	Y		Y							
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	26	28	26		26							

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

- 13 people confirmed for the vans to NERAASA
- The meeting place for the vans to NERAASA will be at the Sacred Heart church at 395 Chestnut St. in Springfield at 7:00 am on February 22nd
- The website committee will continue to maintain the area handbook if the current handbook editor leaves their position
- A group inventory is the suggested solution to handle a bleeding deacon member of a club that hosts multiple meetings

New Business

- Motion was made to cancel the April 10th area meeting due to the area assembly
- Motion carries
- NERAASA Reimbursement, April 20th will be the cutoff date
- No action on Certificate of Deposit for some of the Area's prudent reserve

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning April Balance:	\$ 2,407.76
Group Contributions:	\$ 2,603.82
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 2,784.56
Closing April Balance:	\$ 2,047.02
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,500.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 10,547.02

Further comments:

- Contributions in April 2019 have increased by \$1,696.79 from contributions in April 2018.
- There were 41 contributions made in April 2019.
- Contributions 2019 YTD have increased by \$3,407,75 from contributions 2018 YTD.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Respectfully Submitted
Area Treasurer

Registrar's Report:

- Group forms are available

Area Archivist Report:

Not much to report other than we are going to update the Area History for our Guidelines and Handbook.

Respectfully submitted

Area Archivist

Webmaster:

- Experienced a hard drive crash that has lost emails from January to March 2019, If you submitted something for posting during that time frame please resubmit
- Please send all items for posting to the Webpost and Webmaster email addresses. That would have avoided this problem

Accessibility:

- No new referrals
- Have begun an initiative to update the accessibilities committee flyer because the committee's services have expanded and to make the flyer more able to fit into AA literature racks
- Thank you to the members in Franklin and Berkshire counties who have offered their services to help get meetings to those who would otherwise be unable to attend meetings

Archives:

- Archives boards are going to the Joy of Living Group on May 16th
- The committee members will bring group history forms or point them out on the website when they are asked to speak
- Working on a spreadsheet to post on the area website listing the group histories that the committee has
- Will be updating the area handbook history by adding information from 2014 to 2019

CPC:

- Invitations will be sent to professionals soon
- Invitations are going to be available online on the area website
- Putting together packets for Professionals who attend the Round Up
- Ordering a plate for our speaker Dr. Jaffie

Grapevine:

- Met on May 7th
- The chairperson attended the Spring Assembly
- District 1 has invited the Grape Vine committee to speak at the district meeting
- The committee has a meeting at the Round Up with a topic of "Kit of Spiritual Tools"
- Have been having an issue with the area 31 email account
- Will resend the minutes from the Spring Assembly
- The committee has one new member at the last meeting
- The group conscience is that the 75th anniversary of the Grape Vine celebration should be in the Berkshires with potential dates of September 14th or 21st
- New book available from Grape Vine publishing entitled "Bring Me to Your Sponsor"

Public Information:

- No meeting since the Spring Assembly

- Presented at Easthampton High school
- Westfield High School would like the committee to present again
- Attended a health fair at Michael E Smith Middle School in South Hadley
- Getting the Public Service Announcements on the radio not moving at my pace

Website Committee:

- 3 people in attendance
- Printed 500 website pamphlets
- Have had numerous invitations for the boards or the committee
- Had a discussion regarding finances as the annual website fees are approaching their due date
- As a reminder, please do not use last names in minutes that you would like posted
- Boards are available but may be limited

Western Mass Round Up:

- Met on May 8th
- 100 Tickets have been sold
- Round Up committee members have them for sale
- Districts 2, 3, & 4 have slots for the alcothon
- Round Up will be held at the Clarion Hotel in West Springfield
- The Smithsonian is handling the catering

Invited Committees

Berkshire Intergroup:

- No report

Institutions:

- No report

Western Mass Intergroup:

- The Intergroup Picnic will be held on August 25th at the Moose Family Center on Fuller Rd in Chicopee from 11 am to 6 pm
- Intergroup is accepting contributions of raffle prize gifts and cash
- The intergroup always plans to have a printed meeting list
- The Intergroup Website has been updated

WMYPAA

- Kickball tournament in Rhode Island June 15th
- Cookout may be pushed back to June 8th
- Going to be at district 3 Friday May 17th
- Going to district 1
- Meeting Saturday May 11th
- Monday meeting with Sturbridge host hotel
- Chairing meeting at the Round Up Sunday at 9am
- Hosting Round Up sobriety countdown 8:15 pm

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- 4 GSRs in attendance
- The alternate delegate put on the GSR presentation
- The GSR reports indicate that the groups are doing well
- The district is looking for suggestions on how to get the groups to send GRSs to the district meeting
- The Co-DCM has been visiting the groups in the district
- GSRs were given Round Up registrations to take back to their groups
- District 1 had 4 GSRs, The DCM, and Co-DCM attend the Spring Assembly
- Working on the plans for a district workshop possibly in September
- The district will be putting on a meeting at the Round Up

District 2:

- The district has not met since the Spring Assembly
- Attendance is from 13 to 15 GSRs
- A Tradition and a chapter in the Service Manual are summarized at the district meeting
- Discussed the yellow card at the last meeting
- There has been a lot of feedback regarding issues groups are having
- Passed out General Service Conference Agenda topics for the mini-conference at the last meeting
- District 2 will be participating in the Round Up

District 3:

- Meet at Lee Court House
- WMYPAA has been invited to the district meeting
- There was a lot of enthusiasm about the assembly being held in the Berkshires
- Suggest that AA gatherings should be events rather than service
- The district will be putting on a workshop at the Round Up

District 4:

- No report

District 5:

- 13 GSRs in attendance, 1 new GSR
- LCM report was read
- Discussion Topic at the meeting was "Can Anyone Start a Meeting?"
- Group has a GSR who has claimed to be 98% addict and 2% alcoholic, the DCM suggested he step down and will visit the respective home group about this issue and the DCM feels he would be remiss if this was not addressed

District 6:

- The district has not met since the Spring Assembly
- 8 GSRs attended the last meeting
- There have been no new problems or concerns
- The new AA book "Our Great Responsibility" was discussed
- The new AA app for smart phones was discussed
- Discussed the trouble we are having reaching the suffering alcoholic

- Discussed the district workshop tentatively set for the end of June or early July

Delegate's Remarks

- Will be leaving for the General Service Conference on May 17th
- Have reading material for the train and at the desk in the room
- Please mention the AA app to your districts and committees
- The AA book "Our Great Responsibility" is available
- Massachusetts Department of Revenue has given Area 31 tax exempt status that will expire in April of 2029
- The North East Regional Forum to be held in Tarrytown NY May 31st to June 2nd

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- The Mass State Convention is looking at doing things differently
- There is a desire for more recovery topics
- There will be one panel at the convention
- There will be a "Home Group" celebration on Friday night
- The Convention entertainment committee is coming up with new ideas

Area Chair Remarks:

- Reached out to Westfield State College about the Fall assembly but have not heard back
- Would like to have an area inventory as it has been 4 years since the last one
- The area is looking for a Website Co-Chairperson

Old Business:

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New Business:

- None

The meeting closed with the unity declaration