

Area 31 Meeting Minutes September 11<sup>th</sup> 2019  
Called to order at 7:32 PM

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

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>District 2 CO-DCM</b>	Suzanne L.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	N			
<b>District 3 DCM</b>	Tim M.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	N	Y	Y			
<b>District 3 CO-DCM</b>	Joan P.	N	N	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	N			
<b>District 4 DCM</b>	Anthony D.	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	N	N	N			
<b>District 4 CO-DCM</b>	Emily C.	N	N	N		N	N	N	N	N			
<b>District 5 DCM</b>	Andy D.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
<b>District 5 CO-DCM</b>	Bill H.	Y	Y	N		Y	N	N	N	Y			
<b>District 6 DCM</b>	Cathy S.	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	Y	N	Y			
<b>District 6 CO-DCM</b>	John M.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	N	N	N			
<b>Quorum =18</b>	* only votes to make/break a tie	26	28	26		26	24	24	20	24			

**Secretary's Report:**

Old Business

- None

New Business

- The area chair can set up an Ad Hoc committee, if necessary, after the inventory at the fall assembly
- The Public Information request by District 3: The Crane Center Living in Recovery peer recovery group is holding a workshop and fair and would like Alcoholics Anonymous to attend, the area's conscience is the Public Information committee should attend
- The area will support co-sponsoring a hospitality room at the International Convention with Area 30

**Treasurer's Report:**

Beginning August Balance:	\$ 1,962.80
Group Contributions:	\$ 3,943.68
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 814.74
Closing August Balance:	\$ 5,091.74
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,500.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 13,591.74

Further comments:

- Contributions in August 2019 have increased by \$1,397.42 from contributions in August 2018.
- There were 60 contributions made in August 2019.
- Contributions 2019 YTD have increased by \$6,059.36 from contributions 2018 YTD.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Respectfully Submitted  
Area Treasurer

**Registrar's Report:**

- The database install and the new group number listing have been grandfathered however new group registration is being done by the records department for now
- The registrar is available by phone to any DCMs with updates or questions

### **Area Archivist Report:**

- There was a question if the CPC and PI committees had been combined into one committee, they were never combined but the CPC committee may have been dormant
- The archivist will be at the archives office at 474 Pleasant St in Holyoke on the second Tuesday of the month at 6 pm for filing for the next few months

### **Webmaster:**

- Questions about where to send minutes or flyers? Send minutes to the webpost email address, send flyers to webmaster email address, a few flyers went to website where they may not be acted upon, if time is important send the item to the webmaster email address

### **Accessibility:**

The Accessibility Committee met on Wednesday August 28<sup>th</sup>. Four committee members were in attendance. The Committee agreed to meet on the third Wednesday of December rather than the customary fourth Wednesday to accommodate the Christmas holiday and the Chair's travel out of state. The Area Chair and the Webmaster were informed of this change.

The completed poster board was presented. The board reflects accessibility services offered and also resembles the updated brochure. A referral for services was made through the High View Nursing Home in Leeds. The Chair has made several attempts to contact this person but without success. Other Committee members have offered to try and contact the person.

Much of the meeting was used to discuss the upcoming Massachusetts State Convention. The Co-Chair has contacted the state to arrange for ASL interpreters to be at the state convention. The Co-Chair has offered to help get CART services for the convention as well. Registration forms for the convention and for the Old Timers' Luncheon have been translated into Spanish, printed and are available from the committee.

The next meeting of the Accessibility Committee is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Archives:**

We presented the boards to the Grapevine anniversary meeting in Greenfield in August. We will have another work session with the archivist, to assist in organizing past materials from area 31. Our co-chair has moved to Florida and I have some handouts for the DCM's, maybe you could distribute them at your next meeting for groups in your area. Not all questions have to be answered. If groups could just answer the questions they know, that would be a start

### **CPC:**

- Presented to the American International College nursing students
- Reached out to the nursing program at Berkshire Community College, Springfield Technical Community College, the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Elms College, and Greenfield Community College
- Invited to the Department of Children and Family health fair on 9/20 and 9/27

### **Grapevine:**

- Grape Jam 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grape Vine celebration will be held at the Beckett Congregational Church located at 22 YMCA Rd. in Beckett, MA on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 4 pm.
- Finalized the agenda for event
- Contacted the area treasurer about the Grape Jam expenses
- The Grape Jam will be starting before 12 pm

- American Sign Language will be available
- Spanish interpretation will be available
- A 1 year subscription for the Grape Vine, La Vina, and 3 books will be raffled
- Electronic copy of the 75th anniversary flier has been posted on the home pages of Western MA intergroup site, Area 31 site and Berkshire Intergroup site

### **Public Information:**

- 15 members in attendance
- 4 more commitments have been added for September, 3 for recovery month and 1 will be ongoing
- The committee needs help
- Had a situation at the radio show
- Cartoon about AA in Suffield CT paper – none of our business

### **Website Committee:**

- 3 people were in attendance
- The expenses to manage the website are being moved to their own line item in the area budget
- Visited district 1
- Do not send the minutes to the secretary if you want them posted
- The need for the committee to exist was discussed

### **Western Mass Round Up:**

- The Round Up committee had its first meeting and elected a new chair and co-chair
- The next meeting will be October 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at 474 Pleasant St
- The committee still needs volunteers
- Dates for the Round Up will be May 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> at the Clarion in West Springfield

### **Invited Committees**

#### **Berkshire Intergroup:**

- 7 group representatives were in attendance
- The chairperson is still maintaining the website
- Berkshire meeting application available for I-Phone only
- Discussed purchasing a new computer
- Hosted a second speaker exchange meeting and handed out the Western Mass Intergroup Group bookie list
- Still planning a bus trip to the General Service Office in New York City
- The office manager has resigned and a new one is needed as well as a volunteer for Monday

#### **Institutions:**

- No report

#### **Western Mass Intergroup:**

- No report

#### **WMYPAA**

- There were 15 members in attendance
- About half went to the International Committee for Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous
- The committee is working on a bid package for the 2021 NECYPAA

- Will co-host a talent show on November 2<sup>nd</sup> with area 11 at the United Congregational Church in Holyoke
- Will host a “Friends Giving” event on November 27<sup>th</sup> at the United Congregational Church in Holyoke
- The new banner arrived
- Holding a laser tag event this Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup>
- Will be having a haunted hay ride

## **DISTRICT REPORTS**

### **District 1:**

- 6 people attended the meeting, 1 was a GSR
- The PI committee put on a presentation regarding what the committee does
- The Website committee visited and put on a presentation describing the committee
- District 1 and District 2 are pairing up and doing our workshop on December 14<sup>th</sup> from 11 am – 1pm at Providence Hospital where Scrambled Eggs holds their meeting

### **District 2:**

- 14 GSRs and Alts attended the meeting
- None of the GSRs reported any home group issues
- The district is putting on a workshop with District 1 on December 14<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm at Providence Hospital in Holyoke

### **District 3:**

Had 13 GSRs and Alternates at our last District meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>

Holding a CPC Workshop at the Lenox Community Center on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, from 10 AM to 1 PM. Refreshments and pizza lunch.

Have printed flyers and it should be listed on the Area website.

We are doing this with participation of Berkshire Intergroup.

Our next planning meeting is before our next District Meeting.

Have heard there will be a proposal from the Southern Berkshire Group to develop a new pamphlet about relocating in AA.

Should have more information at the next Area meeting.

The Great Barrington Thursday Men’s Meeting is holding its group inventory tonight!

Next District Meeting September 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM at Lee Courthouse.

Respectfully presented,  
DCM District 3

### **District 4:**

- No report

### **District 5:**

- The new LCM reported on group visits
- Miracles in the Making is having their 6<sup>th</sup> group anniversary on September 28<sup>th</sup> with fellowship at 6:30 pm and meeting from 7-8 pm with pizza to follow
- The Randall group has a treasurer issue, they have two treasurers and sometimes the donations to the pie chart are not made
- District 5 will hold their workshop on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm at the Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield
- There is a new meeting in the district at the “Nest” 29 federal Street in Belchertown

## **District 6:**

- 7 GSRs attended the July meeting
- The groups reported no issues
- 7 GSRs attended the August meeting
- District will be handling the hospitality at the fall assembly to be held in the district

## **Delegate's Remarks**

- AA app has been updated, iPhones will update automatically, Androids must delete the old app before the new one is installed, there are reports of some Androids updating automatically
- Registration for the International Convention is open, cost is \$115 now and it will go up to \$140, the host committee will help with room reservations
- The reports from the 2019 general Service Conference are available
- Contacted the Hudson, Mohawk, Berkshire area and have started the process of removing "Berkshire" from their name
- Discussed the combining of CPC and PI at the CPC meeting, most areas have them as separate committees
- Cartoon in Suffield Observer, will notify the General Service Office about the comic that puts AA in a bad light

## **Alternate Delegate Remarks:**

### ***MA State Convention news***

The registrations were mailed out recently and if you didn't get one, you can see me.

This year's program is much less service related and is more focused on people talking from the heart. The theme of the program committee this year was "Fun, Fellowship and Recovery" Part of this will be having a time slot for a home group celebration and more sessions open for discussion after the speakers. Also, several new activities are planned for the entertainment committee including a comedian one of the nights and a game room.

### **Saturday will have four sessions on the 12 steps**

"Tools for every stage of recovery" (steps 1-3)

"Searching and fearless" (steps 4-6)

"Cleaning the wreckage" (steps 7-9)

"Overcoming obstacles in all our affairs" (steps 10-12)

(The format will be someone will speak on each step for about 5 min and then the rest of the meeting people can come to the microphone and speak).

I have a flyer that shows many of the additional events that will be taking place throughout the weekend. Please see me after the meeting if you would like a copy of the flyer.

### ***The final planning meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019 @ 7:30pm.***

Alcoholics Anonymous Selects Two 'Friends of A.A.' to Serve as Trustees

Sister Judith Ann Karam, congregational leader of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, of Cleveland, Ohio, and Dr. Al J. Mooney, a pioneer in the field of addiction medicine, of Cary, North Carolina, have been selected as Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

## **Area Chair Remarks:**

- Did not attend the website and accessibilities committee meetings
- The area has a commitment to the Making Progress group in Hadley on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:30 pm
- The area has a commitment to the Hand in Hand group in West Springfield on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at 7:00 pm
- The area has a commitment to the Grape Vine Meeting in Suffield CT on September 30<sup>th</sup>,

2019 at 7:00 pm

- The area has a commitment to the Scrambled Eggs Group in Holyoke on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10:30 am
- Past trustee has asked the committees to have an understanding of your statement of purpose in preparation for the upcoming area inventory at the fall assembly

**Old Business:**

- None

**New Business:**

- Motion was made to include a line item for the area website expenses to be included in the area budget – The area will become responsible for expenses incurred for hosting and maintaining the website
- The item passed with substantial unanimity
- Someone had an issue with the WMYPAA flyer for the talent show that advertised a cash prize, no one attended the area meeting to speak out about the issue, WMYPAA offered to talk to the individuals involved
- A motion was made to “Cancel the Area Meeting in October due to its proximity to the area assembly”
- The motion passed with substantial unanimity
- The next area meeting is the budget meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>
- The Grape Vine committee requested an additional \$141.97 to pay for the Grape Jam
- The item passed with substantial unanimity
- Need to explain to the party who sent us \$100 why we cannot accept the money
- Every year eastern and western mass archives committees attend the Massachusetts State Convention, the person who attends in place of the archives chair is funded as long as they understand their responsibilities
- Motion retracted

The meeting closed with the unity declaration