

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO-DCM	Anne M.	Y	N										
District 3 DCM	Joan P	N	Y										
District 3 CO-DCM	Lisa L.	N	Y										
District 4 DCM	Emily C.	Y	Y										
District 4 CO-DCM	Steve B.	Y	N										
District 5 DCM	Bill H.	Y	Y										
District 5 CO-DCM	Vicky W.	N	Y										
District 6 DCM	John M.	N	N										
District 6 CO-DCM	Corbin R.	Y	Y										
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	23	30										

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

- 200 copies of the Area Handbook will be printed and they will be available in January
- Do we want to rent a van for NERAASA? Will be discussed at the January area meeting
- There was a motion made to raise the travel reimbursement rate for the Area officers from \$.32 per mile to \$.50 per mile
- The motion was seconded and discussion ensued
- A motion was made to table the motion on increasing the reimbursement rate, that motion passed, the dissenting opinion was heard and opinions changed
- A second vote was taken and the minority opinion won meaning the original motion was back on the floor
- More discussion ensued, the question was called and a vote was taken
- The vote ended in a tie with the deciding vote in favor of increasing the reimbursement rate being made by the area chairperson.
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New Business

- Heated discussions were had regarding mileage rates, \$.32 to \$.50 a mile.
- GSO requested \$1800 from delegate, money has already been budgeted. Letter will be given to the treasurer.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning January Balance:	\$ 5,804.16
Group Contributions:	\$ 4,827.20
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 1,905.27
Closing January Balance:	\$ 8,726.14
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,500.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 17,226.14

Further comments:

- Contributions in January 2020 have increased by \$2010.36 from contributions in January

2019.

- There were 54 contributions made in January 2020.
- Contributions January 2020 YTD have increased by \$2,010.36 from contributions January 2020 YTD.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Respectfully Submitted
Area Treasurer

Registrar's Report:

- New database/portal from GSO. Limited access to database, "My Portal System".
- This is how GSO will keep track with GSRs and groups.
- DCMs make sure to obtain data sheets from GSRs: ensure the groups are active, GSRs and group information accurate and up to date.
- Will come out to all district meetings to bring appropriate paperwork.
- Requested the DCMs bring forms to unrepresented groups to validate contact information. Provide these updated forms to the registrar.

Area Archivist Report:

- I attended the monthly Archives meeting on February 4, 2020 at 7:30 pm. Some of the committee joined me in sorting and filing at 6:00 pm. The committee is very eager to help with the organizing of the archives room. It has become very difficult to work in the Area Office. Some committees are leaving their paperwork on the floor. The space in the room seems to be shrinking. The room has also become a dumping ground for items no longer being used. The Area has a storage closet downstairs which is where committee boards, literature and other items were originally meant to be kept.
- There is a Grapevine Western Massachusetts' Submission binder compiled from the Archives Committee available. This binder will be given to the Grapevine Committee to bring to outgoing commitments.

Webmaster:

- Area has a website- each committee has their own email. If you don't know what I am talking about, please contact me and I will review individually.
- Send meeting minutes to the Webpost in an editable format. Anonymity: do not include full names and contact information.
- Send Flyers – PDF: Events to be put on website send to Webmaster.
- Willing to have a workshop to help committee members access emails or any other internet issues or concerns. Please contact any Website committee member or Webmaster.

Accessibility:

- Looking forward to NERAASA. Attendance is low. Looking for help from committee members. Area 31 Accessibility Committee is providing the hearing Assistance Equipment for NERAASA.

Archives:

The Archives committee met on February 4th, there were 7 committee members present. Continued to brainstorm ideas for this year. Committee brought boards to the Florence Eye Opener Meeting, 1/26 and is expected to bring the board to the Randall group Anniversary on 2/23. Went to District 5

to discuss the committee, needing more representation from individual groups and providing the group history forms. Updating the area handbook. Archives room cleaning: 'Making a day of cleaning'.

CPC:

- January 14, 2020
 - 9 people attended representing 4 groups.
 - Taking CPC boards to Randall Group 65th anniversary on 2/23
 - Attending American International College Substance Use Provider & Recovery Fair on 2/6
 - Organizing CPC materials in Area closet
- February 11, 2020
 - 16 people attended representing 10 groups & District 3 CPC committee
 - Channel 22 news attended AIC Fair on 2/6 and respected our request for member anonymity at AA booth. Working with PI to write thank you note and providing information on AA. Committee is reviewing how to talk about anonymity to media and professionals at future events.
 - Scheduling presentation with Elms College for nursing, criminal justice and social work students
 - Westfield State University Physician Assistant degree program first in country to have a track on addiction. Investigating opportunity for CPC to present to this group.
 - District 3 CPC met for first time in January with 8 people attending and watched the DVD on CPC. Structured as subcommittee focused on Berkshire County, i.e. Berkshire Medical Center, Fairview Hospital, bar association. Will meet 3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6pm at Stockbridge Town Hall. Chair Tim, Co-Chair Tom both past DCMs for Dist. 3.

Grapevine:

- Committee met on 2/4/20. 11 committee members in attendance, including 3 new reps.
- Discussion of groups' current activities around grapevine, why grapevine is important.
- Discussion was eye opening to several groups. Appreciate info they get by being reps.
- Committee will make plans to attend future Intergroup Business meetings to give reports.
- A committee member volunteered to bring Grapevine/La Vina service boards to Randall Group 65th anniversary Sunday, Feb. 23rd.

Public Information:

- 7 members attended.
- Handed out pamphlets, discussion had regarding speaking at non-AA mtgs.
- Substance use and Recovery Fair @ AIC.
- Commitments: Randall Anniversary.
- Will be working on the boards, outdated information currently on boards.
- Will be doing more outreach to middle and high schools.

Website Committee:

- 4 members attended.
- Workshop planning with the Webmaster, meet & greet with area committee members: how to navigate through the area website.
- Will be working on ways to reach out to committee member, help Webmaster on maintaining the website, and post minutes.

Western Mass Round Up:

- About 20 people present at the meeting held on February 12th.

- Locked in the location of the Round up: Clarion, date: May 15-17, 2020 and who will be catering.
- Entertainment for the weekend: Friday night will have movie and popcorn, Saturday night will be a comedian.
- Save the date fliers now available.
- Looking for donations from individuals or groups for the Round Up.

Invited Committees

Berkshire Intergroup:

- February's meeting had 10 members.
- Office manager still there going on 30 years. This is the only all volunteer Intergroup Staff in the country.
- Has filled all open spots with volunteers.
- Discussed having a sign posted on the door of the office, when no one is present, providing a listing and contact information for for volunteers or the website. Looking to obtain permission to have this sign posted.
- Bus trip to GSO- trying to schedule it without conflicts with other Area events. Will be working on the plans for this trip. Possibly in May.
- Has recently purchased more items to be available at the intergroup office; wallet size material.

Institutions:

- Discussed how there is a need for more Intergroup Representation from groups. There are many open institution meeting available. If an individual or group is looking for an institution commitment, a person needs to attend the intergroup meeting. They do not need to be an intergroup rep to obtain this commitment.

Western Mass Intergroup:

- 12 new reps presents.
- No steering committee report because hasn't met yet, February.
- January Steering committee minutes: Reason for this committees; new ideas to bring to the body. Possibility purchase a new computer for the intergroup office. Discussion was had about the idea of bringing in a business consultant to research and compute the numbers and ensure efficient use of the intergroup money. This committee will work on creating the position and expectations of this consultant. It was discussed about requesting individual groups be charged for obtaining and receiving copies from the intergroup; ie. Group anniversaries. Obtaining a list of volunteer to assist the full time employee of the intergroup office. The members of the steering committee will be starting to attend monthly district meetings, to discuss and provide updated information on the intergroup.
- Please make sure groups include group names and group numbers on everything, so recognition can occur.
- Phone coverage completed through February. This is an essential piece of 12 step work.
- Some groups are not fulfilling this commitment properly, not being available for slots they signed up for. Important to share with groups.

NECYPAA

- The WMYPAA committee will be dormant while the committee has transitioned in to NECYPAA and working on the Young People's Convention which will be held in Area 31 12/31/2020 to 1/3/2021. Since WMYPAA being dormant, they lost the right to have a voting member in the area. On 2/9, 40 members attended and voted. There were 25 positions filled,

voted & confirmed. There remains 2 open positions. There are 26 members active in the NECYPAA.

- Events: 2/8 Game night, 24 people attended, beginning of March, Movie Night 'Practical Jokers'.
- Present at the area meeting were the Liaison Chair and Co-Chair.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- Meeting held on 1/16/2020. 5 GSRs were present.
- Groups have reported no issues.
- Second to none Group reported attendance has been up and down lately. The group would benefit from consistent attendance, encourage others to attend. This meeting is an open speaker meeting held on Thursdays at 7:30 pm at Sacred Heart, 395 Chestnut St in Springfield.
- Discussion was had about mileage rate increase and will continue discussion after GSRs bring this information to their home groups.

District 2:

- January meeting: 13 GSRs
- January's concerns: 13 steppers/bullies- discussion had about the yellow card.
- Discussion had about area handbook and GSR Pamphlet.
- DCM Ordered a bulk subscription of Box 459-will discuss at monthly meetings.
- Anniversaries: Sunday morning Alano Club, 2/9, Scrambled Eggs 22nd Anniversary Providence Hospital in Holyoke starts at 9:30 am with breakfast and meeting at 10:30 am.
- February Meeting: 17 members, 1 DCM, 12 GSRs, and 3 Alternate.
- Concerns: After final vote the Daily Reflection meeting voted to stay in same location. During group inventory it was realized the 'problems' they were facing will follow them wherever they go.
- Tuesday Night Step Meeting expressed their disagreement with the increase in the mileage reimbursement.
- A lot of rent increases: Tuesday's Night Step Group discussed rent increase, \$10. BYOBB2 increase by \$50. Discussion will be had regarding possible change in location. Mulberry Street Group, Area Incoming Commitment on March 10th. This group also believes there is a rent increased, not sure of the exact amount.

District 3:

- 8 GSRs, meeting held on 1/20/2020.
- No concerns with groups.
- Discussion had regarding some groups have a 'time limit' with their business meeting, not able to share everything at district meetings. Each group is autonomous.
- 2/21/2020 no district meeting, next meeting will be 3/20/2020.
- Berkshire CPC first meeting was held on 1/22/2020 with 8 members in attendance. The Berkshire CPC will partner with District 3, DCM and Co-DCM. Next meeting will be held 2/18/2020. District 3 DCM & Co-DCM will attend.

District 4:

- 7 GSRs present.
- Discussed what district does; workshops, service structure, etc.).
- Feedback from Workshop- Grapevine was small for group discussion format.

District 5:

- There were 10 GSRs present. 2 alternate GSRs were also present. LCM was 'missing' for 3 district meetings, justifiable reason. 2 LCMs back in action.
- Will provide Archives group history forms to the GSRs, so home groups can complete.
- A group discussed concerns regarding issues with a toddler present at a meeting, causing a 'ruckus'. Will work on resolving this: provide childcare by other members, so mother of the child could get a meeting.
- Agreed to utilize a phone list so if meeting needs to be canceled because of inclement weather it can occur.

District 6:

- 10 GSRs attended the meeting
- LCM will complete reach out to unrepresented groups.
- Discussion had regarding the mileage reimbursement increased.
- Started to discuss an upcoming Workshop, more information to come.

Delegate's Remarks

- Ordered more Area 31 Handbooks from Staples. Next time will make sure to bring to the area for a vote.
- Discussion had about GSO Topics will be compiled and available on 2/15/2020. Will provide members with as much or as little as they want. To review and present to groups and get feedback so then can provide that feedback to the Delegate.
- Looking for 10 volunteers to review the Treatment/Accessibility Kit, and consider if we need a Bridging the Gap workbook.
- Progress report of the Meeting Guide App.

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- Massachusetts' State Convention, Co-Chair of planning.
- GSR Presentation - Willing to bring and present to district meetings.

Area Chair Remarks:

- 2/1 GSR Workshop completed, 28 in attendance. The workshop went well.
- Spring Assembly: Saturday, 4/4/2020 from 10 am to 4 pm, Mini Conference to Sunday, 4/5/2020 from 1 pm to 5 pm, Business Meeting. Location: District 5, Brimfield Hitchcock Free Academy, 2 Brookfield Road in Brimfield. Plenty of break out space. Main room on the small size but can hold up to 100 people. District 5 DCM is the hosting district and they will be responsible for hospitality.
- House keeping: Verbal Reports: meet 2 times since last area meeting, streamline reports/ process, provide information on the business of the meeting not invited committee. Written Reports: make secretary job's easier, email word document to the secretary. Keys: Many committees have keys for this building, 474 Pleasant Street. If you don't have keys, contact Area Chair, only 1 set of keys are provided to each committee, chair typically responsible for the key.
- Anyone who wants to check out storage rooms contact Area Archivist or Area Chair to make arrangements to check out space and utilize it for your committee material.

Old Business:

- Van for NERAASA: it was decided that there was not enough interest to rent a van. So due to lack of interest a van will not be rented by Area for NERAASA.
- Document will be completed by Area Chair, to discuss and explain of the use of the keys for 474 Pleasant Street.

New Business:

- No NEW BUSINESS.

The meeting closed with the unity declaration at 9:23 pm