

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO-DCM	Anne M.	Y	N	N	Y								
District 3 DCM	Joan P	N	Y	N	Y								
District 3 CO-DCM	Lisa L.	N	Y	N	Y								
District 4 DCM	Emily C.	Y	Y	Y	Y								
District 4 CO-DCM	Steve B.	Y	N	N	Y								
District 5 DCM	Bill H.	Y	Y	Y	N								
District 5 CO-DCM	Vicky W.	N	Y	Y	Y								
District 6 DCM	John M.	N	N	Y	Y								
District 6 CO-DCM	Corbin R.	Y	Y	Y	N								
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	23	30	24	25								

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

- No old business.

New Business

- Website Committee filed a motion: wanting to add all the area committee email addresses to the area handbook. This motion will not delete any information from the handbook but add to the 2nd page to include the committees' email addresses. Voting on this motion has been tabled until next month's meeting to provide an updated and precise motion.
- A motion was filed to cancel next month's area meeting due to the Spring Assembly being held in April. The motion was accepted and there will be no area meeting in April due to the Spring Assembly.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning March Balance	\$ 6552.88
Group Contributions:	\$ 3089.42
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 4,568.63
Closing March Balance:	\$ 5073.57
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ <u>8,500.00</u>
Total Funds Available:	\$ <u>13573.57</u>

Further comments:

- Contributions in March 2020 have **increased** by **\$685.80** from contributions in March 2019.
- There were **33** contributions made in March 2020.
- Contributions March 2020 YTD have **increased** by **\$3781.90** from contributions March 2019 YTD.
- NERAASA Expenses Totaled \$4371.11 this Year, \$1128.89 less than the \$5500.00 Budgeted.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray M.

Area 31 Treasurer

"Service Gladly Rendered"

Chair of the Round Up:

The Round up which was scheduled for May, is now postponed, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. The committee will decide by May 4th if the Round Up will be rescheduled for sometime in September or if will be canceled this year. A question was posed by a committee member: If someone pre-registered for this event, will they be refunded? It was reported no one has pre-registered.

District 3 DCM:

Held a virtual District meeting through Zoom. 7 GSRs participated. Also in attendance was the Berkshire CPC Chair and Co-Chair. Discussion had about meetings losing their meeting location, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Berkshire intergroup is maintaining a listing of all Zoom meetings that are replacing the in person meetings. On the intergroup website, provides the Zoom meeting number but an individual needs to contact the office to obtain the password for the meeting. There are a few meetings still meeting in person, abiding by the under 10 people law, in Pittsfield and Monterey. A few groups have set up a Venmo account to collect 7th tradition money.

There were a few questions provided prior to the start of the meeting, for discussion. These are based on questions other Delegates have been discussing in their weekly conversations. The area engaged in good conversation and provided a good insight on this area's conscience.

1. 7th Tradition Collection at Virtual Meetings. It was reported NECYPAA has been receiving their contributions through virtual collections for some time. District 1 reported a group utilizing cash app to collect contributions. District 3 also has some groups collecting contributions for the 7th Tradition through Venmo account. A question was posed at the end of the meeting, FOOD FOR THOUGHT: How does the Area engage and receive 7th Tradition Contributions? This brought on a lot of conversations; regarding the source to utilize in collecting this money, pay pal, venmo, cash app., etc. A question was asked: if we utilize outside venues are we breaking any traditions. It was reported the Area did have a pay pal account in 2015 for 2 years. A comment was made; area needs to utilize outside venues at times to help maintain area; ie. Banks. More research and thought needs to be completed but this will probably be a necessity in the near future.
2. Are Zoom meetings breaking anonymity? Individual need to be mindful about not disclosing their full name on the Zoom meetings, able to change the name that shows, first name and last initial. Comments were made regarding not being so anonymous that the new coming can't find AA and we should not be anonymous to each other. But it was also noted that there are often times hackers who attend some of the group Zoom Meetings where anonymity needs to be guarded. This brought on a discussion about who are paying for these Zoom Accounts. Some people indicated individuals are paying out of

pocket or utilizing their business or work accounts. Many districts have are following these examples. There were a few suggestions made on alternative to Zoom meetings; can utilize the zoom meeting but only have phone option or utilize freeconferencecall.com. The last option can access a free account on line or by phone and is free for up to 1000 people, which includes i-phone, android and computer. It was shared how it would be beneficial for this area to maintain a list of Zoom meetings so individual who attended these physical meetings can attend the meeting virtually, which will help with unity. Lack of communication and feelings of isolation will hinder Unity.

3. Groups still meeting in person in the area? Going against the law if meet more than 10 people and not socially distancing. A group in the Northeast was still meeting and this was brought to the attention of the media. The media reported an AA group meeting in defiance of the law.... This is going against our 4th Tradition. "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole." Delegate reported a local group contacted him inquiring about continuing to hold AA meeting and his opinion on it. He reported he reiterated the needs to abide by state by-laws and reviewed the financial penalties and Tradition 4.
4. Are groups still paying for rent? It was reported that there is no rent expected for the building at 474 Pleasant Street in Holyoke. Rent was paid for half of March and none for April, more information to come with guidelines from the state for the month of May. It was reported some of the groups have already made their quarterly rent payments to their group locations. Some groups are paying the rent as a donation because not obligated to pay. Some of these groups will decide this at their monthly business meetings.
5. Delegate reported he is communicating weekly with other delegates to discuss concerns in their area. * GSO Office, as of right now, is closed until April 29, 2020. Staff is working from home. Still mailing out literature. * GSC will be conducted as a virtual conference. Currently, fine tuning the schedule, but is expected to be a shorter day schedule. It is scheduled to be held from May 16 to 22, 2020. The committee member will be discussing what agenda items can be put off until next year's conference. * International Convention has been canceled. Planning for a convention like this takes 12 years. The next convention will be in 2025. Refunds will be issued.
6. Alternate Delegate reported a Mini-Conference will be held through a virtual meeting on Saturday May 2, 2020. Time to be determined. It was reported there is a potential of there being 30 agenda items, which can be time consuming. There is a possibility these agenda items can be decreased and put off until next year's conference, which will allow for a shorter mini conference. But if the 30 agenda items remain, this conference may need to be held in 2 day sessions. Agenda items and packets are available. If you have not received one and want one please contact, Delegate, Alternate Delegate or the Area Chair. DCMs should be reviewing these with the GSRs who should in turn be discussing them with the group members. Due to the current climate and group maintaining communication virtually, this could be more time efficient and could get more feedback from more groups. DCMs also need to

provide information to the GSRs regarding this upcoming Mini-Conference, since they are expected to attend and provide feedback from their groups. This way the Delegate gets a broader point of view from the area.

- 7 . A request was made to have a meeting for DCMs to gather and gain insight on their responsibilities and expectations for their position. Previous years there were quarterly DCM meetings for the individuals to find out what other districts are doing, whats working, what are struggles and possible suggestions to better the district meeting. Also to discuss this new climate the world is in, virtual meetings and this new struggle. Area Chair will be setting up a DCM virtual meeting utilizing Zoom within the next week. DCMs who would like to attend can. Also previous DCMs are also invited to participate and provide feedback.
- 8 . Brief discussion was had about next month's Area Meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The discussion is whether the meeting will be in person or virtually, which depends on the direction from the government and the Coronavirus Pandemic.
- 9 . Meeting closed at 8:55 pm.