

Area 31 Zoom Meeting Minutes June 10, 2020
Called to order at 7:30 PM

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
AREA DELEGATE	Paul H.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Mike B.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
AREA CHAIR *	Steve M.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
AREA TREASURER	Ray M.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
AREA SECRETARY	Renee F.	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
<i>AREA REGISTRAR</i>	<i>Sonja P.</i>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
<i>AREA ARCHIVIST</i>	<i>Bobbi P.</i>	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR	Joe K.	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N						
ACCESSIBILITY CO-CHAIR	Erick M.	N	Y	Y	N	N	N						
ARCHIVES CHAIR	John G.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N						
ARCHIVES CO-CHAIR	Carol L.	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y						
CPC CHAIR	Dawn T.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
CPC CO-CHAIR	Mike R.	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N						
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Immer C.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	Jennifer E.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
P.I. CHAIR	Michael C.	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N						
P.I. CO-CHAIR	Karl H.	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N						
WEBSITE CHAIR	Jax M.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
WEBSITE CO-CHAIR	Tania H.	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
<i>WEBMASTER</i>	<i>Bob B.</i>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
W. MASS IGP CHAIR	Mike R.	Y	Y	N	N	N	N						
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Mike M.	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y						
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	Charlie M.	N	Y	N	N	N	Y						
<i>INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Michelle</i>	N	Y	Y	N	N	N						
ROUND UP CHAIR	Yolanda R.	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y						
ROUND UP CO-CHAIR	Andy D.	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y						
NEYPAA Liaison	Michael R.	N	X	X	O	O	X						
<i>NEYPAA Co-Liaison</i>	<i>Charlie D.</i>	N	X	O	O	O	O						
District 1 DCM	Joe B.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
District 1 CO-DCM	Aaron P.	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N						
District 2 DCM	Suzanne L.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						

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District 2 CO-DCM	Anne M.	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y						
District 3 DCM	Joan P	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N						
District 3 CO-DCM	Lisa L.	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y						
District 4 DCM	Emily C.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y						
District 4 CO-DCM	Steve B.	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y						
District 5 DCM	Bill H.	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N						
District 5 CO-DCM	Vicky W.	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N						
District 6 DCM	John M.	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y						
District 6 CO-DCM	Corbin R.	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N						
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	23	30	24	25	26	22						

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

- Virtual Donations. Finance committee met on June 6th.

New Business

- Website Committee filed a motion: wanting to add all the area committee email addresses to the area handbook. Motion was to add a page "Website and Contact Information" to Area 31 Handbook. And that this page will be placed in the inside front cover page. Currently, the this page is 'home to the Preamble which will be shifted to the page 1, where there is room for this. Preamble will be placed under the Welcome Section. It was voted on and 16 members voted yes, 0 no and 0 abstain.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning May Balance	\$ 4,023.08
Group Contributions:	\$ 1,517.05
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 0.0
Closing May Balance:	\$ 5,540.54
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,500.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 14,040.54

Further comments:

- Contributions in May 2020 have **decreased** by **\$989.17** from contributions in May 2019.
- There were 8 contributions made in May 2020.
- Contributions May 2020 YTD have **increased** by **\$721.84** from contributions May 2019 YTD.
- Church Closings Effected Group Contributions in APRIL Due to on-going Covid-19 Crisis.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

Registrar's Report:

- No report.
- Due to Covid-19, it has given people the time to work on things regarding the database, more to be revealed.

Area Archivist Report:

- Has not had the ability to get into the Building, hoping soon will have access.

Webmaster:

- Sat in on District 5 zoom meeting. Getting zoom meeting information added to the area website.
- Area 31 Handbook on Website, PDF doc.

Accessibility:

- No report

Archives:

- No report
- Have not met through Zoom yet, hoping to do so for next month's meeting.

CPC:

- Meeting held 6/9 through zoom.
- 11 attendees, 3 groups represented and the Berkshire's CPC.
- Berkshires CPC resumed meeting in May, they meet at 6pm on 4th Tuesday each month. Next meeting June 23.
- Working with Mass Rehab to schedule a commitment via Zoom to their staff meeting
- Developed a letter for the CPC Committee and AA members to send to professionals letting them know how to refer clients to AA while we are meeting virtually. This letter will be posted on the Area website for any AA member to use.
- Planning for commitments to the local nursing programs on hold while schools determine how they are handling students in the Fall.

Grapevine:

- 5 Grapevine reps attended June 2nd zoom meeting.
- Topics:
 - District 6 Workshop
 - Grapevine Workbook
 - Input from Grapevine/La Vina Reps about future Workshops

Public Information:

- No report.

Website Committee:

- Continue to look over insert for Area Handbook
- Zoom Meeting was held this past month.

Western Mass Round Up:

- Met on June 10th through a zoom meeting.

- Zoom meeting will be held on July 12th at 2 pm, for the Delegate to provide his report from GSC. Incorporated with the intergroup, so access link can be available through intergroup website.

Invited Committees

Berkshire Intergroup:

- On May 19, We have instituted a soft opening of intergroup office, one day a week , Tuesdays at 1:30 to 5:00. All must have face masks and gloves to enter and only one person in office at a time.
- We have constructed a cubicle so that when you enter you cannot go beyond that point.
- Intergroup has received \$129.00 in contributions and \$96.45 in literature sales.
- The hotline phone service , which usually averages 35 calls a month, had 97 calls last month.

Institutions:

- Unable to get into any places but are able to provide books and information.
- Looking for a way to set up an online contributions to institutions.
- Can send checks to:
Western Mass Intergroup
PO Box 1391
Holyoke, MA 01040

Western Mass Intergroup:

- No Report

NECYPAA

- May 31st Meeting
- \$1555.84 balance
- On track but struggles is the inability to conduct in-person registrations. Discussing on line payment options; Venmo, square.
- Discussing:

Panel speakers, booked site tour, contact DJ and comedians. Access to ASO & ALS.

- Events held: lip sync and Charades. Looking for other ways to promote involvement.
- Saturday night zoom mtg, low attendance. Because of low attendance there will be will restructuring.
- Website almost done.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- Meeting held on 5/24/2020, through Zoom meeting. 4 GSRs were present. 2 GSRs called to find out information after the meeting was held.
- 1 group reported utilizing zoom to conduct their meetings. BYOBB Men's Meeting.

District 2:

- Zoom meeting held on 6/8. 10 attended this meeting - 2 DCMs, 7 GSRs.
- Daily Reflections Group - Holyoke meeting every morning via zoom. Financial Contributions: Pay Pal to Intergroup, Venmo to group and Personal check to treasurer.

- The Mulberry St Group will NO longer meet at Feeding Hills Congregational Church. Hopeful New Location Alano Club, King St, Agawam MA on Thursday nights (not Tuesday) in the near future.
- The Board of Health Department - is aware of meetings and reviewing guidelines with The Alano Club.
- Women Steps to Serenity - women from My Sister's House regular attendees of their Zoom meeting. How do groups connect with individuals and exchange phone numbers on Zoom?
- DCM reported Area 48 HMB (Upper NY) hosted a "workshop" Thursday June 4th (ZOOM) - Reopening - Service Piece <https://aahmbny.org/reopening-ad-hoc-committee-report/> The purpose of this document is to provide information for groups to CONSIDER as they move forward towards reopening in-person meetings after the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the dynamics of the current situation, it is extremely important to have a group conscience meeting to plan & decide how reopening a meeting is to happen in a safe and spiritual way.

District 3:

- Meeting held through Zoom on 5/15. 6 GSRs attended.
- All meetings are being held through Zoom. Good attendance at all meetings.
- Handful of groups are having in-person meetings.
- Berkshire Intergroup & District 3 have started discussion regarding their yearly collaborative workshop. More information to come.

District 4:

- 8 GSRs present at the May 19th zoom meeting.
- Only Zoom meetings, no in-person meetings were discussed.
- Discussion had regarding workshop planning and ideas.

District 5:

- No report

District 6:

- 9 GSRs attended the Zoom meeting held on May18th.
- Most groups represented at the district meeting are meeting through Zoom. Small groups meeting in person; Somers and Enfield, Connecticut.
- Discussed group donations- one group is utilizing pay pal.
- The Sunday night BB Meeting at the Congregational Church in Somersville is resuming regular meetings June 7th. They are also incorporating zoom in to the meeting.
- Enfield Young Peoples is holding a Traditions meeting before their regular Speaker/Discussion meeting which starts at 7pm on Friday evening. Still on zoom. This meeting may resume regular in person meetings on Friday June19th.
- May 30th district workshop; completed by zoom meeting, 12 to 2 pm. Information posted on Area 31 Website. Good turn out.

Delegate's Remarks

- Archives record book- 1st Delegate to attend a virtual general Service Conference. Only drop back was not able to discuss or get into as much information.
- Due to Covid-19 donations are down, \$3M will be drawn from the GSO reserve fund to help keep it running. To put in perspective: GSO was \$8.86M self sufficient with \$9.36M made through publishing. GSO brought in about \$18M last year.
- Nassau County Intergroup: Topic returning to in person meetings, 7:30 pm to 9 pm on June 11th.
- Seminar/Workshop South Eastern NY, June 20th 10 am to 12 pm.

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- Mass State Convention which is held every year in November is canceled.
- All Alternate Delegates meet 1X a week through a Zoom Meeting.

Area Chair Remarks:

- June 6th Finance Committee met. Discussed paying the Area zoom account and Website with an Area Debit card and collecting virtual donations.
- Asking host locations from District monthly meetings about a refund of rent, will inquire about their opinion regarding this as a possible option.
- Robinson Center: 474 Pleasant Street in Holyoke, the building may possibly be opening on July 1st.
- Service Manual Zoom Meeting, June 17th 7:30 pm.
- What's a Concept? Meeting, July 2nd at 7:30 pm (TBD)
- Question was posed... Anyone have a concern about the area having a debit card?
- It was reminded to the committee that the Area Officers are present at all meetings as a resource and it is not there responsibility to pass on the information or what occurred at the Area Meeting.

Old Business:

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New Business:

- A motion was made to implement on-line contributions to the area31aa.org website.

Background information;

The finance committee met on 6/6/2020 to discuss various options and vendors to utilize to facilitate online contributions, and found PayPal to be the best solution. The funds will be deposited to the active area bank account and managed by the area treasurer.

Discussion had: 1. a question was asked if available on the area website, anyone, even a non-alcoholic can make a donation? Treasurer reported he will be diligent to review who is making these contributions and will continue to record and provide a monthly spreadsheet to the area. 2. Suggestion made: having a check off box to indicate if you are an alcoholic. 3. Question regarding cost involved, .22% .30\$ per transactions. Noted this is the lowest cost, without breaking any of our traditions.

VOTED: 15-yes 0-no 1 abstain. **MOTION PASSES**

- MOTION:

That the Area translate the permanent material on its Area 31 website into Spanish in order to provide more accessibility to the Spanish speaking community in our area. Based on the research, the estimated cost to translate will be approximately \$1,600.00 even if paid in installments, to the professional translator as a one time request.

Discussion was had. Another motion was made and 2nd to table this motion until the September Area Meeting, to obtain group and committee members opinions. Will keep as old business until

September's Area Meeting.

- A committee member shared that they feel it is important the committee as a whole has an opportunity to vote, regarding when in-person Area Committee Meetings should resume or continue to have them via zoom.

The meeting closed with the Responsibility pledge at 9:00 pm.
NEXT Meeting will be held on 7/8/2020 at 7:30 pm.