

		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO-DCM	Chris K.	N	Y										
District 3 DCM	Lisa L.	Y	Y										
District 3 CO-DCM	Tom H.	Y	Y										
District 4 DCM	Steve B.	Y	Y										
District 4 CO-DCM	Leah D.	Y	Y										
District 5 DCM	Cindy F.	Y	Y										
District 5 CO-DCM	Tom H.	Y	Y										
District 6 DCM	Corbin R.	N	Y										
District 6 CO-DCM	Megan T.	N	Y										
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	28	30										

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

- Discussion about what to do with the 'Surplus' of money in the Area.

New Business

- Website committee to be dissolved.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning January Balance	\$ 17,065.34
Group Contributions:	\$ 1,765.73
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 202.50
Closing January Balance:	\$ 18,628.57
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,501.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 27,129.57

Further comments:

- Contributions in January 2021 have decreased by \$3061.47 from contributions in January 2020.
- There were 14 contributions made in January 2021.
- Contributions Jan. 2021 YTD have decreased by \$3061.47 from contributions Jan. 2020 YTD.
- Note; \$1.00 was added to prudent reserve to keep active.
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.

We received \$241.95 in PayPal online contributions in January. Thank you for supporting Western Mass General Services.

Registrar's Report:

- No report

Area Archivist Report:

- Mtg last week, very productive. Chair gave good suggestions to keep committee active. Enjoy workin girth new chair and co-chair.

- Q: should committees still be providing the minutes from mtgs to her? She suggested committees maintain records until archives opens back up.

Webmaster:

- Remind DCMs and committee chairs, email address on website any questions email webmaster.
- Minutes: needs to be sent in an edible format. PDF will be formatted when received. Webpost@area31.org
- Personal phone numbers, emails and last name can not be included in these minutes.
- Area handbook and guidelines is on the website. new additions click able and bookmarks to bouncing around, can search in the document.

Accessibility:

- met on 1/27, 6 AAs present
- Talk about phone set up: Suggestions from alt delegate: also spoke to delegate about suggestions.
- Would like to met all district and put a word it on the accessibility committee.
- AA be more aware of barriers and getting past these barrier. Member of Morning Light Grp: Courtney: Seeking guidance about how I can help my home Grp. Outside problems come into our rooms, how to balance trad 1, 10 & 5 in our home grps. Inclusive, equity diversity and accessibility.

Archives:

- 10 members on committee.
- Put the workshop on hold.
- Move forward recording really old timers, also record people who have only done Zoom mtgs.
- 1st recording in April

CPC:

- met yesterday, 2/9
- CPC no commitments, practicing mock presentation with new and old members.
- Thinking about a new format to add to the presentation.

Grapevine:

- mtg 6 members present
- Discussion how can we put the word of grapevine out there.
- Different ideas for workshop. Maybe in collaboration with other committees.

Public Information:

- met yesterday 2/9,7 members
- New members, sent out presentation for new members.
- Discuss this presentation and if there was any questions or concerns
- 1 commitment: Program is changing. Where the location will be? Now on Zoom. Need clarification.
- Still reaching out on contacting newspaper and radio station.
- New members struggling with the idea of the idea to each to reach out when not too sure what to say.
- PI kit was dropped off to me today and will review and share with committee.

Website Committee:

- Request DCM to get GSRs to be presented at the assembly so they can participate in the vote. They still have time to get their grps input for the vote.
- Reiterated much of what Webmaster shared.

Western Mass Round Up:

- Just met today at 6 pm.
- May 15th; 12 hour event, span out 2 zooms, alcohthan on 1 zoom and presentations and delegate report on the

- other
- Standing committee mtg expect call so conduct a mtg

Invited Committees

Berkshire Intergroup:

- Continuing to look at finances. Know we are losing money, not clear on how much, big contribution this month so this helped
- Add zoom password on websites, inventory on Dist3
- Working on workshop
- Pay pal acct on website so contributions can be given directed.

Discussion had re: area donating funds to help BIG: confusion about if this should occur.

Institutions:

- No report

Western Mass Intergroup:

- WMIG
- Thanked all Grp for continued contributions.
- 1/14 mtg, 6 reps
- Emailed rep packets electronically.
- Backup phone coverage list 532-2111 or email to be added to the list.
- Suggested at last Area mtg donate money to WMIG: WMIG was in good enough financial shape and would deny donation, but give more money to the BIG (Berkshire Intergroup)
- Answering service: issues,
- 2/11 next WMIG 7 pm
- Booking mtg 2/11 at 6:30 pm
- Anyone can attend steering committee mtgs, last Thursday of the month.
- All WMIG reports can be available on Website in document section.
- Send as many IGR as you can get.
- Steering committee, going out to district mtgs. To inform them of what Intergroup is and does.

NECYPAA

- no report

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- co -DCM gave report
- Zoom mtg set through someone's personal account, motion passed to use the area zoom acct. mtg info on website
- GSRs have not been attending mtgs. Reps present have be going out to grps zoom mtgs and in person mtgs to recruit GSRs.
- all service positions change in the district.

District 2:

- 2/8, 5 GSR., 3 alt, 2 co DCM,
- Issue: GSR asked about what to do when the chair of a Grp does not ask for minority opinion. Suggested were given.

District 3:

- 1/15, 4 GSRs
- LCM position remains open.
- Discussion about motion to help support Berkshire Intergroup.

District 4:

- 1/19, mtg time is 7 pm
- 8 GSRs 4 alt,
- better safe than sorry (new Grp only zoom mtg) Florence Eye opener has about 100 people mtg., Amherst Monday night mtg, beginning mtg doing great, Haydenville still mtg in garage, South Amherst group average 30

people. Conway Monday mtg, conference calling no zoom. Valley LBTQ: was getting zoom through NEW York Intergroup no longer.

- Old business: whether to read tradition of the month, decided to start reading it.

District 5:

- 6 GSRs, No new GSRs, in spite how much recruitment, some mtgs are on hybrid but most are zoom.
- Ludlow mtgs held at churches many are being closed/sold so losing mtg places.
- Dist 5 mtg and Sewell and Hubbard street.
- Discuss speakers wearing masks when speaking at mtgs.

District 6:

- 1/18 Hazardville Unity Methodist
- Talk about NERASSA being zoom
- Ideas about workshops, not sure if we do hybrid or only in person.
- New GSRs showed up.
- No longer hybrid mtg

Delegate's Remarks

- Appreciate the discussion provided by Grp member who came and spoke to the area committee about their experience with issues and concerns with their home group.
- Letter from GSO (emailed sent from Paul) 1600 \$ last year this year asking 1800\$ for delegate fee for GSC
- Randall commitment, monitor how many people can attend in-person.
- April 18-24 GSC background info coming out soon. Agenda items

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- Mass State convention: met last week, next mtg last Tues in April
- Looking at: hybrid, total virtual one or none at all. Most of the people want one but will be decided (maybe) in April.
- Mini conference: morning sessions with 4 break out rooms. 2 topics per room, 4 rooms.
- Attending Northeast alt delegate mtg once a week.
- Will provide GSR presentation to the districts.

Area Chair Remarks:

- no plans to open Robinson center still mtg on zoom
- Service manual 2/17 at 730: website log in info & Concept mtg 3/4 at 730pm
- NERAASA feb. 26, 27, 28. Registration fee \$21. Available on zoom.
- Spring assembly mini conference march 27th 9 am to 12 pm break out for lunch. 1-4 to discuss various items were. Each round table with have a secretary to present to the Grp & Sunday business mtg 1 to 4 pm
- Outgoing commitment 2/28 at 1 pm Randall Group: #25 people able to attend. ASL interrupter present

Old Business:

- 29 voting members need 19 any pass any motions.
- Contribution 3600\$ to BIG
- felt the sentiment is nice but need to vote against. 7th trad it would be unhealthy for BIG and Area 31, separated our budget from the Area to the Intergroup. Interfering in others affairs. Commitment to each grps who contribute to the Area: By making this donation we are going against the grps. We need to go back to the grps and tell them to
- Grps utilize the pie chart to dictate where the money goes. We already are giving guidance where to send the money. We are trusted servants.
- BIG: has been donated \$\$\$ to the area before. Rethink where they are disturbing their money possible table until Assembly.
- BIG did have a number as to their deficit. History background: Bill and Dr bob. Intergroup central office: to save whole areas from failure and. We are a trusted servant.
- New problem in bigger areas, learn this at last NERAASA, whenever money gets to certain amt send out \$. BIG is all volunteer office. Prudent reserve is too high. Budget went down this. Not in agreement with increasing our prudent reserve. Grps trust use as trusted servant.
- Why isn't BIG included in our pie chart? if they did, perhaps everyone would include them in with the donations. As pandemic moves on, likely hood grps will have to met have to change places due to churches and locations closing down.
- Grps in dist 3 are in favor of giving this donation.
- BIG is in the red not sure how much.
- Motion to table this motion until Assembly.
- 20 voting to table this motion
- Oppose to table the motion 0
- Motion tabled until area assembly.

New Business:

- Discussion topic: Seeking guidance from area committee how to at the Grp level of introducing idea around inclusive, diversity, equity and accessibility to get grps to welcoming as possible.
- What committee would this fall under, umbrella. How would the area go about this, establish subcommittee? AA wide issue.
- Other peoples experience.: discussion at Sober Sunday: how we start our mtg. Changing how the preamble is read from men and women to people but added a paragraph. Dist 4 put on work shop a few yrs ago with this topic. Grp inventories, how to get support and address what to do during a mtg. How are past delegates equipped to deal with these topics? How can they be supported to help them grps. There is a pamphlet to help address this issue. Need more workshops and make these workshops info. A lot of info in Box 459. GSO: search inclusive. We are the guardians of the traditions, when we see something we need to say something. If we don't then it will continue and not get addressed. Grp conscience mtg at our Grp: gave us a tradition checklist and reviewed at our business mtg. Our Grp checks ourselves by reviewing these. Grp started to use safety card at the beginning of the mtg. Covers any behaviors that make someone feels uncomfortable. There are people in the rooms who have a lot of sobriety and can tell how they behave. Speak directly to those people and see if they would be assist and speak to those individuals. Using aa structure, take what is read and email it to all districts and committee, so this could be provided to all members so they can bring back to the groups and get feedback. Contact GSO give them your experience and they would be happy to give you direction, other grps experience. Suggest the district do discuss these topics with their district and GSRs. Not naming Grp or individuals. Topic needs to make it out there. Education issues, continue this discussion on and on.. Can see a pamphlet coming out, will take a long time but I see one in the future.

Motion cancel March Area meeting due the Spring assembly. Motion is passed with 21 votes. Against: 0
Motion to close mtg: 6 voted for, 17 voted to keep the meeting going. No majority so mtg will continue.

- New business: Motion If we every get over \$6000 from prudent reserve we send it to GSO. Second this motion.
- Discussion: with the situation we are in, we should not be making a decision like this until life to back to normal. extra money should stay local, yes percentage should go to GSO but we need to be self supporting AA service in Western Mass.

concept is good but the future of our finances and future rent is too questionable right now. Maybe consider in the future. Future need to have plan in place.

7th tradition presentation: long version. Not putting a numerical amount because it could be constantly changing. But a percentage. Ask treasurer to research the past 3 years of finances to provide the area with detailed info.

28 voting members:

In favor of motion: 5

Against motion: 19

Minority opinion: guidance and look at in the future. Eventually we need to do either percentage or dollar figure.

Glad we will get info so we can have grps provide info

Not attached to the dollar amt but 25 % of our budget is \$7K, think we should bring it up at assembly. Area should use the money 1st but we are just sitting on it and it just keeps growing.

Motion is not carried.

Reminded what came out of finance mtg: if your committee has a need for something, now is the time to request extra funds. We have the money to provide to our area. Need literature, materials for committee. Hopefully come back with request either at assembly or April area mtg. Educated what our funds look like month to month. How many times have we fully support all committee members to NERAASA or delegate going to the conference.

Thought: if in the future if area is getting above certain percentage or money amt. contact the individual grps and tell them to give it to the other entities. Because we have a listing of what grps contribute.

Suggested present the information regarding the surplus of the area's money at the Spring assembly. Area chair stated he will present this information.

Motion to close. At 10:08 pm

Next mtg Spring Assembly on Zoom

Closed with the Responsibility Pledge.

