

Area 31 Zoom Meeting Minutes June 9, 2021
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						
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Mike B.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
AREA CHAIR *	Steve M.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
AREA TREASURER	Ray M.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
AREA SECRETARY	Renee F.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
<i>AREA REGISTRAR</i>	<i>Sonja P.</i>	Y	N		Y	N	Y						
<i>AREA ARCHIVIST</i>	<i>Bobbi P.</i>	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR	Jerry K.	Y	Y		N	Y	Y						
ACCESSIBILITY CO-CHAIR	Emily C.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Carol L.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
ARCHIVES CO-CHAIR	Immer C.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
CPC CHAIR	Mike R.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
CPC CO-CHAIR	Craig C.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Jennifer E.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	Joe B.	Y	Y		Y	N	N						
P.I. CHAIR	Tamara P.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
P.I. CO-CHAIR	John M.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
WEBSITE CHAIR	Carl G.	Y	Y	----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
WEBSITE CO-CHAIR		N	N	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<i>WEBMASTER</i>	<i>Bob B.</i>	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
W. MASS IGP CHAIR	Mike R.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Karen S.	Y	Y		Y	Y	N						
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	Michelle C.	Y	N		Y	Y	N						
<i>INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Andrew M.</i>	N	N		N	N	Y						
ROUND UP CHAIR	John G.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
ROUND UP CO-CHAIR	Yolanda R.	N	N		Y	N	N						
NEYPAA Liaison	Michael R.	X	O		X	O	X						
<i>NEYPAA Co-Liaison</i>		O	O		O	O	O						
District 1 DCM	Aaron P.	Y	N		N	N	N						
District 1 CO-DCM	Michael R.	N	Y		N	N	Y						
District 2 DCM	Anne M.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						

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District 2 CO-DCM	Chris K.	N	Y		Y	Y	Y						
District 3 DCM	Lisa L.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
District 3 CO-DCM	Tom H.	Y	Y		Y	Y	N						
District 4 DCM	Steve B.	Y	Y		N	Y	Y						
District 4 CO-DCM	Leah D.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
District 5 DCM	Cindy F.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y						
District 5 CO-DCM	Tom H.	Y	Y		Y	Y	N						
District 6 DCM	Corbin R.	N	Y		Y	N	Y						
District 6 CO-DCM	Megan T.	N	Y		N	Y	Y						
Quorum =18	* only votes to make/break a tie	28	30		27	27	26						

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

- 3K Contribution to Western Mass Intergroup. Reconsider the motion due WMIG steering committee will advise the IG not to accept the money. Motion does not carry will discuss again in June.

New Business

- none

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning May Balance	\$ 16,770.80
Group Contributions:	\$ 766.94
Total Area Expenses:	\$ 31.90
Closing May Balance:	\$ 17,505.84
Plus - Prudent Reserve:	\$ 8,501.00
Total Funds Available:	\$ 26,006.84

Further comments:

- Contributions in May 2021 have decreased by \$750.11 from contributions in May 2020.
- There were 11 total contributions made in May 2021.
- Contributions May 2021 YTD have decreased by \$4,257.75 from contributions May 2020 YTD.
- On-line (PayPal) had 3 contributions totaling \$177.58
- See Treasurer's spreadsheet for further detail.
- Please continue to share these reports with your committee.

Registrar's Report:

- excel reports, going to be sending excel reports to the districts. Pls access your email because this is where the reports will be sent. Pls complete and get back to me within the next month or 2. Look at groups and update the information. District 3 is the only district who has this report as of yet. It is has been quiet in register land. Available to come out to districts to provide information

Area Archivist Report:

- went into achieves office. There is a lot of 'stuff' in there , was a surprise how much 'stuff' were in there. Found info on the last time office was moved, Cabotville 2005 moved out into 2008, moved to Holyoke.

Webmaster:

- Thanks to help from Ray R., your committee and district minutes are being posted in a much more timely fashion. Sending your minutes for posting helps keep the Area updated about what you have been doing. Please submitted your minutes to webpost@area31aa.org. Please make sure that the minutes are submitted in an editable format such as 'Word' document format or similar. Actually, even a text email works. In future I will be posting the Treasurers reports to the website, present and previous.
- For flyers about special events, send them to webmaster@area31aa.org. These submissions should be submitted as PDF's to maintain the formatting. Make sure that no personal information is included, no personal email or phone numbers.
- Once again, there is a new update of the 'Area 31 Handbook & Guidelines' available. There are only a few minor edits. It is posted on the Area website as a PDF under the 'Documents' drop down or direct link at <https://area31aa.org/handbook>.
- I have been informed that District 5 is going back to in-person district meetings starting with July, I have updated the calendar to reflect this. If your committee or district is also considering this please inform me at webmaster@area31aa.org and I will update your listing as well.
- Finally, I am presently working with Kevin at Western Mass Intergroup, as an 8th Tradition Special Worker. We are working to update the meeting list with the goal of creating an accurate list to be linked to the 'Meeting Guide'. We will also be bringing it back to only one list for all purposes. This is especially important now that many meetings are resuming in-person meetings, in some cases, in new locations while many are first going to hybrid, both virtual and in-person.

Accessibility:

- May 26th, discussion about the boards, where were they? Found them and will be picking them up. Reminded districts groups can access the boards for anniversaries. Workshop planning; idea from the round up, whose missing in our rooms? Live events. More info to come. 4 committee members. Live mtg

Archives:

- No recording this past month. Past chair assisted with putting the mtg together. June will complete a recording, woman from Conway.

CPC:

- mtg last night, 6/8. no commitments prior to mtg. Still looking for commitments. Got email from a grp having an anniversary; group obtain the CPC boards and presented at their anniversary.

Grapevine:

- had a mtg but not much to report

Public Information:

- met last night, low attendance. Hopefully get more grpo reps once mtgs start opening up. Not busy, only have a monthly commitment. Also was invited to the anniversary, can't find boards. Packets will be put together to provide districts, will attend monthly district mtgs. Have not reached out radio show, to inquire to start up the show again.

Website Committee:

- DISSOLVED

Western Mass Round Up:

- briefly met today to discuss whats next? We decided next year's Round Up will be in person. Next mtg

on July 14th and there will be elections, since every position is open.

Invited Committees

Berkshire Intergroup:

- No report

Institutions:

- 10 members attended June 2nd, need to fill the a secretary role and liaison.
- BB sent to McDugle facility. Greenfield Detox CSS, requested book.
- New business: hope center reached out, Spent money on books.
- Next mtg July 7th at 7 pm. Question asked when go back live, have to find a new place or stay at Providence. (Unsure)
- There is an open commitment list, attend the mtg and get a mtg. Please provide minutes not in PDF format when submit to webmaster.

Western Mass Intergroup:

- May 13th, motion made at April Area mtg to donate \$3000 for cost of the move, discussion had: motion was denied not to accept the contribution from the area.
- Move has been pushed back to Saturday, June 19th.
- Webmaster will be assisting with putting the 2 mtg lists into one, on-line & in-person.
- Intergroup family Sunday, August 22nd, 11 am to 6 pm, Moose Family Center will be held and live. Flier will be coming soon.
- Intergroup M, W & F 9am to 1 pm. New office/new hours; Monday June 21 Mon-Fri 9 am to 1 pm. Intergroup mtg June 10th, June 24th steering committee.

NECYPAA

- Looking outside of area, to host convention. Events every month, up to December. This weekend to Emerald Lake. New Orleans NECYPAA will be sending people down there Labor Day weekend. Setting a table up a Sober in the Sun.

AdHoc Committee: Relocation

- mtg last Tues of the month. Past delegate is the chair of the committee. Looking for something to fit these requirements: location in Chicopee, Holyoke or Spfld, space with 1 large mtg room (80-100), with 2 small rooms (1 that could hold 25-35 people) and storage space, parking for 30-50 spaces, look nice, handicap accessible (in all rooms even bathroom), WIFI. Wanting to reach out to committee to inquire if anyone is aware of adequate space. A large room does not need to be due to having area assemblies at different locations. We need to find out spending limits. Currently spend \$500/month, double this amount should be adequate spending.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1:

- next Thursday, 17th next mtg. Low attendance, 4 of us in attendance in monthly mtgs. Adhoc committee established for redistricting, combining Dist 1 with another dist. Going out to all district mtgs to express importance of GSR representation at these mtgs. Will report back at next weeks mtg.

District 2:

- Next mtg upcoming Monday. No report cause haven't met since last area meeting.

District 3:

- Virtually 9 GSRs present; 6 mtgs meet virtually, 1 phone and 1 in person and virtually due to maximum number of people guideline. Grps are discussing options to have in person mtgs, challenges: guidelines, cleaning expectations, closed churches, new locations
- June workshop, round table event: have grp survived, Saturday June 26th at 10 am on Zoom.

District 4:

- 8 GSRs old mtg places do not have Wi-Fi, do they go just live. Haydenville is live hybrid mtg. Making progress grp on zoom, Conway grp telephone mtgs. Joint workshop with Dist 1 topic grps reopening.

District 5:

- last zoom mtg this past Monday, 5 GSRs July 5th at the same location pre-Covid. Many of the grps are returning to live, with minimal restrictions, some grps are hybrid. Issues: large donations going back in baskets, missing treasurer, most mtg donating.

District 6:

- 6 GSRs attended grps opening up with live mtgs. More talk about workshop in the fall. District will stay at Methodist church. Grp vote at the next district mtg.

Delegate's Remarks

- Box 459 (digital): Summer edition interesting items: chair person for the General service board: 2 new class A trustee, new class b trustee. Bob W. new general manager for AA, staying in NEW YORK. GSO taking suggestion for topics for the 2025 International Convention. More details on AA.org
Question: International Convention in Canada, has a lot of restrictions with people who attend (arrests, jail, etc.) will follow up to provide more clarity.

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- Attended NERF, this past weekend. Continue to attend monthly and bi-weekly alt delegate mtgs. Mass State Convention will be held on zoom from 11/13 & 11/14. planning committee July 27th, meet virtually

Area Chair Remarks:

- service manual mtg virtually, June 16th at 7:30 pm
- concept 7 mtg 1st of July at 730pm.
- Outgoing commitment, Suffield Grapevine meeting, hybrid in October

VOTING MEMBERS: 23 voting members

Old Business:

- 3K Contribution to Western Mass Intergroup. Reconsider the motion due WMIG steering committee will advise the IG not to accept the money. Motion does not carry will discuss again in June.
- DUE to WMIG declining the donation, Motion was tabled until June: donate \$3K to Western Mass Intergroup. 20 voted against this motion. 1 abstention. Not going to contribute to WMIG

New Business:

Been in contact with building manager from 474 Pleasant Street, Holyoke. We have been invited back to the building; area mtg, committee, service manual and concept mtg. Would like to move these mtgs back to live mtgs by July.

* Adhoc committee to find location: nothing else has changed, church is still for sale and we are still looking for a new place. Adhoc still doing due diligence to find an alternative place.

* If opening up in person: are we going to be looking into hybrid mtgs? Individual willing to help out with having to do hybrid mtgs.

* would church be opposed for AA to get internet service in the church. Do we need to make a motion if church is not opposed of this.

* will chairs be socially distant? We will be setting them up so we can set up anyway we want.

* looking for hybrid option.

- going to need to get Wi-Fi, Router in the main room. Discussed with Xfinity, 1 time fee \$99.95, for cable set up, unless 100 mgs/sec \$98.44/month for a 2 year contract. This contract can be carried to our new location, unless in Chicopee different cable company, if need to cancel they will not hold us to the contract. If we terminate early, only have to pay 75% of remanding contract.

\$178.40/per month for a month by month (no contract).

-\$1500 for equipment, biggest purchase is a laptop

Motion: the area spends \$1500-\$2K for technology so the area can resume in person mtgs and can accommodate hybrid. Vote: 21 voting members. 21 voted for spending this amount of money.

- Committee member willing to donate used equipment.

- Area 61 allotted to spend that type of money for technology. So other areas are also spending this type of money to facilitate hybrid mtg.

- There are a few committee mtgs that meet on the same day and time, so they would need to change their time. This will need to be considered, cause can not provide hybrid.

- spending this money and obtaining the equipment is great for accessibility and making all meetings, area & committee meeting accessible to all.

- does this amount of money include the monthly internet costs?

- accessibility handbook: challenges to all alcoholics: geographic, mental, physical, etc. to access all AA services.

Motion: Sign up for the 2 year internet contract through Comcast.

20 voted for this motion. 1 abstain

Conversation will be had with Comcast starting tomorrow

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- *PI & CPC same day/time
- Grapevine & Archives same day/time
- PI will take a 630 spot on the same day.
- CPC will continue at 730pm
- Grapevine will take 630pm spot on the same day.
- Archives will continue at 730 pm.

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Close mtg at 10 pm

Responsibility Pledge.

July 14th, live and in person