Area 31 Zoom Meeting Minutes February 9, 2022 Called to order at 7:30 PM

		Jan	Feb	Mar ch	Apr il	May	Jun e	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
AREA DELEGATE	Mike B.	Υ	Y										
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Steve M.	Υ	Υ										
AREA CHAIR *	John G.	Υ	Υ										
AREA TREASURER	Steve	Υ	Υ										
AREA SECRETARY	Ray M.	Υ	Y										
AREA REGISTRAR	Sally	Υ	Y										
AREA ARCHIVIST	Carl G.	Υ	Y										
ACCESSIBILITIES CHAIR	Mike C.	N	Y										
ACCESSIBILITIES CO-CHAIR	Bruce V.	N	N										
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Immer C.	Υ	Y										
ARCHIVES CO- CHAIR	Kellie C.	Υ	Y										
CPC CHAIR	Charlie	Υ	N										
CPC CO-CHAIR	Steve A.	N	N										
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Jack A.	Υ	Ν										
GRAPEVINE CO- CHAIR	Cindy F	Υ	Υ										
P.I. CHAIR	John M.	Υ	Υ										
P.I. CO-CHAIR	Mark H.	N	Ν										
WEBMASTER	Bob B.	Υ	Υ										
W. MASS IGP CHAIR		N	N										
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Suzane B.	Υ	Υ										
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR		Y	N										
INSTITUTIONS Co- CHAIR		N	N										
ROUND UP CHAIR	Yolanda R	Υ	Υ										
ROUND UP CO- CHAIR	Steve A.	N	Y										
NEYPAA Liaison	Michael R.	X	X										
NEYPAA Co- Liaison		0	0										
District 1 DCM		Υ	N										
District 1 CO-DCM		N	N										
District 2 DCM	Chris K.	Υ	Υ										

		Jan	Feb	Mar ch	Apr il	May	Jun e	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	De c
District 2 CO-DCM	Kerri O.	Υ	Ν										
District 3 DCM	Tom H.	Υ	Υ										
District 3 CO-DCM		N	N										
District 4 DCM	Leah D.	Υ	Υ										
District 4 CO-DCM		Υ	Y										
District 5 DCM	Tom H.	N	Υ										
District 5 CO-DCM	KATE V	Υ	Y										
District 6 DCM	Megan T.	Υ	N										
District 6 CO-DCM	Jodie	N	Y										
Quorum =18	* Only votes to make/brea k a tie	25	22										

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

Handbook was printed, Motion passed 23-0, Van transportation to NERAASA

New Business

• Discussed Spring assembly format, Live and Virtual, Breakout rooms. Also spoke about secure way to distribute Background material for Agenda items for this year's GSO conference. Most felt a password protected file on the Website is the best option.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning January Balance \$ 24,908.31 Group Contributions \$ 2,091.71 Total Area Expenses \$ 294.55 Closing January Balance \$ 25,705.47 Plus – Prudent Reserve \$ 8.501.00 Total Funds Available \$ 35,206.47

Further Comments:

- *Contributions in January 2022 have increased by \$325.98 from contributions in January 2021
- *There was a total of 28 donations made in January 2022 totaling \$2,091.71
- * Online PayPal contributions totaled \$148.00

Registrar's Report:

NUMBERS: registered active groups by district

District	GROUPS				
District 1	29				
District 2	38				
District 3	70				
District 4	68				
District 5	56				
District 6	39				
District Unknown	7				
TOTAL	307				

DISTRICT UNKNOWN

- Of the 7, 5 have mailing addresses. These were included in the "District Unknown" list I gave to the DCMs in January. From what I can find out, all 5 are actively meeting except one that is marked "temporarily suspended" in the meeting app, so I will assign them to the appropriate district.
- This is just data maintenance, and normally doesn't need to take Area Meeting time. But it's a good example of why maintenance can be important. Tom in District 3 found a group mysteriously assigned not to District Unknown but to District 7. We fixed that. The group sent a couple of emails thanking us for giving them back their home.

Area Archivist Report:

- Using cassette/USB recorder, did test, and worked great.
- Boxes of old non area 31 cassettes, non-area 31 aa books, and Grapevines have been given away (again), the Grapevines made their way back to Archives. Now has more room to work.
- Asking for help to all, to aquire minutes, passed out folders for minutes to committees, districts. Also encourage posting minutes to area website.
- Continue unpacking

Webmaster:

- Is still looking for replacement- will train
- Minutes are being posted
- Email address for every committee and district. Please make sure to pass on to the next chairs of the committees. Contact for email password or reset. Mail Boxes getting full.
- Send in your minutes to the webmaster; WORD **Editable** format. Flyers can be sent to webmaster in a PDF format.

Accessibilities

• Welcome & Reading from the Accessibility Workbook. Co-chair will look into obtaining books for committee members Kim C. volunteered to become secretary

New Business: Suggestions for 2022 projects

- -Co-chair will chair State Convention Accessibility Committee, which needs help with convention plans, looking for volunteers
- -Co-chair will attend Intergroup to report on Accessibility Committee
- -Technology- closed captioning for Zoom and how to get it,
 - -contact the Chair app re: A31 meetings' accessibility (Ron)
 - -make a video for people to learn how to use technology
 - -add to meeting listings that there are CC
 - -setup and promote the Accessibilities cellphone
- Access current AA meetings promoting accessibility in W&W
- distribute checklist to groups about what makes a meeting accessible
- members attending meetings to assess accessibility
- Make announcement at district meetings that AC willing to bring meetings to individual members
- Assess A31 needs for the new Zoom/hybrid lifestyle
- -Older Alcoholics pamphlet into assisted living facilities

Old Business-LBGTQ+ meetings

Archives

Met Feb 1st

4 committee members attended, including 2 new reps from Haydenville Sunday night life and the Holyoke group respectively.

We covered some of the information available in the archive's workbook.

A motion was passed to purchase 2 mps recorders with which to record interviews. If you know of a great alcoholic candidate to interview, let us know at archives@area31aa.org.

As always, we have interesting display boards, we would love to bring to any group's anniversary.

CPC

NO Report. Couldn't meet, couldn't get in.

Grapeine

• Co-Chair gave report, 2 on Zoom. Recommend members go to handbook. Offered to bring the boards to committee events or meetings. We encouraged people to listen to PODCAST. Also, Group Subscriptions. Or Gift Subscriptions.

PΙ

• Met last night. Live and virtual, excellent attendance. Continuing old business, no progress with new commitments. Need to contact high schools. Looking for ways to reach superintendents to schools. Spoke about new AA.org. Discussed Mill Street Commitment. New REP will be speaking at Mill Street. Was a great meeting. PSA on Radio? Member in area committee heard a PSA on WHMP FM 101.5, not sure how that came to be, Chair is checking into it. Radio Show?

Round Up

- Met tonight. Registration coming soon. 12 people in attendance, rolling right along. Has spiritual speaker, English and Spanish ALANON speakers. Bought Plack's instead of plates for guest speakers. RIGHT ON TRACK.
- No banquet in June, meet and greet at noon.
- Papers signed Fairfield Inn in Enfield. May 20, 21, & 22nd
- Rooms available at discounted rate, just say Round Up. Next meeting 2/9

Berk IG

- Suzan Chair, Meet next Monday.
- Sent survey, treasures report. Not losing money. New App for B.I.G., Working on Survey, all service positions filled.

Institutions

No report from Chair. Bridging the gap, Sonja is new coordinator, not a lot happening. Has list of people willing to pick people up from instituions to bring to first meeting. Please get the word out, this is what works to give higher chances of sobriety. Gave her number, please call to become a contact.

WMIG

NO report.

NFYPAA

NO report.

District 1

• Under represented, 4 GSR's in attendance.

District 2

New DCM Chris, Not meeting until next week.

District 3

- Last district meeting was held on 1/21. We were hybrid for the first time. Steve and I were the only attendees in person. About 8 joined online.
- o We had 6 groups in attendance. Groups continue to hold to their current formats in respect to staying online or going in person.

- Holding our first meeting with the time limit of one hour, the meeting concluded in 43 minutes. 2 GSR's had to leave early, so 4 GSRs remained for the duration of the meeting.
- o Steve gave the GSR presentation after the meeting concluded. All were encouraged to stay. We had 2 people stay on for the presentation.
- o Co-DCM and LCM remain vacant.
- o We are still planning our event for short presentations of the upcoming Conference agenda items. The event will be on March 5th from 10am-Noon in person at St Charles Church in Pittsfield, MA. The event will be hybrid with a virtual Zoom portion. We have 2 volunteers to present at the moment, so we're hoping for more people to step up. I will likely break up the topics and material and appeal for volunteers at that point, where the ask will be clearer.
- o The data from Fellowship Connection was downloaded, compared against meeting information for Berkshire and Western MA Intergroups. We have 34 meetings listed as active, but not currently listed. We have 14 groups not registered but listed on the intergroup sites. Those groups will be reached out to with information on registering. Groups more often than not, seem to have given their group name incorrectly to the intergroups so more is to be sorted out.

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District 4

Group Check-Ins (7 GSRs present)

- Making Progress Group (Wesley Church in Hadley, MA) Group is doing well. Started hybrid back in August. Hybrid seems to be working well, but since Omicron came about the in person seems to be thinning out and the Zoom seems to be growing. Roughly 15-20 people per meeting.
- Better Safe Than Sorry (Meets Daily 6-7pm on Zoom with different format every night) Meeting started on Zoom and continues on Zoom. 25-35 people per evening. Close to 100 different people that visit weekly and regularly. Wide range of sobriety. All is going well!
- Amherst Monday Night Group is hybrid. People are still attending the in person meeting, but have a hearty presence on Zoom.
- Florence "I" Opener (7-8am six days a week) Elections held at the beginning of January. 70 folks on Zoom daily and a small contingent that attends live indoors. The indoor meeting has increased recently with about 15-20 people. Things are good. Group successfully transitioned into new roles.
- Hadley Women's Language of the Heart Group (Wednesdays at 7pm, Hybrid) Starting on January 2022, group is completely virtual.
- Valley LGBTQ (Northampton) All is well!
- Sunderland Security Group is having a meeting tonight about changing church locations after an increase in rent at their long-time meeting location. *Sunderland Security will be remaining at their long-time meeting location as group was able to negotiate a deduction in their cost of rent.

Area Meeting Recap

 Please visit www.area31aa.org for upcoming events including NERAASA & District 3 Workshop on the 2022 agenda items.

Invited Guests:

- 1. John G (Area Chair)
- 2. Sally S (Area 31 Registrar)
- 3. Sonja (Bridging the Gap Coordinator for Institutions Committee)\ Old Business:
- 1. Elections: District 4 Secretary Table

New Business:

- 1. Would we like to share on Traditions, Concepts, or something different at each meeting in 2022? Open for suggestions!
 - 1. Tania makes a motion that the District 4 monthly meeting moves forward on a member volunteering to present on the tradition of the month. David E. seconded. Motion passes!

District 5

• Met on 2/07/22 @ 7:30 PM at 51 Center Street, Ludlow

We had 3 GSR's present

It was announced that:

The Sunday Randall Meeting is having an anniversary meeting on 2/27.

The groups that did report are doing well most are still working on filling all their service positions.

John G. was our guest with many announcements that we will all hear tonight, and commented on our reaching out to groups.

We again talked about reaching out to our district's groups to explain the importance of a GSR.

One suggestion was a mailing to groups.

We are looking at 30 Carew Street South Hadley as a new meeting place for District 5.

District 6

Co-DCM, no meeting last month, cancelled for safety. Not much to report. Meet next Monday?

Delegate's Remarks

- NERF- Voted to allow external countries to attend.
- Of the 178 agenda items, most are related to the 12&12. 82 items. Background material not out yet, will be out on 2/15. Mini conference coming soon. Looking to do 10 items, 30 minutes each to get area conscience, breakout rooms? District 3 workshop on 3/5 is to talk about the agenda items, offered the other districts to do the same. Full agenda items on thumb drive? Asked area how they would like to see it securely distributed. Requested discussion on mini-conference and thumb drive, email, or website and password to get info out. Will still be giving out items as requested to discuss at assembly.

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

- NERASSA 25, 26 & 28 in Pittsburg, PA
- Mass State Convention, November 11-13, 2022, The Sturbridge Host Hotel. Event will be live. Carpool leaves the bowling alley at 6:00 (for now). Opportunity for service. Hotel is \$127 per night, can book now.
- GSR presentation, gave it at District 3, and feels it needs a refresh. Please contact if interested, all Districts.

Area Chair Remarks:

- Service Manual, 3rd Wednesday every month, 730pm, at 30 Carew Street
- Concept mtg, 1st Thursday every month at 730 pm at 30 Carew Street in South Hadley
- Area will do in coming commitment & group conscience, contact the Area Chair
- Need someone (or more) to step up and do Zoom/Hybrid
- Please check your area, committee email.
- Area has outgoing commitment to Joy of Living on 2/10/22 at 7p.m., LIVE ONLY (Feeding Hills), Next is at Randall 2/27, then Cold Springs on 4/7
- Spring Assembly Possibly last weekend in March, Reserved Van for transport to NERAASA, meet at church, limited parking, leaves at 7:00am

Old Business

Handbook printing. Motion was made to print 100 updated handbooks. Motion Passed 23-0 Discussed a Van to transport members to NERAASA. More will be revealed at next meeting.

New Business

• Discussed Spring assembly format, Live and Virtual, Breakout rooms. Also spoke about secure way to distribute Background material for Agenda items for this year's GSO conference. Most felt a password protected file on the Website is the best option.

Motion to close 9:09 p.m. Next meeting 3/9/2022