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

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

		Jan	March	Apr il	May	Jun e	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	De c
District 2 CO-DCM	Kerri O.	Υ	N								

District 3 DCM	Tom H.	Υ	Y				
District 3 CO-DCM		N	N				
District 4 DCM	Leah D.	Υ	Y				
District 4 CO-DCM		Y	Y				
District 5 DCM	Tom H.	N	Y				
District 5 CO-DCM	KATE V	Y	Y				
District 6 DCM	Megan T.	Υ	N				
District 6 CO-DCM	Jodie	N	N				
Quorum =18	* Only votes to make/brea k a tie	25	26				

Secretary's Report:

Old 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.

New Business

Motion made to cancel the April Area meeting due to Spring assembly/Business meeting being close. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning January Balance \$ 26,705.47 Group Contributions \$ 2,655.84 Total Area Expenses \$ 6,778.11 Closing January Balance \$ 22,583.30 Plus – Prudent Reserve \$ 8.501.00 Total Funds Available \$ 31,084.30 Further Comments: *Contributions in February 2022 have increased by \$915.64 from contributions in February 2021 *There was a total of 31 donations made in February 2022 totaling \$2,655.84 * Online PayPal contributions totaled \$345.10

Registrar's Report:

FOLLOW-UP RE: DISTRICT UNKNOWN

• Last month I reported 7 registered groups labelled "district unknown." 6 of those are now sorted out and listed in their correct districts. The 7th is still a mystery, but I'm working on it.

VIRTUAL GROUPS

- There is one significant change in the count of groups in Area 31: we have our first registered virtual group, Better Safe Than Sorry in District 4.
- There may be others. If DCMs or anyone else knows of a virtual group, please help me get them correctly registered.
- As a reminder, a virtual group is one that meets only online, with no intention of ever becoming (or going back to) an in-person or hybrid group.
- At NERAASA and other meetings, Area Registrars are talking a lot about different ways to incorporate virtual groups into their areas. We're all learning from one another.
- Last year's Conference asked the General Service Board to form a committee to look at ways virtual groups can fully participate in the general service structure.
- For now at least, virtual groups are listed in the district and area of the group's GSR or primary contact.

- GSO had revised the Group Change Form. It's less confusing and more user-friendly. DCMs should encourage
 their GSRs to fill out this new-and-improved form, to be sure their groups are accurately represented in AA's service structure.
- I've asked the Webmaster to update the Registrar's page with this new form.
- And I'll bring copies to the Spring Assembly so that all GSRs and DCMs can take a look at it (and even fill it in on the spot).

Area Archivist Report:

- Encourage posting of minutes, keep copies of paper minutes for area history.
- Emails from committees are not being saved- Need in paper.
- Continue unpacking, about half dozen boxes left. Making good progress.

Webmaster:

Is still looking for replacement- will train

Minutes are being posted, but hasn't received many.

Cindy stepped down as co-chair of grapevine.

Website financial obligation is being handed to the area.

Send in your minutes to the webmaster; WORD Editable format. Flyers can be sent to webmaster in a PDF format.

Accessibilities

Met on 2/23, possible booth at the mass state convention. Next meeting 3/29. Need help. Getting ramped up, only had 1 meeting. Cell phone has been silent for 2 years. Password has them locked out of phone. Looking into new phone. Discussing going out to each group to hand out check list, to help identify ways to help groups become more accessible. Also recruiting for new members.

Archives

• met 3/1, had 2 reps. Looking into the workbook. Areas 80th anniversary. Looking for blue binder, is missing. Went to Randall anniversary. Went to intergroup. Highly suggest other committees go as well.

CPC

• Discussed reaching out to set up meetings: Medical facilities, Teachers/ Guidance counselors, Elms College-Father Mark, Chair has been visiting institutions committee. We have a virtual meeting recorded. Baystate for example was fine with/preferred virtual recently. Tried to reach out to Baystate (plan for Oct./ Nov. that was [planned last year but postponed). No success yet. Other contact attempt examples: Green Center in N. Adams, Clean slate in N. Adams. Connected with someone in Cape Cod. Reaching out by email seems to work better, Sample letters found in handbook. Virtual business card-concept we might explore. Discussed following the guidelines on "speaking in non-AA meetings" when putting on meetings.

<u>Grapevine</u>

• Thanked Bob for bringing boards to Randall & chairing meeting. Bob took notes, 3 groups represented. Offered to bring the boards to committee events or meetings. We encouraged people to listen to PODCAST. Also, Group Subscriptions. Or Gift Subscriptions. Do or die- discussed ways to donate. ½ hour variety hour. Editorial looking for articles young and sober YPAA 4/515 deadline for Oct. issue. Also looking for relapse stories for Oct. issue. Boards available.

PΙ

Public Information 3/8/20022 Report to Area 31 Committee 3/9/2022 P I Committee met yesterday. We had 10 Committee Reps attend. 6 in person and 4 virtual. Alternate Delegate Steve was our guest. We do have a few Reps now that have previous P I experience which is a huge help. Christine reviewed and discussed Tradition 3 for us, Matt volunteered to do Tradition 4 for us next month. Old Business: We reviewed minutes from our last meeting and discussed any possible progress on contacts discussed last month. Susan continues making the rounds in her town to the library and Senior Ctr. to update pamphlets she has delivered. She also stopped by and to see the Receptionist at The Attwood St Facility. She found out the I.O.P. program has moved to Greenfield and this facility now handles DUI multiple offense counseling. They are not looking for anyone to come in at this time but Susan left some pamphlets which they were happy to receive. New Business: There much discussion from the group to get out to various places in person to make contacts for future commitments. Peg and Matt will contact High School Health Departments in their areas . John T said he would stop by Adcare in West Springfield. Marc who had previous experience with the Radio Show is going to go there to try to make a new contact to try to restart the program. Rebecca works at Baystate and will talk to her Manager to see if they have any interest in us visiting the Psych Unit for a P I presentation. We have one new commitment with the Hampshire Regional High School in Westhampton MA. I was given 2 dates in April by the Program Coordinator. The committee decided on April 26th. This is for the SADD Program, Students Against Destructive Decisions. I will contact Sarah, the Coordinator and we will prepare for this at our next meeting in April. Steve gave us a report on various items. The Mass. State Convention happening in person in November and also information on how to get involved with the Planning Committee. Also the Round up dates and location in May. The Spring Assembly & Mini-Conference dates and access to Agenda Items to be discussed. Steve also let us know that we have had previous commitments with the Greenfield location. I informed Steve and our Committee about the question I received at last area meeting that Radio Station WHNP was airing a AA PSA and how did they get it. I talked with Tamara and early last year one of our Reps. contacted and gave them the information. We set up our usual Mill St. Commitment for this month, scheduled for Wednesday, 3/30/2022 at 3pm. We have a Chairperson and a speaker.

Round Up

• Met tonight. 9 Live, 6 on Zoom. No longer at Fairfield Inn in Enfield has been moved to Clarion in W. Springfield. Save the Date. Rooms are \$129.00 per night. New registrations coming out to reflect new location. Books missing from storage room, disappeared. Requesting groups to donate baskets & Books. Now has new storage. Will be handing DCM's and area officers envelops to handle ALCOTHONS. Asking all committees to bring the boards. Movie night. Will being having registrations at spring assembly.

Berk IG

• Not meeting until next week. Didn't meet expenses, \$300 short. QR Code? Survey was sent out. Newsletter list approx. 130 people.

Institutions

No report.

WMIG

• Met 1st Wednesday at 474 pleasant st.- Live only. Approx. 15/16 members. Donations average \$1000. New treasurer. Bridging the gap coordinator is making cards- handing out. Liaison trying to contact prisons-not ready to open. Has a ton of literature, groups decided to give books to groups that are doing their own meeting's. Wants books to get to those that need them. Distributing books to people in the institutions & Hope Center.

NEYPAA

NO report.

District 1

• NEW DCM. Bunch of new GSR's, all groups doing well. New groups doing well. Things are going good. Voted to meet in person only.

District 2

Meeting next week. Will make sure Sally gets new registrations.

District 3

- Last district meeting was held on 2/18. We had our 2nd hybrid meeting. John and I were the only attendees in person. 7
 joined online. We simplified the tech setup, removing the projector and things ran much smoother.
- We had 5 groups in attendance. Southern Berkshire Group is now meeting in a hybrid format. This is our largest meeting in the district. I'm told that about 20 people attended in person with another 70 online and the meeting was a success. All other groups are status quo.
- Co-DCM and LCM remain vacant.
- Our conference agenda item event was held last Saturday. We had about 8 presenters. The meeting went well, but I did overlook that meeting was on the area website as starting at 10:30. The meeting included an overview of the service structure, which was missed by most attendees. All GSRs were contacted and encouraged to attend the Spring Mini-Conference.
- We had a GSR reach out from the Northern Berkshire Group in Williamstown. It will be our only group represented north of Pittsfield, but a good start to spreading representation to the underrepresented, Northern end of our county.

District 4

 Met 2/15. 1 new GSR, 6 regular, all groups doing well. Main thing, group thought they had to move due to higher rent, worked it out with the church- glad, they learned how to navigate the issue with experience from other GSR's. Virtual group, only one, has varying format. Haydenville changed format, daily light group doing fun things. Talked about agenda items, & district 3 workshop- new business, reaching out to "unlit" groups to get more GSR's. GSR's will reach out to dark groups. Potential GSR presentation.

District 5

• Met on 3/07/22 @ 7:30 PM at 51 Center Street, Ludlow

We had 9 GSR's present, one was new.

The groups that reported are doing well, most are still working on filling one or two last service positions.

Mike B. was our guest with announcements that we will tonight.

When we again talked about reaching out to our district groups to explain the importance of a GSR, Kate V, talked about some suggestions she heard from NERAASA about more than one GSR at a time attending group meetings and the importance of enthusiasm in the teams' presentation.

There is a good energy at our meeting, we stayed a bit longer than usual with discussion and closed at 8:50 P.M.

District 6

No Report. Not here.

Delegate's Remarks

Went to NERASAA, 12 in attendance. Chair of NERASSA thanked our area for use of translation devices. Has summery of all items, is less than total background. Will be giving out packets. Thanked BOB for his service as webmaster – will be looking for replacement. Mini-conference, alt-delegate also went to NERASAA, good turnout, learned new things. Has download of info and can email, as 6 past delegates to moderate. If you have interests on agenda items, reach out and we will get it to you. Mass state convention meets last Tuesday every other month.

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

If you have interests on agenda items, reach out and we will get it to you. Mass state convention meets last Tuesday every other month. Will be carpooling to planning meeting. Need more members. Still available to do GSR presentation, planning to modify.

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.

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.
- Please check your area, committee email.
- Area has 4 outgoing commitments Cold Springs on 4/7 & others, see agenda.

Old Business

NONE, But we 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.

New Business

Motion made to cancel the April Area meeting due to Spring assembly/Business meeting being close.
 Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to close 8:55 p.m. Next meeting 5/11/2022