

Area 31 Meeting Minutes, Sept 14th, 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		Y	Y	Y	Y			
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Steve M.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
AREA CHAIR *	John G.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
AREA TREASURER	Steve	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
AREA SECRETARY	Ray M.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
<i>AREA REGISTRAR</i>	<i>Sally</i>	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N			
<i>AREA ARCHIVIST</i>	<i>Carl G.</i>	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
ACCESSIBILITIES CHAIR	Mike C.	N	N		Y	Y	Y	Y			
ACCESSIBILITIES CO-CHAIR	Bruce V.	N	Y		N	N	N	N			
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Immer C.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
ARCHIVES CO-CHAIR	Kellie C.	Y	Y		N	N	Y	N			
CPC CHAIR	Charlie	Y	Y		N	Y	Y	Y			
CPC CO-CHAIR	Steve A.	N	Y		N	N	N	N			
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Jack A.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N			
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	John	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
P.I. CHAIR	John M.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
P.I. CO-CHAIR	Mark H.	N	N		N	N	Y	Y			
<i>WEBMASTER</i>	<i>Bob B.</i>	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
W. MASS IGP CHAIR		N	N		N	N	N	N			
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Susan B.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	John	Y	Y		N	N	N	N			
<i>INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR</i>		N	N		N	N	N	N			
ROUND UP CHAIR	Yolanda R	Y	Y		Y	N	N	Y			
ROUND UP CO-CHAIR	Steve A.	N	Y		Y	N	N	Y			
WMYPAA	Michael R.	X	N		N	N	N	N			
<i>WMYPAA CO</i>		O	N		N	N	N	N			
District 1 DCM	John P	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
District 1 CO-DCM	Vacant	N	N		Y	N	N	N			
District 2 DCM	Chris K.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			

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

District 3 DCM	Tom H.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
District 3 CO-DCM	VACANT	N	N		N	N	N	N			
District 4 DCM	Leah D.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N			
District 4 CO-DCM		Y	Y		Y	Y	N	Y			
District 5 DCM	Tom H.	N	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
District 5 CO-DCM	KATE V	Y	Y		N	N	N	Y			
District 6 DCM	Jenny A.	Y	N		Y	N	N	Y			
District 6 CO-DCM	vacant	N	N		Y	N	N	N			
Quorum =18	* Only votes to make/break a tie	25	26		22	22	22	23			

Secretary's Report:

Old Business

No new business proposed.

New Business

MOTION- To cancel the October area meeting due to the Fall assembly October 15th and 16th.
Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning August Balance \$ 28,103.70

Group Contributions \$ 5,583.21

Total Area Expenses \$ 1,106.15

Closing August Balance \$ 32,580.76

Plus – Prudent Reserve \$ 8,501.00

Total Funds Available \$ 41,081.76

Further Comments:

*Contributions in Aug 2022 have increased by **\$2,124.13** from contributions in August 2021

*There was a total of 33 donations made in Aug 2022 totaling **\$3,565.59**

* Online PayPal contributions totaled **\$489.11**

Registrar's Report:

Area 31 currently has 310 active groups, including 2 virtual groups.

The Registrar's current priorities are (1) groups listed as status unknown that are actively meeting but have no listed GSR, (2) online groups, an (3) continuing to try to get GSR contact information for as many groups as possible.

More updates and info at the Fall Assembly.

Area Archivist Report:

I apologize that I am unable to be with you this fall. However here is an update of my progress to date. Unpacking has been Finished. I've started to organize and catalogue our Area Archives. Eventually I will have the inventory on some form of spreadsheet. Currently I have three out of the five bookcases logged. From there I will continue with the file cabinets. These initial catalogues are a general inventory, then will be refined as time goes on.

Respectfully submitted Carl G.

Webmaster:

Issue with PayPal? Things are unchanged. Email inboxes- some not being checked, some are to the max. Please check and delete old emails. There were some attempts to log in to the website, but several hundred on Drupel site. Hearing about events, but not being given the info to post to the website. Please send the flyer or info so the AA members get the info. Ongoing attempts to get info

for accessibilities, if you have a group that has info, there is a form on the website to share, fill in what you can, please send minutes in word, flyers in PDF.

Accessibilities

Met August 25th, very small committee. 3 are interested, will see at September meeting. Need more females to help members with accessibilities needs. A new person made contact through intergroup- in home needs. Had to cancel. Covid has returned to some facilities, commitments on hold. Posters have been put up- Vantage Health. Possible meeting at Overlook. Surveys are going well, sign in issue with link on website to form. Thanks to District 4 Leah for the help. Plan on visiting districts.

Archives

Boards are available for anniversaries.

CPC

1. Coordinated the attendees for the meeting with the Pioneer Valley ENA (Emergency Nurses Association) on September 27th. This will be a hybrid live/zoom meeting, most presenters will be live.
2. We coordinated a new request for American International College (AIC) it is live. Now October 31 at 10:00am at their building in Springfield. This is for the senior nursing students after their clinical behavioral rotation. Speakers have volunteered.
3. Received a request from Springfield College. We need to coordinate to present in the class "Treatment Methods in Substance Abuse Rehabilitation" in their graduate counseling curriculum.
4. Continuing reach out to nursing/ medical groups, those are our deepest bench of contacts. Hoping the enlivened Institutions may yield a couple opportunities.
5. Agreed to acquire some pamphlet materials for distribution at meetings and the area assembly.

Grapevine

Met last Tuesday September 6th. No GVR's live, but 3 on zoom. Had trouble with the Wi-Fi, couldn't hear a member. Daily reflections said fellow group member is interested in a writer's workshop. 9/22 new issue will be "young and sober". Go to aa.grapevine.org/resources to receive resources by mail or to spice up your group's pamphlet rack.

PI

Met last night 9/13/22. Low attendance. Old business- Chair assisted, AdCare, will follow up with ADMIN from AdCare. Looking to spruce up Boards. Time to contact the high school to give presentation. Community college gave good feedback. 1 live + 1 on Zoom. Radio show- to record any member interested to telling their story. Was given a good suggestion to visit day meetings where retired members go to get more activity. Mill Street still on, Speaker will give presentation.

Round Up-

Had meeting tonight. Have new hair for the 2023 round up. Discussion about possibly doing 1 day instead of 2 next year. Sort meeting, Looking for more support.

Berk IG

There was interest expressed in inviting members of the Area Committee, such as CPC or PI to Intergroup.

Berkshire Intergroup will be sponsoring upcoming event:

A one-day spiritual retreat will be held on September 24.

There were 8 reps at the meeting. Expenses for the month of August were met.

For half of the days the office was open, there were no visitors or sales.

A discussion began to consider changing office hours.

The 11th step retreat is full. There are 70 people signed up and a waiting list.

Intergroup is sponsoring a movie matinee on October 23 at 1:00 pm at Images Cinema in Williamstown. It will be free. Due to limited capacity, there will be a sign up. The film will be followed by a Q&A with the producers/directors.

It is likely that there will be alkathons on both Christmas and New Year's Eve. The schedule will probably be 5

pm to midnight and 7 am to noon in-person and midnight to 7 am virtual meetings on the hour.

Institutions-

OLD BUSINESS: Jim R. stated that Phoenix House reached out. b.) Mira Vista information will be forwarded to Tyle, but Tyler never responded to the committee. - Jeff Shapiro is the follow up. A Request made for an inpatient Ambulatory Health Center Meeting at 1223 High St. is needed for Tuesday or Friday, 6:30 - 7:15 PM.) - Question: Was Mira Vista formerly Providence Hospital asked, Scrambled Eggs. Answer: "Yes, it is now named Mira Vista." -Joe made a motion to continue sending books to Mira Vista. Motion passed to continue sending books when requested by anyone representing in need of serving. -Vote is taken month by month to adjust to new Covid Schedules. - New Business: JD wants a blank check from the Institutions to be available at each meeting. Motion was made for the Treasurer to bring a check so that books can be purchased. The liaison is a position on the committee. This position needs filling. Chair appoints as it is an appointed position. Liaison is a two year position requiring Service and sobriety for 2 years. This person, like the CPC, is the face of AA. They will keep the coordination between facilities we serve

WMIG – No Report

WYPAA- NO REPORT

AD-HOC Committee -to Define the Webmaster Role

The ad hoc committee met again on Wednesday, August 17th. Participants were Anne F., Sally S., Carl G., and Bob B.

Anne F. brought a rough draft of suggested changes to the 'Website Submission Guidelines'. After some discussion about the changes, we all agreed we were done with this part. Sally S. volunteered to type up the new document and forward copies for final approval.

Moving on to the final bullet point of our initial agenda we again discussed what Webmaster compensation might look like. As before, we agreed that multiple choices should be available within the confines of what Area 31 was capable of offering. We had run out time to fully discuss this, so we decided to meet one more time on September 30th.

We expect to present the final report to the Area Committee at the fall assembly.

District 1

Discussion on Fall Assembly event, intergroup moose lodge. Alt Delegate to give new and improved GSR report. Groups doing well, Active members, everything going well.

District 2

. Brief meeting, 14 showed up to meeting. No New + No Old Business. Feeding Hills hosting BB step study. Whip City nooner having event Sept 24th, Dance 7-11. Also discussed Fall Assembly.

District 3

- Our district created a Google Workspace last month. We're piloting it for the rest of the year and then will decide if it will continue. Our email is BerkshireCountyAA@gmail.com, but all email from District3@area31aa.org is set to forward to the new email address. The subscription is \$8/mo. We're able to host meetings without worrying about availability or logging in from new equipment. I was not present for the last district meeting, but I heard that all but one were able to navigate Google Meet in place of Zoom, which most are accustomed to.
- Chromebook has created a new application for Zoom. The Zoom meetings run smoothly now. We'll use the Chromebook for our district meeting this Friday.
- The Traditions meetings are still being held the second Sunday of the month on Zoom. Attendance is around 8. Recordings of the speaker presentation are available to anyone interested in receiving them.

- Our next adhoc meeting for our December event is this coming Monday. We will revisit our service roadshow theme, as it is very similar to what is being done at the Fall Assembly.

District 4

- Florence “I” Opener (Donna): All is well. Holding an annual picnic outdoors in Northampton on the 2nd or 3rd Sunday in September!
- Saturday Night Northampton Beginners Group (Terri): Attendance fluctuates. A lot less people last week, perhaps due to summer vacations. People who had taken positions at our last elections haven’t been coming to the meetings. Group is waiting to move back into the basement. Group put together beginners’ packets with QR codes with links to the meeting list.
- The Making Progress Group (David E): Group is still meeting hybrid and going well. Zoom link has changed in June and there doesn’t seem to be any issues with attendees getting in. Fairly good attendance both online and in person.
- Better Safe Than Sorry (Todd C): Online Zoom meeting held 7 days a week from 6-7pm. Things are going well. ~30 people in attendance per meeting. Just had a group inventory this past Sunday facilitated by Hank (Past Delegate from Area 50), which went well. There were a dozen or so members who participated and everyone had something to say.
- Friday Night Chapman Street Group (Morgan H): Attendance is dwindling slightly. Celebrating group anniversary on August 26th at 5pm. There will be a BBQ, pizza, party foods, and that type of thing. The meeting will be starting at 7pm. All is well.
- Haydenville Sunday Night Life Group (Dan B): Did a group inventory last month with a good core group of members there (although small compared to normal group members). Group jumped back into an old detox commitment that they used to do pre and during pandemic, which they are excited about.
- Sunderland Security (Linda R): Group feels solid, doing commitments every month, donating to the Pi chart again, and doing newcomer packets. Group will continue to have discussions in the fall regarding the heating bill, the cost of heating oil, and how they would like to be proactive about that.
- Conway Monday Night Group (Jasper G): Meeting entirely on Zoom with no plans as of now to change that; it works well for the group. Generally, between 10-15 people show up every meeting.

District 5

Met on 9/05/22 @ 7:30 PM at 51 Center Street, Ludlow and virtual

We welcomed a new virtual only group, The Wake-Up Call Group from East Longmeadow.

We had 8 GSR’s present.

Groups are doing well; most are missing one or two reps for the full complement and announce it each business meeting. All reps are mindful of accessibility issues and discuss them regularly.

Our guest was Steve M., and he presented a power point on “What is a GSR. VERY good information that was well received.

The idea to write a phone number list with last names for all attendees of the district 5 meeting was brought up, agreed upon and I will be writing up a list and sending it out in an email to all District 5 members.

District 6 -

Had Covid, Area helped support the district. Getting started hasn’t been like herding cats. Had GSR presentation. Only 1 person showed up that isn’t already a GSR. Having workshop on Sponsorship and service sponsorship (round table) 3 speaker, 1 from Westfield to help fill the room. Will be on October 1st, Enfield- Hazardville United Methodist church Will use the literature, pamphlet’s, speaker/discussion. Will have snacks.

Delegate’s Remarks

Thank you for allowing me to serve. Moving on agenda for 73rd GSC. Target for the

translations, aiming for the 15th for all languages at the same time as was voted on. Survey going out, 1.3% will get the survey- fellowship. New agenda items, 37 total new. Tomorrow is the last day to submit. Final report is available online, see page 83 for picture (of back of the head) Voted in to allow delegate from Peru, Mexico and Poland to attend. NERASSA question. Trying to get link prior to Fall Assembly

Alternate Delegate Remarks:

Mass State convention planning committee meets every odd month, last Tuesday. Still plenty to do. Carpool from end of rt.291 leaves at 6:15. Meet at Sturbridge hotel 7:00. Convention will be November 11-13 Rooms are available \$127.00 per room. Call directly and let the hotel know you are with the convention to get room credits. On-Line registration coming out in September. Attended institutions committee, they voted to rescind our ability to have a vote. August 15th- District 6 has an open house. Rt 190 Hazardville United Methodist Church 7:00. GSR presentation will be shown (new and improved), as well as at District 5. Mass state convention registrations are available on line price is \$25 on line and \$30 at the door. Giving GSR presentation to District 5.

Area Chair Remarks:

SVC manual meeting the 3rd Wednesday, Concept meeting is 1st Thursday. Fall assembly is October 15th and 16th in Lenox Mass. Flyer on website. Come at 8:00am to help set up. Saturday is the Service Fair and Sunday is the business meeting. District 3 is hosting. Possible vote on a Trustee, is someone is nominated. The area has speaking commitments, please attend if possible. Finance Committee met to discuss surplus of \$\$.

Old Business

No New Business

New Business

MOTION- A motion was made to fully fund the delegate at next years GSC, \$8,000. The motion passed.

MOTION- A motion was made to fully fund the Area to attend NERASSA in Albany- to budget \$8000. The motion passed.

MOTION-To cancel the October area meeting due to the Fall assembly October 15th and 16th. Passed unanimously.

Motion to close 9:05 P.M.

Next meeting 11/9/2022

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Ray Meunier
Area 31 Secretary
Western Mass General Service