

Area 31 Meeting Minutes, July 12th, 2023
Called to order at 7:30 PM

		Jan	Mar	S/ A	May	June	Aug	Sept	F/ A	Nov	Dec
AREA DELEGATE	Mike B.	Y	Y		Y	Y					
ALTERNATE DELEGATE	Steve M.	Y	Y		Y	Y					
AREA CHAIR *	John G.	Y	Y		Y	Y					
AREA TREASURER	Steve B	Y	Y		Y	Y					
AREA SECRETARY	Ray M.	Y	Y		Y	Y					
<i>AREA REGISTRAR</i>	<i>Sally</i>	Y	Y		Y	Y					
<i>AREA ARCHIVIST</i>	<i>Carl G.</i>	Y	Y		Y	Y					
ACCESSIBILITIES CHAIR	Bruce V	Y	Y		Y	Y					
ACCESSIBILITIES CO-CHAIR	Renee	N	N		N	N					
ARCHIVES CHAIR	Melissa G	Y	Y		Y	Y					
ARCHIVES CO-CHAIR	Chris K	Y	Y		Y	Y					
CPC CHAIR	Steve A	N	Y		N	Y					
CPC CO-CHAIR	Cindy F.	Y	Y		Y	N					
GRAPEVINE CHAIR	Jenny A	Y	Y		N	N					
GRAPEVINE CO-CHAIR	.	N	N		N	N					
P.I. CHAIR	Mark H	N	Y		Y	Y					
P.I. CO-CHAIR		Y	N		N	N					
<i>WEBMASTER</i>	Tom H	Y	Y		Y	Y					
<i>Assist Webmaster</i>	Bob B	Y	Y		Y	Y					
W. MASS IGP CHAIR	Bob M	Y	Y		Y	Y					
BERK. IGP CHAIR	Courtney	Y	Y		Y	Y					
INSTITUTIONS CHAIR	Matt F.	N	Y		N	Y					
<i>INSTITUTIONS Co-CHAIR</i>	<i>Jax M.</i>	N	N		N	N					
ROUND UP CHAIR	Steve A.	N	Y		Y	Y					
ROUND UP CO-CHAIR	Tom H	Y	Y		Y	Y					
WMYPAA	vacant	N	N		N	N					
			N		N	N					
District 1 DCM	John P	Y	Y		Y	Y					
District 1 CO-DCM	Nancy R	N	Y		N	Y					
District 2 DCM	Lynne S	Y	Y		Y	Y					

		Jan	March	s/a	May	June	Aug	Sept	F/ A	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO-DCM	Janet B	Y	Y		Y	Y					
District 3 DCM	Brian W.	Y	Y		N	N					
District 3 CO-DCM		N	Y		Y	N					
District 4 DCM	Adam B	Y	Y		Y	Y					
District 4 CO-DCM	Dan B	Y	Y		N	N					
District 5 DCM	Kate V	N	Y		Y	Y					
District 5 CO-DCM	Lara C.	Y	Y		Y	Y					
District 6 DCM	Justin C	Y	Y		N	Y					
District 6 CO-DCM	Ryan W	Y	Y		Y	N					
Quorum =18	*Only to make/brea k a tie	25	31		25	27					

Secretary's Report:

Old Business- explanation from treasurer about current status of 501c3- in good standing.

New Business – No New Business.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning June Balance	\$ 18,933.63
Group Contributions	\$ 1,462.90
Total Area Expenses	\$ 1,526.66
Closing June Balance	\$ 18,869.87
Plus – Prudent Reserve	\$ 8,501.00
Total Funds Available	\$ 27,370.87

Further Comments:

- *Contributions in June 2023 decreased by **\$ 1,555.14** from contributions in June 2022
- *There was a total of 21 donations made in June 2023 totaling **\$1,462.90**
- *See Treasurer's spreadsheet for more detail

Thank you for supporting AREA 31 Western Mass General Services.

Respectfully submitted

Steve B

Area Treasurer

Registrar's Report: -

Numbers:

The total number of registered active groups is 302, which includes 299 regular plus 3 virtual groups.

Group Status Unknown:

Group status can be active, inactive, or unknown. There are other statuses, such as "new," but those 3 are the main ones. A group with status unknown is a group with no group contact (= no GSR or mail contact.). And an unknown group is not really a group.

That's the context for a letter GSO sent on July 6 to all Registrars, with a cc to all Delegates, asking for immediate action and response on two matters that are part of a project to improve the integrity of information in GSO's systems. One matter is to update DCM contact information. Area 31 is fine there. The other is to update group contact information. Area 31 is not fine there.

GSO is first targeting groups listed as "status unknown." We have 9 of those. They ask us either to provide contact information for those 9 groups (GSRs or mail contacts), or to make them inactive. 4 of the 9 are listed in the Meeting Guide, so they are probably active. DCMs tried last year to get contacts for those 4, and I'm asking them to keep trying. The other 5 will be converted to inactive. Note that it's very easy to move an inactive group back to active. All it takes is a contact person.

This is GSO's first phase. The next phase is not completely clear, but the Area Registrars believe it will involve automatically inactivating groups that do have group contacts, but the service term for the group contact has ended. Area 31 has a huge number of those.

Area Archivist Report: Not a lot to report. Went through Margrett C.'s Stuff, Put in year by year. Kept it the way she had it. Moving onto the district drawers next. Sally provided group listing by dates- active. 2nd group in area from Pittsfield, unknown if inactive. Not listed from 1945, was a letter welcoming the group from the foundation (GSO) without a name it is difficult.

Webmaster:

Met June 28th with Bob and Jenn. We continued discussion on ideas for a new website. We want to build out the committee pages further. Our next steps will be to review content on other areas and district websites to explore ideas. Once we've done that, we'll be asking committees if we can attend to present some of those ideas. We'll be meeting again July 19th.

Jenn T has stepped up as Assistant Webmaster. Bob will continue to assist on our subcommittee.

Accessibilities - Picked up an extra commitment. Vantage 5 attendees. Delivered books. Starting full-time meetings every day-looks good. New attendees- 1st Wednesday every month. Linden manor, 2 people showed up 13ht, discussed greeting at AA meetings, Care One 19th, Chestnut Hill 30th (new), also- work books have not yet arrived, working on revision of "having trouble accessing a meeting".

Archives- We met on 7/4 and had 1 rep in attendance, in addition to the chair and co-chair.

We are hosting an Archives Listening Party on 7/29/23 from 7 to 9pm at 30 Carew Street in South Hadley. The format will be: food & fellowship, followed by listening to archived speaker tapes and a discussion.

The Archive boards are needed at The Women's Fireside Group of AA - Wednesday 8/2 6-8pm

Next Archives Meeting will be on 8/1 at 7:30 at 30 Carew Street In South Hadley.

CPC- No Report

Grapevine – NO Report

PI – No Report

Round Up- New Chair. Not meeting this month, September will be the next meeting. Looking to fill positions, looking for Co-Chair, great opportunities to get involved.

Berk IG – Met past Monday, 12 in attendance. Biggest News – Spiritual Retreat Sept. 23rd. Sheffield Mass @ the Christ Church. Voted on: \$20 contribution to go.

Institutions - met last Wednesday, 20 in attendance. Spent \$1094.70 on books. BTG coordinator is up and running. QR code to hook up. 230 assorted books in locker. Few open commitments left. Books are available. Meet 1st Wednesday.

WMIG – Picnic 8/20 Moose Lodge 12-6:00pm. Not much to report. Having elections coming up. Looking for volunteers for 8/20, set up at 9:00 am, take down at 6:00 pm, Call intergroup office if interested. 8/25 golf tournament. 7 foursomes so far. Area 30 has a QR code for where and when, has a place for a phone list on back page of book- also has a business card. 2 days had \$800 in sales.

WYPAA- NO REPORT

District 1 – All groups doing well. 9 in attendance, all contributing to the PIE chart. Attendance is growing. 3 Anniversary's coming up. BYBB, Fireside&. Attendance is growing in all groups.

District 2 – Greetings My name is Lynne S. Gratefully serving as your District #2 DCM.

We had 13 in attendance and Steve B. Our Alt Delegate was present.

WE READ THE GSR DUTIES OUT OF THE SERVICE MANUAL PG 7.

Secretary Report: Jill announced the Zoom is all set, it just has to be changed on the AA website.

We had to meet in the church basement this month, as the Church was waxing the floors.

We should be in our regular room next month Aug 14, 2023. At the Agawam Congregational Church 745 Main St. Agawam MA.

Janet our Co-DCM read Chapter 7 out of the service manual and Eric will read Chapter 8 next month.

All GSR home groups shared they are self-supporting. Scott announced Scrambled Eggs maybe dropping their Zoom for the Step Meeting as they now have full attendance, and no participation on Zoom. (They can always resume Zoom if participation requires.

Joe from Wildcats Meeting announced the confirmation date of Aug 25, 2023. For our Celebration of Service Workshop. Flyers were made and emailed to all subcommittee members. The flyers will be posted on the Intergroup website and Area31 Website. All Districts are invited and it will be open to all.

Eric Announced the Thursday 7PM BBSS groups 26th Anniversary Nov 19, 2023 at United Methodist Church Agawam MA on Mill St. (across from Agawam High School). 5pm- 9:30PM

Alissa From Monday night Wildcats announced Sept 4th Labor Day Bash. United Methodist Church Agawam MA Mill St. Food, Music Band. 4pm-7pm

DCM Report: Lynne S reported the Area Handbook is being updated for an Amended name change. Sally Registrar is working with our CoDCM Janet on all upcoming handbook updates. Lynne passed around the handbook and the letter Sally passed out stating reasons for the changes.

OLD BUISNESS: Subcommittee needs to finalize AUG 25TH CELEBRATION OF SERVICE WORKSHOP. AND NEED VOTE ON DISTRICTS CHOICE TO READ THE GSR DUTIES OUT OF THE SERVICE MANUAL OR THE AREA HANDBOOK? DCM LYNNE WILL BE LOOKING INTO ORDERING SERVICE MANUALS FOR ALL NEW GSR'S. SINCE THE GSR KITS ARE ON BACKORDER. (See Sally on gsr kits update).

NEW BUISNESS: THE DISTRICT VOTED TO READ GSR DUTIES FROM THE AREA HANDBOOK INSTEAD OF THE SERVICE MANUAL.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE FOR OUR CELEBRATION OF SERVICE WORKSHOP DATES, FOOD, ROUNDTABLE TIME SLOTS, AND PAST DELAGATE SLOTS, TIME EVENTS START TO FINISH WILL ALL BE POSTED ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE SERVICE FLYER.

District 3-

Chaula H. announced she is stepping down effective this night, Co-DCM Brian W will be taking the role of DCM for District 3; DCM and Co-DCM to transition accounts and change status with Area Registrar,

- Area delegate was in attendance and discussed the 73rd GSC and the Roundup ; noted that the Delegates' Report from the Roundup is available on the Area 31 website,
- District extended invite to the Chair of the Accessibilities to present at the July 21st meeting,
- District 3 Groups that attended reported good participation and services positions being filled at the group level,
- the District has resumed in-person commitments at McGee, CSS, Jones, and the Berkshire County House of Corrections; the District has requested GSRs check with Groups about filling the remaining slots to support institutions, and
- Group attendance was down at the meeting but most likely due to technical issues that delayed the start of the hybrid format for 20 minutes.

District 4 – Met Tuesday June 20th. 11 people in attendance, 7 groups represented. Florance had group inventory by past delegate. Big thing is the upcoming workshop 8/12/23 Keeping the triangle balanced in S. Deerfield 10:30am to 1:30pm. 3 speakers, food, pizza, salad and a good time. Will also be on Zoom.

District 5- Busy Month, July 3rd, had 11 groups everyone said good stuff. No problems, giving to the PIE Chart. Old business- Fall assembly OCT 14th, went thru sally list, was productive, got list to GSR's & DCM, will be going out to groups to spark interest in becoming active- invite to district meeting.

District 6– Tried to get Zoom going, had trouble. 8 groups represented. All report healthy and growing. Fall workshop in the works.

Delegate's Remarks – The GSB Trustees Nominating Committee will begin interviewing for the position of GSB Chair July 17 and they whittle it down through a series of interviews and on November 3rd the successful candidate will be notified and then at the January board meeting they will be added to the slate of Trustees to be approved at the 74th Conference.

The AA Grapevine Corporate Board will have a vacancy for Non-Trustee Director following the 2024 Conference. Please submit your Resume by Friday 15 September. There is a link on our area website.

The General Service Office is looking for new Staff Members, including a French-speaking Canadian who resides in either the U.S. or Canada and is willing to relocate to New York to help us serve the A.A. Fellowship throughout the U.S. and Canada.

This is a great opportunity for a member of A.A., with at least six years of continuous sobriety, who has strong writing and communication skills and a good understanding of our service structure to be a "special worker" and join us in our mission to help the still suffering alcoholic.

Contact me if you are interested and I will send you the link and I will also get it to our webmaster for posting on our site.

I have been made aware of an agenda item regarding page 135 of the BB around the smoking issue talked about in there. The creators of the agenda item will be submitting it for the Sept 15 deadline and are hopeful to get the area committee's support as well as District 3.

The monthly summaries of the GSB's finances have not yet been released and there are several delegates who are asking for them. They are saying there is a glitch in net suite our ERP system. More to be revealed.

I have a Delegates meeting tomorrow and I will not be able to attend the intergroup for my turn.

Any questions/

Gratefully submitted.

Mike B. Area 31 Delegate.

Alternate Delegate Remarks: Mass State convention planning is in full swing. Takes place last Tuesday of Odd months. This month will be July 25th. The carpool leaves at 6:15 sharp. Look for a big orange truck. At end of 291 Burnett Rd. Chicopee. Rooms are \$129.00 per night for the event. Make sure to book through the event to assure we get room credits- through hotel to help us stay fully self-supporting. Good opportunity to meet other AAs in Area 30. Plenty service opportunities available.

Area Chair Remarks: Concept meeting each month on 1st Thursday. Fall assembly will be OCT 14th and 15th, at Saint Catharine of Senna. Saturday will be inventory, Sunday will be business meeting, will be voting in all new positions, all officer positions open. Great chance to get off the bench and into the game.

Old Business – No Old Business

New Business No New Business

Motion to close 8:42 p.m.

Next meeting 8/9/2023

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Ray M
Area 31 Secretary
Western Mass General Service