

Area 31 Meeting Minutes, DEC 13th, 2023
Called to order at 7:30 PM

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

		Jan	Feb	March	s/a	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	F/A	Nov	Dec
District 2 CO-DCM	Janet B	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 3 DCM	Brian W.	Y	Y	Y		N	N	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 3 CO-DCM		N	Y	Y		Y	N	N	N	N		N	N
District 4 DCM	Adam B	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 4 CO-DCM	Dan B	Y	Y	Y		N	N	N	Y	N		Y	N
District 5 DCM	Kate V	N	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 5 CO-DCM	Lara C.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 6 DCM	Justin C	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
District 6 CO-DCM	Ryan W	Y	N	Y		Y	N	N	N	N			N
Quorum =18	*Only to make/break a tie	25	29	31		25	27	24	23	25		17	27

Secretary's Report: 27 voting members

*Read from November 2023 meeting.

Old Business- Suzane B talked about changing the proposed agenda item to a footnote.

Motion was made to cancel the October area meeting due to proximity to Fall Assembly, motion passed unanimously. (THIS IS FROM 3 MEETINGS AGO)

New Business – The treasurer took budget requests from Committee chairs. See Treasurer report for information.

1) Motion was made to fully fund the delegate to the 2024 conference in the amount of \$9000.00, Motion passed.

2) Motion was made to a lot \$12000.00 to fund the reimbursements for NERAASA for committee chairs, Motion Passed.

3) Motion to a lot \$600 for the area treasurer and secretary for Chromebooks or Laptop. 6 no, 6 yes- Motion did not pass.

**Area 31 Treasurer's Report December 2023
(November 2023 Financials and Contributions)**

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning November Balance	\$ 26,922.69
Group Contributions	\$ 2,830.03
Total Area Expenses	\$ 1,362.50
Closing November Balance	\$ 28,390.22
Plus – Prudent Reserve	\$ 8,501.00
Total Funds Available	\$ 36,891.22

Further Comments:

*Contributions in November 2023 Increased by \$ **\$1,375.36** rom contributions in November 2022

*There was a total of 30 donations made in November 2023 totaling **\$2,830.03**

*See Treasurer's spreadsheet for more detail

Registrar's Report: - 300 Groups, 297 regular, 3 virtual, 2 new pending. Its exciting when a group makes the request to contribute to the service structure. DCM & Co will be entering information into the fellowship connection. DCM's have access but is read-only . - Data integrity meeting at the end of year update, report was read. DIPS Data Integrity Project.

Area Archivist Report: Few Things, continuing sorting, still getting request for information- online history. Started going through where and when's. Start 1977 Big Book Group., then changed to speaker. Had more requests for the 3rd edition of the Big Book. Is somewhere, I think I have it. I have a box to go through. Get requests often. Last thing, I gave folders at beginning of year to new DCM's, (ALL), if you have it, please give them to me to preserve for future reference, If you are doing an event, please put the date on the flyer, the year. Because when we look up old ones, no year is listed. - Grapevines, I haven't gotten any at all this year, Usually comes from the treasurer, as he has the PO Box. Handbook submission, about new webmaster role & changes that were voted on.

Webmaster:

- Website Migration
 - The website migration is now planned for tomorrow morning (12/14/23).
 - It was to occur Monday, 12/12 but there were some obstacles that needed to be worked out and I did not want there to be any interruption to the website's availability or to email functionality preceding the area meeting.
 - With the migration, all emails and subfolders will be retained however passwords will reset. I will contact everyone via their personal email with the new, temporary password.
 - The website will take up to 24 hours to point to the new server, but there should not be any interruption in availability
 - This site has been created with input from Jenn, the Asst. Webmaster and Bob, the former Webmaster. Prior to the Website committee dissolving, approving changes to the website would have been the work of that committee. This approval now falls on you, the area committee. I was not able to create a 'beta site' as I originally planned to do. This is because of the change in hosting. I ask for your continued feedback and I will do my best to make changes promptly.

- Google for Nonprofits
 - I mentioned the possibility of setting up Google Drives for each email account we currently have. I want to receive approval from the area before moving forward. While several areas have acquired this service through their 501(c)(3) status, not all agree that it is in the spirit of the 7th tradition.
 - Google for Nonprofits offers virtual meetings with up to 100 participants, 30GB of cloud storage per user, and the full suite of Google Software including Sheets, Docs, and Slides. It would also give us the option to direct mail routing so that each mailbox could be accessed through Gmail, without needing an "@gmail.com" address. If we were to pay, this service would be \$3/mo per user, or about \$75/mo if each account was activated. I ask this to be considered in New Business tonight.

Accessibilities - Rolling out, I would like to thank everyone for putting up with me, allowing me to serve. Having MAX (incoming chair) give report- we had 6 members in attendance, had a discussion on the transition & talked about future plans. For new year. will continue current meetings & updating pamphlets. Overcoming obstacles, making a checklist.

Archives- Met last Tuesday, had 3 Archives reps in attendance, 1 was rolling out. We wrapped up the year of events, talked about archives web page. Nothing else to report.

CPC- No Report, 7 months, no show for CPC

Grapevine – NO show, no report.

PI– met last night for last months meeting. 5 in attendance. Tradition 12 was read. All commitments went well. Liberty Prep went well. We now have 5 total. We go to Springfield College, All went well. Didn't get info for radio show. Meet next on Jan 9th.

Round Up- just met at 6:00pm today. 11 in attendance, 3 new committee members. Searching for a venue- making calls to find a place.. In need of many more committee members, as many as 20. Met next on Jan 10th at 6:00 _ Here.

Berk IG – Met this past Monday. 17 attended, 2 were guests. WMIG came to visit. Alcathon Christmas eve- next day in Pittsfield, Mass. 5:00pm to 12:00 noon next day. Open position, Co-Chair- continuing to look. The treasury is in the black. Groups stepped up when needed. In process of updating hotline volunteer list- Made requests to groups.

Institutions - Elections were held last month, I will continue to chair next year., we have a new Co-Chair & other new member. November collected \$1418.00, \$333.72 in expenses. We spent over \$1000 on books. We have open commitments; we have a liaison & subcommittee looking into contacting the prisons.

WMIG – Up first were the partial elections.

- Yolanda was elected unanimously for Chairperson
- Lindsey was voted in as Secretary. She has been the interim since Alli's school commitment wasn't compatible with holding the secretary position
- No one stood for the treasurer position so we tabled it to this month.
- The Treasurer, Bookie Coordinator and events coordinator will be voted on this month along with 2, 1 year commitment to the steering committee.
- Alcathon will be happening. Starts at 6:00 pm Christmas eve and goes through 6:00pm Christmas day. The Location is 485 Appleton St. Holyoke, MA. The Entrance is in the rear of the building.
- When and where's should be out by mid-February.
- This is my last report as Intergroup Chair. It's been an eye-opening, humbling experience and learned a lot. I would like to thank all of you for your support. Next month I'll be sitting behind the table as Area 31 Chair, nervous as hell and feeling lost. With all of your help
And GOD, we should make Area 31 run as smoothly as it has been. I look forward to the challenge.

WYPAA- NO REPORT

District 1 – Lowley attended. Steve filled me in from last meeting. All groups are doing well & continue to show up. DCM & CO-DCM are rolling out.

District 2 - WE OPENED WITH 17 GSRs IN ATTENDANCE. MIKE B. FROM AREA WAS PRESENT. WE MEET EVERY 2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 7:30PM 745 MAIN ST. AGAWAM MA. (WE ARE A HYBRID MEETING). ALL GSR'S REPORTING THEIR GROUPS ARE DOING GOOD AND ARE SELFSUPPORTING. WE ALSO PICKED UP A FEW NEW GSR'S. SECRETARY JILL REPORT: THE DISTRICT BUDGET IS \$600.00 AND JILL WILL NEED THE AREA ZOOM CODE FOR THE DISTRICT TO CONTINUE TO OFFER ZOOM.MIKE F. READ OUT OF THE SERVICE MANUAL AND SUMMERIZED THE THIRD LEGACY PROCEDURES FOR OUR ELECTIONS. ALYSSA WILL READ NEXT MONTH. ALYSSA FROM WILDCATS GROUP REPORTED THE 8:30 SPEAKER MEETING WILL BE ENDED. AND THE 7PM MEETING WILL NOW GO FROM 7PM TO 8:15PM THERE WILL BE OUTGOING/INCOMING COMMITMENTS THE 1ST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

WE HAD OUR ELECTIONS FOR CO-DCM AND ELAINE H. FROM THE HAND & HAND GROUP GOT VOTED IN AS OUR NEW CO-DCM. CONGRATULATIONS ELAINE H. JANET B. WILL BE ROLLING IN AS DCM FOR DIST2 AND LYNNE S. WILL ROLL OUT DEC 31ST, 2023. CONGRATULATIONS JANET B.OLD BUISNESS: NEW SERVICE MANUALS WILL BE AFFORDED WHEN REVISED SOMETIME IN 2024. JANET B. WILL CONTINUE UPDATING OUR AREA31 HANDBOOK & GUIDELINES. LOOK FOR THOSE UPDATES ONLINE AT area31aa.orgNEW BUISNESS: NO NEW BUISNESS

District 3- Prepared by District 3 DCM, Brian W.

- 14 total present, including nine on Zoom, 5 at the Lee Courthouse.
- The district welcomed a new GSR: Fran M. from the Berkshire Big Book Group in Cheshire.
 - Groups reported they are self-supporting, commitments at the group level are being filled, and commitments to McGee, CSS, the Men's Jail, and women's jail in Hudson are almost 100%
 - The Northern Berkshire Group is looking to have a group inventory around March of 2024, District looking for Area Chair to support selecting a lead.
 - Adhoc Service Celebration Planning committee consisting of reps from District, BIG, and BIC has finalized the date and location, January 20th at the Congregational church, 4 Main Street in Stockbridge, meeting will be hybrid and anticipated from 830 to 1 with 3 panels with 3 to 4 speakers per panel. The final information will be ready prior to the holidays and will be posted on the BIG website and the Area website.
- The District still has a vacancy for Co-DCM.
 - And,The District would like to thank current Webmaster (former D3 DCM) Tom H for his service in running the District 3 Monthly Traditions meeting; this will transition to Brian W for 2024.

District 4 – Met on Tuesday November 21st at 7:00pm. 10 in attendance. Delegate was there. All groups are doing well. We didn't do the tradition reading, will do 2 next month We did a re-cap and elections. Dan B will be new DCM, No secretary yet.

District 5 - Met on December 4th. Had 14 in attendance, 3 on-line. We are visiting the "un-lit" groups, 1 showed up as a result. We have a new Co- and will have a backup. Most groups are having elections. Anniversary had 60 people. Green street had name change, and changed it back-Eye Opener, Church was sold, but group can stay. Hitchcock Group is requesting an inventory. 1 group discontinued the Saturday meeting due to low attendance. Do-Or -Die has an alcathon spot. We are shopping for a Chrome book, workshop might be a Traditions Play, we are looking into it. GSR's looking forward to workshop.

District 6 – Couple things happening. A group reopened. Enfield Young Peoples is having their annual Dinner/Dance/ Meeting at the Powder mill barn, 12/31 @6:00pm. Had elections, Paula will be new DCM, Greg will be new CO-DCM. We will have a vote to move the meeting to Southwick to be ½ way between both areas in district. We will vote on that at the next meeting.

Delegate's Remarks – Not much to report. Survey on questions about changing the founders writings, 12&12 & Big Book original writings. 7 total questions. Received it in an email. More to be revealed. It might be a possible mini-conference topic. Many Agenda Items around making these changes to the founders writings.

Alternate Delegate Remarks: alt for 18 more days. Just so you know & will be informed, I was pulled out of a hat to serve on the trustee committee, to decide , Most serve 4 – 1 year terms. This years confrenece will be April 14th-20th.. Mass State Convention did not lose money. Next planning meeting will be Tuesday Jan 20th, 2024, Next convention will be at the Best Westren in Marlboro, Mass. See Ray for carpool to and from.

Area Chair Remarks: Help set up the new area chair, will be a changing of the guard. We need your key back, if you don't give it to the Co-chair.. Area offers 2 things, Speaker meeting, we go out to groups and speak about our experience with service. & Group inventory- ask the area chair -they will connect you with a past delegate to provide inventory.
Some committees have lost Chairs and Co-Chairs, we will need to fill these positions.

Old Business – The treasurer took budget requests from Committee chairs. See Treasurer report for information.

1)Motion was made to fully fund the delegate to the 2024 conference in the amount of \$9000.00, Motion passed.

2) Motion was made to a lot \$12000.00 to fund the reimbursements for NERAASA for committee chairs, Motion Passed.

3) Motion to a lot \$600 for the area treasurer and secretary for Chromebooks or Laptop. 6 no, 6 yes- Motion did not pass.

New Business:

Motion was made to vote for budget C, passed unanimously.

Motion to close 9:05p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Ray M
Area 31 Secretary
Western Mass General Service