

District 2 – Area 31 Meeting Minutes

February 08, 2016

DCM's: Janis A – 2<sup>nd</sup> year DCM

Mark B – 1<sup>st</sup> year DCM

**Begin meeting:** 7:00 pm

**Attendees:**

2 DCM's, 8 GSR's, 2 Alt. GSR's, Invited Guest, Area 31 Chair Sue A. and Young People's Rep, Jon S and Dan from Only Today Group.

**Open meeting** with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer

Janis then described the responsibilities of the G.S.R.

**Service Manual** – Chapter 2 – The Group and Its G.S.R.

For most A.A.'s, membership in a home group is one of the keys to continuing sobriety. In a home group, they accept service responsibilities and learn to sustain friendships, The home group affords individual A.A.'s the privilege of voting on issues that affect the Fellowship as a whole; it is the very basis of the service structure. While most A.A. members attend other groups regularly, the home group is where they participate in business meetings and cast their vote as part of the group conscience of the Fellowship as a whole.

The General Service Rep (GSR) has the job of linking his or her group with A.A.s as a whole. The G.S.R. represents the voice of the group conscience, reporting the group's thoughts to the district committee member and to the delegate, who passes them on to the Conference. This communication is a two-way street, making the G.S.R. responsible for bringing back to the group Conference Actions that affect A.A. unity, health, and growth. Only when a G.S.R. keeps the the group informed, and communicates the group conscience, can the Conference truly act for A.A.s as a whole.

Concept 2 Summary by Bridget D.

When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference - excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter – the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.

Thank you Bridget for your Summary of Concept 2

Next Month presenters: Chapter 3 Summary – Carl A. & Concept 3 – Joanne S.

### **District 2 Group Topics & Concerns & Follow-Up**

There were no outstanding issues or concerns this month. One issue that was presented was a change in times for The Not So Young People's group. The meetings are held at the Alano Club in Agawam on Wednesday. New times for meetings beginning in March are Beginners meeting 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm followed by the regular meeting from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

### **DCM Report**

District 2 will not be hosting an AA meeting at NERAASA this year. The presentation scheduled for this meeting has been cancelled but the whole GSR Conference will be presented at the Spring Assembly in April. All GSR's are encouraged to attend.

District DCM's have been asked to work closer together during each year rather than have the 2<sup>nd</sup> year DCM run all groups and functions and the 1<sup>st</sup> year DCM just be available. District 2 is already in that mindset with Mark and Janis working closely for the District.

The GSR's are being asked to attend "dark groups" to encourage members of those groups to keep them informed and maybe have a voice in the district.

Other items discussed at the Area 31 meeting included:

- Area budget;
- the updated Handbook which is in its first printing;
- there is a large print Where or When available (free) at Intergroup. Only those with a serious need should be asking for the large print edition.
- Archives Boards are available for groups who would like to have them at their Group Anniversary. Contact the Archives Chair on the Area 31 Website.
- Public Information Committee (PI) needs more volunteers. So if you know of anyone who is looking to get active in service, please let them know about PI. They have 13 standing commitments and need some help.
- There will be a "Gold Ball" meeting on Thursday night February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Springfield to kick off the 2016 NERAASA conference

weekend. Please attend if you can and meet other AA's from other parts of the North East Region. The meeting begins at 8:00 pm. Location will be posted in the Hotel.

**Old Business** – none this month

**New Business** – something to think about....do we want to host an Area Workshop??? We could host one ourselves or share with a committee or another District??? Bring back some thoughts next month.

**Area 31 Chair – Sue A.**

**The Spring Assembly and Mini-Conference** will be held April 2 & 3 2016 (see flyer included with these minutes). The assembly will be a method to help our Delegate prepare to represent Area 31 at the New York General Service Conference in April .

**Monthly Area Event calendars** are available on the Area 31 Website: [www.area31aa.org](http://www.area31aa.org). Sue will continue to make paper copies available as long as needed.

**The other important website for AA's is** <http://www.westernmassaa.org/>

### *Your "Local Link" To Western Mass Alcoholics Anonymous*

This is an updated site and will have more information and changes in the near future such as blogs, stories of members etc.

**Concept meetings** are held monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 474 Pleasant St. at 7:30 pm

**Tradition meetings** are also held monthly but on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month in the same place. Meetings are at 7:30 pm

**NERAASA (North East Regional Alcoholic Anonymous Service Assembly) will be held for the first time in "the Golden West" (Western MA)** We are honored to be hosting this event and hope all who can, will attend some or all of the 3 days.....Sue A. is the host for the Hospitality Suite which will be in the Marriott Hotel...come visit.

**Representatives of the Area Committee** would love to come to your group to be an incoming Group to talk about Service in AA. Contact Sue A. at [chair@area31aa.org](mailto:chair@area31aa.org) or if your group is looking to have a Group Inventory, you can also contact Sue A. to make arrangements to have someone come to your group.

**GSR Mini Conferences** will be held during the Spring Assembly as indicated above and on the flyer attached with these meeting minutes.

## **Young People's Representative – Jon**

**The Young People's Committee** meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6 pm at 474 pleasant St. Holyoke MA., just before the Intergroup meeting. **We are looking for more people to come and join us and help support our committee!**

**For WMYPAA (Western mass young people in AA).** Last week's dance went well. It was the first event that the committee has put on themselves in a few years!

**For MSCYPAA (Massachusetts state convention for young people in AA):** The committee is moving forward with putting this convention together! We have our event the Love of Unity **dance coming up this Saturday the 13th at the Saint Bernard church in Enfield Ct** (see flyer attached with minutes)

The next committee meeting for **MSCYPAA** will be at the Springfield Sheraton at 3 pm on February 28th after NERAASA! Moving forward our meetings will be held on the third Sunday of the month at the Springfield Sheraton at 3 pm! We had to push it back this month due to the fact that most of our committee will be in NYC for the **EACYPAA** (Eastern area conference for young people in AA) Everyone is welcome to attend our description of a young person is anyone with room to grow or young at heart!

If you would like more information about the Young People's committee or events or conferences, you can attend a meeting of Young People's group. See Where & When or Area 31 website for details.

**Meeting closed at 8:10 pm**

*Lee M.*

**Minutes submitted By Lee M.**