

District 2 – Area 31 Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2016

DCM's: Janis A – 2nd year DCM

Mark B – 1st year DCM

Begin meeting: 7:00 pm

Attendees: 2 DCM's, 15, GSR's, 3 Alt. GSR's, Invited Guest, Area 31 Delegate, Mark N. and Intergroup Chairperson, Tamara P.

Open meeting with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer

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

Service Manual – Chapter 3 – The District and the D.C.M. by Carl A.

The District: A district is a geographical unit containing the right number of groups – right in terms of the committee member's ability to keep in frequent touch with them, to learn their problems, and to find ways to contribute to their growth and well-being.

The District Committee Member: The district committee member (D.C.M.) is an essential link between the group G.S.R. and the area delegate to the General Service Conference. As leader of the district committee, made up of all G.S.R.s in the district, the D.C.M. is exposed to the group conscience of that district. As a member of the area committee, he or she is able to pass on the district's thinking to the delegate and the committee.

Concept 3 - Summary by Lee M.

As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staff's committees and executives, and of thus insuring we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision".

"Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A.s and we trust each other."

Thank you Carl and Lee for your Summaries.

Next Month presenters: Chapter 4 Summary – Rick W. & Concept 4 – Alice M.

District 2 Group Topics & Concerns & Follow-Up

There was a question from one G.S.R. that was brought up for discussion and suggestions. Can people who identify as AlAnon members read at our meetings was the question.....suggestion: look at aa.org for input from the A.A. policies and guidelines for groups. Other's verified that the individuals were not Alcoholics as well as AlAnon members....

DCM Report

There will be no Area 31 meeting in April because of the Spring Assembly which includes a business meeting. The Assembly will be held April 2nd, and 3rd at the Congregational Church in downtown Holyoke (see flyer in last month's minutes for details or go to the Area 31 Website (area31aa.org)).

All G.S.R.'s are asked to attend a workshop on Saturday of the Spring Assembly, April 2, 2016, from 9am to 10am...

District 2 is also asked to chair an Alkathon Meeting at this year's Area 31 Round-Up which will be Friday through Sunday, May 20-22, 2016. All who can participate are asked to be at the Alkathon meeting from 9am to 9:55am. The Round-Up will be at the La Quinta Hotel on Chestnut St in Springfield.

Jan also received a request for District 2 members to attend the Tradition Meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2016. Please be ready to share how Tradition 3 impacts you. Three individuals volunteered to attend.

Jan has asked that we post our meeting minutes on the Area 31 Website monthly. I will send a copy of the minutes to the Webmaster each month so that our minutes will be available for anyone interested in reading them.

NOTE: We cannot include last names or phone numbers in meeting minutes that are posted on the Area 31 Website so if you have included those in your report or in a flyer, they will not be posted online.

Old 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. This was postponed because of lack of time at tonight's meeting. The topic will be discussed at the next District 2 meeting.

New Business – Next meeting, Monday, April 11, 2016

Area 31 Delegate – Mark N.

The Spring Assembly and Mini-Conference will be held April 2 & 3 2016 (see flyer was included with last month's minutes and is on the Area 31 Website)

The assembly is a method to help our Delegate prepare to represent Area 31 at the New York General Service Conference in April. He told all how he received input on topics from The NERAASA Round tables and looks forward to our input at the Area 31 Assembly.

There are 26 Agenda Items that will be discussed at the G.S.O. Conference and Mark chose 6 topics to ask our help with during the Break-Out sessions on Saturday at the Area Assembly (10am to 12noon). He handed out information for us to look further into the topics we will be discussing at the Assembly.

If you have any questions about the Assembly or the Break-Out sessions, you can e-mail Mark at the Area 31 Website.

Mark reported that there will be an Election for an Alternate Delegate at the Assembly as well. The current Alt. Delegate has to step down for health reasons.

Intergroup Chairperson: Tamara P. brought us information about the Intergroup and its activities.

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.

A new Where & When printing is in process so if your group has any changes please submit them via a change form so they can be included in the new Where & When. There will also be a Where and When in PDF form to download at the Western MA Intergroup site

The Intergroup Committee members sold Literature at NERAASA and has been invited to sell literature at the Round-Up as well.

If your group would like to have the Intergroup Committee members come to your group as an Incoming Informational group, you can contact Tamara P. via e-mail on the Western MA Intergroup site.

Phone coverage is having some minor problems with group members following through to honor their commitment to be available for individuals who call the AA hotline. Please bring back to groups, that we need to be conscientious when we promise to be available.

If some individuals want to have their name on the “back up list” please contact the Intergroup chair, Tamara P.

If any members of your group want to get active with Intergroup, the meetings are held at 474 Pleasant St., Holyoke every month the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm following the 7:00 pm Bookie meeting.

Meeting closed at 8:10 pm

Minutes submitted by: *Lee M.*