

District 2 – Area 31 Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2016

DCM's: Janis A – 2nd year DCM

Mark B – 1st year DCM

Begin meeting: 7:00 pm

Attendees: 2 DCM's, 13, GSR's, 4 Alt. GSR's, Invited Guest, Area 31 Chair, Sue A.

Jan A. **Opened the meeting** with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

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

Service Manual – Chapter 5 – The Area Committee—summary by Bill S.

The Area Committee- “Perhaps more than any other group of people in A.A., the area committee is responsible for the health of the Conference structure and thus for growth and harmony in the A.A. Fellowship. If G.S.R.'s are lax, if there is lack of harmony in a district, if there are difficulties in public information or some other service area, the committee member knows it and can turn to the full committee for help.”

An active committee deals with all kinds of service problems: Is experience being shared among groups? Is the A.A. message getting into hospitals, prisons, jails, and rehabilitation centers? Are news media and professionals who deal with suffering alcoholics well informed about A.A.? Are new groups and Loners being visited and helpful?

The chapter goes on to explain about the Composition, Area Committee positions, Financial support Area information.

Concept 5- Summary by Karl H.

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principle responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the general Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Next Month presenters: Chapter 6 Summary – Bridget D. & Concept 6 – Lin S.

District 2 Group Topics, Concerns & Follow-Up

Over the last few months a few G.S.R.s have expressed a concern with numbers of people attending their meetings because there is a new group in close proximity recently started up.

Another common statement from G.S.R.s is that their “beginners meeting is well attended while their regular meeting which follows the beginners meeting has very low attendance.

Some groups have most service positions filled except for Alternate G.S.R.s and Grapevine Reps.

Pioneer Valley Meeting will have a Pot Luck Supper (as they do on holidays)... May 30, 2016. Pot Luck followed by meeting at 7:30.

DCM Report – The Spring Assembly Business Meeting

No meeting yet in May. See April meeting minutes for Spring Assembly where the April Area business meeting was reported.

Our District #2 has a commitment at the Round-Up on Saturday, May 21, 2016 to chair and conduct an Alkathon meeting. Two volunteers Suzanne L. & Mark B. will speak for a few minutes followed by discussion. Please attend our commitment at the Round-Up if you are available. The Alkathon meeting is 9:00 am to 9:55 am at LaQuinta Hotel in Springfield.

Old Business – Workshop topic-We will now meet outside the regular District 2 meetings as a “Workshop Task Force” to continue the process of putting together a workshop. Our first meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 4, 2016 at 10:00 am. I will follow up with a group e-mail as soon as we know if we can use the 474 Pleasant St. meeting room that morning.

Our tentative topics for our Workshop were voted to be:

1. How we can attract new G.S.R.s
2. A.A. Finance, the History and structure

Please bring some ideas to our meeting and if you have time, do a little research in our G.S.R. literature, information from the Round-Up or other sources about the topics:

- a. When should we have the Workshop (date, times and structure of the topics)
- b. Where should we have the Workshop
- c. Who will present on each of the topics

d. Other details

New Business –

Motion to continue the meeting for 15 minutes past 8:00 pm....motion passed

From last month: Motion to eliminate the need to vote to extend the meeting in 15 minute increments. Motion tabled to this month.

First vote; 8 voted to eliminate; 9 voted to not eliminate the 15 minute increment vote.

Minority heard and vote re-taken

Second vote: 10 voted to eliminate; 7 voted to not eliminate

Motion to eliminate the need to extend the meeting in 15 minute increments passed by a majority vote.

Area 31 Alt Delegate – Sue A.

The Round-Up will be held May 20-22, 2016 at the LaQuinta Hotel in downtown Springfield. The delegate (Mark N) will give his report on Saturday from 1 pm to 2:30 pm.

The Alternate Delegate will be attending all of the MA State Convention Meetings which are held in Framingham MA the “odd” months of the year. The next meeting is May 31st, 2016. Anyone interested in carpooling can be at the AMF Bowling Lanes (off exit 6 of the MA Turnpike) for 5:30 pm. Individuals will leave at 5:45 pm the latest.

There are two meetings each month that might be of interest to us:

The Concept Meeting-held the 1st Wednesday of the month at 474 Pleasant St at 7:30 pm

The Tradition Meeting-held the 3rd Thursday of each month at 474 Pleasant St also at 7:30 pm.

Area commitments are available if a group wants to learn more about service, the area etc. contact the Area Chair, Sue A. at area31aa.org

Next meeting Monday, June 13, 2016 at 7:00

Meeting closed at 8:20 pm

Minutes submitted by: *Lee M*