

District 2 – Area 31 Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2016

DCM's: Janis A – 2nd year DCM

Mark B – 1st year DCM

Begin meeting: 7:00 pm

Attendees: 2 DCM's, 10 GSR's, 3 Alt. GSR's, Invited Guest, Delegate Mark N. (for Mike S, Alt Delegate).

Jan A. **Opened the meeting** with a moment of silence

Jan then read the Articles of Purpose for the G.S.R.

Secretary's minutes from June read and accepted.

Service Manual – Chapter 7 – Mark B.,

The Annual Conference Meeting

While the General Service Conference operates all year round, the annual meeting held in New York City, usually in April, is the culmination of the year's activities, the time when the collective group conscience of U.S./Canada A.A. comes together to take actions that will guide the groups in the years to come.

The Conference comes closer to "government" than anything else in A.A., but as Bill W. put it in the first edition of this manual: *"Of course it cannot be too often said that while the Conference can issue orders to the General Service Office, it can never mandate or govern the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves. The Conference represents us, but cannot rule us."*

(from A.A. Service Manual, pg. S55).

Concept 7- Joanne S.

The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.

(from A.A. Service Manual, pg. 27)

Next Month presenters: Chapter 8 Summary – Rick S. & Concept 8 – Suzanne L.

District 2 Group Topics, Concerns & Follow-Up

No new issues brought up at the meeting tonight.

DCM Report – Accessibilities Committee needs more volunteers to put on meetings for individuals who cannot get out to attend meetings....see Area 31 Website to contact them.

The C.P.C. Committee announced at the Area meeting that they are available to come to District meetings to give GSR's a presentation on what the C.P.C. Committee is and does for A.A. Janice would like to invite them to our October or November meeting.

On 09/10/16 there will be a Workshop on Sponsorship at the Lenox Community Center....the conference times are 10 to 12 noon and 1 to 3 pm.

DCM's were invited to a Round-Table meeting before the June Area 31 meeting. Good discussion and idea sharing opportunity.

Mark B. commented that the Treasure's report from Area 31 in June indicates that donations have increased some since 2015 (see Area 31 minutes for details).

Old Business – Workshop topic-

See attached documents for details of our flyer for the September 17, 2016 workshop.

We have a date and a place for our September workshop. The date is 09/17/16 and the place is the "meeting room" at 474 Pleasant St. The times for the workshop 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Our topic for our Workshop was voted in last month: Participation will be the topic with 3 subtopics as follows;

1. Fellowship vs. Membership
2. Leadership: "I am Responsible"
3. Is Your Voice Heard?

New Business –

Ad Hoc Committee met to discuss the workshop for District 2 on Saturday, July 11, 2016 at 10:00 am. In attendance, Susanne L., Lee M. Kelly G., Mark B. and Janis A.

Brought to meeting 3 issues to resolve by whole District 2 Committee

1. Flyer for workshop

Janis brought 2 examples

The group voted (11 in favor with 2 opposed) to combine both examples to be sure to include all info to entice participation and be “cordial” to potential participants. Minority was heard, discussion was to combine the flyers.

All GSR’s from District 2 are asked to be enthusiastic and spread the word about the workshop to be sure that many groups/members are aware of the workshop.

You will find a copy of the flyer with these minutes. If you can, please copy and distribute to the meetings you attend and if possible make the announcement at meetings about the workshop....please be enthusiastic....we are hoping for a good turnout and a nice day of A.A. fellowship for attendees and District 2 members.

I will send flyers to Area 31 Website and the Intergroup Website and we will request hard copies of the flyers from the Intergroup Office so they can distribute them as individuals come into the Intergroup Office.

**If you need hard copies of flyers, please contact Janis A.

2. Workshop outline/time for each subtopic and “other”

Joanne S. volunteered to be the “timer” for the workshop.

We will have a sign-in sheet for participants so we have an idea of attendance.

Pizza and finger foods will be served

Mark B. will bring water

Lee M to secure coffee pots/tea pots for workshop from Holyoke Sober Sunday.

Janis will shop for all other items needed for pizza and refreshments.

3. Speakers for Subtopics-need suggestions from district 2 GSR’s by July 18, 2016 to Janis A.

Area 31 Delegate – Mark N.

The 2016 MA State Convention Committee still needs volunteers. There will be a “stuffing party” July 26, 2016 at the Sheraton Hotel in Framingham. If you are interested in being of service, Mike S. (alt. delegate) will be leaving from the old Plantation Inn parking lot – off exit 6 of the MA Pike at 5:15 or 5:30 ish... to go to Framingham.

Theme for this year's State Convention is "Supporting our Future"

Anne Frye, immediate past delegate is the chair of this year's convention.

There are still Concept meetings, the 1st Thursday of each month and Tradition meetings the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Both meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting Monday, August 8, 2016 at 7:00. There is one addition to the Contact List. See attached list.

Meeting closed at 8:00 pm

Minutes submitted by: *Lee M.*