

District 2 – Area 31 Meeting Minutes

September 12, 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, 4 Alt. GSR's, Invited Guest, Area 31 Delegate, Mark N.

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 August read and accepted.

Service Manual – Chapter 9 – Kelly G.

The General Service Board

The trustees of Alcoholics Anonymous are concerned with everything happening inside and outside A.A. that may affect the health and growth of the movement. However, as the Charter points out, their duties are essentially custodial. Whenever a decision on movement-wide policy is needed, they turn to the Conference. And because trustees are members of the Conference body, they participate in these decisions-but as individual Conference members, not as a group.

The trustees do much of their work through two operating corporations, A.A. World Services, Inc. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. (see Chapter Ten), and through the trustees' committees.

The chart "The General Service Conference Structure" (Chapter One) shows how the General Service Board fits into the whole picture and demonstrates that the trustees derive from the Conference what "authority" they have. This relationship was established when the Conference structure was first set up, and over the years, the only changes considered necessary have been in the composition of the General Service Board, not in its duties or responsibilities.

The Bylaws of the General Service Board (see Appendix E) describe fully all aspects of the workings of the board.

(from A.A. Service Manual, pg. S63).

Concept 9- Judy K. - Will be included in next month's meeting.

Next Month presenters: Chapter 10 – Lin S. & Concept 9 – Judy K. & Concept 10 – Bill S.

District 2 Group Topics, Concerns & Follow-Up

No new issues brought up at the meeting tonight.

DCM Report – by Mark B...

- Vote taken at the Area 31 meeting c/o the October meeting of the Area. The meeting will be held unless another vote is taken this month at the September, Area 31 meeting.
- Accessibility Committee and Public Information Committees need help, please bring back to your group and ask if any are interested in serving on either of these committees.

Old Business – None

New Business –

- **Workshop is Saturday, September 17, 2016.**
 - Carol B. will bring a Carrot Cake
 - We will use Sober Sunday's coffee pot and pot for hot water. They have donated a 2 lb. can of coffee as well.
 - Janis will purchase supplies: plates, cups, napkins, sweet & low, sugar, table cloths, silverware, etc.
 - Janis will order 3 party size pizzas from Capri pizza in Holyoke.
 - Mark B. will bring bottles of water
 - Lee M. will bring tea bags
- We have agendas for participants and we have requested Grapevine and Archives Boards to be at the workshop.
- Greeters: Rick W., Kelly G., and Cheryl W. and all others who would like to volunteer
- Set up volunteers: Joe K., Lee M. Joanne S. Lin S., Judy K. and all others who would like to come early and help set up or stay and help clean up.
- There will be a sign-up sheet for participants to sign.
- Jan will get Name tags

Area 31 Delegate – Mark N.

- ❖ The **Fall Assembly** will be held October 15, 2016.
- ❖ The **2016 MA State Convention** Committee flyer has an error....the actual dates are Friday November 11-13, 2016...NOT November 10-12, 2016.
- ❖ There are 3 agenda items from the General Service Office that Mark talked about.
 1. In the Group flyer there is a statement about groups having lists of members. This is contradicted in another flyer so the question for us to think about is should we have this statement in the flyers?
 2. The comic strip “Too Young” is said to be out of date by some young members of the fellowship. They would like to see it discontinued because of the way it portrays young people in A.A.
 3. It has been requested that a pamphlet be developed for Deaf members of A.A. Do we need another pamphlet?
- ❖ Another topic brought up is that our contributing groups are at a 37% rate. Not the amount of money, but the % of groups who are contributing to A.A. We need to find a way to reach out to groups that don't contribute to A.A....again, it is not the amount but the % of groups contributing.
- ❖ There will be copies of the Annual Report from the G.S.O. at the Area 31 meeting Wednesday, September 14, 2016 and also at the Fall Assembly.
- ❖ There was a confrontation at the Area 31 meeting last month which brought up a needed topic that we should be paying attention to....Substantial Unanimity....in other words....all votes taken at meetings should be done by 2/3 majority.

Meeting closed at 7:55 pm with “I am responsible pledge”

Minutes submitted by: *Lee M*

Next Meeting: October 10, 2016