

District # 3 meeting minutes from April 19, 2013

DCM Joan P. opened the meeting with a moment of silence in memory of events of Boston last week followed by the Serenity Prayer. She then introduced Co-DCM Dennis B. & District # 3 Secretary, Ruthie D.

Joan read statement of GSR from the pages S26 of the Service Manual and then asked for District # 3 Secretary's Report. The Motion to accept was made & seconded.

GSRs introduced themselves & individually gave info about their groups as follows:

Michael L.- GSR of Northern Berkshire Group that meets in North Adams on Sundays & Williamstown on Tuesdays. He reports group doing History & getting a count of years of this group. They are researching through HMB Area, to which they once belonged before MA Area 31. The group is also getting in touch with Area 31 Archives.

Bruce P. 6:45 a.m. -GSR of the Lee Group Meeting-Reports that they have a Jail Commitment @ the Women's Pod @ BCHC, Also reports that historically the summer meetings are larger & smaller in the Winter. They have Speaker meetings on Sat.-Big Book meetings on Wed.

Joni C.-GSR Southern Berkshire Group - meets Friday eve. @ 8:00 p.m. @ the G.B. Senior Center. They have fulfilled their McGee Commitment, the BCHC Jail Commitment. They are taking a Group Inventory soon and also report that sadly Peter B. passed away last Tuesday. He will be missed by all.

Lauren A. -GSR of the Women's Group that meets every Tues. @ 7 p.m. @ St. Mark's Hall in Pittsfield- Reports they have a business meeting on the 2nd Tues./month. All officer positions are filled. They have a member of AA that can be disruptive. How does this AA Group address this problem as they see it? Member won't I.D. herself as an alcoholic & she talks about Religions and people get disturbed. Joni C. said her old group had a person with Mental Health problems & mental issues...Everyone is asked to be part of the solution & not of the problem. It showed newcomers how problems such as this are handled without controversy.

Eric--GSR of the Keep It Simple Nooner in Great Barrington--reports that 4 people went to Barton's Crossing to fill their commitment. Group is doing well. No other news to report.

Ruthie D.- GSR of the Dalton Young @ Heart Group. Reports group well attended-uses P.I.E. chart. They have met together on Sat. morning to practice for the play on traditions that we will be presenting @ the Round-up. All is well in Dalton.

Robyn- GSR of Berkshire Big Book that meets on Wed. Eve @ 7:30. Reports they have business meetings on the 4th Wed./month. All positions are filled. They also now have a Greeter. They are trying the Outgoing Commitments and seem to be o.k. so far.

END OF INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

Joan P. said Ann- Alt/ Delegate for Area 31 could not attend tonight's business meeting due to another

commitment. Brian (our delegate) was in NY at GSO.

Tony T- Berkshire Intergroup Chair talked about Tues. Step Group that meets in Cheshire on Tuesday eve. They are looking at Service Commitments. They do P. I. E. Chart donations. No business meetings/month. They have gone to Quarterly Meetings. They are not part of Western Mass Area 31. They are still listed as HMB 48.

Intergroup Chair -Tony T. said they meet 2nd Mon/Month @ 7 p.m. Thirteen people in attendance, eleven voting with six groups represented. All BIG office hrs. were covered, however, volunteers are needed for Tues. & Sat. Also BIG has a Round-up commitment on 5/19/2013 @ 9 a.m. (Subject: Concepts). Ad Hoc Committees and/or open action items:

- * Committee formed to review groups that contribution and/or attend the committee meeting in order to determine dark groups to visit.

- * Information flyer about BIG's purpose and thanks for group support.

- * 11th Step Group @ N.A. Regional Hospital may need some support. Joan P DCM & Dennis Co-DCM to visit group this week.

- * Mark (BIG Co-Chair) to further contact the 3 N. A. Hospital groups in order to encourage them to consolidate into one group with 3 different meetings.

- * Action Items Completed: Review of last year's operating expenses & recalculation of the prudent reserve.

- * Review of the Hot Line volunteer list to determine if names are still valid. 43 names are on the list. Tony also requested that Northern Berkshire please encourage women to participate on list. Service Workshop was a success. Final report will come next month.

Motion/Approvals:

- *Mission Statement was completed, reviewed , & approved; is as follows:

The mission of Berkshire Intergroup office of Alcoholics Anonymous is to make the A.A. program available to those requesting help for a problem with alcohol: to assist them toward the path of recovery; and to foster unity and communication between member groups. This is accomplished primarily through caring, supportive volunteers staffing a business office which provides telephone contact, literature and meeting lists.

- * No Additional Grapevine contributions to be given by BIG at this time.

- * Finally have Prudent Reserve of \$2000.00. It seems to be self-supporting. No mark-up on Books. They have to track all Medallions & pay Sales Tax @ end of year. They revised the Hot Line book, and asked for Northern Berkshire group women in particular to sign up. Michael L. said he would try; to get info to groups. Tony also reported that Grapevine Commitment ended. No Adams Hospital Group workshop & a

member really jumped all over the group..3 groups meet @ N.A. Regional Hospital. Mark will contact 1 group member to talk. Joan & Dennis will go on Sunday.

Michael said asking 3 groups to mesh into 1 group is a bold move & wishes them well doing this.

Joni said the GB once had 4 day meetings & now all 5-6 meetings in 1 place when first merged. Thursday's meeting was grateful.

Dennis said "The only way a group will change is when a loving God, expressed in our Group Conscience does so".

Lauren A. -Rep for WMYP A- meets @ 474 Pleasant St. Holyoke -Handbook--All Service Positions filled including liaison; lots of positions filled.

* 3rd Legacy workshop 5-8 p.m. July 6th Flyer for Hot Dogs & Beans Dinner & Workshop being sent around. Also possibility of a Softball Tournament 2nd Sat/Mo

* Joan asked if WMYP A could come & talk to her Home Group in G.B. on Friday Nights

ALL GROUP DISCUSSION ENDED.

ALL DATES OF UPCOMING EVENTS ARE LISTED ON WEBSITE.

*Round-up is looking for cookie/candy donations & literature donations.

*Bidding for 2000 NERASA

*Mini-Workshop= 107 people attended. District # 3 well represented. Webmaster was voted in & 3rd Legacy was passed.

Finishing up old business, Joan asked if we could go over District Inventory Talking Points of 2011.

1) Finished

2) Finished

3) Finished

4) Decided we'd rather not have coffee/snacks @ our meetings. Each one can bring his/her own if they wish.

5) Joan said will send Power Point to GSRs & Dennis said do we really want to overwhelm new GSR's with this info, so this one will be revisited.

6) Instead of Service Day we might consider a Service Picnic.

7) Continue through Intergroup office

8) Joni C said Booking meeting in Berkshire get groups together, Michael L. said it is a challenge. Joni

suggested sponsorship meetings & getting around to people they are sponsoring

9) Need to keep looking for an LCM

10) The chairperson is in charge- that was resolved.

11) We all agreed having the District meeting in Lee is working right now.

12) Darren reported that a great rise in people for Bridging the Gap.

13) Include people we are all sponsoring.

Jake & Bill were acting DCM and CoDCM for the District Inventory.

Dennis said to access NERF registration forms: go on aa.org/Groups & members-Free Hotel info on it...June 7-8-9, 2013

Someone made a motion to close this meeting tonight & it was seconded .Meeting ended @ 8:15.