

District 3 Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2014

The meeting was held at 7PM in the Lee, MA Court House. There were 12 attendees, 8 Groups with 8 GSR's, 1 Alternate GSR, Mark N. Alternate Delegate Area 31, Mike S. CoChair CPC, Tony T. DCM and 1 guest.

Tony opened the meeting with the serenity prayer and read the statement on the GSR from page S26 of the Service Manual.

Secretary's Report:

Tony conveyed no issues stood out in last month's Secretary's report. Copies of the report will be emailed each month until they are posted on the area web site.

Robin, Alt GSR, for the Northern Berkshire Group, read the Tradition of the month and Arnold, guest, read the Concept of the month. Both also read the questions from the checklists.

GSR group reports:

Jessica D. GSR for the Women's 12 Step and 12 Tradition Group meets in Pittsfield: We have 25 to 35 people. Donations being done by the Pie Chart. Voted to cut down on Jail commitment, down to one commitment each month. Second contact for group TBD.

Amelia S. new GSR for the Sunday morning 9AM Watch Your Step Group in Housatonic, MA: Group is healthy, 20 to 25 participants every Sunday. We do one step and Tradition per month. Contribution per the Pie Chart. Donations are healthy. Financially in good condition and participation. No outside commitments at this point.

Irene R. GSR for Monday night Dalton Young at Heart Group meets at 8PM on Monday nights at the Grace Episcopal Church in Dalton: Group is strong and has been for a long time. 25 to 30 participants weekly. We have ten solid member. All service commitments are filled. Lori T. will be celebrating 39 years at the end of the month. Donations are healthy and according to the Pie Chart. Increased our donations to Berkshire Intergroup. Increased our prudent reserve. Group doing well.

Rich R. GSR for the Wednesday night Big Book that meets in Berkshire Village in Lanesboro, MA: Group is strong at least 25 people per week. All office positions are up for grabs. The only one that is not is the GSR. Two anniversaries last month. Monthly commitment at the McGee unit. Strong Big Book meeting.

Zack N. GSR for the Sheffield 12&12: All is well. June 18th having their 39th anniversary. AA and Al-Anon Speakers. Donations well. Split off into a One, Two Three meeting every Wednesday. Sponsor a meeting every Friday at the Senior Center.

Marianne Y. GSR for the Southern Berkshire Group meets Friday night at 8PM at the senior center in Gt. Barrington, MA: Big group, biggest in south county, Friday 50 to 100 people. Commitment every other month at McGee. First Wednesday every month Women put on a commitment at the Jail. Active group have 15 to 20 members at the business meeting. Biggest issue is the meeting place is a town building and there is no smoking allowed. There are 5 meetings at the facility and being reminded by the center and are using the traditions as a guide. Invite other groups to put on a meeting the first Friday of every month.

Dan R. GSR for Keep it Simple in Great Barrington meets at noon six days a week: Celebrate anniversaries the last Saturday of the month. Group strong 12 to 20 people. Business meeting small, 4 to 10 people. Barton's Crossing commitment once a month. No big issues going on.

Michael L. GSR for the Northern Berkshire Group: Group doing okay. Don't have a chairperson, an elected office. People sign-up to chair the meeting. Subscribe to the Grapevine. Slight increase in attendance since the Hospital closed. Received info form from GSO and group filled it out, maybe for International directory. Both meetings are now in Williamstown at St. John's Church due to All Saints and the Hospital closing.

Area 31 Committee report:

Mark, Alternate Delegate Area 31: Everything I say can be found on our website area31aa.org. Past weekend Mini Conference and committee meeting. Mini Conference close to 120 people. Results of agenda items are here for your taking. Delegate will take result to NY at the end of May. Mass state committee planning meeting last Tuesday of month. Next meeting May 27th and car pool. If you want to go call me at ###-###-#### (altdelegate@area31aa.org). Many topics to be involved in. The delegate will report at the Round-Up what happened at the GSC. The Round-Up will have a banquet and there is only 150 seats available. \$10.00 for registration, \$20.00 for the banquet and \$10.00 for the dance. Can register on line. The 45th Area 31 Round-Up will be held on June 7th & 8th at the La Quinta hotel on State Street in Springfield, MA. The area committee will do commitments and come to your home group to discuss service. If interested contact Paul, Area Chair, at ###-###-#### (area_chair@area31aa.org). Concept meeting first Thursday of each month at 7:15PM at 474 Pleasant St, Holyoke, MA. The only meeting that discuss the concepts.

Mike S. CoChair CPC, cooperation with the Professional Community: We deal with non-alcoholics that come in contact with alcoholics in the course of their profession. Range from nursing student, law students, etc. We go out and contact the head of such programs and offer to come in and do presentation. We let them know what AA is and what AA is not and they can pass on the AA info. Looking for contact information in any kind of professional format. Have forms to bring back to home groups to see if anyone has any leads. The forms can be turned into Tony and he can bring them to the area meeting. The contact will receive a letter to determine if there is any interest. And if so, we will follow-up with a presentation. Meet the second Tuesday of each month at 474 Pleasant St, Holyoke, MA. Email address cpc_committee@area31aa.org. CPC website currently under development.

Berkshire Intergroup report:

Tony filled in for Mark, Chair Berkshire Intergroup: All of the 75 first addition Big Books are in so if you ordered one you can contact BIG. At the Mini Convention, the Delegate shared that over 100,000 books have been purchased. Intergroup Office has an open house scheduled for Saturday May 17, 2014 at 11:30AM – 2PM. There will be refreshments a free door price of the new 75th addition of the Big Book. The goal is to show what intergroup does, they do a variety of things. What will also be discussed is to see if there is any interest in having workshops. Previous workshop in Lenox was a success. The idea is to have smaller, mini workshops at the BIG office. One subject could be: How to be a Sponsor?

DCM/Old Business:

Handouts discussed:

Accessibility Committee for people that can't get to meetings on their own. They will come and put on a meeting at their home or take them to a meeting.

Round-Up registrations and flyers for people that may not have a computer. Still have not received the schedule for the round-Up. District 3 has a commitment on Saturday and hope that some of the GSR's would be willing to participate. By next month will need a commitment from GSR's willing to share their experience, strength and hope as it relates to the steps and promises.

Other Items:

Due the Darren's work schedule, he is looking for a CoChair for the Institution Committee. If interested, contact Darren at ###-###-#### (institutions_committee@area31aa.org).

Paul, Area Chair, will be putting together a flyer for important dates. Also can find it on the Area website.

Suggest that the GSR's read the AA Quarterly Report.

Mark, shared at the Mini conference, in AA there are redundancies and are needed in the program and time to cover items at meetings.

Treasurer's report from the fall assembly to now, 67 groups, 16 groups contributed 1037.77 for an average of 64.86. We have 63 active groups in district 3 which means that they either have a GSR or contact person. 5 groups are unknown with no GSR or contact person. 2 of the 5 made it clear that they don't want to be connected and just have a meeting.

There is still a need for a Co-DCM.

Questions:

Michael asked where the Grapevine subscription be mailed to. It was suggested by others to send it to a group member, treasurer, literature person, etc.

Dan asked if anyone had seen the movie Anonymous people. Tony shared that AA doesn't have any opinion on outside matters. Suggested that it be discussed off-line, after the meeting.

New Business:

No new business.

Motion to close:

A motion was made to close the meeting, it was seconded and all were in favor. Meeting closed at 8:00PM with I am Responsible.

Meeting minutes submitted by Tony