

MINUTES DISTRICT 3 GSR MONTHLY MEETING

March 15, 2019, Lee, Ma, 7:00pm

The meeting was opened and chaired by DCM, Tim M. After a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, he introduced himself, Co-DCM Joan P., Jenn B., secretary Pete C., welcomed everyone and mentioned the large attendance.

There followed the statement of GSR duties and responsibilities from page S26 of the AA Service Manual. The February secretaries' minutes sent to everyone by email was accepted.

The tradition and concept for the month of February was read by Joan P. Co-DCM.

GSR Introductions and Reports

Chuck C., Northern Berkshire Group, Williamstown; Meets Sunday and Tuesday at 730pm, well attended averages between 15 and 20 people. In March have four anniversaries between 18-38 years. Doing exchange speakers with other groups. Recently with Central Berkshire group from Pittsfield. Next month Southern Berkshire in Great Barrington will be exchanging. This is a very good activity.

Steve M., BLT, Pittsfield; Attendance up 40-50 per day but basket down. Everything about the same.

Bob P., I Don't Have a Clue, Lee; Finances are strong contributing as per pie chart. Sometimes there is too much familiarity with people sharing. The community is small, and there are times when someone shares everyone knows who they are talking about. Need to bring up at business meeting and have a word with individuals.

Dennis, Alt. I Don't Have a Clue; 645am, A great group for new comers. When you wake up it's good to go to a meeting. Good attendance with different formats with different thoughts. Celebrations last of the month.

Joanne, Alt. Lenox Big Book, Lenox; Thursday, 7pm. Attendance good around 40 people. Solid group, business as usual. The same people, but that is good. Have 3 McGee commitments. Contributions good donate 40/40/10 Inst & 10 IG. Good reserve.

John M., Sheffield 12&12, Sheffield; Attendance is down, but it cycles. Have had a delegate come in to do inventory twice. Picked up some new members. Having a picnic 3rd week in June instead of spaghetti dinner. Tried a picnic last year, but it didn't work out, hopefully will work out

Pat P., Watch Your Step, Housitonic; No problems, Business meeting getting better attendance. Have a Jones commitment once a week.

Steve H., Thursday Park Place, Lee; Doing good, multi years with multi people celebrating. Donations up because anniversaries draw in more people. Would welcome contacts to do group sharing. Don't have a business meeting and could use some help. Don't have an alt GSR.

Jim T., Southern Berkshire, Great Barrington; Friday at 8pm at the senior center. Business meeting well attended. The institutions person leaving the area so looking for a replacement (Whoops, Have one). Have had discussion in shortening the format. Have a treasurer, do McGee commitment, and plenty of coffee makers.

Jeff R., Keep it Simple, Great Barrington; 1200pm daily. Well attended, 30 people on average weekdays and 50 at weekends. Format changes daily 12&12, Living Sober, BB, Daily Reflections, with speaker Sat. Everything is good. Donations good and contribute as per pie chart.

Dave T., Ray of Hope, Lee; Just got commitment this month. Proves principles before personalities. Usually closed but have one meeting open. Someone questioned a person who identified as an addict and they left.

Martha B., Thursday Women's Group, Great Barrington; Doing good, growing. Embarking on a group inventory. Contribute as per pie chart. Everything on the up and up.

Jen M., Young at Heart, Dalton; Contributing as per pie chart. Attendance continues to be low. Monday will discuss changing time to hopefully increase attendance.

Shenna C., Reporting for two groups tonight; Women's 12 Step, & The Berkshire Group, Pittsfield; Women's Step, 630pm Tues. Rebuilding, most positions filled, just got intergroup rep. Don't have any commitments yet. Membership is up and down. Contributions ok, not sure on pie chart. Wednesday The Berkshire Group, 6pm. Attendance good. Reserves very high, changing out positions, trying to get more people to commit in coming groups once a month. Buying more Big Groups.

Brian S., Men's Group, Great Barrington; 7pm Thursday. Well attended, new secretary. Inventory coming up. All commitments good.

Jane S., Sober on Saturday, Lee; 8am Lee. Doing well, 20 to 25 people year-round. Contributions ok, donating as per pie chart with prudent reserve. Business meeting is 1st Sat of the month and attendance is improving beyond the usual five plus persons. Commitment to Jones II doing well. No problems with staff leaving as reported last month.

Laura A., Tower Group, Stockbridge; 8pm Tuesday. Not doing well. Only 3 to 4 members, just a few people. It is an open speaker meeting, but change to topic if no speaker. Can't contribute as per pie chart. The records are unorganized. The group is struggling, please spread the word. Would like to organize speakers.

Jenn B., LCM reporting for Friday Lanesboro Group and Pittsfield Sunday A New Way of Life; Friday 830pm in Lanesboro, Two celebrants, steady attendance, contributions good donate as per pie chart, commitments good. Sunday A New Way of Life, attendance good. There are group members that can take positions.

REPORTS

Berkshire Intergroup, William L.; Co-Chair Intergroup. Came down to support the district. Intergroup meetings well attended. Looking to fill a service position of a roaming volunteer to substitute in the office during the week when a regular person cannot make it. The hours to be available if needed would be between 1:30-5:00 pm. This would just be emergency cover if needed. There is a commitment to create an information exchange of group calendars of speakers. More information to follow.

Area Delegate, Mike B.; Attended NERAASA and NERD (North East Regional Delegates) the past month. There is lots of information coming out, and the wheels are in motion. The meeting guide app is out, and can be found where people acquire their apps. The goal is to make it worldwide. There is also an AA app coming out that will have relevant AA information and is to be tied into the meeting app guide. There will possibly be a message portion (like announcing snow cancellations) which is in its infancy, but not certain yet.

There is a new book coming out the first week in May that will be the first conference approved literature in many years. It is a collection of Bills conference talks titled Our Great Responsibility. The monthly concept meeting will be facilitated by Mike from Intergroup by phone, Concept 3. NERD philosophy "as trusted servants to help, not screw it up."

Coming up: Mini Conference - Saturday, April 27, 2019 10AM - 3:30 PM - Area Business Meeting - Sunday, April 28, 2019 10AM - 2 PM. Topic packets will be distributed tonight to discuss with your group. Any member can attend, GSRs to vote on items.

The 50th Area 31 Western Mass Round-up will take place from Friday June 14th - Sunday June 16th. Clarion Hotel on Riverdale Road in West Springfield.

DCM Report

Tim M.; A wonderful turnout tonight. Might be an attendance record. Attended NERAASA and Western Mass is awesome. Have been going to groups to encourage participation. Important dates: Spring Assembly, NERF (Northeast Regional Forum) May 31 - June 2 Tarrytown, NY, and the Area Round up in Springfield June 14-16.

Co-DCM

Joan P.; The committee to help with hospitality for the spring assembly is coming together. It consists of myself, Ruthie D., Hedley S., Joni C.; Jim T.; John M.; Jenn B.; Sheena C.; Pat P.

Concerns from GSR reports

There was a brief discussion regarding the of veiled cross talk and breaking anonymity in a small community. It might be good to have a group inventory.

With regard to boosting attendance having an exchange meeting with another group to help invigorate the struggling group might be helpful.

There being no other business there was a motion to close and the meeting adjourned with the Responsibility pledge at approximately 810pm.

Respectfully submitted

Pete C.