

MINUTES DISTRICT 3 GSR MONTHLY MEETING

May 17, 2019, Lee, Ma, 7:00pm

The meeting was opened and chaired by the Co-DCM, Joan P. After introducing herself there was a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, she read the statement of GSR duties and responsibilities from page S26 of the AA Service Manual. she then introduced herself, Jenn B. LCM, secretary Pete C., and welcomed everyone.

The March secretaries' minutes sent to everyone by email was accepted.

The tradition and concept for the month of February was read.

New GSR's welcomed; Jill – Alt GSR SOS, Dennis T. – Alt GSR I Don't Have A Clue, Ryan BLT.

GSR Introductions and Reports

Jenn B., Filling in for New Way of Life, Sunday, Pittsfield. Going good need GSR, there are new group members, getting more organized.

Serenity and Peace – Several anniversaries being celebrated. The group is hardly ever full lots of turnover.

Steve M., Alt GSR BLT, Pittsfield - Meet at Crane center six days. Just recruited Ryan to be new GSR who also stepped up to be coffee maker which has helped out a lot. There is more people at first Saturday of the month and hope to fill more positions.

David., Ray of Hope, Lee – Tuesday here in Lee at 5:30. Attended well, all positions filled. Monthly CSS commitment, donate as per Pie chart, missed last business meeting, well attended and supported.

Ryan, BLT, there is some issues with NA people switching over and talk more about drug issues than alcohol.

Steve H., Thursday Night Park Place, Lee – Doing reasonably well. Fifty years celebrated a week or two ago. The main concern is don't get much in the basket and one guy pays out of his pocket. Looking to find a way to raise donations, fundraising. Haven't been able to donate to the pie chart. Have had some very good speakers and sobriety.

Bob P. I don't have a Clue – Lee; Meets seven days a week, No pressing issues, nothing to complain about. Consistent 15-20 with long term sobriety. New commers tending to stick. Pie chart and McGee commitments doing fine. Have a new alt GSR, Dennis T.

Jim T., Southern Berkshire, Great Barrington – Meets Friday 8:00 at the Senior Center, Great Barrington. Attendance increasing to consider the fire exits which is clogging the hallway. How to arrange the chairs and coffee quite contentious, squabbling. Paying the rent, good officers, good commitments and literature. Celebrating anniversaries, the last of the month. The attendance is skyrocketing with over 100. Several speakers and the exchange is working well.

John M., Sheffield 12 & 12 – Our Lady of the Valley Wednesday. Last couple of weeks attendance has been good (20 – 25). Have GSR, secretary and treasurer. Can't seem to get people to volunteer, working out well in spite. Picnic June 19 to celebrate 44 years. Hot dogs & hamburgers. Last year had way too many left. Eat between 6 and 7 with speaker meeting 7 to 8. Just asking people to bring soft drinks/ salad/side dish. Don't understand why the turnout is so low. Contributing as per pie chart. Picnic address Sheffield Park off Rt 7.

Dennis T., Alt GSR I Don't Have a Clue – Founded August 1990 where a lot of new commers got their start. It's an early meeting, and great way to start the day. Nice mix with a lot of people from 1 year to many years, solid fellowship.

Rick R., Wednesday Night Cheshire – Attendance climbing, have a reserve first in a long time along with contribute according to the pie chart also in a long time. Some people go on and on still but doing well in spite. Anniversaries coming up.

Jill, Alt GSR SOS, Lee – Saturday 8am, Have Jones commitment over a month now, Positions filled, attendance good.

Hedley S., Watch your step, Sunday Housatonic – One step a month, good healthy group, attendance spiked which raises the question, should we look for more space. This comes up now and then over and over. Group inventory, anniversaries, McGee commitment. Group members step up but are making an effort to grab new commers to get them involved.

REPORTS

Area Chair, Mike B.; Everything is going very well, with no big issues which is good. Looking forward to the Fall assembly in October. It will be held in District 6. This is the plan to move t around from now on. Individual groups are being under represented forcing the area committee into making decisions. The GSR is the most important link in our process of the inverted triangle.

There is an opportunity for area service work. Looking for a Co-Chair for the Website Committee. You don't have to be computer or website expert.

NERF (Northeast Regional Forum) May 31 - June 2 Tarrytown, NY. The wonderful thing about service work, is the fact that the timing it is not always convenient and can help make you tolerant.

It is still considered to do the concept meeting by Skype, but nothing firm yet.

Co-DCM, Joan P.; There was a very good turnout from our district at the assembly. Trying to add language to Area 31 rotating assembly.

There will be a public information meeting from 7-8:30 pm at the Area Round up in Springfield June 14.

This is a public meeting open to professionals, CPC, PI committee, and Al-Anon.

The Mass State Assembly (to be held in Nov) committee is looking for ideas. See Alt Delegate Paul.

From the Co-DCM's report she rolled into the agenda item of a "Singleness of Purpose" discussion, how do individual groups handle situations that come up regarding people who identify as addicts, and what advise can be offered from personal experiences. This issue has come up in the past from various GSR reports and it was felt it warranted a discussion keeping tradition four in mind.

This was a very informal discussion which had the tone of compassion and understanding for all. In some cases, AA not able to help an addict because circumstances may be different, however on the other hand not all alcoholics are benefited from AA.

The general consensus of the group was that no matter the addictive substances we all feel Pain, misery, hardship due to our addiction and need to give a message of hope that we don't have to live like this.

We are trying to save someone's life and help the next person today. Things that don't help are Logs (either drunk or drug) when individuals go on and on. Get a sponsor, do the steps, bottom line save a life.

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

Respectfully submitted

Pete C.