

MINUTES DISTRICT 3 GSR MONTHLY MEETING

July 21, 2019, Lee, Ma, 7:00pm

The meeting was opened and chaired by the DCM, Tim M. After introducing himself and welcoming everyone there was a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. He read the statement of GSR duties and responsibilities from page S26 of the AA Service Manual then introduced Joan P. Co-DCM, secretary Pete C. Joan P. Co-DCM read the tradition and concept for the month of July.

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

GSR Introductions and Reports

John M., Sheffield 12 & 12 – Our Lady of the Valley, Wednesday at 730 pm. Struggling financially, almost broke even after the picnic. Usually donate to the town for use of the park for the picnic. Nothing really new, attendance ok, an active group.

Kale B., Thursday's Men's Group, Gt. Barrington – Wheels have kind of come off after moved 3 or 4 times. It's taking it's toll on some of the old timers and meeting going through some serious changes. Had a new secretary that didn't last long, seems like one bad choice. Attendance good, just need to wait and see.

Ryan, BLT, Pittsfield 12, Noon - Changed to 12 & 12 format, depending on weeks in the month which we started on the 6th. I am the new secretary. Have been struggling with finances, don't have many people contributing, afraid it might go under, hope not.

Jim T., Southern Berkshire, Great Barrington - Meets Friday 8:00 at the Senior Center, Great Barrington. Last Friday's business meeting elected new positions. Literature and speaker exchange person to get incoming and outgoing groups arranged. Have a new business meeting chairperson. Had a lively discussion on the role of the exchange booker. It will be interesting to see how other groups come in and out. Financially in good shape, attendance good and steady coffee maker.

Bob P., I don't have a Clue, Lee – 6:45 am 365 days a year, one-hour meeting. Attendance better than usual with quite a few new commers. Have not contributed to the pie chart as many of our expenses are high. The pie chart contributions were voted down because only have one-month reserve. Certain people take offense and take issue with the BB chapter "To the Wives". Have weekly commitment to McGee.

Dan D., Alt GSR Northern Berkshire, Williamstown on Sunday and Tuesday at 730pm on Park Street – Will yield to GSR, however will report that the "Chanting" issue has been put to bed, and decided not to have any further discussion.

Chuck C., Northern Berkshire, Williamstown – Three new members, growing. Speaker commitment going well. Have a decent prudent reserve. Staying on the AA map, attendance good with summer time bringing in fresh faces.

Martha B., Thursday Women's Group, Great Barrington – Robust group of women. About to start a group inventory. Will jump with reports next business meeting, doing welcome packets. Lots of women come from institutions, people are happy to step up when needed, core is good.

Stephen M., BLT, Alt-GSR – Problem with business meeting only three people show up and every month it's a different three. Try to make changes but it's difficult without all the members. Have been making calls to get people involved, it's hard when people don't show up. We're only buying literature and sometimes comes out of personal pockets. On Saturday tried to have a 50/50 and an old timer got irritated which wasn't good because of gambling addictions.

Jen M., Young at Heart Monday's – Participating in the booking exchange and pie chart.

Lisa L., Ray of Hope – Well attended, contribute as per pie chart, positions filled. Give books to new comers. Concerns regarding the 806 challenge on 8/6 that it perhaps could violate tradition 7. If it were too successful AA could well end up with an excess all of a sudden. It is also felt that something of this nature for all of AA should go through proper conference channels.

REPORTS

Mike S., Area delegate – Thanked everyone for their participation, this is a very well represented region. The area assembly will be held October 12/13th at the Blessed Sacrament Church in Westfield, District 6. This will be rotating throughout the area. The 12th will be an area inventory followed on the 13th with the business meeting. There will be elections for delegate, alt-delegate, etc. This is the opportunity to vote and have your group represented. It is also encouraged for people to stand and participate.

The Mass Convention planning meeting will be held July 30th in Framingham. There will be carpooling from Springfield. People are always welcome to attend which repeats every other month on the last Tuesday in Framingham.

The meeting guide app is great to new comers and proving useful for everyone.

It is official Area 48 in New York “Hudson, Mohawk, Berkshire” has removed the confusing reference to Berkshire from the name.

AA Service Manual Study meets every month on the third Wednesday at 730 pm at:

Grace United Church

474 Pleasant St.

Holyoke, MA 01040

There followed a discussion on the 806 on 8/6 challenge. It is not a fundraiser but a challenge for AA members to contribute \$8.06 per member to help top up reserves. This would help reduce the cost of Big Books. It is stressed that this is not organized fundraiser but a challenge from Area 58 in Oregon.

Mike M., Chair Berkshire Intergroup – Intergroup meets 2nd Monday, 152 North Street, Suite 30C, Pittsfield. the Berkshire Speaker Exchange meeting was a success with twelve groups. There will be another meeting before the September Intergroup meeting at 6 pm.

YMPAA- Alyssa and Chris – Meet last Sunday at Providence Behavioral Health Hospital, 1233 Main St., Holyoke, at 3pm.

A group of young people who hold events and encourage sobriety and offer support to the younger community. there is a commitment at McGee to give back to the Berkshires. Attempt to introduce people to get active.

The 61st ICYPAA will be held in Boston, Wednesday, August 22 - 12:00pm to Saturday, August 25 - 12:00pm at the Boston Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Avenue, Boston.

Register now at icypaa.org. Pre-registration is \$30. Hotel rooms - \$189/night. Discounted parking \$12/day. To book click the link <https://book.passkey.com/go/icypaa2019> or for any questions email facilities@icyhost.org

DCM- Tim M. – Thanks to Joan P. our Co-CM for filling in at the monthly area meeting. Thanks also for the hospitality for tonight’s meeting. Appreciate all the thinking and concern everyone has for their groups and sharing problems encountered. Like so many things it’s better to air issues to get advice and help. Last month it was voted to have our fall workshop on CPC to inform non-alcoholic professionals what AA is about. It is very important they understand exactly what it is and how we can do our part in

the Berkshires. There is a list of people who volunteered to be the organizing committee and if there is anyone else wishing to help organize please let me know. It will be held at the Lenox Community Center, no date yet.

CO-DCM, Joan P. – Working on a bus to go to NYC, no date yet. The round up had 462 participants. August 25 picnic looking for donations to the raffle.

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

Respectfully submitted

Pete C.