

DISTRICT 3 MONTHLY MEETING 4/15/22

MEETING STARTED AT 7PM

Meeting opened with The Serenity Prayer

Secretary's Report Accepted, acknowledged that Northern Berkshire Group needs to be added to the email list to receive meeting minutes.

GROUP REPORTS

Men's 12th Step – Meeting Tues at 6:30 pm, no mask requirements, coffee and snacks provided, attendance consistently around 40. Planning a spaghetti dinner for Tuesday May 24, 6:30pm in lieu of normal meeting. Open to all (open/speaker/men and women), 2 speakers, suggested donation.

Northern Berkshire Group – Meeting in Williamstown Sun and Tues at 7:30pm. Attendance going down, possibly due to over saturation of meetings in Williamstown. Organizing speaker exchanges directly – please contact the group directly if interested. No Berkshire Intergroup Rep, all other positions filled. Still masked, rent paid through May. Continues to read the old Preamble as dictated by Group Conscience. These meeting are in-person only.

Southern Berkshire – Financials good. Struggling to run hybrid meeting well (40 in person/ 60 virtual), finding it difficult to “serve both sides of the aisle” on hybrid. The group has met to discuss Robert's Rules, found it to be informative, will keep moving forward on solving hybrid issues.

Great Barrington Men's Group – Thursday in-person and virtual; Sunday online Step Group. 40-50 people attending, welcoming newcomers. Sponsoring 2 online meetings. 1st quarter contributions have been distributed, have a cash surplus. Have commitments to Pittsfield Correctional and CSS. Online meetings are picking up attendees from outside Mass. The group is eager to do service. Two new alt-GSRs have been added.

SOS – Continues to meet phone hybrid. 12-13 people in each phone, in-person. All service positions filled. Financially healthy. Chair persons are found one week ahead of time. Receiving some newcomers.

Watch Your Step – Sundays at 9am. Exclusively Zoom; the idea to return to in-person is revisited monthly, but the interest is not there. Attendance about 35-40 people, Treasury good, making quarterly contributions. Format is 1 step per month.

Keep It Simple (GB Nooner) – Meeting in 2 groups (Zoom and in-person). Masks optional; coffee and cookies, etc. are an option, though not yet provided. 12-15 people meeting on Zoom, in-person growing – approximately 15-18 daily, welcoming newcomers, mostly young men. Treasury is shared between the two

meetings, distributions made at the end of the March. Having trouble generating excitement about service, discussed in most recent business meeting.

Lenox Big Book – Thursdays at 7pm. Meeting in-person, masks not required. 20-30 people typically in attendance. Contributing to pie chart (approximately matching recommendations). No Berkshire Intergroup rep, no Institutions rep. Asked whether Berkshire Institutions is still functioning.

INVITED COMMITTEES

Berkshire Institutions - Not present.

For more information on Berkshire Institutions and how we can be of service, please visit www.area31aa.org/berkinstitutionsdocs

Berkshire Intergroup – Did not meet monthly expenses for March – about \$350 short, but have not yet dipped into the prudent reserve. Organizing a one day retreat, have a committee working on this. Sorting out meeting lists – streamlining information is a priority, making determinations as to the effectiveness of printed meeting lists vs. adopting QR codes for meeting information.

DISCUSSION: Clarification regarding Area/District/BIG end of year 2021 finances requested. Brief review of Area reserves (approx. \$30,000), District budget requests (\$800 for tech purchases to maintain virtual meetings – granted and received), Area donations to BIG (\$3,600), and BIG's end of 2021 surplus (\$6,000).

DCM REPORT

- Spring Assembly – March 26-27 - hybrid in Holyoke. First time hybrid, included 2 Zoom breakout rooms, 4 groups in person. Delegate was able to hear from Area regarding Conference Items (also heard from District 3 at March 5 event).
- Area Round Up – May 20-22, 2022 at the Clarion Hotel in West Springfield, in-person. \$129/night. Looking for volunteers to staff event.
 - Each District to host a meeting at Round Up. District 3 is hosting a Home Group Celebration meeting Sunday 5/22 at 9 am. Please reach out to district3@area31aa.org with any ideas; also would accept a group commitment to run this meeting.
- Monthly Traditions Meeting – 2nd Sundays at 7 pm on Zoom. Meeting ID and passcode available at www.area31aa.org. Format is Speaker/Discussion, speaker sharing experience on the Tradition, not merely a reading of *Twelve and Twelve*. Chaired by outgoing DCM Lisa L. Recordings of the speaker portion (only) available by request at district3@area31aa.org

- Area Committees –
 - Many service opportunities have developed in the past couple of years due to adding a virtual component to meetings. Attending meetings is easier than ever as there is often no need to travel.
 - GSRs should communicate the need for representation in Area committees i.e., Accessibilities, Grapevine, Public Information, Cooperation with Professional Communities, Archives.
 - All Area meetings are currently virtual or hybrid (except Institutions)
- Webmaster – Current webmaster is stepping down. Area NEW BUSINESS introduced a motion to form a committee to search out a replacement. The position will be filled by Tom H., leaving the District 3 DCM position open (see NEW BUSINESS below).

ALT. DELEGATE REPORT

- General Service Conference is the week of April 23, 2022
- Area Round-Up is May 20-22 at the Clarion Hotel in West Springfield. GSRs are strongly encouraged to attend and report the outcome back to their groups – this is a main duty of the GSR.
- Mass State Convention – Next Planning Committee meeting is 5/31/2022 7 pm at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge or Zoom Meeting ID: 833 4526 2186 Passcode: 164112. A carpool has been organized leaving from the Mercedes dealership on Burnett Rd in Chicopee. Please reach out to Steve M. if interested.
- News of Interest: District 2 is now live only for its District Meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

Co-DCM and LCM positions remain open in District 3. No one stood for either position. **Please announce at meetings.**

NEW BUSINESS

Tom H. will be talking over the as the Area Webmaster, leaving the DCM position open. Tom will stay on as DCM while a replacement is sought.

MEETING CLOSED at 7:50pm