

# DISTRICT 3 MONTHLY MEETING 9/16/22

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MEETING STARTED AT 7:05PM

Meeting opened with The Serenity Prayer

## GROUP REPORTS

**Lenox Big Book** – Financially solvent, fulfilling commitments.

**Watch Your Step** – Meeting on Zoom, all good with the group. Doing commitments at McGhee on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays and 5<sup>th</sup> Fridays. Holding monthly votes to go hybrid, so far staying virtual. Making contributions to GSO and Berkshire Intergroup. NOTE: Should re-register group if staying on Zoom only.

**Berkshire Big Book** – Meeting Wed at St. Mary's in Cheshire at 7:30 pm. Meeting is strong, fulfilling commitments. No current reps for Berkshire Institutions or Berkshire Intergroup

**Keep It Simple** – Meeting 6 days/wk (not Sun.) Attendance is good – 20 people live, more on Saturday. Sat. Zoom meeting moving to Literature/Speaker rotation. Made a recent large contribution to the pie chart. Reaching people outside of Pittsfield.

**Men's 12<sup>th</sup> Step** – Tues at 6:30 in Pittsfield. Consistent attendance of around 30. Waiting for Berkshire Institutions to explore a new service commitment. Using contributions to update literature, pamphlets, hanging posters.

**S.O.S. (Sober on Saturdays)** – 8 am in Lee (hybrid). 2 celebration in August. 20-25 people in attendance + 10 call-in. Financially stable. Created a service position – chair & speaker/mic care.

**GB Men's Meeting** – In person Thursday @ 7pm, 40-50 in attendance. Plenty of newcomers. Simultaneous Zoom meeting (20 people). Sunday step meeting (20 people). Financially good. Last month's picnic was successful, 50 people stayed after for the meeting. Considered adding a Big Book meeting, kept as its own meeting, maybe co-ed. Separate, still in its infancy (5 weeks running now), also at the First Congregational Church.

**Southern Berkshire Group** – No major updates. Continuing hybrid. 2 speakers in person and 1 online. Added service positions and in the process of reformatting meeting. Another group asked to borrow equipment – thoughts from the meeting? *(The group can make this decision autonomously, there is no conflict within the Traditions of agreeing to share the equipment.)*

**Sober at Sunrise Virtual** – Attendance is consistent, financially stable. Group is doing okay, last business meeting was good – addressed a cross-talking issue, attracting newcomers, registered with GSO.

## INVITED COMMITTEES

### **Berkshire Institutions –**

Update: prior chair has stepped down, new chair (temporary?) scheduled to host the next meeting 9/21 7pm

*Discussion on how to make service commitments: 1) call Mcgee directly, 2) CSS has no books, looking to have people come in; noted CSS has been difficult to reach, 3) organizing a trip to Chicopee to pick up literature*

### **Berkshire Intergroup –**

- The retreat scheduled for 9/24 is full. Theme is 11<sup>th</sup> Step. There is a waiting list, sign up by contacting [berkshireaintergroup@gmail.com](mailto:berkshireaintergroup@gmail.com)
- 10/23 movie matinee at Images in Williamstown: *Bill W.* Q&A with producer and director to follow. Capacity limited to 75. Organic popcorn with real butter. (!)
- Alcathon for Christmas and New Years Eve tentatively scheduled for 5pm-12am; 7am-12pm live at St. Charles; 12am-5am on Zoom.
- Will have a table at the Fall Assembly
- Considering a change of office hours to include evenings and/or Saturdays
- Office manager is stepping down at the end of December
- Meeting expenses

## DCM REPORT

- District event planning for December, meeting Monday 9/19
- Area Fall Assembly 10/15 9am - 3pm, 10/16 12 – 4pm in Lenox. 10/16 is the Area Business Meeting, GSRs should attend and vote. All AA is welcome. The District is responsible for hosting and setting up. Looking for volunteers. 10/15 the Area will present its various Committees and discuss their roles.
- On AREA financials:
  - The Area has a budget surplus. Approved upcoming expenses include fully funded travel to GSC (\$8k), a contribution to NERAASA (\$13k up from \$3k)

*Discussion points about group contributions to Area or temporary alternatives, i.e., finding ways to contribute cash or literature to groups outside of the area.*

## AREA DELEGATE

- Rooms at the MASS State Convention in Sturbridge Nov. 11-13 are available for \$127/night. Sleeps up to 4. Committee asks that you reserve directly through the hotel so that we qualify for their group rate. Registration is open at
- What a Concept meeting continues to run hybrid [www.area31aa.org](http://www.area31aa.org)
- The service manual meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> Wed) is also hybrid, but potentially may not continue

## OLD BUSINESS

- The reason we switched to Google Meet: new District computer is a Chromebook, doesn't work well with Zoom. Also works well with Google Workspace account, it's less expensive than zoom. The incoming DCM will be responsible for the computer.
- Co-DCM and LCM positions remain open, no one stood for either position. Qualifications for DCM – experience as a GSR, 4-5 yrs sober, familiar with Traditions, Concepts, Area meetings. No one stood for either position

## NEW BUSINESS

Southern Berkshire Group confirmed about lending out equipment – the group is autonomous and may do as it likes.

**MEETING CLOSED** at 8:01 with the Responsibility Pledge.