

DISTRICT 3 MONTHLY MEETING October 20, 2023

MEETING START 7:00 PM

1. 14 present: 9 Zoom, 5 at the Lee Courthouse.
2. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer

SECRETARY REPORT

3. Brian W., stepping in as the voice for Gigi L., who had bronchitis, recapped September 2023 minutes. Motion to accept minutes was made and second. Minutes accepted unanimously.

WELCOME

4. Area 31 Delegate Mike B attending.

TRADITIONS AND CONCEPTS

5. Spread the word and join us at District 3 Traditions Meeting and Area 31 Concepts Study Meeting. The Traditions meeting is held on the 2nd Sunday of the month @7pm. What a Concept is held on the 1st Thursday of every month @7:30pm. Links to these meeting can be found at the Area 31 website Calendar (<https://area31aa.org/calendar>) or the below links:

Traditions Meeting: <https://area31aa.org/node/579>

Concept Meeting: <https://area31aa.org/node/566>

6. Reading of Tradition 10 (short form):

"Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A. A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy."

Link to illustrated version at AA.org: <https://www.aa.org/twelve-traditions-illustrated>

7. Reading of Concept 10 (short form):

“Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws.”

Link to illustrated version: <https://www.aa.org/twelve-concepts-world-service-illustrated>

GROUP REPORTS

8. Great Barrington Men's Meeting-80 plus fellows in attendance on Thursdays. Business meeting is held 1st Thursday of the month. Alt. GSR, Karl, is now in position. Attendance at the co-occurring online meeting has declined. Group is looking for an online host. Considering dropping the online component if no one steps up for the position. Service commitments are strong

9. I Don't Have a Clue: Group has adopted a firm schedule of rotation with officers elected for annual January start. GSR is a two year commitment. Daily chairs will rotate every Jan., May, and September. Secretary introducing an electronic binder.

10. Keep it Simple: The group participates in 6 institutional commitments a month. Business for the in-person meeting is held every 3rd Thursday of the month. Virtual business meeting is held every 3rd Friday of the month via Zoom. The group has decided to end the handing out of Big Books to the newcomer.

11. Lee Young People's: Going strong. Business meeting is held 3rd Monday of the month. The group has a new Intergroup representative (Casey) and has 2 monthly service commitments. Half of group's donation money was directed to Intergroup last month.

12. Lenox Big Book Step: Going strong. Business meeting was well attended. Continuing to offer cookies and cake.

13. Pittsfield Men's 12th Step Group: Spaghetti Dinner on October 17 was a success with approx. 90-100 in attendance. Spouses and families participated. The group does not have an Intergroup representative. The group does have an Institutions representative.

14. Virtual Sober at Sunrise: 16 we're in attendance at the last business meeting. The group's business meeting is held on the last Saturday of the month following the meeting.

15. Southern Berkshire Group: Business meeting is hybrid and is held the 2nd Friday of the month before the meeting. An ad-hoc committee was formed to streamline online service positions. Currently 4-5 people are needed to run the online portion of the meeting.
16. Northern Berkshire: Meets on Sunday and Tuesday, attendance up to 60 folks, outgoing and incoming speaker meetings from the group, finances are good, donating to the pie chart including a donation to the Wilson house do to floods this summer, all positions filled, last Sunday for business meeting after the meeting.
17. Watch Your Step: Business meeting is 3rd Sunday of the month. Group distributes according to the pie chart. Commitments @ McGee on the 2nd and 5th Thursdays of the month. Virtual meeting has 15-20 attendees, 19-25 in person, no elections are needed at this time.

INVITED COMMITTEES

18. Mike B., Area 11 Delegate. Mike is in his last months of service as our Area's Delegate, he noted on behalf of the Alt. Delegate that 59th Mass State Convention is being held on November 10 through 12, there are still rooms at the hotel but not in the reserved block. Mike reported that he entertained 4 proposals for the 2024 Mass. State Convention as the chair of next year's convention and that the 2024 Convention will be held at the Best Western Crown Plaza in Marlboro, MA.

A. Question was asked about the convention being accessible virtually, Mike B. noted that it will not be virtual at the 59th State Convention on Nov 10 through 12 in 2023, and does not appear it will be available virtually in 2024.

19. Berkshire Intergroup not present
20. Berkshire Institutions not present

DCM REPORT

21. District 3, BIG, and BIC having an ad hoc planning group preparing for a January Service Celebration.
22. Elections to be held at next month's meeting for Co-DCM position
23. Area Assembly was held on 10/14 and 10/15 at St. Catherine's of Sienna Church in Springfield; Area inventory was on 10/14 and Business meeting on 10/15

24. Northeast Regional Trustee (NERT) and past delegate from Area 30 (Eastern Mass) Ken T. led the inventory providing a handout with 17 questions about the health of the Area and one (1) question not included on the handout; the inventory lasted about 5 hours and included good participation from the attendees; DCM Brian W will provide full notes from his attendance at the inventory separate from the DCM Report;
25. Area business meeting was attended by 50 voting members of the Area Committee and included reports from standing committees, invited committees, districts, and Area officers; DCM Brian W will provide full notes from attendance in separate document.
26. Key notes from Business Meeting:
 - A. Treasurer to provide full accounting for past six months in email, currently the Area is in good shape and income outpaced expenses for the past six months
 - B. Registrar noted that the Area currently has 301 active, registered groups ranging from 29 up to 70 groups;
 - C. Webmaster: report from conference attended in Virginia will be up on the Area 31 website; webmaster also previewed the upcoming changes to the Area website which will be going live in December 2023
 - D. WMIC: sent Bridging the Gap coordinator to Texas conference and resulted in our Area being entered into national database due to attendance; institutions has currently 1082 books on hand.
 - E. WMIG: 37 reps were at the last meeting to hear about any changes the WMIG is considering; WMIG will be setting up a table at the state convention; Alcahthon for Xmas will be posted on the Area website; elections will be held in November at meeting; two motions held about when and where's and QR codes and there will be movement forward to come to the Area with a new when and where which will have scannable QR codes to go directly to meeting list
 - F. Roundup: 22% increase in participation at the roundup; currently working through the feedback about the conference, biggest complaint appears to be the location; final balance is \$7126 to support the next roundup; first new meeting was 10/11, needs support and has numerous subcommittees that will be needed, seeking a roundup co-chair (next meeting is 11/8 at 6pm)

G. Alt. Delegate: State convention is 11/10 through 11/12 at the Sturbridge Host the “early bid” rate is no longer available so can’t save five bucks to register and the block of rooms saved for the convention are sold out, still have rooms at the hotel

H. Voting for Area 31 Officers: Past Area 31 delegate Sally led the process utilizing the third legacy procedure, 59 voting members counted out at the start of the voting (only 52 members by the time treasurer was voted):

I. Delegate: Justin, Steve, Ray M - Steve 46, ray 7, Justin 6; Steve M new Delegate for GSC Panel 74.

II. Alt Delegate: D6 DCM Justin C. and Area Secretary Ray M, Ray 46; Current Area Secretary Ray M. the new Alt. Delegate Currently the Area Secretary.

III. Area Chair: WMIG Chair Bob M, Justin standing; four rounds of voting, then to the hat; Bob the new Area Chair.

IV. Area Secretary: Justin, Kate V, Area Chair John G; Fourth round of voting went to Kate V with 39 vote; Current D5 DCM Kate V the new Area Secretary.

V. Area Treasurer: Jax, Lynne, John, Justin; Lynne and Jax out after two rounds with only 6 and 0 votes; Fourth round vote John and Justin, no winner, John with 24 and Justin with 33, current D6 DCM Justin C. wins with the hat as new Area Treasurer.

Co-DCM REPORT

27. Currently Co-DCM role is vacant.

SAFETY MOMENT

28. No safety moment due to anticipated review of Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS

29. No old business. Previous PAI and Time extension items closed.

NEW BUSINESS

30. Vote on Budget - DCM noted that the budget for 2023 is untouched but expected 300 to 400 will be committed in December to the Service Celebration; motion was made to utilize the \$600 budget for District 3 for next year, motion seconded, none opposed no further discussion.

31. Elections - DCM noted we will need to vote next month on Co-DCM; Brian W noted that he started his term in the end of April and that the GSRs should determine if he retains the role, and that the secretary role may be up but that would be up tot the groups; motion to keep Brian as DCM through 2024, seconded and adopted; motion to keep secretary through 2024 was seconded and adopted

A. Gigi wanted to note that John G has served us well as even though he cannot retain position; Brian W noted that John was unable to step up

32. Motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

33. The meeting ended with the Responsibility Pledge.

MEETING ENDED at 8:15 pm