

DISTRICT 3 MONTHLY MEETING August 16, 2024

MEETING START 7:00 PM

1. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer.
2. 10 present: 7 Zoom, 3 at the Lee Courthouse.

SECRETARY REPORT

3. Brian W. recapped highlights from the July minutes. Motion to accept minutes for July was made and seconded. Minutes accepted unanimously.

WELCOME

4. Bob M, Area 31 Chair; Courtney L., the Berkshire Intergroup (BIG) Chair.

TRADITIONS AND CONCEPTS

5. Spread the word and join us at District 3 Traditions Meeting and Area 31 Concepts Study Meeting. The District Three 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/events/district-3-virtual-traditions-meeting/>

Concept Meeting: <https://area31aa.org/events/what-a-concept/>

6. Reading of Tradition Eight, long form, by Tom K.:

"Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we may otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12th Step" work is never to be paid for."

Link to AA.Org Long Version: https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/smf-187_en%201021.pdf

7. Reading of Concept Eight by Jesse G.:

“The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities. ”

Link to AA.Org Twelve Concepts Short Form:

https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/SMF-114_The_Twelve_Concepts_For_World_Service-Short-Form_EN_111021.pdf

GROUP REPORTS

8. Keep It Simple Group: The group meets every day except Sunday, and its business meeting is hybrid; the hybrid business meeting being held quarterly, monthly held for the Zoom portion; changing up the literature to reduce reading lengths, switching from Living Sober to Language of the Heart, need more attendance on Saturdays on Zoom, all commitments are filled.

9. Lee Young People's Group: The meeting has good attendance; has obtained two commitments from the bookie meeting including the Tower Group and the Northern Berkshire Group; service positions in the group need to be filled positions; money is good and is working on an issue with donations to GSO related to application of the group ID on checks.

10. Lenox Big Book Group: Attendance is up to 60 and is doing well, donating according to the pie chart, and Connell is celebrating 33 years.

11. Monterey 11th Step: The group meets behind the firehouse and will have a picnic on August 18th after the meeting to celebrate its anniversary. The picnic is a potluck and open to all.

12. Stockbridge Tower Group: The business meeting is held the first Tuesday of the month. Tower Group 50 to 60 at most meetings, Courtney L. is chairing this month, celebrants this month are Sean with 1 and Mike K with 37; the Group is going to host a Fall Foliage Fling on September 21st at the Rural Recovery Center from 8pm to 12pm, 67 State Road in Great

Barrington, food and snacks will be provided and the DJ Will H.; working with bookie meeting for speaker exchange.

13. Virtual Sober at Sunrise: VSAS no new business from the business meeting, but there was some confusion about an institution's commitments that will need to be confirmed, Brian W recommended reaching out to Madison L. as she has access to the spreadsheet and is part of the District 3 ad hoc event committee, slimmer attendance noted potentially due to summer usually thirty-five.

14. Watch Your Step Group: The hybrid business meeting is held the 2nd Sunday of the month. Kathy M., GSR for Virtual Sober at Sunrise, is filling in as GSR for this group until a member fills the space vacated by the former GSR. Only four in attendance so did not hold its business meeting.

15. On Awakening Group: The group began in January 2024 and meets Monday through Friday at 7am and varies the format each day at the Rural Recovery Center at 7am, located at 67 State Road Great Barrington, MA; business meeting is the last Tuesday, all are welcome.

16. 1th Step in Monterey: Summer is busy and biggest, 45 to 50 per week in attendance; on August 18th a potluck summer picnic this Sunday at members immediately following the meeting.

INVITED COMMITTEES

17. Berkshire Intergroup, Dwayne, Co-. Chair

The business meeting is held the 2nd Monday of the Month @ 7pm on Zoom. Bookie Meeting is a hybrid meeting held at 6pm on the 2nd Monday of the month; BIG reported the summer picnic with 80 to 100 people in attendance, lots of positive feedback and people felt it was a welcoming location that was inclusive of the Berkshires; Bookie meeting is a success, started with 2, now there is 5 and it is getting traction; Feb 2025 is BIGs 35th anniversary and BIG is asking groups what they would like to do to celebrate the event; there are lots of positions rotating out in November, the description of the positions are in the newsletter produced monthly by Susan B., there is concern about filling the positions; BIG is doing very well in terms of being self supporting and having a stable prudent reserve.

Link to Berkshire Intergroup Website: <https://www.berkshireaintergroup.org/>

18. Area Chair, Bob M: Area Assembly will be on October 19th and 20th, still working for the agenda; WMIG is looking for a part time employee to work on Tuesday; WMIG will be hosting a Thanksgiving alcahthon; the MA state convention will be at the Best Western Conference Center on 8th through 10th in November, next planning meeting on 9/29/24, meeting is hybrid, available to get hotel and registration is open; there is a trustee position open to be applied for, can reach out to the Area Chair or Area Delegate, there will be a recommendation from our Area during the fall assembly for anyone in the Area qualified and supported; WMIG picnic on Sunday, August 18th, weather will drive events

AD-HOC COMMITTEE DIST. 3 FALL EVENT REPORT

19. Kathy M. reported on the status of the Fall District 3 event:

Committee members: Kathy M., Michael K., and Madison L.

District 3 will hold an 'Emotional Sobriety Workshop' sponsored by District 3 on Saturday morning in October 5th at First Congregational Church, 4 Main Street in Stockbridge, MA; the topic will “emotional sobriety: from the promises to the bedevilments”; there will be 8 speakers and the committee is still looking for speakers for the event; ten-minute speaking parts with breaks, Q & A, ask it basket; pastries and coffee will be provided; the flier due out in the next week or so; noted that the event may go over the budget allotted to District 3 and can be brought before the Area Committee for approval over the overrun but there is no guarantee.

DCM REPORT

20. Brian W, District 3 DCM

- A. PLBB is going to be published in November
- B. D2 event on Sept 7th, The Forgotten Twelve, 1230 to 230, Agawam United Methodist Church, 459 Mill Street, Agawam MA
- C. D6 Event on Sept 14, Celebration of Service at Hazardville United Methodist Church, 330 Hazard Avenue, Enfield, CT from 1 to 3pm
- D. Fall Assembly will be October 19 and 20 and will be held at St. Rose de Lima Catholic Church 600 Grattan St., Chicopee, MA, 8 to 2 on Saturday and 1 to 5 on Sunday

E. Grapevine Workshop was successful with about 30 people in attendance between in person and zoom. Any WMIG Picnic will be held on August 18th at Moose Lodge, 244 Fuller Road in Chicopee, MA from 1pm to 5pm questions please let me know.

F. International Convention when it opens, be prepared to click as it will fill up within hours, will happen in September; if you are going to attend just be aware that Canada has policies related to criminal offenses.

G. Motion was made to record the meeting, seconded and approved, this will be to support the secretary for note taking and this has started up.

Co-DCM REPORT

21. Currently Co-DCM role is vacant.

OLD BUSINESS

22. Co-DCM Vacancy (11/17/23): Brian W. asked if anyone was willing to stand. No one stood.

2/16/24: DCM requested that GSRs take this to their homegroups to discuss the need for a member of District 3 to step up for the co-DCM role.

NEW BUSINESS

23. No new business

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

25. The meeting ended with the Responsibility Pledge.

MEETING ENDED at 8:00 p.m.