

July 15, 2014 District 4 GSR meeting

Present: Larry, GSR Northampton BB Step Study; Aprile, GSR Northampton Saturday Night Beginner's Group; Arthur, GSR Florence IOpener; Melissa, North Amherst Thursday Night; Kim, Amherst Monday Night, Ruby, Colrain Tuesday noontime; Tania, Northampton Thursday Night Meditation; Fred, Alternate Thursday Night Meditation; Tiffany, DCM; Patti, Co-DCM; Paul, Area Chair; Eddie, Intergroup Chair

Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer

Group read from the Area 31 Handbook. Tiffany asked for volunteers to read a tradition and a chapter of the service manual to report back to the group. Ruby will read tradition/chapter 2; Arthur will read tradition/chapter 3 for next month.

Tiffany reported on Tradition/chapter 1: group unity is paramount for individual survival, and for the survival of the group, sometimes we have to put our personal desires aside. General service manual chapter one describes the inverted pyramid structure of AA. Communication through the structure is important: Groups – GSR - DCM – Area – GSO.

The delegate's report should be posted to the website soon. Tiffany will let us know when that happens.

GSR Reports:

Tania, Thursday Meditation: Attendance is up; small but growing group. Is in a secular location which is helpful.

Arthur, IOpener: Attendance is strong; btw 30-70 people. Friday meetings are now open because it is chip/coin day. Regular commitment with Hampshire County Jail; they are throwing a gratitude picnic for the group. New commitment at the Chicopee women's jail on the third Thursday of the month.

Larry, GSR Northampton BB Step Study; Strong attendance and contributions

Melissa; North Amherst; New AC is keeping it cool, and attendance up; @35 people, but not a lot of newcomers.

Kim, Amherst Monday night; attendance slacks in the summer, reviewing the format. Long standing question of how to handle straight addicts in discussion format—problem seems to be correcting itself. Addicts are respectful of the format.

Ruby, Colrain; Group is larger in the summer. Traditions meeting is popular.

Tiffany delivered the **Area Meeting Report:**

Grapevine: Low turnout at the the open house only about 20 people. If your group gets the grapevine archives boards please say something about them being there. Asked the districts to think about the districts getting a grapevine subscription.

Public Information: filled the standing commitments. Working on getting more commitments They have four DUI classes they are presenting coming up.

Website: working on tutorial for the new back up webmaster position. Got a response from GSO about consent for the website, no action is needed for the right to publish stuff on the website.

Mary is taking the lead on the website flyer/pamphlet. Talking about getting the registration process for groups on-line, concerns about security of this process.

Institutions: only 12 commitments not filled (this is really good). New bridging the gap cards

Western Mass Intergroup – Kevin the office manager is still in Boston please keep him in your prayers. The group donation is helping to keep the price of books down. Phone coverage is doing well if you want to be involved and your group does not they can always use back-ups. The next shipment of the 70th ann. Big book is in: they are \$12 . Raffle chair Bob P. looking for donation like gift baskets for the area picnic. Trying to get changes to the website, Kevin was the only one doing the website they are figuring it out as fast as they can.

Western Mass young People: Will be hosting a soft ball tournament at area picnic. Bus trip to the gso \$35 September 19 leaves KMart in Holyoke at 6 am gets back about 9-10pm

District Reports

-District One- they had a good showing 10 gsrs; Some Spanish speaking groups shoed up
The questions of how to get people involved? Also drugs in meetings.They talked about who is not being represented in meetings.

-District Two: district workshop September 10th 1-4pm

Holyoke

-District Five- low attendance last month, one group had some issues with a male attention on female new comers

-District Six- good showing

Delegate's Remarks-

this month's issue of the grapevine is the prison issue. Please subscribe if you can. New aa.org website has launch, it is great check it out. If you go to the GSO with young people they have a new welcome packet. There is a new technology position in the GSO they are looking for someone and will hopefully find the right person soon.

The mailing for the International conference will be mailed in August and in September the online registration will be up.

Ebooks are on kindle, itunes, n&b

Book prices are going up to be going up soon (October), buy now.

The new versions of the pamphlet "In circles of love and tolerance" should be up on aa.org soon, as well as, the pamphlet on Spirituality. The Video "Markings on the Journey" will be out soon .

Still looking for a A class trustees

Alternate Delegate's Remarks

Co- chair for the mass state conference Last Tuesday of the month the 29th leaving at 5pm from the old plantation inn every sub-committee could always use help.

If you want to go to the sub-committee car pools from the same place July 20th leaving 9-9:30

If you are interested in going to the international conference you have to register first then you can get put into the hotel lottery, this is first come first served.

Old Business:

Bob webmaster going to the national aa technology conference next month asking for \$875 would cover air fair hotel and reg. fee motion was made and seconded, treasurer says we can do it, the first motion was voted down. Another motion was made and seconded that we cover all expenses included \$875 plus whatever else he needs for food.

New emails would be taking out the _ on all addresses. The old email would be forward to the new account. We will be getting new emails without the _ soon. That list will be up soon.

CPC asked for \$71.94 to cover the boards

CPC asked for \$50 to buy when and where for a commitment they are going on that had requested 100 of the when and where. Both of these request were made into motions and passed

A vote at the fall assembly will be on whether or not all of the past delegates, archivist and webmaster should be voting members of the area. Next Area committee meeting is August 13th at 7:30

Paul delivered the **Area Report**:

Trying to focus on upcoming events on printed calendars: website has developed slowly.

Fall Assembly: October 18-19

Concept Meeting at Intergroup in Holyoke 1st Thursday of the Month

Traditions Meeting at Intergroup in Holyoke

Area Committee takes commitments to other meetings

There will be a workshop in Singleness of Purpose in the fall: One of the big concept being discussed in AA this year

Mass State Convention in Framingham over Veteran's Day Weekend. Registration info be going out soon.

Eddie reported for **Intergroup**:

Ad Hoc Committee will re-do Intergroup guidelines.

Kevin has been at Mass General and is now officially a heart transplant candidate. Keep him & his family in your prayers.

Contributions are important: take care of your local organization first! (40-30-20-10)

You can now use paypal to order things online: can't use a credit card in the office, but you can pay for things online and pick them up or have them shipped to you.

Intergroup Picnic is August 24 at the Moose Family Lodge in Chicopee, 11-6. Every child gets a toy. Bob P. looking for raffle donations ###-###-####. Joy has been really stepping up in Kevin's absence, so if you are in the office, thank her for her good work! Joe from the Young People's group has really stepped up to update the Intergroup website. Eddie's cell is ###-###-####.

Old Business

Do we want to do a fall workshop? Tiffany asked for volunteers for an ad hoc workshop committee. Kim, Tiffany, and Tania (possibly) volunteered to look in to arranging a workshop and report back to the group.

Meeting closed at 9:00 pm