

April 21, 2015 District 4 GSR meeting

Present: Dana, GSR, Saturday Night Life, South Deerfield; Ben E., GSR, Sunday Night Life, Haydenville; Kim C., GSR, Amherst Monday Night; Tania H., GSR, 11<sup>th</sup> Step Meditation Group, Florence; Aprile, GSR Northampton Saturday Night Beginner's Group; Felix, GSR Florence IOpener; Chris, GSR You Chair It You Name it Group, Hadley; Jade, GSR, Sunderland Security Group; Sarah, GSR, Conway Group; GSR, Jim W., GSR, Sunday 12 Step, Amherst; Alex B., GSR, Tuesday Step Study Group; Gary, Alternate GSR, Haydenville; Moira T., Alternate GSR, Sunderland Security; Kate H., GSR, Sunday Leyden Woods; Mark M., GSR, After the 11<sup>th</sup> Hour, Amherst; Patti, DCM; Steve C., Co-DCM. Visitors: Irena S., IOpener; Lina M., WMYPAA; Paul, Area Chair

Opened with the serenity prayer

Steve introduced the reading from the service manual: chapter 7 (annual conference) where the Area 31 delegate is right now. Discussion. Delegate will give report at the Round Up.

**GSR reports:**

Felix: small business meeting on Easter Sunday; discussion of shared mop duty for the room

Dana: Sat Night Live group: small uptick in attendance. Small core group but everyone contributes.

Please announce to your groups that the meeting needs support.

Chris: Attendance is up, group is donating to pie

Moira; alternate Sunderland

Ben; growing attendance. Introduced group's new alt GSR, Gary

Irena: visiting from IOpener

Gary: alt GSR from Haydenville

Jade: good attendance; @50 ppl. No responses @ workshop topics. Attended mini conference. How to up Grapevine subscriptions

Sarah: Conway; good attendance & contributing to the pie

Kate: Leyden Woods meeting BB Sunday am. New GSR

Tania: The 11th step meditation Group in Florence, although registered as a formal AA group with the General Service Office in New York City, does not handle 7th tradition contributions to Area 31 and the 'pie-chart' directly (like other autonomous groups do) as the I-opener group takes care of this matter for them and all other meetings which meet in that room in the same manner. The meditation group does however collect 7th tradition proceeds and contributes 100% of it into the IOPENER safe maintained in that room.

Mark: attendance is down. Having problem with a regular attendee. Recent blow up between two old timer group members. How to deal with conflict among group members

Kim: attendance is low. Competing meetings. Group has been discussing this. Quarterly donations to the pie. Trying to stock pamphlets that are more reflective of the group make up. Biz meeting issues. People don't want to stay for a long meeting

Alex: small group; decided when the contribute to pie (when treasury reaches 150)

Jim: going well. 30-45. Not a lot of members.

Aprile: Group has new treasurer, and a small but strong core. The meeting has an influx of parents with young children, which is causing a noise problem. Wonders if anyone has experience with arranging childcare for a meeting?

**Steve reported as DCM:** round up at La Quinta in Springfield. June 6-7. Spring Assembly was well attended. April 25 Archives open house. Please contact Keith if you want archive boards for special

events. District 6 Workshop, May 2, 12-4. In Granville Federated Church @ GSR, Tradition 1 & Sponsoring Newcomers. NE Regional Forum May 29-31. Ask questions or get feedback. International convention. July 2-5 Atlanta. Still plenty of room.

**Old business:** Feedback and ideas @ workshop: general enthusiasm but no suggestions. How do we get people interested in and involved with service.

Group whittled the field to three topics:  
How service changed my life and/or supports my recovery  
Service from the bottom to the top (from the group to the GSO)  
Sponsors introducing sponsees to service

Take these back to groups. We will discuss further next month and appoint a subcommittee

**Business for May:**

District 4 is responsible for a 9:30 am meeting at the Round Up on June 6. The topic is "three pertinent ideas." To be discussed at next meeting  
dealing with difficult people & supporting parents at meetings  
Letter of support for the bid from the District for the MSCYPAA conference.

**Paul reported for area committee:** issues discussed at the mini conference are what Anne is discussing at the conference. Two GSO speakers. Banquet often sells out. So get your tickets. Monthly Concept meeting 1st Thursday of the month. Area committee can do incoming commitments. GSO Road Show. NERASA 2016 in Western MA. Big planning committee. Grapevine committee needs a co-chair announce at your meeting. Jack will celebrate his 50th anniversary on June 17 at the Sheffield 12&12 anniversary meeting

**Lina reported on activities for Young People's groups:** WMYPAA (Western Mass Young People in AA) meets 2nd Sat of month at Intergroup. Designed to get young people involved in service. Would love to get more reps. Send your young people! MSCYPAA (Mass State Convention of Young People in AA) meet 3rd Sunday at same place. Putting together a bid to host young people's conference in 2016.

Alex had three suggestions for Fall Assembly  
Hold wrap up meeting  
Leave boards up longer  
Take 2 breaks at biz meeting  
Paul said that these would be looked into.

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm