

District 4 GSR Meeting: February 16, 2016

Present: Rob W., GSR, Northampton Saturday Night Beginner's Group and secretary; Steve DCM; Andrew C., Haydenville; Chris H., GSR, Sunday Night Life, Haydenville; Alex B., GSR, Tuesday Step Study Group; Jim W., Amherst 12 Step Sunday; Jae M., GSR, Florence I Opener; Tania, Hadley Women's Grp. Mari pat R. –. – Eleventh Hour –Anna A. Conway Monday Night

Visitors: Mark from Area

Steve introduced the reading. Service Material from the General Service Office: "Anonymity Online".

- Mary Pat suggested this topic is something to bring back to the home groups for their business meetings.
- Mark suggested that posting about your sobriety on Facebook is a break of anonymity.
- Tania suggested that the "elder statesmen" tend to be more aware of anonymity than newcomers.
- Alex will be taking this reading back to young person committee.

GSR Reports

- **Alex – Amherst Tuesday meeting – nice, boring business meeting; group is paying his NERASSA admission**
- **Tania – Hadley women's group – Wednesdays – open meeting conflicting with women's meeting, so there is discussion to reconcile it. Last business meeting approved money for NERASSA attendance and food.**
- **Anna – alt gsr Conway Monday discussion**
- **Jim – Amherst Sunday night 12 step – contributions and membership rising**
- **Mary pat – 11:15 meeting at Amherst Lutheran church daily – uneventful last meeting**
- **Chris – Haydenville Sunday night life – elections held, positions filled**
- **Andrew – Haydenville alt**
- **Jae – increased pie contribution; talked about transportation to meetings**
- **Mark – area 31 -**
- **Rob – elections, new committees, new members, pie, attendance, controversy**

Steve delivered co-DCM report.

- Steve wanted to share part of the treasurer's report from the area mtg. and praise the groups in District 4 for their contributions. Contributions in January 2016 increased by 2,404.25 over contributions in January 2015.
- Accessibilities reports that Hearing assist units will be available at NERAASA
- CPC is excited that it has two presentations planned at the elms college and Bay State Medical Center. CPC will be opening the round up on Friday, with a presentation followed by a "red ball" meeting to kick it off.
- PI has a new commitment, most likely monthly, to DUI classes. They have offered to come to the District meetings as well
- The next mass state convention planning mtg is March 29th contact Paul (alternate delegate)
- Area chairperson reminded us she is willing and eager to come out and visit groups to share experience with service that would be similar to a regular incoming commitment
- Delegate remarked that cost of literature is how GSO offsets 7th tradition contributions
- NERAASA – please plan to attend! Cannot stress this enough to GSR's. Make yourselves better servants to your fellows and enjoy this amazing conference being held in our area for the first time ever.

Old Business:

- **thanks to Jade and Jae, for volunteering to chair the NERAASA mtg. Contact info? (See Steve after the mtg.)**
- **did the topic of groups contributing to the pie need further discussion?**
- **Vague topic of the workshop was brought up by Alex – We who attend NERASSA should network to find out ideas for workshop. Mark suggested two schools of thought: 1) what district needs and wants; and 2) topics and agenda items from General Service Conference in May. We should talk more about this after NERASSA. Tania suggested anonymity as a workshop topic, and also that we may wish to collaborate with another district to run a workshop. Jae also suggested we ask our home groups for topic suggestions. Last year we came up with topics here, then went the home groups for feedback. Alex, representing Western Mass Young People interested in joining with a district to do a workshop. We will table this for a month and have a vote. We will invite Lina to attend to discuss as invited committee. Tania suggested a suggestion box for topics for workshop at the hospitality table of NERASSA, but we decided to hold off on that idea because we could be flooded with too many random suggestions, or no suggestions. We decided getting topics from General Service Conference and talking to people would be best.**

New Business: there will be an Alchothon at the round up and Steve was approached about our District taking a slot, more info to come – a topic will be provided. Mark spoke on the importance of general service and attending AA events like conferences, round ups, etc., to better be of service to other alcoholics as a sponsor. He explained the differences between all these different conferences, workshops, etc. These are the things we attend to learn more about the things that are important in this

program, and how we bring things of concern from the groups to AA as a whole, and how we bring things from AA back to our groups to educate. Round up is May 20 – 23. We voted to do the alcathon, and we will be given a topic and time slot tbd from Sam. Tania suggested the importance for her of having a service sponsor.

Mark gave the Area Committee report. – see above, new business. Additionally,

Invited committee report-

The meeting closed at 8:16PM