

DISTRICT 5 AREA 31 GSR MEETING

December 3, 2018

12 GSR's present

2 new GSR's – I apologize, I did not get their names.

1 Visitor Paul, Alternate Delegate.

Rene opened the meeting at 7:30 with a moment of silence and the serenity prayer.

Andy, read the role of a GSR

There was no Secretary Report

Rene is rolling out as a Co-DCM, this is her last District meeting. She will be going to Grapevine.

Andy will be continuing as a Co-DCM, and Bill H will be coming in as Co-DCM in January.

Ann Marie is rolling out as Secretary, Vicky will be rolling in as Secretary in January.

Kate will be rolling in as LCM.

LCM Report: Bill H.

Bill will be taking Kate around to meeting to show her some of the ropes and what he's been doing to encourage "dark" groups to become active and choose a GSR for their group.

Visitors Reports:

Paul, the Alternate Delegate spoke about the "Impact Collaborative" report which was recently released and can be found on the website area31aa.org. It is called "A.A. Internal/External Communications Audit Report bringing Bill W.'s vision into the 21st century (Abridged)"

The "Abridged" means it does not have peoples identifying information including names and positions and does not have all the aggregated data.

Data aggregation is the process where raw data is gathered and expressed in a summary form for statistical analysis.

A few examples for the audit report:

1. Current and former GSRs expressed a high level of frustration at the lack of focus on member and still suffering alcoholic issues at district meetings.
2. AA is perceived by many as religious (Paul's thought – the Lord's prayer, said at the end of many meetings, is not an AA prayer)
3. Intergroups seem to have a closer relationship with the broader Fellowship than the areas within the conference structure.
4. Information is not travelling up or down the Conference structure effectively or efficiently.

Round up Information: 50th Area 31 Western Mass Round UP will be Friday, June 14th through Sunday, June 16th, 2019 at the Clarion Hotel Riverdale St West Springfield, MA.

NERAASA will be held in Hunt Valley, MD from 2/22 to 2/24/19. More details to follow and our next area committee meeting will be a budget preparation meeting and then the final budget will be voted on in December (NERAASA will be part of the discussion)

The Area Service Manual meeting is usually held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at 474 Pleasant Street, in Holyoke. The next meeting will be 12/19/18

The Concept meeting is held at the same location on the first Thursday of the month, also at 7:30 pm. The next meeting is 12/6/18.

The area does service commitments as well, we can have people from the area come out to do a service commitment just like a regular commitment.

Contact or email the area chair, you can get it on the area31aa.org website. There is a calendar there to show what's going on for the month. <http://area31aa.org/calendar>

You can find this information and more at area31aa.org

Please don't take any money for the Christmas Party out of 7th tradition. Again, that is up the group conscience.

Readings:

Kate Read Tradition 12.

“Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities”

We are to practice a genuine humility through our anonymity. At the GSR level it's ok to share our last names so we may more easily find each other since we work together. However, at higher levels of service, anonymity is meant to keep us humble.

We also should not criticize people who prefer to remain silent or who don't want to share their last name (or even their first name) at a meeting, as it is their preference.

No other readings were done for December.

Group Share

Ann Marie: Ludlow Group, Thursday Night 7:30

She is rolling out as GSR Chris is rolling in, she will be alternate.

Give to the Pie, Give 100 every November to the church to help with the heat.

Catrese & Jeff: Hampden Tuesday Night Group Step 6:30 to 7 15 and then Speaker meeting
Both doing well, give to the pie chart. No complaints or problems that she is aware of. First Monday of the month is the institutions.

Felicia Do or Die 7 PM EL Wednesday nights.

Give quarterly to the pie
All of the positions except CPC, grapevine and PI.
Just had elections.
They are looking for an Institution commitment.

Gwen: South Hadley Friday Night

The group did vote to go down from two meetings to one; they are keeping the earlier meeting and eliminating the speaker meeting, as people were not staying for it.

John: Chicopee Group Tuesday 10:00am and 6:00 pm

Pie when they can, doesn't know when last they gave.
Detox meeting first Thursday of the month.
No real issues, service positions are filled GSR, Intergroup. None of the committees other than Institutions

Juan: East Longeadow Sunday Night Group: St Michaels

Hold a beginners meeting/discussion and a two speaker meeting at the same time in two different places.
All service positions are filled at this time.
Looking for archives and grapevine
Carson Detox commitment, and a monthly outgoing and incoming commitment. Also going to Mill street for commitment.

Laura P. Back to Reality Monday Night

Eddie is her alternate.
Gave to the Pie for the first itme in a year

Michael L: Barnabas Step Group, Tuesday Nights, Longmeadow at 7:30

No alternate.
Contributions to the Pie quarterly, and also donated to the children's Christmas party.
Trying to get people interested in service, has been bringing it up at the business meeting. Attendance is fluctuating. Now they have a group shepherd to track down some of the other members.

Kate, Wilbraham Friday Night meeting

Living Sober 6:15, Two speaker meeting 7:30 to 8:30

Two institution commitments, one incoming one outgoing.

No real issues - discussion was if she could be both GSR and LCM.

Attendance has been good at both meetings.

Sharon, eye opener group, Ludlow Friday night

Gives quarterly to the Pie

Jennifer, Cold Spring Group, Thursday night 7:30 Belchertown.

Were able to donate to the pie chart the last couple of months.

Just had elections but she has a class that same night so she's not sure she is still the GSR.

Incoming and outgoing commitments once a month.

LIPS service Literature in Prisons

Having some problems with the attendance on the group - they had to move upstairs due to renovations and they can't have coffee.

George representing Belchertown Saturday night group beginners meeting and speaker meeting (7:30 to 8:30) and 8:30 to 9:30

Every except archives, pi, cpc

Vicky W. Hitchcock Academy, Friday Night Brimfield

Still having low attendance, still do not have an intergroup rep. We don't seem to be keeping people around after the meeting to have a business meeting, and people are not stepping up into service positions. Young people are not sticking around for the business meeting.

Old Business:

Workshop that we collaborated with District 2 was very successful, we have 47 people in attendance and plenty of food. Thank you all for your help.

New Business:

Question from Michael - the phone service he has some people who are interested in doing phone service. Answer was to call the Intergroup office and they will help you.

If anyone is interested in getting boards for display at their Anniversary, feel free to reach out to Archives, Grapevine, Institutions, Website. They will be more than happy to supply boards.

Next Months readings and Discussions.

Bill H will read the AA Legacy of Service, pages S1 to S14.

Michael will read Tradition 1

Next meeting will be Monday, January 7th, 2019.

Closed the meeting at 9:00, with I am responsible.

Andy's email: district5@area31aa.org

Bill's email: district5@area31aa.org

Kate's email: