

District 5 Meeting  
January 2022 Minutes  
1/3/2022

**Opening**

The regular meeting of District 5 was called to order at 7:30 by Kate, our Co-DCM.

**Groups Present**

GSRs present:

Cindy from *Cold Spring*

Lara and Carol from *Friday Night Wilbraham*

Amanda from *Do or Die*

John and Keith from *Thursday Night Wilbraham Men's*

**Visitors**

John G, Area 31 Chair

Bob, Webmaster

**Reading of S26, *The GSR***

Kate requested a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Kate read the description of the GSR from the AA Service Manual.

**LCM report**

There are no active LCMs at this time.

**Group Sharing**

John from *Thursday Night Wilbraham Men's* reported they held elections, filled the main positions. Treasurer of 47 years stepped down, they now have a new Treasurer. New Alternate GSR Keith. 25+ people in attendance. Contributing to pie. Grace Union Church has a mask mandate. Resumed monthly Mill St. commitment.

Cindy from *Cold Spring* reported Belchertown has a mask mandate. There was a complaint about people not wearing masks. Group sent out email to remind people. Newly elected Chairperson stepped down, and Cindy was elected Chairperson. Incoming/outgoing commitments. Need more members to fill positions. Anniversary in June.

Amanda from *Do or Die* reported good attendance, all service positions filled. Contributing to pie. People are interested in doing a hybrid meeting. Working on wifi issue with the church, looking into booster. Room is usually full, but empty seats last week.

Carol from *Friday Night Wilbraham* reported good attendance. All service positions filled except Archives. Incoming/outgoing commitments. Contributing to pie. Grace Union Church has a mask mandate. Hybrid option available for group members.

John from *Randall* submitted a report. Changed business meeting from 3rd Thursday to 3rd Sunday, following 1pm meeting, beginning Jan. 16, 2022. Longmeadow reinstated face covering mandate for inside gatherings, effective 12/30/21. Group has met twice since then. Some people wear masks, some are not. 67th group anniversary in person Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022 at 1pm, with food to follow. Looking to book in person incoming/outgoing commitments for 2022. Contact bookie John S.

## **Visitors Reports**

John G. reported the Area holds a Service Manual meeting the 3rd Wednesday and a Concepts meeting the 3rd Thursday of every month at 30 Carew St., South Hadley. Both are hybrid. Most Area meetings are hybrid. All info at [area31aa.org](http://area31aa.org). District 3 hosts Traditions meeting virtually the 2nd Sunday of every month. Mass State Convention planning committee hybrid meeting is on 1/25 at Sturbridge Host Hotel. Meet to carpool at 7pm at the old Plantation Inn, across from Mass Pike exit 6. Flyer on Area website. Roundup committee meets the 2nd Wednesday every month. Looking for support. Meeting is hybrid. Flyer on Area website. The Area needs a new Webmaster to take over for Bob after all his time in service. Area needs couple of people who are comfortable hosting Zoom meetings,

including setting up and tearing down the equipment. Area holds 7-8 Zoom meetings every month. John asked that we bring this request to our groups. NERAASA will be 2/25 – 2/27 in Pittsburgh.

## **New Business**

Kate asked those in attendance to invite members from other District 5 groups to our next meeting. Tom asked Kate to raise the question of changing District 5 meeting to hybrid. Discussion included: Personal contact is lost when people don't attend in person, and people might not be as engaged in the meeting when on Zoom. If people were interested in Zoom option, they would submit group reports. Zoom might be only option for those who are vulnerable, or have someone vulnerable in their household. Concern about accessibility, we don't want to preclude anyone. How many other districts are holding their meetings hybrid? District 3 in the Berkshires is going hybrid, but the model hasn't been proven yet. What about wifi access in the church, equipment needed, Zoom account, and someone to host? Does Area have money for each district to get their own equipment? All Area committee meetings are held in one location, using the same equipment. All GSRs would need to be notified if Zoom option became available. The church is being sold, so we don't know how long we'll be meeting there. Can an "online" district be created? Issue was tabled until more information can be gathered.

## **Next month's readings and discussion**

Kate suggested everyone read Chapter 2 of the Service Manual, *The Group and Its GSR*, before next month's meeting.

John will read Tradition 2.

Carol will read Concept 1.

Next month's meeting will be Monday, February 7 @ 7:30PM.

Responsibility Pledge was recited.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM**

## Contact information

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| DCM - Tom        | email:<br>district5@area31aa.org | phone: |
| Co-DCM - Kate    | email:                           | phone  |
| Secretary - Lara | email:                           | phone: |