

**District 5 Meeting
January 2023 Minutes
1/2/2023**

Opening

The regular meeting of District 5 was called to order at 7:32pm by Kate, our DCM.

Groups Present

Sharla from *Wilbraham Friday Night*

Louise from *Morning Light Chicopee*

Carl from *Eye Opener Ludlow*

Juan from *East Longmeadow Sunday Night*

Tim from *Hampden Tuesday Night*

Alex from *South Hadley Friday Night*

Dave from *Hitchcock Academy Brimfield*

Chris from *Belchertown Saturday Night*

Amanda from *Do or Die*

Ian from *Belchertown Cold Spring Group*

Corrina from *Tuesday Night Step Group*

Visitor

Steve, Area 31 Alternate Delegate

Lara read *What It Means to be a GSR* from the AA Service Manual.

Group Sharing

Sharla from *Wilbraham Friday Night* – shares that they meet at Grace Union Church in Wilbraham, MA. The group has a detox commitment on the 1st Wednesday of the month at the Carlson Center. Contribute to the pie.

Louise from *Morning Light Chicopee* – shares that they meet 6 days a week, plus zoom on Sundays. High attendance around 40-50 people. Just completed elections and were able to fill all positions. They meet at Mira Vista on Wednesdays.

Carl from *Eye Opener Ludlow* – shares that they meet in Ludlow Friday nights 7:30pm to 8:30pm. Traditions on last Friday of the month. Topic / Discussion. Incoming / outgoing commitments. Their format for incoming groups is to share on the step topic. Well attended 20 to a full room or more when they have an incoming group. Contributes to the pie and supports the church with \$200 towards heating expenses. Had elections and seats filled are Intergroup, Bookie, Treasurer, Secretary and maybe PI.

Juan from *East Longmeadow Sunday Night* – shares that they meet 6:30pm – 7:30pm. Format is 2 speaker meeting. Contribute to the pie. Elections held and positions filled are Chair, Treasurer, Bookie, GSR, Intergroup, Institutions. They hand out sobriety chips for various lengths of sobriety. Average 25-30 participants per meeting.

Tim from *Hampden Tuesday Night* – shares they meet at Federation Community Church. They have a beginner's meeting 6:00pm – 7:00pm followed by a speaker meeting 7:00pm – 8:00pm. Elections were two weeks ago. Haven't filled Institutions, CPC, PI. They give to the church for heat. Tim asks if Intergroup will be live or zoom? Steve responded online only.

Alex from *South Hadley Friday Night* – shares that they meet 6:00pm – 7:00pm. \$35 to GSO on 11/11. Elections held and believes all positions have been filled. Incoming group is Holyoke Noon Time, going there following day. Attendance is good.

Dave from *Brimfield Hitchcock Academy* – shares that they meet at the Hitchcock Academy on the common. Donated to the pie chart. All positions filled. Their incoming / outgoing commitment this month is with Sturbridge Group. Then he yawned.

Chris from *Belchertown Saturday Night* – reports they meet at 18 Park Street, Belchertown, MA 01007. They have a beginner's meeting at 7:00pm – 7:45pm followed by a speaker meeting 8:00pm – 9:00pm. They donate to the pie. They have a book raffle and on the last Saturday offer a subscription to the Grapevine in lieu of a book. All positions filled except for PI and CDC. They have a monthly commitment to Mira Vista every 3rd Saturday. They had their anniversary on 12/10/2022.

Amanda from *Do or Die* – reports they meet Wednesdays 7:00pm – 8:00pm. Contributes to the pie. All positions filled except Accessibility. They have an outgoing commitment to Agawam and future commitments booked into July. Hoping to return to Longmeadow Church as their current location is small and have had some concerns with participants parking in fire lanes. They are handicap accessible.

Ian from *Belchertown Cold Spring Group* – reports they meet Thursday nights 7:30pm to 8:30pm at 18 Park Street in Belchertown. They donated to the pie chart in November. Almost all positions filled. Good attendance with 20 members. Outgoing commitment 17th as the will be incoming the 15th.

Corrina from *Tuesday Night Step Group* – shares that they meet at the Jericho Building in Holyoke. First time here. Formally met in South Hadley and this raised a question of the appropriate district to attend, as their new location is District 2. She agrees to find out more to determine next steps. They are just making rent and prudent reserve. They have a commitment at Mira Vista semi-weekly.

Visitor Report

Steve reported Area continues to host monthly hybrid Service Manual and Concepts meetings. Login info available at area31aa.org. District 3 online Traditions meeting has closed to low attendance. NERAASA registration is open for Albany 2/23-26. Google NERAASA 2023 for registration. Van may be provided. Host hotel is full. MA State Convention Committee meets last Tuesday every month 7:00pm. This year's convention will be the weekend of November 10th at Sturbridge Host. Steve offers his truck for those seeking transportation. Can fit 5 people. Leave at 6:15pm sharp. He states there to be plenty of service positions available, looking for 30 people. \$2k surplus from last year's attendance. Ian asks if any member is welcome. Steve responds with yes anyone is welcome. Kate highlights that GSRs should certainly be there. Steve then goes into his Area 31 GSR Presentation. "Most important position." GSR votes on agenda items. Elections are October-December. January is 1st meeting. Conference items chosen and "make sure to read background information". Those interested have the choice of printing out the 1200 pages. He shares on the importance of GSRs getting information to their groups, gather a group conscious, then to return and

share with the Delegate. He suggests having a list provided to the group for their review. He mentions 184 proposed agenda items for General Service Conference. Simple language Big Book, 12 & 12 change, and Preamble make up 90 items. They break down into one agenda item each. Verbage in 12 & 12 was changed in last printing. There's an agenda item to reverse previously voted changes. "Preamble being asked to be changed back. 12+12 trigger language asked to be reinstated. There's a big push to have Big Book translations return to original plain language." He reminds us on the upside down triangle with groups at top, then GSR, then Delegate. Steve provides an explanation on "Right of Decision". Group conscious can be second to "Right of Decision". He offers a healthy reminder to "be aware of frothy appeal". GSRs report back from the Round-Up. Final Report from General Service Conference is provided in August.

Old Business

New Business

Kate- Forgoes Area Committee Report because Steve covered it. She once again welcomes new GSRs and explains the process with the information sheets for group shares. Some discussion on NERAASA ultimately leading to the outcome of gathering more information provided by googling NERAASA 2023 Registration.

Readings

Sharla reports on Tradition 1

Alex reports on AA Service Manual 91-101 "History of Service Work"

Ian reports on Tradition 12

Next month's readings and discussion

Tim will read Tradition 2

Louise will read Intro to General Service

Kate will read Chapter 3 from the AA Service Manual

Next month's meeting will be Monday, February 6th @ 7:30pm in person at 30 Carew St., South Hadley, and on Zoom. Login info at area31aa.org.

Responsibility Pledge.