

Berkshire Intergroup Secretary Minutes Report

February 8, 2021

Serenity Prayer & Preamble

Roll Call & Sign-In, 7:00 pm.

In attendance –

Karen S., BIG Chair; Susan B., BIG Co-Chair; Larry B., BIG Office Manager; Mike M., BIG Treasurer; Maria C., BIG Secretary; Paul H., Area Committee, Area 31 Delegate; Lisa L., District 3, DCM; Maive, Tuesday Night Women's 12 Step; George R., Gt. Barr. Men's Group; Nicholas M., Ray of Hope Group; Joan P., Southern Berkshire Group.

Secretary's Report, Maria C. – Accepted.

Office Manger's Report, Larry B. - Larry reported that it has been a quiet month. No heat and inclement weather caused the office to close one day. Heidi is volunteering on Tuesdays, and Larry is in the office on Fridays. Currently looking for a volunteer to cover Fridays from 1:30 -5. Mike and Larry will be doing inventory and then an order to World Services will be placed.
Report Accepted.

Treasurer's Report, Mike M.

- Our total operating expenses for the month came to \$664.82. Our operating funds on hand as of 1/31/21 were \$4,840.62. Literature funds on hand at the end of January were \$2,626.24. With the prudent reserve of \$3034.68, total funds now come to \$10,501.54. In January, a total of 5 groups contributed to Berkshire Intergroup for a total of \$1,974.00. A large contribution from the Keep It Simple Group was received.
- Rent was paid electronically.
- Some discrepancy with checkbook and report. Report says total funds are \$10,501.54 and bank balance is \$10,616.68.
- Mike and Karen to look over financial statements more in depth to rectify discrepancies.

Treasurer's report (attached) was accepted.

Ad Hoc Standing Committee Reports –

- ***Website*** – Mike M. – Karen has been a great help. Google calendar is in place and can update zoom meetings. Any questions and/or any updated information can be sent to Mike at Berkshireaaintergroup@gmail.com .

Invited Committees:

- ***Berkshire Institutions***, Jennifer C. – Not in attendance.
- ***Area 31, Paul H., Delegate, Area 31***
 - o General Service Conference will be virtual on April 18 -24th.

- Mini Conference (virtual) to be held on Sat., March 27; Assembly on Sun., March 28th. A few of the agenda items are as follows:
 - Getting out information and feedback more efficiently in regards to the agenda items.
 - Clubs and contributions.
 - Virtual meetings and the involvement in the participating areas.
 - NERAASA will be virtual on February 26–28th, 2021. There is a \$21 registration fee. Register at www.neraasa.org.
 - MA State Convention 2021 Planning Committee met in January to discuss if it will be virtual, in-person, or a hybrid convention. No decision made. Also, a new location is needed because the Sheraton Framingham has been sold. Next meeting is in April.
 - RI State Convention 3/19-21 and Seny 3/5-7. For additional information contact Paul at delegate@area31aa.org.
 - 2020 contributions reached an all-time high of \$10,304,185 with 21% of this coming from on-line contributions. The December 2020 total of \$1.4 million 7th Tradition voluntary contributions; is the highest single month ever.
 - The response from the General Service Office in regards to the Southern Berkshire submission of “Consider a request to develop a pamphlet devoted to **Relocating in Sobriety**” is attached.
- **District 3, Lisa L., DCM**
- Looking for information on meetings that are no longer being held either in-person or virtual (Closed Meetings).
 - At area meeting the financial stability of Berkshire Intergroup was addressed and a disbursement of \$3600 to them was proposed. The District was in favor of accepting it.
 - Lisa proposed that a Tech Committee be formed either at the area level or district level whereby this group would help with hybrid meetings, zoom meetings, and any technical support that the groups might need.
 - Elections to be held for the open positions of LCM and Secretary at this month’s meeting on Friday, Mar 19th at 7:00 pm.

BIG Chairperson’s Report, Karen S.

- At Area Meeting last month where the vote on giving Intergroup \$3600 was tabled for this month’s meeting on Wed., Feb. 10th.
- Attending NERAASA in February.
- Also attended the District Meeting where Mike B. gave an excellent GSR presentation, and Karen has more information on this if anyone is interested.

Old Business

- The financial stability of Berkshire Intergroup was discussed at length. William L. reported last year that we were losing \$300 a month, and Mike averaged out the year and said we were losing \$100 a month. Larry said that it costs Intergroup between \$700 - \$800 to run efficiently and that with a prudent reserve of \$3000 and over \$10,000 in the bank; that we are financially healthy at this time. All in attendance felt that Karen should inform the Area

that we need to table their offer of \$3600 for another month because more in depth research is needed.

- Passwords for meetings are being listed on our website. Groups will not be forced to comply; and the Waiting Room for Zoom remains an option.
- The office locks will be changed.
- Exempt No. for Intergroup not really viable because it will cost \$1000 to get, and we pay very little in taxes at this time.
- **12 Step Call List** on hold because the volunteer working on it left. Larry to research where she left off and report back at our next meeting.

New Business

- Lisa L. looking for volunteers and the help of Intergroup in organizing the District's Spring Workshop. Meetings to be held at 6:00 pm on the 3rd Friday of the month prior to the District Meeting. If interested contact Lisa L. @ district3@area31aa.org.
- Mike M. and Larry B. will be doing an inventory this month at Intergroup; volunteers are welcomed.
- Mike M. will be absent next month, but will mail out February's Treasurer's report.
- Karen suggested that we have an on-line contribution option. Voted, and all were in favor. Mike M. to set up a PayPal account, which will be accessible on our website.

Motion to close at 8:22 pm – second and accepted; Responsibility Pledge; meeting adjourned.

Please send any corrections, suggestions or comments to mariasmakeup123@aol.com