

Berkshire Intergroup Secretary Minutes Report

May 10, 2021

Serenity Prayer and Preamble

Roll call: **In Attendance:**

Karen S., BIG Chair; Susan B., BIG Co-Chair; Larry B., BIG Office Manager; Mike M., BIG Treasurer; Paul H., Area Delegate; Tom H., District 3 Co-Chair; Maeve, BIG rep Tuesday Night Women's 12 Step; Joan P., BIG rep Southern Berkshire Group; Nancy A., BIG rep Thu Night GB Women's Group.

Karen asked if someone could take notes; Joan P volunteered for tonight.

Secretary's Report was emailed to everyone by Maria C. – Accepted

Office Manager's Report, Larry B: Larry shared that the office is open Tue and Fri. Literature Inventory has been taken and there is approximately \$8,000 in literature. A large portion has been purchased for Sober at Sunrise.

Larry has made a second round of calls regarding the 12th Step Call List. Hoping at the next meeting to have the updated list.

Treasurer's Report, Mike M: The total operating expenses for the month came to \$849.58. Our operating funds on hand as of April 1st was \$8,810.68. Literature funds on hand at the end of April was \$2,735.39. With the prudent reserve of \$3035.00; total funds now come to \$14,612.63. In April a total of 10 groups, individuals and Area 31 contributed to Berkshire Intergroup \$4,409.88.

- Rent was paid electronically for April
- Berkshire Communicators were paid \$219.43 for March and April.
- Treasure's report was approved.

Website, Mike M: Mike reported only a couple changes on the website. The BIG office hours for Tue and Fri are now 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Karen has added a group change form to the website.

Area 31 Delegate's Report, Paul: When Paul was getting prepared for tonight's meeting, he was thinking (and wishing) how he would love to be taking a drive out to the Berkshires to visit in person with us all. It was an honor to represent the area at the GSO Conference. It was virtual and at the end of the scheduled time; there were still items to discuss. There was a unanimous decision to extend the length of time; they ended up working until 2:15 am Sunday and managed to cover every conference item. Even at that hour, people did not log off right away, they chatted for a few minutes each other afterward.

Paul reminded us that the Round Up is scheduled for Saturday, May 15th from 8 am to 9 pm. The agenda is posted on the Area website. The delegate's report will be from 1-2:30 pm with

question time to follow from 2-2:30 pm. You can email areadelegate@area31aa.org to request a mailed report from the mini conference.

Several members have moved back into the World Service offices.

It has been determined that the 57th ANNUAL Massachusetts State A.A. Convention will be virtual this year. There is a need for help organizing it so, please attend the next committee meeting on May 25th at 7 pm. You can email Area Delegate at areadelegate@area31aa.org for the Zoom meeting ID#.

NERF (Northeast Regional Forum) is June 4th through June 6th from 3 pm Friday until noon on Sunday. NERF is an opportunity to meet General Service officers. It is sometimes referred to as the General Service Road Show.

BIG Chair Report, Karen S: Karen brought up old business, revisiting what the consensus is about the money donated by the Area. She wants to be sure that we are proactive and assure that Berkshire Intergroup stays in the black. She asked for input about how we should proceed ... should we increase the prudent reserve, should we set it aside? Discussion ensued and a unanimous vote was accepted to set the donation aside and revisit the conversation in three months.

BIG Co-Chair Report, Susan B: Susan shared a suggestion that perhaps BIG should create a Newsletter. She showed us an example which listed changes to groups, announcements of upcoming anniversaries, short stories, etc. Everyone expressed interest in the idea. BIG reps are asked to talk to their groups at their next business meeting for information to pass along. In addition, more volunteers are needed to help. Nancy A said she was willing to help Susan. The BIG has created an email address to be used to pass information along for the newsletter which is berkshireintergroupnews@gmail.com.

NEW BUSINESS:

Larry B shared that in the past Berkshire Intergroup donated 10 Grapevine subscriptions to places such as McGee, MCLA, CSS etc. He would like to see that happen again.

Discussion switched to Zoom and in person meetings. Everyone agreed that Zoom is here to stay. Some groups are trying to move towards hybrid meetings (speaker meetings would be easier to manage) while some are quite happy staying virtual.

Our Area Delegate, Paul mentioned that there are some policy agenda items that speak to recognizing online groups and explorations for advice for future on line groups.

Motion to close at 8:15 pm – second and accepted. Responsibility Pledge and meeting adjourned.

Please send any corrections, suggestions or comments to .