

**AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS
COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 1391
HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391**

**BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday, March 7, 2018**

16 members in attendance.

The Committee Chair, Erick opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. reading the Articles of Purpose from The Western Massachusetts Institution Committee Area 31 – Guidelines and Job Descriptions (p.1). followed by a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer.

Tradition and concept of the month was read by John and Mike.

Introductions.

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs):

Chuck, Trials and Smiles.

Secretary's Report: Read by Dan; motion was accepted, seconded, and passed

Treasurer's Report Charlie gave report.

- Total donations \$ 1308.05
- Expenses (includes NERAASA) \$ 804.00
- Ending Balance for Book Purchase \$ 1103.72

A motion was made and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

BTG – Annie, not present.

Liaison Report – John was here and gave a report. Michael at Highview Nursing Home in Leeds continues to inquire about a meeting. The slot is on our list, awaiting being filled.

INVITED REPORTS

Area Delegate – Paul, Alternate Delegate, was present and gave a report. To give a sense of the of scale of the Delegate's job, our Area Delegate is going to the general service conference, which is a 7-day/7-night business meeting later this year in New York. In preparation, there will be a mini-conference at Holy Family in South Deerfield to hear from area members of AA. For example, concerns that have been raised at the area level and brought to the General Service Committee include:

- A district submitted that they wanted AA to develop a pamphlet for atheists and agnostics.
- The Library of Congress deemed the "Big Book" as one of the top 80 most influential pieces of American history. So there will be a discussion of adding mention of that distinction in the next edition.

If area members are interested in the Mass State Convention planning effort, they may meet at the site of the former Plantation Inn off of 291 on the last Tuesday of each month around 6:00 AM to carpool to the Framingham planning meeting. The next meeting will be on the 27th of March.

Area Chair - Mike was present and gave a report.

- A monthly Concept Meeting is held the first Thursday of the month at 474 Pleasant Street at 7:30 PM.
- A monthly Service manual meeting is held on 3rd Wednesdays of 2018 at 7:30 PM, also at 474 Pleasant Street.
- The Area 31 Assembly, a business meeting for the area and opportunity to speak with the Delegate in preparation for the annual General Service Meeting, will be held on 4/15 at Holy Family in South Deerfield from 1 to 5 PM.
- The area committee is available for outgoing commitments to interested groups.
- Group inventories can be facilitated by past delegates for interested groups. Lists of available facilitators are available from the Area Chair.
- Roundup (5/11-13 at La Quinta) planning meeting is being held monthly prior to the event.
- The area website has a new e-mailing address, webpost@area31aa.org, for new postings (documents such as minutes) to be added to the site.
- Areachair@area31aa.org
- The District 4 is meeting this month in the same location but at the education building, and not the main hall, where the meeting is usually held.

Berkshires – No report

Contact berkshiresinstitutionscommittee@gmail.com for additional information.

CPC – No report.

Erick gave definitions of “Roll Ins” and “Roll Outs”; it is suggested sponsors have one year of sobriety, and alternates have 6 months of sobriety.

ROLL OUTS – Anthony is rolling out of the 1st and 3rd Thursday at Salvation Army.

ROLL INS – Chuck, Trials and Smiles, rolling into Hope Center 3rd Monday. George, Belchertown Saturday Night, rolling into Hampden County Men’s (Ludlow), Friday night. Also changing format to Big Book study, requesting a donation of 10 big books.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

George: Motion to purchase 10 Big Books for the Ludow Jail meeting, all in favor.

Erick: Attended the convention in Portland, ME. Also went to NERAASA, where he participated in Corrections and Treatment roundtables. One topic of note was How AA Can Live on the Street to transmit a message of hope for those transitioning from incarceration to the community at large. The guards at most institutions get credited for training hours. It may be worthwhile for CPC or institutions to talk to local COs about AA, how the program works and what we do. Also, in AZ, there are six facilities without meetings, and their area AA institutions managed to get meetings into two of them. We are fortunate, here, to have the access to facilities that we do have.

Chuck: Motion to spend \$1103.72 on books, all in favor.

ADDITIONAL MOTIONS:

The meeting was closed with the Responsibility Declaration.

Your 2018 Institution Committee

Chair	Erick
Co-Chair	Jimmy
Secretary	Dan
Treasurer	Charlie
BTG	Annie
Liaison	John S.
Co-Liaison	Chuck

Librarian Nicole

Respectfully submitted,

Dan H.
Secretary, Institutions Committee