

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

**BUSINESS MEETING  
Wednesday, July 11, 2018**

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31 members in attendance.

The Committee Chair, Erick opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Articles of Purpose from The Western Massachusetts Institution Committee Area 31 – Guidelines and Job Descriptions (p.1).

Introductions.

Katryn read the tradition and concept of the month.

**New Institution Group Reps (IGRs):**

Mike L., Singleness of Purpose Group.  
Welcome!

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

**Treasurer's Report** – Charlie was present gave a report.

- Total donations \$2347.95
- Expenses \$197.14
- Ending balance for book purchases \$2150.81

**BTG** – No report.

Bridging the Gap is looking for volunteers to participate, please see Annie. It is not a taxi service, just bring those who need help to meetings.

**Liaison Report** – John was present and gave a report.

John has been playing phone tag with Shannon at Swift River, and finally reached her by text. However, no further contact has been received regarding the issues raised earlier.

**Librarian** – Nancy was present and gave a report.

The transition, with keys, book ordering, and intergroup office coordination is going well.

**Area Delegate** – No report.

**Area Chair** - No 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of 2018 at 7:30 PM, also at 474 Pleasant Street.
- Send postings to [webpost@area31aa.org](mailto:webpost@area31aa.org)
- 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.
- Contact Mike at [Areachair@area31aa.org](mailto:Areachair@area31aa.org)

**Berkshires** – Chaula was present and gave a report.

At the last Berkshires Institutions meeting, only two people were present, including one newcomer... always welcome at an AA meeting. Another CPC/Institutions commitment was held at Hillcrest Commons (a skilled nursing facility), where a resident requested a new meeting, which may or may not last. Sue (CPC representative) suggested that, since diagnosed ETOH residents are required to be accommodated by the facility, it might be a great alternative to plan a regular quarterly open meeting at these types of locations (joint with CPC), rather than wait for a request to come in. The next Berkshires Institutions meeting will be 8/15 at 7:00, meeting for dinner before downstairs at Pancho's at 5:30.

Contact [berkshiresinstitutionscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:berkshiresinstitutionscommittee@gmail.com) for additional information.

**CPC** – No report.

**Grapevine** – 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** –

- Craig, Carlson 5<sup>th</sup> Monday
- Eddie, St. Lukes Rest Home Wednesdays
- Aaron, 2/4 Thursday at Swift River, the facility appears to be unfamiliar with the way AA and institutions works.
- Antoine, 2/4 Thursday Salvation Army, Facility is not supporting the meeting.

**ROLL INS –**

- Aaron 2/4 Sunday at Mill St. Section 35 facility
- Antoine, Ryan (with Aaron), 2/4 Wednesday at Mill St. Section 35 facility
- Michael, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 6:00 with Brian C. Mill St. Section 35 facility

**OLD BUSINESS -**

- Election of a new librarian: Erick read duties and responsibilities of the position. Nancy, Franklin Recovery Ctr., volunteered to finish the curret term, and was elected.
- Chuck, motion to put Mill St. Section 35 Facility on the open meeting calendar. Motion approved.
- Chaula sought clarification about the status of the Berkshire’s institutions status with regard to both this committee and area 31. It was affirmed that Berkshire Institutions is represented at the Area 31 meetings by the Institutions Committee, and that Berkshire Institutions has a vote at Area 31 Institutions Committee Meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Sally – A concern from her homegroup: a member of the group was encouraged by the meeting chair at an institutions commitment to specifically speak on her experience with drugs. Should we have a suggested format for institutions commitments, in order to ensure that our meeting chairs remain cognizant of AA’s primary purpose? Motion: Chaula – to form a subcommittee for developing a recommended meeting format. Discussion: perhaps a more appropriate method would be for new chairpersons to meet with the Institutions Committee Chairperson or other suitable Committee member after taking the commitment. Motion amended accordingly, and voted upon. Motion does not pass.

George – At the Hamden County Jail, there is a substantial lack of literature available for inmates and meeting chairpersons. Chuck, our liaison, will investigate and rectify as he is able.

Aaron – Presented a letter from BHN’s Hope Center regarding a commitment chairperson that has repeatedly failed to appear for commitments on the first and third Saturdays of the month. The letter will be passed to the liaison for investigation, and the meetings have been added to the open meeting list.

**ADDITIONAL MOTIONS:**

- Motion to spend \$2150.81 on books, all in favor.
- Motion to close the meeting, all in favor.

The meeting was closed with the Responsibility Declaration.

**Your 2018 Institution Committee**

Chair	Erick	institutions@area31aa.org
Co-Chair	Jimmy	
Secretary	Dan	
Treasurer	Charlie	
BTG	Annie	
Liaison	John S.	
Co-Liaison	Chuck	
Librarian	Nancy	

Respectfully submitted,

Dan H.  
Secretary, Institutions Committee