

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

**BUSINESS MEETING  
Wednesday September 2nd, 2020**

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7 Members were in attendance.

Michelle opened the meeting at 7:00 with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, and the guidelines of the committee.

Michael read the tradition of the month, and the Liz concept of the month.

Introductions of the committee members.

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

Michael, Big Book West Hartford

**Secretary's Report:** Dan read the minutes of the June meeting. There were no amendments or additions.

**Treasurer's Report** - Andy was present gave a report

• Ending Balance from Prev	\$900.00
• Total donations	\$755.85
• Expenses	\$78.00
• Ending balance for book purchases	\$677.85
• Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$900.00

Report accepted, seconded, and passed

**BTG** - Jeff was not here for his report.

**Liaison** - Cody was not here for his report, though he has been reaching out to the staff at Mill Street. The facility is looking to resume commitments virtually. Cody will be contacting the chairpersons of the commitments on record to see which meetings can be facilitated virtually.

Andy had this to offer, as well: He delivered books to the Mill Street facility. The Section 35 program at Mill Street has been shut down for the time being, and the program has been consolidated to Ludlow. Charlie at Intergroup also mentioned that there will be an Intergroup meeting this month, 9/10 at 7:30 via Zoom, and he will work from his end to see if other facilities would be interested in receiving literature.

**Librarian** - Mitch was not here for his report.

**Berkshires** – Connell was here to give his report. McGee Detox is looking for more books. The CSS unit in Pittsfield had requested Zoom meetings from NA; Connell has asked if AA virtual commitments are also desired. Connell also mentioned that he has no co-chair and will be rotating out at the end of the year.

**Open discussion of meeting issues**

No issues.

**Area Delegate** – Mike was not here to give a report.

**Area Chair** – Steve was here to give a report. Fall assembly will be via Zoom, a 2 day meeting, 10/24-25, times will be posted on the website. The general service conference proceedings are now available via our Delegate. The general service conference in 2021 will be virtual. Tomorrow night, there will be a concept meeting via Zoom at 7:30. The Area meeting and Service Manual meetings will also be held at their regular dates and times. See the website for details. Also, Steve's homegroup, the After Dinner Group, is meeting live, if you're interested in a live meeting. The Area has not yet completed a means for accepting donations virtually, but the effort is in process. Donations are being taken by mail. The Intergroup website has a listing of groups that have resumed meeting in person. The listing includes notes about procedures and limits at each meeting.

**ROLL OUTS** -

None.

**ROLL INS** -

None.

**OLD BUSINESS** -

No items for this month

**NEW BUSINESS:**

From Charlie: A quick note of thanks to the PI chair, who was the point of contact to make us aware of the resumed interest at Mill Street. Also from Charlie: Regarding quorum, our guidelines are not specific as to the number of people (IGRs) who must be present for a vote. The guidelines might be read to suggest that the majority (“one half plus one”) could be counted of the members present at the time of the vote, or counted at the time the motion was put forward (in this specific case, the number in attendance at the March meeting was 43, meaning that 23 votes would be needed). One alternative to in-person voting at Providence discussed is the possibility of holding an outdoor in-person meeting with a simultaneous on-line component. Connell also reminded us that participation in a Zoom meeting only requires a telephone; anyone with a phone can connect.

Motion to spend \$677.85 on books. Approved.

Motion to adjourn.

Next meeting will be October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Your 2020 Institution Committee**

Chair	Charlie	email: institutions@area31aa.org
Co-Chair	Michelle	
Secretary	Dan H.	
Treasurer	Andy	
Liaison	Cody	
Co-Liaison	Andy	
Librarian	Mitch	

Respectfully submitted,

Dan H.  
Scribe Pro Tem

Contact information for Bridging the Gap:

**Bridging the Gap**  
**C/O Western Mass. Institutions Committee**  
**PO Box 1391 Holyoke, MA 01040**

[Bridgethegap31@yahoo.com](mailto:Bridgethegap31@yahoo.com)

**1-888-240-6991**