

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

BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday November 4th, 2020

13 Members were in attendance.

Charlie opened the meeting at 7:03 with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, and the guidelines of the committee.

Charlie read the tradition of the month, and the concept of the month.

Introductions of the committee members.

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs):

Jennifer, Berkshires Institutions Co-chair

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

Treasurer's Report - Andy was not present to give a report, but shared the following with the committee.

• Ending Balance from Prev.	\$900.00
• Total donations	\$908.14
• Expenses	\$156.14
• Ending balance for book purchases	\$752.00
• Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$900.00

Report accepted, seconded, and passed.

BTG – Jeff was not present. But Charlie relays that there is nothing to report.

Liaison – No one was present for the report. Charlie stepped in to resolve the interest in CSS commitments (at Providence). Some of the meeting chairs have become unavailable due to disconnect or relocation. There are some folks that have expressed an interest in taking on the commitments. Charlie has encouraged them to roll in formally at the monthly meeting. Providence has said that they meet the capacity restrictions imposed by the state, but that residents themselves may not be spaced six feet apart. Of the weekly commitments we had hoped to reactivate, only one chairperson remains interested, probably for a total of two slots per month. The rest of the available slots are open.

Librarian – Mitch had nothing to report.

Berkshires – Connell was here to give a report. We have a co-chair!! We had our first committee meeting since February last month. We discussed the Zoom issues we discovered last month. Connell spoke with the head of the McGee units and learned that the standard Zoom account is not HIPAA compliant, and that is why the screens are blank. They did fix the microphone, so residents can now share. There remains some confusion about whose Zoom account should be used for commitments, and so Berkshires has requested a single Zoom account from Institutions to cover all commitments. There would be no conflicting meetings, so one account would suffice.

Open discussion of meeting issues

No issues.

Area Delegate – Mike, alternate delegate, was here. Our budget meeting is coming up. District 6 is meeting in person and as a hybrid meeting. They are the only ones meeting in this manner. The service manual and concept meetings are being held virtually, and 11/22 there will be a Grapevine meeting held virtually. There will be a US-Canadian Forum, like (NERF), the GSO Road Show 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM on 12/5 links and info on the website, there will also be a district 4 workshop.

Area Chair –

ROLL OUTS –

Rob - Providence Hospital CSS Saturday 2:00 PM

ROLL INS –

None.

OLD BUSINESS -

NEW BUSINESS:

Connell is taking the motion off of the table from February. Second by Sue. All in favor.

Motion, 03/04/2020:

I move that the following section be added to the Institutions Guidelines under section VI Monthly Institutions Meetings:

B. Invited Committee Reports.

The Area Committee has a standing invitation to give a single report at the Institutions meeting. Other committees from outside the Institutions Committee may request to make reports at the Institutions meeting. Such requests must be made to the Institutions Chair at least one day prior to the meeting, and are subject to the Chair's approval. All Invited Committee reports – including the Area Committee report – must pertain to Institutions business.

Connell presented the original motion (above). Connell observed that CPC is not mentioned specifically in his motion, but observed that CPC's role is very closely aligned with that of Institutions. Mike (alternate delegate and also CPC co-chair) noted that PI and CPC could not possibly present all that they have to offer within the same three minute time slot allotted to cover area business. Michael F. Observed that the monthly meeting serves in part to facilitate inter-committee communication. Without this opportunity, we are doing AA in the area a disservice. Connell offered an amendment to his own motion so that CPC would remain as its own invited report. Sue moves that the motion be tabled again until December so that she can get more feedback from her home group. Motion to table seconded by Connell. All in favor.

Motion, Connell, Berkshire Institutions requests funding for a Zoom account (\$15 / month) for use in Institutions commitments. Seconded, all in favor.

Motion to do the same for Institutions Committee business, second, all in favor.

Mike (alternate delegate) expressed and interest in sharing master contact and commitment lists between institutions and CPC for the sake of facilitating shared efforts between the two committees.

Elections: Charlie will roll out and Michelle will roll into the chair position. The first office to fill is the co-chair. Charlie read the description of the co-chair position. Andrew M. Has volunteered. Welcome Andrew!

Secretary, Charlie read the description of the Secretary position. Hearing no interest from anyone else. Dan will remain for the time being.

Treasurer, Charlie read the description of the Treasurer position. Andrew will be moving into the co-chair position so a treasurer will be needed. Mitch will move into the position.

Librarian, Charlie read the description of the Librarian position. There were no takers.

Motion to spend \$752, minus the cost of two Zoom accounts, on books. All in favor. Approved.

Motion to adjourn.

Next meeting will be on December 2nd.

Your 2020 Institution Committee

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dan H.
Scribe Pro Tem

Contact information for Bridging the Gap:

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