

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

**BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday December 2nd, 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):

Jenn - Holyoke Group

Donna - I-Opener, Florence

Secretary's Report: Dan read the minutes of the November 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	\$1351.41
• Expenses	\$398.54
• Ending balance for book purchases	\$952.87
• Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$900.00

Expenses included Crocker Communications, bank charges, and two Zoom accounts (annual subscriptions). Jeff commented that Crocker Communications is not answering the Bridging the Gap line, which is what we pay them for \$75 monthly. Report accepted, seconded, and passed.

BTG – Jeff was present and gave a report. There have been no calls, so Jeff attempted to call the line on four separate occasions, and found that Crocker is not

answering the line for us. Andrew and Charlie will investigate. Andrew will look into reimbursement for the dropped service.

Liaison – Cody was not present for the report.

Librarian – Mitch had nothing to report.

Berkshires – Connell was here to give a report. Berkshires has been using the new Zoom account for commitments in the area... it has not simplified things yet, but we expect things to improve with practice. Some meeting sponsors have been showing up for commitments and some have not. Most of the Saturday CSS slots are open, so Connell will be suggesting to the Berkshires Institutions group that we reduce the number of commitments from 2 per week to 1. A new group has come in to take on some of the commitments at the Jail. An ad hoc committee has been formed to revise a new format for Zoom meetings, and that work will begin next month.

Open discussion of meeting issues

Providence CSS commitments are not fully staffed at this time.

Area Delegate –

Area Chair – Mike was present and gave a report. There will be a District 4 workshop this weekend from 11:00 to 12:30 on Saturday., also a US-Canada forum (virtual). Information for both is available on the area website. NERAASA will be held virtually in 2021 the last weekend of February. The monthly area concept and service manual meetings will be held virtually as usual. See area31aa.org for all details.

ROLL OUTS –

None.

ROLL INS –

None.

OLD BUSINESS -

Connell has amended the verbiage of his original motion per discussion at last month's meeting:

Motion to take the motion from the table: Connell, second: Sue, all in favor.

Motion (03/04/2020, amended 12/4/2020):

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 *and CPC* have a standing invitation to give a single report *each* 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 must pertain to Institutions business.

Motion to accept amended verbiage: Connell, seconded: Jen. Vote 7-5 motion to accept amended verbiage passes. Discussion.

Motion with amended verbiage: Connell, second Jen. Vote 4-4 motion does not pass.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion to create an alternate open meeting list to fill virtual and in-person commitments under COVID-specific protocols: Dan. The list would serve to list all open virtual and in-person commitments active during the pandemic restricted period. Second: Sue. Vote 8-0 motion passes.

From Charlie: A request to those present for someone to take on the roles of secretary (currently pro-tem) and librarian (vacant). No takers.

Motion to spend \$952.87 on books all in favor.

Next meeting will be on January 6th.

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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