

**AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE**

**P.O. BOX 1391**

**HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**Wednesday June 2nd, 2021**

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10 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. Cathy read the tradition of the month, and Breana the concept of the month.

Introductions of the committee members.

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

Bre - Tuesday Night Women's Meeting

**Secretary's Report:** Dan was present to read the minutes of the last meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** - Mitch was present to give a report.

● Ending Balance from Prev.	\$900.00
● Total donations	\$852.32
● Expenses	\$80.00
● Ending balance for book purchases	\$773.32
● Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$900.00

Mitch also mentioned that he did not mail out the check to Intergoup until this past Thursday. Report accepted, seconded, and passed.

**BTG** – Jeff was not present to give a report.

**Liaison** – Position is currently vacant.

**Librarian** – No report.

**Berkshires** – Jenn was not present to give a report.

**Open discussion of meeting issues** - Bre, on behalf of the Tuesday Night Women's Group, the third Thursday BMC commitment. The group needs information on how to log in and conduct the commitment.

**Area Delegate** – Paul, area delegate, was present and gave a report. A couple of updates: Paul was on a meeting today, and there was an announcement that there is a new female Section 35 facility coming to the area. It is expected to open later this year. The General Service Conference was held, and complete materials will be available later this month or next. A motion passed to change the preamble to read that AA is a "fellowship of people", rather than "men and women". The motion passed with a substantial majority. Technically, the Grapevine owns the preamble, and so the change was made with their cooperation. Another change was made to change "inmate" and "offender" to "persons in custody" in AA literature. Although this motion initially did not pass, a comment during discussion indicated that Oregon has banned all literature using the word inmate, and this substantially shifted opinion. NERF is coming up on Saturday, June 4-6, with workshops and more. It is free, the link is on our website, [area31aa.org](http://area31aa.org).

**Craig, CPC** - the committee has been meeting regularly on Zoom, practicing presentations, and trying to make inroads to facilities where they might present when things open up following the pandemic. Bay State Health Psychiatric Unit and Clean Slate have expressed interest already. The Visiting Nurses Association, Western Mass Addiction Providers Association and others are also on the list for outreach.

**ROLL OUTS** – None.

**ROLL INS** – None.

**OLD BUSINESS** -

A request to those present for someone to take on the roles of secretary (currently pro-tem) and liaison. No takers.

An inmate at the McDougal correctional facility requested a big book. The committee voted to make the donation and will arrange for the book's delivery. - The book was sent.

There has also been a request for books from the Greenfield detox and CSS facility. We will arrange for this delivery, as well. Cathy called both the Hope Center and Greenfield and no one from either facility responded.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Cathy spoke with Joy at Intergroup about incoming literature, given that the area is in the process of moving out of the Pleasant Street offices. Inventory is currently low until new shipments come in.

Someone reached out to Michelle from the Hope Center, and so Michelle will reach back out to both the Hope Center and Greenfield facilities.

Motion to spend \$773.32 on books. All in favor.

Next meeting will be on July 7th.

**Your 2021 Institution Committee**

Chair Michelle

Co-Chair Andy

Secretary Dan H.

Treasurer Mitch

BTG Jeff

Liaison

Co-Liaison Andy

Librarian Kathy

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**  
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**Open Commitments**

Institution	Day	Time
BMC CSS VIRTUAL	3rd Friday	7:00 PM
BMC CSS VIRTUAL	4th Friday	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	1st/2nd/3rd Mon	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	1st Tuesday	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	Tue	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	1 Wed.	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	3 Wed.	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	2&4 Wed	7:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	Tuesday	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	3rd Monday	6:30 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	1st Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	2nd Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	3rd Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	4th Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (M) Spanish VIRTUAL	Monday	7:00 PM

