

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

BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday May 4, 2022

14 members were in attendance in person. and virtually.

Andrew opened the meeting at 7:00 with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, and the guidelines of the committee. Joe read the tradition 5 of the month, and Mark the concept 5 of the month.

Introductions of the committee members: Chair, **Andy**, Co-Chair, **Jim R**, Sec. **Jax M**, Scribe Secretary, Treasurer, **Mat**, Liaison **Tyler T**, Librarian, **Chris T**.

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs): Stacy, Mill Street, W from Daily Reflections, Holyoke. **Kim F. Alternate. ###-###-#### - 2nd W 4 PM; Mark Mill Street, 3rd Thurs, 1st Monday, Wilbraham Group.**

Secretary's Report: Jax was present to read the minutes of the last meeting. Minutes were accepted, seconded, voted.

Treasurer's Report - Mat was present to give a report in person.

● Ending Balance from Prev.	\$900.00.
● Total donations	\$1883.75
● Expenses	\$55.03
● Ending balance for book purchases	\$1828.75
● Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$900.00

Report was read, voted, and accepted.

BTG – John F was not present to give a report

Statement of Purpose: The Berkshire Institutions Committee organizes and supports AA meetings held at county hospitals, corrections facilities, and other institutions.

Berkshires – <https://sites.google.com/view/berkshireinstitutions>

New Alternate

- Monitors phone service.
- Cooperates with The Berkshire County Bridging the Gap Coordinator.
- Recruits new volunteers.
- Provides flyers at the monthly meetings.
- Assists Liaisons in contacting facilities on an as needed basis.

Liaison – Tyler present to report. Spoke with Mike: Section 35 Superintendent suggesting 1.) Letter of Intent for Friday, 2.) and Saturday Commitment, 3.) one or both.

Phoenix House - 1.) Letter of Intent, 2.) reached out after Covid, 3.) will return to meetings.

Carlson - 1.) has been reached out to. 2.) Communication response is still delayed. 3.) We will continue to pursue the Letter of Intent with Carlson. Amy will be contacted for M, W, F reopening.

Franklin Recovery - 1.) has openings for Tues Women's institution, 2.) and meetings can be served by Men and Women, 3.) Wednesday, Saturday, Womens only.

Mira Vista - 1.) can be contacted through Alicia. 2.) Call the Front Desk.. 3.) If we establish a meeting, 4.) bring a Letter of Intent back to institutions with your commitment.

Mill Street - Contact for Mill Street is Anthony Scabelli.

The Group is Asking Tyler: 1.) Tyler is answering, "as we RE OPEN commitments we will ask for a Letter of Intent".

"Mark and Jim both suggested we set boundaries on individuals assuming meeting roles across Institutions OPEN meetings. 1) This Concern has been an ongoing concern, 2.) and, now monitor our concerns.

A Question once raised so we can manage our Institutions Reputations. 1.) We want Oversight 2.) assurances 3.) about (for example): No shows or character issues, no shows

Librarian – Chris present to give a report.. Stocked books. Spanish versions, "AA in Prisons", "Came to Believe", "Living Sober", "Daily Reflections", Educational Pamphlets on Groups of Attention, AA Books, Step Books. "Ind Our Own Words", "Emotional Sobriety", "Voices of Women in AA", "AA in Prison", "AA in the Military". Chris handed in a receipt for books.

Motion was made to spend money on books. Matt Suggested Surplus books could be made available to GSR home groups for newcomers. We decided to buy books at current prices no matter current organizational requests for books
Motion second to buy books. Motion passed to buy and store books.

CPC - Charlie M CPC ####-###-#### co-chair, not present 🍷 Cooperating with professionals, therapists, Institutions. They may step in to assist when any institution contacts a facility director, recovery coach, nurse, or corrections officer requesting information about AA.

Open discussion of meeting issues

Mark is concerned, as is Bob, as Jax mentioned: 1.) How do we keep the volunteers in the best interest of the Area Committee “on purpose” as the Institutions Committee, and those Representatives. 2.) Ex. Mill Street with the Contact of Anthony Scabelli 3.) As we make contacts with Institutions we must renew or remind the institutions that the Institutions Intent letter is how we monitor who is coming in to bring a meeting. 4.) Outliers who go into institutions without a Group Institutions rep. who have taken meetings during Covid can are not representative of our committees or organization. 5.) Stacy asked if the Open Meetings were on the Website..answer is no, not without intention and requested space. 6.) All Virtuals are in present meetings. Database is updated to show that.

Area Delegate – Steve, Chair, ####-###-####. Reported The area office is in South Hadley, Church on Carew Street, gave Area31.org updates on.

Round up - May 20/22 Clarion, W. Spfld. 5/31 Convention - 366 Sturbridge, MA [The General Service Conference Report is hoisted at the Round Up. Rooms \$129.00.

The March Assembly jumped over the April Meeting. May Concept meeting scheduled. Hybrid Details on site.

Service meeting is 3rd W. 5/18/22; MA State Convention Nov. 11-13, Sturbridge Host Hotel. End of 291, Paul H will host van rides. District 3, Berkshires, 6:15 May 31, Spaghetti Dinner.

Call for stories – Fifth Edition of the Book Alcoholics Anonymous

Deadline for submissions: October 31, 2022

Online submission: aa.org/submit-bigbook-english-5th

[\(link is external\)](#)

ROLL OUTS – Jax, Franklin Hope, Tues, from Only Requirements, Greenfield.

ROLL INS - Stacy, Mill Street, W from Daily Reflections, Holyoke. Kim F. Alternate. ####-###-#### - 2nd W 4 PM; Mark Mill Street, 3rd Thurs, 1st Monday, Wilbraham Group.

OLD BUSINESS -

Chris brought up topic books to commitments. Matt asked Steve Area Chair about Spending reserve dollars on other interests or building a book reserve? Steve recommended buying at current prices is wise right now. We decided to buy books at current prices no matter current organizational requests for books.

Andrea made a motion to keep ISS monthly book check in and delivery to all meeting attendees on commitment to get books. It carried.

New Business: The Group is Asking Tyler: Tyler is answering as we RE OPEN commitments we will ask for a Letter of Intent. Mark and Jim both ask the need to be recognized to set boundaries on individuals assuming meeting roles. Moral Standards questions concerns over who is managing our Institutions, Reputations Standards, No shows, or character issues. Jim told us all Virtuals he has seen are present(s). Followed up with the -VA: Section 35. Mill Street - Contact for Mill Street is Anthony Scabelli. -Mira Vista - can be contacted through Alicia. Call the Front Desk..- If we establish a meeting, bring a Letter of Intent back to institutions with your commitment. Tyler addressed Questions “if anyone had issues”? The Letter of Intent is with Carlson. Amy will be contacted for M, W, F reopening Committee Elections. Tyler and Jax are looking into the output print of a proper OPEN Meeting List.

Please Comment on any knowledge or concerns about this OPEN list..Much Appreciated,

The next meeting will be on June 1, 2022 - 7 PM in person at 474 Pleasant Street.

Your 2021 Institution Committee

Chair	Andy	institutions@area31aa.org
Co-Chair	Jim R.	
Secretary	Jax M.	
Treasurer	Matt F.	
BTG	Jeff F.	
Liaison	Tyler F.	
Co-Liaison		
Librarian	Chris T.	

Respectfully submitted,
Jax M
Scribe Pro Tem

Contact information for Bridging the Gap: Jeff F - Bridging The Gap coordinator

Bridging the Gap
C/O Western Mass. Institutions Committee
PO Box 1391
Holyoke, MA 01040
 Bridgethegap31@yahoo.com
1-888-240-6991

OPEN COMMITMENTS		
Institution	Day	Time
BMC CSS	3rd Sunday	7:00 PM
Chicopee Hmpdn (W)	Tuesday	7:00 PM
Chicopee Hmpdn (W)	1st Wed	7:00 PM
Chicopee Hmpdn (W)	3rd Wed	7:00 PM
Chicopee Hmpdn (W)	Saturday	10:00 AM
Chicopee Hmpdn (W)	Sunday	10:00 AM
Franklin County (W)	Sunday	6:00 PM
Franklin County (M)	Tue or Thu or Sat	7:00 PM
Gandara House	Friday	1:30 PM
Hampshire Cnty (M)	1st/3rd Wed.	7:00 PM
Hampshire County Corr. LifeSkills (M)	1st/4th/5th Tuesday	7:00 PM
Highview Nursing Home Leeds	Tuesday	5:00 PM
Hillcrest Commons	2nd Wednesday	7:00 PM
Hillcrest Commons	4th Wednesday	7:00 PM

Hmpdn Cnty Lud (M-SPAN)	Mon	7:00 PM
Hmpdn Cnty Ludlow (M)	Tue	7:00 PM
Hmpdn.Cty.PreRelease(M)	1st/4th Wed	7:00 PM
Hmpdn.Cty.PreRelease(M)	Saturday	8:30 AM
Jones 2 (BERK)	3rd Sunday	10:00 AM
Jones 2 (BERK)	1st Saturday	11:00 AM
Jones 2 (BERK)	2nd Saturday	11:00 AM
Jones 2 (BERK)	4th Saturday	11:00 AM
Liberty Prep Academy	1st/2nd/3rd Thursday	11:15 AM
Ludlow, Section 35	1/3rd Thursday	7:00 PM
Ludlow, Section 35	Friday	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	1st/2nd/3rd Mon	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	1st Tuesday	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	Tue	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	1 Wed.	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	3 Wed.	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	2&4 Wed	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	Tuesday	6:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	3rd Monday	6:30 PM

Mill Street (M)	1st Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (M)	4th Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (M) Spanish VIRTUAL	Monday	7:00 PM
Mill Street, Section 35	2nd-5th Monday	7:00 PM
Mill Street, Section 35	2nd/3rd/4th Tuesday	7:00 PM
Mill Street, Section 35	3rd/5th Wednesday	7:00 PM
Mill Street, Section 35	1st Thursday	7:00 PM
Mill Street, Section 35	Friday	7:00 PM
Mill Street, Section 35	Saturday	7:00 PM
Providence Hosp CSS IN-PERSON	1st/3rd Sunday	6:00 PM
Providence Hosp CSS IN-PERSON	Thursday	6:00 PM
Providence Hosp CSS IN-PERSON	Saturday	2:00 PM
Providence Hosp Detox	2nd Sunday	10:30 AM
Providence Hosp Detox	1st, 2nd, 4th Sun	3:30 PM
Providence Hosp Detox	1st/4th Thu	6:30 PM
Providence Hosp Detox	1st/3rd Friday	3:30 PM

Providence Hosp Detox	1st, 3rd, 4th Friday	6:30 PM
Salvation Army (M)	2nd & 4th Thurs.	6:00 PM
St. Luke's Rest Home	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Springside Skilled Nursing Pittsfield	TBD	7:00 PM
Timberlyn Heights Great Barrington	TBD	7:00 PM