

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

BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday May 3rd, 2023

20 members were in attendance.

Matt opened the meeting at 7:01 with serenity prayer

In agreement and cooperation with the Responsibility Pledge of Alcoholics Anonymous, the primary purpose of the Institutions Committee is to coordinate the work of the individual AA members and their groups who are interested in carrying the AA message of recovery to all alcoholics who might benefit from a meeting brought into their facility and to facilitate a means of Bridging the Gap from the institution to the larger AA community.

Introductions of the committee members;

Chair Matt, Secretary Urygen, Librarian JD, John BDG, Liaison Carla

Reports

Secretary's Report- Urygen read report from April
ACCEPTED

Treasurer's Report- Matt covering for Steve

Ending Balance from Prev. Month	\$1,100
Total donations	\$1,277.74
Expenses	\$77.00
End Balance w/ Reserves and expenses	\$2,100.71
Ending balance for book purchases	\$800.71
To Next Month	\$1,300

ACCEPTED

Bridging the Gap (BTG)- John

Slowing down on people signing up on people volunteering to give rides. Making more forms/flyers. No contact so far about anyone needing a ride.

Bridging the Gap is a way for people who are getting out of an institution to get a ride. Counselor in institution puts them in touch with John, who has a list of people willing to offer rides.

Librarian- JD

\$1,132 for books in April, purchased Big Books, 12x12's, Voices of Women.

Dispersed 228 books

Question: Ludlow Mens, there are no books and you can't bring any in as a 3rd party. Is there a way for the committee to send them in?

Answer: We provide books to individual alcoholics, not to institutions. We can't cross the line of sending to a facility, we have to send it to the alcoholic.

Carla will reach out to the facility and have an update next month.

Liaison- Carla

Needs an ad-hoc committee in order to dive into the commitments database and sort it out.

Question about what a letter of intent should include

Carla: on the letterhead of the institution, saying they want AA to come in and put on a meeting

Berkshire Institutions: Ilene

Waiting for John to come to the next meeting. Meeting once a month on the 2nd Thursday. Some similar issues with taking books in to institutions but working on it. Berkshire institutions is getting some traction. A lot of new institutions, and struggling to provide all the support. A question that has come up— people who are about to go into an institution need “reverse bridging the gap”, support around how to stay sober inside. Any suggestions?

Invited Committee Reports

Area Alternate Delegate- Steve

Thursday May 4th Concept meeting; 7:30pm at 30 Carew St and on Zoom
Regular Area meeting next wednesday May 11th 7:30pm at 30 Carew St and on Zoom

Round-Up is a gathering to get the delegates report at the just passed General Service Conference. Friday 19th May- Sunday 21st at Clarion Hotel in West Springfield.

MA State convention planning committee. Last Tuesday of the month on odd months. Steve drives a carpool from Burnett Road Chicopee bowling alley/mercedes benz parking lot “in a gaudy orange pickup truck leaving at 6:15”. Just show up!

NERF; North East Regional Forum; June 2-4 at Boston Marriott Burlington, register on AA.org. Different desks from GSO come and share about their work.

Reach out with any questions; altdelegate@area31aa.org

CPC- No one present.

End Reports

Issues with Current Commitments

Taylor: Gandara in Ludlow; not mandatory for residents to go. Quite a few meetings where only 1 resident shows up or no one at all. Reached out to the director to ask if it can be made mandatory or if anything else can be done?

Matt: Don't think Gandara goes through institutions committee, so can't help with that :(

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs)

Taylor Do or Die meeting, Ilene from Berkshire intergroup

Roll Outs

None

Roll Ins

Hairston house

Sam; Haydenville Sunday; 2/21/11

2nd and 4th Tuesday

Sean; Alternate; Haydenville; 10/22/14

Accepted

Old Business

Ad-Hoc Committee to work on the database

Steve— People can just help Carla unofficially. The chair can create a committee without any motion and appoint people to it, if needed. But you don't have to form an official committee to do this.

New Business

Motion: \$800.71 for books

Passes

Motion: To continue giving books to Mira Vista Commitments

Seconded

Question; How many books/how much money are we talking about? We have \$800 this month

Roughly 10 meetings

10 in favor, 1 opposed, 4 abstain

PASSES

Motion to close

Meeting closed at 7:50pm

End minutes

The next meeting will be at 7pm on June 7th at 30 Carew Street, South Hadley.

Open Commitments

These commitments are double checked to be accurate and open.

Open Commitments (3/1/2023)				
Institution	Address	Type of Facility	Day	Time
CHD-Aster House	51 Old Lyman Rd, South Hadley, MA 01075	Co-Occuring Enhanced Residential Rehab. Program CO-ED	1st & 3rd Monday	Flexible-afternoon or evening
CHD-Aster House	51 Old Lyman Rd, South Hadley, MA 01075	Co-Occuring Enhanced Residential Rehab. Program CO-ED	2nd & 4th Monday	Flexible-afternoon or evening
CHD-Aster House	51 Old Lyman Rd, South Hadley, MA 01075	Co-Occuring Enhanced Residential Rehab. Program	2nd & 4th Tuesday	Flexible-afternoon or evening

		CO-ED		
MissionCare at Holyoke	35 Holy Family Rd, Holyoke, MA 01040	Long term care, dual diagnosis, Compassionate Care provider for inmates of MA Dept. of Correction CO-ED	1st & 3rd Wednesdays or Thursdays	2 PM or 4:30 PM
MissionCare at Holyoke	35 Holy Family Rd, Holyoke, MA 01040	Long term care, dual diagnosis, Compassionate Care provider for inmates of MA Dept. of Correction CO-ED	2nd & 4th Wednesdays or Thursdays	2 PM or 4:30 PM
BHN-Unity South	471 Chestnut St., Springfield Same building as Carlson. Use main Carlson entrance door (the one on the left), ring the doorbell marked "Unity Place South."	CSS/ Residential MEN, no female speakers per facility	2nd & 4th Mondays	6:30 PM
Ludlow Men Section 35	Stony Brook Facility	Section 35	every Sunday	7:00 PM

Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield		Every Monday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield		Every Tuesday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield		Every Wednesday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield		Every Thursday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield		Every Friday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield		Every Saturday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield		Every Sunday	7:00 PM
Hairston House	25 Graves Ave, Northampton	Mens Sober House	1st and 3rd M-F	7pm
Hairston House	25 Graves Ave, Northampton	Mens Sober House	2nd and 4th M, W, Th, F	7pm

(Possibly) Open Commitments

This list may not be 100% accurate. If you are interested in taking a commitment off this list, please reach out so we can double check.

Carla (liaison), [phone # redacted].

Urgyen (secretary) [email redacted], [phone # redacted]

OPEN COMMITMENTS		
Institution	Day	Time

BHN- Unity South	2nd & 4th Monday	6:30 PM
BMC CSS	3rd Sunday	7:00 PM
BMC CSS	1st Friday	7:00 PM
BMC CSS	3rd Friday	7:00 PM
CHD Aster House	1st & 3rd Monday	
CHD Aster House	2nd & 4th Monday	
CHD Aster House	2nd & 4th Tuesday	
Chicopee Hmpdn (W)	Saturday	10:00 AM
Chicopee Hmpdn (W)	Sunday	10:00 AM
Franklin RC / Northern HC	Monday	7:00 PM
Franklin RC / Northern HC	Tuesday	7:00 PM
Franklin RC / Northern HC	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Franklin RC / Northern HC	Friday	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
Hairston House	1st and 3rd M-F	7:00 PM
Hairston House	2nd and 4th M, W, Th, F	7:00 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
Liberty Prep Academy	1st/2nd/3rd Thursday	11:15 AM
Ludlow, Section 35	Saturday	7:00 PM
Ludlow Jail	1/3/5th Sunday	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)-	2&4 Wed	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M)-	Tuesday	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	3rd/5th Wednesday	7:00 PM
Mill Street, Section 35	1st Thursday	7:00 PM
Mission Care, Holyoke	1st & 3rd wed or thurs	2:00 PM
Mission Care, Holyoke	1st & 3rd wed or thurs	4:00 PM

Opportunity House	Tuesday	5:00 PM
Phoenix House	Saturday	7:00 PM

Your 2023 Institutions Committee

Chair	Matt F.	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Co-Chair	Jax M.	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Secretary	Urgyen	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Treasurer	Steve	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
BTG	John F.	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Liaison	Carla	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Co-Liaison	Jim R	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Librarian	JD	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Berkshire Institution s Chair CPC	Hedley	phone: [redacted] email: berkshireainstitutions@gmail.com