

AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 1391
HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391
BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday December 6, 2023

23 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, Urygen Secretary, Librarian JD, Liaison Carla

Treasurer Steve, BTG John and Co-chair Jax not here this month.

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs)

Jerry, Pioneer valley group West Springfield

Allie reads tradition 11.

Reports

Secretary's Report- Urygen read November report;

Motion to accept

Seconded

Accepted

Treasurer's Report- Steve absent, report available

Accepted

Ending Balance from Prev. Month	\$1,418.00
Total donations	\$1,697.73
Expenses	\$410.72
End Balance w/ Reserves and expenses	\$2,705.01
Ending balance for book purchases	\$1,620.73
To Next Month	\$1,084.28

Bridging the Gap (BTG)- John not here, nothing new to report

For anyone who might not know; Bridging the Gap is a program to bring someone coming out of an institution (halfway house/detox/jail etc) to their first meeting. There is a QR

code that people can scan to sign up to give rides, or to get a ride.

Librarian- JD

Liaison- Carla

Had ad-hoc committee meeting late last month. Thank you to everyone who came out to help. We're getting the database in order.

Update on Holyoke Soldiers Home; Betsy called to get an update- they can't have any volunteers coming in.

Carlson update; have been on an email back and forth with director trying to figure out what meetings are going in. If you're going in to Carlson, please get a business card from your contact person there and check in with them periodically.

People from PI are going and putting on meetings at some institutions... might explain some of the confusion about when there are some meetings happening that we don't know about.

Andy; clarifying

Many years ago, CPC, PI and Institutions would go in to places and hold meetings together to show everyone how the different committees work. But institutions should be holding these meetings.

Got an email from Highview asking for meetings... its a nursing home... do we do this? Should this be Accessibility Committee?

Matt will talk to Accessibility Chair at the Area Meeting.

Lina; institutions committee is supposed to take meetings in to places where people can't get out, maybe accessibilities should be taking care of those meetings...

Andy; yes, things got out of whack in Covid, things just need to be brought back in to balance.

Berkshire Institutions: Madison, Secretary

Berkshire Institutions along with Dist 3 is putting together a celebration of service event on January 20th at the Congregational Church in Stockbridge. To get people excited about service at all different levels, not only institutions committee focused but we'll be there!

Invited Committee Reports

Area Alternate Delegate; Mike

Great conversation about what different committees are doing... PI, Accessibility doing things they aren't supposed to be doing... things got thrown off during COVID, important to have patience and slowly bring back balance.

Some communication between the different committees is a good idea

Concept meeting 1st Thursday of the Month, 30 Carew St at 7:30

Next Area Meeting; Next Wednesday at 7:30pm at 30 Carew St.

Andy; Chuck Morrisson passed away with 38 years sober. Put a lot of years in to this committee.

End Reports

Issues with Current Commitments

Gina G; Florence I-Opener goes to the women's correctional facility, struggling to find people to come... anyone wanna be a speaker?

Roll Outs

None

Roll Ins

Rob, 11/04/2022, Forest Park Group rolling in to Stoneybrook

Freddy, 2/19/18, Forest Park Group

Taking this on as a group commitment

Voted in

Old Business

Andy; waiting to hear back from Paul about the printing of guidelines. Pauls guy at the Hampshire Corrections is out until end of Jan

New Business

Carla;

Motion for Matt to appoint a few more co-liaisons to help with figuring out the database.

What would this entail?

Sorting out the database, helping secretary keep on top of the database. Being in

touch with institutions and checking in with them, knowing what commitments are going in, etc.

Eric M volunteers. May 16 2008, Suffield Mens.

Urgyen J volunteers.

Betsy volunteers

JD;

Motion; \$1620.73 for books

Seconded

Passes

Motion to close @ 7:32

Closed with Responsibility Statement

BTG	John F.	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Liaison	Carla	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Co-Liaison	Jim R	phone: [redacted] email: j[redacted]
Librarian	JD	phone: [redacted] email: [redacted]
Berkshire Institution s Chair	Hedley	phone: [redacted] email: berkshireainstitutions@gmail.com

End minutes

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

Open Commitments

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]

Institution	Address	Type of Facility	Day	Time
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	2nd & 4th Wednesdays or Thursdays	2 PM or 4:30 PM

		CO-ED		
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield	Women's Facility Detox & CSS	2nd, 3rd or 4th Monday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield	Women's Facility Detox & CSS	Every Tuesday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield	Women's Facility Detox & CSS	1st, 2nd or 4th Wednesday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield	Women's Facility Detox & CSS	Every Friday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield	Women's Facility Detox & CSS	Every Saturday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	298 Federal St, Greenfield	Women's Facility Detox & CSS	Every Sunday	7:00 PM
Highview of Northampton	Leeds, MA	Co-ED Nursing Home	Tuesday-Thursday	6:00 PM
CT Corrections	335 Bilton Road Somers, CT 06071	Men's prison Background checks required to enter Carla has more info on requirements for entry to the facility	1st & 3rd Thursday	Arrive for 6:15, meeting at 6:30
CT Corrections	335 Bilton Road Somers, CT 06071	Men's prison Background checks required to enter Carla has more info on requirements for entry to	2nd & 4th Thursday	Arrive for 6:15, meeting at 6:30

		the facility		
Hairston House	25 Graves Ave, Northampton	Men's sober house Clients can leave to get to meetings	1st & 3rd Monday	7:00 PM
Hairston House	26 Graves Ave, Northampton	Men's sober house Clients can leave to get to meetings	1st & 3rd Tuesday	7:00 PM
Hairston House	25 Graves Ave, Northampton	Men's sober house Clients can leave to get to meetings	1st & 3rd Wednesday	7:00 PM
Hairston House	25 Graves Ave, Northampton	Men's sober house Clients can leave to get to meetings	1st & 3rd Thursday	7:00 PM
Hairston House	25 Graves Ave, Northampton	Men's sober house Clients can leave to get to meetings	1st & 3rd Friday	7:00 PM
Carlson Recovery Center	471 Chestnut St. Springfield	Co-ed Detox	Every Saturday	6:30 PM
Stonybrook (Ludlow Men's Section 35)		Men's section 35 unit CORI check must be done for every individual entering the building, contact Mike Harrigan at least 3 days before meeting to get speakers checked If bringing literature, leave with guard for Mike Harrigan "The commitment will	Monday	7:00 PM

		rotate through all four units so that all of our clients get a meeting at least once a month."		
Stonybrook (Ludlow Men's Section 35)		Men's section 35 unit CORI check must be done for every individual entering the building, contact Mike Harrigan at least 3 days before meeting to get speakers checked If bringing literature, leave with guard for Mike Harrigan "The commitment will rotate through all four units so that all of our clients get a meeting at least once a month."	Tuesday	7:00 PM

Stonybrook (Ludlow Men's Section 35)		Men's section 35 unit CORI check must be done for every individual entering the building, contact Mike Harrigan at least 3 days before meeting to get speakers checked If bringing literature, leave with guard for Mike Harrigan "The commitment will rotate through all four units so that all of our clients get a meeting at least once a month."	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Stonybrook (Ludlow Men's Section 35)		Men's section 35 unit CORI check must be done for every individual entering the building, contact Mike Harrigan at least 3 days before meeting to get speakers checked If bringing literature, leave with guard for Mike Harrigan "The commitment will rotate through all four units so that all of our clients get a meeting at least once a month."	Thursday	7:00 PM

<p>Stonybrook (Ludlow Men's Section 35)</p>		<p>Men's section 35 unit</p> <p>CORI check must be done for every individual entering the building, contact Mike Harrigan at least 3 days before meeting to get speakers checked</p> <p>If bringing literature, leave with guard for Mike Harrigan</p> <p>"The commitment will rotate through all four units so that all of our clients get a meeting at least once a month."</p>	<p>Friday</p>	<p>7:00 PM</p>
<p>Stonybrook (Ludlow Men's Section 35)</p>		<p>Men's section 35 unit</p> <p>CORI check must be done for every individual entering the building, contact Mike Harrigan at least 3 days before meeting to get speakers checked</p> <p>If bringing literature, leave with guard for Mike Harrigan</p> <p>"The commitment will rotate through all four units so that all of our clients get a meeting at least once a month."</p>	<p>Saturday</p>	<p>7:00 PM</p>