

## District 1 March 20,2014 Meeting minutes

### Attending:

Pat S DCM

Kat T Co DCM

Linda B GSR Trials and Smiles

Ed P GSR Second to None

Tyrone B GSR Better Life

Paul H Area Chair

Eddie K Intergroup Chair

Pat opened with a moment of silence followed by Tyrone reading the Concept of the month and Pat with the Tradition. Pat then gave the report of the Area meeting which contained the following:

Bobbi the area archivist gave a synopsis of her attendance at the NERAASA where she handed out packets that are used at Area 31 meetings and discussions ensued between Archive Reps which centered mainly on the process of digitizing Archives in the various areas.

The Webmasters report consisted of the usual scorecard of hits on the website that totaled 959 unique hits in February with most coming from the US followed interestingly by China and the Ukraine. There was good feedback at NERAASA concerning the Area 31 website with some attendees saying they were able to get information off our website that they could not get on the NERAASA website.

Accessibilities committee handed out fliers dealing with people who were having trouble getting to a meeting due to physical disabilities and a number where they could be hooked up with people to give them a ride. It was stressed that this was for people with disabilities and not with DUI's. Also people who were interested in offering service in this capacity. Pat distributed copies to GSR's.

Archives boards will be traveling to the Scrambled Eggs Anniversary meeting on March 30 and are available to all groups who desire them for anniversaries.

Grapevine chair reported that Grapevine boards are also available but he requested that groups give them a one month notice if possible.

Public Information report stated that all commitments were being met including a new venue of Driver's Ed classes in Spfld and Palmer that have been well received and may well develop into an ongoing commitment.

The Round-Up committee passed out registration forms and requested that we start announcing the upcoming event at meetings and request that people pre-register so that they get an idea on how many people will be there. Registration will be available that day but they would appreciate advance registration. Also, they are looking for donations from groups like coffee, sugar, cups and Big Books and other literature for raffles. There are 130 tickets for the banquet available at \$20.00 which can be purchased via registration forms or by seeing a committee member.

CPC is looking for contacts and distributed forms to be filled out by people that may know professionals such as doctors or ministers etc. who would be interested in establishing a connection with Alcoholics Anonymous. Pat distributed these to GSR's.

Invited committees reports included Institutions reporting expenditure to replenish the literature stock for various Institution commitments and a request to update groups that have commitments at detoxes etc. so that they know who is going where.

Pat closed with a story that Bobbi the area Archivist shared that when she was discussing with another area archivist at NERAASA the fact that we as an area had appropriated money to have our copy of a first edition Big Book rebound and worked on so that it could be picked up and leafed through when displayed' the other archivist shook their head in dismay. When Bobbi asked what the matter was they replied that we had devalued it by repairing it, that a first edition had recently been sold for \$50,000. Bobbi then shook her head and thought to herself that different people placed different values on the Big Book. Pat stated he agreed with Bobbi that the value of the Big Book was in no way expressed in dollars.

#### Group reports:

Tyrone Better Life All is going well, two meetings being well attended and finances up to snuff with expenses being met and the pie chart include. Carlson detox commitment being fulfilled on the fourth Wed. of each month with outgoing/ingoing meetings also being booked.

Linda Trials and Smiles say attendance is also doing well with many young folks coming and a couple new members. Hope Center commitment being filled on the third Monday and Bookie meetings also occurring. The Pot luck meeting continues to be a hit and the finances are stable and almost all service positions are filled.

Ed from Second to None said that their attendance has shown an improvement with many from nearby Salvation Army and from the Phoenix House. Money is doing OK and expenses are being met but they have not been able to Pie out quite yet. Their detox commitment is to Providence on the third Sunday and has been being fulfilled.

No groups reported any out of the ordinary problems that needed to be either discussed that night or brought to the areas attention. GSO change forms are to be gone through by Pat and more will be distributed next month for GSR's to reach out to inactive groups.

Paul the Area chair then gave his report beginning by passing around the sign-up sheet for the discussion panels at the Mini assembly next month where the GSR's could sign up for the topics that interested them. He then described Saturday's assembly as a mock-up of the conference that would occur in New York that Anne our delegate would attend in May. This would give Anne a feel for how we as representatives of AA in area 31 felt the various topics should be addressed. He then mentioned the planning committee for the Mass State convention which will be taking place in November. A car pool will be leaving from the former Plantation Inn opposite the Mass Pike entrance off of 291 on March 25th at around 5:30 -5:45. An ideal opportunity to become involved in service and expand your network.

Eddie from Intergroup then opened his report by thanking those groups who contributed to Intergroup for their contributions. Contributions were down in Feb. which caused them to go into the literature account for money to operate the store. In his time with Intergroup after such withdrawals there never seems to be the money to replace that transfer. He also shared on a question on what representatives should share in reporting back to their groups, wisely advising that reps should not step on other reps by giving info that would be covered by someone else, i.e.; a GSR sharing what would probably be covered by an Intergroup rep. He then addressed phone coverage by groups and individuals on the backup list being well covered and thereby keeping cost down. He then stated that Intergroup like the Area committee is always available to attend groups either as incoming group format to share service experience and recovery experience or at a business meeting to answer questions as to the finances and running of Intergroup.

Pat then stressed the importance of attendance at the upcoming assembly for all GSR's as this is their opportunity to express their group's conscious to be carried by Anne our delegate to the GSO conference in New York.

A motion to close was then made and accepted and that meeting was closed with the Serenity prayer.