

District 2 – Area 31 Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2016

DCM's: Janis A – 2nd year DCM

Mark B – 1st year DCM

Attendees:

10 GSR's, 2 Alt. GSR's, Invited Guest, Alt Delegate Paul H., Young People's Rep, John S.

Open meeting with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer

Janis then described the responsibilities of the G.S.R.

Service Manual – Chapter 1 - Introduction to General Service

The Twelve Traditions make clear the principle that A.A., as such, should never be organized, that there are no bosses and no government in A.A. Yet at the same time, the Traditions recognize the need for some kind of organization to carry the message in ways that are impossible for the local groups – such as publication of a uniform literature and public information resources, helping new groups get started, publishing an international magazine, and carrying the message in other languages into other countries.

The U.S./Canada Conference structure is the framework in which these “general services” are carried out. It is a method by which A.A.'s collective group conscience can speak forcefully and put its desires for Conference-wide services into effect. It is the structure that takes the place of government in A.A., ensuring that the full voice of A.A. will be heard and guaranteeing that the desired services will continue to function under all conditions.

Concept 1 Summary by Lin S.

Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. World Services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

Thank you Lynn for your Summary of Concept 1

Next Month presenters: Chapter 2 Summary – Bill S. & Concept 2 – Bridget D.

District 2 Group Topics & Concerns & Follow-Up

Two GSR's reported a decrease in active membership. The group members attributed the decrease numbers to “new groups” in the same Area meeting the same day and time.

One Group Shepard calls group members the night before a business meeting as a reminder. Seems to be working very well to increase attendance.

One member has been taking money from meeting baskets as they are passed around during a meeting. A group conscious was held by members at one group with some positive suggestions to address the issue.

At that one group, group members now personally pass the basket rather than hand it member to member. Another agreed upon outcome by the group conscious was not to confront the individual alone if at all. The individual has been identified as an attendee at 3 area groups.

DCM Report

District 2 has been invited to chair an open AA meeting at NERAASA in February. See new business for group voting on this new issue.

Area 31 Delegate Paul H.

The Spring Assembly will be held in early April. The assembly will be a method to help our Delegate prepare to represent Area 31 at the New York General Service Conference.

The Area 30 & 31 MA State Convention will be held November 11-13, 2016. The planning committee meets most months on the last Tuesday of the month at the Sheraton Frammingham. Members from this area usually meet at the old Plantation Inn parking lot in Chicopee (right off exit 6 of the MA pike) at 6pm to attend the 7:30 meeting at the Sheraton. All invited to participate in this yearly event.

NERAASA is getting closer. The event is the weekend of February 26-28, 2016. All committees welcome help from AA members who would like to get involved in service. It's a great way to learn more about how AA works. The next planning committee meeting will be Thursday, January 28, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Sheraton, in downtown Springfield.

The Round-Up will be held May 20-22, 2016. This event is when we will hear a report from our Delegate who participated in the General Service Conference in N.Y. The planning committee for the Round-up meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6 pm at the Grace United Church on Pleasant St.....volunteers welcome....again a way to get active in service.

As the Area Alternate Delegate, Paul H. is planning to do a presentations at the Spring Assembly in April on the topic of GSR's and other topics that GSR's should have some knowledge

about such as Traditions, Concepts, AA structure etc. He will be very willing to do the presentation to us, the District 2 committee if we are interested. See new business for motions and outcomes.

Paul brought samples of some of the projects he is working on such as distribution of the AA green card and the handout titled "Your Seventh Tradition Contributions-Carrying Our Message Beyond Your Home Group" to help individuals in AA understand what our contributions do to continue the work of AA.

Young People's Representative – John S.

Jon is a GSR and the District 2 representative from the Young People's Committee. The committee meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm in Holyoke at the Grace United Church.

John brought information about future events that MSCYPAA & WMYPAA will be holding. He also talked a little about a Young People's conference (MSCFPAAA) – which will be held in Springfield, MA during August, 2016. The next planning meeting for the Conference will be January 17, 2016 at 3 pm at the Sheraton Hotel in Springfield.

Old Business – None

New Business

Motion to have 1/2 of the GSR presentation by Paul H., Alternate Delegate for Area 31 in February, 2016 with an addendum to allow extended time to the District 2 meeting to accommodate the presentation. Motion Passed.

Motion to have the second 1/2 of the GSR presentation by Paul H. in April, 2016 and to allow the extended time to the District 2 meeting to accommodate the presentation. Motion passed.

Minutes submitted By Lee M.