

District 3 Monthly Meeting
Old Lee Courthouse Lee Town Hall
Park St Entrance, Lee, MA
7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 16 2015

Present at the meeting:

10 GSRs, 2 Alternate GSRs, DCM, Co DCM, LCM, BIG Chair,
Secretary, 3 Visitors
Total Groups Represented: 14

Handouts: January Agenda, December Minutes, 2014 Final Report of General Service Conference

Our DCM opened the meeting at 7pm with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer, reading from page S26 of the AA Service Manual (BM-31), and introductions.

Summary of last month's minutes was given, and minutes were accepted without discussion.

Tradition 1 and relevant questions were read from the Traditions Checklist (AA Grapevine).

Concept 1 and relevant questions were read from the Concepts Checklist (F-91 AAWS).

DCM report:

1. Archives Service Day Jan. 17 from 9AM to 1PM.
2. MSCYPAA (Massachusetts State Convention of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous) will be held in Sturbridge, MA, this year. To get more information, go to: mscypaa.org
3. Our Area 31 Spring Assembly and Mini Conference will be March 28-29 It will be held at the *2nd Congregational Church on the corner of Maple and Appleton Street in Holyoke Ma. The mini-conference will be held Sat from 10AM-4PM. The Area 31 business meeting will be Sunday from 1-5PM.*
4. Mini-conference is a one day event dedicated to informing the group conscience of our General Service Conference (GSC) in April by giving GSRs an opportunity to become informed about, and discuss GSC agenda topics, and to send our perspectives on to the GSC via our Delegate. Delegates are notified of Agenda items in early February. We will be discussing them in the meetings leading up to the conference, and following the Round Up, **Saturday, June 6, 2015 - 8:00am to Sunday, June 7, 2015 – 5:00pm La Quinta Inn and Suites 100 Congress Street, Springfield, MA.**
5. “Early-bird” agenda items:
 - a) Conference is considering how and if to bring online meetings into the Conference structure, allowing online members to have a voice and a vote in AA affairs.
 - b) The 35 millionth copy of Alcoholics Anonymous (aka “The Big Book”) has been printed, and will be given away at the International Convention in Atlanta, GA July 2-5, 2015. (More information on aa.org)
6. Next meeting is Feb. 20, 2015. Both DCM and Secretary will be at NERAASA. CO DCM will conduct the meeting.

Group Wins and Concerns:

- Members of one group have expressed concern about safety in AA, “13th-stepping,” and how to deal with problems. (Safety in AA is an umbrella topic of the 2015 GSC, and will also be the focus of our February meeting.)

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- One group reads the pamphlet P-15, Questions and Answers on Sponsorship, after they finish reading the 12th step essay in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. This helps clarify the responsibility of sponsors/ sponsees. Offers temporary sponsorship in meeting format. Also maintains and distributes a list of members phone numbers.
- One largely attended group has regular greeters, providing a welcoming atmosphere.
- Concern brought forward about the language used by some to describe members who have not yet achieved enduring sobriety.

Circle back: Several groups have voted to purchase copies of Many Paths to Spirituality for their literature racks, and one plans to include the pamphlet in the literature it takes in to the local detox unit.

Discussion: Volunteers read the GSC approved revisions to the following pieces of our literature:

If You Are A Professional pg. 4

We discussed the appropriateness of signing court cards, and procedures that some groups follow. Also stressed that each group is autonomous to define their own policy on this.

A Message to Corrections Professionals section *What A.A. Does NOT do*

We discussed how these changes better clarified that we don't run detoxes or retreats.

Alcoholics Anonymous pg. xi

The full text of the literature prior to and post revision is on pages 6-7 of the 2014 GSC report.

We discussed the significance of when the Spirituality appendix was added.

Berkshire Intergroup: Is planning on hosting a workshop day in May, 2015. One definite topic will be Safety in AA. Groups are encouraged to participate, and to send a representative to the Berkshire Intergroup meeting at: 152 North Street, Suite 30C, Pittsfield MA on the second Monday of every month at 7 PM.

Topics to bring back to your business meeting:

- Online Meetings as part of the General Service Conference Structure
- 35 millionth Big Book
- Changes to Literature
- Young People in AA movement
- Safety in AA

Meeting closed at 8:05PM.

Respectfully submitted, Robin D.