

July 8, 2026
Area 31 Business Meeting Minutes
Called to order at 7:30 PM

Position	Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	S/A	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	F/A	Nov	Dec
Area Delegate	Ray M.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y					
Alt. Delegate	Bob M.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Area Chair *	Justin C.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Area Treasurer	Kate V.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y					
Area Secretary	Lara A.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N					
Area Registrar	Sally S.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Area Archivist	Carl G.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N					
Accessibility Chair	Mark D.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Accessibility Co-Chair	Robin D.	Wayne N	wayne N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Archives Chair	Rick W.	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Archives Co-Chair	Jill F.	Judy Y	Judy Y	Beatrix N	Y	Y	N	Y					
CPC Chair	Judy H.	Sam N	Sam N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y					
CPC Co-Chair	Erin G.	Greg Y	Greg N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Grapevine Chair	Carl H.	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N					
Grapevine Co-Chair	Kevin	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y					
Public Info Chair	Bruce V.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Public Info Co-Chair	Chris K.	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y					
Webmaster	Tom H.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N					
Asst. Web/Tech Host	Eric N.	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y					
WMIG Chair	Matt F.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Berk Intergroup Chair	Dwayne	Y	Y	Co-Chair Hedley Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
Institutions Chair	JD	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N					
Institutions Co-Chair	Eric M.	Bruce N	Bruce N	Bruce N	Y	N	Y	N					
Round Up Chair	Joe I.	Jill F. Y	Jill Y	Jill Y	Jill Y	Jill Y	Y	N					
Round Up Co-Chair	Beatrix E.	Joe Y	Joe Y	Joe Y	Joe Y	Joe Y	N	N					
WMYPAA	John S.	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y					
District 1 DCM	Karen K.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
District 1 Co - DCM	Carol L.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
District 2 DCM	Tamara R.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
District 2 Co - DCM	Mark B.	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
District 3 DCM	Michael K.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N					
District 3 Co-DCM	Kate A.	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y					

District 4 DCM	James C.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
District 4 Co-DCM	Patrick O.	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y					
District 5 DCM	Jim K.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y					
District 5 Co-DCM	Sean C.	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
District 6 DCM	Pat L.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y					
District 6 Co-DCM	Brendan M	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y					
QUORUM = 18	voting	26	26	27	27	29	24	26					
*Area Chair only votes to create or	break a tie												

Secretary's Report

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Treasurer's Report

Beginning June Balance	1040.83
June Group Contributions	3456.55
Total Area Expenses	2698.11
Closing June Balance	1799.27
<i>PLUS</i> –Prudent Reserve	8501.00
Total Funds available	10300.27

Please continue to announce at the meetings you attend that our treasury is not what it should be and encourage people to ask their groups to contribute more regularly. This month we had a fantastic showing from District 5, but the light group of checks since I have been treasurer. On the upside though, there were two \$300 checks sent through PayPal from groups in other districts which I put on the list. I will again send out this running list of group contributions to the DCMs so they may hopefully encourage some groups in their districts who are contributing to send GSRs to the district meetings. We are hoping that the DCMs have been able to find some groups who are not contributing nor sending a GSR to their District meeting. There may still be an ongoing issue with the cancelling of the Comcast account which has yet to be resolved. We expect more will be revealed in the next report. Thank you for supporting AREA 31 Western Mass General Services.

Respectfully submitted, Kate V., Area 31 Treasurer

Registrar's Report

The number of registered active groups in Area 31 is 302. The phenomenon of groups who met in person only before Covid-19 introduced a virtual component to the same group. Some of these groups who were hybrid then split into two separate groups with different ID numbers, thus creating a "new" group, but not always a new group name. Hence, the number of groups in the Area fluctuates. An example of this is the Eye Opener Group in Ludlow. Their virtual component has split off and, unlike some others, has chosen a new name, the Eyes Wide Open Group. The new group is not yet on the Meeting Guide app. Lastly, the Registrar is continuing to visit Districts. Sally S., Area 31 Registrar

Archivist's Report

No report.

Webmaster

The migration from BlueHost to NameCheap is now complete. The site should look identical, except for some changes with the new email client. If the old email login page was bookmarked, it will need to be re-saved using its new link. Webmail can be accessed right from the main navigation menu on the website. Please alert me immediately to any issues that appear related to the migration. Thank you! Tom H., Webmaster

Accessibility

Attendance has been low, but commitments are being filled. Cedar Hill, on Friday nights in Ware, needs support. There is a new commitment every Wednesday 6-7pm at Grace House in Northampton. The committee is reaching out to women in AA to bring the Grace House meetings because it is not a locked facility and the clients there are domestic violence victims. It was discovered that the commitment calendar posted on the Area

website violates our Tradition of anonymity. It is therefore being removed and we will provide the information to those in the program in another manner that maintains anonymity. Mark D., Accessibility Chair

Archives

The committee is planning a workshop for later this summer or early fall. It will be a listening party with two women speakers. We have developed a new flyer to encourage groups to generate, document or update their group histories. It will be posted on the Area website. The Chair continues to visit districts. We have a new Co-Chair, Alan. The committee boards have been inactive for a bit. The last commitment they were scheduled to be at was cancelled. They are available for groups to have them present for group functions, anniversaries and the like. They will be displayed at East Mountain Group anniversary in Westfield on Friday 8/14 from 7-8pm. Rick W., Archives Chair

CPC

Committee has not met since last Area meeting but has been very active in refining the committee. Looking into purchasing and developing new Boards, as the old ones are outdated, fragile aesthetically poor. There is movement in cooperating with P.I. to do a workshop. The Liaison is looking into putting together an Area level "Lunch and Learn" event for professionals. Both AIC and Bay Path commitments are in process of dates and times being finalized. There is a possibility of obtaining a commitment to Aster House before the summer is over. CPC had a committee inventory, similar to a group inventory. This is a first for the Area. It appears that no committee has done one in this Area, and very possibly not even in the Region, since the concept, guidelines, format, etc. were all generated from scratch by our GSO Manager, Bob W., and the Past Delegate John F. (Area 31 Panel 54). The Committee Inventory was insightful, inspiring and strengthened unity amongst the representatives and committee members who attended. It also generated new ideas on presentations and creative ways to approach new prospective facilities and professionals. Judy H., CPC Chair

Grapevine/LaViña

Attendance was low at the last committee meeting. A reminder was given that a subscription to the Grapevine app is \$30/year, and that makes the whole archive of Grapevine material available to the subscriber. The writers' workshop is 7/25 from 11-2 at 485 East St., Ludlow MA. Will probably hold another workshop in the fall. Carl H., Grapevine Chair

PI

We haven't met yet this month but are gaining commitments and recruiting new members. Upcoming high school commitments are Hampshire Regional, Minnechaug, Belchertown, and Longmeadow. We are seeking women AAs to help with our commitment at Gandara in Ludlow on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 11am and 6pm. We have a service announcement on radio station Rock 102, and we are seeking a possible spot on the W.A.R.E. radio station. We are in the process of acquiring spots on iHeart Radio. Thank you for letting me serve. Bruce V., P.I. Chair

Berkshire Intergroup

Our business meeting is the 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm, which is next week. We had our steering committee meeting this past Monday; we went over the Articles of Organization and Revising Bylaws. We are having an event, *Mindfulness Practices*, led by Elaine M. at Christ Trinity Church, 180 Main St., Sheffield MA on 7/25 from 9am-2pm. Lunch will be provided. R.S.V.P. at the contact phone number or email on the flyer. We will have a Speaker Jam & Meditation meeting on 9/26. Location and times TBD. Thank you for letting me serve. Dwayne, Berkshire Intergroup Chair

Institutions

No report.

Western Mass Intergroup

We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month: bookie meeting at 6pm, Intergroup committee meeting at 7pm. WMIG picnic will be Sunday 8/16 at Moose Family Center, 244 Fuller Rd, Chicopee, starts at 11am. We are looking for more group involvement to help set up and break down. There will be activities for everyone, such as horseshoes and cornhole. We are also looking for more group involvement and ideas on what they would like at the picnic and alcathons. Any new raffle baskets are welcome for contribution. Jeff K., our Events Coordinator, is really putting in a lot of work. Our Steering committee is having an inventory in mid-July, facilitated by Past Delegate Mike B. Still looking into operating procedures and website guidelines to come up with something to go by. We continue to fill phone coverage slots. Our Treasurer is looking into being able to accept other payment options at the store, as it currently only takes cash or check in person. The store will have summer hours. It is suggested to call ahead to make sure somebody is there and check the Intergroup website at www.westernmassaa.org. Thank you for letting me serve. Matt F., WMIG Chair

Western Mass Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (WMYPAA)

We meet on the 1st Sunday of the month at 5pm at the Serenity Club, 143 Main St., Springfield MA. The Traditions meeting has been cancelled indefinitely. Our upcoming event is a free ice cream social on 8/2 at Szot park in Chicopee MA, with a meeting at 11am, followed by fellowship, volleyball, basketball, and other outdoor games. Considering holding another game night, most likely at the Alano Club.

John S., WMYPAA Chair

District 1

The district is continuing to reach out to unrepresented groups. The showing of the *Bill W. Story* documentary, at Church of the Acres in Springfield has been rescheduled to 10/17, most likely at 11am. BYOB Group is celebrating their anniversary on 7/14. When You Think You're Done, Start with One group is considering having an inventory. Karen K., District 1 DCM

District 2

District 2 meets at 7:30pm on the 2nd Monday of the month at 745 Main St., Agawam MA. Meetings are hybrid. Have not met yet this month. We will host a Robert's Rules of Order workshop 9/19/26 at 459 Mill St, Agawam Methodist Church. Time not yet solidified, but will be between 1-5pm. Thank you! Tamara R., District 2 DCM

District 3

No report.

District 4

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm on Zoom; we have not met yet this month. District 4 will host an 11th Step workshop on 10/17 at First Congregational Church of Sunderland, 91 South Main St.

James C., District 4 DCM

District 5

District 5 meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 7pm at 30 Carew Street in South Hadley MA and online. This month we only had 6 GSRs in person and 1 online, so attendance was disappointing. We will present the Twelve Traditions play again this year on 7/18 at All Saints Episcopal Church in South Hadley, MA. Doors open at 11:30, food and fellowship from 1-2pm. Thank you for letting me serve as District 5 DCM, Jim K.

District 6

District 6 met on 6/15 online only. In attendance were DCM Pat L., Co-DCM Brendan M., Alternate Delegate Bob M., CPC Chair Judy H., and District 6 GSRs. Judy provided a summary of CPC events, and GSRs gave status reports and information on upcoming events. Pat, Brendan and Bob provided a summary of the June Area meeting, upcoming Area events, and a status update from the Redistricting Ad hoc committee. District 6 participated in the 6/17 Ad hoc committee meeting to discuss potential redistricting. The group determined by group conscience to host a workshop in the late fall, themed around sponsorship. We will discuss logistics at our 7/20 meeting. East Mountain Group in Westfield will celebrate their 52nd anniversary on 8/14. Our next meeting on 7/20 at 7pm will be online only, due to the summer car shows at the venue where our district meets. Grateful in Service, Pat L., District 6 DCM

Delegate's Remarks

I'd like to express my gratitude to the Area for allowing me to serve. It is a real honor to represent such an amazing and vibrant Area. I know it's easy to take what we have for granted, but it gives me real joy to know I walk shoulder to shoulder with people who Love AA and Area 31 so fully. Thank you for all you do. Keeping this thing going is absolutely the most important thing we can do in this short thing we call life. I am confident Bill & Bob are smiling down. A very cool thing happened for me (and the area) since we last met. I have been selected to be part of an Ad Hoc for next year's conference. An advisory Action from panel 76 Trustee's Conference committee was passed to form an Ad Hoc to review and document a process by which motions to Censure or Reorganize the General Service Board be received, considered and forwarded, and develop a proposal for workflow processes that would support unity of the fellowship. I was very happy to accept the invitation to be 1 of 3 Panel 76 Delegates to serve in this role. The Ad Hoc will consist of a composition similar to the conference (delegates, trustees, non-trustee director and staff members). I am in awe of our fellowship and its real desire to foster unity/love/service. Being part of this process makes my heart smile. I won't let you down. Other than the typical district and committee visits, not much has changed here at the local level. We have some events coming up for Districts and Committees; please show your support and come join the festivities. To have a "WE". We need a "YOU"! Please follow your higher power and say YES. The Mass State Convention is in its busy season, getting ready to bring you a great weekend. Get your rooms early and register as soon as possible. I expect the Report Back to be up on the website soon; I'll reach out to see if there is anything on my end holding it up. Thank you all (except 1) that didn't give me a hard time about not being here

last month, it was the first Area Meeting I have missed in 7 years (hopefully it will be the last, God Willing)
Service Gladly Rendered, Ray M. Area 31 Panel 76 Delegate

Alternate Delegate's Remarks

I don't have much to report. It's been pretty quiet for me. I've been attending on a regular basis district and committee meetings offering any help I can give. The Mass state Convention Planning committee is meeting July 28th at the Best Western Royal Plaza/Trade Center in Marlborough, MA at 7:00 pm. I host a car pool and Steve our Past Delegate is willing to do overflow if needed. I have 2 seats available. Email me at altdelegate@area31aa.org. I am a member of NAAD, North American Alternate Delegates. This month was what's on your mind new in your Area. It was light attendance and not much shared this month. The AA international convention is looking for Theme ideas for the 2030 convention in St. Louis, MO. Please send your ideas to 2030ictheme@aa.org by October 9, 2026. Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) recently acquired the Everything AA app. This represents an exciting opportunity to make A.A. literature and other resources available in a format that reflects how people communicate and seek information today, particularly members and still-suffering alcoholics who increasingly engage with A.A. digitally. Plain Language Big Book audio book is now available. It can be purchased at www.aa.org.
Yours in Service, Bob M., A31/P76 Alternate Delegate

Area Chair's Remarks

The Fall Assembly will be in District 3, most likely October 10-11. The Saturday will be an educational day with Past Delegates and Area officers. Sunday will be the usual 6-month Area business meeting. The Redistricting Ad hoc committee is looking for participation and input from District 3. There may be a future Ad hoc committee to put together inventory guidelines/formats to be used for Area committees. The Area is still available to do outgoing commitments and continues to sponsor a Concepts meeting on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7pm at 30 Carew St., South Hadley and online. Justin C., Area 31 Chair

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Motion to close at 8:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Janet B. for Lara A., Area 31 Secretary, Western Mass. General Service