

## Opening

- The regular meeting of District Five was called to order at 7:00 pm by Jim.
- Shaun, Co-DCM, reads “What is a GSR?” from the AA Service Manual.
- Jim welcomed all new GRCs.  
Lynn, Eric, Walt, Jean Claude, Mark, Nora, Ray, and Dawn introduce themselves as new GSRs
- Alicia, Secretary, reads the Minutes from last month. Karl questioned one item regarding donations being down in the report. Jim will look into that for the next meeting.

## Old Business

- GSR reports. Dory, Chris, Sunrise Group; Lynn, Belchertown; Norma, Morning Light; Jason, Hitchcock; Linda, Hampden; Jay C., Walt; John, Hear & Now; Karl, 12 & 12; Jen, Cold Spring; Alicia, Lost & Found.

Dory, GSR; Joanne H., Alternate GSR - Friday Night Group

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Fridays, Beginner 6:30-7:15 PM Speaker 7:30-8:30 PM
- **Address:** Grace Union Church, 10 Chapel Street, Wilbraham
- **Financial Contributions:** \$45 to the Pie, \$100 to World Wide Services
- **Service Positions Filled:** All Filled
- **Commitments:** In-Coming-Faith Over Fear Group on Feb 13, Out-going-Going to them on Feb. 16
- **Institutions:** 2/17/2026 – To the Retreat of Boston in Ludlow Third Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 14 Chestnut Place.
- **Group Share Discussion:** We celebrate anniversaries the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the last Friday of the month and also hold our business meeting at 8:40 of that night.

Wayne, GSR; Alternate Chris – Sunrise Group

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Daily, 6:00 am – 7:00 am 365 Days a year.
- **Address:** Historical and Cultural Center, 2072 Main Street, Three Rivers, MA
- **Financial Contributions:** Give to the Pie
- **Service Positions Filled:** Yes
- **Commitments:** Hamden County House of Corrections, Ludlow, Tuesday nights (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of month), Mill Street
- **Institutions:** Ladies starting on Wednesdays

Lynn, GSR; No Alternate GSR – Belchertown Saturday Night

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Saturday, 6:00-7:00pm-Beginners; 7:00-8:00pm-Speaker Meeting
- **Address:** Belchertown, MA
- **Service Positions Filled:** PI, Institutions, Intergroup, DCM
- **Commitments:** Do or Die E. Longmeadow on Feb 18 Out-going, Incoming on Feb. 21

Jen, GSR; No Alternate GSR – Cold Spring

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Thursday, 7:30 – 8:30pm
- **Address:** 18 Park Street, Belchertown, MA
- **Financial Contributions:** To the Pie in Jan. \$150
- **Service Positions Filled:** Most are filled

- **Commitments:** n/a
- **Group Share Discussion:** n/a

Norma, GSR - Morning Light

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** 7:00-8:00 am, M-St. Hybrid; Sunday 7:00-8:00 am Carter St.
- **Address:** 284 Montgomery Street, Chicopee, MA
- **Financial Contributions:** Donate to the Pie, Take in \$20-30 Daily, \$50-60 Sat.
- **Service Positions Filled:** All
- **Commitments:** Monthly w/ local groups
- **Institutions:** Carlson - Monthly

Jason, GSR - Hitchcock Academy Group

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Friday, 7:00 pm (change of time)
- **Address:** Two Brookfield Road, Brimfield, MA
- **Financial Contributions:** To the Pie
- **Service Positions Filled:** Intergroup, GSR
- **Commitments:** N/A
- **Institutions:** N/A
- **Group Share Discussion:** Low attendance, in need of support.

Linda, GSR; Hamden Group (Did not turn in sheet)

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Tuesday, 6:00pm
- **Address:**
- **Financial Contributions:** Give to the pie
- **Service Positions Filled:** Some missing
- **Commitments:** Do have
- **Institutions:** n/A
- **Group Share Discussion:** Have discussed having a one speaker discussion meeting instead of two meetings.

JC, GSR; Do or Die – Two speaker meeting (Did not turn in sheet)

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Wednesday Night
- **Address:** E. Longmeadow, MA
- **Financial Contributions:** n/a
- **Service Positions Filled:** All filled
- **Commitments:** Belchertown
- **Institutions:** Carlson Detox – every third Thursday of Month
- **Group Share Discussion:** Discussing picking up another Institutions.

Karl, GSR; No Alternate – Twelve & Twelve

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Tuesday 6:00 PM
- **Address:** Seven Woodbridge Street, Hadley, All Saints Church
- **Financial Contributions:** To the Pie.
- **Group Share Discussion:** Last Tuesday of the month we do the tradition of the month. Offer temporary sponsorship, celebrate milestones in sobriety, pass out coins, literature for the asking, had a discussion at last business meeting about donations.

John, GSR; No Alternate – Here & Now

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Wednesday, 7:30 PM
- **Address:** One Porter Road, E. Longmeadow, MA
- **Financial Contributions:** 40/40/40 to Work Services, Institutions, General Services
- **Service Positions Filled:** 80% filled, 100% by next business meeting.
- **Commitments:** Agawam, 5:00 Friday
- **Institutions:** Stoney Brook Section 35, First Thursday of month.
- **Group Share Discussion:** Give out Big Books to newcomers. Have between 6-8 greeters every week. Give medallions to group members on anniversaries. Have about 25-30 active members – 50-75 attendance weekly.

Alicia, GSR; No Alternate – Lost & Found

- **Day/Time of Meeting:** Thursday, 6:30 PM
- **Address:** 284 Montgomery Street, Chicopee, MA
- **Financial Contributions:** When we can
- **Service Positions Filled:** No Alternate GSR
- **Group Share Discussion:** Just celebrated our anniversary.

- Jim asks if we want to do the Traditions play again this year? Had about 75 people show up last time. Since most of the cost last year went to food, do we want to do a potluck this year to save on the budget? Will continue to discuss this in the coming months. Need more ideas?

## New Business

- Jim: Report from the Area Business Meeting there was a discussion about removing the Orange area from Area 31. On the map they are part of us, but they are not really part of Area 31. A vote was taken to have it removed.
- Karl asks if there is actually a budget shortfall of 10K in the budget? His understanding was it Not because of donations, but because rents have gone up. We saved money during Covid. Because we did a zoom for NERAASA. Who voted to go to International, but it seems to have cut our budget. We do still have money for International Convention and NERAASA – be used to be reimbursed. How did this benefit us? Who voted for going to International as it is now cutting into our budget for local?
- Ray explained: When you were treasurer it was a \$24K budget. Last year it was a \$42K budget which is ridiculous. Way too high. During Covid we were getting contributions, but not using it. Plus, we moved here which raised the rent here. Covid \$750 Rent, now \$10K a year for here. We ended up asking groups to stop sending contributions to the Area and start sending elsewhere because we had nowhere to spend it. The International Convention was budgeted the prior year. So, we didn't have the 5K expense that we normally have for NERAASA so we took that expense and moved it to International Convention. What I get out of it is the experience of being there. We voted to fund NERAASA this year so it is funded. We lowered our budget almost \$10K. The prior year \$42K this year \$36K. Insurance has increased also. Have not touched the prudent reserve at all.

**Visitors:**

Mark, Accessibility Chair for Area 31 spoke: The purpose of the Accessibilities Committee is to ensure that AA message is available to all Alcoholics. Reported that their committee is available to all groups. They provide resources for those with disabilities, mobility problems, illness or are homebound so that they can still access AA. They meet the fourth Wednesday of each month and do about 20 commitments per month (members do not need to attend them all). For example, right now they bring a meeting to an 82-year-old, homebound member who has no family. They also look into making AA meeting more accessible by checking for ramps or things like heat and air conditioning. Right now, they have only six members so groups without an Accessibility Representative are urged to send Representatives to this committee. Send an e-mail to Bob at Area 31 if interested. Passed around the Accessibilities check list for everyone to look at.

Ray reported that in the January meeting the Area Business meeting voted for the area chair to have a guest host?

- NERAASA will be held February 20-22 in Portland, Maine.
- Ray will be attending NERD (New England Delegates) will be in Delaware in March.
- Spring Assembly will be April 11-12 in Enfield, Connecticut. Mini Conference – Is what it is known as.
- GSRs should try to attend Spring and Fall Assemblies and the Round-up.
- Ray will be attending Conference April 26-May 2 in New York City – Funded by GSO.
- Round-up is May 29-30 in Hadley, Massachusetts
- Massachusetts State Convention – they are always looking for people for hospitality or meet and greet. It will be in Marlborough again. Planning committee meeting Last Tuesday on odd month in Marlborough or on Zoom if you would like to assist.
- Concept meeting here on the first Thursday of the month.
- They are willing to speak to groups about what is going on in the area.
- They also do group inventories. Area Chair can get a past delegate to come out.
- Justin: Area Chair to reach out to about these things.

**Closing**

- Christine reads Tradition 2
- Karl reads Concept 2
- **Next meeting:** March 2, 2026 at 7:00 PM, Jason will do the reading from the Service Manual.
- Bob will be the visitor next month.