

Berkshire Intergroup

June 10, 2024

Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Roll Call: Courtney L (Chair), Robin D (Office manager), Adam D (PI committee co-chair), Ray M (Alternate delegate), Dwayne M (Co-chair), Kellie & Tim C (In-person Sober At Sunrise), Bill M (Lee Young People's), Craig (Web servant), Mary E (Watch Your Step), Sam H (Treasurer), Rusty C (Great Barrington Men's), Kaitlyn B (Sheffield 12 & 12), Bob R (Young at Heart), Joan P (Southern Berkshire), Elaine B (Keep It Simple), Peg F (Monterey 11th Step and On Awakening), Susan B (Secretary)

Secretary: (Susan B) Minutes accepted.

Treasurer: (Sam H) Report accepted.

Office manager: (Robin D) The office was open 16 days. Books have been restocked. The graphic pamphlets "It Happened to Joe" and "It Happened to Alice" are in stock but have been discontinued. In July, August and September, the office will not be open on the first Friday as well at June 19th.

Website: (Craig) The flyer for the picnic has been posted. Craig has been adding events from the newsletter. He is happy to get emails and is open to ideas.

Area 31: (Ray M) The area bought a storage shed for display boards.

District 5 will be presenting a play about the traditions on July 20. It will be hybrid.

The concepts meeting is continuing to be held on the first Thursday of the month.

People from the area are available for outgoing speaking commitments.

Past delegates are available to help with group inventories (email areachair@area31aa.org).

The Mass state convention will be held on November 8-10 at the Best Western in Marlborough. Online registration will be open soon. Visit aamastateconvention.org. Go through the website to reserve rooms (Single/Double \$129, Triple \$139).

The next planning meeting will be July 30. A carpool leaves the bowling alley at 291 Burnett Road at 5:30 (email altdelegate@area31aa.org).

The convention needs AlAnon support and help with "Meet and Greet" (2-hour slots) from the western part of the state.

District 3: (Absent)

Public Information (PI): Adam D described the role of the committee which is to bring the message of AA—what AA does and doesn't do—to the public and encouraged people to get involved. Examples of recent commitments have been tables at wellness fairs and Hampshire Regional High School. Adam is open to other ideas and looking for support. He can be reached by email at PI@area31aa.org. Their hybrid meeting is held on the 2nd

Tuesday at 7:30 pm. More information can be found on the area31aa.org website (under “standing committees”).

Institutions: (Absent)

Chair: (Courtney L) No report.

Co-chair: (Dwayne M) Dwayne reported on the picnic, which will be held at the ski lodge at the Pittsfield State Forest, 1041 Cascade Road. There will be hotdogs, hamburgers and drinks. People can bring sides and desserts, if desired. The picnic will take place from 1-5 with lawn games and a meeting at 4:00.

Old business:

The bookie meeting will be hybrid online and at the Intergroup office at 6:00 pm on the 2nd Monday. At the “bookie” meeting there is a speaker exchange for groups to be able to bring in outside speakers. Reps were encouraged to announce that this is taking place and to encourage groups to send bookie coordinators to the meeting.

The Western MA Intergroup printed meeting list booklet is in stock. While contributions will be welcome, the lists will be free. Robin said that, with shipping, the lists cost 65¢ each; that there are 60 remaining of the 100 purchased.

The question of how to mark the upcoming 35th anniversary of Intergroup was brought up. No decisions were made. Reps will ask their groups for their thoughts on what we might want to do to honor this anniversary.

New business:

Susan raised the concern that if too many people roll out of positions at the same time it can put more strain on other officers. She brought up the idea of staggering positions such as treasurer and secretary so they would open up alternate years.

Robin stated that elections for Intergroup officers is in November.

Ray said that some groups vote for all committees in September so there can be a cohesive hand-off. He suggested the idea that the “sooner the better” can help avoid trouble.

Craig thought it was a good idea but brought up the fact that it was decided that there would be no changes in the bylaws for a year. It was noted that the bylaws describe the responsibilities of positions but not the timing of rotation.

Joan, who has served in a number of service positions, spoke of her experience that she was never left alone and how much she trusts the process.

Courtney encouraged people to express any interest they might have in positions which will open. (She followed up the meeting by sending the bylaws to members of the committee.)

Meeting closed with the Responsibility Pledge.