

AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 1391
HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391

BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday February 5th, 2020

53 Members were in attendance.

Charlie opened the meeting at 7:00 with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, and the guidelines of the committee.

Introductions of the committee members.

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs):

Lana, Singleness of Purpose
Kevin F, Tuesday Night at Sacred Heart
Anisa, Original Downtown Group
Jerry, Pioneer Valley
Holly, After Work Group
Cheryl, Friday Night AA Providence
Candace, Friday Night South Hadley
Jimmy, Saturday Better Life Group
Mike, No BS Beginner Step Study in Springfield
Tyler, Haydenville

Secretary's Report: Dan read the minutes of the January meeting. There were no amendments or additions.

Treasurer's Report - Andy was present gave a report.

• Ending Balance from Prev.	\$1150.00
• Total donations	\$1924.12
• Expenses	\$277.31
• Ending balance for book purchases	\$1646.81
• Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$1250.00

Report accepted, seconded, and passed.

BTG – Jeff was not here for his report, home with the flu. Cody provided notes from Jeff. Four contacts reached out for meetings. BTG has yet to find someone in the

Palmer and Monson areas to offer rides. Volunteers in these areas can contact Jeff, if interested.

Liaison – Cody, our liaison to gave his report. No new issues to report. However, with the new master list in hand, he will make sure that all contact info is correct.

Librarian – Mitch was here. He had books. Go see Mitch. Get books.

Berkshires – Connell was present and gave his report. A number of open commitments remain, one group recently released three commitments. The new format is in use, and feedback is coming in.

Open discussion of meeting issues

Jen, Alternate for Chicopee Women's Jail - We have been turned away twice. Osborne has not been responsive to phone calls.

Walter – Mill Street Section 35 Friday Nights, there has been no contact from the facility. He will roll out.

Amy – Is there a way for new chairpersons to find out how to handle a commitment?

Melissa – My Sisters House, first and third week commitments are happening, but others are not.

Chris, Tuesday night Soldier On - There has been no meeting on Thursday Nights.

Area Delegate - Paul was here to give his report.

The general service conference will be in Rye Brook, NY, in April. Paul will be on the Treatment and Accessibility Committee. In our area, that falls under the Institutions Committee. There is a kit with a workbook, DVDs, guidelines, order forms, and pamphlets available for AA members holding meetings in treatment facilities and correctional institutions. Paul will be working to get some of the kits for us so that we can review the material and offer feedback. The agenda for the conference has been finalized. The items will be published on 2/15. The Alternate Delegate will prepare these for discussion at the area mini conference. The dates for the mini conference are tentatively 4/4-4/5 or 3/28-3/29, the date and location are not yet firm. NERAASA will be held 2/21-2/23 in Nashua, NH, and will be another opportunity for members of this committee and others in service positions to discuss issues to bring to the general service conference. For questions or comments, contact Paul at delegate@area31aa.org.

Area Chair – not present.

CPC – Dawn was here to introduce herself as the new CPC chair.

PI – Michael, new chair for the committee, offered a brief synopsis of PI activities, such as speaking at IOPs, a radio program, health fairs, etc., for raising awareness of AA in the community.

Round up committee co-chair – Andy offered an update. Roundup will be 5/15-5/17 at the Clarion in West Springfield. There will be no dance, but there will be a movie night, comedians, and other activities, registration is \$20, and the dinner is \$25.

ROLL OUTS –

Walter – Friday night 7:00 PM Mill Street Section 35.

ROLL INS –

Freddy, Forest Park - Northern Hope 5th Saturday, (as well as 3rd)
Joe K, East Mountain Group - 3rd Friday Providence Detox
Sonia, Whip City Nooner - Mill Street Women's 3rd Monday
Billy, East Longmeadow – Thursday Nooner Solider On

OLD BUSINESS - No old business.

NEW BUSINESS -

Andy – There is a new meeting for veterans, Saturday at 7:00 AM, 104 Ramah Circle, Agawam, MA

ADDITIONAL MOTIONS:

Motion to spend \$1646.81 on books. All in favor.

The meeting was closed with the Responsibility Declaration.

Your 2020 Institution Committee

Chair	Charlie	email: institutions@area31aa.org
Co-Chair	Michelle	
Secretary	Melissa	
Treasurer	Andy	
BTG	Jeff	
Liaison	Cody	
Co-Liaison	Andy	
Librarian	Mitch	

Respectfully submitted,

Dan H.
Scribe Pro Tem

Links to Institutions-related materials discussed at the meeting:

A kit of materials for work In Correctional Facilities:

https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/f-68w_corrections_kit.pdf

A workbook from the Treatment Committee of AA

https://aa.org/assets/en_US/aa-literature/m-40i-treatment-committee-workbook

A workbook for those involved in Corrections outreach

https://aa.org/assets/en_US/aa-literature/m-45i-corrections-workbook

Contact information for Bridging the Gap:

Bridging the Gap
C/O Western Mass. Institutions Committee
PO Box 1391
Holyoke, MA 01040

Bridgethegap31@yahoo.com

1-888-240-6991