

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

**BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday April 1st, 2020**

14 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.

Charlie read the tradition of the month, and the concept of the month.

Introductions of the committee members.

General agreement to table last month's motion until our next face to face meeting.

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs):

No new IGRs

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

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

• Ending Balance from Prev.	\$1350.00
• Total donations	\$2337.48
• Expenses	\$299.19
• Ending balance for book purchases	\$2038.29
• Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$1350.00

Report accepted, seconded, and passed.

Charlie commented that the reserves are somewhat generous. We had previously discussed limiting the reserves to \$900. He proposes spending the difference (\$450) on books. This will be discussed under new business.

BTG – Jeff was here for his report. No calls were received due to current circumstances. Volunteer sheets did go out. None have been received back, of course. A word on emails, he has been losing emails into Junk. If you need to get something to him, send him a regular email, and he will reply, which will ensure that further emails get through his filter.

Liaison – Cody, our liaison, was not here to give his report. Charlie has worked with Andy (alternate Liaison) to tackle the issue with Chicopee Women's.

Librarian – Mitch was here.

Berkshires – Connell was present and gave his report. Obviously things are on hold. Some members have been exploring options for bringing meetings in remotely. Detox and CSS residents are confined to rooms, so group meetings are not possible. A friend of a friend in Springfield city government has offered to facilitate the sharing of Chromebooks that the city has in surplus. This may provide an option for some residents in the near future.

Open discussion of meeting issues

Area Delegate – Mike, alternate delegate, was not here to give a report.

Area Chair – Steve was not here to give a report.

ROLL OUTS –

ROLL INS –

OLD BUSINESS - No old business. Previous motion tabled until next face to face.

NEW BUSINESS –

Charlie: should we have a meeting next month? There is general agreement that we should meet on May 6.

Sonja: I will be working to see if there are options for bringing virtual meetings into some of the women's facilities on our roster.

Betsy: NYINTERGROUP.org has tools for moderating online meetings and handling harassing participants. Dan will look at distributing this kind of information to the IGR list.

Connell: Is there a means by which we might distribute literature in lieu of holding commitments? Discussion: the group agrees that we have sufficient membership representation here to vote on such an action. There is no mechanism for buying new books, but we may be able to get access to our current inventory in storage. Motion to attempt to retrieve we have and distribute them over the coming month. Motion passes overwhelmingly.

Motion to spend \$2488.29 on books, all in favor

Motion to close the meeting, all in favor.

ADDITIONAL MOTIONS:

Motion to spend \$ 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

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