

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

BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday September 1st, 2021

10 members were in attendance in person and virtually..

Andrew opened the meeting at 7:00 with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, and the guidelines of the committee. Dan read the tradition of the month, and Sam the concept of the month.

Introductions of the committee members.

New Institution Group Reps (IGRs):

Jim R., Do Or Die
Dan B., Haydenville
Chris, Better Life Group

Secretary's Report: Dan was present to read the minutes of the last meeting. Minutes of the August meeting were very abbreviated, as Dan was not there, and notes from the meeting were limited.

Treasurer's Report - Mitch was present to give a report.

● Ending Balance from Prev.	\$900.00
● Total donations	\$852.18
● Expenses	\$180.00
● Ending balance for book purchases	\$672.18
● Ending Balance to Carry (reserve)	\$900.00

BTG – Jeff was present to give a report.

Liaison – Tyler provided a report to Dan H. to present on his behalf. He has been working to contact each facility on our roster to establish the correct point of

contact and status of commitments. Of the 48 facilities at which we support commitments 7 have indicated that commitments are currently wanted (off of COVID suspension). So far, Tyler has reached out to 13 facilities, and two report that things are going smoothly. The rest were either non-responsive or have not yet returned phone calls.

Librarian – Mitch was present to give a report. Cathy has the inventory of books in her possession. There is currently a plan to move these to a location that can be accessed by the committee and distributed as needed. We hope to have this done by the October meeting.

Berkshires – Jenn was not present to give a report.

Open discussion of meeting issues - No issues to report.

Area Delegate – Paul, our Delegate, was here to offer a report. The Fall assembly will be held on Saturday, 10/16, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, with workshops through the day. The business meeting will be on Sunday, 10/17, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, and elections for the area chair, alternate delegate, and delegate will be held. All events are at the Brimfield Academy in Brimfield. The General Service Conference proceedings are available online, and hardcopies are coming out soon. For further information, you can reach Paul at delegate@area31aa.org.

Craig, CPC - Craig was not present to give a report.

ROLL OUTS – None.

ROLL INS – Jim R. BMC 4th Friday.

OLD BUSINESS - The committee is in need of a co-chair, secretary, and librarian. Chris (Better Life Group) has expressed interest in taking on the librarian position. He is voted in. Jim R. was also voted in as co-chair. ... we still need a secretary :)

NEW BUSINESS:

Noting that the current meeting roster lists a mix of weeks and weekdays for commitments at various facilities, Sam raised discussion of reverting all commitments to full month (e.g., a chairperson would roll in to all Fridays, rather than just the first and third). Dan responded that our commitment roster has been a blend for several years now, due to both the availability of chairpersons to take certain slots and the desire of some facilities to only have commitments on certain days of the month. At this time, most facilities also have their own copy of the roster

and are comfortable with the mixed assignment of slots so long as the commitments are not missed.

At the request of a friend, Andrew raised discussion of the committee’s policy requiring in-person roll-ins to commitments, and asked if it was possible to change policy to allow persons unable to attend the monthly meeting to roll into commitments. It was discussed among the group that in-person roll-ins are necessary for several reasons. Most importantly, it is essential to the facilities that commitments are maintained and a chairperson’s willingness to show up to the monthly meeting, to state their sober time and be nominated by the group for the commitment (or not) helps to ensure that chairpersons are more likely to sustain their commitments. It is decided to keep things as they are.

Next meeting 10/6

Your 2021 Institution Committee

- Chair Andy
- Co-Chair Jim R.
- Secretary Dan H.
- Treasurer Mitch
- BTG Jeff
- Liaison Tyler
- Co-Liaison
- Librarian Mitch

Respectfully submitted,
Dan H.
Scribe Pro Tem

Contact information for Bridging the Gap:

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Open Commitments

Institution	Day	Time
BMC CSS VIRTUAL	3rd Friday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	Tuesday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Franklin Recovery Center	4th/5th Friday	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	1st/2nd/3rd Mon	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	1st Tuesday	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	Tue	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	1 Wed.	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	3 Wed.	7:00 PM
Mill Street (M) VIRTUAL	2&4 Wed	7:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	Tuesday	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	3rd Monday	6:30 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	1st Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	2nd Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	3rd Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (W) VIRTUAL	4th Wed	6:00 PM
Mill Street (M) Spanish VIRTUAL	Monday	7:00 PM