

AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

147 Books distributed

P.O BOX 1391
HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391
BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday, July 2nd 2025

18 Groups in Attendance

JD opened the meeting at 7:00pm with The Serenity Prayer, and the group representative description including responsibilities of the position.

*In agreement and cooperation with The Responsibility Pledge of Alcoholics Anonymous, the primary purpose of The Institutions Committee is to coordinate the work of the individual AA members and their groups who are interested in carrying the AA message of recovery to all alcoholics who might benefit from a meeting brought into their facility and to facilitate a means of Bridging the Gap from the institution to the larger AA community.

Introduction of committee members:

Chair JD, Co Chair Bruce, Secretary Scott, Librarian Jason, BTG Betsy, Liaison Erika, Co Liaison(s) Carla, Harvey, Treasurer Steve

REPORTS.

Secretary: (Scott) read June report. Motion accepted for minutes to be included.

Treasurer: (Steve)

Beginning Balance - \$727.50
Total donations (16 Groups)- \$1216.27
Expenses- \$ 88
Total For Books - \$1051.79
Ending Balance \$727.50

Bridging the Gap: (Betsy) - provided explanation on what bridging the gap program is and how it works. Asked for volunteers to sign up to answer the call and be available to people after they exit an institution to bring to area AA meetings. She reviewed business cards with bar codes for clients and volunteers. Reported that no clients have signed up. Encouraged AA volunteers going into institutions to distribute business cards and explain BTG program. Erika and Betsy are working with contacts/staff/directors to educate on the BTG program for clients leaving their institution.

Librarian: (Jason) spent \$1683 for 152 books and 10 when & where meeting lists. Current inventory total of 737 books

Liaison : (Erika) - Asked for everyone to communication of issues to her directly regarding issues from volunteers bringing in meetings, and to have that part of the monthly institutions meeting. Anyone who Rolls into a meeting needs to contact Erika to get the contact coordinator for their new commitment. Please see Erika after the meeting or call/email her with your contact information. Thank you. Reviewed Hampshire sheriff's office in Northampton commitment. Monday, Wednesday, or Friday evenings weekly, biweekly, monthly commitments available at 7pm or 8pm. AA volunteers must attend a mandatory orientation (and yearly orientation thereafter), and undergo a CORI check. Men only. 2-3 volunteers max per meeting. All speakers/visitors must have CORI check.

INVITED COMMITTEES

Area Chair (Bob): All area information available on website area31aa.org including District Meetings, Area Meetings, Fall Assembly, NERF. GSO is hiring (see Meeting Guide app for details). Mass State Convention planning committee occurring odd months (contact Steve for details). Please contact chair if you would like area committee to do an outgoing commitment to your home group to discuss service work at the area level. Chair can also help a group coordinate a group inventory. Concept meeting 1st Wed of mth. 10/18-10/19 Fall

Assembly. District 2 workshop on Plain Language BB on weekend of FA. 11/14-16 MA State Convention. NERF 12/5-7. (See area website for details). Accessibilities Co-chair position is available for those interested in doing service. 7/26 Dist 5 doing play on 12 traditions 1030am-1pm (lunch provided). Please donate to Area and attend monthly area meetings.

Grapevine():

CPC:(Karen): need no cochair and secretary. Working on leads for new commitments.

ACCESSIBILITIES:(Judy) -

Pi:

WMYPAA(Mark): Meets 1st Sunday of the month at Serenity Club, 5pm. Need help. MSCYPAA XXVII in Springfield, MA, 8/15-17. Registration online. Meeting twice per month leading up to the Convention.

Chair Report(JD):

Co-Chair Report:

Issues- Doug noted Retreat of Boston desperate for volunteers to bring in AA meetings. Feedback other commitments (+) at Salvation Army and others.

Roll outs- Johnny / Wildcats 3rd Sunday Valley Springs

Roll ins- New View 3rd Wed monthl - The Way Out Group; Heather & Rob Individual Retreat of Boston Mondays weekly commitment.

END OF REPORTS

Old Business: Discussion re: Berkshire Intergroup should be responsible for paying for Zoom account (previous motion) Berkshire Intergroup is a part of Area 31. They are responsible for their own Institutions meetings. They do receive Books from Institutions committee. Motion to table - *unanimous*.

New Business: (Steve) motion to spend \$1051.79 on books - *passed* unanimously. JD reviewed creation of new boards for Institutions for display for Area and State Convention. He will continue work on design / building of these. Harvey reviewed Carlson Detox and possible need for Institutions commitment. Working on filling Director position and will then communicate need for commitments. Will update in August.

Closed Meeting 8pm

w/ The Responsibility Pledge

The next meeting will be at 7pm first Wed. of the month, 8/6/25.

30 Carew St, South Hadley

Your 2024 Institutions Committee

email: Institutions@area31aa.org

Chair JD

Co Chair Bruce

Secretary Scott

Treasurer Steve

BTG Betsy

Liaison Erika

Librarian Jason

OPEN COMMITMENTS - AA Service Opportunities - Updated July 2025

To take on a commitment: Roll-In during the monthly Institutions Meeting.

IC Meeting is at 7PM on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 30 Carew St South Hadley MA

(W)Women (M)Men *Notes

Institution	Address	Day	Time	* Notes
Care One	260 Easthampton Road Holyoke MA	1st or 2nd Wed	7:30 PM	
CT Corrections	335 Bilton Road Somers CT	2nd & 4th Thursday	7:00 PM	
Hampshire Sheriff's Office (M)	205 Rocky Hill Road, Northampton MA	Flexible Monthly/Wkly	7:00 PM	Orientation/Cori *Men Only
Holyoke Medical Center BH	575 Beech Street Holyoke MA	Tuesdays	6PM or 7PM	
Holyoke Medical Center BH	575 Beech Street Holyoke MA	Thursdays 2nd/4th	6PM or 7PM	
Mira Vista Behavioral Health	1233 Main Street Holyoke MA	Tues - Saturday	7:00 PM	Cori
Mission Care at Holyoke	35 Holy Family Road Holyoke MA	Flexible 2x/month	2PM or 4PM	
New View Section 35 (W) *	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Sats & Sundays	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
New View Section 35 (W) *	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Weds 1st/2nd/4th	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
New View Section 35 (W) *	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Thursdays/Fridays	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
Retreat of Boston (New)	14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow MA 01056	S/T/Th/F(s)	6:30 PM	1st/2nd/3rd/4th/5th
Retreat of Boston (New)	14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow MA 01056	Saturdays	6:30 PM	1st/2nd/4th/5th
Retreat of Boston (New)	14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow MA 01056	Wednesdays	6:00 PM	1st/2nd/3rd/4th/5th
Salvation Army (M)	327 Liberty Street Springfield MA	1st/4th Tuesdays	7:00 PM	
Salvation Army (M)	327 Liberty Street Springfield MA	2nd Thursday	7:00 PM	
Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)	325 Alabama Street Ludlow MA	Weds Saturdays	7:00 PM	Cori
Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)	325 Alabama Street Ludlow MA	2nd & 4th Fridays	7:00 PM	Cori
Valley Springs Hospital	45 Lower Westfield Road Holyoke MA	1st, 3rd, 4th Sunday	6:30 PM	

There is a lot of service opportunity here please consider sharing your time, even 1 day/month.

Working Together we Make a Difference!
