

AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

166 Books distributed

P.O BOX 1391

HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391

BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, September 3rd 2025

21 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 (not present) Harvey (not present), Treasurer Steve

REPORTS.

Secretary: (Scott) read August report. Motion for minutes to be accepted - *passed unanimously.*

Treasurer: (Steve)

Beginning Balance - \$727.50

Total contributions (20 Groups)- \$1024.95

Expenses- \$ 88

Total For Books - \$936.95

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 ONE client signed up from New Bedford, MA! Betsy made connections with volunteers from that area, but communication was lost with the client. Encouraged AA volunteers going into institutions to distribute business cards and explain BTG program.

Librarian: (Jason) spent \$1920 for 178 books and 312 pamphlets. Current inventory total of 624 books.

Liaison : (Erika) - Thanked all for continued service work. Appreciates communication updates from volunteers and Institutions. Rudy shared about success of current commitment which he has been chairing for 2 years which has been drawing 20-25 clients every meeting. Recovery Center in Springfield completed a LOI for AA Institutions meetings. 128 bed unit needing 4 nights of AA meetings, coed facility. 615-715pm. Will be added to open commitments list.

INVITED COMMITTEES

Delegate (Steve): Area website is area31aa.org which includes District Meetings, Area Meetings, Fall Assembly. Mass State Convention planning committee occurring at end of month (contact Ray, alt delegate 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 including Area Elections. 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). Non trustee director position available (see aa.org for details) GSO in NYC is being refurbished, and offices are closed to the public, but can still call/email/write for assistance. 9/20 - Archives event (see website for details). Alcathon over thanksgiving(12pm-12am) (see website) Please donate to Area and attend monthly area meetings.

Grapevine():

Berkshire Institutions (Sue): Received LOI from Greylock , and now have open commitments.

CPC:(Karen): Possible Upcoming commitments - Westfield State, Baypath, AIC (nursing). Barriers - changing contacts at institutions, looking for new leads.

Registrar (Sally):

ACCESSIBILITIES:(Judy) - 18 commitments/mth to people not able to make it out to meetings in area. Filled positions of Co-Chair, secretary. Area 30 helping with state convention and ASL

Pi:

WMYPAA(Mark):

Chair Report(JD): Manned a table with Jason (librarian) at WMYPAA convention with Institutions boards, and asking for help with manning a table at MA state convention in Nov.

Co-Chair Report: Attended intergroup meeting in August (to report for Institutions). Commented on success and energy of committee.

Issues-

Feedback: Rudy/Evan have been chairing a commitment for 2 years. Have excellent communication with commitment, and have 20-25 clients attending weekly.

Roll outs- none

Roll ins- New View - Tuesday night YP Gp, Friday (2nd). BOCA Recovery - Quietly Among Us - Jimmy (chair), Wednesday (3rd).

END OF REPORTS

Old Business: none

New Business: (Steve) motion to spend \$936.95 on books - *passed* unanimously. Motion to spend \$ on BTG business cards - *passed unanimously*. Steve commented on upcoming expenses for institutions including rooms for NERAASA. and asked re: putting money aside to cover costs. Emphasized need for continued support of groups to donate to Institutions committee. Discussion re: groups allocation of monies / explanation of history of suggested donation percentages. Question raised how many open commitments filled - Erika will report back next month. Question if individuals can donate to institutions committee - answer: Yes.

Closed Meeting 8pm

w/ The Responsibility Pledge

The next meeting will be at 7pm first Wed. of the month, 10/1/25.

30 Carew St, South Hadley

Your 2024 Institutions Committee

Chair JD - email: institutions@area31aa.org

Co Chair Bruce -

Secretary Scott -

Treasurer Steve -

BTG Betsy -

Liaison Erika -

Librarian Jason -

OPEN COMMITMENTS - AA Service Opportunities - Updated September 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
Boca Recovery	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Tues 1st/2nd/3rd/4th	6:15 PM	
Boca Recovery	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Thurs 1st/2nd/3rd/4th	6:15 PM	
Boca Recovery	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Sat or Sun	6:15 PM	
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	
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	Tues 1st/3rd	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
New View Section 35 (W) *	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Weds 1st/2nd/4th/5th	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
New View Section 35 (W) *	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Fridays 1st/3rd/4th/5th	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	5th Tuesday	7:00 PM	
Salvation Army (M)	327 Liberty Street Springfield MA	2nd/5th 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!
