

## AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

134 Books distributed

**P.O BOX 1391**

**HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**Wednesday, November 5th 2025**

19 Groups in Attendance

3 new group representatives 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 October report. Motion for minutes to be accepted - *passed unanimously.*

**Treasurer:** (Steve)

Beginning Balance - \$539.50

Total contributions (23 Groups)- \$1961.79

Expenses- \$ 193.19

Total For Books - \$1692.12

Ending Balance \$644.69

**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 1 client signed up this past month from Danvers, MA. She was able to make a connection with the BTG program and connect the client with BTG volunteers in that area. Volunteers are utilizing QR codes on business card. Encouraged AA volunteers going into institutions to distribute business cards and explain BTG program to facilitate clients connection with AA.

**Librarian:** (Jason) spent \$1630.86 for 155 books and 80 when & where's. Current inventory total of 566 books, and have a credit of \$18.36 with area 31 intergroup.

**Liaison :** (Erika) - Thanked all for continued service work. Appreciates communication updates from volunteers and Institutions. Reported 7 new commitments filled last month. Working on time of AA commitment at Hampshire Corrections and competition with other activities for clients; will remain the same at this time per director. Open commitment list is available on the Institutions page through area website [area31aa.org](http://area31aa.org) Berkshire Institutions would like to add their open commitments to the open list - Erika is investigating. Question re: Carlson detox and communication / any commitments coming? Awaiting communication from director about upcoming possibilities.

### INVITED COMMITTEES

**Alt Delegate: (Ray):** Noted FA election results - delegate, Ray, alt-delegate, Bob, Area Chair, Justin, Treasurer, Kate, Secretary, Lara. Area website is [area31aa.org](http://area31aa.org) which includes District Meetings, Area Meetings, Mass State Convention planning committee meetings. Please contact chair if you would like area

committee to do an outgoing commitment to your home group to discuss recovery and service experience. Chair can also help a group coordinate a group inventory utilizing a prior delegate. Concept meeting 1st Wed of mth. 11/14-16 MA State Convention for AA and Al-anon. Different themes for panels, key note speaker (institutions will have a table displaying boards) / still have needs for volunteers if you would like to participate. NERF 12/5-7 in RI (registration is free - See area website for details). NERAASA coming 2/20-22/2026. Still have need of co-chairs for GV and CPC if you are looking to be of service. Round Up needs help - please volunteer. GSO in NYC is being refurbished, and offices are closed to the public, but can still call/email/write for assistance. CT Alcahthon over thanksgiving(12pm-12am) (see website) Please donate to Area and attend monthly area meetings.

**CPC:(Karen):** commitments to Baypath, Westfield St, Springfield College upcoming. Postcards now available with QR codes being distributed.

**ACCESSIBILITIES:(Judy)** - 17-20 commitments/mth to people not able to make it out to meetings in area. Helping state convention to organize ASL, stenographers, and Spanish speaking communications. Advance registration for accessibilities resources available.

**Pi:**

**WMYPAA(Mark):**

**Berkshire Institutions(Sue):** New Williamstown commitments available / need volunteers. See above re: adding open commitments from Berkshires to current open commitment list for Area.

**Chair Report (JD):** State convention - Institutions will have table / need volunteers.

**Co-Chair (Bruce):** none

**Issues:** ? re: BTG and if non-binary client can be matched with non-binary volunteer. Betsy - yes. There are non-binary volunteers.

**Feedback:**

**Roll outs-** Carlson (Sat -1st), Doug. CDH, Migdalia (fri - 3rd ). Arbor House (Sun - 2nd, 4th), BYOBB.

**Roll ins-** Carlson (Sat - 1st), Mike D. HMC - (Tuesdays), Nick D, Sober Sunday. Ludlow Section 35 (Wed - 1st) - Brian (co-chair) with George Salvation Army (Thr - 2nd) - Jason /Came to Believe Gp. CDH (fri - 1st) Migdalia / Sunderland Sec. CDH & (fri - 3rd) Leah Chair/Migdalia Cochair.

### **END OF REPORTS**

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** (Steve) motion to spend \$1692.12 on books - *passed* unanimously. Steve emphasized need for continued support of groups to donate to Institutions committee.

Closed Meeting 8pm

w/ The Responsibility Pledge

The next meeting will be at 7pm first Wed. of the month, 12/3/25

30 Carew St, South Hadley

### **Your 2024 Institutions Committee**

**Chair JD** - email: [institutions@area31aa.org](mailto:institutions@area31aa.org)

**CoChair Bruce**

**Secretary Scott**

**Treasurer Steve**

**BTG Betsy**

**Liaison Erika Librarian**

**Jason**

**OPEN COMMITMENTS - AA Service Opportunities - Updated November 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/5th	6:15 PM	
Boca Recovery	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Thurs 1st/2nd/4th/5th	6:15 PM	
Boca Recovery	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Sundays	6:15 PM	
Care One	260 Easthampton Road Holyoke MA	1st or 2nd Wed	7:30 PM	
CHD Aster House	51 Old Lyman Road, South Hadley MA	1st Monday	7:00 PM	
CT Corrections	335 Bilton Road Somers CT	2nd & 4th Thursday	7:00 PM	
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/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/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	5th Thursday	7:00 PM	
Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)	325 Alabama Street Ludlow MA	Saturdays	7:00 PM	Cori
Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)	325 Alabama Street Ludlow MA	2nd & 4th Fridays	7:00 PM	Cori
There is a lot of service opportunity here please consider sharing your time, even 1 day/month.				
<b>Working Together we Make a Difference!</b>				