

AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

105 Books distributed

P.O BOX 1391

HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391

BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, January 7th, 2026

24 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 Maureen, Librarian Jason, Bridging the Gap Betsy (not present), Liaison Erika, Co Liaison(s) Carla (not present) Harvey (not present), Treasurer Doug

REPORTS.

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

Treasurer: (Doug)

Beginning Balance - \$674.69

Total contributions (31 Groups)- \$2,590.38

Expenses- \$ 188.00

Total For Books - \$2,402.38

Ending Balance \$674.69

Bridging the Gap: (Betsy) – Betsy not present. Jason provided an explanation of 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. He reviewed business cards with bar codes for clients and volunteers.

Librarian: (Jason) spent \$1,633.85 for 215 books and \$80 on pamphlets, totaling \$1,713.85 spent. In December a total of 105 books were distributed. A total of 11 commitments received books. The current literature inventory stands at a total of 652 books.

Liaison : (Erika) – Provides explanation of role as liaison between Institutions Committee and the Institutions looking to bring commitments into their facility. Erika encourages Institution reps to reach out to her with any questions. Provided information on the length of sobriety requirements to take on a commitment. Chair has a 1 year of sobriety requirement, Co-Chair 6 month of sobriety requirement. Provided a reminder that both the Chair and CoChair taking on a commitment, need to be present at the Institutions meeting in order to roll-in. Erika has been in contact with Carlson. It was stated that all commitments at Carlson are filled. Some groups entered commitments at Carlson on their own, and not through institutions committee, therefore we do not know all groups fulfilling commitments, but what is more important is that all commitments are filled.

INVITED COMMITTEES

Area Chair – (Jonathan) : Provided an explanation as to what they do and services they offer. They provide support to Grapevine and PI committees. Their services include outgoing commitments to groups to share their recovery and service experience. Please contact chair if you would like area committee to do an outgoing commitment to your home group. Chair can also help a group coordinate a group inventory utilizing a prior delegate. NERAASA coming 2/20-22/2026. NECYPAA is happening this weekend Jan 9th-11th. Intergroup office has extended their hours to 9am-3pm. GSO in NYC is being refurbished, and offices are closed to the public, but can still call/email/write for assistance. Area welcomes any donations.

CPC: (Karen): Not Present

ACCESSIBILITIES: (Mark) – Provides explanation on what Accessibility's is, and what they do. Providing commitments to people who are unable to make it out to meetings in the area. They can also assist with interpreter services. If there is a need for a language or ASL interpreter, please see Mark, or you can put in a request on the area website at area31aa.org. Accessibility's committee meets on the 4th Sunday of the month in this room. The committee could use more help from group reps.

Pi:

CPC

WMYPAA(Mark): WMYPAA meets the 1st Sunday of the month for a Step Study at 4pm, and Business meeting follows at 5pm

Berkshire Institutions(Sue): Had elections. Sue was elected as Chair. Have asked for Berkshire Intergroup to pay for their Zoom. Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 8:30pm via Zoom.

Chair Report (JD):

Co-Chair (Bruce): Thanked group reps for showing up, and for their continued communication, to ensure we are moving in the right direction, and continue to spread the message to the sick and suffering.

Issues:

Feedback: Joe from Boca in attendance. Thanked Doug and Mike for coming to Boca. States they were a great representation of AA. Explained they are a new facility, having just opened in July 2025. They have 128 beds, and 26 current residents. Joe states they are in desperate need for AA to come in for commitments.

Roll outs- None

Roll ins- ***Holyoke Medical Center** (Thurs – 4th) Whip City Nooner, Rick ***Boca** (Sun – 1st at 6:15pm), WMYPAA, Mark ***Mira Vista** (Friday – 1st) Marilyn (Chair), Sue (Co-Chair) ***Stonybrook Section 35** (Wednesdays - 7pm) George (Chair), Tommy (Co-Chair) ***Retreat of Boston** (Wed – 1st at 6pm) Lauren (Chair), Exodus (Co-Chair)

END OF REPORTS

Old Business: none

New Business: Andy shared information from GSO, that there will be a price increase on literature of \$3 per item. New prices go into effect this February. (Doug) motion to spend \$2,402.38 on books - *passed* unanimously.

Closed Meeting 8pm

w/ The Responsibility Pledge

The next meeting will be at 7pm first Wed. of the month, 2/4/26

30 Carew St, South Hadley

Your 2026 Institutions Committee

Chair JD - email: institutions@area31aa.org

Co Chair Bruce

Secretary Maureen

Treasurer Doug

BTG Betsy

Liaison Erika

Librarian Jason

OPEN COMMITMENTS - AA Service Opportunities - Updated January 2026

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	Tuesdays	6:15 PM	1st/3rd/4th/5th
Boca Recovery	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Thursdays	6:15 PM	1st/2nd/4th/5th
Boca Recovery	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Sundays	6:15 PM	2nd/3rd/4th/5th
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	6PM or 7PM	
Mira Vista Behavioral Health	1233 Main Street Holyoke MA	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Sat	7:00 PM	Cori
Mira Vista Behavioral Health	1233 Main Street Holyoke MA	Fridays 2nd/3rd/4th/5th	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/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
Valley Springs Hospital	45 Lower Westfield Road Holyoke MA	Sundays	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!