

## AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

181 Books distributed

P.O BOX 1391

HOLYOKE, MA 01041-1391

BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026

25 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 (not present) Secretary Maureen

Librarian Jason, Bridging the Gap Betsy, Liaison Erika, Treasurer Doug

### REPORTS

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

**Treasurer:** (Doug)

Beginning Balance - \$ 944.69

Total contributions (35 Groups)- \$3,250.13

Expenses- \$ 188

Total For Books - \$ 3,062.13

Ending Balance \$ 944.69

**Bridging the Gap:** (Betsy) – provided an explanation of what Bridging the Gap program is and how it works. Need more volunteers to sign up to answer the call and be available to people after they exit an institution to bring to area AA meetings. More specifically, male volunteers are needed in the valley. Betsy reviewed business cards with bar codes for clients and volunteers. We had our 1<sup>st</sup> successful hit in January. Betsy will order more business cards, and will let Doug know what is spent.

**Librarian:** (Jason) spent \$2,316.09 for 302 books and \$80 on pamphlets, 80 ct. of When & Wheres, totaling \$2,396.09 spent. In January a total of 181 books were distributed. A total of 17 commitments received books. The current literature inventory stands at a total of 787 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. No new letters of intent received, but received an update from Valley Springs commitment. Erika has been in contact with the new Director of the Chicopee Womens Correctional Center, hoping to receive a letter of intent soon.

## INVITED COMMITTEES

**Area Delegate – (Bob)** : Provided an explanation as to what they do and the services they offer. Their services include outgoing commitments to groups to share their recovery and service experience. A delegate can also help a group coordinate a group inventory utilizing a prior delegate. NERAASA coming 2/20-22/2026, where you can learn how other areas do what we do. Bus trip to GSO, on April 10<sup>th</sup> is a go, and is sold out, more info to come. Area is looking for group histories. The group history form to fill out and submit, can be found on the area website. Concept meeting held on the first Thursday of every month.

**CPC: (Karen)**: Not Present

**ACCESSIBILITIES: (Mark)** – not present

**Pi:** - not present

**WMPAA(Mark)**: not present

**Berkshire Institutions(Sue)**: not present

**Chair Report (JD)**: no report

**Co-Chair (Bruce)**: not present

**Feedback:** Steve encourages group reps to make announcements at every meeting they attend, urging groups to contribute to institutions. Contributions can include individual monetary donations, or by donating AA literature. Can encourage groups to add a Literature in Prison donation box to collect literature.

**Roll outs-** None

**Roll ins-** \***Boca** (Tues - 3rd) John (Chair), Hunter (Co-Chair), \***Boca** (Thurs - 1st) Brittany (Chair), Maggie (Co-Chair), \***Boca** (Tues - 1st) Doug (Chair), Mike (Co-Chair), \***New View** (Every Saturday) Tim for Diane with Attitude Adjustment Group, \***Boca** (Sunday - 3rd) Paul with Beginners Grapevine, Monday Night Suffield Group, \***Stonybrook Sect 35** (Friday - 4th) Billy G. with Tuesday After Work Group, \***Boca** (Tues - 4th) Eddie with Mixed Nuts

## END OF REPORTS

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:**(Doug) motion to spend \$2,982.13 on books - *passed* unanimously.

Closed Meeting 8pm

w/ The Responsibility Pledge

The next meeting will be at 7pm first Wed. of the month, 3/4/26

30 Carew St, South Hadley

## Your 2026 Institutions Committee

email: [institutions@area31aa.org](mailto:institutions@area31aa.org)

**Chair JD**

**Co Chair Bruce**

**Secretary Maureen**

**Treasurer Doug**

**BTG Betsy**

**Liaison Erika**

**Librarian Jason**

**OPEN COMMITMENTS - AA Service Opportunities - Updated February 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*

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>* Notes</b>
<b>Boca Recovery</b>	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	5th Tuesday	6:15 PM	
<b>Boca Recovery</b>	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Thursdays	6:15 PM	2nd/4th/5th
<b>Boca Recovery</b>	200 Kendall Street, Springfield MA	Sundays	6:15 PM	2nd/3rd/4th/5th
<b>Holyoke Medical Center BH</b>	575 Beech Street Holyoke MA	Thursdays 2nd	6PM or 7PM	
<b>New View Section 35 (W) *</b>	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Sundays	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
<b>New View Section 35 (W) *</b>	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Tues 2nd/4th	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
<b>New View Section 35 (W) *</b>	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Weds 1st/4th/5th	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
<b>New View Section 35 (W) *</b>	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Fridays 1st/3rd/4th/5th	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
<b>Retreat of Boston (New)</b>	14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow MA 01056	S/Th/F(s)	6:30 PM	1st/2nd/3rd/4th/5th
<b>Retreat of Boston (New)</b>	14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow MA 01056	Saturdays	6:30 PM	1st/2nd/4th/5th
<b>Retreat of Boston (New)</b>	14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow MA 01056	Wednesdays	6:00 PM	1st/3rd/4th/5th
<b>Salvation Army (M)</b>	327 Liberty Street Springfield MA	5th Tuesday	7:00 PM	
<b>Salvation Army (M)</b>	327 Liberty Street Springfield MA	5th Thursday	7:00 PM	
<b>Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)</b>	325 Alabama Street Ludlow MA	Saturdays	7:00 PM	Cori
<b>Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)</b>	325 Alabama Street Ludlow MA	2nd Friday	7:00 PM	Cori
<b>Valley Springs Hospital</b>	45 Lower Westfield Road Holyoke MA	Sundays	6:30 PM	1st/2nd/3rd/4th/5th

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

**Working Together we Make a Difference!**