AREA 31 WESTERN MASS INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

222 Books distributed

P.O. BOX 1391
HOLYOKE, MA 01040-1391
BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, September 2nd, 2026

17 Groups in Attendance

Erick 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** Erick, **Secretary** Maureen, **Treasurer** Doug, **Librarian(s)** Gary & Archie, **Bridging the Gap** Betsy, **Liaison** Erika

Archie read the tradition of the month.

REPORTS

Secretary: (Maureen) – Read August report. Motion for minutes passed unanimously.
Treasurer: (Doug)
Beginning Balance - $ 895.59
Total contributions (26 Groups) - $2,093.52
Expenses- $ 188
Total For Books - $ 1,905.52
Ending Balance $ 895.59

Bridging the Gap: (Betsy) – Explained what Bridging the Gap program is and how it works. We could use 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. Provided an overview of how business cards work. No new hits in August
Librarian: (Gary) – Received $2,383.42 for literature. Spent $1,774.26 for 259 books, pamphlets, and When & Where's. In July, a total of 222 books were distributed. A total of 23 commitments received books. The current literature inventory stands at a total of 709 books.
Liaison: (Erika) – Encountered an issue at a meeting that is being rectified. Suggested that groups review how they want the meeting to run prior to meeting. Reminder to understand the mental state of individuals in the facilities, reminding everyone Principles before Personalities.
Received LOI from Holyoke TSS located at 130 Pine St. Looking to fill Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 6:30-7:30pm. All-male facility. 1-4 people per meeting. Waiting to hear back if women can go speak. Motion to accept LOI passed unanimously. Anyone who is currently bringing a meeting here needs to roll in to hold your current day/time.

(continued) Erika answered a question from Tim: If there is an issue at a meeting, will the following day be canceled or notified? If there is a *Safety concern*, the meetings that week will be canceled as we communicate with the director/facility, to resolve the issue at hand.
Regarding Stonybrook Cori Checks; please note Individuals are approved if they are one year or more without having any legal issues.

INVITED COMMITTEES

Area Delegate: (Ray) 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. If interested, please email the Area Chair. Concept meeting held first Thursday of the month. Mass State Convention being held Nov 6th-8th in Marlborough. Registration is open. If anyone is interested please email Ray.
WMYPAA: Not present
Grapevine: Not present
CPC: (Judy) Provides an explanation of what CPC is and does. Updating CPC boards to bring to commitments. Changed meeting time to 6pm. Next meeting is September 8th. September 3rd going to AIC Nursing department to present. Also going to PA program at Baypath.
Accessibilities: Not present
Berkshire Institutions: (Sue) Meets online 2nd Thursday of month. They have liaisons for all institutions. Have encouraged their reps to go back to their groups to ask for donations. Are having a Google drive training to manage their online documents. They are also cleaning up email list. Speaker Jam is going to be held in Pittsfield on Sept 26th.
Chair Report: (JD) Reminder that there is no smoking on church grounds, and to pick up trash when you leave.
Co-Chair Report: (Erick) Offers Park Allen group the option to join him at his commitment.

Feedback: Erick urges us not to discuss other committees' finances

Roll-outs:

***Hampshire County Jail** (3rd & 5th Fri) Gary ***Ludlow Section 35** (every Wed) George rolling out as alternate

Roll-Ins:

***Boca** (5th Sat) Carolyn w/ Fri night S. Hadley Beginners mtg. ***New View** (5th Wed) Kristen (Chair) Migdalia (Co-Chair) , ***Holyoke Med Center** (1st, 3rd, 5th Tues) Chris (Chair) Sam (Co-Chair)

END OF REPORTS

Old Business: none
New Business: Kat made motion to spend $1,805.37 on books - passed unanimously.

Closed Meeting 8pm w/ The Responsibility Pledge
The next meeting will be at 7pm first Wed. of the month, 10/7/2026
30 Carew St, South Hadley

Your 2026 Institutions Committee
Email: institutions@area31aa.org
Chair JD Co-Chair Erick
Secretary Maureen Treasurer Doug BTG Betsy Liaison Erika
Librarian(s) Gary & Archie

OPEN COMMITTMENTS - AA Service Opportunities - Updated September 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	1st/2nd/3rd/4th Saturdays	6:15 PM	
BHN Holyoke TSS (M)	130 Pine Street, Holyoke MA	T/Th/F 1-5	6:30 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
BHN Holyoke TSS (M)	" " " "	Saturdays 1-5	6:30 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
Carlson Recovery Center	" " " "	5th Monday	6:30 PM	
Carlson Recovery Center	" " " "	3rd/4th/5th Fridays	6:30 PM	
Hoyoke Medical Center	575 Beech Street, Holyoke MA	Thursday 5th	6 or 7 PM	
Hampshire County Jail (M)	205 Rocky Hill Road, Northampton MA	3rd/5th Fridays	7 or 8 PM	*Cori & Orientation
Mill Street (M) - WM Recovery & Wellness Center	155 Mill Street, Springfield, MA	Sundays	9 or 10 AM	*Cori
Mill Street (M) - WM Recovery & Wellness Center	" " " "	Mondays 1st/3rd	7:00 PM	*Cori
Mill Street (M) - WM Recovery & Wellness Center	" " " "	Tuesdays 1st/2nd/3rd	7:00 PM	*Cori
Mill Street (M) - WM Recovery & Wellness Center	" " " "	Wednesdays 1st/3rd	7:00 PM	*Cori
Mill Street (M) - WM Recovery & Wellness Center	" " " "	Thursdays 2nd/4th	6:00 PM	*Cori
Mill Street (M) - WM Recovery & Wellness Center	" " " "	Saturdays	1 or 7 PM	*Cori
New View Section 35 (W) *	21 Kenwood Street Greenfield MA	Sundays 1-5	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
New View Section 35 (W) *	" " " "	Tues 2nd/4th/5th	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
New View Section 35 (W) *	" " " "	Fridays 1-5	7:00 PM	*All Genders are Welcome
Retreat of Boston	14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow MA	S/Th/F(s) 1-5	6:30 PM	
Retreat of Boston	" " " "	Saturdays 1-5	6:30 PM	
Retreat of Boston	" " " "	1st/4th/5th Wednesdays	6:30 PM	
Salvation Army (M)	327 Liberty Street Springfield MA	5th Tuesday	7:00 PM	
Salvation Army (M)	" " " "	5th Thursday	7:00 PM	
Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)	325 Alabama Street Ludlow MA	Saturdays 1-5	7:00 PM	*Cori
Stonybrook Ludlow Section 35 (M)	" " " "	2nd/4th/5th Fridays	7:00 PM	*Cori
Valley Springs Hospital	45 Lower Westfield Road Holyoke MA	Sundays 1-5	6:30 PM	****Meetings Needed****
Western MA Regional Women's Correctional Ctr (W)	701 Center Street Chicopee, MA	Mondays 1-5	7:00 PM	*Cori & Orientation
Western MA Regional Women's Correctional Ctr (W)	" " " "	Saturdays 1-5	2:00 PM	*Cori & Orientation
Western MA Regional Women's Correctional Ctr (W)	" " " "	Fridays 2nd/3rd/4th/5th	3PM or 7PM	*Cori & Orientation
Please Note: 1-5 means ALL weeks are OPEN, however you only need to committ to one day or more if you choose!!				
There is a lot of service opportunity here please consider sharing your time, even 1 day/month.				
Working Together we Make a Difference!				