

Area 31 Accessibility Committee Meeting

6/24/2036

Attendance: Mark D (Chair) - Springfield Youn People, Jean (Area 31 MA State Convention Rep) – Holyoke South Street Group, Lindsay C (Secretary) – Holyoke Sober Sunday, Kathy, Erin, Ray (Area 31 Delegate), Brendan

Ray – A few trustee positions are open and will be voted on at the area fall assembly in October, Northeast Regional trustees are 4 year terms, serve for GSO. There are some workshops in July and they are all on the Area 31 Website.

Mark read the 6th Tradition

Lindsay read the minutes from May

- Kathy asked to correct the minutes from May re: Billie B, I wrote Chestnut Hill instead of Cedar Brook Village

Old Business:

Mark D – has been contacted but a number of people about in home meetings. Reached out to a number of them but has not heard back any further to start setting those up. Lindsay will reach back out to Tim at Holyoke Sober Sunday re: his lead for a home meeting.

No new commitments for the calendar

Mark sent the June calendar to Tom for the website yesterday (5/26)

Judy H – Cedar Brook Village on Fridays (in Ware) for Billie B, who is a past delegate, would like some more support. She wasn't there last time and the facility can't/doesn't let us know if there is something happening medically with her unless we call and ask if she is there or not.

Pioneer Valley Health & Rehab – sometimes lately the door has been locked, contact who we communicated with (?) is no longer working the night shift there. Last Monday had 9 people so attendance is good.

Jean – Eye Opener meeting has been taking the Wednesday meeting and he feels that it is very successful and has good attendance.

Jean – MA State Convention Accessibility Committee Rep – getting Spanish and ASL translators, Judy will get him the phone number for getting the stenographer service for the convention. It is \$35 for registration until 40 days from the event and then \$40 after

that. Rooms are ~\$150 a night, and they are still working on other logistics. They meet every odd month, on Tuesday of the last week for planning.

Judy H – Still connecting with Pauline and bringing a meeting to her apartment. She is doing great, and is interested in a **June 3rd** and **June 17th** meeting from 5:30-6:30pm. Her apartment is small, and they usually have ~4 people there.

Flyers for Sober in the Sun are out, but this is a separate entity from AA committees and groups. It is in Russell, MA this year.

Helping District 3, commitments? They did not hold their District 3 committee meeting this week because of Round Up this weekend. Debbie and Mark will connect so he can provide her with paperwork and accessibilities checklists to bring to meetings.

John – Steve and Desmond (from CT) are interested in being involved, trying to get more guys to attend this committee meeting.

Debbie – Also has CT people who are interested and would love to share information with them, Mark will get info to her.

Kate G volunteers to read the 6th tradition next month

Mark will share the minutes, agenda and calendar with the group once I get him the minutes from this month.

New business:

Judy H – said on the 5th Billie B was not there was unusual, but usually she has a meeting for Billie B with Lynne for her, and Kathy said that you can usually go up to her room which is room 226 and says that Ann goes to pick her up for Tuesday night meeting. The meeting at Cedar Brook Village is in the chapel and the books are in the library on the third floor.

Mark – people who reached out originally for in home meetings, he has tried again to contact them but has not gotten any responses.

Was contacted by Terry from Mission One in Holyoke, they would like a meeting and he gave them our calendar and they will be reaching out to patients to see what would work for them, possibly a few times a week or a Saturday afternoon after lunch, maybe a weeknight.

Carl (Area 31 Archivist) contacted Mark and said that the Holyoke Soldiers Home has 3-4 residents that would be interested in meetings and Mark also shared the calendar with them to see if there is a time that works for them.

Mark encourages more involvement, a lot of people are going to the same commitments and it would be beneficial if more people could go to more commitments instead of just a singular one per week or month.

Judy H – Pauline's meeting was postponed until tonight (6/24) so Judy went, she is open to any Wednesdays in July and is open to as many as possible, 69 Lathrop Street in south Hadley at 5:30pm. She likes different formats and usually Paul, Pheobe, Kathy, Kate have gone.

Erin – new to the group, the accessibility committee rep for her home group. Asking about more info, calendar, dates and times, mark said to share email and access calendar

- Mark – the meetings Are open meetings and anyone is allowed to go, so you can bring it back to your meeting and see if someone can come with to bring meetings to people.

Kathy – will take a meeting to Pauline on the second Wednesday of July 7/8

Brendan - Haydenville Sunday night life group – expressing having the meeting night and time messed up but has been meaning to join and be a part of sharing the message. Asking if anyone can go to any meeting, Mark shares number with everyone

Ray – suggests if there is a group near a commitment that they can take it on once a month or week. Points Brendan to the area31 accessibilities committee statement of purpose

Jean – commitment is at Northampton Care One, Eye Opener and had 13 people there – it works. Also brings a meeting to an in home member with the south street group from Holyoke

Mark – asks Ray, should we be posting our Accessibility calendar because the website is a public website, and the calendar lists meetings at residential facilities. Ray says **not** a good idea because we would have to have the consent of each one of those locations. There could be a way that Tom could make it password protected, better to be safe than sorry

Going forward we won't be sending the calendar to Tom, he will send us the calendar in an email and right now nothing has changed

Kathy – Correction to Holyoke care one move from Thursday to Wednesday. Asks about contact info for each meeting

Mark does not have contact info for everyone, or he contacts other members who he knows usually attend the meetings.

Ray – juggling act, different situation because of this committee going into facility and says we're doing a good job, reads the statement of purpose first line to the group. These are members that have given to AA for many years, and its definitely a huge way of giving back to them

Jean – MA state convention rep, meet every odd month in Marlborough, will have a stenographer, hopefully by mid july registration will be up, needs numbers of who will need ASL translators

Ray – registration was supposed to be up and its not but the room block is open, if you're planning on going book now and it helps buying power. \$35 for pre registration. Area has monthly concept meeting first Thursday of every month, ma state convention is also hybrid, has done a lot of group inventories in the last year and says that it shows groups are interested in improving and being more welcoming to newcomers
Fall assembly in October, educational thing on committees, what the needs are for each committee, what does it mean to be an area chair or area delegate etc

Close with responsibility pledge at 7:54pm