



## NEW ENGLAND

18 January 2008

16 January Officer's Meeting Worcester, Ma

**Attendees:** Bill Patten Co-Chair, [Pattenart@aol.com](mailto:Pattenart@aol.com), Barbara Thorngren Co-Chair, [BThorngren@peaceworks.us](mailto:BThorngren@peaceworks.us), and Mike Poirier Secretary, [mpoirierfsm@hotmail.com](mailto:mpoirierfsm@hotmail.com)

This was the first gathering of the AVP NE officers since their appointments last October

The meeting began around 7 pm and lasted for about 2 hours.

The following subjects were discussed:

- 1) Mission Statement for AVP-NE – after some discussion we came up with the following working mission statement:

To liaison between AVP-USA and the New England states in order to facilitate local growth of AVP through communication and networking.

- 2) The National Conference schedule for May 22-26, 2008 Memorial Day weekend Annual Gathering will be the first ever held in the Pacific Northwest. The site: The Firs Conference Center in Bellingham, WA (north of Seattle).
  - a. The need to plan now who will be attending for each state
  - b. The need for attendee's to be actively involved in AVP
  - c. The need to apply for scholarship monies early
- 3) It is once again time for some mining, data mining that is. Barbara as CLARG Rep for NE will soon be asking for your annual reports. It would be most helpful if each state rep started gathering the statistics for the number of workshops, etc. and a brief statement of accomplishments. Barbara will be sending out a formal request soon.
- 4) The minutes from the last AVP-NE meeting included an as of yet unfilled request:

It would be very helpful for AVP-NE if an updated mail and/or email list of the following for each state were submitted:

- Chairman/Co-Chairs
  - Secretaries
  - Facility coordinators
  - Any others interested in being on the AVP-NE update list
- 5) The next scheduled AVP-NE gathering is tentatively scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 3pm. We have selected the Worcester area as it is central to everyone. Bill will be working on getting a suitable location and setting up the catering. We are encouraging all who wish to attend to do so.

Please let us know if this date is not workable within the next two weeks. (Email Mike) Also note that for those who are traveling long distance (you all in Maine for example) there are funds available for your travel expenses and overnight stay.

The proposed agenda for this meeting includes:

- How to best utilize funds available to AVP-NE
- States concerns/needs
- Ongoing need for **exchange of facilitators.**
- Ongoing need for **Recruiting Basic Attendees.**
  - a. Creating a new video
  - b. Creating brochures specific to each state
  - c. Holding Basic at other facilities (besides a prison)
  - d. Growing need for Spanish speaking facilitators
  - e. Public Service announcements
- Creating a NE Data Base
- Creating a AVP-NE semi-annual newsletter

Michael (Minister Mike) Poirier  
Secretary AVP-NE

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