

NOVEMBER 4, 2018, SENY ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MINUTES

11:41 a.m.: Inventory Closed with thanks to Rich P., our Northeast Regional Trustee for coming from New Hampshire to lead us in our Area Inventory

11:42 a.m.: Agenda adjusted (Jane E., Chair) for Treasurer to give report before lunch and later for motion from Manhattan ADCMC to add budget line for reimbursement for transportation to NERAASA onto SENY Budget at next Budget Meeting to be added to new business

Treasurer's Report (Michelle G.): Body has general consensus to follow Committee's Approval of June, July, and August Treasurer's Reports; Treasurer requests that all receipts be submitted by December 7th
7th Tradition is \$346.00

11:53 a.m.: Assembly **Adjourned** for lunch

1:00 p.m.: Assembly **Resumes**

Northeast Regional Trustee (NERT) SENY Candidate Election:

Ballots for SENY Nominee for NERT distributed. Delegate (John W.) explains the process: each of 18 Areas in Northeast nominates a candidate, during process each Delegate gets 2 minutes to introduce his or her Area's nominee. Then the 18 NE delegates and 18 delegates from other Areas vote. So, while Area 49 is the largest Area, Western Canada had 4 delegates, so 4 other persons attend. I've observed and participated.

The Service Manual spells out the desired qualifications for Trustee. The only eligibility for Class B Trustees is that the candidate be a person in recovery, but candidates are usually past delegates, but under GSB bylaws an immediate past delegate is not eligible until all the delegates he served with are no longer delegates. The function of a Trustee is set out on Concept I: the ultimate authority for AA lies with the fellowship, but in order to function we need to delegate authority to Trustees, who are fiduciaries of AA, which under Concept VI is a 501(c) corporation incorporated in NYS. The delegates advise the trustees. This is an opportunity to report back and gets persons and groups interested

Voting explained; persons are not nominated but stand

Bill C., Past Delegate, Panel 55, and Linda M., Past Delegate, Panel 63, stand and provide resumes

Delegate's Report: During voting John E. (Delegate) gives report. There are still hotel rooms available at NERAASA, but hotel is expected to sell out quickly. The God Word pamphlet has been approved. The deadline for submissions for the pamphlet on Spanish-speaking women is 11/19. Approximately 18 agenda items have been added, with another 10-12 under discussion. In the spirit of rotation GSO rotates responsibilities every 2 years, so Jeff W., formerly Grapevine, is now responsible for responding to inquires involving Northeast Region, including SENY. GSO has declared November to be Gratitude Month. SENY donations to GSO have ticked up, but as an Area we are somewhat behind, suggest you ask Group for donations.

The Body elects Bill C., Past Delegate, Panel 55, as its nominee for Northeast Regional Trustee

Chair (Jane E.): Asks for corrections to June 2018 Minutes, none, **Minutes Accepted** by acclamation. Asks for corrections to September 2018 Minutes, none, Minutes Accepted by acclamation

Alternative Delegate's Report (Manny A.): Text attached

Chair's Report (Jane E.): Regrets that today's Assembly is held on the same day as some other events. Thanks Assembly for participating in the Inventory this morning, and special thanks to Rich, our NERT for facilitating and taking the trip from New Hampshire to do it! Reminder that there is no SENY Committee meeting this Monday. Please spread the word. There was no Ask It Basket today due to the Inventory. I'm pretty moved by chairing this last assembly of Panel 67. I promise to continue to do the best job I can for the rest of the year as your area chair and am grateful to serve.

Registrar's Report (Fred E., read by Mike D): Text attached

Old Business: The SENY Committee approved the 2018 Convention Final Report; Assembly accepted Committee's approval by acclamation

New Business: Motion to support creating a 5th Edition of Big Book which would include a new concentrated section of stories comprised of individuals who got sober as young people, meaning under the age of 25, Seconded

Discussion clarified that experience of persons who got sober young is that they could not relate to stories in 4th Edition of Big Book; the stories are dated and talk about things that they had no experience with, see people with disease drop in but don't stay and more relatable stories might help disconnected young people stay sober. Some supported adding new stories but were not sure whether a new section was required, but supported motion as written because it is important to bring issue to GSO and let best way of addressing need to be worked out. Clarified that this would be 5th Edition of Big Book and stories have been added and removed to Big Book over time

Motion Passed with Substantial Unanimity. Minority Opinion was that speakers got sober young but only needed Big Book/Twelve and Twelve. Minority Opinion did not change votes

Motion for SENY to pay for transportation reimbursement to NERAASA up to \$100 per SENY member, to be reimbursed with receipts

Discussion clarified that it was either impracticable or prohibitively expensive to rent bus, and NERAASA is a tremendous service opportunity that people should go to, as each speaker emphasized.

Amendment by consent: Motion is to add budget line of \$2000 in budget for members of the SENY Assembly for transportation to NERAASA, to be reimbursed up to \$100 each with receipts.

Discussion clarified that it is first come first serve, and that if multiple people travel in the same car they cannot all submit for reimbursement. Common sense, to allow maximum participation and that SENY membership is outlined in the SENY Handbook and By Laws.

Motion Passed by General Unanimity, Minority Opinion solicited but not offered

County and Chair Reports:

Queens (Joanne M.): Thanks to all who made possible and attended Spiritual Breakfast, also, share-A-Day in workshop February

Staten Island (Jerry): Spiritual Breakfast on Nov. 25th and a Traditions Workshop on Dec. 1st 25th

Suffolk (Tom B.): Our Unity Breakfast is coming up, information on website

Manhattan (Scott M.): Districts 605/608 will have a CPC/PI Workshop on Nov. 10th and there will be a Workshop on Group Inventories on Dec. 10th

Convention (Nissa): Next Meeting is Nov. 17th, will have program meeting same day, we're tweaking logo and registration should open next month, spread the word

Sullivan (John): Belated thanks, please pick up after yourself

Treatment (Kathy): Seeking volunteers generally and for NYSIW, also, upcoming Bridging the Gap Workshop

Rockland (Hiram, ADCMC): Nov. 17th will have workshop on safety in AA

Nassau (Linda, ADCMC): Nov. 17th Big Meeting, Last Concepts Series this rotation on XI and XII on Nov. 19th

Public Information (Mike D. of Orange): Presenting at District 605/608 Workshop

Brooklyn (Mel): The Joy of Service Workshop was successful, Spiritual Breakfast upcoming Dec. 9th

Westchester (Rich DCMC): Step 4 workshop upcoming, details on line

Service Sponsorship (Sally): Continuing with new GSR and DCM orientations

Recording Secretary (Mike O): Wrote Link Article

The Assembly recognizes its Panel 69 Officers

3:13 p.m.: Assembly Closed with Responsibility Statement

Alternative Delegate's Report

Hi, My Name, is Manny, I am an Alcoholic and I thank you all for the privilege to Serve you and the Area as your Alternate Delegate.

Hola, mi nombre es Manuel, soy alcohólico y le agradezco a todos por el privilegio de servirle a ustedes y la Area como su delegado alterno

Summary and Highlights of My Activities and Announcements:

aa.org: What's New:

-Box 4-5-9 Fall 2018 – To Be Young... and Sober – October 2018

-Alcoholics Anonymous Releases New Pamphlets for Women and LGBTQ Alcoholics – October 2018

-History Shelf – 4 Volumes Gift Set – October 2018

-Vacancy for Appointed Committee Member on Trustees' Literature Committee

-G.S.O. Announcement: Openings for G.S.O. Staff Member ***

-Looking for member stories: Spanish-speaking Women in A.A.*

-Looking for member stories: A.A.'s Three Legacies **

*-The Trustees' Literature Committee is looking for members/Soliciting Stories For a New Pamphlet for Spanish-Speaking Women in A.A.

** -The Trustees' Literature Committee is looking for member stories for possible inclusion in a new pamphlet: A.A.'s Three Legacies. More Info: www.aa.org

***-G.S.O. is pleased to invite candidates to apply for two open staff positions at the General Service Office in New York. More Info: www.aa.org

-Oct 6 Westchester County Share-A-Day @ 12:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Highlands Middle School, 128 Grandview Ave., White Plains, 10605

-Oct 7 Queens County Spiritual Breakfast @ 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, 7200 Douglaston Pkwy, Little Neck, NY 11362

-October 11 SENY Service Participation Meeting @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, NY Intergroup, 307 7th Ave. Suite #201, New York, NY 10001

-Oct 13 Bronx Upper Manhattan Share A Day @ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Villa Maria Academy, 3335 Country Club Rd Bronx, NY 10465

-October 13 Suffolk County Big Meeting @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, True North Church, 1101 Lakeland Ave., Bohemia, NY 11716

-Oct 21 Hispanic Districts' Asamblea – Elections @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Grupo Liberacion, 1307 Foster Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11230

- Oct 21 NYCYPAA Committee meeting @ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Betty Ford Foundation, 283 West Broadway, New York, NY 10013

-Oct 27 Brooklyn Joy of Service Workshop (2nd 2018 SENY Informational Service Participation Workshop) @ 11:00 am - 3:00 pm, St. Francis de Sales School for the Deaf, 260 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11225

-Oct 28 SENY Convention Programming Committee @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
NY Intergroup, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001

-Oct 28 SENY Convention Planning Committee @ 12:00 am - 1:30 pm
NY Intergroup, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001

-Nov 3 @ 3:00 pm - Nov 4 @ 11:00 pm XXXVIII Convencion Hispana (Hispanic Convention)
La Guardia Plaza Hotel, 104-04 Ditmars Blvd, East Elmhurst, NY 11369

-If anyone would like a full copy of my report; please email me your request at
altdelegate@aaseny.org

-I am available for: Group Inventories, Group Sharing Sessions and showing of AA videos

-Any Questions? Thank you all for the privilege to Serve you and Area 49

Registrar's Report

Hey everyone, Fred alcoholic. I'm in full transition mode, preparing for Mike to take over. He and I should be linking up next week.

In the meantime, I have been working on 3 things: Creating videos and documentation of all my responsibilities as a reference for Mike and beyond, tying up loose ends, and streamlining everything as much as possible. For tying up loose ends, I still need to finalize online registration and text message reminders for the Hispanic Districts for streamlining, I've been reducing the complexity of the underlying set-up for each process. This will make it much easier for someone to update or change it in the future, should they want to.

I've also taken a hard look at each process in place to make sure we're getting enough value from it to justify the extra work and complexity. Two things didn't make the cut, and I'm recommending the next rotation approaches them differently. The first is tracking attendance at the group level. First, some quick context. Before I rotated in, people signed in at Assemblies, but we didn't do anything with that. It may have been used to report how many people were present, but taking a quick physical count is actually easier and more accurate than that.

Instead, I started tracking which groups were represented, not just a count of people, and then looking at that over time – in other words, did those groups have representation more than once? It was meant to serve two purposes: supporting DCMs to prioritize their outreach and providing insight to the Assembly as a whole.

DCMs generally fell into one of two categories: DCMs who already knew which groups were and weren't attending and didn't get much new information from the data, and DCMs who didn't know but weren't interested in using that for outreach purposes.

For the Assembly as a whole, I think it was helpful to the extent that it provided a snapshot of how much room we have to grow, and hopefully that inspired an increased appetite for thinking outside of the “well, we've always done it this way” box. Attending Assemblies, however, is a superficial metric. A group that sends someone to the Delegate's Day of Sharing and nothing else and carves out substantial time for developing a group response is far more connected than a group with perfect attendance at Assemblies but doesn't invest much in the Delegate's Questionnaire. Whatever we decide to track, we'll wind up optimizing for. Tracking something as superficial as attendance just drives us to get more people in the door, without thinking much

about improving what we're asking them to come to. Anyway, you might disagree with my reasoning, but I'm confident there's widespread support that the attendance analytics are not adding as much value anymore. I don't regret the experiment for a second, however.

I'm also not going to finish implementing the automated rotation email, in part because of my limited time now that I started law school. It was going to be an automated, personalized email that would go out a few months before someone told us they were rotating out, so we could check to see if they were still rotating and, if so, ask them to connect us with the new person.

John at one point pointed out to me that the Service Manual suggests GSRs and other General Service positions rotate on the same timeline for an Area. In other words, we could just send an email towards the end of the rotation gently suggesting that groups align their rotation with the Area and asking people to connect us with the new person if there is one. One huge advantage to coordinated rotation is many more people become available for service positions beyond the group level.

Everything else is still up and running, however. Here's just some of what still makes the cut of what's worth handing off to the next rotation:

- the database system that the Area and 13 counties now all collaborate on automated, personalized welcome emails
- a single link for each DCM that lets them see everything we have for their district
- lots of automation that frees up the Area Registrar and their county counterparts to have manageable service positions
- much friendlier, personalized online registration that connects directly to our database
- text message reminders for Assemblies

I just want to say thank you to everyone for their support. Registrar is a position that throughout the US & Canada is known for being a huge time suck with little to show for it. I was able to have a very different experience and a great three years, and I'm proud of what I'm handing off, and none of that would be possible without your trust and patience with me, and your feedback and participation. This will likely be my last general service commitment for quite some time, so I'm so grateful to all of you for this experience. Thank you.