

SENY Post Conference Virtual Assembly Minutes - Approved
Saturday, June 13, 2020

Assembly Opening & Welcome by Jerry R. (Area 49 Chair)

Serenity Prayer in English and Spanish

Preamble in English and Spanish

REPORTS

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Acc./Special Needs – Sally B.: (access@aaseny.org) Committee met on 5/26, topics of discussion were how we could incorporate Zoom meetings once pandemic has passed for the accessibilities community, making meeting rooms more accessible, bringing laptops into meeting rooms, virtual sponsorship, Zoom-a-thon. Rockland Accessibilities workshop has been moved to Sunday, June 12, via Zoom, is on the calendar. Manhattan County is hoping to host a workshop for accessibilities. Our next SENY accessibilities meeting will be on Zoom on Tuesday, June 23rd.

Archives – Hank G.: (archives@aaseny.org) We are planning a virtual workshop on 10/10/20. It is on the calendar. Topics include county history and how SENY responds to Covid 19. Updating of history book: asking counties to have it completed by September. If you need a digital copy of your county history, email me. Next meeting is 6/23 at 7:00 p.m.

Treatment Facilities – Ed M.: (tf@aaseny.org) Don't know of any meetings going into facilities, all are virtual. Rockland has had a lot of success, ten or twelve meetings a week, going into facilities. HIPPA requirements, electronic waivers, internet can be restricted. BTG requests are way down. Will be represented 6/27 at Brooklyn Share A Day.

Grapevine – Sherri A.: (grapevine@aaseny.org) AA grapevine board is looking to fill the position of a non-trustee director. If interested, I have the qualifications and a resume/application. This must done by July 17th. Daily quote book has a new design and is now available in Spanish and French. Two workshops being hosted by Area 17, Hawaii, and our Area will be participating in both of them. The first is 6/20, and 7/18 is the writing workshop. Both at 3:00 p.m. our time. Flyer is on our area calendar. Grapevine/LaVina is still free during Covid. Carrying the Message project continues. Best of Grapevine volumes 1, 2, 3 selling for \$23.00. Grapevine app has been replaced by EPub. Email me if you need any information or books.

PI – Mike D.: (pi@aaseny.org) We now have PBA's on WINS, WHUD, WHPK, twenty spots a week. Just added WFAN.

Agenda - Jeannette K.: (agenda@aaseny.org) please update meeting status on our calendar if moved to virtual. There are still many meetings unchanged. If anyone is uncomfortable with posting virtual meeting IDs, I have seen people simply post "meeting is being held virtually, please email your DCMC, GSRs, Chair, or alternative, to receive access information". Our goal is to offer you a current calendar.

CPC – Laura G.: (cpc@aaseny.org) Had virtual meeting last month. It's been very quiet because of pandemic. We sent out letters to some facilities with information on how to contact us and letting them know that there are Zoom meetings available, and also information about what AA is and how we cooperate with the professional community. Have a commitment in August with The American Probation and Patrol Association in Manhattan. So far there are not any cancellations. It is a four-day event and will need people to man it if it goes on.

Intergroup – Colleen: Next meeting is 6/28 at 12:00 p.m. Virtual 358-577-6033, PW 0628. Hosted by Brooklyn.

Service Sponsorship, Richie N.: (servicesponsorship@aaseny.org) : If you need any help, please contact me at sponsorshop@aaseny.org. Is anyone interested in becoming a service sponsor, please contact me.

DCMC REPORTS

Nassau – Annabel B.: (dcmc@nassau.aaseny.org) Held a couple of virtual GSR meetings, very successful. Will have election on 6/15, virtually. We will be discussing whether or not to institute a virtual basket. We have a virtual corrections workshop on 7/20. ID and PW will be on our website. Nassau County Correctional facility is finally accepting literature, so we will be discussing that. Upcoming GSR meeting is 6/15. Everyone is welcome.

Hispanic – Reina R.: (distroshispanos@aacdhse49.org) Members have been reluctant to do Zoom meetings, but today we will have our first Zoom meeting and our first assembly will be via zoom next Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Working on setting up an account for contributions.

Manhattan - Mike O.: (dcmc@manhattan.aaseny.org) have had a series of successful virtual tradition workshops. We are continuing to host 601's concepts meetings. District 618 had a successful reopening workshop. District 617 will have a workshop on reopening meetings on 6/30. It is posted on the SENY calendar. Next meeting is Tuesday, virtually. One of the main topics is how county can help groups and districts within its geographic borders.

Putnam – John, Alternate DCMC: - continued to hold General Service meetings on second Tuesday of every month. There are three core groups meeting, each with its own safety measures. Virtual meetings are available at putnamcountynya.org. Can email for virtual meeting codes. Putnam spiritual breakfast is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, October 11th. Tickets are on hold right now.

Rockland – Bob C.: (dcmc@aarockland.org) Intergroup in Rockland started virtual meetings prior to all meetings shutting down. Currently at approximately 250 meetings. They have discussed maintaining that platform from Accessibilities standpoint. After discussion, Intergroup will maintain that platform. As of now GSR's believe we will continue to do accessibilities as in the past. We will be holding a workshop in July, at 9:00. Jane, our delegate, and Sally will be our speakers. We meet this Wednesday at 7:30. Will start discussing having a communications officer.

Suffolk – Chris D.: (dcmc@aasuffolks-ny.org) County meeting this Friday. Jane will be sharing on post-conference. Suffolk County did obtain their own Zoom account.

Brooklyn – Colleen V.: (dcmc@brooklynaa.org):

Share-A-Day June 27, from 9:00 a.m., ID 3585776033, pw 0620 (may be changed). SAD chair is Jonathan. Hoping to have Spanish Brooklyn groups participate in one of the breakout rooms. Can host up to 1,000 people, breakout rooms about 200. County meeting will be next Wednesday, June 17th.

Corrections – Eddie D.: (corrections@aaseny.org) no changes in being able to connect with institutions via any virtual platform. Continue to wait for ok to connect with members on the inside via telephone calls. Other areas have had success sending literature. Committee meeting next Saturday. Will be participating in Brooklyn's Share-A-Day on the 26th. Please remember to consider signing up for the GSO correspondence service.

Queens: Frank G.: (dcmc@qcgsa.org) Boot camp was moderately well attended. New GSR's came out. Our Queens Share A Day has not been cancelled. The venue has postponed. We are hoping for some time in early fall. Our spiritual breakfast, scheduled for October, has not been cancelled either. The venue has also not said they would cancel. Next assembly is June 29.

Post Conference Report

Delegate – Jane E.: (delegate@aaseny.org)

Jane expressed sincere gratitude for sending her to the first virtual 70th GSC.

The delegate informed the Body on what she saw, heard and felt at the Conference.

Results of the Delegate's questionnaire in English and Spanish are posted on the "[From the Delegate](#)" page and will remain up until the Final Report e version is available.

Q: 36th principles pamphlet last year called for stories, and this year was supposed to be a pamphlet up for review. Do you know where they are with that?

A: Thank you for the question. It is not finalized. All pamphlets have been forwarded to 71st GSC.

Q: International Forums Committee – was there any discussion on whether or not regional forums in NERAASA could be hybrid meetings to include more participation for people where cost and time of attending an actual physical forum or NERAASA would be difficult?

A: Thank you for the question. The possibility of virtual Forums was one of our (International Conventions/Regional Forums Conference Committee) recommendations. Regional Forums are conducted by the General Service Office. Yes, virtual is on the table. There is no registration fee, the General Service puts them on as a service to the fellowship. NERAASA is a different matter and the host Area for each year is decided in advance (i.e.: 2020 for 2023) by the Northeast Regional Delegates during the GSC at a regional meeting. We (SENY) bid. We did not get the bid for 2023, it will be in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Q: Changing the language of the Preamble: What is being done in order for the service bodies that are working on this to be able to defer to those of us in the community here in AA.

A: The committee decided that we need more work on this. That is why they suggested making changes to the AA preamble for gender neutral pronouns. We wanted the spiritual intent of the preamble to be maintained (Inclusivity) The Grapevine committee worked on this extensively and basically said "let's do more work on it".

Comment: There is no financial report because the numbers are not ready yet. I hope that during the meeting you will have with the board, that we will reconsider the move to acquire additional space at 475 Riverside Drive.

Q: Do you have any Spanish questionnaires from the Spanish groups, and how many?

Q: Was the recommendation for the Spanish edition of the 4th edition discussed?

A: Thank you for the questions. I received no Spanish questionnaires from the Hispanic districts. The Spanish 4th Edition Big Book is forwarded to the 71st GSC.

Q: Regarding the non-trustee director vacancy and additional vacancies that seem to have come across. Are the additional vacancies as a result of a completed term of service, or as a result of someone stepping down.

A: Thank you for the question. The AA Grapevine NTD is a vacancy coming up due to the end of a rotation effective after the 71st GSC. The AAWS Non-Trustee Director spot (NTD) is a vacancy due to rotation after the 70th (this year's) GSC but is not filled due to result of unclear procedures as determined by the 70th GSC. It was expected to be filled by the end of this GSC, and the call is to fill that vacancy. We were hoping John W. 67 would fill the slate be our AAWS Non-Trustee Director, but that did not occur yet. There is precedent for the Board to fill the vacancy before the next GSC.

Q: Regarding the Grapevine agenda item, when they say that there will be further discussion regarding the preamble, what would that discussion look like, what would the next steps look like, would they discuss at the next General Service conference, would there be a committee discussion?

A: Thank you for the question. At the Conference, the delegates on the Grapevine Conference Committee decided "let's pause" because a lot of other discussions came up to consider. That Committee, and the entire Conference, agreed that this would be sent back to the Grapevine Corporate Board for further discussion, and they are to come back and report to the GSC next year.

Q: The procedural terms that are used at the General Service Conference are obscure if you are not in general service. What's the significance of advisory action, which I believe is 2/3 majority, or the other actions? What actions would have been taken to kill an idea? Please run-down terminology.

A: Screen share: "Dialect of the General Service Conference". (Delegate reads description of terms).

1) Final Agenda item: Each Conference Committee has final agenda items to consider, discuss, or review

2) When it says "took no action" it means the committee studied the background, and worked in Committee, but determined to not act at this time, the agenda item was considered, but did not fall into either of the two below.

- When a Conference Committee makes a Recommendation, it is considered a seconded motion, and is presented to the entire General Service conference by that Committee's Chair for discussion and vote.
- 2/3 majority of the entire General service Conference is required for it to pass.
- If it passes, it becomes what is known as an Advisory Action
- and now goes to the General Service Board to be acted on via the "Spiritual Handshake", reinforcing that the Conference is a *spiritual* entity, not legal; the General Service Board is a legal entity. Sometimes an advisory action cannot be carried out for some valid reason and the GSB has the authority, and responsibility to do what is best. And of course, report back as to why.
- See Concepts I, II, III, Vi, VII, VIII, IX, X, and XII (and the rest couldn't hurt!)
- When a Conference Committee makes a Committee Consideration, it means "this is something we want you to consider, in the coming year while making decisions", "this thought needs some more fleshing out", "let's work on this a bit more", "work on this and bring it back next year to the Committee", and even matters that are really in the purview of GSO, but because they want input from the Fellowship, the Conference Committees weigh in with a consideration. Several examples are in the Final Actions of the 2 Conference committees I served on., Treatment/Accessibilities and International Conventions/Regional Forums.
- AA moves at the speed of Trust.

Q: Given that GSO has obtained emergency funds from our reserve fund, what can the fellowship expect if funds aren't available to carry out the business as voted on in this year's conference.

A: That is why the 3M was taken from the prudent reserve. So we can carry on the business of AA.

Q: Any thoughts about how AA can move both slowly and quickly at the same time.

A: Thank you for the question. The first thing is the Service Manual. We have 36 Concepts to practice. Some things that work currently to make this come together are that the Conference is comprised of 135 voting members. The four or eight days is a small drop in the bucket of the amount of time in any individual's life to have a role as a voting member at the Conference. When I first heard that we were going to have the Conference virtually, I thought, "It would have taken us 30 years at Conference to decide to try this. If we don't break AA (and we won't), and if it's not a complete disaster (it wasn't), I'm going to ask SENY to get behind an idea for an agenda item. What if we had a GSC in real life one year, and alternate with a virtual the next year, and try it for ten years. We would then have ten years of Conference members to poll about if they think we should continue this way, or not, or do something else." I feel a responsibility to bring this forward. The motivations are accessibility, and financial. I'm bearing in mind that there is also an onus on the Body of how many agenda items are we going to put through to the 71st when they still have clean-up to do this year.

Q: At a recent Concept meeting we talked about the reason the conference meets in NY is that the 501C3 is registered in NY, but it is my understanding, and I think you reported that, the conference itself is the spiritual entity, but the board is the legal entity. So, is that to say that the conference does not necessarily have to meet in NY, only the board does? Why doesn't the conference rotate?

A: Thank you for the question. According to NYS law, and our internal by-laws, the board must meet directly following the GSC. So, from that perspective, yes, the conference could meet somewhere else. The Board would have to meet directly after. I would ask that you consider the transportation, lodging, food, and shipping costs for live conferences. In the 2018 General Service Conference we spent \$760,000 on food, lodging, and transportation. Many of the Conference members live near or in NY, and the costs of transportation and shipping will increase.

Q: Re Preamble discussion: If someone has a suggestion for the preamble, or has additional information from the SENY area, if I did I could send it to Jane and it could be discussed and then sent on to the Grapevine corporate board if they're discussing this, this year, or a person could mail a letter directly to the corporate board. It will be answered by someone, or we do it through the delegate. Is that true?

A: Thank you for the question. Yes, I will find out who that should be referred to. (Subsequently, Jane determined that groups should send input to her, and she will pass it on to Francis, our Northeast Regional Trustee and Vice Chair of the Grapevine Board).

Q: Has there been any talk of literature aimed for Asians, or Asian-Americans?

A: Thank you for the question. There is not, at this time, a pamphlet for Asians in AA. This is the process of AA. We talk about things, bring it to the Assembly.

Approval of Minutes from February 9, 2020

Motion to accept, seconded, minutes are accepted

Approval of Minutes from April 4, 2020

Motion to accept, seconded, minutes are accepted

Delegate's Report:

Delegate – Jane E.: (delegate@aaseny.org)

During the break, I had a moment to dance, but also to think. Our Northeast Regional Trustee is the Vice Chair for the Trustees Committee on the Grapevine; who better to write to about thoughts on the Preamble? If you write to me at delegate@aaseny.org and I will forward your email on inclusive language for the Preamble, specifically as the Conference committee on Grapevine/La Vina asked the GV Board to do: *The committee considered a request to change the language of the first sentence of the A.A. Preamble as follows: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share..." and took no action. The committee also discussed making suggested changes to the A.A. Preamble for gender neutral pronouns. The committee requested that the Grapevine Board consider developing examples of generalized language options and that a progress report or draft versions be brought back to the 71st General Service Conference.*

Agenda Item

When it was determined we would have the 70th GSC virtually, I thought: "Heavens! It would have taken us 30 years at Conference to decide to try a virtual GSC! If we don't break AA, (and we won't) and it's not a disaster (it wasn't), I wonder what would happen if we had a trial run for ten years alternating virtual GSCs with live ones. I think it will be "glitchy" the first time, and it was, but not because of tech. Glitchy because it was the first time that we ever did it. AA members were scared in 1951 about the first GSC.

I was wondering if this would make the GSC more accessible to members to become trustees, delegates, NTDs, and ACMs; would it be easier for some members to be available if they didn't have to travel every year, and only had to travel once every two years? What about the sacred basket dollars we could save if we had a virtual every other year? Lodging, food, and transportation alone for the 2018 GSC was \$760K. If we alternate for ten years, we will have a robust sample size of GSC members to ask how it went: 10 panels of delegates who have been to each type. Alternating venues like this would be more prudent than making a decision now one way or the other. We could make a decision in a decade, unless we decided to stop it before then. The motivators are accessibility, inclusivity, and prudent financial principle.

I feel a sense of duty to bring this forward.

I talked to Jerry and asked for time on the November Agenda for a motion, and he graciously agreed. Like any motion, the Chair needs to be notified well in advance. I will prepare robust background information for distribution, so the GSRs will have plenty of time to bring it back to the groups and discuss, as should be done for any motion. In this case, I will have it posted on the ["From the Delegate" page](#) well before our September 12 Election Assembly, 2 months before it is presented to you.

The idea will be worded like this:

Please consider this proposed agenda item for the 71st General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous: After meeting the hotel contractual obligations currently in place, start a ten-year trial period alternating face to face with virtual General Service Conferences.

This year, in the epicenter and height of the pandemic, we conducted much of the business of AA in 4 days, instead of the usual 8, at a Conference which was planned in 6 weeks instead of 12 months, with GSO closed, instead of open, and with staff working at home without office equipment, instead of with equipment at GSO.

What might we be able to do on a virtual GSC in a week, planning done over the course of a year, with GSO open, in the new normal? What might we be able to save of AA money? Would more people be available to serve? I don't know. Would you like to find out?

SENY Elections

September 12 SENY Elections will be held virtually. In SENY, your Area Chair arranges for the venue, all outreach regarding directions to the Assembly, and matters of getting the word out (calendar, LINK, emails, and so on). Your seated delegate chairs the elections. SENY has always permitted non-voting members to attend the elections, as observers; voting is anonymous, and has always followed the third legacy procedure and been a pristine, ethical process. As it will this year. Virtually.

Moving to a virtual election might have been challenging, but fortunately, your delegate served at the 70th General Service Conference, with both voters and observers present. We voted anonymously and even had a virtual hat. There is special equipment needed to allow voters and observers. The GSC Tech Team who set up and ran the voting at the GSC were expert, it was seamless, and they have the special equipment. I reached out to the two leads, they met with our TCO, and will work at our elections as special workers. The cost will be less than the venue for the election would have been, and they will do the polling as was done at the GSC.

Pre-registration is required for voting members. Just like at the GSC. Preregistration info will be communicated in an Area email in August. Our TCO Mike will have more info on that.

DCMCs: if any GSRs, RSGs, DCMs, or MCDs in your county do not have a laptop, or a desktop, or a tablet, or a smart phone, Tradition 3 informs us to be inclusive and accessible; some members do not have a device to get to virtual meetings, and some, get to more than ever. For example, I was on an AA meeting (not a Zoom Meeting, it was an AA meeting that happened to use Zoom) with a member who got to one or two meetings a week for 18 years in her wheelchair. She now goes to 2-3 virtual AA meetings a day. That being said, there will be a way for voting members to vote via call in.

Voting members of the SENY Committee are eligible to stand for SENY Office. This circles back to the Service Manual, which did not get its proposed complete revision this year. Our service manual informs us that anyone standing for

delegate be familiar with the entire service manual, has read the last 2-3 years of GSC Final reports, AA Comes of Age, and have a working knowledge of all 36 Spiritual principles. I trust that it comes as a relief that a complete overhaul of the service manual was not approved this year.

Reminder that in AA we never run for office, we stand. It's different. And we only stand for positions we are truly available for. In practicing Concept IX, I vote for the best possible candidate. At my group this has at times meant that I did not vote for my best friend, but for the member who would serve the group best. Same for the County and Area level, I vote for the member who will serve best, principles before personalities. I do the same at work when sitting on hiring Committees, so I get to practice Concept IX in all my affairs.

"When we talk about A.A. leadership we only declare that we ought to select that leadership on the basis of obtaining the best talent we can find."

Final Conference Reports

The anonymized e version of the full final conference report in English and Spanish, will be posted on the "[From the Delegate](#)" page as soon as I receive it, anticipated early August. Paper copies will come later. We normally distribute paper copies at the September Assembly, but we cannot this year. Past Delegates receive a copy from GSO as is the custom of GSO. Tom will take care of Spanish copies' distribution to the Hispanic Distrito, thanks, Tom. For English copies, a single copy will be emailed to each of the SENY standing Committee Chairs and Officers. DCMCs will receive English copies for the Counties as follows: 25 copies each for Staten Island, Orange, Putnam, and Rockland. Sullivan will be mailed ten copies.: the DCMCs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester will receive 50 copies.

If DCMCs would like to alter the number you're receiving, contact me within the week, the latest by June 20.

Clarifications of 2 of my previous reports:

Clarification: We have precedence for SENY member facilitating Area Inventory.

Correction: The Fourth Edition Big Book had 1222 submissions of stories for inclusion

Convention SENY Convention: Our 2021-2023 SENY Convention Contract was signed February 27, 2020. The 2021 SENY Convention is scheduled for March 3-5, I would have liked it to be later, but the Marriot had two weekends available in 2021, the other would have conflicted with the Hispanic Assamblea and Sullivan County's GS meeting.

On March 13, 2020 I sent a delegate signed letter to Jerry for the Marriot, invoking the impossibility clause for our 2020 Convention, so we would be free of the cancellation fee of \$60K; I'm flagging this for you. We do not know where we will be with COVID 19 in March of 2021. Please know that the impossibility clause is in the 2021-2023 contract.

Due to COVID-19, we cancelled our SENY Convention; other Areas are cancelling their conventions, too. For example, the Massachusetts State Convention was cancelled, scheduled for November. In addition to the cancellation of the 2020 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous, the World Service Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous scheduled for October has been cancelled. In addition, the Western Canada Regional Forum, the Pacific Regional Forum, and the Eastern Canada Regional Forum, scheduled for May, August, and November have been cancelled.

Here are two AA resources:

<https://tiaa-forum.org/> This online AA community is a robust resource and has been in Box 459. There are robust discussions going on now about reopening in person meetings, one must be an AA member to join, which is done within a couple of days, usually. The administrator must allow you to join.

<https://aa-intergroup.org/> This online Intergroup was started in the 1990s and there's a link to it on aa.org

I am available for workshops, Tradition and Concept meetings, Group and County Inventories, and other AA events.

Remember that AA members may make monthly recurring contributions on <https://contribution.aa.org/> starting at \$5/month but not to exceed \$5000/year. There is no contribution limit for groups, districts, counties, special AA events, or Areas contributions.

Q: When you were saying about the ten years, would that be five sets of delegates?

A: It is ten panels.

Q: Are contributions limited to \$5,000 per year, or lifetime?

A: \$5,000.00 per year, In memorial \$10,000, No limit for a group, county, area, or special event. Any of the service entities may give an unlimited amount to aa.org

Q: Can you still use a phone to vote?

A: Yes

Q: Have there been voting members of the SENY body that do not have the technology to vote?

If this is a reoccurrence, will we have to move to paper voting for people that do not have technology?

A: The DCMS will have to identify people who do not have the technology.

TCO: We are asking DCM's and DCMC's to identify who may be voting members in their county that do not have access to a phone or tablet. Based on that feedback, we will provide a conference call line to the organizers where they will be able to vote by calling in. If someone is a voting member that does not even have a phone, we need the support of DCM's or DCMC's to have someone that has the knowledge to meet with them and support them.

Q: How will voting work for those that need translation?

TCO: The TCO committee will work with the vendor to find out how

Q: What is the status of the NYSIW?

A: It is going on virtually at the end 7-31 to 8-2.

Q: There is a push now for DCMC's to find our who does not have access to technology? How do I get in touch with them?

TCO: DCM's and DCMC's should have links to our database which list trusted servants in your district and county. They may have phone numbers, and no email.

Q: Can we use Zoom translation?

A: \$350.00/month for webinar translation. Maybe we can use it for the month of September.

Q: How will translation work regarding anonymity?

A: At the GSC we used the translation feature, and the translation was good.

Q: GLV has only used \$300 of their budget this year. Can we contribute some of the fee for Spanish translation?

Treasurer: We don't shift money around.

Alternate Delegate –Tom B.: (altdelegate@aaseny.org)

Good afternoon... / Buenas Tardes... – I have the privilege and joy to serve all of you as your alternate delegate.

As NYC trudges towards phase 2 of reopening, and the rest of SENY trudges towards phase 3, we AAs are looking expectantly towards the future, the near future. For many of us, in the same way we used to crave a drink we now crave the simple joy of a face-to-face meeting. I'm certainly no different than you in that desire.

But I keep reflecting back on the slogans. You know, the ones on the walls of many meetings, with black and red letters on white cardboard, the sayings I first thought were annoying and trite, but ultimately came to realize were loaded with truth. And one of them in particular has been on my mind for the last few weeks: Think, Think, Think.

Think #1: the numbers. As of a few days ago, the 12 geographic counties that make up SENY have had over 348,000 confirmed cases of Covid-19, with an overall mortality rate of 6.4%. NY State is moving in the right direction at the moment, but other states, including CA, TX, FL, NC, MO and AZ, are not. Don't take my word for it, check the news: this pandemic is not a "one and done" deal. And NY's progress, like our own recovery, is based on a daily reprieve.

Think #2: "Septima" (Tradition Seven). I can't say this too often: go to aaseny.org, From the Delegate. There you will find a wealth of current information, which you and your group need to know about. In this case, two letters from GSO reside there: the April 9th Tradition letter, and the May 12 drawdown letter of \$3M from the Prudent Reserve. What, you didn't know about that? *From the Delegate.* Beyond that, please remember that your groups are hurting financially, as are their meeting space owners, as are you. Do what you can. Tradition 7 is one of AA's 36 spiritual principles – all 36 of them help insure our sobriety.

Think #3: Living in the Solution:

- We need to follow the rules of our spaces and our government mandates. (Ask me about a great idea for contact tracing, that came out of an ongoing virtual meeting held by the Area Chairs of the US and Canada!) Tradition 4 is longer than its first five words.
- Can we put a buck or two in an envelope each time we go to a virtual meeting, and then give it to our group upon reopening?
- Can we practice both safety and love in our meeting spaces, with sanitary practices, PPEs, spacing, food and beverages, and all other necessary, prudent practices?
- Can we get our groups involved in discussing all of this carefully and thoughtfully at business meetings?
- And this is my very special pet peeve: can we *please* stop talking about getting back to "real" meetings, so that the newcomer doesn't think that virtual meetings are "fake"?

What we, as members of Alcoholics Anonymous, do over the next few months will help lay the foundation for an even better, even more resilient program of recovery. And to do that we have to Think... Think... Think.

I remain available (virtually right now, and live when appropriate) to facilitate Group and County Inventories, to participate in meetings or workshops on Traditions or Concepts. I would love to visit your group, and I would love to talk more about reopening. And beyond being available, I am excited, delighted, honored and grateful to be of any service I can to SENY, and to AA as a whole.

Please continue to stay safe and healthy. And thank you for allowing me to serve each and every one of you!

Chair – Jerry R.: (chair@aaseny.org)

Concept of the Month- Concept VI

The Conference recognizes that the chief initiatives and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

Hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during this uncertain time.

The Quarantine has slowed us all up a bit but because of this virtual platform I have been able to be part of many gatherings of different venues.

Due to the corona 19 Virus the remainder of this year we will be meeting Virtually.

We had an Officers meeting on Memorial Day.

Next Officers meeting- July 5th.

Area Service Sharing Session - Next Sharing Session Wednesday July 8th Topic: Remote Communities & Blended Physical & Virtual Online Meetings for Service Committee Meetings & Assemblies -
Zoom Meeting ID 999 4926 8013 Password 258440

Upcoming Important Dates

July 31st - August 2nd- NYSIW- Hosted by Area 50, Western N.Y.

September 12th - S.E.N.Y. Election Assembly

October 5th - S.E.N.Y Committee meeting

November 2nd - S.E.N.Y. Committee meeting

November 14 - S.E.N.Y. Assembly

December 7 - S.E.N.Y. Committee meeting

Treasurer – Jo Ann M.: (treasurer@aaseny.org)

Financial Reports for the months of March, April and May were submitted to the body for approval because they were not approved at prior assemblies. The treasurer went over expenses and income for each period noting that income has declined since the pandemic hit. Also, there is a significant decline in expenses for the same reason. The treasurer outlined the overhead expenses we pay such as rent, web services and printing costs. The overhead expenses would be paid regardless of the situation. The treasurer also noted electronic contributions have increased. The treasurer stated we still have 7.75 months of prudent reserve and the Area finances are still in the black. The treasurer also stated going forward, the treasurer reports will be available before we meet as a body in order to give members a chance to review and print if desired.

March minutes – motion to accept, seconded, approved

April minutes – motion to accept, seconded, approved

May minutes – motion to accept, seconded, approved

7th Tradition: \$405.00

Technology and Communications Officer – Mike D.: (registrar@aaseny.org)

We had our third meeting last week and it was well attended. We are going to have a Tech workshop 7/11, 10-12. Will try and rapid fire go through a couple of topics. Digital 7th tradition options, options for NYIG, on-line meeting commitments for home groups, hybrid meetings, generally what tech meetings are available for AA. Next SENY Tech committee meetings are 6/25 and 7/9. Encourage everyone to sign up for Technology in AA Forum. I'm getting emails on GSR packets, etc. Go to aaseny.org/tech and open up a ticket.

We are building tech page and adding resources. Our goal is to have this be a central location for groups and trusted servants in area 49 to go to. Any suggestions, please reach out.

Will send link to elections assembly out in early July. Voting members will get separate email with a link to the voting room prior to the election assembly.

Convention 2020 – Rich N.: (convention@aaseny.org)

We have some generic signs that can be reused. Program was completed, but not printed. Registration chair has gift bags that can be passed on to next committee. All information will be put on a flash drive and passed on to next chair. Also, will add a hard copy to the convention binder. All refunds have been made. Motion to accept final convention report, seconded, motion accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion carried from February assembly to use paper ballots for voting at assemblies

Amendment to Motion: To count written votes instead of a show of hands for all future new motions and bring it to a committee for a vote

New Motion: All major or serious motions be done by paper ballot.

Motion to amend new motion, seconded

Point of order: When it comes to amending a motion, doesn't it have to be seconded by the person who seconded the original motion?

Point of order: If the person that made the original motion accepted the amendment, then the person who seconded the original motion also is the only person that can second the friendly amendment. So nobody in the general body can second the amendment to the motion.

Parliamentarian shares

Maker withdraws original motion

New motion: All major or serious motions be done by paper ballot

Discussion

Procedural errors and questions pointed out

Motion to table, seconded, motion to table passes

NEW BUSINESS

Motion: Allocate the funds to fund translation over Zoom from September to December.

Discussion

Amendment: for SENY to enable translation services for assemblies and committee meetings for the remainder of 2020
Seconded, motion passes

Meeting closes at 3:50 pm

Closing: AA's Declaration of Unity – Jerry R., Area 49 Chair

SENY Committee Meetings:

Monday, October 5, 2020

Monday, November 2, 2020

Monday, December 7, 2020

SENY Assemblies:

Election assembly: Saturday, September 12, 2020, 8:30 – 3:15 p.m. – details to be determined

Area inventory: Saturday, November 14th