

## Seny Committee Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 3, 2021, 7:30pm - 9:30pm

7:30pm - Serenity Prayer  
SENY Statement of Purpose

Approval of April Committee Meeting Minutes. Approved Minutes.

### Reports:

Treasurer's report - Rich S. [treasurer@aaseny.org](mailto:treasurer@aaseny.org)

March:

- Group, district and individual contributions totaled \$6,815 and, after minor additions for literature sales and interest earned on our prudent reserve, total revenue for the month was \$6,830.
- Expenses: about \$600; rental expense for the office of \$1,500; tech, telecommunication and website charges of \$1,425; and LINK expenses of \$1,000. The total expenses for the month came to \$5,400 resulting in a net surplus of \$1,429.

Cumulative results for the first quarter were also positive. Contribution revenue plus 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition collections were just over \$28,400 or right on target at 24% of the yearly budget.

Expenses for the quarter were approximately \$16,400, or only 11% of the annual budget, so we had a cumulative surplus for the 3 months of just over \$12,000.

Our bank balance in the operating account at month's end was \$34,405 and, after deducting uncleared items, our actual cash balance was \$32,577.63. Our prudent reserve account held steady at \$127,000 and change or 10.55 months.

Motion to pass Treasurer report. *Motion passes.*

Preliminary results for April:

- We received 98 group and individual contributions which totaled \$13,580; 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition baskets at the Committee meeting and Assembly were \$339; total revenue for April was \$13,925.
- Expenses: office rent of \$1,500; tech, telecommunication and website expense of \$800; and archive storage space rental of \$169 accounting for the bulk of the total expenses for the month of \$2,595.
- The net surplus for the month of \$11,329 was nearly equal to the \$12,000 in cumulative profit for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and increased our actual cash balance to \$43,902.18

Alternate Delegate - JoAnn M. - [altdelegate@aaseny.org](mailto:altdelegate@aaseny.org)

- Attend Orange County's Assembly where I shared on service and its importance with the GSRs. I also attended the Queens County Assembly. I welcome any invitations to County and Area Committee meetings.
- Attended the monthly Asemblea (hispanic district) in April
- YPAA Committees (Young People in AA): A
- Attended the WORCPYAA meeting which was hybrid. They had a karaoke night which was well attended.
- LICYPAA will be an in-person kickball tournament on May 17th and WORCPYAA is planning a BBQ at the end of June.
- I Chair the Service Participation meetings. We have a meeting on May 20th, at 7:30 and I will send a reminder with the meeting information. I have been compiling a list with contact information for the DCMCs and Alternates to distribute.
- Attended the NERAD (North East Regional Alt Delegate) meeting.
- Attended the North American Alternate Delegates (NAAD) meeting
- I am available for group inventories.

#### Area Chairperson - Nisaa A. - [Chair@aaseny.org](mailto:Chair@aaseny.org)

- Ad Hoc exploratory meeting - kick off meeting after the Post Conference Assembly which is June 12th.
- We want to make sure we have all emails sorted out, so that everyone is getting the proper information over the summer. If you are not receiving any emails, please make sure you private message Mike TCO about it.
- On May 8th will be speaking on a workshop for Panel 69.
- I've done some inventories, and I'm available to do more if anyone needs.

#### TCO - Mike O. - [tco@aaseny.org](mailto:tco@aaseny.org)

- To date we have registered about 330 new trusted servants for Panel 71, and I'd like to thank Justin K., Registration Chair, and the County registrars for all the service they've done.
- Derrick, our email admin, has done great service in getting Gmail up to speed, and Saadi, Postal Mailings Coordinator for Panel 69, has continued supporting the Area
- If you are not getting SENY emails, please reach out; my info is in the back of the Link.
- The Technology Committee meets this Thursday. At Nisaa's request, the Committee, or more accurately, a subcommittee, will be considering obtaining closed captioning services for Assemblies and Area Meetings. The full agenda will be on the SENY website tomorrow.

#### Standing Committee Reports

#### Link chair - Mary - [link@aaseny.org](mailto:link@aaseny.org)

- Link is available at [aaseny.org/link](http://aaseny.org/link)
- Will start sending Link out via email so I'll be sending it out to all the DCMC's and SENY Committee on Friday, feel free to distribute it throughout your county's!
- The deadline for submissions for next month's issue is May 27th and the theme is "Alcoholics Anonymous As A Whole"
- The Link committee has come up with a new fabulous idea to create a sort of "Service Classifieds" in the Link for open positions within your District, County and Area Committees! So for example, Brooklyn County is looking for a treasurer, they can post an "ad" in the Link and hopefully that helps connect committees with those eager to participate in service! For now we are limiting this to District, County, and Area Committees, so no groups or specific meetings. Email me at [link@aaseny.org](mailto:link@aaseny.org) to post an "ad" in next month's Link!

#### Web Chair - Claire

- Working on getting a committee page for everyone.
- Sent out a form, but did not get a lot back. Please make sure to include in the submission form what you want on your page. If you have any questions email me at [web@aaseny.org](mailto:web@aaseny.org)

#### SENY Intergroup Liason - Christine - [intergroup@aaseny.org](mailto:intergroup@aaseny.org)

- It is very important that GSR's have their home group update with their County Inter-group any changes to their Meetings. And if the group is listed with NY inter-group to update with them also.

#### Treatment Facilities Chair - Hank - [tf@aaseny.org](mailto:tf@aaseny.org) -

- This past Saturday May 1st SENY Treatment facilities Committee hosted a virtual workshop on Bridging The Gap. Terry F. past SENY delegate, Paola SENY PI Chair, Ed M. DCM dist. 312 Queens, and Tyler BTG Chair from NY Intergroup presented.
- The SENY Treatment facilities (TF) committee is currently meeting virtually on the 4th Sunday on each month from 6PM to 7PM. The next meeting is May 23rd.
- On Saturday May 15th from 12PM to 5PM the National Bridging The Gap Forum will be hosting a workshop.
- The North American Treatment forum meets quarterly. The next meeting is May 22nd 6PM EST. Contact me for details.
- TF will present at this year's virtual NYIW.
- I am planning on attending this year's Bridging The Gap National Workshop this coming September in Rock Island, Ill.

- SENY TF shared at BxUM and Putnam County on Treatment Facilities. I am available to all counties for presentations at committee meetings or any other county functions.
- Be on the lookout for the new TF standing page at [aaseny.org](http://aaseny.org). There will be an area for BTG requests, events and upcoming meetings listed, old minutes, and links to treatment literature.

### **NYSIW 2022 - Jeannette**

Been attending the 2021 NYSIW meetings, to see how they are. They just now are starting to get the registration page started, so log on soon, so we can get on and support them. All committee chairs, they will reach out to you and they are going to ask you to present. Will be last week of July. I'm learning a lot, trying to see the budget, and a committee together. We want to show our support this year, because we are going to want their support next year.

### **Sponsorship Chair - Keith**

- Attended County DCMCs, County meetings In Area 49 to share my experience, strength and hope as it pertains to service and service sponsorship.
- The Service Sponsorship Committee continues to meet on the last Sunday of every month for our Rotating Speaker / Tradition / Concept Meeting plus a round robin "Ask It Basket" for DCMC / DCM / GSR and County Service Sponsorship Chair questions and solutions. A time to share service experience, strength, and hope. All A.A. members may attend. Our next Meeting is Sunday, April 25th from 4 – 5PM. Details and meeting information is posted on the SENY Events calendar.
- Working to develop an up-to-date database of available Service Sponsors to connect with those seeking Service Sponsors.
- Please reach out at [sponsorship@aaseny.org](mailto:sponsorship@aaseny.org).

### **Corrections - Lucas**

I've continued to work with the General Service Office to provide kits to new chairs in Manhattan and Nassau, while continuing to manage our pre-release program and corrections correspondence program. We still require responses from Putnam and Sullivan County regarding a Corrections Chair. We continue to receive requests for outside volunteers be connected to members on the inside and have sent those to our Corrections desk.

In April I visited County the District 618 meeting in Manhattan to introduce GSR's to our Corrections programs at general services while also making visits to County meetings at Suffolk County and Queens.

Our third SENY Corrections meeting will be this coming month on Saturday May 15th. All are welcome. Information for this meeting is below.

<http://events.aaseny.org/event/seny-corrections-committee-meeting-virtual/2021-05-15>

I hosted our quarterly All-Areas meeting with Area Chairs from Area 47, 48 and 50 and learned that Area 50 will soon be delivering a weekly information meeting regarding our AA pre-release program at Erie County Correctional facility near Buffalo. Our friends in Area 48 will be facilitating a Corrections Connection workshop with their DOCCS regional Coordinator in May.

International Corrections meeting Sundays at 11am ET during the middle weeks of the month – 6pm ET on the first and last weeks of the month. Information on other workshops, corrections meetings and gatherings are given there as well..  
Meeting ID: 239 990 5603  
Password: 765110

I've been communication with County Chairs about working on ways to improve that bridge between those inside members that need a meeting once they are outside a jail or detention center in some of our counties that do not have state or federal prisons such as Suffolk or NYC.

There is a hope that a 2021 National Corrections Conference will take place in New Orleans this year. For more information you can go to:

[nationalcorrectionsconference.org](http://nationalcorrectionsconference.org)

**PI Chair - Paola - [pi@aaseny.org](mailto:pi@aaseny.org)**

- We didn't meet in April due to technical difficulties.
- I did catch up with most county chairs individually and helped them with their projects of reaching out/providing literature to libraries in their counties.
- I also discussed with the chairs our pending idea of a series of small open discussion-like workshops related to PI (some for AA members and some for non-AA members).
- I spoke at the NYIG PI workshop last month.
- I've been in contact with the other PI chairs in NY state re the informational workshop.

**Literature Chair - Kinsley -**

Continued discussion on the Service material pamphlet MG-09.

Guidelines for literature committee elections, meetings, subcommittee meetings and district liaison persons, budget officers and their duties.

Will finish up with the MG-09 next meeting and get into the pamphlet "Questions and answers on sponsorship" at our next meeting.

The GSO is trying out a 5 month test, with reduced shipping fees on all their inventory in our AA Catalog, please access AA.org for more information on this great deal, in the "What's new" section on the main page. There is also a treasure trove of other news in this section.

#### **CPC Chair - Gail W**

Area DCMCs to make myself available to briefly share on CPC and encourage participation. I've shared at many counties and am still hoping to hit Rockland, Sullivan and Hispanic. I am available for Area, county and district workshops.

I attended and shared on anonymity at NY Intergroup's first virtual PI workshop for professionals, have attended the National CPC/PI committee meetings and am serving on the planning committee and am registration chair for the upcoming national CPC/PI conference being held February 11-13, 2022, targeting professionals throughout the US and Canada. Additionally, CPC will be part of the panel on July 31 st at the NYSIW.

We, as CPC have been sharing updated formats of correspondence to professionals and I have made myself available to mentor new CPC chairs and volunteers as well as creating an onboarding document for new chairs and volunteers.

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 7:30-8:30 pm virtually on the Zoom platform: 998 938 7641 (PW: 714921). All are welcome, please join us, see how you may be able to help with this vital 12th step work! Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

#### **Jeffrey -Archives**

April 17th - had a workshop.

Meeting this Friday at 6pm. Available if area/county/districts needs me.

#### **Vicky - Agenda Chair**

When sending events, please make sure to include start and end times. I would also like to know if you will be meeting during the summer months. Please email me at [agenda@aaseny.org](mailto:agenda@aaseny.org)

#### **Grapevine - Kimbley**

Trying to think of creative ways of how we can get rid of the inventory we have. I'm hoping all the DCMCs can share this information back to their districts and their home groups.

Last committee meeting, we discussed a writers workshop.

Looking forward to attending NYIW at the end of June.

Grapevine has 2 publications from 2021.

Hope you can attend grapevine meeting and can help spread the word. Please encourage people to attend. Meeting is this wednesday

#### **Accessibility Chair - Annabel - [access@aaseny.org](mailto:access@aaseny.org)**

- We meet (virtually) on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30PM. Next scheduled meeting is May 13.
- OUR BIG NEWS: Committee member Mike F, who serves as Nassau County General Service Accessibility Chair, has gathered helpful information about enabling Zoom AA meetings to provide Closed Captions, enhancing accessibility for many AA's with hearing impairment.
  - If you want more info about Key steps we found, please reach out to Annabel, or attend Accessibility meeting.
- We continue to encourage people to join our campaign "Each One, Reach One", to encourage all members of AA to reach out with the hand of AA, especially now when technology challenges may be keeping some alcoholics from being able to attend AA meetings
- Available if your county wants a presentation/discussion about accessibility. We are available!

#### **AD Hoc Finance Committee - Larry [finance@aaseny.org](mailto:finance@aaseny.org)**

Nothing to report

#### **County & Hispanic District Reports**

##### **Manhattan DCMC - Larry W-**

1. Spoke with Manhattan County Officers about the possibility of losing our meeting space.
2. Attended SENY Pre-Conference.
3. Attended District 602 Meeting.
4. Attended Hispanic District Asambleo
5. Will bring up hold In Person Meeting workshop for the County.

##### **Orange County DCMC - Eric**

- April 13th, we held our first monthly PI Committee on Zoom #956 3734 0074 Passcode "PIOrange". We are in contact with hospitals and libraries. We shall also work jointly with the CPC Committee and Orange County Intergroup Web Site.
- Tomorrow May 4th we will hold our first Virtual Spiritual Committee Meeting also on zoom #937 8893 6868 Passcode "Spirit".
- Our Virtual Spiritual Breakfast will be in the morning of September 26th
- Pat L. is our new Accessibilities Chairperson. Leaving only two open positions; Conference Approved Literature and Newsletter Chairpersons.

### **Nassau - Marty**

- Unity breakfast - had to replace chair and it went well. Flyer is being emailed out.
- Our CPC and PI has been busy bringing literature to libraries. LICYPAA did a presentation for us at Nassau community college and we dropped off literature there too.

### **Putnam County - John**

SENY Area Treatment Facilities Chair Hank G. brought us an excellent presentation on Bridging the Gap at our April General Service Meeting.

Putnam County will be hosting a Founders Day event on June 12, 2021. This one hour hybrid event will be held at the Mount Carmel Baptist Church in Carmel NY starting at 7pm. We will have an introduction followed by a showing of Dr. Bob's last message and of Bill's Own Story.

The information will be on our calendar of events. Putnam County's website is [putnamcountynyaa.org](http://putnamcountynyaa.org) is live and operating. There are contacts there, and county meeting information.

Putnam County holds it's General Service Meeting on the second Tuesday of each month. All are welcome. The information for this will be listed on the SENY calendar.

### **Suffolk DCMC- Melissa**

We had an excess of funds, for not having to pay rent or driving fees. We made a decision to donate to AA world services. We made a decision to update our prudent reserve. We might be changing our location. We have a committee similar to Nisaa's where we are trying to see how things will happen virtually in the future.

### **Jorge - DCMC Hispanic**

- 80 groups open - physical meetings
- Sept 3-5 Chicago IL, there will be a hispanic conference.
- We have a lot of meetings, 30 meetings have closed.

### **BKLYN DCMC**

- We've had 3 meetings so far. Next meeting is June 16th at 7:30pm
- We've had 2 speakers CPC, Gail and Paolo PI, Keith is scheduled to speak at next meeting in June
- We know some district do not have dcmc and are not meeting so we are trying to figure out how to get them involved
- June 26 - brklyn Share a Day. Getting a flyer soon. May 15- 3rd planning meeting



- Spiritual breakfast dec 5th - in house - we will talk about this in June whether or not this is possible, or if we are waiting until sept to make this decisions

#### Westchester - Kevin

- 2nd hybrid meeting - went well, continue doing hybrid meeting
- We have a committee formed with upper bx about workshops for concepts
- Oct 16th - 250 bryant ave white plains - space is reserved for share a day
- 4th annual spiritual bbq and family picnic day is set for Aug 28th in Ardsley all ticket sales virtually- more info on that next month

#### Staten Island - Brian

We have 100+ meetings and 58 are meeting face to face. We want to print new accurate meeting lists. Our next meeting is Sunday May 9th at 7pm.

#### Queens - Bert

Filled the webchair. A few standing committee members came to speak and they all did great. The breakfast probably won't be until October. Share a day - still working on that.

*7th Tradition*  
*Old Business*  
*New Business*

Delegate - Tom B - [delegate@aaseny.org](mailto:delegate@aaseny.org)

Alcoholics Anonymous - The 71st General Service Conference

April 18 to 25, 2021

*Well, did it end on the 24th or the 25th?"*

Thank you for the question! The Conference was originally scheduled to adjourn on Saturday afternoon, April 24th, at 5:15 pm, with the General Service Board to meet immediately afterwards, followed by the two Corporate Boards (A.A.W.S. and Grapevine).

But then we had "to throw several lifelong conceptions out of the window..."

*So, it ended on Sunday the 25th?*

Yes, it did - we were adjourned at 2:15 am on Sunday, April 25th. But the By-Laws of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. say that "The second quarterly meeting of the Trustees of the Board shall take place on Saturday, immediately following the close of the General Service Conference."

And so, the Trustees met two days ago, on Saturday, May 1st, at 11:00 am, to conduct Board business, and to consider:

49 Advisory Actions.

*Did you say "49 Advisory Actions???"*

Yup, 49 (forty-nine) Advisory Actions:

- 45 Committee Recommendations, and
- 4 Floor Actions.

And based on what we were told just this morning by our Northeast Regional Trustee, the General Service Board has approved all 49 Advisory Actions "in their entirety".

*So, do you have some highlights for us?*

Thank you for another great question! Here are just a few, which I believe are of special interest to SENY:

- The slate of Directors for A.A.W.S., which includes our Panel 67 Delegate John W., was approved unanimously. ☺
- G.S.O. will begin accepting online groups, via the District / Area model, giving them a Voice and a Vote.
- The A.A. Service Manual has been thoroughly overhauled and made more "user-friendly" - it's wonderful!

*And what's going on with the Big Book?*

- Development of a Fifth Edition of "Alcoholics Anonymous" has been approved, with new stories reflecting current A.A. membership (with the first 164 pages, etc. left as is).
- Development of a Fourth Edition of "Alcoholicos Anonimos" has been approved, with new stories... (Do you hear that, Companeros y Companeras? Start writing!)
- Development of a plain-language version of the Big Book has been approved (based on the Fourth Edition).

*What are we doing with Technology?*

- Development of podcasts – approved.
- Implementation of Instagram account – approved.
- Digital updating and enhancement of P.I. and C.P.C. outreach material (including QR codes) – approved.
- Dynamic (vs. static) LinkedIn page to better serve interested professionals – approved.
- Audio messages for the military – approved.

*You haven't told us about your own Committee: Cooperation with the Professional Community.*

Our Committee put forth three Recommendations:

- To establish a dynamic LinkedIn page for professionals

- To create a pamphlet for mental health professionals
- To update the pamphlet “The Clergy Asks About Alcoholics Anonymous, and retitle it to “Faith Leaders Ask...”

And I will have the privilege of serving as the C.P.C. Conference Committee Chair next year

*And... how about the Preamble?*

- The Grapevine / La Vina Conference Committee “...took no action. The Committee felt they needed more information to make a decision.”
- Floor action #2 – “In Alcoholics Anonymous...” – passed.
- Floor action #3 – “men and women” to “people” – passed.
- Floor action #6 – to endorse Floor Action #3 – passed.

The A.A. Grapevine Board will make the final decision on which one to publish going forward. (More will be revealed).

*Okay, then! On another note, what's going on in the world of A.A. Finance?*

IMPROVED AUDIT RESULTS

- Completed on schedule
- Unqualified or “clean” audit opinion
- No material weaknesses
- No significant deficiencies
- Only one recommendation (compared to seven last year)

In other words, our Finances are in great hands!

How about 2020 financial highlights?

- 7th Tradition of Self-Support – \$10.26 million set another record, up 15.80% from \$8.86 million in 2019
- Cost of Services - \$10.81 million down 14.9% from \$12.70 million in 2019
- Self-Support - covered 94.9% of cost of services compared to 69.8% in 2019
- AAWS publishing gross profits – \$6.58 million down 29.70% from \$9.36 million in 2019, used to cover \$550K shortfall between 7th Tradition Contributions and Cost of Services

*What else do we need to know about the finances of our Fellowship?*

- Online contributions to A.A. have grown from \$434,274 in 2015 to \$2,128,426 in 2020. That's just over 390%!
- The Reserve Fund (a.k.a. Prudent Reserve) dropped from 9.3 months of expenses at the end of 2019 to 7.9 months of expenses at the end of 2020.
- The major one-time expense was the cost of VRIP (Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program):
  - \$1.2 M in VRIP severance payments.
  - \$3.6 M (net) in pension related expenses.

*You know I love my financial data! How can I find out more financial info?*

And another great question! You're really good at this interviewing thing, Jo Ann!

You can email me at [delegate@aaseny.org](mailto:delegate@aaseny.org), and request a copy of "The Picnic Table", which the G.S.O. Accounting Staff prepares every year – it has enough in the way of data, graphs, and comparisons to satisfy almost all of us!

And don't forget: the Final Conference Report will come out this summer, both in printed form and at (you guessed it!): <https://www.aaseny.org/from-the-delegate>

*Is there anything else you'd like to share with us, Mr. Delegate*

Well, I'm going to save most of the "Saw and Heard and Felt" for our Post-Conference Assembly on Saturday, June 12 – who knows how many GSRs / future Delegates will be sitting out there, perhaps starting their own journey down the service triangle?

But, since you asked so nicely, I'll leave you with three thoughts:

1. Working with my Committee, which is where so much of the heavy lifting is done, was incredible – eight of us, geographically diverse (from New Brunswick to Nevada), working in spiritual harmony, always keeping the good of Alcoholics Anonymous before us. It was a true gift.
2. Discussion and debate in the full Conference was sometimes spirited and passionate, but it was always done in respect for one another, and in the love of A.A.
3. Our theme was "A.A. in a Time of Change". But to me, the 71st General Service Conference will always represent the willingness to change. We had a mid-week workshop which led off with the challenge "If I were 10 times bolder." And I can tell you what my ultimate takeaway was, even as an old curmudgeon: The phrase "because that's how we've always done it" was set aside last week – Alcoholics Anonymous is on the move.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Q: Can we get a copy of this presentation - really great presentation!

A: If you want a copy, please e-mail me and I will send you a copy.

Q: How unusual is it that 49 advisory actions got passed

A: somewhere around 1am, on saturday we were all wondering that. Supposedly it happened near the millennium. 49 is a lot, 6 floor actions, and one was drawn and the other was withdrawn. Most came from committee meetings. Will talk about this more at the next meeting.

Q: there are 2 forms going to grapevine. Does grapevine have discretion to choose from there ?

A: AA preamble is copyrighted and owned by Grapevine. From the discussion, the trustees were showing us that they were hearing the voice of the conference. I will discuss more in June. The trustees are in tune with what the fellowship wants. The sequence of floor actions came in hot, they were all discussed on Saturday. Action number 2 was from out west, in AA we share our experience strength and hope with each other. The grapevine board members were there and assured us that they heard our voice.

Q: 69th conference had a bridge the gap pamphlet. Do you have any updates on this pamphlet

A: that was not part of our discussion. Of course with this (corrections), it varies so much from area to area.

Q: Can you update us on the rotating the conference from virtual to in person.

A: that was not put forward by trustees committees. Last year was not a good indicator of how it would work. They wanted to see how this year was with more preparation. This year, the technology factor was marvelous. It ran into Sunday morning, think about how many people didn't have to think about catching a plane because it was virtual

Q: how to get the information to more people up the triangle. Would this be something you would consider to put on the "from the delegate" page or on the aa seny home page?

A: I am open to all suggestions, I would definitely want to talk to some other people about it. Something that came up a lot, was how we want to make sure we are transparent and not withholding information from our members. I will talk more about this on June 12th.

We have a magnificent resource at SENY, and that's our past delegates. We have moments of what the heck am I doing here. But the support I've gotten has just been phenomenal.

9:30pm - Close