

APRIL 5, 2018 SENY COMMITTEE MINUTES

7:32 p.m. Meeting Called to Order (Jane E.)

Serenity Prayer and Preamble in English and Spanish

Thanks to John W., Delegate, and Presentation of Card and Cake (Christine)

Spiritual Parliamentarian is Emma; Spiritual Vote Counter is Sherry; Spiritual Timekeeper is Mike (Jane E.)

Anticipating New Business regarding venue for elections which came up too late for agenda

Minutes Accepted w/ One Correction

Introduction of New Trusted Servants

COUNTY REPORTS

Bronx-Upper Manhattan (Barbara Ann): We are hosting SENY Elections and have identified 4 venues; as per handout Lehman College has good access but is expensive; Villa Marie Academy and P.S. 115 are less expensive but far from public transport; Lehman H.S. had not responded yet. Will make motion for additional money as new business

Suffolk (Tom): 3rd Annual AA Brunch May 27th in Riverhead, Jim has tickets and flyers; Suffolk will be hosting the Pre-Conference Assembly at St. Anthony's, a fully accessible building

Nassau (Regina): Roundtable Discussion Series continues May 21st, at Nassau Intergroup, on Concepts V and VI; June 3rd will be our Unity Breakfast at L.I. Marriott, tickets going fast

Putnam (Rob): Working on dates for Movie Night and Spiritual Breakfast

Staten Island (Jerry): Thanks to county DCMCs and County Chairs and everyone else for helping with Convention workshops; next Sunday we have County Meeting; Tentative Date for Spiritual Breakfast is Nov. 25th

Queens (Frank): Big Safety Workshop May 19th; Spiritual Breakfast October 7th

Orange (Sherry): Spiritual Breakfast April 29th, June 6th is Joy of Service Workshop from 2-5 pm, so can go to Rockland's Breakfast in a.m. and visit us in afternoon

Brooklyn (Mel): Good luck to John at GSC; Spiritual Breakfast in December, flyers on table; June 23rd will be Share-A-Day. Bus to Convention was a success and we will have County Inventory on June 20th

Rockland (Ray): Spiritual Breakfast on May 6th, same day as Orange's Joy of Service Workshop that afternoon, so can do a whole day of AA

Westchester (Emma): Prayers for our Delegate, on a personal note thanks to John for help when I came into service, so helpful; grateful for Convention being in Westchester. We're doing a book drive this year for hospitals and treatment facilities. Will host June 2nd Post-Conference Assembly Hyland Middle School

Special Report (Linda M., Past Delegate): You may have received email re: schedule for helping guests at GSC, starting 8 a.m. every day except Tuesday, which is 9 a.m., in Times Square Room; I have copies of schedule

No further reports

OFFICER REPORTS

Delegate (John W.)

I'm fairly consumed with preparations for the General Service Conference which I head to in just a few weeks. The conference formally begins on Sunday, April 22, but there are some proceedings starting the day before, including presentations on outreach to remote communities and a delegates' only dinner.

I continue to read and re-read the background material for my committees, and I occasionally take a break from that to read the background material from the other 11 committees.

I'm pleased to report that early response to the questionnaire has been strong. I've received more than 80 responses so far and I'm expecting a surge this coming week as we approach the April 8 cut-off.

I have a call tomorrow evening with Rich Purtell, our NERT, and my fellow NERDs. It's mostly an opportunity for any last-minute questions. We met over the weekend of March 9-11, when SENY hosted the NERD reunion weekend.

Last week I sent out the latest highlights from AAWS. Check in with your DCMC if you want a copy. Or if you have questions on it, please let me know.

I'm working with the Westchester Marriott of finalizing our bid for NERAASA 2021 which I will be presenting at one of the regional lunches at the Conference for a vote.

I want to congratulate all who made the SENY convention a tremendous success. I've heard nothing but compliments from our members.

Lastly, I was to remind you all that there is a memorial service for Cookie on Friday, April 20 starting at 7:15pm. It's at St. George's Church on East 16th Street, where Potpourri meets. Cookie played a huge part in my SENY service and I look forward to gathering to share remembrances.

Q&A clarified that not all information sent to GSO for a proposed Conference agenda item is included in the background sent to delegates, but John received additional information from the alternate chair of Literature on an item that her area submitted and he chose to forward that to other delegates on his committee. Also clarified that the draft minutes are watermarked "DRAFT". GSO's minutes are legally required under NYS 501(c)(3) rules, so that although drafts are circulated the delegates are asked not to share and John will honor that request. Final report, as opposed to minutes, will come out in redacted form and put online in August or September

Alt-Delegate (Manny A.)

SENY Alternate Delegate Report/Announcements(Draft)

Since last we met I attended, Reported at, Presented, Spoke at:

On March 8th, chaired the SENY Service Participation Meeting: reported on Delegate's Questionnaire, GSA Agenda, NERAASA and SENY Convention, and conducted a workshop on Confidentiality, Trust, Transparency. And Anonymity in SENT Service

March 9th-11th: Attended Northeast Regional Delegates Weekend, hosted by SENY and coordinated hospitality suite

March 15th, spoke at Grupo Nuevo Hipsanico-facilitated Delegates Questionnaire discussion

March 16th, conducted 12 Traditions workshop at Queens County General Service Meeting

March 18th, made presentations at Distrito Afitron, hosted by District 614; later that day attended NYCPAA meeting

March 23rd-25th, attended Convention, facilitated "Theme Meeting," screened videos, helped out with Hospitality

Any questions?

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

Chair (Jane E.)

I'm a grateful alcoholic and my name is Jane E. The March Grapevine has an article in "AA News" on page ten by our Northeast Regional Trustee and an article titled "A Step too far?". Both are timely. I highly recommend subscribing to the Grapevine!

Redistricting has been explored by SENY, the last time it was researched was by an ad hoc committee which Terry F. and Bill C. were on. Both past delegates are open to sharing experience, just reach out to them. Thanks, Bill and Terry!

Historical note: in 1991 or 92, Dutchess County made an autonomous decision to secede from SENY and join HMB. It's been brought to my attention that there are thoughts about a central location for Assemblies. Prior to 1987, Assemblies were held in lower Manhattan. In 1987, it was the Area conscience to move Assemblies from County to County to enhance participation by all the Counties. We've rotated since. AA history (both wonders and blunders) help us to have a better-informed conscience today. I'm very excited about the progress our Archives Committee and Work Group is making!

The Ad Hoc Finance Committee needed one more member; a former SENY Treasurer, Dean J. has graciously accepted appointment to this robust group. Priorities they've been tasked with are to provide a recommendation regarding a SENY debit or credit card, straightening out multiple Staples accounts, and reviewing the SENY Spending guidelines. There are currently 3 personal credit cards being used for recurrent SENY bills. I wonder if this is prudent and look forward to hearing their recommendation.

The flyers for the NYSIW workshop, hosted by Hudson Mohawk Berkshire are here tonight. It's in Utica July 27-29 and there will be Spanish translation. We worked with HMB and offered to provide two translators and the equipment but asked that HMB provide transportation reimbursement, food and lodging for the translators. HMB agreed. I'm thrilled. Thank you, Eddie and the translation Committee!

SENY hosts the 2019 NYSIW and although it seems far away, it's tough to find a venue and these events take a while to plan. I'm excited to announce that KC, DCM of 602 has graciously accepted the role of 2019 NYSIW Chair and is in the know on all things going on this year. If anyone is taking the train to Utica, KC is the ride from the train liaison to HMB, so reach out to KC at nysiw@aseny.org if you need

a ride from the Utica train station. At last year's, someone said "the NYSIW is the biggest bang for your buck in AA!" Everyone nodded.

I'm available to speak at Tradition, Concept and AA meetings and workshops, and facilitate Group and County inventories.

Are there any questions?

Registrar (Fred M., by Saadi):

Hey everybody. As I write this, I am on an airplane, and as you hear this, I am either in Kyoto or Tokyo. It's the first time I've travelled outside of the US! I don't count the time I ate at a restaurant on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls when I was a kid. I'm hoping to make it to the English-speaking young people's meeting in Tokyo, and I've been asked to speak at a meeting! Then it's off to Hong Kong – hoping I can make a meeting or two there as well. My girlfriend and I are taking advantage of her cousin's Tokyo apartment before her cousin moves back to the US.

Thank you to Saadi for covering for me tonight – he's also answering the voicemails and texts while I'm away. I'm fully caught up on my core responsibilities following the busy season of NERAASA and prepping for Delegate's Day of Sharing. Beyond that, I've been responding to requests for support from other Areas – I need to actually count them up, but about 10 Areas are at some point in the process of adopting either all or some of our system.

At the Registrar roundtable at NERAASA, it was a familiar chorus of struggles with FNV. For me, it was the third year in a row I've been hearing it, but those with more experience confirmed everyone has struggled since it launched about ten years ago. In the past, GSO used to offer some kind of screen sharing introduction, but that's been discontinued. Now the primary resource is the manual, which is almost 200 pages. In response to the need expressed yet again at NERAASA, I've been taking a break from SENY projects to help my peers:

1. For Registrars who've emailed in problems they're having with FNV, I've created tutorial videos.
2. I created a form that any Area Registrar can fill out with a help request, and then a few of us who are ready to assist get notified.
3. I set up a bimonthly video conference that all the Area Registrars of the US & Canada are invited to. It's a chance for people to ask questions about FNV, and then those of us who are more experienced with technology can share our screen and do demos. The first one was a success, and I've asked another Area Registrar to organize the next one so that it won't be dependent on me.
4. Finally, I've worked with the northeast Registrars to submit a collective request to GSO to make a very do-able update to FNV that would save at least hundreds, and more likely thousands, of volunteer hours across the US & Canada, year over year. Fingers crossed that they take it seriously now that it is coming from an entire region instead of just me.

When I get back from overseas, I'll be returning my focus to closing out the open SENY-specific projects.

Hope this report finds all of you well. I'll be back to reporting in person for the May Committee meeting. Genki de, or all the best!

Treasurer (Michelle): Michelle emailed "My apologies but I will not be able to attend the April 2nd Committee Meeting. I will see you all at the April 8th Assembly."

Discussion clarified that bylaws state that Treasurer give report at Committee Meetings, but under SENY bylaws business can be discussed if 3 officers are present and there is a quorum. Point of Order raised that decisions could not be made if last month's minutes not approved, and minutes could not be approved without treasurer present. Clarification: Michelle emailed fellow officers and secretary that there would be no report until the April 8 Assembly.

Parliamentarian (Emma), citing bylaws, ruled that treasurer need not be present; bylaws require that there be a quorum and 3 officers present to make conduct business, including financial business. Clarified that this is because SENY uses modified Robert's Rules of Order; under strict rules this would have been correct

Further discussion re: November Assembly is on the same day as the Jones Beach Breakfast. Clarified that it is custom of SENY to have 1 Sunday Assembly each year to support Spanish District; did not have a Sunday Assembly in 2017 so we are having 2 this year. Sunday meeting in November due to Bill W. Dinner Dance, and we try to cooperate with other service entities

Discussion clarified that there will be a treasurer's report at next meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives (Richard): Highlights from AAWS, digitize and preserving Bill's personal memoirs and talks w/ Dr. Bob, plus a myriad of other things involving finance, GSO, letters to Fr. Downing, Reverend Schumacher, Sister Ignatia, shout out to Bill C. and James D. for presentation at Convention, will have presentation at Pre-Conference Assembly, will attend National Archives Workshop and NYS Informational Workshop. Could not do oral interviews at convention last month due to scheduling conflict

Service (Sally): Thanks to DCM participants tonight, will be having GSR orientation at Assembly

Literature (Brendan): Sold about \$1,000 in literature at Convention, will be at Assembly

Grapevine / La Vina (Laura): Went to Convention, sold over \$900 in subscriptions, will be at Manhattan Share-A-Day and Assembly and Orange County and Brooklyn Share-a-Days, will attend NYS Informational Workshop, new book coming out for military, no set date yet

Treatment Facilities (Cathy): Had table at convention, distributed packages (English & Spanish) for people who are not really connected to their Intergroup but who go to facilities; thanks to people to donated Grapevine. Announced that there are VHS/VCR tapes for facilities. Did select Google Voice # for people who are coming out. We have requests for meetings at non-lockdowns, next meeting April 22nd at SENY Offices

Agenda (Jeanne): On table is calendar of events for April and May, please take, updated as of 6 p.m. today, please email with changes

Corrections (Mike by Ray): Had 12 pre-release requests, 10 sign-ups at convention. Westchester is connecting with prisons, although we are having problems connecting with Queensboro, will be at Share-A-Day

Officer Manager (Richie): Call me if you need held with coffee or sound systems, or if you need a conference room

Accessibility (Nellie): Thanks to people who helped at Convention; 2 people assisted a blind person, who totally enjoyed the Convention. We meet this Friday, and on April 21st will be at ASN Workshop

CPC / PI (Anthony [CPC], also for Bianca, [PI]): Workshop at Convention was very successful, Chi-Chi and Bill joined our committee, several other people interested from other counties and great participation; on April 26th had table at Ardsley High School and put lots of literature, let kids take what they want: Grapevine went, talking about getting more

Translation (Eddie): Good Convention, we will be at Share-A-Day and Safety in AA for Spanish Women, at Assembly will be leading Workshop on Translation Services. Preparing for Sunday by reading Language of the Heart; always available for translation services

Convention (Mike): Preliminary numbers are about 1050 registrations and we sold 300 banquets; for rooms we were at 546 on Thursday and down to 476 by Sunday, incurred charge of \$3,000 because under this contract we had to have 500 room nights; 2 days before is when numbers started to drop. We are going back for next 2 years. Thanks to Chairs all

Q&A clarified that we are looking into charging people for 1 night when they book; if you make a last-minute booking at other than contract rate we may be able to get credit if you contact me

7th Tradition is \$126

OLD BUSINESS

None

New Business

Motion for SENY to reimburse up to an extra \$1,000 for September 2018 Assembly, from \$3,000 to \$4,000; **Seconded**

Discussion (responses from John W., Jane E., and Barbara Ann) clarified that right now we have a tentative site, but Lehman College is superior location, so we may not need the money. Also, we had such a large surplus from 2017 Convention included as uncharacterized income that, to make budget balance, we underestimated expected income.

Concern was expressed about prudent budgeting and that costs for Assemblies are rising. SENY needs to sign contract in next few days. Lehman College is more expensive, but it's accessible by public transportation and we need to encourage participation

Motion Passed

Motion to add line to Treasurer's Job Description that if the Treasurer is unable to attend a financial report will be submitted at each Committee Meeting and Assembly; **Seconded**

Discussion clarified that duties of treasurer include reports to Assemblies and Committee include reports and that it's unfortunate that we do not have one this month, but that making report mandatory might not be realistic and a form of micromanagement; there's often little fluctuation from month to month. We do not know why we do not have a report this month, just that we do not have one, even though it is implied in job description that a report be given, and it would have been good to have a report even if the report

was statement that due to schedule an updated monthly report was not possible. We should trust our trusted servants. Treasurer sent email that there would be no report but did not explain why.

Motion to Table; Not Seconded

Motion Reread

Motion Defeated

LISTS (Cathy): Invite people from Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk to April 10th planning meeting at Nassau Intergroup for September 22nd event in Brooklyn, flyers are available

Unity Statement

9:28 p.m. Meeting Closed