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# **APPROVED VERSION**

## **SENY COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

*SENY REUNIÓN DEL COMITÉ DE ORDEN DEL DÍA*

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, 2158 WATSON  
AVENUE, BRONX, NY 10472-5402

**MONDAY, December 7, 2015 (7:30-9:30 PM)**

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

**LINK Articles:** Send LINK articles for Nov issue to [link@aaseny.org](mailto:link@aaseny.org) as soon as possible.

Motion: That we have an email provider that does not mine data. Postponed until January 1, 2016.

*(7:00pm) New DCM Orientation – Jamie S- (Nueva Orientación DCM)*

#### **Meeting called to order @ 7:30pm**

- Serenity Prayer Rick W., Chair
- Daily Reflection (*Reflexión Diaria*) – Kathy B
- Preamble – Anthony B. / *Preambulo* – Luis A
- SENY Statement of Purpose (*Declaración de Propósito SENY*) – Rick W., Chair

#### **General Housekeeping –**

- o Voting clarifications for quorum – we have a quorum
- o Roberts Rules of order and 2/3 unanimity
- Concept IX was reviewed

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Committee Meeting** (*Aprobación del Acta de la reunión anterior del Comité*) • Motion made and seconded o Discussion about difference between “postponing” and “tabling” a motion. Request to amend minutes from previous meeting to reflect tabling not postponing.

- Yes= 24 No= 0 Abs = 4

*Motion Carries*

#### **Introductions** (*Presentaciones*)

- New DCM's and DCMC's (*Nueva de DCM y DCMC*)
- Thank you service chefs and Kevin McH. for setup
- Past Delegates & Guests (*Los Delegados y Huéspedes Anteriores*)

#### **Officer Reports** (*Informes Oficial*)

**Delegate: Jim W.,** [delegate@aaseny.org](mailto:delegate@aaseny.org) 718-829-7287

- Boyce, past delegate, is still recovering from a stroke. Please sign the card circulating to wish him well.
- DCM's please circulate information about fact sheet for how your 7<sup>th</sup> tradition is utilized. Please share with all groups and include in your orientation packets.
- Regarding a topic from last year with safety in AA, California lawsuit has been dismissed with prejudice since some people were asking about this. No other information is given in order to avoid public controversies.
- Trends are terrible, contributions are down, unexpected loss at International Convention of about \$400,000 due to unexpected transportation issue. The board is looking into how to prevent this in the future. Literature sales are down which usually occurs after a price increase.
- Feasibility study is taking place in Kansas City in January to look at long range plans and overall service structure. Several changes in AA Pamphlets specifically about safety are coming.
- A large \$195,000 bequest that was left to an Intergroup that had no limits in place for bequests. GSO returned the funds to the Intergroup because GSO has a \$5000 limit on bequests.
- Visited the Renaissance Hotel to sign contract for the 2017 SENY Convention. The dates had to be changed because they conflicted with the Hispanic Assamblea. It is a 3 year contract. Area concerns about

being stuck with a three year contract, a 10 day waiver was added for 10 days after the 2017 Convention to cancel for the following years.

- Conducted a number of group inventories, Group Anniversaries, and Breakfasts.

Questions: - Conference Inventory still haven't gotten them yet....

-clarification about the bequest

- clarification about contract with Renaissance, 10 day window is only for after 2017, not for after 2018

- clarification about loss from international convention

- clarification about 10 day period for convention contract, is it enough time? We don't have a choice in that and will have to push for that. Time is of the essence.

- loss at international convention, where did that come from to cover the loss? They did not state

- clarification about new general manager at General Service Office.

-clarification about decrease in literature...often times, when a price increase is happening, some places will buy lots of literature in bulk in anticipation of this. That means that literature sales then go down after the increase for a bit.

**Alternate Delegate: John W., [altdelegate@aaseny.org](mailto:altdelegate@aaseny.org) 646-413-3830**

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Some highlights of my SENY service since we last met:

- I attended the Hispanic Districts convention on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> in Haverstraw in Rockland County. It was a delightful day of fellowship. There were great speakers, an informative talk on the history of the international conventions, a mariachi band. And to show I was willing to go to any lengths, I danced for close to 60 seconds!
- On Saturday, November 14, I was back up in Rockland, in Pearl River, for a day of workshops hosted by Rockland County General Service. There were some great discussions on the Twelve Concepts and on the importance of sponsorship. I am grateful for the kind invitation to be a part of it.
- On Sunday, November 15, I was out in Suffolk County for the Asamblea. They're already working on next year's convention which will be in Suffolk. I was also impressed that a member had his final conference report all marked up. He had lots of question, which inspired my Link article this month.
- On Saturday, November 21, I spent the morning at District 608's Grapevine writing workshop. There were speakers who had articles published in the Grapevine as well as people who work at the Grapevine. And there some fun writing exercises that resulted in the first drafts of articles I'm sure I will read in the Grapevine one of these days.
- On Thursday, December 3, I participated in a conference call conducted by Richard P. our NERT. He's instituted these calls to keep delegates up to date on actions taken at GSB meetings. Jim will cover content of the call in his report.
- Yesterday, I was at Brooklyn County's 28<sup>th</sup> annual spiritual breakfast. Two great speakers, wonderful fellowship, and an all-around amazing event. Congratulations to Brooklyn.
- Lastly, I want to mention that this Thursday is the next Service Participation meeting. There was a question at the area inventory on whether or not it still happened, so I need to do a better job reporting on it. I like to describe it as a *support group* for DCMCs. We get together on the second Thursdays of months without assemblies and discuss ways to increase participation at all levels of service in the area and share our experience, strength, and hope with each other on those topics.

Thank you again for the privilege to serve.

**Chair: Rick W., [chair@aaseny.org](mailto:chair@aaseny.org) 917-698-0722**

**Open Appointments Needed:**

- (2) AH Pub Review Committee Members
- (1) AH Finance Committee Member
- (1) Web Chair
- (1) A/SN Chair
- (1) LINK Editor

If you know anyone who might be interested in serving in any of these positions, please let me know as soon as possible. Information about these appointments will be coming.

- **Budget Meeting** - December 13, 2015 - 11:30am - 1:30pm - SENY Offices
- **SENY Office** - we recently ran into a situation where on a Saturday morning, members of the Archive Committee went to our office for a meeting and the building was shutdown and they couldn't get in. Kevin Mc. H., can you give us an update?
  - Kevin: They have changed the building managers position and he is only there from Monday through Friday, they have someone else opening the building on the weekends and on this particular weekend, the new person did not show up until 2pm. Please continue to let me know when you need to use the SENY Office.
- It's been brought to my attention that **SENY and NYIG overlap on various service work opportunities**, specifically around PI and CPC. There's a chart that Past Delegate, Denise B. suggested that I get from James our Archivist to review that outlines this. I've emailed James requesting access to that chart but have not heard back yet. Steve G. As Archives Chair, could I get your help to track down that chart? I would love to have a conversation with Nisaa (PI), Preston (CPC) and our Intergroup Liaison Nellie to discuss this a little more please. We may want to bring Chris D. @ NYIG into the loop too.
- **Area Inventory Update:** we have the minutes from the inventory (thank you Jeanne) and the Officers are going to sit down with those minutes and review them together. Once we have completed that, we will confirm what our next steps will be. Thanks to everyone who participated in our inventory.
- **Completed Inventories:** 9th Avenue Group (Manhattan), Pathway to Power (Yonkers)
- **Visitations:** Spoke on 11th Tradition at a group in Suffolk, Attended S.I. and Brooklyn Spiritual Breakfasts
- **Upcoming: Attending the** EACYPAA Committee Meeting, Simply Saturdays group Inventory (Brooklyn), S.I. General Service Meeting

**Treasurer: Manny A.,** [treasurer@aaseny.org](mailto:treasurer@aaseny.org) 917-406-4783

1. Nov financials were distributed  
Motion to accept. Seconded.  
Y = 34          N = 0          Abs = 2  
Motion Carries
2. SENY 2016 Budget Planning meeting will be Sunday 12/13 at 11:30 am at the SENY office. Standing Committee Chairs will receive budget worksheets within the next few days.

7th Tradition passed - \$ 100

**Registrar: Fred M.,** [registrar@aaseny.org](mailto:registrar@aaseny.org) 917-291-0374

1. 5 officers, 8 DCMC's and Alt, 12 DCM's and alt, 8 Standing Committee Chairs, 0 past delegates
2. I attended the most recent Hispanic Assamblea and Brooklyn General Service Assembly. I learned a lot from both in how I can do a better job in making our database as complete and correct as possible. I'm especially interested in how I can work closer with county registrars and secretaries. A technical update: I've begun to restructure our database schema. It's now relational, with one table for each combination of individual and service position, and another table for groups. What that means in practice: 1) It makes it easier to maintain the database for example, if a group changes its name or district, you only have to change it once instead of every instance in the database. 2) We now can include group information in our database even when there's no contact. For example, a DCM could provide some info for a group they weren't able to connect with so the next DCM would know to revisit. Or an Intergroup could send us their meeting list data, and we could programmatically compare it to our database to see which groups we're not reaching. Basically, it can give us a lot more visibility into who we're not reaching, and makes it possible to collaborate with other service entities. 3) It's not much easier to see who we have group contacts for. Right now, most of the people in our database doing service below the group level are also indicated as a group contact. The way the database was structured though made it impossible to surface that information except in an impossibly tedious way. Now our database has made all that information actionable. Now that the database structure has taken shape, I've spent a lot of hours cleaning up the data and

implementing consistent conventions. "District 404" for example, might have been written "Dist 404" or "District404" or just "404". By standardizing everything, it becomes much easier to maintain the database, identify duplicates, and run reports. I have A LOT more data cleanup left unfortunately. I also have a bunch of updates submitted by groups and DCMs, some from before I rotated in, some after. I have held off on entering them for two reasons: 1) I don't want to enter them into a broken system only to increase the level of difficulty in my cleanup effort first I'm getting our database in good shape. 2) I still don't have login credentials from GSO after a bunch of back'n'forth, so I have no way of making the corresponding updates in GSO's database. Laura's credentials were revoked by GSO almost immediately, so he wasn't even able to show me the system. I've also expanded the options for receiving minutes you can get it by email, snail mail, or both. Both is a new option. Finally I tried to make some layout and formatting improvements to the checkin sheets. It's alphabetized by first name, which I will be reversing.

### **Questions?**

- Do you see a need/or ability for us to provide to counties information about what meetings are active and have contacts with their counties? Possibly, we will be working on this and can become a resource for DCMs and DCMCs to provide the information in PDF forms...possibilities for longer term process.
- Is the group update form from GSO ok? Yes we are going to work on an easier way to communicate that information, but right now this is fine. This might change in the future as we explore what could be.

### **Standing Committee Reports (Informes del Comité Permanente) (emailed)**

1. **Literature Chair** - Consider a gift for the upcoming holidays. DCMC's please let me know who is the County Literature Chair for your county.
3. **Public Information** – I am finally getting comfortable in the position. Sent out an intergroup to book meetings for next year. We will be trying conference calls and will continue with joint meetings with CPC every other month. We worked hard to make sure that Intergroup is informed about what is going on with SENY PI. Will do more speaking at non-AA meetings training next year. Will be reaching out to more young people to get them to speak at high schools possibly. If you have any ideas or questions or suggestions, please email me at
4. **Archives Chair** - We are digitizing and cataloging all our archives. We would like to work on gathering oral histories and/or county histories. DCMC's please reach out to your Archives chair to help us create a history for each county.
5. **CPC Chair** – Worked with PI to coordinate some presentations and will continue to do so for next year. It is all about the 12<sup>th</sup> step work! There are many things each and every one of us can do to help carry the message. We have a doctors program and are working with freshly graduating doctors and it is eye-opening to be able to talk to doctors who have little experience with this disease.
6. **Agenda Chair** – Transition to new website is successful even though it is different. Please send all your county and standing committee meeting dates to [agenda@aaseny.org](mailto:agenda@aaseny.org) as soon as possible. Are we able to subscribe to the agenda calendar? It will be looked into
7. **Service Sponsorship Chair** – GSR Voices will be moving from monthly to quarterly. We will be hooking people up as buddies as well as service sponsors. Thanks Kevin for standing in for me. Thank you Michele for all you left from last year.
8. **SENY Convention 2016** – Registration Fliers are available and on the table. Also in the LINK, Box 459 and on the website. Please register and come and bring a friend! Pre-registration deadline is March 5<sup>th</sup>

### **County Reports**

**Westchester County** – New Year's Eve Celebration at 7pm at Memorial United Methodist Church in White Plains. First ever Westchester Spiritual Breakfast Saturday 1/23 8am

**Suffolk County** – Unity Breakfast March 6<sup>th</sup> \$25, Wading River, NY "Road of Happy Destiny"

**LISTS** - meeting the last Monday of each month at Suffolk Intergroup office 8pm

**Manhattan** – Will have a special election 12/15 for Alt DCMC. Share A Day is being planned for June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business (Asuntos Pendientes)**

None

**New Business (Asuntos Nuevos)**

- Thank you officers for your service for the first half of panel 65

**Motion to Close**

**Meeting adjourned 9:00 pm @** by Rick W., Area Chair with A.A.'s Declaration of Unity (Declaración de A.A. de la Unidad Clausura)

**Thank You for Participating and for Your Service!**

(Gracias por Participar y por Su Servicio!)

**NEXT AREA 49 COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, January 4, 2016 – 7:30pm – 9:30pm**

Church of the Holy Family, Mechler Hall  
2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472-5402

**NEXT AREA 49 ASSEMBLY**

**Saturday, February 6, 2016 – 8:30am – 4:00pm**

**[HOST: BRONX COUNTY] Our Savior Lutheran School**  
1734 Williamsbridge Rd, Bronx, NY 10461