



<http://www.aaseny.org>

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, January 2, 2017 (7:30-9:30 PM)

(7:00 pm) New DCM Orientation

Meeting Called to order @ 7:30 pm

- Serenity Prayer and A.A. Preamble (*in English*, Jane E.; *en español*, Manny A.)

Unanimous Approval of Minutes from December 5, 2016

General Housekeeping

- Voting clarifications.
- Three Service Chefs volunteered to bring refreshments for next SENY Committee Meeting.
- Spiritual Time Keeper (Mitch) will limit Standing Committee reports and business discussion to two minutes.
- Introduction of proposed Panel 67 Standing Committee Members and joyful, resounding approval by the Body.

Officer Reports

Delegate (John W. — delegate@aaseny.org)

- Primary General Service Conference Committee assignment will be Literature; also assigned to serve on the Archives Committee.
 - *Jeopardy*-type fun fact: Chapter Eight of the *A.A. Service Manual* [S60-S62] lists the Conference Committees and Secondary Committees [and criteria for selection].
 - There are about 60 Preliminary Agenda items; the agenda will be finalized by February 15.
- Delegate's Day of Sharing is scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 2017. Presenters will have only two weeks to prepare, but that quick turnaround will give groups a full month to complete questionnaires before the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 8.
- About two weeks after the SENY Convention, Delegate will decide (in consultation with SENY Chair and Convention Chair) whether or not to hold the next two SENY Conventions at the Renaissance Westchester Hotel per our current contract. They will consider attendees' feedback regarding the venue, however, barring something "horrific" we will continue at the Renaissance for the remainder of the three-year contract.
- NERAASA is fast approaching, February 24-26, in Framingham, MA. It's a great opportunity to learn and share from other trusted servants in the Northeast Region.

- New York State Informational Workshop 2017, August 4-6, 2017, in Rochester, NY. It's another important event; Save the Date flyer is posted on SENY website.

Alternate Delegate (Manny A. — altdelegate@aaseny.org)

- He has been attending Service Participation Meetings, Asambleas, and NYCYPAA meetings in preparation for his responsibilities as Alternate Delegate.
- He will be conducting a few group inventories in January.
- Service Participation Meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2017, 7 pm @ NY Intergroup Office; all DCMs and DCMCs are strongly encouraged to attend. Upcoming dates and future meeting topics will be discussed.
- Manny's contact information is in the *Link*. Please reach out by phone, text or email if you need him.

Treasurer (Michelle G. — treasurer@aaseny.org)

- Presentation of preliminary P&L report for December 2016 and Fiscal Year 2016.
- Clarification that this is a *preliminary* report, and FINAL P&Ls will be presented and voted on at the February 11, 2017 Assembly.
 - Changes will include correction of line item typos, and debits of approved expenses that last rotation's Committee Chairs submit for reimbursement by the end of January 2017.
- Question from the mic yields further clarification that any 7th tradition contributions received in 2017 will count toward 2017 income regardless of postmark.

MOTION: to accept the preliminary P&L Report for December 2016 and FY 2016.

Motion carries: YES - 41 NO - 0 Abstentions - 5

- Presentation of 2017 Budget. This, too, is a preliminary vote, pending correction of line item typos, and FINAL 2017 Budget will be presented and voted on at the February 11, 2017 Assembly.

MOTION: to accept the proposed 2017 SENY Budget:

Motion carries: YES - 42 NO - 0 Abstentions - 6

- Treasurer gratefully acknowledges Group Contributions, presenting confirmation receipts to respective DCMs/DCMCs.

Registrar (Fred M., registrar@aaseny.org; Jane E. reporting in Fred's absence)

- Ten out of thirteen SENY counties have transitioned to our shared SENY/County database solution. Nine of them are up and running. Most of the incoming county registrars are trained.
- **If you haven't registered your service commitment yet, you can do that at aaseny.org/update-form.**
- **If you are a DCM or DCMC, please email Fred at registrar@aaseny.org for your Views.** Views are a way to see at any given moment which groups and GSRs are registered for your district or county. We had over 60% of DCMs with Views last rotation, and it helped many of

them a great deal. Once you have Views, you will also get an email alert whenever someone new registers in your district, so you'll know to reach out to them.

- In conclusion, Fred writes: "If you're new, please forgive the lack of context — I'll be able to make things clearer at the February Assembly...Email me — or call me — and I can explain further. My contact info is in the *Link*."

NOTE: Question from the floor — "What is the need for County Registrars if everyone has opted into the SENY database?" — Chair will reach out to Registrar and ask him to respond to member who asked.

Chair (Jane E. — chair@aaseny.org)

- First things first: a 10th step amends for not sending new DCMC contact information to the *Link* in time for the year's first issue. We have handouts available tonight with that info, and it will be printed in the next *Link*.
- Inspired by last month's Finance Committee Report, she has asked the Finance Committee to explore best practices for SENY.
 - Mark, Finance Committee Chair, will take the lead in addressing the following matters and report back to this Committee to make recommendations:
 - A couple of recurring bills are being paid on a personal credit card.
 - Some issues with the Strype account have been reported.
 - A review of the current SENY Spending Guidelines is needed.
- Recent events attended during the transition: Renaissance Hotel Walk Through, LISTS, the Hispanic Convention, ESCYPAA, Rockland County General Service Elections, Bronx Upper Manhattan Spiritual Breakfast, Suffolk County General Service and the Brooklyn Spiritual Breakfast.
- "Janice makes sure I bring SENY Convention flyers wherever I go." ***Please help out with this and bring SENY Convention flyers wherever you go in A.A.***
- Dates for June, September and November assemblies are tentative. Will follow up with DCMCs to schedule. Will try not to schedule November assembly on the same day as the NYIG Bill W. Dinner, in the spirit of cooperation and consideration of those who hope to attend both events.
- Jane is available (and would love to) to speak at Tradition and other A.A. meetings and to lead group inventories. Her contact information is in the *Link*.
- Again, DCMs & DCMCs: Please attend the upcoming Service Participation Meeting on January 12. See Manny for more information.

Introductions

- Panel 67 Ad Hoc Committee Members & Preservationist
- Panel 67 DCMCs, ADCMCs, DCMs, ADCMs
 - Discussion clarified roles of the Ad Hoc Finance Committee and Ad Hoc Archives Committee [see page 38-39 of SENY Handbook].

- Jane will follow up with SENY Archivist (James D.) and SENY Web archivist (Corey) to clarify the history and roles of these positions.

Seventh Tradition: \$156

Committee Reports

SENY Convention (Janice, Chair)

- Convention will be held on March 24-26, 2017 at Renaissance Westchester Hotel. ***Please register online for the convention and banquet, and book hotel rooms. We need your support.***
- We should have a final program to share with everyone by February 1.
- New venue offers lovely, unique meeting spaces we will be using for prayer and meditation, gatherings of “sponsorship families,” and “burning desires.”
- We have a great program and lots of volunteer opportunities available.
- Please take a copy of John C’s memo requesting greeter volunteers.

Question regarding number of pre-registrants: so far we have 39 registrations. Janice did not have hotel reservation #s to date, but will have that at the next Committee Meeting.

Agenda (Jeanne, Chair)

- If you have committee meetings, monthly county and districts meetings, and/or events that you would like posted on the SENY website and included in the *Link*, send them to Jeanne at agenda@aaseny.org and she will make sure they are listed in both.
- If you are unsure whether or not your previous Chairperson sent them or not, check out aaseny.org’s calendar to see if they are posted. If not, send them to Jeanne.

Link Editor (Domi)

- Will update Committee Chair information and DCMC information for next issue.
- She will experiment with organizing calendar information differently — separating SENY Assemblies and Committee meetings from district and county meetings to help trusted servants plan ahead.
- Make sure you send her flyers of upcoming events to post in the *Link*.
- Deadline for article and flyer submissions for the next issue, to be distributed at the February Assembly is February 3, 2017.

Suffolk County DCMC (Tom)

- 20th Annual Suffolk County Unity Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 5, 2017. Theme is “Beyond Our Wildest Dreams.” Tickets are \$28: available at February 11 Assembly, Suffolk County website, or email Tom.

Nassau County DCMC (Regina)

- January 16, 2017, Workshop on Concepts 1 & 2 @ Nassau Intergroup Office @7 pm.

- Happy to be hosting the February 11, 2017 SENY Assembly @ Kellenberg Memorial High School in Uniondale.

Accessibilities/Special Needs (Nellie, Chair)

- Updated Accessibilities Workbook (and other newly revised materials) are not yet ready, but expected to be available this February. If you would like to know what is currently available, the website link is http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/accessibilities-committees.

Website (Chris S., Committee Member)

- In the process of setting up SENY email accounts for incoming rotation. Please contact Chris at email@aaseny.org if you believe you have been left out.

Old Business

Combining Treatment and Accessibilities/Special Needs Committees (John W.)

- At the November 7, 2016 SENY Committee Meeting, Jim W. made a motion to merge the two committees into one and to change the name in order to reflect changes made at the General Service Conference to the GSO committee desk assignments.
 - After considerable discussion it was decided that the motion would be tabled until January 2017, for consideration by members of the new rotation.
 - To follow up on Nellie's report: she received a letter from the GSO recommending that the term "Special Needs" be removed from the name of their committee.
- Jane reads the minutes from 11/7/16 detailing what was previously discussed in consideration of the motion presented.

Further Discussion

- Four speakers state their opposition to the motion, citing the importance of Accessibility/Special Needs in its own right, and a real need to keep the committees separate because of their large workloads and different practical tasks.
- A past delegate states that we are all "TAPs" — temporarily able-bodied people — and reminds us of the broad range of disabilities and challenges covered under the term "accessibilities" — and *our responsibility to reach those still suffering alcoholics* (who could very easily be us).
- A past delegate shares some background describing how at the General Service Conference Committee level, combining the two assignments made sense given that the *Committee's* workload on both assignments was light. He states that he does not think that it was ever meant to be combined at the practical service level — and would be shocked to find many Areas in the U.S. who have combined these committees — "At the General Service Conference, business-wise, it makes sense. Area-wise I don't see it making sense."
- An observation that most of our meetings are not wheelchair accessible, and even many SENY Assemblies are not accessible.

MOTION: The current SENY committees of Treatment and Accessibility/Special Needs be merged into one committee know as Treatment/Accessibilities to align itself with the General Service Office committee desk. Additionally, should this motion pass, Article VI of the area by-

laws will have to be amended by the Ad Hoc Publications Review Committee to reflect the change, including the appropriate footnotes related to SENY.

Motion fails, unanimously: Yes - 0 NO - 48 Abstentions - 0

Mileage Reimbursement

The following motion, proposed by the Ad Hoc Finance Committee, was tabled at the December 5, 2016 Committee Meeting, pending discussion with SENY's accountant to determine whether there would be any tax implications.

MOTION: The area mileage reimbursement is \$0.35 per mile when the average price* of regular unleaded gas is less than \$3/gallon, and \$0.40 per mile when the average price* of regular unleaded gas is above \$3/gallon." [* using the "average price" of gas in "Downstate NY" as determined by NYSERDA (New York State Energy and Research Development Authority) the "Downstate NY" <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/%20Researchers-and-Policymakers/Energy-Prices/Motor-Gasoline/Monthly-Average-Motor-Gasoline-Prices>.

- Michelle G., SENY's Treasurer contacted our accountant, who informed her, "your organization is too small to be on the IRS radar." But even if we were, there would be no tax implications and we would not be in jeopardy of losing our 501c3 status, as long as our reimbursement rate is less than \$0.54 per mile (the IRS suggested business reimbursement for mileage).
- Chair opens the meeting for discussion and a possible motion.
 - Treasurer clarifies that the current mileage reimbursement is \$0.40 per mile, and that this number was used when preparing the 2017 budget.
 - The Body declines to vote on the motion proposed by the Ad Hoc Finance Committee, and no new motion is put forward.

New Business

- What is the status of updating the SENY Handbook?
 - The Chair appreciates the reminder, and will be working on it.

MOTION to close.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. by Jane E., Area Chair with A.A.'s Declaration of Unity.

Thank you for participating and for your service!