

MAY 7, 2017 SENY COMMITTEE MEETING

7:31 p.m. Meeting called to Order by Jane E. [Chair]

Serenity Prayer and Preamble [English & Spanish]

Welcome to Delegate John W. on his return from the General Service Conference

Quorum established; Housekeeping [Voting, Time, modified Roberts Rules of Order]

Tonight's Spiritual Parliamentarian is Ray, Spiritual Vote Counter is Jane, and our Spiritual Timekeeper is Michael

Tonight, Grapevine and Convention Chairs will not be timed

One correction to minutes: there will be a Treasurer's Report at Assembly on Sunday; minutes accepted

No new trusted servants

COUNTY REPORTS

Westchester (Emma): very excited that the June 2nd post-conference Assembly will be in Westchester, people are very excited to hear the Delegate's report; been going to meetings to talk about service and seeing increased service in Westchester, seeing more people from halfway houses. The venue for Assembly has changed to Post Road School, 175 Post Road in White Plains, please let everyone know

Manhattan (Scott): Busy past month, had the Safety in AA Workshop for Hispanic Women at Spanish Central Office, with about 60 people in attendance. Wonderful sharing and discussion; thanks to all who contributed and participated

Bronx-Upper Manhattan (Barbara Ann): We have selected Lehman College for election Assembly, thanks all

Orange (Sherry): On April 29th had our Spiritual Breakfast, about 275 people attended; thanks to Grapevine for Rabbit Walks into a Bar skit; also had Joy of Service workshop following Manhattan's Safety in AA workshop and we have 2 people interested in starting Spanish meetings

Suffolk (Tom): Our Birthday Brunch is Sunday May 27th; was part of team that helped put on Manhattan's and Orange's workshops, over 110 attendees, saw people thinking, asking how to move forward, very special

Staten Island (Jerry): Things are quiet in SI; we're not meeting in May for the first time 33 years but will meet on June 10th. District 510 will have traditions workshop December 1st at Woodville Church, our Spiritual Breakfast will be November 25th

Rockland (Ray) yesterday was spiritual breakfast, approximately 340 people attended

Brooklyn (Mel): attended Orange County breakfast and Joy of Service workshop, our DCMs went to Rockland; looking forward to Post-Conference Assembly and looking forward to Nassau, will have tickets to Brooklyn's Spiritual Breakfast at Assembly

Hispanic (Consuela): Ramon (DCMC) and I (Alt-DCMC) are splitting events, he has Westchester, Rockland, and Orange & I am down here; Spanish Share-a-Day June 10th in Yonkers

Nassau (Regina): Nassau's roundtable discussion May 21st on Concepts V and VI at Nassau Intergroup 5/21; have tickets for Unity Breakfast, have tickets with me

OFFICER REPORTS

Delegate's Report

First the bad news, we were not successful in our bid for NERAASA 2021. Traditionally, the bid goes to the area that last hosted longest ago. Area 60, Western Pennsylvania, last hosted in 2002. SENY last hosted in 2011. Area 60 also had a hotel rate in Pittsburgh of \$109/night. Our bid was for \$136/night. Area 60 had the successful bid. We can certainly try again next year for 2022. And don't forget that SENY is hosting NERF the weekend of May 31- June 2, 2019!

I attended the Conference very well-informed. In addition to the feedback I received at the DDoS and the pre-Conference assembly, I received back over 400 questionnaires!!! 416 to be precise. Half online, and then evenly split between email and snail mail. Thank you again to Chris for getting it posted online, to Michael for distributing it by email, and Eddie and his team for translating it into Spanish so quickly

For tonight, I'm going to give you an update on what happened on just those 8 items:

The Corrections Committee discussed the request to create a new pamphlet for inmates who have been released after long-term incarceration and took no action. They felt current service materials could be revised for this purpose

The Conference recommended reprinting the God Word pamphlet and creating the new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women. The Conference recommended changing the subtitle of the GSR pamphlet and making the revisions to Living Sober. The Conference did not approve a recommendation to create a new book combining the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts essays. The Conference did not approve adding the appendix about the Library of Congress recognition. The Literature Committee took no action on adding the Preamble, the Responsibility Statement, or the endnote about Dr. Bob

The Trustees Committee thoughtfully reviewed a proposal to censure the General Service Board and after seeking extensive additional input from the general manager of the General Service Office, the chair of the General Service Board, and additional General Service Board trustees, agreed to take no action. They also reviewed a proposal to reorganize the boards and took no action

It was quite an experience. I'll provide much more detail on June 2. But one thing I mention in my Link article is that I had the unique opportunity to spend 4 ½ hours on the dais and at the microphone presenting the Literature Committee's report and answering questions as the Conference worked its way through each of our 14 Recommendations and 9 Additional Committee Considerations

It truly was a transformative experience. Though I'm not sure I fully understand how it changed me. In my spiritual journey, I've figured out that I don't need to figure it out

Q&A clarified that Delegate received 416 questionnaires. New literature: there will be a call for Spanish-speaking women to share, their submissions based on guidance that will be publicized; plan right now is to have it only in Spanish. May take a couple of years. Two different processes for AA publications; literature deals with recovery, which must be conference-approved, while safety and other guidelines do not go to conference and are prepared by staff

Alt-Delegate

Since the last we met I attended, reported, presented and spoke at:

-Apr 7 Hispanic Dist 214 Workshop-Made Presentation on The SENY Alt. Delegate, 161 N. Main St, Freeport, NY

-Apr 8 SENY Pre-Conference Assembly @ 8:30 am - 3:15 pm, St. Anthony's High School, 275 Wolf Hill Road, South Huntington, NY 11747

-Apr 8 NYCYPAA (New York City Young People In A.A.) Facilitated Special Elections mtg @ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, NYU, East 10th St-5th fl. NY, 10003

-Apr 15 Hispanic Asamblea/Assambly @ 9:30 – 3:00 pm Distrito Afitrion/Host Dist:714, Lugar de reunión de/Meeting place of : Grupo Mi Anelo, 511 E. 159th St, Bx NY

- Apr 15 NYCYPAA(New York City Young People In A.A.) meeting @ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, NYU, East 10th Street-5th fl. New York, NY 10003

Apr 21 Dist 601 Accessibility/Special Needs Workshop, AA Made Presentation on A/SN in Gen & the State/Activities of the A/SN Cmte of the Hisp. Dist's

@ 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm, Trinity Lower East Side, 602 E 9th St, New York, NY 10009

-Apr 22 Gen. Service Conference Opening Dinner, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1605 B'way, NY 10019

-Apr 23, 25 ,26 & 27 General Service Conference Hospitality Cmte Volunteer, Highland Park, Metro Museum, Top of the Rock, American Museum of Natural History, Tour of Chinatown & Lil' Italy, Closing Luncheon, etc.

-Apr 28 District 620 Service Workshop "AA-A Solution for All Generations" Made Presentation on the Structure of the Gen Svc Conference @ 8:30 am - 3:30 pm St Philips Episcopal Church, 204 W134th St New York, NY 10030

-May 5 Safety in AA Workshop – "Integridad, Justicia y Dignidad en A.A." (Integrity, Fairness and Dignity in A.A.) @ 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm, 14-11 5th Ave New York, NY 10029

-May 6 Rockland County Spiritual Breakfast @ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Crowne Plaza, 3 Executive Boulevard, Suffern, NY

-May 6 Joy of Service Workshop – Orange County, Themes: Every Job May Be the Most Important in AA, Integrity, Fairness and Dignity in A.A., Service is the Secret- The Secret We Must Not Keep (Presenters from a variety of Counties, The Hispanic Community, YPAA & Past Delegates, etc. @ 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Rte. 207, Campbell Hall, NY 10916

-If anyone would like a full copy of my report; please email me your request at altdelegate@aaseny.org

Chair

I'm a grateful alcoholic and my name is Jane E.- thrilled to be allowed to chair! The post conference assembly June 2 has a change in venue to the Post Road School, 175 West Post Road, White Plains. Thanks to Emma for getting this info to us in time for tonight!

Thank you past SENY delegates Bill and Linda for chairing the Hospitality committee for the General Service Conference, all the guests had a wonderful time and we volunteers did too; early volunteers also were invited to attend the Sunday evening General service conference opening dinner as Bill and Linda's guests. It was wonderful. If anyone is interested in my other "rounds" as I call them, I'd be happy to email them to you. chair@aaseny.org

The 2018 NYSIW in Utica is sold out of single rooms, but there are still doubles available. We are hosting the 2019 informational Workshop, and there are currently insufficient funds in the Special events Account to support reserving a date at a suitable venue. (So far, Graymoor has quoted \$6500- and Stony Point \$7000- to hold the date and in addition there will be seed money needed). I've talked to our treasurer about it. Please consider how we should make that happen.

After we hear tonight's final Convention report I'll be announcing the 2019 convention Chair (both will be repeated at the Assembly). Mike of Queens has rotated into the AHFC chair position and Teri G. DCM of 608 has signed on for the rest of the year. Please help me welcome Mike and Teri.

Handbook.....here is the proof [i.e., the new Handbook]! Richie the office manager will picking up the handbooks in time for the June 2 Assembly, so people can review the job descriptions before the elections in September. It will be on the website before the Assembly in place of the old one. The AA service manual lists requirements and general job descriptions for all of AA whereas the SENY Handbook has specifics. Once it's translated and printed in Spanish I'll bring it to the Asamblea. I'm so excited, and I cannot thank and KC, the DCMC's and this whole committee enough for your work on this edition of the SENY handbook. It will not be so cumbersome next time, KC has formatted editions that will be much easier to edit than this was.

Treasurer

Motion to Accept Report, Seconded, Accepted

Prudent reserve at 8.09 months, which is well within our range of 7-9 months, so taking seed money for NYSIW would not affect budget.

Point of Order made; discussion of money for NYSIW moved to new business

Registrar

I want to thank everyone. I have a lot going on right now – I'm studying intensively for the LSATs, and I'm on an apartment search that seems to hit every possible snag. But I've been able to fulfill my commitment, and it occurred to me in putting together this report that a huge number of people made that possible.

When I first started, the Registrar's work existed more or less in isolation from everyone else, and it was the definition of unmanageable. Whether a Registrar went far beyond what any service commitment should require, or refused to, didn't make that much difference. Either way, the information never seemed to stay up-to-date.

When we began our experiment with a shared database system, that changed. Just over two years ago, I started to work with the Queens Registrar, instead of by myself. More counties came aboard, to the point where we now have a whole team. Many DCMs and DCMCs have gotten involved through Views. GSRs actively send in new info and reply to the automated welcome emails with their missing info. I can't remember if it was unanimous or not, but at least almost everyone here voted to adopt the shared system. And even the critics have helped – their concerns have often pointed the way towards further improvements.

Here's what may feel like an anticlimactic conclusion to those shout-outs, but I promise it's not:

When I needed extra time for my personal life the most, I was able to spend about an hour per week on average to do a solid job fulfilling my commitment as Registrar. That wasn't possible before. Based on the stories I've heard at the NERAASA Registrar Roundtable for the last 3 years, ranging from uncomfortable to horrific, that's not possible for most Areas. As we approach rotation, what previously I had every reason to believe I can now confirm through my

own direct experience: it's now possible to serve as Registrar effectively and still have a balanced life.

Normally something like that would be the highlight of my report, but the Hispanic Districts have managed to one-up it. This past month, they voted to join the shared database system. We now have all 13 counties participating. When we first started, I thought we'd be lucky if a handful joined – I like to aim high, but I never thought we'd have 100% participation.

As soon as I take the LSATs on June 11, I'll discard this unnatural state of balance, and work on getting them aboard and my other open projects. I have already started setting something up so any English updates are automatically translated into Spanish, and vice versa, so the Hispanic Districts can experience the database entirely in their own language. At that point I will be bringing their administrator onto the shared database team.

So, thank you everyone for keeping an open mind, and bearing with me, and making the Registrar commitment manageable for my successors and for me.

Special Announcement

DCM 412 (Megan): We are discussing safety card and Group policies so if you have a disturbance policy can you talk/email me

Committee Reports

Grapevine/Lan Vina (Laura): attended multiple list of events, we have new books, including for military, Grapevine this month is on 8th Step

Accessibility (Nellie): successful workshop, thanks to Scott and Manny. A blind person with seeing eye dog attended, as well as a person who deaf who we had ASL for; also honored Cookie for being one of first advocates for accessibility 2 delegates and over 40 persons, much SENY participation. Next meeting June 1st, will get financials to Treasurer

Treatment (Kathy): Thanks for donations at recent meeting, being distributed to counties and people who go into meeting, will submit expenses soon. We are not meeting on Mother's Day.

Ad Hoc Finance (Terry for Mike): met twice already, reviewing SENY budget guidelines, looking at bank services & how Areas are handling, will meet later in May and June

Literature (Brendan): expenses low, will go up; if you need literature please contact me

Corrections (Mike): Expenses low, will put in; have been connecting w/ Intergroups around Area, make sure it's clear about difference between responsibilities between entities, been goof because we know who goes into Otisville and other prisons and lets us reach out to people in jails to let them know what we can do because some of them are going to prison New Chair in Queens. Attended Manhattan Share-a-Day. Next meeting May 20th. Had 12 requests for preleases

Link (Tom for Domi): Distributing Links

Agenda (Jeanne): Calendar updated, if you notice anything wrong contact me; printed out calendars, including changed venues

Archives (Richard): Next Meeting September 1st, oral archives ongoing, attending NYSIW and annual workshop in Chicago

PI & CPC (Bianca, also for Anthony CFC): Next meeting June, have new PI's from several counties, delivered PSA to Cirrus radio for NY audience for April radio play, sent out material to other PIs to let know them how to distribute PSAs, attend/will attend Manhattan Share-a-Day, the American Psychiatric Convention at Javits this week., could use help with Spanish speaks because we anticipate attendees from Chile and Brazil, Health Fair at FDR HS Brooklyn, will be at Brooklyn Share-a-Day, LBFT Expo, and Hispanic workshop

Service (Sally): Attended workshop in Nassau, went to all the Breakfast, helped new GSR's and DCM's

Translation (Eddie): Busy weekend, 5 events this weekend, want to keep workshop ball rolling, ant to pitch workshop to other Counties, with Queens next; at workshops had visitors from San Diego, NJ, CT

Office Manager (Richie): Am getting computer, hopefully by June. Contact me if you need assistance with

Recording Secretary (Mike): Thanks for sending to NERAASA; we discussed whether Secretaries should record exact votes; Areas usually do not because once that is what GSC and because group conscience is established that is what matters; it's not legislative history. I have made this change to minutes. In other Areas the Secretary reports, and the Secretary will report going forward. I wrote a LINK article; although I did not mention NERAASA it was reminder to me that minutes are important because it is what we leave for posterity, and what we are taking down is not just the group conscience but our 12th Step work

Convention (Mike): Penultimate Convention Report: first, thanks to John W and Terry F, past-delegates, for help. Although not final we had 1,054 registrations and 300 banquets. We are waiting to see if some speakers will claim expenses (some do, some do not)

Hospitality room panel (rental) was additional \$375, video screen rental was \$275, podium \$525. The big expense was loss of room block, where 547 rooms went to 476 over last few days, which cost \$3,700. Will return \$6,000 in seed money and will next roughly \$7,500. With regard to cancelled rooms, there is a way to avoid charges by using Al-Anon's method, which involves them collecting all the money, but that requires us to do a tremendous lot of work because we can't use hotel customer service for return policies.

Q&A clarified that special edition of LINK came out of LINK budget. Discussion clarified that some people, possibly even 20 or 30, use maxed cards; when they show up (or don't show up) they can't pay, and one thing is that although we would like a one-night charge when booking that's not Marriott's policy, and we are not big enough to ask for change to corporate policy

New Business

Nisaa A. is announced as 2019 SENY Convention Chair

Motion to bring up Special Events Account to \$8,000 from \$3,996 from Prudent Reserve and that Special Accounts should be restored to \$8,000 at the end of the event; **Seconded**

Discussion clarified that we use 7-9 months as prudent reserve and if we use this money we are still in window. The Special Events budget line is different from Account; the Account is not listed on budget, and this is money for future events. The Line is for funding officers like Recording Secretary to go to events like NERAASA. Special Events is funding events like NYSIW, would be NERAASA. Motion will take allow money to be taken from Special Events and then be restored when Event is over.

Motion to Postpone Debate; **Seconded, Passed**

After Minority Opinion heard, opinions changed; **Discussion Reopened**

Need to spend money to get space for events; price will go up if we delay. Treasurer clarified that the Special Events Account is different from financial reports presented by Treasurer and is funded when we have Special Events

Special Events Motion Re-Voted; Passed

7th Tradition is \$135

Declaration of Unity

9:37 p.m. Meeting Closes