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FINAL APPROVED 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, November 7, 2016 (7:30-9:30
PM)**

ACTION ITEMS:

LINK Articles: Send LINK articles for next issue to link@aaseny.org by Nov 30.

(7:00pm) New DCM Orientation – Saadi (Nueva Orientación DCM)

Meeting called to order @ 7:32pm

- *Serenity Prayer* Rick W., Chair
- *Daily Reflection (Reflexión Diaria)* – Mike H, DCMC Queens County
- *Preamble* –Sherry, DCMC Orange County / *Preambulo* – Rosa, Translator
- *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

Approval of Minutes from Previous Committee Meetings *(Aprobación del Acta de la reunión anterior del Comité)*

- *Motion made and seconded to approve Oct minutes.*
- *Yes= 33 No= 0 Abs = 2*

Motion Carries

Introductions (Presentaciones)

- *New DCM's and DCMC's (Nueva de DCM y DCMC)*
- *Past Delegates & Guests (Los Delegados y Huéspedes Anteriores)*
- *Upcoming events: Visit www.aaseny.org for more details about events.*
- *Thank you service chefs and Kevin Mch. for setup*

Officer Reports (Informes Oficial)

Delegate: Jim W., delegate@aaseny.org

- Since we met in Oct I have been visiting and doing inventories and attending workshops and breakfasts. I will speak to Putnam General Service to speak about the 7th tradition and what should be done with funds.
- I have received correspondence from GSO- strategic plan was approved on 2/1/16, and I will pass it on to John W. Mission, Vision and Action to be guided by our 12 Steps, Traditions and Concepts: Reaching out the hand of AA; Improving relations and communications; Financial Planning visibility of GS Board, increase 7th tradition participation. This was stated that 74% of GS Conference of 2015 and 82% in 2016 were not in favor of increasing individual contribution amounts, but rather want to increase percentage of groups that contribute in order to address the real problem. Have sound financial planning for the GS Board and operating corporations including the downsizing of GS Office and Grapevine merging into one, eliminating some desks, etc.

- AAWS History bundle as a special holiday gift set at price point of \$30 per set available for a limited time from 10/1/16 through 1/31/2017 available in English, French and Spanish. Continuing work on revised draft publications for “AA For The Woman”, “AA and the Gay or Lesbian Alcoholic”, “Alcoholics with Mental Illness”. We should hear more about that shortly.
- from GSO net sales of \$7,770,863 or \$132,292 or 1.7% more than the budget. Contributions were \$343,468 more than the budget and improvement in condition over the June meeting. A profit was made instead of the loss that was predicted. It was noted that contributions got off to a very slow start in 2016, however things have improved each month. Increased communication has helped the financial situation. There has been more circulation of the 7th tradition facts sheet and that seems to be helping.
- **Questions:**
 - Strategic Planning was result of brainstorming earlier in the year?** Partial, it is an ongoing process.
 - I would like to see some of the workshops or assemblies educating us because I don’t know if there is enough time at the Delegates Day of Sharing. The comprehensive media plan is quite detailed and could need more information given to the GSRs so we can have a more informed group conscience.**

Alternate Delegate: John W., altdelegate@aaseny.org

County-level events since we last met on October 3 include:

- Participated in a service workshop in Orange on the Twelve Concepts and in Brooklyn on Group Inventories. I attended the LISTS workshops and ESCYPAA-3 out in Suffolk, and the District 613 PI workshop in Manhattan with Preston and Nisaa as presenters.
- Helped with the elections in Queens County, the Hispanic Districts, and NYCYPAA.
- Went to SENY’s Joy of Service workshop hosted by Nassau this past Saturday. Three terrific panels focused on “Supporting Our Future” – the theme for the 67th GSC in April 2017.
- Attended the Bronx/Upper Manhattan breakfast yesterday.
- Chaired the Service Participation meeting on October 13 where among other things, we discussed how to use the Final Conference report as a service tool. Our final SPC is on December 8. On the agenda is the Strategic Plan.
- Participated in a North East Regional conference call. Fifteen of the 18 areas were represented. Some good news, revenue is up in all categories: contribution, literature and Grapevine sales. There are more specifics in my Link article.
- Last week there was a Grapevine Online Exclusive article published entitled “Thirteenth Stepping and the Damage Done” from a woman from Suffolk County. I printed some copies, but hope you all already subscribe to the GV online!
- As a reminder, please consider attending the Hispanic Convention on November 12 and 13 in Ronkonkoma. It’s a great time – lots of food and fellowship. Last year there was a great history presentation and they even had a mariachi band as part of the entertainment!
- Please check out my article in the next Link with information about giving a monthly automatic donation online. It is easy to arrange and can be done at www.aa.org

Questions:

Are the service participation workshops are going to continue? Yes it changes every rotation for when they will be. Manny will alert the incoming DCMC’s and their alternates.

Question about the revenue increase. Is that a seasonal bump or is it brand new? The quarterly report from AAWS was that 7th tradition contributions had a slow start. The numbers given are that this is bucking the trend of what they expected. Not sure it has to do with seasonality. This is offsetting a 2.5 million overall deficit but all info is in the final Conference Report.

Treasurer: Manny A., treasurer@aaseny.org

1. August and September financials were distributed.

Motion to accept August made by Colleen and seconded by Steve

Question: We have an uncleared check from February, is that being addressed? Yes

Y = 32 N = 0 Abs = 2

Motion carries.

Motion to accept September made by Kevin and seconded by Michele

Question: What do we do with our extra money? What usually happens is that it carries forward to the following year to supplement the next year budget.

PO Box Rental has not been paid? I just paid that, we had to wait until we get the bill from the post office.

If it is earmarked for something, does it stay there? SENY does not accept earmarked funds.

Y = 38 N = 0 Abs = 2

Motion carries.

2. Since we last met I attended the Hispanic Asamblea and assisted with the elections, I attended the NYCYPAA elections, I attended Service Participation, I attended LICYPAA, I attended an Inventory and conducted an Inventory. I attended LIST and will be attending the Hispanic Convention and the remaining Service Participation.

3. 7th Tradition passed - \$154

Registrar: Fred M., registrar@aaseny.org

- English-speaking email newsletter subscribers up by 3.5% to 1,965 for the October campaign with a 34% open and 3% click rate. This may be our baseline, but too early to tell because the rotation coming to a close is a confounding variable.
- We did not deploy a Spanish-translated version because I did not hear back from one of our translation go-tos and I dropped the ball on following up with others. Very sorry to the Hispanic Districts.
- I created an automated so new subscribers will receive a confirmation that they're subscribed.
- For the members of counties that have opted into the shared database AND have an email newsletter, you can now see / change your county email newsletter opt-in status using the Assembly and Committee meeting sign-in sheets.
- Thank you once again to Fran from Nassau for taking most of them manual postal mailing stuff off my plate. The number of postal mail subscribers continues to decrease.
- When people opted out of postal mail from the Area, I passed on their address to GSO and deleted it from our database. I've switched to always retaining addresses to be able to include them in the sign-in sheets, so if your address changes I'll be more likely to find out and I can pass that onto GSO since they only do postal mailings (for those registered in FNV).
- I am no longer automatically opting people into postal mail by default to people who only provide a mailing address.
- Soon we'll be able to mail from any USPS commercial location instead of only two Manhattan locations.
- Made some changes to how we process our mail which will save about \$700 per year plus up to \$.045 per piece. We are also no longer tied to the Area laptop to create the mailing labels. Label creation now takes 5-10 min. instead of 30-90 min.
- 61% of registered DCMs (42) have Airtable Views for their district.
- Views now include the participation analytics: the percentage at which groups had voting representation when they were entitled to it; and which Assemblies (and in the case of the districts, also Committee meetings) they had representation at.
- Further improved support materials, incl. how to use the participation analytics to be a more effective DCM.
- 3 DCMs have requested text alerts (in addition to emails) when new groups or GSRs in their district are added to the database.
- I have eliminated duplicate mailings from GSO for DCMs of clusters.
- 10 of our 13 counties have opted into the shared database. 5 are fully up & running; making progress with the implementation for the others.

- Reduced time it takes to create sign-in sheets from 90 min. to 2 min. and made the method available to opted-in counties.
- Groups in Airtable: 1301; In FNV: 1565 Active, 326 Inactive or unknown.
- 41% participation at June Committee meeting, 9% at June assembly, 13% at September Assembly, 38% at October Committee meeting.
- **Q: Confused about opting in for county email newsletter?** Previously a Registrar would have to enter the information twice – once in the shared database, and again in Mailchimp – but if you add their email to the database and check off their opt-in status, it will automatically push the information into the appropriate Mailchimp account.
- **Contributions are at 37% from SENY to GSO; participation analytics were at 38% is; are they correlated?** No – 38% was for the October Committee meeting, not our Assemblies. And we’re using different group totals to calculate that percentage.
- **If a person registers with you and they do not check off opt-in mail or opt-in email they will not get anything.** I am not sending anything to people that they have not requested. We’re much less likely to get engagement from that person, so it’s more useful for a DCM to know where things really stand and know to try to identify a contact who actually wants to hear from us. **My concern is if there are 1561 active groups and we have an address, we need to send them info since we have the address. How are we getting that information to that individual or the group?** I think we both have the same goal in mind, but a different perspective on how to get there.
- **How can we reduce the difference in our numbers and GSO’s?** GSO has certain policies that make it very difficult to clean up their data. **Are you aware that they have sent all of these long sheets of groups, can we clean that up?** GSO does not allow us to clean up the data until we get someone new in there. I can’t clean this up as much as I would like.

Chair: Rick W., chair@aaseny.org

- **SENY Handbook Revisions:** Right after our last committee meeting, I sent a note back over to the AHPR committee with some suggestions that were given to me to revise the layout of the suggested changes to the handbook and asked them to get it back over to me so I could send it out. I reached out to the chair to get an update and received the following email back from him today: **“I contacted John W., the former chair of the committee and we are just working out the time and place to meet and review logistics. I would bet we can get a revision done, say 4-6 weeks after we meet.”**
- **Area Inventory Update:** I’ve already had 2 transition meetings with our next Area Chair, Jane E., and we have one left. At that meeting, I will be reviewing the items left to accomplish on the inventory with Jane. She will be working with the new Officers in the next rotation to get it finished.
- **Reminder: November Assembly Workshops:**
 - GSR Workshop titled **“How to Create a GSR Report for the Home Group”** that will be led by the GSR from the Port Jefferson Group in Suffolk County, Melissa J.
 - DCM Workshop titled, **“Suggestions on How to Light a Dim District”** that will be led by DCM from District 601 (and Alternate DCMC-Elect for Manhattan General Service) , Ivan D.
 - **New GSR Orientation session** led by SENY’s Service Sponsorship Chair, Jamie S.
 - **DCMC’s** - please make sure all the GSRs & DCMs in your County know about these great workshops that will provide them some really great information in helping them to do their jobs.

2017 Convention Registration: Operationally, there were some issues with the online registration piece on the website, but the website committee worked over this past weekend to get it fixed and I believe it is either ready to go now or will be ready in the next few days after some testing. I believe our Convention Chair, Janice M. will touch on this during her report later on this evening.

Joy of Service Workshop: I, too, wanted to personally thank Nassau County for the wonderful job they did at our “Joy of Service” workshop this past weekend. It was well attended and the panelists did a great job sharing information on the upcoming GS conference theme, “Supporting Our Future.” One thing that was shared by Ben U. from Queens was the report from the 2012 GSC Workshop on “Safety in A.A. - Our Common Welfare.” At the

workshop, I told the body that I would work with the website committee to get that report loaded to the SENY website because it was full of helpful information for GSRs to help their home groups better understand this topic. I sent it over to Jon O. our web chair yesterday asking him to get it loaded so folks could download it. Hopefully we will have that up and loaded within the next few days. Under "Other Useful Links"

Recurring Contributions Online to AAWS:

Also at the Joy of Service workshop this past weekend, our Alt. Delegate, John W. reminded the body that AA members are able to go online to AA.org and sign up for recurring contributions to AA. John mentioned that he recently signed up for those and after being reminded about it, and I did as well - thanks John. I encourage DCMCs, DCMs and GSRs to share that information with everyone in your Counties, Districts and home groups to remind all members of AA that they can make recurring contributions online to AA. Here is the URL they can go to set that up: <https://ctb.aaws.org/Login.aspx>

Questions:

- **Does Jamie still have any of the old SENY Handbooks left?** Jamie will be there on Saturday with whatever amount of handbooks are left.
- **Is there a minimum amount that a recurring could be?** I don't think so.
- **On the website the NERASAA is listed from 2016 instead of 2017 info.** That will be fixed.
- **Can you give a one-time donation online?** Yes

Old Business (Asuntos Pendientes)

Accessibility and Special Needs Names: presented by Jim W. Delegate.

At the conference, the committee recommended changing name to Treatment and Accessibility Committee Instead of Accessibility and Special Needs Committee and Treatment Committee

- **Motion made by Jim:** The current SENY committees of Treatment and Accessibility/Special Needs be merged into one committee known 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
- **Seconded by John W.**

Discussion:

Would there be two chairs? No, one chair

Just because GS is doing it doesn't mean we have to do it. It is a lot of work to go to one chair.

I understand we don't have to do what GSO does,

Whether or not this passes tonight, do we bring this back to our counties for the same consideration? That is for each county to decide

There is plenty of work for each chair to do, we should not combine these.

Legal ramifications of changing our bylaws since we are a 501c3 people? Yes we can notify the appropriate authorities about the change in our bylaws

In my opinion, combining the two would be very difficult

I would like to know the brass tacks, what is the benefit? The reason for the motion, is there is not enough work for both committees to function on their own. The GSO has determined there is not enough work for both.

Give people time to discuss and bring information back at the January meeting

Point of information, the chair is likely to appoint people to both committee chairs before January

Motion to postpone until January made by Steve seconded Frank

Yes = 31 No = 6 Abs = 5

Motion carries by simple majority, no minority opinion on postponing. Postpone to January, it will be presented by next delegate

Motion by Brian to change Special Needs/Accessibilities to Accessibilities. No second to motion.

New Business (Asuntos Nuevos)

- **None**

DCM Best practices:

- **DCM 404** – we have come up against a meeting space that has 14 to 15 meetings, but they are not a club house and there is a governing committee to facilitate the group. The committee wanted to put the sexual harassment posters up and the GSR's are upset by it. This committee has non-AA members on the committee. If anyone has experience with this, please share it with me.

Standing Committee Reports

Literature – Advisory Actions \$2.50 and the holiday gifts, please let me know. They are sending them free shipping. Please let me know and I can have them ready for the December meeting

SENY Convention – It is going to be awesome lots of fun and fellowship. Copies of registration fliers are here. BxUM will be hosting the kick off meeting. The best way to register is by mail from the flier.

Archives – I will give a report next month on how we preserve our documents. There is lots for us to do to preserve our documents and our history.

Treatment – When I started in May of 2015, I had a list of 9 T/F people but participation went down. Every report I have given I encourage DCM's to have their reps come to the meeting, but they have not shown up at all. Please attend our meetings. Please make sure you read the minutes from all of the prior meetings where I am asking the same thing.

PI/CPC – speaker training on Saturday 11/19 in Westchester County 10-12 It is on the agenda sheet and on the SENY website. We can bring this in to groups and to counties if they are interested.

Intergroup Liaison – Bill W dinner is November 12th. Need to keep information current for 5 borough meeting list through NY Intergroup. My last meeting will be Sunday 12/11 in Suffolk County Intergroup

Agenda – There are printouts of the agenda, please take them for your groups. Please have people check for conflicts

Brooklyn – A few tickets for spiritual breakfast 12/4
-Election Day Alkathon Mt Carmel Williamsburg

Queens County – NYE Dance

Hispanic Convention – this weekend in Suffolk county. Take fliers

Staten Island – Tradition workshop 12/10

Westchester County – NYE party in Bronxville Asbury 12/31 7pm speaker, \$25 for dinner dance after

DCM 412 – Christmas Day Alkathon pick up fliers

2017 Budget meeting all current chairs and officer 12/3 at 10am at the SENY office.

Motion to Close

Meeting adjourned 9:41 pm @ by Rick W., Area Chair with A.A.'s Declaration of Unity

Thank You for Participating and for Your Service!

NEXT AREA 49 COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, December 5, 2016 – 7:30pm – 9:30pm
Church of the Holy Family, Mechler Hall
2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472-5402

NEXT AREA 49 ASSEMBLY

Saturday, November 12, 2016 – 9:15am – 3:15pm
[HOST: SUFFOLK COUNTY]
Bayport United Methodist, 482 Middle Road, Bayport, NY
11705