

SENY Assembly Meeting Minutes - Approved
Sunday, November 10, 2019
(Hosted by Rockland County)

Assembly Opening & Welcome by Jerry R. (Area 49 Chair)

Serenity Prayer, Housekeeping

Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2019 Assembly

Motion to accept, seconded, minutes approved.

Spiritual Parliamentarian: Bill C., Vote Counters: Rich L., Brian, Frank, Timekeeper: Marty K.

Presentation on Robert's Rules of Order by Bill C.

OFFICER REPORTS

Delegate – Jane E.: (delegate@aaseny.org)

I am delighted to announce that at its quarterly meeting last weekend, the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous voted to put forward John W. (SENY's Panel 67 delegate) for appointment as a non-trustee director on the board of AA World Services. This now becomes an agenda item for April's General Service Conference. Once approved by that body, John will start his term on the board of AAWS immediately following the Conference.

To Past Delegate John W. Panel 67: I can't wait to vote for you!

Q: How long will John W's term be? A: one year term renewable four times

My primary role is to go the GSC prepared.

93 Areas in the US and Canada. The reason we exist and have Assemblies is because of the General Service Conference (GSC). If we did not have the GSC, the Area would not need to exist. We are Area 49 of the 93, Southeastern NY, we call ourselves SENY.

Regions: 8 in the US and Canada Ours is the Northeast Region (NER) of AA, Maine to Maryland.

You will hear more about our International Convention SENY Hospitality Room and volunteering opportunities from Melissa and Scott, the co-chairs of the SENY Hospitality room.

In addition, the NER will have a Hospitality Room at the International convention (IC). SENY Committee members please note: The NER will not accept a monetary contribution. The NER Hospitality Room at the International Convention will welcome flyers for upcoming events from Counties, the Area, and Districts, and will welcome any volunteers who want to volunteer outside our own Hospitality room. Let me know.

The theme for the 2020 IC is "Love and Tolerance is our Code"

I am a NERD, a Northeast Regional Delegate.

The Northeast Regional Trustee is abbreviated NERT. Our NERT is Francis G., subject to Conference approval following the April 2020 General Service Conference, the General Service Board (GSB) recommends that Francis G. serve as Trustee-Director on the AA Grapevine Corporate Board.

Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly, NERAASA will be February 20-23. Flyers here, site up on screen (lower left of SENY Homepage has "Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly"). NERAASA described.

Reminder, hotels for these events fill up fast.

Would you like me to bid on the 2023 NEARAASA to be here in SENY? (The Assembly agrees by acclamation).

"From the delegate" page on our site, whenever you email me the link is under my signature.

Screen changed to "From the Delegate" page

General Service representatives (GSRs), Alternate GSRs (AGSRs) and visitors, raise your hands, look around, everyone else is here to serve you. Tradition 2 and 9, Concept 9 (leadership). The SENY committee is responsible to those we serve, the groups and members in Southeastern NY (Tradition 2 and 9, Concept 9). I invite you to keep us accountable.

I encourage all GSRs and AGSRs to work together as a team, working in unity makes us better servants and it's more fun that way. The alternate delegate & I have found that we serve better working in unity as a team. And we get to talk to each other about the *principles* involved in what happened.

Unity does not mean that we all agree on everything, unity means that when we disagree, we do so with good manners and respect.

When I came to an Assembly for the first time, I was treated with dignity and respect, and it made me want to return! Then I went to an intergroup service workshop where they told me that “97% of the people involved in service below the group level stay sober” and I liked the odds. I came back to the next Assembly as an Alternate General Service Representative for my group.

This is put out by GSO as service material:

Safety Card read

My primary role is to go to the GSC prepared.

Our Area Chair is our business/administrative leader of our Area

Held up SENY Handbook.

One of the chair’s duties is to mediate as needed,

If you have been treated with hostility, or feel unsafe here, please bring it to the attention of our Chair. One of the Chair’s jobs is to mediate. If you’re shy, & you’d be more comfortable, bring another member with you, our Alternate Delegate Tom or I are happy to go with you to the Chair. Do so the same day, so it can be addressed, and we can practice unity, love and tolerance.

The deadline for submitting proposed agenda items for the 70th GSC is December 15, 2019. This is our last Assembly before the deadline. We have one more Committee meeting before the deadline.

Please read my LINK article.

Seventh Tradition Fact sheet was revised and is here. AA has never been fully self-supporting from our own contributions. Did you know that AA members can make recurrent monthly contributions starting at \$5/month on aa.org? As long as it doesn’t come to more than \$5000 a year. However, there is no limit as to what a group, district, Intergroup or Area can contribute. I’m positive that the Conference will never become the seat of perilous wealth (Concept 12).

Save the Date Flyer for the Delegate’s Day of Sharing (DDoS) is here. Reminded Body of move of date of Pre conference Assembly to 4/4 and time for groups to respond.

Delegate’s Rounds (visits). Thank you for my life. Questions

Alternate Delegate – Tom B. (altdelegate@aaseny.org)

Good morning / Buenos Dias – I have the joy to serve all of you as your alt delegate.

Special shout out to WORYPAA

One of my jobs as your Alternate Delegate is to be your Area Inventory Steward. SENY typically holds an Area Inventory at the last Assembly of each rotation. As trusted servants, we try to keep the messages we received from you in front of us in the current rotation. You picked up a handout this morning about the one a year ago, complete with recurrent themes and an Action Plan.

I mentioned trusted servants a moment ago. There are around 35 Officers, DCMCs and Standing Committee Chairs listed on the back of your Links, with contact information. Additionally, there are roughly 50 active DCMs and Past Delegates that stand ready to serve you. These 85 or so people are your SENY Committee.

How do I know all these things? The SENY service handbook and service manual

Everyone here knows our Primary Purpose as alcoholics – we hear it at every meeting in the Preamble, as we heard it this morning. In addition, we know from the 5th Tradition what each Group’s Primary Purpose is. But your SENY Committee has a Primary Purpose, too – it’s to support our GSRs, by responding to the needs of you and your group. And if you’ve had any dealings with any of the Committee members, you know we take our jobs pretty seriously.

Back to the Inventory. I’d like you to notice a sentence in the first paragraph of the Action Plan: “It will be up to all of us in Panel 69 to determine any changes to be implemented”. That’s not all of us [indicate officers], that’s all of us [the room]. Because we, the Committee serve you, the GSRs and your Groups. And to do that effectively, you need to communicate with us – specifically – as to how we can serve you.

A question for the GSRs: before today, how many of you had looked on the SENY website, under From the Delegate, at the contents of the Area Inventory, or for that matter, at the AA Communications Audit? The former is at

the heart of keeping SENY healthy and vibrant; the latter is the same thing, for all of AA. So we will continue to invite you to use the great resources – human, printed and electronic –which we do our best to provide you.

Do you need to know about the best piece of literature for a situation? Do you want to know how to find something on the SENY website? Would you like one of us to speak at your group, facilitate a group inventory, or just take the time to sit and answer your questions about General Service? The answer to all these questions is the same: ask us!

So, what part of the Area Inventory affects your Group, or impacts you? How can we Support you? What are your challenges with Diversity, Accessibility and Inclusiveness? How can our mutual Communication needs be updated, enhanced, or remedied?

We stand ready to serve you; all you have to do is ask.

I am – better yet, we are – available to facilitate Group and County Inventories, meetings or workshops on Traditions or Concepts. We would love to come visit your group. And beyond being available, we are excited, delighted and honored to be of any service we can to SENY, and to AA as a whole.

Thank you for allowing us to serve each and every one of you! Preguntas?

Chair – Jerry R., (chair@aaseny.org)

Please pick up your LINKS before the end of the day.

Thanks to Roberto for doing the translation today.

Reading of Concept 11.

Gratitude Month - Our chance to say “Thank You”. “ The idea is in the air that A.A. might adopt Thanksgiving week as a time for meetings and meditation on the Traditions”, A.A. co- founder Bill W. wrote in the November 1949 issue of the Grapevine (The Language of the Heart, p.95) shortly after the publication of the Traditions. Many groups have set aside all of November as marking the occasion with special contributions to G.S.O. in the spirit of the Seventh Tradition.

The Office Manager position has been split into three parts; Coffee and setup at the meetings will be George D. (Bronx DCMC), Electronics will be Liz P., and the SENY office is Jeff P.

New archivist: Cathy M. (former digital archivist). James D. will step in as interim digital archivist.
I am available for county and group inventories.

Treasurer – JoAnn M. (treasurer@aaseny.org)

Review of January through September report:

Statement ending balance \$67,727.76

Motion to accept Treasurer’s report, seconded, motion passed.

Review of January through October report:

Prudent reserve closing balance: \$111,249.95

Convention Account: \$3,000.00 seed money

Bank statement ending balance \$79,669.09

Motion to accept Treasurer’s report, seconded, motion passed.

Registrar - Mike D. (registrar@aaseny.org)

Regarding our shared database Airtable, I had two trainings for country registrars on December 10th. I will be having an on-line web training for DCM’s and DCMC’s on Airtable use. The GSO database, FMB, is finally closed down as they shift to their new and approved database. When I get access in the first quarter of 2020, I will communicate new group Netsuite numbers to the DCM’s and DCMC’s. Reminder: New group numbers will co-exist with old group numbers for a time. New groups will only get a Netsuite group number. Read article in LINK. Groups should continue to use old group number for communications with GSO in the meantime. I have new group forms. If any groups need their group number, please ask me. Regarding the National AA Tech Workshop that I went to last September, I wrote an article for the LINK. I will speak at any county meetings in the area about what I learned at the Tech Workshop.

2020 SENY Convention Chair, Richie N.: (convention@aaseny.org)

Theme: *A Clear Vision for You*. Flyer is available in English and Spanish. On-line registration for convention is in process. Should be up and ready by the end of this week. If you would like to register for hotel, you can go on-line to book your group rate for the SENY convention. Use code on flyer: "Book your group rate for SENY convention". Group rate is \$134.00 per night, plus tax. If you use any other site to register, SENY will not get credit for room nights. Budget is balanced. Convention meetings: Sunday, December 15th at SENY office, 11:00, (program meeting at 9:00), January 12th at 9:00 a.m., February 2nd (walk through and tasting at Marriott) at 9:00 a.m., March 8th at 9:00 a.m. Looking for someone from YPAA to come to our meetings. If you want to get involved with any committees, please come to our meetings.

Entertainment Chair, Antonio: Looking for people that are talented. Rappers, singers, poets. Perhaps variety show, karaoke, singing, comedy. Saturday night we will recreate Soul Train and have a Soul Train dance party. Call Antonio 347-807-7566.

Greeter Chair, Laura G.: Will need volunteers from Friday 6:00 pm til Sunday morning. Will be a sign-up sheet at the convention. Will be a block of two hours. Please contact Laura, 347-387-7302.

Hospitality Chair, Brian: two-hour blocks. 347-455-2710. Needs volunteers.

Program Chair, Kevin M.: 516-384-6517. Will be there at 9:00 12/15.

LUNCH & FELLOWSHIP

OLD BUSINESS

Motion from the GSR of the TRANScend Group: That our trusted servants at Grapevine Inc. change the language of the AA preamble to as follows "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of **people** who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

Motion to take motion off the table, Seconded, passed, Motion is off the table.

Motion is re-stated, motion is seconded, discussion, 103 in favor, 57 opposed, 8 abstentions

Motion for a recount, seconded. Parliamentarian Bill C. rules we do not have a process for recount, that a motion to reconsider could be done. Simple majority needed to reconsider the motion. 103 for reconsidering the motion
Discussion, 95 in favor, 52 opposed. Motion does not carry

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion from Suffolk County: To Create a Podcast to better carry the A.A. Message. Motion seconded, question called, seconded, 105 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions. Motion passes

3:15 p.m. Meeting close with A.A.s Declaration of Unity

Next SENY Committee Meeting: Monday, December 2, 2019, 7:30 pm-9:30 pm
Church of the Holy Family, 2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472

Next SENY Assembly: Sunday, February 9, 2020, 8:30 am-3:15 pm,
Nassau Community College, One Education Drive, Garden City, NY 11530