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FINAL 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, October 3, 2016 (7:30-9:30 PM)

ACTION ITEMS:

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

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

Meeting called to order @ 7:34pm

- Serenity Prayer Rick W., Chair
- Daily Reflection (*Reflexión Diaria*) – Nissa, PI Chair
- Preamble – Kathy B., Agenda Chair/ *Preambulo* – Alfredo, DCMC Hispanic District
- 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 May minutes.
- Yes= 35 No= 0 Abs = 4

Motion Carries

- Motion made and seconded to approve June minutes
- Yes = 31 No = 0 Abs = 6

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 June, I conducted several group inventories and attended a few share a days and the Al-Anon convention, the NYS Information Workshop in Buffalo, Convention meetings, the Fairfield Connecticut, SENY elections, Rockland County Workshop and Manhattan GS Workshop.
- There are three counties left to pick up conference reports from the SENY office. Please make arrangements to pick up conference reports.

- I was informed one of our past delegates underwent surgery, we will have a card at the November Committee meeting to send him good wishes. I am told he is doing well. And resting at home.

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

Since we last met in June...

Highlights from the Alternate Delegate – October 3, 2016

County-level events since we last met on June 6 include:

- In June, I participated in Brooklyn's Share a Day and the Hispanic Districts' Share a Day.
 - In July, I attended NYCYPAA's boat party, the Asamblea in Suffolk, and chaired the Service Participation Committee meeting.
 - In August, I presented on AA's financial health for Manhattan County and attended the Asamblea in Nassau.
 - In September, I attended Queens' Share a Day, the Asamblea in Queens, and Westchester's Share an Evening. And I presented at a Rockland County service workshop and I help facilitate Brooklyn County's elections.
 - This past weekend I presented at a Manhattan County service workshop, and I'm scheduled to participate in service workshops later this month in Orange and Brooklyn. I'll also be helping with the elections in Queens County and with the Hispanic Districts. I'll be attending the LISTS workshop on October 15 and ESCYPAA-3 the weekend of October 29, both events are in Suffolk. And the next Service participation meeting is on October 13.
 - Lastly, 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!
- As always, I am grateful for the privilege to serve.

Treasurer: Manny A., treasurer@aaseny.org

1. June and July financials were distributed.

Motion to accept June made and seconded.

Y = 37 N = 0 Abs = 2

Motion carries.

Motion to accept July made and seconded.

Question about "Other Miscellaneous Expenses is at 978.36%" It was explained that these were two items that needed to be paid back. They were paid back.

Y = 42 N = 0 Abs = 1

Motion carries.

2. 7th Tradition passed - \$ 139

Registrar: Fred M., registrar@aaseny.org

Slight decreases in click rates and open rates for the email newsletter, which may be due to seasonality. Subscribers have grown by 176 to 1,966 between our May and September campaigns, which represents a 10% increase. For postal mailings, we've had a 10% decrease in the number of English subscribers.

I automated reimbursement requests to the Treasurer.

I finally managed to update our account information with USPS, so Susan Flynn is no longer the point of contact.

I found and basic security vulnerability with FNV (GSO's database) and brought it to their attention.

I provided the Link Editor with Airtable "Views" for DCMs, DCMCs, and Area Officers & Area standing Committee Chairs, so that she will always have real-time access to those emails in order to get in touch with them about The Link.

I've created a "View" in the Area database for Manny, so that he can use it as a reference when inputting group contributions into Quickbooks. This will make the Treasurer's work more efficient, and will also harness the Treasurer's work to help improve our database.

I've recreated GSO's new group form using Airtable to make it easier to fill out, and easier for the Registrar to process it: aaseny.org/new-group.

Previously DCMs and DCMCs with "Views" could choose whether they wanted alerts for new records, or both new *and* updated records. Now alerts are only triggered for new records, which makes sure DCMs and DCMCs are not inundated with alerts that aren't that useful, and also has the additional benefit of simplifying the workflow of the Area and County Registrars.

The new voicemail system is operational and costing us \$80 less per month. Our response time ranged from 1 to 4 weeks, and now on average it's under 24 hours. We've also had several people use it to text.

I overhauled the support materials for DCMs with Airtable "views" for their districts. Instead of a long email, it's now a slideshow presentation that you can bookmark so if I make any edits it will always be the most up-to-date version. At this point, a third of all DCMs have claimed their "Views"!

At the invitation of the DCMCs, I attended the Queens, Manhattan, Staten Island, and Suffolk General Service Meetings to speak about the offer I've made to all counties: to collaborate with the Area by using the same database & tool to radically simplify registration for GSRs.

In June, I announced that Queens was the first county to be fully operational in using the same database as the Area. Here's what's happened since:

- Brooklyn voted to opt in, and is now fully up & running.
- The DCMC of Bronx - Upper Manhattan has expressed that she wants to opt in, so I'm waiting to hear from her so we can discuss the implications.
- Manhattan voted to opt in. Everything is all set up, but the Secretary is continuing to use Manhattan's old spreadsheet, so Manhattan won't see any benefit until the next rotation.
- Nassau has opted in per their DCMC. Their Registrar has very minimal computer experience, but nevertheless has been able to fully participate on Nassau's behalf. This was another really important milestone.
- Orange has voted to opt in. I'm waiting to hear back from them to kick off the process.
- Queens had 100% accuracy - in other words, no updates required - when checking in everyone at their most recent county meeting.
- Suffolk County unanimously voted to opt in at their August General Service Meeting. They did not have any independent records, so they were immediately up & running.
- Staten Island voted to opt in. I'm waiting to hear back from them to kick off the process.
- Westchester has opted in per their DCMC. I'm working with their Secretary to get them set up.

- So of the 13 county-level entities, 8 are opted in, and I'm still waiting to hear from the other 5.

From June on, we can now see for every Assembly and Committee meeting what proportion of the time did a group, district, or county have voting representation when they were entitled to it. So by next year, for example, we'll be able to see over the last 10 Assemblies, of all the groups in SENY, x% had voting representation. As in the spirit of inventory, this is meant to be "a fact-finding and fact-facing process." We can see where we stand, and also evaluate the effectiveness of changes we make. This will allow us to acknowledge the room we have to improve, motivate us to try new things and to do better, and have a more informed group conscience.

I think sometimes people see me doing all these things and think, "is Fred now the only person who can do this?" I just want to reassure everyone that the changes I'm making are having the opposite effect - they have significantly expanded the number of people who can competently serve in this position.

Chair: Rick W., chair@aaseny.org

- **Panel 67 Elections:** I first want to offer my congratulations to the Panel 67 SENY officers who were elected last month. I am very excited about the outcome of the elections as I know these trusted servants will continue to do good work for Area 49. To that end, I have already had a conversation with your next Area Chairperson, Jane E., and we have scheduled multiple dates on the calendar to make sure we have a full and effective transition. Jane has already hit the ground running and is ready and willing to serve you, your counties, districts & groups come January 2017.
- **SENY Handbook Revisions:** The Ad Hoc Publications Review committee has completed their suggested revisions to the SENY Handbook and are ready to provide them to you tonight which are on the table with the other handouts. If I could ask that you make sure you grab a copy of them (if haven't already done that) and take them with you tonight so you can spend the next 30 days to review them and we will discuss them and hopefully vote on a final version at the next committee meeting in November.
- **November 2016 Assembly:** Speaking of November, I want to offer my personal thanks to Tom B., Alternate DCMC and the team out in Suffolk County for the work they did to secure the perfect location for our final assembly of this rotation. Tom has read the SENY Assembly Planning Toolkit from stem to stern and is ready to guide is County to executing a successful assembly for Area 49. Thank you Tom! The assembly will be at Bayport United Methodist Church, 482 Middle Road, Bayport, NY 11705 from 9:15am to 3:15pm. The only challenge we ran into is bus parking so Tom and the team are developing a transportation plan for shuttling people from spots where busses will be allowed to park as well as shuttle service to and from either the Patchogue or Sayville LIRR stations. There are flyers on the table for the assembly for you to take with you tonight. We will make sure we get that information loaded to the SENY website on the November assembly page as well. We will also be having three workshops that morning before the assembly:
 - A GSR Workshop titled "**How To Create a GSR Report for the Home Group**" that will be led by GSR from Westchester County, Glenn B.
 - a DCM Workshop titled, "**Suggestions on How to Light a Dim District**" that will be led by DCM District 601, Ivan D.
 - and a **New GSR Orientation** session led by SENY's Service Sponsorship Chair, Jamie S.

- We will also have a “Lunch and Learn” opportunity

Since our last committee meeting, I've attended:

- 2017 Convention Site Visit
- Convention Program Committee meeting
- PI & CPC Workshop titled "Speaking at Non AA Meetings" in Suffolk
- Sullivan County GSM
- ESCYPAA Movie Night in Queens
- Brooklyn Share a Day
- SENY's A/SN Share A Day
- 79th Street Workshop (Spoke on Tradition 1)
- District 601 Concepts Meeting (Spoke on Concept 9)
- Manhattan GSM Service Workshop

Since our last committee meeting, I've Facilitated Group Inventories for:

- 46th Street Sunnyside Group (Queens)
- Old Park Slope Caton Group (Brooklyn)

Between now and our next Committee meeting, I Will Be Attending:

- L.I.S.T.S. Workshop 10/15
- Putnam County Spiritual Breakfast 10/16
- Queens County Spiritual Breakfast 10/22
- SENY's Joy of Service Workshop in Nassau 11/5
- BxUM Spiritual Breakfast 11/6

And I Will Be Facilitating Inventories for:

- Queens Gratitude Group 10/8
- BxUM County 10/12

Questions:

- Job description sheet would be more useful if we could see what edits were made.
- Secretary made a decision to not print in color because it would have cost \$700 in printing costs. It will be sent out digitally to help in this process.
- The trackings in the right column represent all the additions and deletions he got from everybody. This needs a little context to ask the body to approve when we are not seeing what is in context.
 - I will look at my job description on here and I will look at the job description in the old SENY Handbook and I will compare the two. If you are a standing committee chair and have changes, please note them and bring them to the November Committee meeting.
 - Will we have time to do this at the next committee meeting? In theory we will try, but the reality, that may not be true. We want accuracy. Please come to the November Committee meeting prepared to stay a little until we get this hashed out.
 - Intergroup Liaison chair, I have changed the responsibilities that are not reflected in this document. Since we already brought this up before, the changes have not been reflected in this document. They will be added to the next document and get those fixed.
 - Catch all phrase of “Passes along communications and requests from AAWS/Grapevine of possible interest to the membership.” Is this appropriate to put on

every committee? We will need to discuss that at the November meeting to decide if we want to include that in the future.

- I know he sent out request for all committee chairs to send him all the things people have done that are not included in the job descriptions and he got back very few. So there are committee chairs who have done different jobs than what is described, but you need to send it out to Chris.
- Under the Area Chair, # 13 should that be Service Participation Committee or Publication Committee? Yes that will be looked at in November
- Agenda Chair, something was deleted about on the Website, but it should be included Bring all changes next month!

Old Business (Asuntos Pendientes)

- None

New Business (Asuntos Nuevos)

1. **NATW Attendance – Registrar** requesting for funding to travel to National AA Tech Workshop. This is a very valuable workshop that can help us to carry the message of AA to people. Previous rotation did not request funds from the Special events line. Right now my expenses for the trip are estimated at \$739.55, the cap I can ask for is \$500 so that is what I am asking for.
 - a. **Motion to approve funding of \$500, seconded**

Discussion:

Q: I thought you should be able to use the line item for your own budget, not out of special events. You should be able to ask body for money out of your own budget and be able to go.

R: I was looking at the financial guidelines and it was not clear, there was ambiguity so that is why I came before the body.

Q: The full amount should be able to come from your budget line. If you need to ask for an increase in your budget line that is different.

Motion: Friendly amendment to bump up to full amount with the highest amount being \$739.55

Q: Special Events line is specifically for NERRAASA, NERF, NYSIW, money should come from the registrar's budget.

- **Amended** to approve for full \$739 out of the registrars budget to attend NATW
- Read special events guidelines for clarification.
- All that is needed is for the body to approve him attending this workshop. We do not need to approve the amount.
- Yes = 42 No = 1 Abs = 1
- Minority Opinion: I would like some clarity, the money is in the budget. He is not approved to go to the workshop unless we approve him to go. Therefore, we approve him to go and the money comes out of his budget.
- **No change in vote. Motion carries**

2. Committee Renaming and Structure - Delegate -need to defer because GSO did not provide information needed. Looking to align the names of the committees with General Service Office. I will defer to next month. **Question:** There seems to be different names on the trustees committees and the staffing patterns. Thank you

3. **A/SN Committee Additional Funding** – Chair requests an additional \$600 to cover \$251 in shortage for workshop. And \$282 to travel through the end of 2016 to attend SENY Convention Planning Committee meetings. Treasurer states money is available

Q: We are in a bad habit of coming up with money when there is a shortfall. We need to be more diligent in the future.

Q: Can you give us more information? **A:** In 2015 my budget was \$2600. I did not spend all of that. For 2015 my budget was lowered by \$600 but the share a day is every other year

Motion made and seconded

Yes = 46 No = 0 Abs = 0

Motion carries

Standing Committee Reports

1. **Special Needs** – SAD 6/26 thanks to all who attended. Turnout was light we had 20 people show up. I was unable to attend SI and Queens SAD due to illness.
2. **Link** – We normally print 6000 LINKS, 3000 are sitting on this table. We will look at how many physical LINKS we distribute and how many are on the website downloaded. I encourage anyone who has a workshop, please feel free to pick up a pile of links and help me to distribute. Please give me some feedback so maybe we should not be printing 6000 each time. We promised we would see if we have managed to make the LINK more attractive. Any insight would be appreciated. Any suggestions you may have as to how to use the LINK to help expand service using the LINK. Please send me any suggestions at link@aaseny.org
3. **Literature** – New General Service Manuals \$3.55 get them while they last
4. **Al-Anon Convention liaison** – Convention took place 7/8-10 there were 14 AA speakers and 2 main AA speakers, the Hispanic District participated also with three meetings. Attendance was sparse in the morning meetings, better in the afternoon. I would like to thank the committee for allowing me to serve.
5. **Convention** – At June meeting, all chair positions ere Registration fliers are out, please take for your groups with electronic link. New venue at Renaissance. Cost for registration is \$20 and Banquet is \$96. Any questions, contact me at convention@aaseny.org
6. **Agenda** – Print outs are on the table. I did not get all events to the Link in time for Domi's deadline and I apologize. If you see anything missing, please let me know. We will not list anything that conflicts with a SENY Assembly, a SENY committee meeting or workshop. Try not to make conflicting meetings.
7. **PI/CPC** – PI workshop hosted by Manhattan District 613 Saturday 10/8 from 9-1130 at Andrew Hall in Manhattan. They will be able to practice at the event. Breakfast will be available.
8. **Intergroup Liaison** – We have continued concern about updating your meetings in the Intergroup listing. Please look at your meeting. NY Intergroup will be having a new website. Please support your NY Intergroup.
9. **Treatment and Facilities** – For 9/18 meeting attendees was 1 – me. Please reread the minutes from May and June so that we can encourage DCMC's to encourage their committee chairs to please attend our meetings, with the leadership rotation recycling we need to think about re-reading the article from the link from September 2015 regarding Concept 9 – make sure you get

the most experienced, committed, people for a job. DCMC's please speak to Christopher tonight before you leave regarding your county's status with this.

10. **Service Sponsorship** – I wanted to put it out there that I am available to go to counties to talk about Service Sponsorship training. We will have two more DCMC orientations in November and December and we will have the GSR orientation at the November Assembly. Please let you DCM's and GSR's know to please attend the orientation. Thank you.

11. **County Reports:**

- a. LISTS – Saturday October 15 10am-4pm Bohemia NY
- b. SI – What a Concept Day – October 15, 2016 10am-3pm Woodrow Methodist Church SI, NY
- c. Hispanic District – Spanish Convention on 11/12 and 11/13 5-12 and 8-8 at Clarion Hotel Ronkonkoma
- d. Nassau – On 10/23 Big meeting at ...cohosted by Nassau 38 Old Country Road Garden City...Joy of Service Workshop...11/5
- e. Saturday 10/8 Big meeting at Green Belt Center in Holbrook NY Al-Anon and AA together
- f. DCM 613 – At the PI/CPC workshop there will be translation and facility is wheel chair accessible

Motion to Close

Meeting adjourned 9:31 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, November 7, 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