

OCTOBER 1, 2018 SENY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

7:30 Meeting called to Order by Jane E. (Chair)

Serenity Prayer and Preamble in English & Spanish)

Housekeeping: Quorum Established, Explanation of Voting,

Our Spiritual Timekeeper is Frankie, from Serenity, and our Spiritual Parliamentarian is John W., former SENY Delegate

Minutes Reviewed by Body Accepted as Written

Introduction of New Trusted Servants

OFFICER'S REPORTS

Delegate's Report (John W.):

- 1) Our Alternate Delegate Manny A. is not able to be here tonight for health reasons, we wish him well
- 2) Some of the new pamphlets are out already, including the GSR pamphlet revised to show that the GSR is your Group's link to AA as a whole, Understanding the Fellowship and its Services, and the revised pamphlet "Experience Strength and Hope: Women in AA".
- 3) The God Word pamphlet will be available next month, delay due to paper shortage and some minor revisions.
- 4) The Three Legacies will be revised by Nov. 19, which is also the deadline for submissions to our new pamphlet for Spanish Speaking Women; submissions should be between 500 and 800 words
- 5) At our Nov. 4th Assembly we will elect SENY's representative to replace Rich P., AA Northeast Trustee, whose term is expiring. Any member can stand, although customarily only former delegates are chosen
- 6) The NERAASA registration flyers are on the table. NERAASA is in MD this year, and the hotel always sells out, so book soon. Part of the advantage of staying at the hotel is the fellowship and unexpected conversations you have, which are so valuable
- 7) In keeping with Tradition 9, all GSO staff positions are rotating and everyone moves offices, so Jeff W. is now our Regional Correspondent when responding to inquiries pertaining to our Area
- 8) As per our June vote, the TD Bank card is now in the Delegate's name, with the PIN controlled by the Chair and the physical card held by the Treasurer
- 9) From Grapevine, good articles on Group inventory and the biannual meeting of GSO's from around the world, taking place in Durban, South Africa this year. Meeting rotates between NYC and another location. Each GSO sends two persons who talk with other GSOs about common issues
- 10) I'd like to laud Laura (Grapevine), who brought 2 copies of GV's One Big Tent, stories of Atheists and Agnostics in AA, tonight. Good read

Q&A Clarified that minor revisions to the God Word are really changing British English to American Standard.

Regarding GSO's strategic audit and communications audit, not sure if we will receive former but Delegate has received latter, will send out when he has had time to read, in no more than 2 weeks

Regarding whether NERAASA will have Spanish workshops with English translation, Tradition 4 makes clear that Area 29 has autonomy. But, at same time it is a good idea and John will mention it to their delegate. It may be that, because all the Spanish-speaking meetings in the state of Maryland are within District 13 (DC), it was overlooked.

Alternate Delegate (Manny A): No Report

Chair (Jane E.):

It was brought to my attention that I wasn't clear in my June report about contributions down the triangle. When I was new, a couple of people told me that the groups contributed the money to be used here and would have contributed down the triangle if that's what they wanted, but I kept coming back and found out that's not so. The people who told me that were surely not fully informed. And I learned more about the Traditions and Concepts. Many Areas *do* contribute down to General Service when the prudent reserve is high. I don't know why we stopped, but SENY used to contribute down the triangle when the prudent reserve was high.

Several trusted servants have offered ideas about the SENY Spending guidelines to me. I appreciate the heads up, but I'm not revising the guidelines. I asked them, and now ask you to share your ideas with Mike, the Finance Committee Chair at finance@aaseny.org, please.

One GSC Conference Agenda Item and motion for SENY support will be at the November Assembly. There are Handouts here this evening of the motion and some background information, so an informed conscience can start to be developed.

Working my 3rd Concept: regarding the decision for SENY to obtain a debit card, I have the pin as was decided. However, I could not set up emails to all signatories on the operating account because TD does not do this, it's planned for the future but is not operational now. I know of at least one bank that does have this feature. TD said I could look up when the debit card is used, but I cannot as we do not have electronic banking at TD.

The questions for inventory went out in the email and are on the SENY calendar. Having the questions in advance was requested at the 2015 Area inventory.

We have to be out of the SENY Office by the end of the year. There are handouts with some background to help develop an informed conscience. In the meantime, it's prudent for us to rent a storage unit for our stuff. Richie will have more info about Conference room space in his report. In the meantime, it's prudent for us to rent storage space for our stuff until we find a space for our various meetings. Are there any objections?

Discussion.

Chair clarified that we do not need office space, only storage space and conference room space because we do not use the office.

Body **Accepts** spending necessary moneys for move

Treasurer (Michelle G.)

Body has opportunity to review June, July, and August Reports

Motion to Approve June Report, **Seconded; Accepted** with Substantial Unanimity

Motion to Approve July Report, **Seconded; Accepted** with Substantial Unanimity

Motion to Approve August Report, **Seconded**

Discussion clarified that some Chairs have spent less than 50% of budget and a few show no expenses for year, some receipts have not been submitted; request that receipts be submitted expeditiously because important to know going into budget meeting with incoming panel

August Report **Accepted** with Substantial Unanimity

Registrar (by Mike D., Rockland, incoming Registrar)

Hey everyone. Tonight, I'm getting trained on helping rent-burdened seniors apply for a rent freeze program, so they don't get evicted. In addition to helping vulnerable people on the brink of homelessness, it gives me a chance to get some real-world experience in housing law before I start applying for internships. In short, I didn't take missing tonight lightly.

Mike – your Panel 69 Registrar – and I have been trying to schedule some time together to begin the transition process. I'm hoping we'll be well along our way by the upcoming November Assembly.

I'm also planning on making sure the text message reminder opt-in is sent out to the Hispanic Districts by then. I was able to get out the English version in time for the elections, but there's more work to incorporate translation into what's happening under-the-hood. Eddie and I will be working together to close this out.

Finally, I am continuing to streamline and simplify as much as possible to do everything I can to set Mike up for success. I will provide a fuller update on that progress at the November Assembly. Again, sorry I'm not with you tonight. I will see you all soon.

OLD BUSINESS

2018 Convention Chair (Mike C.) submits Final Report. Discussion clarified that discrepancy of \$120 returned to SENY (as well as \$6,000 seed money for 2019 Convention) was due to PayPal charge. Convention Treasurer clarified that account was in former Convention Treasurer's name (account has now been closed) and dispute would have impacted his personal credit score, so Convention Treasurer opted to pay

Motion to Accept Final 2018 Convention Report, **Seconded, Passed**

NEW BUSINESS

Mike D. (Orange) is new PI Chair and James D., Past Archivist, to Archives Advisory Group; Both candidates accepted

2018 Discovery Report (John C.); Thanks, equal member of planning meeting, attended monthly planning meetings, planned workshops and selected speakers

2019 NYSIW Chair (KC): Purpose of NYSIW is to share info about work w/counterparts around state; we looked at 10 colleges and 3 retreats, visited 2 sites, only 1 fits the bill, Greymore, to take place August 2, 3, and 4, 2019, ADA compliant

Discussion clarified that deposit is \$6,500; cost is \$195/person for 2 nights and meals, past few years 150 people have attended, including day trippers; max of 132 overnighters

Motion to host 40th Annual NYSIW at Greymore, **Seconded, Accepted** with Substantial Unanimity

Office Manager (Richie): Received abrupt notice that all persons on 2nd and 3rd Floors need to vacate, looking for safe location in Bronx, the Banknote Building in Hunts Point fits bill and staff is very receptive, another location is near 149th Street. Making sure that ADA accessible. Digital Archivist will take pictures of Lincoln location. Our phone system converts messages to text, so we do not use call forwarding. Need to make sure we can get postal mail; current post office box is small and in an understaffed location. Looked at WeWork and similar entities but does not have office in Bronx. CubeSmart is proving difficult to work with.

Banknote looks best, as it has conference space and postal delivery services and seems to be in safer area for those traveling to office. The parking lot looks secure, and I will visit and see. Any questions please text me at [redacted] or contact me at SENY email

District 614 Update: Member of 614 arrested after being falsely accused at meeting, possibly sent to Immigration, panic in 614 and other general service meetings, members have contacted various service entities looking for support and guidance, various offices have said there is nothing they can do even though this person has caused trouble, so again come asking for information and guidance during trying times

Discussion clarified that this falls within Traditions 1 and 4, and safety in rooms.

2018 Hispanic Convention Chair, Announcement that in Queens will have Spanish Convention, November 3rd will have Saturday evening dinner and 2 meetings, Sunday November 4th start with Spiritual Breakfast at 8, workshops, at 10 a guest from La Vina flying in from Miami, lunch, and workshops, we will meet weekly for planning

Chair (Jane) clarifies SENY's Inventory Assembly and Hispanic District's Convention was put on same day, Area Chair and Hispanic DCMC discussed and plan in place to prevent recurrence moving forward.

Webchair (Ray): Keeping up with updates, responding to inquiries, and starting back end upgrades to website

COUNTY REPORTS

Rockland (Ray): one hiccup, the church backed out in date, scrambling for new place, hope not to change date

Orange (Sherry): Shout to Maureen, Rockland Accessibilities Chair, and Mike, SENY Corrections Chair, for speaking at workshop, Putnam movie night had some technical difficulties, turned into meeting, elections 10/16 and 11/23 we have a corrections workshop, time and location to be determined

Sullivan (John B): Thanks to current and incoming panel, excited about Nov. 4th, have flyers for Inventory Assembly, address on SENY website and agenda

Westchester (Rich S., Alt-DCMC): Thanks to SENY, esp. Jane and Michelle, after Emma passed, this Saturday is Share-A-Day, Nov. 16th Step 4 workshop at Sacred Heart in Yonkers

Putnam (Rob): Spiritual Breakfast, Oct. 21st at Greymore, tickets are \$20

Queens (Joanne), thanks to Jane, Manny, and Eddie for assistance with Spanish safety workshops, Jane, our Spiritual Breakfast is this Sunday, I need a headcount by Wednesday, and a full day Three Legacies workshop Nov. 10th, /10, info on Link

Suffolk (Tom): Oct. 13th is our Big Meeting, alternate with Suffolk Intergroup, Nassau, from 6-9; not in conflict with Bronx Share-A-Day; for the November Assembly we have 2 extra stops in City and Westchester, info on flyer

Nassau (Regina): Oct. 15th is our elections; continuing Concepts series at Nassau Intergroup on Nov. 19th (XI and XIII); Nassau Big Meeting (w/ Nassau Intergroup) Nov. 11th

Districts: District 602/603 is having a “Reading is Fundamental” game night this Saturday w/ NYCYAA; 617 is having a corrections workshop Oct. 20th, while 605/608 have a PI/CPC workshop Nov. 10th, flyers on table

Staten Island (Jerry): Elections Oct. 14th, Thanksgiving Sunday will have Spiritual Breakfast, and December 1st having Traditions workshop

Brooklyn (Mel): Elections last week, LISS event in September was a success, Oct. 27th Joy of Service workshop, have flyers, our Spiritual Breakfast is coming up, I have tickets

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Literature (Brendan): Attended Rockland Share-A-Day, will be at Brooklyn’s and Queens’

Grapevine (Laura): Attended Rockland Share-A-Day and NYSIW, have already sold out of Grapevine book, One Big Tent

Archives (Richard): Attended Archives workshop in Chicago, have some samples displayed here, and I welcome James and Bill, our new enthusiastic members

Public Information (Mike D, Orange): 2 new PI Chairs in Westchester and Rockland, getting to know them, Javits LBGTQ table canceled, will be at Spanish Convention and Westchester Share-A-Day, covering upcoming health fair, and taking inventory, and two other November events covered
7th Tradition: \$191

Accessibility (Nellie): End of rotation, thanks for opportunity to serve, seeing Increased Spanish Attendance, our ASL person has relocated to Georgia, continuing service, next meeting Dec. 28th at Intergroup, will be present at upcoming Share-A-Days

Treatment (Kathy): donations of used GV, La Vida, very welcome and contributed to treatment centers, met in June, July, and August, attended NYSIW and presented, new website that has interactive map and contacts for those getting out of, click to spot going to, mailed to appropriate contact, received 2 Bridging the Gap requests, Manny bridged for Area 49, went to Denver workshop

Corrections (Mike D. Rockland): Proud to announce that Otisville Prison has a GSR, will be at 2nd Annual Corrections in Maine, and two upcoming workshops, next meeting October 23rd

Agenda (Jeanne): Calendar updated as of last night, copies available, anything missing please contact me

Service Sponsorship (Sally): No GSR orientation next or last assembly, recommend that GSR’s come here or approach me at lunch at next Assembly

Intergroup (Steve): Next meeting Dec. 2nd at Nassau IG, lunch is served, have contacted DCMs

Translation (Eddie): Very busy during summer, attended national translation convention in Vegas, plus PROCA, mixed bag at Convention and need to reach out to Hispanic District to inform them of availability of translation services, PROCA (Pacific Regional _____) was fantastic; English-Spanish and Spanish-English workshops and translation. NYSIW had translation, as did some other events, and even though sometimes no one shows up needing translation we are planting the seed

Recording Secretary (Mike): Attended NYSIW, very briefly made copies as necessary

Convention (Nissa by Mike, Recording Secretary): Chairs have been set except for Al-Anon rep, great chance to do service, flyers prepared but still soliciting logo, next meetings is on SENY calendar, Oct. 21st at IG at 11 and noon

Motion to Close

Unity Statement

9:30 p.m. Meeting Closed