



<http://www.aaseny.org>

SENY ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES

Saturday April, 15th
(10 am-3:15 PM)

Area Officers						
Name	Position					
Paola A.	Chair					
Jo Ann M.	Delegate					
Nisaa A.	Alt Delegate					
OPEN	TCO					
Kimbley G.	Treasurer					

Meeting called to order 10:00 am

- Serenity Prayer; *led by Paola (chair)*
- Overview of who is able to vote (alternates only when primaries are not present, officers, GSRs, DCMs, DCMCs, past delegates)

Chair: Technology Chair (TCO) needs to be replaced (Paola brings up JoAnn)

New Elections for TCO (JoAnn)

-
- Jo Ann discusses requirements for TCO, replacement for registrar and is more technologically based
 - ***outlines suggested skills/requirements for position as in email***
 - Delegates and past delegates may not stand however,
 - Previous SENY committee members may stand if a motion is passed

Motion & Vote One

Motion: to allow past SENY committee members to stand (seconded)

In person:

Yes: 45

No: 2

Virtual:

Yes: 46

No: 2

Total:

Yes: 91

No: 4

Questions & Comments:

Q1: How does the 3rd legacy election work?

A:

- servants are not nominated we ask people to stand in service
- $\frac{2}{3}$ must agree after hearing qualifications and continue by elimination until one person obtains the requisite number of votes

Ray (in person stands) Jo Ann welcomes Ray to state his qualifications.

Ray (TCO nominee)

- GSR for home group
- served as archivist for county
- web chair,
- intergroup chair
- Professional IT experience as web developer and programmer

Election Vote: Motion two

Motion: Elect Ray (Yes) or No one ("no"); seconded

In person:

Yes: 49 No: 0
Abstain 4

Virtual:

Yes: 59 No: 0

Total:

Yes: 108 No: 0 Abstain: 4

*back to regular order Paola asks for comments or corrections to february minutes; february minutes accepted; *

DCMC Reports

*Manhattan (Justin)**

- Opening for county level web chair
- Have a share-a-day date
- Creating a committee to organize workshop to address post-pandemic issues with groups

*Orange County (Dan)**

- May 21st - spiritual Breakfast; 10 tickets is a table
- Exploring idea of a sober jam

Rockland (Kevin)

- Tomorrow spiritual breakfast and it is sold out
- Want to start a concept meeting
- Accessibilities and sponsorship

Bronx (Chris)

- October 22nd Spiritual Breakfast
- Bill W dinner is being hosted by the Bronx
- Share-a-day: 23rd, September (tentative)

Nassau (Kathy)

- Monday - Hybrid meeting
- Mon may 15th, workshop (virtual only)
- Unity breakfast (\$40) June 25th,
- In the process of going to each group to help get GSRs

*Brooklyn (Charlene)**

- Looking for DCMs (among GSRs)
- Open: public info and website
- AA historical book club (considering bringing it back)

Westchester (Peter-paul)

- Alternate substituting
- Filled all positions
- Assisted several group business meeting to help with questionnaire

*Suffolk (Kimberly)**

- Coffee with DCM is recurring the Monday before the county meeting
- County meeting this Friday addressing getting more in service and silent groups
- 50th Anniversary same day as Orange County so I'll be going to Orange for Breakfast , suffolk for dinner
- Ad Hoc committee for website, redistricting.
- Al Anon participation workshop (June 24th)

Staten Island (Dan)

- Down time
- Chairs obtained for committees and share-a-day

Queens (Raj)

- 24th April- CPC chair giving presentation
- Joy of service workshop (online only)

Sullivan (Jeff)

none

Putnam (Gregg)

none

Hispanic District (Nelson)

none

Committee Chair Reports

Marty (Archives)

- We lost 2 of our AA Friends, April 1, 1966 Sister "Iggy" Ignatia, died at the age of 77
- April 4, 1960 Father Ed Dowling helped start the first AA group in St. Louis dies at 82.
- April 11, 1941 Bill & Lois move into Stepping Stones located in Bedford Hills.
- April 26, 1939 182 Clinton Street forecloses. After Bill & Lois lived in 50 different locations.
- April 30, 1989 "My Name is Bill" broadcasts on ABC 9:00PM
- I have began to have Past Delegate Tom B. , 55 th SENY Convention, Links , SENY minutes,
- Joy of Service Workshops preserve material for us to archive.
- Archives Workshop: 2 Churches have confirmed their church is available October 28 , 10am -2pm.1) Holy Family Church , 2158 Watson Ave. Bronx. 2) St Francis of Assisi, 2117 45 th Street ,Astoria
- I have registered for the 26 th NAAAW Sudbury, Ontario Sept 7 th -Sept 10 th .
- Michelle Mirza (non alcoholic archivist) and I spoke regarding availability October 28, Archives Workshop.
- It's the board weekend. We had further discussion her presenting at 1 of our Archive

- Committee meetings. June 8 th or July 13. Michelle presenting the 4 Edition Printing of the Big Book. Dispense our committee meeting and invite our Area 49 members. Michelle will let us know beginning of May.
- I encourage Counties to encourage your groups write a Group History or groups who have, to update their group history. Go to aa.org for Material on Group History.

Convention Report (Melissa):

- Wrap up on April 30th on meeting
- 300 on site; 1100 registration
- Fully self-supporting event
- More number in June

Public Information (Jeannette):

- First 6 month reached out to HS
- Invited to give presentation and participate in workshops
- Asking members to send to high schools

Intergroup Liaison (Kristina):

- Small in attendance
- Some online meetings aren't allowed to be posted
- Next meeting Tomorrow 2 pm virtually

Literature (Eric O.):

- Sold 750 books
- April 3rd 20% price increase so I bought some on April 1st
- Going to Orange County spiritual breakfast and Nassau one
- Contact if you want him to attend to sell literature

Agenda (Sherry):

- Will work with Ray to have it edited and improve the calendar

CPC (Devin):

- Doctor's program (Lenox hill 28th and May 5th)
- More volunteers needed on May 5th; it is in the middle of the day (1PM)
- Working on relationships with churches/faith leaders
- Need more CPC county chair support but also professionals
- Contacted by shelters; looking into opportunities to host meetings there and make them available to residents.

Grapevine/La Viña (Thomas)

- Sold over 1800 in grapevine and la vina
- Having trouble getting more literature--reached out to delegate

Service Sponsorship-Co-chair (Matt & Jess):

- Meetings on First Tuesdays
- One service sponsorship chair from Suffolk, need more

- GSRs can contact me

Accessibility (Moses):

- none

Corrections Chair (Toby):

- none

Hybrid-Chair (Derrick):

- none

five minute break and 7th tradition

Treasurer Report (Kimbley)*

January Report:

127,144.77 (prudent reserve)

Questions:

Q1: Why don't we have printed copies?

A: I wasn't able to finish until this morning.

Q2: What happened to the asterisk about the convention?

A: *Kimbley mentions where it is*

Vote Three

Chair asks for motion to accept report (seconded)

- Motion to accept treasurer's report ; seconded

- In person:

- Yes: 38 No: 0 Abstention: 1

- Virtual:

- Yes: 50 No: 0

TCO Report (Interim-Mike)

- Remind people to fill out two different forms for new group and new rep
- Area relies on ZAP, we moved storage of information because ZAP increased its price policy
- Mail chimp changed policies ; effect; there is an issue with domain email and distribution list,
- Make sure you're getting
- ZOOM changed life cycle policy. If your zoom has not been updated in 9 months it will cease to operate.
- Remind groups to update.

Questions:

Q1: affected by transfer contacted someone by phone but how do I know if I'm getting emails?

A1: domain emails with "aaseny.org"

Q2: does it include subdomain emails '@manhattanaaseny.org'

A2: probably yes; i'll look into it

Q3: Can you repeat the forms needed to be filled out

A3: register or change for trusted servant, register your group

Q4: GSR is recently registered and still is not getting emails.

A: email me.

Q5: Where is my GSR packet?

A5: There was an issue with registering GSOs but there was a backlog; Also GSR will only send you the physical package if you check the box.

Justin was the registration chair: Area registration chair and only they can contact GSO; there is a back log and should be addressed soon

Q6: Is there a way to see if your group is already registered?

A6: Yes there is, a box will pop-up and ask you to check for registration.

Q7: When will zoom updates be affected?

A: November. After that 9 months non-updated

Q8: When you say updated on zoom do you mean on your personal computer?

A: whoever is admin is needs update.

Chair Report (Paola)*

- 2024 convention chair-saadi H
- He will need your help
- SENY committee meeting updates
 - Can't give an update; not enough DCMs
 - Next one is 730 May 1st
 - What is discussed:
 - Will have the assembly until the end of the year-will also be hybrid; will reconsider toward the end of the year
 - Encourage GSRs to join committees.

Questions:

Q1: Can any member be on standing committee or only GSRs

A: ANYONE, you can have one day and join

Q2: Have we ever considered any other online platforms besides zoom?

A: Would Jane be able to answer? Jane: At the time it was the platform that more members were familiar with. Jo Ann, one county was google; microsoft required paid subscription.

Nisaa (Alt Delegate)

- aaseny.org/groups - old service numbers and new ones
- Went to convention and moderated a panel on traditions in groups
- Thanks to Melissa
- Went to NERD in Delaware, will be going to forum in Boston
- Rockland County Breakfast-Asamblea is the same day-please be sure to try not to overlap it is a recurring event on the calender
- Young people are doing something in Manhattan tomorrow.

Jo Ann (Delegate)

- Had delegates day of sharing Q&A
- Final day for consideration of delegates questionnaire from groups
- 207, 316, 240 , 200 (2022),
- New convention contract reaching out to hotels
- Resignation of 2 chairs:
 - GSB gave a fact sheet
 - Many delegates feel board is broken and delegates must step in
 - Will email fact sheet because it is not appropriate to post?
 -

Questions:

Q1: Is there a simple answer as to why Linda was asked to resign.

A: read from fact sheets; there were very few specific examples given but there were some. It appeared that the chair was not an effective leader but the chair had a number of concerns brought up. Delegates asked if the agenda can be changed and don't want to have to use floor actions 'hostile new business'

Our prudent reserve is not part of the general fund and draw downs were necessary at one point and it appears they may not have it. May have failed to stay within our budget?

Q2: What was the literature you mentioned?

A: 1958 BW talk -topic on trust. Trouble. "Constructive Use of Trouble" 159

Q3: Notion that board is broken is a big deal, it may not be able to be resolved in one conference. Can we make sure we get a comprehensive report.

A: Part of my role

Q4: Can we keep Jo Ann in our prayers?

Q5: I wasn't aware there was any issue with the board, should we bring it back to our groups?

- Recap of what happened.

- Linda was handed a pre-written resignation letter.

Q6: How did we get this information?

- GSO sent it out to everyone on their mailing list. It was discussed at the Feb 15th assembly, but we did not have a lot of information at that time.
- We got more information: Fact sheets; resignation letters can be posted. Meeting app.

Q7: Did they resign in protest of financial mismanagement or were they involved?

- Josh felt they were rushing to appoint a new chairperson
- Felt Linda was making unprofessional and critical remarks about employees and chairs; making decisions independently of the board, micromanagement
- Linda: it's unclear whether she voluntarily resigned

Q8: Were there discussions before the resignation?

- Their code of conduct does not allow for a process to address concerns so they addressed it at a sharing sessions.

Q9: At the General Service Conference, could the questionnaire issues be pushed out because of board issues

- Everything is just up in the air
- Hopefully not, but maybe

Q10: What were the issues of non-transparency and have those been addressed?

- Linda was concerned that money was spent before the budget was passed.
- Sharing sessions were not complete
- They had an emergency policy to have 2 board members approve something

Q11: Who gives who the authority to ask for a resignation?

__LUNCH__

New Business

Jo Ann (Delegate)

- Should we bid to host NERAASA?
- Usually last weekend of February every year
- 1,071 in Albany this year
- Area host would be responsible for finding a location that's accessible
- Next year it will be in Hershey, Pennsylvania
- If we bid it would be for 2026. Bids occur 3 years out.
- SENY hosted in 2011

Questions:

Q: How can we handle this if we can't get a quorum and parking?

- Parking overflow was available in corporate headquarters next door. Went to look at multiple locations in westchester because it is centrally located. Attendance based on previous numbers should not be an issue.

Q: There was not an appropriate amount of space in the breakout rooms at the Marriott?

- We probably won't get it this year, but it will increase our chances in future. I'd prefer to have better estimates on hotel and numbers. hosting NERAASA will hopefully spur participation in service below the group level. We just have to decide if we'll bid.

Vote Four

Chair asks for motion to bid to host NERAASA 2026 (seconded)

- *In person:*
 - **Yes: 44 No: 0 Abstention: 1**
- *Virtual:*
 - **Yes: 55 No: 6 Abstention: 1**

Delegates Questionnaire

Chris (lifeboat-bronx)

- If it aint broke dont fix
- Bb should not be altered
- Speakers should not be paid

Kaitlin (Warwick-Sunday Serenity)

- Suggest primary purpose
- Keep up with inflation, but not increase the amount beyond 500.
- Plain language is fantastic
- Change to be acceptable but dont change meaning

Sherry (top of the mountain -otis ville)

- Consider retire a members eye view–maybe a revision
- Excited about plain language and suggested the questionnaire be in plain language

Jane (brook haven womens)

- 6 people participated
- Members eye should be retired
- Change bill's words

Dan (rethinkers)

- Did not know about theme
- Should be retired
- Revision for safety; prefer 2021, not 2022
- Evenly divided on contributions
- Changing founders words
- Alternates should have access to dashboard
- Plain language necessary
- adhoc committee–non geographic region and have a trustee at large
- County level guidelines
- Should pay expenses not paying to speak

Llyod (oxford group)

- Does not agree to retire members eye view-too valuable
- Should be open to edits not eliminate
- Keep limit
- Online service- -should we

Tom (KISS manhattan)

- Voted to discontinue but there are important passages that should be
- Annual should be annual maintained but lifetime unlimited
- Willing to go to any lengths to willing to work hard
- Request final

Morgane(save her a seat)

- Safety; bigotry is a safety issues
- Here for simple language
- Split; find speakers from localities

Paul (atlantic Group)

- Adaptation: mixed- wanted the review of the final draft to go further up the triangle
- Changing words of founder-we already have a policy
- Members eye view
- Given the boards issues dont want to give more latitude to change founders words

Amy

- Money buys power, individual limit should be in line with inflation, no limit on bequest
- $\frac{3}{4}$ vote, thought 12 steps and traditions should be subjected to the
- Not supportive of non-aa speakers.

Benson

- Safety: 2021 version was
- Increase bequest not annuity
- Founders change: split

Larry

- Dashboard: yes we need information
- Plain language: okay with it
- Yes plain

Mary lou (fellowship in Rockland)

- Not aware of theme: one day at a time
- Unanimous should be retired; information can be found in other loc.
- 10,000 that should be raised, leave that for board. 5,000 should be the same
- First option to have zoom non aa speaker, others in that area pay, they could pay

Margaret (first things first)

- Editing founders words: no
- Keep books; add annotations
- Online representation: 'don't reinvent the wheel' there are already online areas
- Would like AA to address gender in all

Joseph (hour or power)

- Half split on money
- For retirement
- For dashboard
- For paying speakers way

Joe (sheepshead bay)

- Understand plain language, wary of altering the message

Mike (Whitestone Queens)

- Did not want to change the plain language
- Did want to double the finances because of change in money
- Absolutely against setting a policy to allow change

Malachi ()

- 2022 version
- Increase bequest
- For plain language
- Should basket money be used to cover travel expenses

Jeffrey(drink and die)

- Bill Ws words: if we change them there should be an endnote with the original
- Keep contributions the same
- Pay in accordance with 8th traditions

Zach (you get what you need)

- Plain lang.

- Should increase contributions to 10,00

David (No Serenity)

- Changing words: there's already a process
- Safety in AA: unanimous decision-2021
- Supported plain language
- No change to contribution
- Lord's prayer should be up to chair; one disagreed
- 21 non aa speakers
- Accessibility should be assessed
- One member thought retire

Michelle (Fast Break)

- Yes aware of themes
- Retire members-split
- Safety- approved or no opinion
- Stay same, only rise with inflation
- PL - majority don't want changes to original - some didnt think it was necessary
- Online groups should have own intergroup, ease process, don't make existing groups re-apply
- Gender inclusive, replace God with higher power

Jaye (Old Park Slope Caton)

- Themes: no one knew ;
- Safety: more strongly worded is preferred
- Bill w in the 12 & 12: dangerous precedent, make changes in footnotes annotations
- Both should be raised with inflation but alcoholics need limites

Josette (Came to believe SI)

- Big Meeting should be closed
- Non AA help bring message to non AA
- Full inventory of accessibility? Yes
- Online? Should have a 94th Area
- Plain language? Will help others to get sober.
- Likes plain language but a few misgivings
- Setting a policy that we should not be changed.

Jackie (Sponsorhouse White Plains)

- Did not know how to submit theme
- 2021 revisions should be kept
- Current levels should be raised to 100 and 50k and put a policy to adjust, but want to see it before its done

- Alt delegates should get access
- Would like to know more about PL and more about the Author
- Like a new area but amenable to
- Need inventory is in order

Andrew(Saturday Beginner's)

- Theme, no body knew, no suggestions
- Retire pamphlet
- finance : amounts should be raised for inflation
- How to edit: changes can be made in the text with footnote
- Alt delt should have access
- PL sample looked fine
- PL would allow more people to hear message
- Full inventory: does not hurt, but would be helpful to define what that would look like

Sharon (Gun Hill)

- safety : concerned about being t
- Increase 20,000 for bequest, annual should remain
- Founders words: theres a committee already
- Online groups need clarification; area specific

Steve (Mongomery Group)

- Were not aware of theme submission
- Retire pamphlet
- Fine with 2022 safety
- Should raise contribution to fit inflation
- Stop re-writing history, leave the text add a note
- Give alt delegates access
- Language was acceptable, primary purpose—not a replacement for
- Online groups should have same access

Eileen (attitude adjustment)

- Split on pamphlet- close but retire, why not edit
- Did not want changes in the founders words (add a prologue explaining how language change)
- Concerned that we could see a plain language. An illustrated version? Did not feel informed enough?
- Wanted to close with responsibility pledge

Elie (East islip)

- Should be retired; looks like endorsement of religion
- Concerns about removal of racism—maybe a new piece

- PL would be good as a supplement not as a replacement
- Lord's prayer was
- Problems other than alcohol, concerns with

Paul (Chelsea Nooners)

- Did not (We absolutely insist)
- Should be raised AND tied to inflation
- Changes to words are not an assault on the founder
- 2021 more appropriate

Jule(Sisters in sobriety)

- Technology (theme)
- Like members eye view
- Safety is helpful and up to date
- Should be able to leave whatever amount
- Why are we fixing it if its not broken
- PL- it's expensive, but maybe we think about new literature
- Inventory: yes books, audiotapes.
- Lords prayer is fine

Marie (Greenwood Lake)

- Unaware of theme
- Keep members eye view - maybe revise
- No comment on safety
- Finance: limit is important, maybe review in a few years
- Consider footnotes addressing issues up to date
- Alternates should have access
- PL good , as long a message remains the same

Tim (PAX)

- Not aware of theme
- Abstain from pamphlets
- Bequest and cont should stay the same
- Abstain from founders words-one member objected
- Provide access to Alt delegates
- PL would be helpful -questioned the one to one translation;

Jane (Delegate Send off)

Declaration of unity