

Area Committee Meeting

Monday July 10th, 2023

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

County Reports

Brooklyn (Charlene)

- Brooklyn is starting up the AA Historical Book Club again, running weekly as of July 16 th at 7pm on Zoom.
 - ID: 961 9888 5103
 - PC: 069497
- We will be having a Spiritual Picnic in place of an in-person Share-A-Day. It will take place on September 30, 2023 in Prospect Park. More to come.

Manhattan (Justin)

- Manhattan Share A Day and Hospitality Bake Off will be held on August 12, 2023, themed AA's Three Legacies Our Common Solution. In addition to the big meetings at the beginning and end of the day, there are 28 topic workshops, with speakers from all over Manhattan as well and Al-Anon. The planning committee is meeting now to finalize the program. Among the scheduled people sharing will be a deaf AA sharing about unity and accessibility. The program for the event should be on the Manhattan website this week.

- The county has also scheduled its first county-wide Potluck Picnic for 10/8 with a rain date of 10/15. The purpose of the event is connecting trusted servants, many who have never met and inviting un-represented groups for fellowship and fun below the group level. The potluck picnic will be in the Pinetum in Central Park
- District 620 will be holding its 5th Annual Gratitude Cookout on July 29 in Morningside Park
- In an effort to update our records, the DCMs continue to do outreach to groups and last known GSRs to verify status and encourage participation.

Orange County (Daniel)

- Open Positions:
 - Accessibility
 - Corrections
 - CPC
- Have a new Public Information Chair
- Next meeting on July 17, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Meeting is held at the First Presbyterian Church at 142 Stage Rd, Monroe
- Meetings are hybrid
 - Zoom ID: 999 6809 5777, Passcode: Acceptance
- Share-a-Day, August 1 (Goshen High School, 222 Scotchtown Ave, Goshen)

Nassau County (Catherine, DCMC)

- Movie night (my name is bill - will be hybrid)
- Publicity chair for 2024 convention
- Nassau will be having picnic

Bronx/Upper Manhattan (Chris, DCMC)

- Sat sept 23rd, holy family school all day
- Spiritual breakfast 22nd october

Suffolk County (alt-DCMC, Regina)

- First unity breakfast committee meeting (2nd monday)
- March 3rd 2024
- SIA october 1st,
- Fishing trip
- Sept 10th, BBQ

Rockland (Kevin)

- In negotiations about Sober Jam (October 1st)

Westchester (Peter-paul)

Staten Island (Dan)

Queens (Raj)

Sullivan (Jeff)

Putnam (Gregg)

Hispanic District (Nelson)

Queens County (Maura)

Putnam (Greg)

Staten Island (Dan)

Standing Committee Reports:

Jeanette (Public Information Chair)

- Committee has been working only on HS for the first 6 months (working to give out information and put on schools websites)
- Connected to over 30 schools, Making pamphlet available, Wants to update podcast–anyone interested please contact Jeanette
- PI invited to speak at a school in Manhattan this week as well as a workshop in June.
- Next 6th months will focus on fire & police departments

Toby (Corrections Chair)

- Finally got a SENY list
- Work with PI & CPC –
- Aa.org is looking for men and spanish speakers to be pen pals
- Please sign people up for the program to pre-release
 - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1p5HQ_vfbx9QAHeGcjN7ojkqBEILS77hhjrXP3qOdO10/edit#gid=0
- The Corrections Correspondence Program. Please consider writing to save a life.
 - Form: <https://www.aa.org/corrections-correspondent-sign-form>
- The Pre-Release program (formerly Bridging The Gap).
 - Form for contact: <https://www.aa.org/aa-corrections-prerelease-contact-information-outside>

Kristina (Intergroup liaison):

- Continue discussion about getting more participation from Counties that do not have Intergroup representation at the Intergroup Liaison Meetings: those being NY Intergroup, Putnam, Orange, and Rockland Counties.
- Discussing solutions for counties to maintain group contact lists that do not involve using individual emails. Using email addresses associated with the groups themselves and not individual addresses.
- Next Meeting Sunday, July 16 from 2pm-4pm. Meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each month.
 - 3rd Sunday of the month
- Invited Group Relations from GSO to educate Intergroup representatives of the difference between GSO and Intergroup as there is a lot that people do not know and need/want to be informed of. (Karina)

Marty (Archives)

- We have 40 years of AA history in your county
- July 13th will be presenting changes to Big Book
- July 28th is an archive workshop
- Setting up an archives table for Manhattan Share-a-day
- Working on a SENY history book

Devin (CPC)

- Meeting is last wednesday of every month
- In on SENY website Calendar (6pm)
- Currently working on reaching out to churches, to foster positive relationships
- Fall, going to need volunteers for increased information panels to do presentations; can be reached at cpc@aaseny.org

Steven (Office Manager)

- Needs help to find an office space
- Have about 15 possibility –in Queens or Bronx

Derrick (Hybrid-Chair)

- Have some new volunteers who need to be trained
- Need location to store gear, have to train new volunteers
- About positions:
 - Audio/visual/computer/zoom setup skills job.
 - Training available.
 - Should be the sole position this person holds as it requires focus throughout, running and supporting the meeting.
 - Involves switching camera views controlling audio levels.

- Involves arriving at 7 AM to set up and run cables setting up the zoom room. Camera set up microphone set up taping down cables once they are set up granting cohost rights working with ASL and translation.
- Any hybrid support must have 60 days in advance notice.

Rich S (handbook chair)

- Working on handbook,
- Take a look at handbook (handbookliterature@aaseny.org) - any notes from previous chairs

sidenote: we do not have a quorum

Moses (Accessibility)

Sherry (SENY-Agenda Chair)

Eric (Literature)

- Price of books increased so we placed a large order right before increase
- Let me know if you would like me to attend meetings let me know and i'll be there selling books at the old prices.

Hugo (TF-emailed)

Gina D (Link Editor):

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

- First Tuesday of the month
- Tomorrow (on the calendar)
- Please send service sponsorship chair or alternate DCMs
- Discussing workshops in different areas

Treasurer's Report(Kimbley G.)

- Summaries for each month and notes on the income and expenses
- Treasurer may have to step down in August

Questions:

Q: The assembly cost almost 8,000? but it was budgeted for \$6300?

A: It seems concerning, but not a lot of people are showing up and it used to be 2,000 (Paola will address the numbers)*

Question/Comment: Can we get the budgets ahead of time? It's really important for us to see it ahead of time, so we can ask informed questions before approving the treasurer's report.

*Paola (explaining increased cost): Last year we hired tech 12 to train us and agreed to use them for 3 meetings. At the last minute our tech equipment was unavailable in storage (getting an office space should be a priority). So tech 12 was hired another time at the last minute.

Follow up Comment (Jon): Concerned that the body decided to keep tech 12 at the last minute. Wanton overspending without any remorse, concerned that decisions were made without the body.

Marty(comment): We're hosting the archives in a location that just asks for a goodwill donation, perhaps an alternate storage location.

Paola(comment): Please keep the treasurer's report. We can discuss other topics in new business

Derrick: I need help and it will be cheaper when everyone is trained, but I need help.

Sherry: I ran a 501C3, I can help if you need help Kimbley. We need to get them in place. I can help this weekend.

Technology Report (Ray)

- Chris M from Manhattan (new registration chair)
- We're hoping to resume postal mailing
- Anyone available to help as postal mailing coordinator.

- Will be having the tech meeting tomorrow at 7:30, on the the calendar

Questions?

Q: Should we contact Chris or you?

A: Justin and Ray will be training Chris in the next few weeks.

Chair Report (Paola)

- We will be over budget for assemblies, we should discuss it with the committee
- We do not have a location for the September meeting , but we need to have a quorum at August for a number of issues that have to be voted on

Discussion/Questions:

Q: How far in advance should we book a location for assembly?

A: I usually ask for it a few months before. The college has not gotten back to me, but we need to make a decision. We may have to

Q: Why was April so out of line, financially?

A: It has always been at least 3800. It was 6000 because we used their equipment because we did not have access to our equipment.

Comment: I'm in charge of the bus, we pay for the bus a month or two ahead of time.

Paola: please, just leave that for new business.

Q: What is the plan to encourage DCM to come?

A: email, begged at meetings, want DCMCs to encourage DCMs.

Q: When is the upcoming audit?

A: Jan to May. we'll reach out to the accountant.

Alternate Delegate Report (Nissa)

- Attended spiritual breakfast
- Some inventories scheduled, and as a reminder I am available for group inventories

Discussion/Questions:

none

Delegate's Report (JoAnn)

- The website has been updated with all things 73rd General Service Conference along with information on the Board Chair and trustee resignations.
- Added a new link to service opportunities. It's called "A.A. Want Ads."
 - There is an opening where they are looking for a member for a working group tasked with revising the Pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic."
- Trustee information updated on websites
- There is a new memo regarding the Grapevine Liability fund. It was sent in English and French only. Will be on the website in Spanish soon.
- Meeting with our new Northeast Regional Trustee Ken on Sunday, and I will also attend Asamblea to give a report to the Hispanic Districts.
 - Spanish language books, from NERF will be given away. (names in a hat and give away like I did at our last assembly)

- I emailed member services at the GSO office regarding GSR kits and they want names so they can research it. I believe I received 5 emails from GSRs stating they didn't get their kit and I will get a list of the RSGs on Sunday.
- Last assembly confirmed Rich and Sherry will be the co-chairs for the GSC hospitality committee for the 74th GSC.
- As chair of my committee, I get to meet with the chair of the Equitable Distribution of Workload subcommittee which is three-year trial. We have started year 3 and will discuss possibilities of extending the deadline that proposed agenda items are due. It is currently September 15th. We are scheduled to meet virtually next Tuesday July 18th at 7pm.

Regarding our Area Convention, I have some information to run by you:

- Now scheduled for March 14-17, 2024.
- Waiting to see if another group who reserved March 21-24 is going to move forward with a contract. Will know by the end of the week. John W and JoAnn were able to negotiate some better terms:
 - The room night requirement will be extended over the 3 days instead of each day as a stand-alone requirement.
 - Marriot had \$3000 per year for the facility. We were able to agree to the amounts \$2000, \$2500 then \$3000 for use of the space over the three years 2023, 2024, 2025.

- And most importantly, the room night cost. Last contract was \$137 per night but that was from 4 years ago. For the next three consecutive years the room nights are as follows:
 - 2023- \$165

- 2024 - \$175
- 2025 - \$185

- They promised a 25% reduction on the room night requirement for 2025 due to the international convention.
 - They know they have the space we need and there is no other venue in Westchester that compares.
 - Requested a quote for the Long Island Marriott and I am waiting to hear back. Similar hotels; Long Island Marriott is larger.
 - The Marriotts are now franchised and independently owned and operated. We may get a better rate if the dates are available.
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- I will be submitting the agenda item from last year regarding service positions but making it a little more understandable and simpler.
 - Anyone who wants to submit an agenda item with the Area's support, you must submit it to me and if the Area supports it, I must be the one to submit it for consideration for you. Let Paola and I know so it can be added to the agenda for our Assembly on September 10.
 - On Saturday, I am going to the Not a Glum Prom on Saturday hosted by the YPAAs. I was asked to speak at the AA meeting.
 - The NYSIW is coming up in Buffalo from July 28-30 and I am hoping many of you registered and plan to attend.

Discussion/Questions:

Q: When was the deadline discussion?

A: Next Tuesday.

New Business

Questions: How should we host the assembly meetings ? Does it cost too much in Westchester?

Devin:

- Convenience is not a spiritual principle. I don't believe that because more people participate more virtually doesn't mean it should be that way.

Jim:

- I love that we used to rotate. I do think we should go back to rotation and will be making a motion. I also don't think we should go just virtually, its important to have

George:

- Continue to make it hybrid and

Justin:

- We are coming out of the pandemic and it's harder to get people to do service, we're doing the best we can. Even an issue of service at group levels, committees are too often of one person (reiterated by Kevin)

Sherry:

- I'm concerned/focused on 501 C-3
- We must prioritize. I think budgets are made for a reason. It's concerning that money is shifting at the last minute. We have to get that in order.

Jon:

- Should we search location for other locations to resent—also we should have better notification or making the information more accessible on the website

Derrick:

- Here's what I do, I get my sponsees to show up...I call them. PLEASE have any tech savvy sponsee, please send them to me so we can get trained

Paul:

- What is best for the AREA?
- There are 92 other areas. We can't be the only ones dealing with this. . Maybe we should ask other areas what they are doing? Or form an Adhoc committee to research what other areas are doing?

Gerry:

- The DCM is a voting meeting member and is expected to attend all committee meetings.

Jim:

- I'm cool with the money, i understand making the decision, I just want to understand the question

Rich:

- We do have unforeseen reserves.