



<http://www.aaseny.org>

SENY ASSEMBLY MEETING

MINUTES

SENY REUNIÓN DEL ASAMBLEA DE ORDEN DEL DÍA

Sunday September 27, 2015 (9:15am-3:15 PM)

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion passed: If we can duplicate our current website, do so and launch new site immediately and keep the old duplicate site through the end of the year. If it cannot be duplicated, keep new site on subdomain for one month and then make switch.

(9:15am) Service Workshops (Talleres de Servicio)

Meeting called to order 10:38 am

- Serenity Prayer Rick W., Chair
- Daily Reflection (*Reflexión Diaria*) – Nick
- Preamble – group / Preambulo - Yvonne, Manny A
- SENY Statement of Purpose (*Declaración de Propósito SENY*)

General Housekeeping –

- o GSR's DCM's and DCMC's vote
- o Roberts Rules of order and 2/3 unanimity

Introductions (Presentaciones)

- New GSR's, DCM's and DCMC's (*Nueva de GSR, DCM y DCMC*)

Approval of Minutes from Previous Assembly Meeting (Aprobación del Acta de la reunión anterior del Comité)

- Motion made and seconded
- Yes = 59 No = 0 Abs = 6
- Motion passes

Upcoming Events (Próximos Eventos)

SENY Area Inventory will take place at the next Area Assembly (11/7 – Saunders HS)

Agenda

Old Business (Asuntos Pendientes)

None

New Business (Asuntos Nuevos)

New Site Design – Fred M., Web Chair

SENY Website was unveiled. Almost two years of data about how website is serving our area.

www.aaseny.org

Discussion:

1. How will I know how to use it?
 - a. This would hopefully be easier to use then our current website. Possibly a workshop at a future assembly? A link will come up requesting feedback
2. Please elaborate on the financial aspect
 - a. We have spent approximately \$500 to create this website and do not think we will be spending too much more
3. What is the QA piece now that you have changed the website? Also, how do counties update their websites with you?

- a. They can contact me and we will get people up top speed. The visual design and QA are no longer necessary due to using SquareSpace instead of WordPress. The spirit of QA changes now to asking how is this site working for you. It is now going to be give us your feedback on how we can make this better.

4. What is the life expectancy of this platform?

- a. SquareSpace is the leader in this space and a by far a dominant player. We have no concerns that this will be going out. The underlying code should not become outdated any time soon.

5. The old site was adopted more for calendar management. For our purposes now, we can do much better in WordPress.

6. What is the time frame that you would like feedback?

- a. If the body wants to move forward, we can communicate it to everyone as the aaseny.org site, but let's wait to see what is decided today.

7. Are we ready to go live sooner? What are you looking for out of this meeting?

- a. Yes we are ready to start sooner. A motion to adopt this website for a timeline of maybe this week.

8. Will the link in the new website for corresponding events give us better information about transportation to events?

- a. That would be something to possibly collaborate with the Agenda Chair and each county.

9. If we vote to move forward on this, would it be a beta testing?

- a. I would hope that the current site will be available throughout the end of the year, but it is more technically challenging then thought. We would like to go live with this this week.

10. Suggestion to Beta test this site especially if we cannot keep both sites at the same time. What calendar program did you go for this site?

- b. We looked at three or four different options, The Events Calendar was the best option

11. Will we have a need help button? Will the registrations be linked from County, SENY and General Service?

- a. Yes, already there and yes, but that would be a better question for the Area Registrar

Motion to launch new site and keep old site throughout December 2015.

Motion seconded.

Amendment: If it proves impractical to keep old site

Motion retracted and restated:

If we can duplicate our current website, do so and launch new site immediately and keep the old duplicate site through the end of the year. If it cannot be duplicated, keep new site on subdomain for one month and then make switch.

Motion seconded

Feedback should go to web chair and web committee.

What are we losing if we just go to the new site?

- Archives need to be preserved, old site will give people familiar with old site time to navigate

Will the website be able to be translated?

- Proposal will be to develop a completely Spanish site that will have everything that is on the aaseny.org

Yes = 87 No = 1 Abs = 1

Motion Carries

Minority Opinion:

There is a minority that is in favor of the current website, but they are not here, so I felt like I needed to express that opinion.

LUNCH

Officer Reports (*Informes Oficial*)

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

I had a very busy summer of service - since the last area assembly in June:

- I attended the Asambleas in June, July, and September, which were in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Westchester. I attend LICYPAA's June meeting in Amityville and wrote a letter in support of their successful ESCYPAA bid. I reported at the area committee meeting in August that NYCYPAA has temporarily disbanded to focus on producing EACYPAA which will take place at the Grand Hyatt on 42nd Street over February 19-21. Registration is open and it's just \$20, I encourage everyone to support the event.
- Since the last assembly, I've participated in LOTS of service events including: 3 in the Bronx, 6 in Brooklyn, 8 in Manhattan, 4 in Nassau, and 1 each in Queens, Orange, Rockland, Staten Island, Suffolk, Sullivan, and Westchester. Only missing Putnam!
- I want to thank Steve G. again for last year's appoint to be one of the co-chairs of SENY's hospitality suite in Atlanta this past July. I also want to thank my co-chair Jeanne who did most of the work and to all the volunteers, many of whom are in this room today. It was a real blast to serve as SENY ambassadors to the AA world.
- Brooklyn has been out of sync with the rest of SENY in terms of rotations, they have voted to start being in sync and to allow the current rotation to continue for one year.
- Thank you again for the privilege to serve.

Delegate: Jim W., delegate@aaseny.org

1. Visiting a lot of places and doing quite a few group inventories, share a days, etc.
2. From GSO: Approximately 50,000-70,000 people attended the Atlanta Convention. All have expressed joy at having been able to celebrate AA's 80th birthday.
 - New staff rotation at GSO took place on Sept. 14th, current staff assignments at www.aa.org . Two new members will be starting soon Jeffery W. on Corrections and Sandra W. on Treatment and Facilities/Special Needs
 - Revenues are approximately 8.5% less than budgeted but the total operating expenses are less as well. Contributions are behind. Construction at GSO with the combining of WSO and Grapevine Office. If you visit you may encounter some construction there. Construction is estimated to be completed mid November.
 - Conference reports have been mailed as single copies, bulk shipments should be out shortly. Distributions will take place to each county individually, but additional copies will be available at the November Assembly. There will also be conference Inventory Reports coming out in November.

Chair: Rick W., chair@aaseny.org

Ad Hoc Finance Committee: On 08/27/15, I met with the Ad Hoc Finance committee and wanted to let you know that they have several items they are developing recommendations on that they will be bringing back to the Area Committee in the near future. Some of those items are 1.) Special Events funding and use of the line item in the budget 2.) Developing an orientation for new Area members on financial processes and guidelines 3.) Funding recommendations on non-SENY educational forums and service workshops.

Ad Hoc Publications Review: I recently reported that our Chair of the Ad Hoc Publications Review Committee, John W., had to step down from that committee due to personal reasons, and I have been in contact with Chris B., the committee member next in line to be Chair. This committee has two other members on it, David S., and Rafael A. There are two open positions on this committee that I need to appoint. If you are interested, or know anybody who does not already have a service position who may be interested in serving on this committee, please have them reach out to me directly (my contact information is on the back of the LINK). This committee is currently reviewing each of the LINKS before they go to print and they are working on

the revision to the SENY Handbook. I hope to have more information on the progress of the revised Handbook soon and will report it to the body as soon as I do.

Area Inventory: Our Area 49 inventory will be held at our Assembly on November 7, 2015 at the Assembly in Yonkers. I will be providing a full report on the inventory in the afternoon session of today's Assembly. I hope you will all stay for that presentation as I will be sharing the format for the inventory and the discussion topics we will be covering.

LINK Editor: We are still in the process of looking for a LINK Editor. I have had the opportunity to visit with several people who have expressed interest. It is my hope we will find someone to fill this position and I will keep the body informed as more information becomes available.

2016 Budget Prep: I'd like to ask all Area Officers and Committee Chairs to begin thinking about the 2016 Area Budget. We will likely have a budget prep meeting at some point in December like we did to prepare the 2015 Budget. I know it's a little early, but I wanted to get this on everyone radar so they can begin thinking about it. More about this will be communicated by our Treasurer so be on the lookout.

Visitations: I have had the opportunity to visit many of County General Service meetings, Share A Days, Spiritual Breakfasts and other service related events. To all DCMC's, if you would like for me to attend your County event, please reach out to me and I will be happy to get it on my calendar for the remainder of 2015 and into 2016.

GSR Voices will be Thursday Oct 1, 2015

- **Questions?**
- Clarification of the AdHoc Publications Committee

Treasurer: Manny A., treasurer@aaseny.org

- Financials for August were distributed

Motion to accept was made and seconded

Discussion:

Negative net income balance question regarding YTD expenses have exceeded YTD income by about \$4897. It is expected that income will increase over the next couple of months for the end of the year.

Yes = 69 No = 0 Abs = 0

- Returned contribution letters for each county, please see Manny after Assembly
 - Sullivan, Suffolk, Brooklyn, Nassau, Orange, Manhattan, Bronx Upper Manhattan

Registrar: Laura C., registrar@aaseny.org

Absent

97 registered attendees

45 gsr	8 alt gsr	13 dcm	4 alt dcm	6 dcmc	1 alt dcmc
4 officers	5 committee chairs	3 visitors	4 pastdelegates		

Discussion Items:

What information do you want distributed to you?

Review of what is currently posted on website, review of Agenda Chair responsibilities, web chair responsibilities in handbook, review of role of Intergroups.

1. General Service Related Information
2. General Event Information
3. AAWS Related Information
4. GSO Related Information
5. County/District/Group Related Information
6. Intergroup Related Information

Discussion:

- The GSO World Service informed that Intergroup is part of AA but not part of the General Service Structure. The more that is out there, the better coordination there can be of events and we can eliminate low attendance of events.

- The communication I find most useful is the email SENY – Now you know. I can have links and pick and choose what to bring to my group. I get bothered if there is so much listed in the LINK that I cannot see when the next assembly is, that concerns me.
- I would want to post an Intergroup event because more events are more information and what else is going on. I looked at what events GSO posts and what events are in their newsletter, and they post a broad range of events including intergroup events.
- It can be challenging to figure out what we should put up and what we should not put up. In the interest of AA Unity and our first tradition we should post more information. YCPAA according to GSO is part of AA and lists their event
- Beauty of having the internet is that we can avoid duplication so that people can get information from other sites by linking, but we could put all the events on the calendar
- Information about Group Anniversary's with the number of groups in our Area could be emailed out but not put on the calendar.

Motion: Groups can submit to the Agenda Chair and Area Officers information about Group Anniversaries and Group Events and they can decide to send the information out to the body at large.

Seconded

- Discussion: That would mean about 2000 additional emails per year. When does it end? Christmas party, etc. If we have an event calendar, that would be a more succinct place. If we send too many emails, people will opt out of emails.
- Discussion: Future website will be much easier to use and post events to the events calendar. This will be easier access than email
- Discussion: The new website could be easier to access from the County Website Calendars rather than email or complicating SENY's calendar.
- Determination needs to be made of WHAT can be on the SENY website, not just how.

Motion amended:

Area post all information in 1 through 6 but that changes motion

Motion withdrawn

Discussion: Roundups should be recognized and YCPAA should be recognized

Motion:

Area post all information 1 through 6, 7. Y-PAA, 8. LGBT Roundups

Seconded

Discussion: Concerned about losing focus of website and overwhelm the website as well as the focus of the alcoholic searching the website.

Discussion: We can keep adding to the list. Let this go before the Publications Review Committee so that they can look at all ramifications

Discussion: We have to be careful about picking and choosing what is important and what is not.

Discussion: I think this should go back to the Publications Committee and to the Web Committee

Discussion: There is a need for a Communications Chair. There is a vacuum in our service structure right now.

Think through this carefully and come up with a more elegant solution.

Discussion: Keep this as a SENY focus site, this needs further discussion though.

Motion withdrawn

Topic will be sent to the AdHoc Literature Committee

Upcoming Area Inventory:

Date: Saturday, November 7, 2015 Time: 1:00pm – 3:15pm (May be extended to 4:00pm if needed) Location: Saunders H. S., 183 Palmer Rd, Yonkers, NY 10701

Host County: Westchester General Services Assembly (Sally B. – DCMC)

Inventory Moderator: J. Gary L., Immediate Past N.E. Regional Trustee

Inventory Scribe: Jeanne C., Area Recording Secretary

Inventory Spiritual Timekeeper: TBD

Format of the Day: We will have the regular morning Assembly workshop tracks, and then will conduct a modified business meeting prior to lunch. Immediately following lunch, the meeting will be turned over to our Inventory Moderator to conduct the inventory.

Why An Inventory?

- Step 4: Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves
- “A business which takes no regular inventory usually goes broke. Taking a commercial inventory is a fact-finding and a fact-facing process. It is an effort to discover the truth about the stock-intrade. One object is to disclose damaged or unsalable goods, to get rid of them promptly and without regret. If the owner of the business is to be successful, he cannot fool himself about values. We did exactly the same thing with our lives. We took stock honestly.” (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 64)
- “Many groups periodically hold a ‘group inventory meeting’ to evaluate how well they are fulfilling their primary purpose: to help alcoholics recover through AA’s suggested Twelve Steps of recovery.” (The A.A. Group, p.29)
- Extend these ideas to the District, the Area, and even the Conference. Recall that the General Service Conference devoted significant time the last three years to doing a Conference Inventory.
- Regular inventory is a vital part of our recovery. In “A.A. Comes of Age”, page 231 contains these sobering words about penalty for the failure to go on growing: “In the years ahead, we shall, of course, make mistakes. Experience has taught us that we need have no fear of doing this, providing that we always remain willing to confess our faults and to correct them promptly. Our growth as individuals has depended upon this healthy process of trial

Questions:

Inventory is for the Area?

Can we include some of the morning time as well? It will be brought back to Gary

Can this be sent out to all? Yes, will be emailed and will be included in minutes

Who should we include in sending this out to? GSR, DCM, DCMC, Committee members. Please encourage ALL GSR’s, DCM’s, DCMC’s to attend

2:15 in the afternoon is not enough time for the inventory to be done. We could spend at least 20 minutes on each question. We need to do an abbreviated business meeting in the morning and should take the entire day. We need more time.

It would be helpful for people to take this list back to groups and get input on what is going on with SENY

County Highlights and Updates

- Queens County – Thanks to all who participated in Share A Day. Having Spiritual Breakfast 10/4
- Putnam County – Unity Breakfast 10/18 8am Graymoor in Garrison
- Westchester County – Share an Evening 10/17 2pm White Plains
- Staten Island – Traditions Workshop 11/14 10am-3pm
- Brooklyn – Spiritual Breakfast 12/6 10am
- CPC/PI – information session on 10/15 St Francis College 5:30-8pm
- District 602 – LGBT AA Big Apple Round Up 11/20-11/23
- Registration Fliers are out for the next SENY Convention
- Nassau – The Big Meeting – 11/14

7th Tradition Report (*7th Informe Tradicion*)

\$ 244

Motion to Close 2:45 pm

Thank You for Participating and for Your Service!
(Gracias por Participar y por Su Servicio!)

NEXT AREA 49 COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, October 5, 2015 – 7:30pm – 9:30pm
Church of the Holy Family, Mechler Hall
2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472-5402

NEXT AREA 49 ASSEMBLY
Saturday, November 7, 2015 – 9:15am – 3:15pm
[HOST: WESTCHESTER COUNTY]
Saunders HS 183 Palmer Rd. Yonkers, NY 10701