SENY Committee Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2025 | 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Area Officers	
Raj B.,	Chair
Nisaa A.	Delegate
	Alternate Delegate
Ray W.,	Technology Officer
Justin K.,	Registration Officer
Tom B.	Interim Treasurer

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm

- Serenity Prayer
- SENY Statement of Purpose
- Approval of Minutes from May committee meeting
    - Motion to accept, seconded, minutes approved

Area Officer Reports:

Treasurer

- **Financial Reports:**
    - Revised 2024 actuals and current numbers through the first half of 2025 were presented.
    - PDF versions are available via email: treasurer@aacini.org.
    - 2024 numbers changed by approximately $6,000 due to balance sheet clean-up (e.g., removal of a decade-old $1,000 assembly deposit).
    - The balance sheet is now "very, very clean."
- **IRS Filings & Audit:**
    - An extension for the annual 990 filing has been filed by the CPAs.
    - 2024 actuals are almost ready to be submitted to CPAs for filing.
    - An ongoing IRS audit (regarding a prior 990) is in its third month; progress is slow but steady, with the auditor learning about AA group operations. Resolution is pending.
- **Six-Month Financials:**
    - Group contributions for the first six months of 2025 are almost exactly half of the budget.
    - The committee is currently at break-even, with a net profit of approximately $1,878.
- **Outstanding Items for August Report:**
    - Decision needed on how to handle the purchase of Grapevine, La Vina, and literature (ideally as inventory on the balance sheet).
    - Need to download and account for funds from online cash recipients like Squarespace and other platforms (Stripe and Venmo download automatically).
    - These items will be wrapped up by the end of July for the August report.
- **Ad Hoc Finance Committee Priorities:**
    - The committee (3 of 4 members present) established three top priorities:

        - **Switching Banks:** TD Bank is not meeting needs, particularly regarding signatory rotation. Chase is being explored as an alternative, noting potential fees but also interest earnings from the money market account (approx. $1,400 in interest over 6 months). The goal is for interest earned to cover fees.
        - **Treasurer Position:** Emphasized the need for the Treasurer to have bookkeeping or accounting experience, or be willing to quickly learn and seek help (e.g., from qualified members like a QuickBooks Pro Advisor). This is crucial to avoid past financial "messes" and potential IRS issues.
        - **Simplifying Budget and Financial Reporting:** Plan to draft a "one-pager" summary for general voting purposes, with detailed reports available for those who require them. This aims to make financial information more accessible to the body.
- **Reimbursements:**
    - Apologies for delays in reimbursements owed to 6-8 individuals.
    - Efforts will be made this week to process outstanding Zelle or check reimbursements. Recipients are asked to resend emails if unsure about receipt.
- **Q&A:**
    - **Hiring a Bookkeeper:** Sean K inquired about hiring a bookkeeper for consistency. Tom B stated this is not currently being considered due to the implications of establishing a payroll (1099 or paid employees), which could complicate IRS relations, especially given the ongoing audit. He believes qualified alcoholics are available within the fellowship.
- **Next Steps for Report Approval:**
    - The full report will be shared approximately one week before the next assembly, where a vote on its approval will take place, as the full report was not viewable during this meeting.

Tech Officer | Ray W.

- **Meeting Cancellations:**
    - The Technology Committee meeting scheduled for July 22nd and Ray's office hours on July 24th are both canceled.
    - Both will resume in August.
- **Technology Streamlining & Cost Reduction:**
    - Ray is actively working to streamline technology usage and reduce costs for SENY.
    - He notes frequent requests for new software, but often existing free or paid software already performs the same function.
    - Users are encouraged to state their desired outcome rather than specific software requests, so Ray can advise on existing solutions.
    - The goal is to simplify technology management and avoid unnecessary additions.
    - A more comprehensive procedure for adding new technology is being developed with other officers.
- **Q&A:**
    - **List of Current Technologies:** James T. inquired if a list of currently used technologies exists. Ray confirmed that a comprehensive list is still being compiled, as he continues to identify unused paid software. He plans to publish this list once complete.

- **Bulk Mail Money Reconciliation:** Marty K. asked if money left over from the discontinued bulk mail account had been reconciled. Ray confirmed he has not yet circled back to recover those funds.

Registration Officer | Justin K.

- **Database Clean-up:** Justin is reconciling group lists between the area database and Fellowship Connection to improve accuracy, emailing DCMCs/DCMs for group verification. Real-time group views are available to DCMs/DCMCs.
- **Office Hours:** Justin holds office hours on third Sundays at 8 PM (Zoom).
- **Registration Status:** Overall registration is increasing.
- **General Service vs. Intergroup:** General Service tracks *groups* for representation; Intergroup tracks *meetings and locations*.
- **Q&A Highlights:**
  - **GSR Updates:** Contact registration@aaseny.org for GSR updates; county registration officers are primary contacts.
  - **Virtual Group Districts:** Virtual groups choose their district; GSO uses contact address if no choice, but district doesn't change with GSR.

Chair | Raj B.

- **Elections Postponed:** Treasurer and Alternate Delegate elections moved to November assembly, with Tom agreeing to continue as Treasurer until year-end. A special assembly might be scheduled if PAI discussions are extensive.
- **Officer & Committee Chair Meetings:** Held meetings with officers (June 25th) and committee chairs (June 30th) to review progress and address concerns for the first half of 2024.
- **Regional Alternate Delegate Meetings:** Attended Northeast Regional Alternate Delegates (NERAD) on June 22nd and North American Alternate Delegates (NAAD) on July 1st, where a presentation on submitting PAIs was given.
- **Service Participation Meeting:** Rescheduled to July 17th (Zoom) for DCMCs/DCMs.
- **Upcoming Assembly:** Will attend the assembly on Sunday, July 20th.

Delegate | Nisaa

- **Proposed Agenda Items (PAIs):**
  - Conference process is year-round, focusing now on PAIs.
  - PAIs are new ideas, often supported by group conscience, that strengthen services or support recovery.
- **Area Submission Deadline:** Saturday, July 26th, 11:59 PM (internal deadline for Area 49 consideration).
- **Process**: Submissions will determine if a virtual special assembly or the September Assembly is needed for voting (requires two-thirds substantial unanimity).
- **Submission Guidelines:** Non-voting members can submit PAIs but cannot vote. Proposers must "do their homework" by checking existing advisory actions and committee considerations to avoid duplication. Resources are available on the delegate's webpage.
- **No Floor Actions:** PAIs must be submitted by the deadline; no last-minute proposals will be accepted at assemblies.
- **Quality over Quantity:** Emphasis on well-researched, impactful ideas.

- **GSO Submission Deadline:** Official GSO PAI submission deadline is September 30th.
- **Resources**: Slides and a PAI reference guide are available on the delegate's page (aaseany.org/delegates).

Interim Treasurer (Past Delegate) | Tom B

- **Purpose of a PAI**: A PAI should address issues applicable to AA-wide policies or practices (U.S. and Canada) or seek to update/modify conference-approved literature. If your issue is local (area, county, district, home group, or individual), consider direct submission or local solutions instead of an area-level PAI.
- **Constructing a PAI:**
    - **1. Motion:** State your motion clearly and concisely (one short sentence). Avoid multiple motions in one statement.
    - **2. Problem:** Identify the single primary problem the PAI addresses (one to two sentences).
    - **3. Specificity:** Clearly state who is submitting the proposal.
    - **4. Expansion:** Use this section to elaborate on your ideas with facts, reason, and balance, avoiding emotional language.
    - **5. Solution:** Provide a specific solution to the problem identified in point 2.
    - **6. Contact Info:** Include your contact information (while maintaining program anonymity).
    - **7. Source:** Identify the submitting entity (e.g., one of the 12 geographic counties or 1 linguistic district).

Ad Hoc SENY Structure Committee Chair | Scott

- **Survey Launch:** An anonymous survey will launch next month (around the next committee meeting) to gather feedback on trusted servants' experiences within the SENY service structure (district, county, area levels).
- **Target Audience:** For general service members; Area Officers and Standing Committee Chairs should *not* respond.
- **Anonymity**: No names or emails will be collected.
- **Timeline**: A flyer will be sent out soon (after translation). A follow-up sharing session is planned for November/December.
- **Distribution:** Digital and printable versions will be available; return method is being finalized.

DCMC Reports

- **Rockland Alt DCMC | Joe W:** County is working on developing a newsletter, aiming to publish the first edition by the end of the year.
    - Share-a-day will be on September 14th at Marydell in Nyack.
    - Appointed a webmaster for Rockland County.
    - Registration chair position still open.
    - Co-hosting trivia night with WORCYPAA on 7/11.
- **Sullivan DCMC | John L:** GSR workshop was held on May 10th, thanked Justin K for his help with the workshop and cleaning up the county database.
    - Their GSA meets the second Sunday of every month at 3:15 pm at St. John's Church in Monticello
        - Discussing a potential travelling service workshop series.
- **Bronx/Upper Manhattan DCMC | Shawn K**: They have an ad hoc committee that is working on identifying active groups and contacts.

    - Share-a-day will be held Sept 13th, more details to follow .
    - Spiritual Breakfast is on Oct 12th at Marina Del Rey, tickets are $48.
    - He is also the 2026 SENY Convention Chair, first planning committee meeting is Saturday at 10 am on Zoom.
- **Alt DCMC Queens | Malini M**: Held a GSR workshop on the difference between general service and intergroup.
    - On Aug 2nd at 9 am will be their Share a day at IS 5 in Elmhurst.
    - Spiritual Breakfast will be on Sept 28th from 9 am to 12 pm at Russo's on the Bay.
    - Flyer with QR codes are being distributed so AA groups can submit their group histories. Goal is to increase group and AA membership participation in serving below the group level.
    - Queens County is celebrating their 50th year as a general service entity, milestone will be celebrated at the end of the year.
- **Manhattan DCMC | James T:** They meet on the third Tuesday of every odd month.
    - Planning Manhattan Share-a-day for October 12th, details TBD.
- **Putnam County DCMC | Hank G.:** Restarting their newsletter they now have an editor. Next meeting is August 5th at 6:30 and are planning to have the first newsletter published by September..
    - Unity Breakfast is being planned for the fall.
    - All jail commitments are filled.
- **Staten Island DCMC | Ronnie B.**: They recently held a county inventory, body wants the meetings condensed, an ask-it basket and the general service meeting completely restructured.
    - Officers are in the process of working on this.
    - Picnic and Share-a-day will be in September.
- **Nassau County DCMC | JR:** Upcoming workshop on "The Promises other than pages 83 and 84 in the Big Book", they are collaborating with the Hispanic District. Will be held on August 16th at 10:30 am at 717 St. Luke's Place in North Baldwin.
    - Next meeting will be July 21st.
- **Brooklyn Alt DCMC | Devin C:** Thanked Nisaa and Raj for supporting their Share-a-day.
    - Web chair and other committee chair positions are still open.
- **District Hispanos CMCD | Marcos Ch (Translated from Spanish):** The Hispanic District Committee is very active, with 49 new groups in the area and strong participation from 8 active members.
    - Apologized for website malfunctions, stating they are working diligently on improvements that will be available soon.

Committee Cairs

- **Treatment and Facilities Chair | Rob M.:** Looking for Bridging the Gap participants to meet people coming out of rehab as a temporary contact
    - Has successfully bridged the gap in Putnam, Westchester, Nassau, and Suffolk individually
    - Request to fill Bridging the Gap committee chair positions in other counties
    - Next committee meeting is hybrid on Friday from 6 to 7 pm at the Suffolk County Intergroup office.
- **Intergroup Liaison | Charlene B:** Early stages of planning workshop in fall
    - Changed their meeting from the third Sunday of the month at 2 pm to the 2nd Tuesday at 8 pm.
    - Invited anyone to join the meeting.
- **Accessibilities Chair | Matt F:** Committee meeting held every second Tuesday of the even months.
    - Has chairs from Manhattan, Putnam and possibly Queens.

    - Interested in hosting a workshop about Traditions 3 & 10 and Concept 4 - what's an inside issue and what's an outside issue and who has the right to participate in AA?
- **PI Chair | Kevin F:** Attended Brooklyn Share-a-day and they were very grateful for the Russian literature as it is not easy to get.
    - On Sept 7th CPC and PI committees are hosting a workshop on Sept 17th at 15-43 149th Street in Queens
    - Meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm
- **Literature Chair | Brian C:** Attended archives event in Far Rockaway
    - Total sales from June 8th to July 6th totaled $1,047
- **Archive Chair | Ed M:** On June 21st, workshop was held with about 45 attendees, the movie *Bill and Lois at Stepping Stones* was presented
    - Committee also participated in Brooklyn Share-a-day that same day.
    - Planning October trip to Stepping Stones
    - Eric was appointed as the digital archivist and will serve a 4 year term.
    - Collaborating with the ad hoc committee on SENY structure to provide historical documents relevant to their research.
    - Preservation committee is having a scanning and sorting service event on October 2nd in Putnam County at the Mt Carmel Bible Church from 1 - 4 pm.
    - Archivists will be attending the NYSIW with a display to present.
    - Next committee meeting will host a professional certified archivist for a presentation on best practices for preserving photos, documents and redacting policy.
- **Link Editor | Reiko D:** Thanked those that have written for the link thus far this year and encourages anyone else interested in contributing to contact her.
    - No professional writing experience is necessary and she can assist if needed
    - The theme for the September issue is Bridging the Gap
    - Around 800 copies are printed for monthly issues that coincide with in-person assemblies. It's also available digitally on the SENY website.

New Business

- **Motion:** Kathy W. moved to change the number of required signatures on the Convention account from five to three (Delegate, Convention Chair, and Convention Treasurer).
- **Background:** The current requirement of five signatures (Delegate, SENY Chair, SENY Treasurer, Convention Chair, Convention Treasurer) is cumbersome and inefficient for bank transactions.
- **Outcome:** The motion was seconded and passed.
- **Minority Opinion:** One member, working in the financial industry, expressed concern about reducing the number of signers due to past issues of malfeasance.
    - Another member questioned the historical reason for having five signatures, asking if the practice had changed from three to five in the past, seeking historical context before making a change.

Motion to close. Seconded. Meeting adjourned with AA's Declaration of Unity