SENY Committee Meeting Minutes

June 14 | 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

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

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am

- Serenity Prayer
- SENY Statement of Purpose
- Approval of Minutes from April Assembly
    - Motion to accept, seconded, minutes approved

Area Officer Reports:

Treasurer | Tom B.

Approval of 2025 Proposed Budget

- **Financials & Audit:** The treasurer, Tom, an accountant, confirmed that all checks have cleared and he feels confident in the numbers. He noted that the 2023 IRS audit is taking a lot of time but is progressing.
- **Budget & Actuals:** The proposed budget remains unchanged. Members were given the actuals for 2023, 2024, and the first five months of 2025. The treasurer noted some misallocations in the first three months, stating he will investigate a possible $6,000 to $7,000 overstatement in seventh-tradition contributions.
- **Check Acknowledgment:** Over 100 contribution checks have been received, but acknowledgement letters have not yet been sent out. Members were assured the letters will be sent and that if a check has cleared, it has been received.
- **Budget Questions:** When asked about a large deviation on line item 991, it was explained that was due to the NERAASA conference being virtual. He also clarified that "misallocations" were funds posted to the wrong accounts, and he's investigating an **$**8,300 discrepancy.
- **IRS Audit & 990 Forms:** A member asked if other AA entities have been audited for a similar issue. The treasurer said he had not checked but noted that AA is different from most non-profits. He directed members to the ProPublica website to view the organization's public 990 tax forms.
- **Budget Passed:** A motion to accept the 2025 budget was passed. Kevin's minority opinion opposing the motion due to a lack of discussion was noted.

Tech Officer | Ray W.

- **Technology & Efficiency:** The Technology and Communications Officer is continuing to make incremental improvements to the area's technology usage, with the aim of increasing efficiency and reducing costs.
- **Office Hours:** Reminder that office hours will begin on June 26th at 7 p.m. The link is on the aaseny.org calendar.
- **Purpose of Office Hours:** In response to a new member's question, it was clarified that these hours are for any questions about technology related to AA service.

Registration Officer | Justin K.

- **DCM Communications:** The registration officer has sent emails to all District Committee Members (DCMs) with a link to a list of the trusted servants in their districts. Anyone who didn't receive the email is requested to notify him.
- **Service Emails:** The importance of using a SENY service email address was stressed to protect anonymity and create a record for future position holders. This also ensures a permanent connection to the MailChimp list.
- **Trusted Servant Data:** The Fellowship Connection database lists 1,700 service positions, but much of the information is outdated. It was requested that members update their information when filling out sign-in sheets.
- **Database Inaccuracies:** An apology was made for errors in some "welcome" emails, explaining they were due to outdated information in the database. He asked members to email him with any corrections.
- **Email Clarification:** Clarification SENY does not provide email accounts for groups, but groups can create their own. It was also confirmed that alternate DCMCs and alternate DCMs can have service emails.

Chair | Raj B.

- **County Visits:** Raj has been very active, attending meetings in Rockland, Putnam, Orange, Sullivan, Suffolk, and the Bronx. He plans on visiting Manhattan and Staten Island next.
- **Events:** A spiritual breakfast was held in Putnam County on May 18th, and a Hispanic Share-a-Day was held, which was described as a lot of fun. An archives workshop is scheduled for June 21st in Queens, followed by a Brooklyn Share-a-Day.
- **Officer Updates:** Rob M. was appointed as the new Treatment Facilities Chair and Paul C., DCM for District 603, to the Ad Hoc Finance Committee. Possible plans to hold an election for treasurer at the next assembly.
- **Transition & New Roles:** The Alternate Delegate has stepped down from her position The delegate and Raj will now cover attending Hispanic assemblies. The delegate will also serve as the YPAA liaison, while Raj will handle the Service Participation responsibilities.

Delegate | Nisaa

From the Delegate's Page

- Gave quick virtual tour of the Delegate's portion of the website aaseny.org
- Great resource for finances, background information on issues, communication from AA as a whole ,
- Delegate's digest is email she sends out to area

75th General Service Conference Report

- **Conference Overview:** The report covers the 75th Annual General Service Conference, which had 137 voting members. 93 of these members were delegates, who traditionally make up at least two-thirds of the voting membership.
- **Conference Process:** The Conference did not adopt a new "How the Conference Operates" document but instead focused on building spiritual trust. Sharing time was shortened, and Friday's session was extended to allow for full committee report-backs. Members participated in small group inventory sessions throughout the week.
- **Committee Actions:** Agenda items were reviewed by committees and could result in three types of outcomes: a Committee Recommendation, which becomes a Conference Advisory Action if adopted; a Committee Consideration, which is a suggestion that informs future work but is not voted on; or a decision to Take No Action.
- **Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC):** The committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community took no action on a discussion about how A.A. can serve as a resource for unhoused and neurodivergent alcoholics. However, they did recommend that AAWS adapt three videos produced by A.A. Australia for use on U.S. and Canadian media platforms.
- **Finance:**
    - **2024**: A new record was set for Seventh Tradition contributions at $11.3 million, up from $10.84 million in 2023. AAWS literature gross profit was $7.64 million, a 13% increase from the previous year. The Grapevine had a loss of $851,735, while La Viña's shortfall was $571,939. The Prudent Reserve balance was $11.91 million at the end of the year.
    - **2025**: Contributions are budgeted at $11 million. Total operating expenses are budgeted at $20.5 million, the highest ever. Grapevine is budgeted to break even before depreciation. The capital budget is $2.4 million, which includes $2 million for retrofitting a floor at 475 Riverside to consolidate staff and create long-term savings.
- **Literature and Concepts:**
    - A recommendation to include the Twelve Concepts for World Service in the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* book failed to achieve substantial unanimity.
    - A recommendation to update the book *Living Sober* received substantial unanimity and was adopted as a Conference Advisory Action.
    - A request to require a super-majority vote to change or amend Founders' literature was considered but no action was taken.
- **Floor Actions:** A floor action to censure the General Service Board did not receive substantial unanimity after over two hours of discussion. Another floor action was submitted to begin a study to explore the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book.
- **Area 49 Highlights:** The delegate was elected to serve as Chair of the Conference Committee on Trustees for the 2026 General Service Conference. She expressed gratitude for the Area 49 Hospitality Committee, led by Jeanette K. and Brian C., for their work during Conference week.
    - **Q&A Summary**
    - **Financial and Structural:** The prudent reserve is at about six months of operating costs, with a goal of reaching nine to twelve months. It was noted that if every member contributed to cover their own costs, it would be about $6.42 per member.
    - **Public Outreach:** When asked how Public Service Announcements (PSAs) attract rather than promote, the delegate said they are used to show AA is a public resource, not a secret society. Actors are used to avoid anonymity concerns.

- **Conference Agenda**: The delegate explained that she has the discretion to select which agenda items to include in the pre-conference survey. She typically chooses those for "consideration" and those regarding founders' writings.
- **Events & Recognition**: A Regional Forum will be held in Rhode Island in December. The delegate was thanked for her comprehensive report and service. She also mentioned that the Grapevine has an official app and that the report can be found on aaseny.org/delegate.

New Business

Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) - Kevin | PI Chair

- The Public Information (PI) Chair proposed sending $500 to an area in Syracuse to help cover the $2,500 cost of a table at the New York State Fair. This request was made because of his limited PI budget.
- The acting treasurer was asked to determine if the area could afford to allocate the money for this purpose.
- A member, Kevin, asked if money from the attendance budget could be used. It was clarified that four areas are contributing $500 each, and the local intergroup is also contributing, so this is considered SENY's fair share. The motion was passed.

Standing Committee Chair Reports

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) | Annabelle: Reported that the committee has been active and will have a table at the International Convention. A joint workshop with the PI Committee and a Sunday dinner in Queens are also planned.

Accessibilities | Matt F.: Matt has been asked to speak at District 618 in Manhattan. He's planning a workshop on neurodiversity for a Manhattan Share-a-Day. The committee is also hoping to hold a workshop in the Bronx on "The Realm of the Spirit," which will discuss what constitutes an outside versus an inside issue and the limits that may be blocking A.A. He is available for any accessibilities needs.

Public Information (PI) | Kevin: Announced that seven members have expressed interest in joining the committee. They will have a PI table at the Brooklyn Share-a-Day and are planning to participate on a panel there. Kevin will also attend the New York State Workshop and is organizing a joint workshop with the Treatment and Facilities Committee.

Treatment & Facilities | Rob M.: Emphasized that people are suffering and it's important to get back to grassroots service. He stressed that the Bridging the Gap (BtG) program is in need of support.

Archives | Ed (Read by Danny): The Archives Committee recently attended the Long Island Spiritual Through Service Workshop, where all four Long Island counties made presentations.The next SENY Archives workshop is on June 21st in Queens. The topic is "Varieties of Sponsorship," with a focus on different types and methods, including "virtual age" sponsorship. The committee has various online resources, including the SENY website, AACNEhistory.org, and QR codes for specific documents. They also have history books, both digital and hard copy, with histories of every county.

Hispanic Liaison | Marco (Translated from Spanish): His committee has held several events this month. They're working on a census to get valid data on Spanish-speaking A.A. members in the area. A DCM meeting is scheduled for tonight from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in Mount Vernon, and an assembly will be held on June 15th

from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the same location. He noted a recent drop in sharing at meetings due to "new politics" and is seeking guidance from the GSO on how to handle potential ICE agents in their meetings, as many members lack legal documentation. He also mentioned that the committee is working on revising their procedures.

DCMC Reports

Manhattan DCMC | George: Reported on virtual planning meetings and announced two upcoming events: a workshop on October 12th and the 7th Annual Graduate Cookout on August 9th.

Westchester DCMC | Billy B.: Announced the 2nd Annual Spiritual Barbecue and Picnic on August 16th and a county Share-a-Day on October 18th. He noted that tickets for the barbecue are $20.

Staten Island DCMC | Ronnie B.: The county is updating its bylaws and adding new workshops. He announced a block party on September 13th, a Share-a-Day on September 20th, and a spiritual breakfast on November 30th at the Staten Island Hilton.

Brooklyn DCMC | Eddy: Announced the county's first Share-a-Day in five years will be next Saturday at Lincoln High School. He expressed excitement about reactivating districts and asked for help promoting the event.

Rockland Alt DCMC | Joe: Reported a record 420 tickets sold at their spiritual breakfast. He said they are planning a quarterly newsletter and will be meeting in-person only. The county's Share-a-Day is scheduled for September 14th. They have appointed a new webmaster and registrar that is outreaching “dark” groups to conn

Bronx Upper Manhattan DCMC | Sean: Reported good attendance at their last meeting and has appointed a new registrar. The county is prioritizing service emails and creating a Google Drive for documents. He announced a Spiritual Breakfast on October 12th and a Share-a-Day on September 13th. Sean also announced he has been appointed the 2026 SENY Convention Chair.

Orange DCMC | Camille T.: Reported on a successful spiritual breakfast. She announced a Share-a-Day on October 9th and a service workshop for early October.

Nassau DCMC | JR: Reported a surplus from the Long Island workshop, with each participating county receiving $389.91. He also announced a workshop in collaboration with the Hispanic District for August 16th about "The Promises Other Than Pages 83 and 84."

Queens DCMC | Moira: Announced a GSR workshop on July 7th, the 40th Annual Share-a-Day on August 2nd, and a Spiritual Breakfast on September 28th. She noted that the county is focused on cleaning up the database and increasing service participation. More information is on the Queens GSO website.

Sullivan DCMC | John: Reported a successful GSR workshop last month and the start of a Traditions Workshop Series. He directed members to the Intergroup website for more information - SullivanAA.org.

Putnam DCMC | Hank: Said that the county's Treatment and Corrections meetings at Arms Acres and St Christopher’s Inn are well-staffed. He reported on the annual Founders Day event on June 7th and plans for a newsletter and a spiritual breakfast in the fall. Putnam Alt DCMC is serving on the Ad Hoc Country Service Structure committee. They amended their bylaws and are planning on restarting their newsletter.

Suffolk DCMC | Heather: Announced a new Unity Breakfast Chair and a new Alternate DCMC, Jim S. She noted increased participation from the Hispanic district and has set up the Suffolk County DCMC email account.. The next county meeting is June 20th.

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