

**Brooklyn County General Service
Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2020
St. Francis College, 182 Remsen St, Brooklyn, NY 11201**

County Officers in Attendance: Colleen (DCMC), Miriam (Alt DCMC), Deborah (Treasurer), Stacy (Secretary), (Cici, Registrar, absent)

Next County Meeting: Wednesday March 18, 2020
(6:30 New GSR and DCM orientation, 7:30 regular meeting)

Next SENY Assembly: Saturday March 7, 2020, Cross Hill Academy 160 Bolmer Ave, Yonkers
Brooklyn will have a bus leaving bam at 7:30am sharp, \$10 suggested donation, receipt provided

Next SENY Committee Meeting: Monday March 2, 2020, 7:30pm at Church of the Holy Family, Melcher Hall,
2158 Watson Ave, Bronx, NY 10472

Opening/Welcome:

Open with the serenity prayer

Preamble: Read by Sharon

Daily Reflections: Read by Brian

Step 2: Read by Rowan

Tradition 2: Read by Jim

Concept 2: Read by Liz

Introduction of New GSRs, Service Sponsorship Chair Brigitte F.

- New GSRs:
 - Sharon (Alt GSR, 12 to Life)
 - Liz (GSR, Northside)
 - Jim (GSR, Clinton Carroll)
 - Brian (GSR, Clinton Carroll)
 - Rowan (Alt GSR, Clinton Carroll)
 - Lexie (GSR, In The Garden)
 - Dineen (Alt GSR)
 - Mike F. (GSR, Sheepshead Bay)
 - Perin (Park Slope Women's Step)
 - Sidney (GSR, First Step Workshop)
 - Brent (GSR, Drink and Die)
 - Matthew (Alt GSR, Clinton Hill)

Housekeeping reminders by Colleen:

- GSRs and DCMS can vote, Alternates can vote only if their primary is not here. Standing Committee Chairs and County Officers can also vote.
- What do GSRs do?
 - o Get group feedback on Delegate's Questionnaire.
 - o Elect a Delegate to represent our area at the annual General Service Conference.
 - o Strongly suggested you get your group to do a group inventory.

Officer Reports:

Colleen (DCMC):

- Going to NERAASA in Nashua, New Hampshire this weekend
- At the last assembly, reviewed and approved budget. Someone made a motion re. use of paper ballots when voting on motions made at SENY assemblies, this is now in conversation between the DCMCs.
- Saturday March 7 is the Delegate's Day of Sharing. It's important that you or your alternate goes. If you can't attend, get someone from your group to come (there will be no voting). It's very important to get background information the Delegate's Questionnaire for you to bring back to your group.
- Will be followed by the Pre-conference Assembly in which you can voice your group's opinions on the agenda items on the Delegate's Questionnaire
- The Conference will be in April, followed by Post Conf Assembly in May

Visitors:

Ed (SENY Treatment Facilities Chair):

- We don't have a Brooklyn County Treatment Facilities chair, looking for a volunteer.
- This will help keep us involved with what SENY is doing and keep SENY involved with what's going on in Brooklyn.
- This person would represent Kings County and serve as a communications point.

Mike (Brooklyn Intergroup):

- Copies of the Brooklyn meeting directory are available.
- Will be printing a spring edition soon, it will have a green cover.
- Flyers available for the Dr. Bob-e-que event on the table and on the website (bigaa.org).
- Kicking off a newsletter for Brooklyn Intergroup, see flyer on table.
- Making some improvements to the website.
- If you have any upcoming events or announcements for your group, please let Brooklyn Intergroup know.
- The Exchange meeting in Brooklyn is doing well and getting bigger.
- Have a monthly business meeting, constantly working to make improvements.
- If you have a change to make to your meeting listing, please send them first to Brooklyn intergroup. They will then update their system and forward it to New York Intergroup, copying you on the email. It is a more efficient system, as Brooklyn Intergroup is more responsive and updates more frequently.

Alt DCMC:

- Went to the Brooklyn AA Archives. Many Brooklyn groups have extensive histories that haven't been recorded. Has a questionnaire that she will distribute to groups and areas about the history of groups and meetings in the area. DCMS and GSRS can bring these to their business meetings to be filled out. History is very important; AA has deep roots in Brooklyn. (Brooklyn Group is the oldest group in the county.)

Cici (Registrar): absent, Safi filling in

- We have quorum.
- Please check in on the paper list when you can.

Deborah (Treasurer):

- Report from 1/14/20 through 2/19/2020 distributed and read.

- Beginning balance: \$7,318.91, Ending balance: \$3,605.57 (In addition we have a prudent reserve of \$2,500; \$6,105.57)

Stacy (Secretary):

- Minutes from the previous meeting have been distributed by email and printed copy.
- Send corrections to Stacy at Secretary@brooklynaa.org.

Old Business:

Open Standing Committee Chair Position:

- Junction (Brooklyn County Newsletter) Editor: No volunteers
- Archives Chair Evan has been absent, we will contact him.

Standing Committee Reports:

CPC (Joe):

- Attended the SENY CPC/PI meeting in January, but could not attend in February
- There will be a SENY CPC/PI workshop at the SENY convention
- There is a flyer available on the table directed to the professional. Please bring it to open meetings and give to any professionals you encounter who have questions about AA.
- Will be sending out letters and emails to people in the professional community (may link this to April as it is Alcoholism Awareness month) who may have questions/be interested in learning more.
- There is a lot of work to do to reach out, hoping to establish a system for future people in this service position to use.
- If you know of any professionals interested in learning more about AA, please contact Joe. They can email him at CPC@brooklynaa.org.

Webchair (Clyde):

- Will begin doing more electronic transactions on the website/online sales.
- Considering using PayPal, Venmo, and/or credit card transactions, will connect with Deborah.
- If you are a DCM or Standing Committee Chair and want a county email address, email Clyde at webchair@brooklynaa.org.
- If your group or district has a special event coming up, please email Clyde and he will add it to the County website. (If you have a flyer, send that as well as the information.) Works hand in hand with Brooklyn Intergroup, so he can post on both.
- If your group or district wants a group email or mailing list, email Clyde or see him after the meeting.

Public Information (Laura):

- Will be attending the meeting in March, will have more to report after that.

Corrections (Lucas):

- The Hispanic District has started a Spanish speaking meeting at Rikers once a month every month.
- Will be attending NERAASA and connecting with other areas to see what is going on with prerelease programs because we don't get a big response to that; want to know what is happening with people who are being released there how we can reach those populations.
- There will be a Corrections Convention on March 13, hoping to attend.
- Signing up to get cleared at a federal prison (MCC) and hopefully will be able to see what it's like to bring a meeting there.
- Got one-time clearance to go to Sing Sing in March or April, will be joining Terry F.

Brooklyn Spiritual Breakfast (Brigitte and Lucas):

- Will be on December 13, 2020. Put the date in your phones.
- The contract has been signed and we gave a deposit of \$1,000.
- Considering charging more for tickets this year. Will be put on agenda for March County Meeting. (Last year they were sold for \$35, maybe go \$38?) Brigitte and Lucas will price out our expenses and bring it to the body. Ideally, the Spiritual breakfast will pay for itself with no cost to the county.

Treatment Facilities co-chair (David T.):

- There are currently two entities dealing with treatment facilities in Brooklyn, one that meets at OPSC and one that meets at 103 Quincy Street, hoping to coordinate the two.
- The Brooklyn Treatment Facilities meeting is held every 1st Saturday of the month, 11:45am-12:45pm at OPSC. If your group is interested in picking up a meeting, come by.

Colleen – will be hearing from the representative at St. Francis de Sales School for the Deaf next week re. Brooklyn County Share a Day.

February anniversaries and birthdays announced**New Business:****Bus for the SENY Convention in March**

- Convention will be on March 27-29 in Tarrytown, NY.
- This year will have the 3rd Annual Fellowship Bus to the SENY Convention.
- Flyers available on table.
- The bus goes to the convention on Saturday March 28 for the day. Leaves from Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) at 7am and leaves the Convention at 5:45pm. It is a nice bus with a restroom.
- Tickets are available for \$25.00. David T., Deborah, Stacy, Bill, Miriam, and Colleen currently have tickets. Some peoples' numbers are on the flyer.
- Last date for collecting money for tickets will be March 7, the Delegate's Day of Sharing.
- You can register for the Convention and book a hotel room online at the SENY website, pre-registration ends on March 1.

DCM Reports:

(Note, No DCM on record for 406 or 413)

DCM 411 (Laura):

- Planning a movie night with the Cluster (Districts 401/403/411) at 103 Quincy Street.

DCM 403 (David T):

- Planning a movie night April 18, 7-9:30 at 103 Quincy St. with the cluster, will have some food.
- Movie undecided, Flyer forthcoming.
- Will be having a picnic in the summer, more info to come.

400/402 (Michael)

- Had successful events in November and December.
- Have had some new GSRS and DCMS getting involved.

407/409 (Michael)

- Bay Ridge had a group inventory, led by Ed.

- District is having difficulty because they have lost their meeting space, looking for a new one

DCM 412 (Clyde):

- District is having a spring workshop on Service, likely in May, on service at the individual level, group level, and below the group level

Alt DCM 405 (Michael):

- On the 4th Sunday of the month they hold an AA Historical Book Club, reading "Pass it on." Need more participation. Book club goes through July.
- For the flyer you can contact Colleen, or find it on BIGaa.org

GSR Reports:

Alt GSR OPSC (Jaydee):

- The 37th group anniversary will be held on May 2 at Flatbush Tompkins Church on Dorchester and East 19th Street from 5:30 to 10:30pm
- Jaydee will bring Chili
- There will be a flyer
- Having safety issues going on in the group, if anyone has any experience with that come see Jaydee, they could use help

GSR 12 to Life (Jarett):

- Now have new alt GSR, Sharon
- If you have had any success or failure with a group position for a phone commitment at NYIG they would love to hear about it, the group is considering it

GSR TRANScend (Lucky):

- Held at 218 Gates Avenue, Sundays at 6:30pm
- A motion was entertained to possibly change meeting time to 5pm, will be voting at end of month.
- Having a meeting internally about predators in Trans meetings, remains an ongoing discussion.
- Coming up on 4th annual sober trans camping trip, will be in July.
- Motions for gender inclusive language did make it on to the general service conference agenda.

GSR No Serenity Till Brooklyn (Saffi):

- The group anniversary will be held Monday April 6 at 6:30pm.

GSR In the Garden (Lexie):

- Holding a Meditation workshop on February 29th at 10am. Will include 3 speakers sharing their experience on the 11th step, specifically on meditation.
- Meeting adopted preamble language of "people."

GSR Big Book on the Bay (Bill):

- Participate in the Brooklyn Speaker exchange, it is going well.

GSR Good Morning Sobriety (Caitlin):

- Meeting is going well, still meets at Gibbs Mansion on Gates Avenue.

GSR Sunday Solutions (Gabrielle):

- Scheduled a business meeting to discuss the Delegate's Questionnaire on March 8th.
- Scheduled a group inventory for April 6th

- A group member created a group inventory web page where people could post about the topics.
- The new bulletin board is working really well, allows them to stay informed in items outside and below the group level.
- Will be chairing a meeting at the SENY convention.
- Will be leading book group this coming Sunday.

Alt GSR Clinton Hill (Matthew):

- Last year this time they were financially stressed and had to cancel the Thursday meeting.
- Attendance is up, but the 8pm Tuesday meeting is small.

GSR Sunrise (Sam):

- There is some confusion around the policy for Meeting lists, currently the Brooklyn Intergroup one is free; the NYIG one is free in beginners packetonly, no motion has yet been proposed.
- Cannot attend the April meeting, will find an Alt GSR by then.

GSR Women in the Spirit (Elise):

- Group is doing better financially, now able to give on a quarterly basis to entities

Alt GSR Slope Open (Eiko):

- The beginners meeting is going well, the open topic discussion and step/tradition meetings on Thursday could use support
- Will have their group anniversary meeting on February 29th at the Greenwood Baptist church. There will be a DJ and potluck, 7pm meeting with fellowship from 8-11pm. Info is on the Brooklyn Intergroup website.
- Lost member Nadine P. recently, there was a memorial service.

GSR Our Solution (Daneen):

- Group is doing well, no report.

GSR Sober on the Hill (Nick):

- Group is doing well.
- The 16th group anniversary will be on March 2, there will be food, all are welcome

GSR Clinton Carroll (Jim):

- Is a literature based meeting, active discussion to maybe switch one of the meeting to be a speaker meeting, will report back at next meeting
- Attendance is very good
- Adopted more inclusive language to the preamble

GSR Northside (Liz):

- Were having a financial crisis last year – back in the black.
- March 6, 7-11pm there will be a (district wide) spring fling held at 275 North 8th Street in the auditorium of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

GSR Prospect Group (Cephus):

- Group meets at 283 Prospect Avenue, hosts 2 meetings every week.

GSR Greenwood Group (Kelson):

- Need support for their Thursday 8:30 meeting and Friday 8:30 Living Sober meeting.
- Have some new chair people.

GSR Lefferts Gardens (Candi):

- Hoping to have a group inventory, have never done it before.

GSR Drink and Die (Bryant):

- Group is doing well
- Financial issues they had at the end of 2019 are getting righted.
- Just celebrated the group's 9th Anniversary in January.

GSR First Step Workshop (Sidney):

- Just changed the format of the Friday meeting. The last one used to be a Q and A and now it's a Promises meeting.
- have changed the language in preamble, as well as the sponsorship and fellowship announcements to be more inclusive.

GSR Third Step One Flight Up (Chris):

- Added a new commitment at a women's treatment facility on Mondays.
- Working on planning a weekend retreat at Holy Cross Monastery.

Additional announcements:

- If your meeting is in need of support, email it to Colleen at DCMC@brooklynaa.org and she will distribute to the mailing list so you can make your group aware.
- If you are a new GSR and haven't registered, email Colleen and she will make sure you get on the mailing list and are registered with SENY
- March 7 is the Delegate's Day of Sharing,
 - o if you can't attend, please send another group member
 - o Once the Delegate's Questionnaire is issued, you can enter your response online, mail it in, or hand it in in person at the preconference assembly.
 - o Due by April 4th Saturday.
 - o You can do the DQ during your business meeting or set a special business meeting to address it.
 - o DQ should be coming soon, definitely before March 7.
 - o Remember that the DDoS is not a forum for you to state your opinion, just to receive background info.
 - o The bus is a suggested donation of \$10, but as GSR you are entitled to be reimbursed by your group
 - o Anyone is welcome to come.
- Colleen's number is 646-346-3466
- DCMS, hope to see you at area committee meeting
- Please take LINKs