

**Brooklyn County General Service  
Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2020  
Via Zoom**

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

Next County Meeting: October 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30pm – Brooklyn County Elections

**Opening/Welcome:**

Preamble: Read by Grayson

Step 9: Read by Jaye

Tradition 9: Read by Joann

Concept 9: Read by Brigitte

Daily Reflections: Read by Earl

**Welcome to New GSRs/DCMs**

Jaye (GSR Old Park Slope Caton)

Earl (Alt GSR Old Park Slope Caton)

Grayson (Alt GSR No Serenity Till Brooklyn)

Joann (GSR Young People in Recovery)

Shwana (Alt GSR Brooklyn Group)

Cara (Alt GSR Lafayette-Clinton)

**Guests**

**Jane E. (SENY Delegate):**

- Has three months left of her term, working on helping the new delegate prepare for the position.
- Told a bit of her story, how she got involved in service early in her sobriety.
- 97% of the people who serve below the group level stay sober (and she likes those odds)
- Service positions are a wonderful opportunity for growth and work the “service” side of her triangle
- It’s been a wonderful journey
- Elected 5 new officers during the SENY elections on Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup>
- Brooklyn County will have elections on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Five positions available.
  
- *Colleen will make clear in email format the job descriptions and qualifications. Give people time to consider what they want to run for.*

**Kathleen W. (Kathy)(SENY Convention Chair):**

- “AA in a Time of Change” first ever virtual convention, March 507, 2021
- Will include meetings, workshops, fellowship, and fun.
- Program is a work in progress but will later be added to the SENY website.
- Will be doing pre-registration

**Officer Reports**



**Colleen (DCMC):**

- We have new SENY officers:  
Delegate: Tom B.  
Alt Delegate: Joann M.  
Area Chair: Nisaa A.
- Negotiating with the bus company to get our deposit back for the cancelled 2020 SENY convention.
- Brigitte and Lucas (Spiritual Breakfast Chairs) have negotiated with the Grand Prospect Hall to hold the space with our deposit for December 5, 2021.
- Will still have a virtual alternative to the Spiritual Breakfast in 2020
- The job: Facilitate the county meetings (approx. every other month). Attend service participation meetings, SENY assemblies, Area Committee meetings. Suggested you are a DCM or standing committee chair to run for the DCMC.
- Have been using Colleen's Zoom account for the county meetings. New DCMC would have to determine an alternative for 2021.

**Miriam (AltDCMC):** No report

- No report

**Cici (Registrar):**

- Has registered everyone who has sent her an email to sign up before this meeting.
- (Sent in chat) Link to register to receive emails from Brooklyn County in chat:  
[http://brooklynaa.org/mailman/listinfo/brooklynaa\\_brooklynaa.org](http://brooklynaa.org/mailman/listinfo/brooklynaa_brooklynaa.org)
- (Sent in chat) Link to register directly with the SENY area database:  
<https://www.aaseny.org/>
- The Job Description: Connecting with people new in positions and registering them to the database so they can receive all digital communications; and update peoples' information. Create a sign-in for in-person meetings.
- If you are new in your position, changed position, or need to update your information, email Cici directly at [registrar@brooklynaa.org](mailto:registrar@brooklynaa.org)
- *Question: Ongoing issues about people not receiving emails. Colleen has addressed this and it should be resolved, but please reach out if you have any issues.*

**Stacy (Secretary):**

- Minutes sent to all in Zoom chat as word doc, pdf, and googledoc.
- Provided an overview of highlights from the last meeting.
- If you see errors, please send corrections to [secretary@brooklynaa.org](mailto:secretary@brooklynaa.org)
- The Job Description: Take minutes at the County meetings and distribute to the body

**Deborah (Treasurer):**

- Provided report from February through September 16, 2020
- Received refund from Spiritual Breakfast from several years ago
- Ending Balance \$6203.59, plus \$2,500.00 prudent reserve
- Job Description: Pay all the bills, collect all donations, keep record of all of that, deposit donations at bank, collect mail from PO box, Schedule meetings at St Francis, Provide insurance for events, Prepare report of all transactions and distribute



- 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Paypal link:  
[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=bD5yLADIVl5TEJaDldGN\\_ayCUI9bwZ2Yh3zqp8lez0boPk7-CkA\\_-tJMzHV\\_avdCEmxXmjVLHq\\_mpXq](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=bD5yLADIVl5TEJaDldGN_ayCUI9bwZ2Yh3zqp8lez0boPk7-CkA_-tJMzHV_avdCEmxXmjVLHq_mpXq)
- PO Box address:  
AA Brooklyn County General Service  
PO Box 170582  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

### **Standing Committee Chair Reports**

#### **Joe L. (CPC)**

- Not much going on in CPC right now
- Contacted by someone in the rooms to speak to some elders in the church who were anxious to get AA into their church facility. Was able to explain to them the role of churches in AA meetings (essentially just as landlords)

#### **Clyde (Webchair):**

- Sorry to hear about the email issues persisting, if they come up again you can contact Clyde at [webchair@brooklynaa.org](mailto:webchair@brooklynaa.org). Thought the issue was sorted, but happy to work that out if it's still happening.
- Has been working on a Brooklyn-based online meeting finder. It can be found here:  
[https://www.booleanarts.com/BK\\_ZOOM/](https://www.booleanarts.com/BK_ZOOM/)
- It is not yet on the Brooklyn AA website, but will be soon.
- Link in chat. If you are online, please check if you're info is correct, if you're not and would like to be please send info. Or know of one that is not on there.
- Also looking for folks to help with testing but has gotten some reviews and they have been mostly positive. Will add to BKAA site to make more widely available
- If your group is having an event you would like added to the website, please send the info to Clyde.
- If you have a flyer please send along (PDF preferred)
- If you are a new officer, Clyde can set you up with a BKAA email address that forwards emails to your personal address
- Deborah: requesting that PO Box address be returned to main page of website

#### **Lucas (Corrections):**

- Over the summer attended a couple of CTFC workshops. Napa County Corrections had one in August. Also attended a workshop out of Chicago on Aug 19, on outside of the box thinking/how to do CTFC work in the virtual world.
- Working with the LGBTQ rep. from the city jail to facilitate a pre-release program
- Things are different since they can't enter facilities, but still possible to do work.
- July 25<sup>th</sup>, Anton's dinner dance was a success (by our friends at CTFC NYIG), Had all Brooklyn speakers.
- On Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, accessibilities had a great workshop as well
- Part of a National Corrections call, joined by a couple of trustees on Sunday. Need help with corrections kit, ad hoc committee meeting on Friday to review the pages.

### **GSR Reports:**

#### **Kelson (GSR Greenwood Group):**

- Over the summer had a motion to reopen the meeting space. It did not pass. Have created an ad-hoc committee (that he is chairing) working off NYIG's consideration questionnaire to determine their guidelines for reopening.
- If anyone is in the same situation and wants to discuss or exchange notes, he is available.



**Kris V (GSR 3<sup>rd</sup> Step 1 Flight Up):**

- Put together a reopening committee
- Saturday meeting is huge and there is no way they could meet in person and socially distant
- Will meet once a month to keep conversation going and see what they come up with

**Gabrielle (GSR Sunday Solutions):**

- Also have a reopening committee
- Church has made it clear they are not welcoming them back yet
- But kept door to conversation open, open to a diversity of opinions
- No one wanted to take on the difficult task of managing it
- Also looking at guidelines sent by NYIG and one member went to meeting out in SENY
- Postponed group inventory. Was going to be done by John W.

**Aileen (GSR Bleeding Deacons):**

- Password protected group, have instituted a password committee to discuss how to get rid of the password. Working towards getting rid of password.
- New service position: Coin Master: If people send their info to the group email, they mail them coins. Diligent about safety of those email addresses.
- bleedingdeacons@gmail.com
- Have not yet discussed the possibility of reopening

**Grayson (Alt GSR No Serenity Till Brooklyn):**

- Have not yet discussed meetings about reopening, assuming they will be virtual through the winter.
- Currently doing 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions through Zelle but are considering other alternatives to better accommodate people.
- NYIG Zoom account may be expiring soon, so they're exploring alternatives and hope to set up their own ways and means.
- Last business meeting ended with a proposal of adding a 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to the group with a new format.
- Will be doing a virtual group inventory.

*October meeting will be elections only, Colleen will send a googledoc where you can add what you're group is doing so we can still share that with everyone. In November we will devote 1 hr of the meeting to a County inventory and then 1 hr to reports.*

**Matthew (GSR Clinton Hill):**

- Have not yet discussed opening up.
- October 20<sup>th</sup> celebrating their 46<sup>th</sup> group Anniversary virtually. Meets at 6:30pm.

**Nick D. (GSR Sober on the Hill):**

- Still fully virtual and not discussing opening up yet.
- Going well attendance still high.

**Lucky (GSR TRANScend):**

- Not currently thinking about reopening the meeting
- Added 3 days a week meeting called PBT (poisoned by Testosterone) for people on the trans feminine spectrum as well as gender non-conforming. Meets 10:30 to midnight
- Working on an alcathon that is entirely trans for New Years, hosted on their zoom platform
- Not listed on NY IG or other sites
- If you know any TGNC folks interested, put them in touch with Lucky and she can send the info to them



## **DCM Reports:**

### **Charlene (DCM 405):**

- Had to take a pause in the AA Historical Book Club, will be continuing through October, coming in to the end.
- Will resume 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in October, all info on website

### **David T (DCM 403):**

- Most of the meetings have been cancelled
- Still having meetings: Young People in Recovery, Brooklyn Central, Herkimer Sponsors, Weeksville, Hanson Group, New Beginnings
- Hanging in there

### **Brigitte (DCM 410):**

- Had a Labor Day alcathon from 9am to 2pm, all groups participated, it was virtual and a wonderful event

### **Clyde (DCM 412):**

- District is planning to have the Christmas day alcathon virtually, starting to plan now.
- Having district meeting this coming Sunday (virtual).
- A couple of groups meeting face to face as well as on zoom. Midday is meeting by the picnic house in Prospect Park, Park Slope); First Step Workshop Monday evening in Prospect Park; Tightrope in the Slope in Prospect Park on Thursday evenings (called toolbox) If you need info, Clyde can get it for you.
- Had to cancel end of summer picnic

*OPSC will have one in person meeting in the afternoon, will start in October. Need to prepare to meet guidelines for safety. Will help determine what this will look like.*

## **Guest:**

### **Mike (Brooklyn Intergroup):**

- Rep (Jordan) has moved to Ohio
- Treasury: doing ok financially, but income has gone down, have very little overhead
- Do have a newsletter, go to BIGAA.org to sign up
- Telephones: Small group that answers calls, get about 180 calls per month as well as emails
- Main goal of BKIG is to do directory and upgrade website accurately with meetings happening in BK
- Had a meeting on Sunday, NYIG said their website hasn't really been updated since 2013.
- Have a very solid accurate website, please continue to send info to keep updates
- Bay Ridge group put together great guidelines for reopening, you can get them on the website
- Planning a workshop on reopening
- Just began speaker exchange last month
- Thinking about doing some kind of alcathon during the holidays
- Brooklyn Institutions: trying to get into the institutions after everything has shut down, have 2 detox meetings working right now
- Info@bigaa.org

*Colleen: Please consider standing for an officer position. We will be voting in October.*

*We require a 2/3 vote. Can go up to a 5<sup>th</sup> ballot. If we don't have substantial unanimity by then, we go to a hat.*