

Brooklyn County General Service
Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2019
St. Francis College, 182 Remsen St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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

Next County Meeting: Wednesday January 15, 2020
(6:30 New GSR and DCM orientation, 7:30 regular meeting)

Next SENY Assembly: Sunday February 9, 2020 in Nassau County (Exact Location TBD)
Brooklyn will have a bus.

Next SENY Committee Meeting: Monday January 6, 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 Glenn

Daily Reflections: Read by Chris

Step 12: Read by Aiko

Tradition 12: Read by Peter

Concept 12: Read by Bill

Introduction of New GSRS

- New GSRS:
 - Glenn (GSR, Living with Gratitude)
 - Chris (GSR, Third Step One Flight Up)
 - Aiko (Alt GSR, Slope Open)
 - John (GSR, Gerritsen Group)
 - Nick (GSR, Sober on the Hill)

Guests:

Jane E. (SENY Delegate):

- Thanks to everyone for having her here.
- The Delegate's Day of Sharing is on March 7, 2020. On the Delegate's Day of Sharing, background information is given on items on the Delegate's Questionnaire for you to bring back to your group.
- Conference work goes on all year, you can check out new developments in Alcoholics Anonymous by going to AA.org and checking out "What's New."
- Received a letter from the Literature desk requesting to be connected with people in the SENY area who utilize non-conference approved materials with gender-neutral wording. Jane has connected them with Lucky, the GSR for TRANScend. Jane can pass along additional contacts if anyone is interested.

Melissa (DCM, Suffolk County):

- Serving as the Hospitality Chair at the International Convention in Detroit, MI in July 2020.
- Will not just have food, will have pins, stickers, a sign-in book, meeting lists, etc.
- Looking for volunteers, please consider giving an hour or two of your time over the weekend to do service there.
- Contact Melissa at 631-278-2764 if you are interested. Please text with your name and that you'd like to volunteer for the International Convention Hospitality room.
- Please spread the word to your groups that if anyone wants to volunteer they can contact her.

Officer Reports:**Miriam (Alt DCMC): no report, new to job****Cici (Registrar):**

- We have quorum
- Please check in in the book if you haven't yet done so
- Please see Cici if you need to register, or if you need to update your position

Colleen (DCMC):

- Spiritual Breakfast was beautiful and Awesome

Mishie & John (Spiritual Breakfast chairs):

- Event went very well, thank you to everyone who did service day of.
- The event is getting better and we are learning more every year.
- Approximately 470 people attended.
- This year Mishie used her personal Venmo account for payments, would like us to use the Brooklyn AA account for this next year.
- Received feedback that the history that was read is inaccurate, will have corrections for next year.
- Grand Prospect Hall doesn't allow all service dogs, only Seeing Eye and psychiatric service dogs. (Unfortunately two people were unable to attend because of this)
- Next year it will be either December 6th or 13th, need to make sure it won't conflict with anything else on the SENY calendar.

Stacy (Secretary):

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

Deborah (Treasurer):

- Report from 11/21/19 through 12/19/19 distributed and read
- Beginning balance: \$5,928.85; Ending balance: \$6,449.25
- In the process of recouping the sales tax from The Grand Prospect Hall in 2018 (\$1,439.88); should have that soon.
- Will prepare a number for what 3 months expenses are for Brooklyn County so we can discuss possibly having a prudent reserve at the next meeting.
- Will also have the budget for 2020 at the next meeting.

Old Business:

Open Standing Committee Chair Positions:

- Junction (Brooklyn County Newsletter) Editor: No volunteers

New Business:

Bus for the SENY Convention in March

- Flyer available on table, tickets have not yet been printed, will be available in January.
- Goes to the convention from Brooklyn on Saturday March 28 in the morning and leaves at 5:45 pm
- Contact David T., Deborah, Stacy, Miriam, or Colleen if you want tickets.

December anniversaries and birthdays announced

Standing Committee Reports:

CPC (Joe):

- Haven't gotten any requests from SENY, but is ready to respond if needed.
- The next SENY CPC/PI meeting will be on Sunday December 22 at the SENY office in the Bronx at 12pm
- There is a flyer available on the table directed to the professional. Please take some and bring to open meetings and give to any professionals you encounter who have questions about AA.
- Reaching out to the head of the nursing department at Touro College about doing something there, hasn't received a response yet.
- SENY CPC was contacted by Mermaid Manor Home for Adults about having a meeting there. This is not technically a CPC matter, but a dialog has started and they will work with the Special Needs/Accessibilities Committee on this.

Special Needs/Accessibilities (Ted):

- No meeting in December, nothing to report. See the November County Meeting minutes for the most up to date info.
- The next meeting of the SENY Accessibilities Committee will be in January at the SENY office in the Bronx (1231 Lafayette Ave.). Will be on the 2nd or 3rd Tuesday in January, see the Link for more info.

Brooklyn Intergroup (Mike):

- Things are going well.
- Please visit the website, bigaa.org, and let them know if there is anything else you'd like to see there.
- Had a recent issue with Verizon leading to all their phones being down, fortunately New York Intergroup took the calls during that time.
- New winter 2019 directories are available for free, they have a blue cover.
- Please let them know about any changes to group information that need to be made. Send corrections to info@BIGaa.org.
- Meeting books are being given out at no charge, but they suggest you charge people with over 90 days \$1.00 for them. Email them if your group needs more.
- Always looking for more volunteers and support.

- Brooklyn Intergroup Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of the month, 9am, at Holy Name Church on Prospect Park West. There is one this Saturday, December 21.

Corrections (Lucas):

- The SENY Corrections Committee held a workshop on Sunday November 24 from 1-3pm, at the LGBTQ Center on West 13th Street in Manhattan.
- Having a workshop with the Hispanic District on Sunday, December 21 3-5 at Grupo Lealtad, 99-06 Northern Boulevard in Queens.
- Goal in 2020 is to kick-start the prerelease program in the City. The amount of release requests in New York City currently is low. They will be contacting people in upstate areas to coordinate with them to try to reach more people who are being released from upstate prisons and coming to NYC

Public Information (Laura):

- Will attend a conference on Sunday and will have more information after that.

Webchair (Clyde):

- The website has a new look, which features the bridges of Brooklyn.
- If your group or district has a special event coming up, please email Clyde at webchair@brooklynaa.org and he will add it to the County website. (If you have a flyer, send that as well as the information.)
- If you are a DCM or Standing Committee Chair and want a county email address, email Clyde.
- If your group or district wants a group email, email Clyde or see him after the meeting.

DCM Reports:

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

DCM 410 (Mishie):

- Had elections at their recent district meeting. Mishie will be rotating out, the new DCM will be Brigitte. Jonathan will be treasurer, Elise will be Secretary, and they are still looking for Alt DCM.
- Will have more information in January regarding events in 2020

DCM 412 (Clyde):

- There will be a Christmas Day alcathon at Park Slope United Methodist Church on Sixth Avenue and 8th Street, 8am-10pm, with meetings every hour on the hour.
- Flyers are available on the table and the website.
- Asking any Park Slope GSRs to sign up their group to host a meeting.
- In need of people to do service, see Clyde if you'd like to volunteer, bring food, etc.

DCM 411 (Laura):

- All is going well, no report.

DCM 403 (David):

- The cluster (Districts 401, 403, and 411) is hosting a New Year's Day alcathon, 9am-5pm, at 163 McDonough Ave.
- Flyers are available on the table.
- In need of volunteers. If you belong to one of the groups in the cluster, please get involved.
- Our Father's House is also having Christmas day alcathon at the same address.

DCM 405 (Charlene):

- The third installation of the AA Historical Book Club will be reading "Pass it on." Held the 4th Saturday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30pm at the OPSC meeting space. The first meeting will be on January 26. It will run from January through July.

GSR Reports:**GSR Sheeps by the Bay (Bill):**

- No report, just stepped up to position

GSR Twelve to Life (Jerry):

- Just had their group anniversary celebration, it was a success
- Meets on Saturdays and Tuesdays, will be open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

GSR Lafayette-Clinton (Jonathan):

- Sent an email to GSO supporting gender neutral wording in the Preamble, got a lovely response back.

GSR Prospect Group (Cephus):

- No report, meeting is going great, please attend

GSR TRANScend (Lucky):

- Just celebrated the one year anniversary of TRANScend.
- Impressed with the number of GSRs that have reached out about the letter writing campaign regarding the preamble, as well as the number of groups that have changed the language at the group level.
- Will be taking a meeting at the New Year's alcathon.
- TRANScend was originally listed under district 410 with Brooklyn Intergroup, but it's actually in 411, that has been corrected.

GSR Good Morning Sobriety (Caitlyn):

- GMS has a new location, now meets at Gibb Mansion at 218 Gates Avenue
- Because of the holidays, they will be celebrating anniversaries on December 19 instead of the last week of the month

Alt GSR Old Park Slope Caton (Jaydee):

- Created a Safety Committee of a diverse group of people to handle safety issues in the meeting, currently in development.
- Will have a conversation at next business meeting regarding the language of the Preamble
- Has a Concepts meeting every third Monday of the month at 7pm
- Has a Sponsorship workshop on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7pm

GSR Sober on the Hill (Nick):

- Planning their 15th group anniversary meeting on Monday March 2, it will be an open meeting

GSR No Serenity Till Brooklyn (Safi):

- The NSTB Sunday morning meeting was moved back to Chabad Heights at 664 Sterling Place during the summer. It will be moving back to St Francis de Sales on Eastern Parkway starting in January.

GSR Brooklyn Group (Damien):

- Had a group inventory about 6 months ago, they are discussing and implementing things from that inventory now.
- Traditionally, the meeting ends with people not holding hands and reciting the Lord's Prayer. (As this is the oldest meeting in Brooklyn and that's how Bill W. did it as a member.) A motion was made to change this, they decided to discuss it over three months, and ultimately it did not pass.

GSR Living with Gratitude (Glenn):

- No report, new GSR

GSR Lefferts Gardens (Candi):

- At their last business meeting they passed motion to change the reading of preamble at their meeting to say "people" instead of "men and women."

GSR Gerritsen Group (John):

- New GSR, just began the commitment.
- Hoping the group will be more active in service going forward.

GSR Clinton Hill (Mishie):

- Will be open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve

Other announcements:

- Brooklyn Group will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day
- Brooklyn Artists in Recovery (BAIR) will be closed from next Tuesday (12/24) until the New Year
- Courage to Change will be closed on Christmas
- Kingsway Group closed on Christmas and New Year's Day
- Marine Park will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve
- Women's Room will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve
- Midday in Park Slope will be open all through the holidays