

# Minutes of Queens General Service Assembly 04-26-2021

## **Meeting began at 7:30 pm**

Bert L. -Opening Service Prayer

Adina - Statement of Purpose

## **New GSRs introduced:**

Rihannon - Principles Before Personalities

Constantine - Survivors Group, Rego Park

Nicole - Astoria

Joanne - College Point Malba

Ronnie - It's The First One

Kathy - Sobriety Sisters

## **New DCMs - None**

Bert L. reminded all that only GSRs, DCMs, Chairs have the right to vote. Alternates may vote if their primaries are not present.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** None. Secretary not present and no minutes of previous meeting provided.

**Time keeper** - Kim H. Reports kept to 3 minutes except for the Treasurer's report.

## **Treasurer's report: Jan**

Group donations March/April - \$305

Expenses - \$318.96

Account balance above reserve - \$4857.76

Total bank balance - \$15,948.89

Detailed financial report available upon request.

County does not have its own Venmo account. Contributions may be made to Jan's personal Venmo account. Checks, especially made out the the Assembly meeting 7th Tradition may be mailed in. Address posted in chat. Patty H will be reimbursed for expenses related to the Newsletter. Treasurer's report accepted.

## **Registrar's report - Maura**

Concern about the Group/District participation in Queens. Eight Districts in Queens and only 4 are active. They are: 301, 305, 312, and 304. The inactive Districts are: 306, 303, 307, and 308. The County can assist those Groups in the inactive Districts to get their Districts active. This would ensure that all Group members in all Groups in Queens are informed and have a voice.

## **Facilities - Liam**

Still getting acquainted with the field. 'Bridging the Gap' workshop planned for May 1st. Two speakers followed by a Q&A then another two speakers. Many facilities are still not letting people in to do meetings. Things may improve into the future. County jails not covered by Facilities.

### **InterGroup Liaison - Roslyn**

QIG funds are \$43, 727. The Steering Committee voted to increase the Prudent Reserve to \$25,000. The office will be changing from Verizon to Spectrum. About 30 meetings are re-opening. New website will be available shortly. Nassau County has a separate Zoom account for Facilities. Proposal for live outdoor meetings. IG reps meet virtually. Suffolk County currently has 331 meetings. Putnam County has its own web site. Only has 15 meetings.

### **Newsletter - Patty H**

Had a technical glitch in getting in to the Grapevine Archives. Newsletter should be ready by tomorrow. Needs guidance in the process. Once the Newsletter is created, then WHAT?

### **Literature - Power**

No events to which to take literature. Question about anniversary stickers which cost about .26c each. Should the County pay for these. Also should the County pay for the aluminium coins? . This will be brought to the Steering Committee. Power still needs information about the storage unit. Bert L. will get back to him with this information.

### **PI - Emily F.**

SENY PI meeting cancelled for an emergency. Thanks to Roslyn for providing a Queens Public Library contact who provided information on Big Books and language specifics needed for the branch libraries. Some can be ordered now. Others in languages other than English are not immediately available

Training workshop for Bringing the AA message to the public. More information to follow. A flyer to encourage involvement. Tom B. spoke briefly on the ways of speaking to the public.

Anonymity will be broken. Remember you are not speaking to a room of drunks. Do not use the terminology associated with the program and which mean something to members of AA. Do not over-personalize.

**Archive - Pepper.** Not present.

### **Web site - Adina**

New Chair to begin next month. New Chair of Web is Kim H

Adina will work with her on the transition. Emails still being updated in MailChimp. Mastery of MailChimp is still in process. This should be done by June.

**Guest speaker - Annabel SENY Chair for Accessibility.** Annabel was invited to speak of the service position to encourage Queens members to take the position of Accessibility Chair that is vacant.

SENY survey to assess the accessibility needs of the counties. What are the unique challenges? SENY putting together a workshop on various challenges of accessibility including, racial bias e.g. Asian discrimination; hearing and sight impairment; mobility; transportation; child or elder care; the digital divide; sexual discrimination etc. NERASSA campaign with the theme "Each One Reach One". Flyer to be made available. Aim is to reduce/remove barriers.

**Guest Speaker - Lucas SENY Corrections Chair**

No in person meetings in jails at this time. Volunteers will have to re-apply and get new ID cards. Requirements may include CDC guidelines.

State facility in Queens currently accepting applications for Webex meetings.

The service position promises a good and rewarding experience. Involvement at the area level is a bit different than the county level involvement. Area level coordinates information with GSO. Matching persons, routing correspondence. There is a Corrections workbook that outlines cooperation with other service commitments. Pre-release programs help those coming out to find meetings. Harder with pandemic regulations. No current program in place to find out who will be getting out and when from jails. And once they get out how to find a meeting. Takes courage and commitment to be friends when they are released. International Corrections meeting schedule available on request from Lucas ([corrections@seny.org](mailto:corrections@seny.org)).

Motion to extend meeting to 10 minutes after 9 pm. Passed.

Bert L. Thanks to Annabel and Lucas for their time and explanation of the service positions. Positions that are still open: Corrections; Accessibility; CPC; GV.

**New Business:**

John Francis is the Queens County new Service Sponsorship Chair. Not present as he is away celebrating his anniversary.

Queens Share-A-Day - No report. Chair not present.

Spiritual Breakfast - No report Chair not present.

Continuing meetings on a virtual platform is entirely the individual's group decision.

GSRs who register with SENY have that information sent to the Queens Registrar who updates AirTable. AirTable then updates MailChimp.

Raj asked that the Steering Committee discuss the re-introduction of 'Spotlight on the Traditions and Concepts' as a part of the QCGSA meeting agenda. Bert L. said that this had already been discussed.

Declaration of Unity

Meeting closed at 9:10 pm (approximately)

