

Secretary's Notes and Minutes

April 22, 2023

Chairperson : Miriam A. opened the meeting with Serenity prayer and a reading of the 2nd tradition.

Reports's Secretary: Irene C. read the Secretary's notes from March 18,2023. The notes were approved.

- **Treasurer:** Michael G. reported on BIGAA revenues and expenses. Closing balance for March 1 through March 31,2023 was \$5,400.80. Expenses increased because of paying annually (grasshopper & Zoom etc.) Mike G. Is offering to deliver any book order of \$100 or more to their Group address. Written report (attached) was approved.
- **Website Committee Chair Report:** Michael V. Spent \$120.00 for consistent working back-up. Upgrade storage for \$1.00 a month, all can be restored, 24 hour care. Another member who has joined Frank from Sheep's by the Bay will be having a training session. Updates have been made SPEAKER EXCHANGE on the website.
- **Office Committee Chair:** Irene C. Possibly be more mindful when a new person shows interest in joining the office committee. Ordering literature and coins from new vendors. Written report was approved.
- **Institutions Committee Chair Report:** Mike B. (Interim) Two meetings at Genesis both Sunday and Wednesday meetings will be in person.
- **Helpline Committee Chair:** Adelaide M. March and April new interested volunteers have been fun. Moving to Boulder was not an issue.
- **Speaker Exchange Committee Chair:** Jimmy C. All is ready for Exchange. Come prepared, index cards and a calendar. We will see what happens.
- **General Service Committee/SENY Chair:** Joe L. For further information see attached. Report accepted.

Old Business:

Open Chairperson service commitments Event Coordinator, Directory Committee Chair and Communications Committee Chair are still pending.

New Business:

Joe L. Do we keep another backup besides iCloud? Michael V. Will make a local copy. Mike B. We are following the old format for Exchange? Get as many fliers out as possible.

Joe L. Come prepared. Send a flier to Brooklyn County Michael V. Do you have a plan, are there slips or cards to swap?

Michael G. Are we going to include Zoom meetings or not? Mike B. Not up to us, the group decides what they need. Jimmy C. We provide the space not for us to decide.

Joe L. We provided a venue, that's all.

Joe L. Administration meeting is needed.

Michael V. All groups that have donated to the 7th Tradition have been updated.

Jimmy C. Can we get a draft to get a meeting list printed?

Joe L. We live in a computer age, we need a Directory Chairperson before we can have a meeting list.

Michael V. We have the technical ability to update meeting lists.

Michael V. announced the 7th Tradition: Please support **BIGAA!**

Venmo: @Brooklyn-Intergroup

Venmo: verification last four digits: 6622

PayPal: @brooklynintergroup

Next **BIGAA** monthly business is Saturday **May 20, 2023**

Meeting adjourned after a reading of THE RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT!

General Services Committee Report to BIGAA: 4-22/23 Committee Chairperson – Joe Levy

Websites – AA World Services – aa.org

SENY (Southeast New York – Area 49) – aaseny.org

Brooklyn Count General Services – brooklynnaa.org

There was no Brooklyn County meeting in April.

Pre-Conference SENY Assembly 4/15/23

Charlene B, DCMC of Brooklyn County, reported at the Assembly -

1 – Next Brooklyn County General Service meeting on May 17, 2023 will be hybrid. The in-person location will be The 1st Unitarian Church at the corner of Monroe Pl and Pierrepont St. in Brooklyn Heights.

2 – Brooklyn County Share A Day will take place on June 10, and it will be virtual.

3 – Most Districts don't have DCMs (District Committee Members). The county needs DCMs.

4 – Brooklyn County has open standing committee chairs including Public Information and Grapevine / La Vina.

SENY Business

1 – The SENY Convention was fully self-supported. There were 1,268 registrations, and

\$1,800.00 worth of Grapevine / La Vinas were sold.

2 – SENY is in very good financial shape. It has a prudent reserve of \$127,000.00 (7 months).

3 – SENY Assemblies through 2023 will continue to be hybrid with the in-person location of Westchester Community College.

4 – NERF (Northeast Regional Forum) will take place June 2, 2023 to Sunday, June 4, 2023 in Burlington, MA.

5 – The AA General Service Conference will take place April 23 to April 29 at the Marriott Brooklyn Bridge in Brooklyn.

6 – Jo Ann M, our Delegate, reported to us regarding the forced resignation of Linda Chezem, Chairperson of the General Service Board:

According to Jo Ann, the General Service Board had to do 3 sharing sessions with the delegates and other members of the General Service Conference regarding this situation because the Board was beating around the bush. The GSB issued a fact sheet. Some delegates are concerned that there is disunity in the GSB. Some feel that the Board is broken. Jo Ann indicated that the General Service Conference may intervene in various ways. There may be floor actions (known as hostile new business) at the Conference. However, this is generally not a desirable approach. The Conference may request that a couple of Trustees resign.

Jo Ann characterized this matter as a He said, She said. The GSB described Linda as an ineffective leader. It was alleged that Linda had been acting independently of the Board, that she had been micromanaging the Trustees, and that she had made disparaging remarks about certain individuals. Jo Ann posed the question that if Ms. Chezem was indeed guilty of these behaviors, what prompted her to do these things.

Jo Ann said that Linda was handed a letter of resignation to sign, but she crossed out a line and wrote in "At the request of the General Service Board". Jo Ann indicated that Linda had concerns about financial matters. Among them are the questions of why \$100,000.00 had been taken from the prudent reserve for an insurance expense and not returned to the reserve?; why was money spent before budgets had been approved?; and why was money being taken from the prudent reserve to pay for routine operating expenses? Another Trustee, Josh, resigned because of the way the GSB handled this situation and the speed with which they were moving to replace Linda.

The Post-Conference Assembly will be held on June 17, at which our delegate will report the details of what transpired at the Conference, including any developments regarding the Linda Chezem forced resignation.

7 – In this Pre-Conference Assembly, the GSR's had the opportunity to convey to Jo Ann their respective group consciences on the items in the Delegate's Questionnaire.