

Brooklyn County General Service Meeting

November 12, 2014

St. Francis College, 180 Remsen Street, Brooklyn 11201

Richard S., DCMC • Mel, Alt. DCMC • Adam S., Treasurer • Desiree, Registrar • Kimi, Secretary

6:30 PM GSR orientation led by Kathy B. Five new GSRs!

7:30 PM Opened meeting with readings of AA Preamble, Traditions 10, 11, & 12, and Daily Reflections.

Kimi, Secretary's Report: Had problem sending some announcements to our list, brooklynnaa@brooklynnaa.org. Some of her emails did not go through, including minutes. Looking into problem & in touch with list owner. Minutes read & accepted.

Desiree, Registrar's Report: We have quorum. NERAASA coming up Feb. 20 - 22. Online registration available at: www.neraasa2015.org. Brooklyn members who would like to book bus for day event, Sat. 2/21, would share bus with Manhattan AA's. Contact Desiree ASAP if interested. Give her your first name & last initial, home group name, and say how she can contact you.

DCMC Report, Rick: Election was fun. Thanks to everyone who attended. Has been hanging out with other DCMC's, who plan to put on joint events. Upcoming SENY Assembly Nov. 22, 2014. Bus from Brooklyn--meet at BAM, 30 Lafayette Ave., at 7:30 AM. New LINK includes articles & list of elected officials. Safety in AA is new hot topic. AA is addressing 13th stepping, harassment, sexual abuse, and other unacceptable predatory behavior; how 3rd Tradition relates to this issue; and what women and others can do if intimidated or harassed. Report accepted.

Adam, Treasurer: Not going to discuss budget yet tonight, but please look at handout he brought & give him feedback. Current balance, \$3828.93. Adj. bal. approx. \$5000. Underestimated cost of bus. Will be checking on archives next week, if anyone would like to accompany him to storage space. Contributions: signed checks should be made out to: "Brooklyn General Services" and sent to: PO Box 170582, Brooklyn, NY 11217. Spiritual Breakfast (SB): cost of tix, \$9000; \$7500 worth of tickets sold; County makes up difference--this is why our budget includes projection of \$1500 for SB.

Q: How do we decide on venue for SB?

A: We delegate responsibility for this decision to SB Committee, who called restaurants, got quotes, and picked restaurant with lowest quote.

Motion to accept report.

Mel, Alt. DCMC: Welcomes new GSRs & DCMs. Stay connected--this is last County meeting of year. If you need Mel's help, please feel free to call. Group inventories: held once a year. Someone from County can come to your group to facilitate--ask your group if they are interested. Concept is to evaluate what your group can do better to carry AA's message. Get a service sponsor to help you with GSR process. DCMs make good service sponsors. 12 Concepts are how AA World Services operates. Try to understand them. Old Park Slope Caton (OPSC) puts on a Concepts meeting every 3rd Monday of the month, at 7 PM. All GSRs invited--you'll be given something to do. OPSC: 74 E. 17th St., bet. Church Ave. & Caton Ave.

GSR & DCM Reports:

Sue B., Dist 412: Rotating out in Dec. Looking for new venue for Alcathon. No Thanksgiving Alcathon this year.

Leon, Dist 403: Most groups doing well. Our Father's House Thanksgiving Day Alcathon, starts at 8 AM, Our Lady of Victory Church, 163 MacDonough St., Brooklyn, NY 11216 . They need help with setup starting at 6:00 AM. Will also put on a Xmas Alcathon, too. 103 Quincy cluster will host New Yr's Day Service Alcathon. Greater Recovery and Bergen Group need support.

Bill, 408: Planning March workshop, "Service Below the Group."

Joe, 404: Groups doing well. Held anonymity workshop, which included presentation by Preston (PI), discussion of 11th & 12th Trad. Under-attended but well appreciated. Trying to put together orientation email to help new GSRs.

Paul, 400, 402: Flyers for annual beginners' workshop, this weekend 9 AM - 1:00 PM at Grace Church. 300-400 people expected at upcoming New Year's Eve party--meeting, dinner, and dance at Grace Church, 254 Hicks St. at Grace Court, Brooklyn, 11201.

Colleen, 405: Lefferts Garden--new meeting: Fri., 7 PM BB Meeting. 4 GSRs trying to get more people for the Old Timers meeting at OPSC.

Frank, GSR for Ovington Group: Regular meeting will take place on Thanksgiving at 7:15 PM, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 440 Ovington Ave (NW Corner), Brooklyn, 11209. Side entrance on 4th Ave. Group Anniversary, 12/13 at around 7 - 7:30 PM. WC accessible.

Heidi, 411, 401, 403, some of 410 cluster: New Years's Day Alcathon--needs support, donations, help from other groups.

Martha, Accessibility & Special Needs Chair: Issue of special needs/accessibility pertains to our primary purpose, including how that relates to the Internet & WC accessibility. Held Manhattan workshop Oct 25. Interesting speakers, ASL interpreted. One speaker delivered address from WC. Inspiring event. Special needs/accessibility includes people with brain injuries. Three pamphlets exist: "Serving Alcoholics with Special Needs," "AA for the Older Person," and "AA for the Alcoholic with Special Needs." Martha wants to hear from groups who are WC accessible or make other provisions for AA's with special needs. Current LINK contains article about Brooklyn Special Needs.

Cathy, Webchair: Site functioning well. Wants to create section for group and individual anniversaries. Needs copy of Brooklyn Bylaws to post online. Contact her at webchair@brooklynnaa.org if you have a copy. Experiencing server and email issues, especially spam. Looking into new server, but it'll take time to organize. SENY rolled out webpages modeled on BrooklynAA.org website. Auto-entry of SENY events now possible, which is good if webchair sick or non-existent. Plans in works to host all-county websites. Needs County approval. Email her with ideas.

Ronnie, GSR for In the Gardens: Sat. Nov. 22, will hold meditation workshop from 10 AM - 12 PM.

Rick, DCMC: We need more standing committee chairs. One way to deal with this would be to allow DCMs from each district to “appoint” people to serve as committee members and standing chairs. The following positions are open:

Archives

Institutions

Treatment Facilities

Literature (car may be needed to bring Lit to events)

Grapevine

Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC)

Intergroup Liaison

Q from floor as to whether County could pay for Zip car to transport materials.

A: Let’s think about it.

Spontaneous elections: Joe volunteers for Archives Chair; Jenny volunteers for Grapevine Chair; Carl volunteers for Literature Chair. Accepted. Hooray!

Deborah, Spiritual Breakfast (SB): As of today, 222 tickets sold, for total of \$6660. 78 tickets of unknown status exist. If you have unsold tix, please give them back to Deborah so she can sell them to people who have contacted her wanting tickets. But if people have expressed interest in buying tix, GSRs can hang onto those (per Rick). Good event for newcomers--groups--consider purchasing tickets for newcomers to attend. Dec. 1 is deadline to give balance of money to venue.

Motion to close meeting.

Next Brooklyn County Meeting will be held Jan. 21, 2015, at St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY, 11201. Regular meeting at 7:30 PM, preceded by orientation meeting at 6:30 PM.