

March 2023 Manhattan General Service Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

1. Welcome. The meeting was started at 6:32 pm by DCMC Justin K

- Reading of Statement of Unity
- Renaming Reminder re zoom
- Reading of the Manhattan County Statement of Purpose: The purpose of the organization is to serve the needs of the AA groups within its geographic area and act as a constituent part of the Southeastern New York (SENY) Area 49 Committee and Assembly.
- Introduction of Spiritual Servants of the Meeting
 - Jane E: Parliamentarian/Quorum Checker
 - Hillel: Timekeeper
- Quorum - A quorum may conduct all MGSM business and approve all financial expenditures. The quorum for MGSM shall consist of the following: The meeting Chairperson, who can only be the currently elected DCMC, Alt-DCMC, or Registrar; At least one other elected officer; Recording Secretary; a Treasurer, who may be appointed if necessary; At least thirteen *additional* voting members, as specified in Article VIII, paragraph 3. (Article XI) (Emphasis Added) The voting members of MGSM shall consist of: The officers of MGSM, The DCMs, The GSRs, Alternate DCMs: only if the district's DCM is not present; Alternate GSRs: only if the group's GSR is not present).

2. Introductions of MGSM officers, GSRs/Alt-GSRs, DCMs/Alt-DCMs:

MGSM Officers:

DCMC: Justin K
Alt-DCMC: James T
Treasurer: Brenda V
Web Chair: Derrick T
Registrar: Hillel H
Recording Secretary: John H

GSRs and Alt-GSRs:

Paul F: GSR Atlantic Group
Melissa: GSR Broadway at 96th
Abbey D: GSR Chelsea Mornings
Margaret R: GSR First Things First Group

Bob B: GSR Found a Way
Maggie M: GSR Grand Central
Tom F: GSR KISS
Tony F: GSR Never Had a Legal Drink
Andy B: GSR Not a Glum Lot (and Secretary for 601)
Elizabeth M: GSR NYU
Patricia S: GSR Potpourri
Larry S: Alt-GSR Potpourri
Germaine R: GSR for Powerless Group
Morgane S: GSR Save Her a Seat - Fridays
Casey M: GSR Save Her a Seat - Tuesdays
Vanessa M: Alt GSR Saturday Beginners
Natalie B: GSR 79th Street Workshop
Diarmuid: GSR Soho Group

Attendee: Katy W

DCMs and Alt-DCMs:

Bill M: DCM 601
Derrick: DCM 602
Franklin M: DCM 603
John M: DCM: 605/608
Melissa G: Alt-DCM 608
Zach B: DCM 613
Frances P: DCM 618
George B: DCM 620

3. Review of Voting Procedures and other household matters.

Justin reviewed the voting procedures, who is eligible to vote and when:

a. The voting members of MGSM are the MGSM officers, DCMs and GSRs. Alternatives (with the exception of the alt-DCMC do not vote unless their primary is absent.) Check the participant list for your primary and do not vote if your primary is present.

b. Like SENY, MGSM uses a loose form of Robert's Rules of Order. Raise your virtual hand to be acknowledged by the chair for all motions, discussion, objections and abstentions. There will be a 5 minute limitation on the Chair, 3 minute limitation on the MGSM Officers and 2 minute limitation on the other Trusted Servants.

c. Settings have been modified for this meeting. Recording, reaction, screen sharing and renaming oneself has been disabled. Speakers will

be unmuted and muted by the host and co-hosts. You can chat with the host or co-host for renaming.

4. Previous minutes: The previous minutes were reviewed and corrected and then accepted as written.

5. Treasurer's report:

Treasurer, Brenda V:

- Brenda shared the Treasurer's report
- A few more donations have come in for March
- Total income YTD is \$4500
- Our administrative expenses to date (largely contributions made or to be made) total \$8600 of which a bulk has been contributed including to Manhattan Share-a-Day/MSAD. MSAD contributions will be referenced in a separate
- A motion was made by John M and seconded by Franklin M to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion carried.

6. Officer's reports:

DCMC Justin K:

- Privileged to be DCMC, thanks for attending tonight
- Have gone to NERAASA, Day of Sharing and Assembly, spoken at a few district meetings
- There are lots of service opportunities in Manhattan. We are always looking for people to do service. His first service role was hospitality set-up. More than anything else, it is an opportunity for people to experience what it is like to do service below the group level. Reach out to Tom for MSAD or Justin for Manhattan
- Every district in Manhattan has a different service commitment and it is up to them to decide how to render it.
- After this meeting, Manhattan has a meeting in May and a meeting in September. Hopeful that districts will report at those meetings how they are fulfilling their commitments
- Also a plug to get a service sponsor, strongly encouraged!
- Also please take a moment to view The Link and consider going to meetings outside of our county.
- This weekend is the 55th SENY Convention, virtually and in person

- March 22, March 30, April 2 are information sessions on the questionnaire

Alt-DCMC, James T:

- Have hosted two GSRs trainings before MGSM meetings; hosted a virtual coffee hour, first Sunday of April at 3pm; and acquired transportation to Delegates Day of Sharing

Registrar, Hillel H:

- Nothing to report but there tend to be many registrations that come in the beginning of the year
- Later in the year we will correct listing of representation.

MSAD Chair, Tom F:

- We have secured date of August 12 at St James on Madison and 72nd St; the theme will be Our Three Legacies
- Looking for hospitality chair, publicity chair, childcare, setup and cleanup. There will be plenty of opportunities to do service like running workshops, etc.
- Anyone interested in the planning committee, it is next Monday 630pm-730pm on zoom 88913512831, Passcode MSAD2023. Planning committee meets alternate Mondays
- Questions:
 - Is there a treasurer? Yes: Rodney H, Justine will connect him to Brenda V

Web Chair, Derrick J:

- **Our website:** www.ManhattanAA.org
- Looking for graphic designers and web designers
- web@manhattan.aaseny.org
- Question: Do you need to be a GSR/Alt GSR to be web chair. Answer: no.

District Reports:

- 620, George B DCM: second Wednesday of every month; July 29 will be district cook-out; Have planning meetings for spiritual workshop and for dinner dance. No vacant positions at present! Getting more GSRs involved which is a plus
- 605-608, John M DCM: they are the clustered district so they have two projects (corrections and archives). Had corrections two years ago so they have some experience; Last night elected Melissa M as

Alt-DCM; seeing GSR participation up. Looking into what groups are silent. Attended Delegates Day of Sharing...this is March madness for AA, lots of great service this month.

- 602, Derrick DCM: commitment this term is sponsorship. Asked group if anyone will lead the commitment, hopefully will get someone. Trying to get some more groups to join district meetings. If any questions, reach out to Derrick, also available for service sponsorship.
- 601, Bill M DCM: now officially the DCM, elected last month. As was common, lost participation during the pandemic, 7 out of 44 meetings are active now, splitting up the list to reach out to silent groups. Commitment is Grapevine/La Vina, looking for participation to champion the commitment.
- 603, Franklin M, DCM: 603 is doing well. Have seen a drop off in participation since pandemic but seeing some groups come back. Commitment is accessibility, connected with the previous district re the commitment, transferring funds from that district and attending the area accessibility meeting.
- 613, Zach B, DCM: doing outreach to get participation in district meeting, flyers for the quiet groups, etc. Commitment is treatment facilities so two attended the Intergroup meeting this past month. Focusing on the Bridging the Gap program. If anyone wants BTG cards, they have them to distribute, available to all focusing on taking meetings.
- 618, Frances, DCM: commitment is CPC. They invited Devon to their meeting who had some great ideas on reaching out to religious groups, etc. They are looking to get packets together and focussing on training on how to reach out to non-alcoholics. Doing well otherwise and they are ready to help GSRs with the questionnaire.

7. 7th Tradition Break

8. Old Business: none

9. New Business:

Coverage for Manhattan County Officers to attend events

Normally DCMC's discretionary fund is to attend some events that are virtual this year. Justin mistakenly thought that the county paid for his attendance at Convention and is doing service there on behalf of the county.

- * Derrick made motion to allow DCMC to use discretionary fund to attend Convention, George seconded.
- * Question if this applied to other officers. Answer: applies only to DCMC and Alt-DCMC.
- * Motion carried.

(In agenda is contained an item to “please let DCMC Justin know about new business items on the Sunday before the County Meeting.”)

County-wide workshop

Justin referenced the previous workshop, The Rent is Too Damn High, as a precedent for county-wide workshop. Melissa explained idea for workshop: some groups have been struggling since the pandemic. Did a small survey about the workshop idea of issues confronting groups since the pandemic. Some of the issues: enough people to do service; safety; zoom participation and support by people who don't live in the area; some meetings are at risk of folding. Consider presentations by meetings that are struggling and meetings that have successfully reopened, along with a focus on traditions.

- * Discussed whether there is interest in doing a county-wide workshop like this.
- * Zach asked if intention was to hold in person or virtually. Justin shared that it is currently in the idea stage and there is no budget for this yet.
- * Paul F asked if Venmo might be included in topics; also commented that Rent is Too Damn High might also.
- * Brenda asked about some of the technical topics that might be useful; some other 12-step groups have an entire virtual environment and that might be a topic too.
- * Melissa G suggested that it is a good idea and that focus might be on how everything has changed.... Going back to the way things were is not going to happen, i.e. we have to have both zoom and in-person. “A whole new world” and how we survive as a group and help the alcoholic who suffers in this new world.
- * Hillel suggested that it would be intriguing to explore this and warned that every group can do what they want, i.e. focus on solutions that group might use to work for them but not suggest that there is a right/wrong way to do this.
- * Justin said that all of these issues are being addressed through all of AA, and that there a a LOT of issues...some small, some big. Perhaps this could be a recurring meeting on zoom
- * John H: perhaps a workshop on zoom and a workshop at MSAD

- * Jane E, parliamentarian, reminded all that an ad hoc committee can be appointed by the chair/DCMC
- * Justin K called for an ad hoc committee and suggested those interested to reach out to Justin K at DCMC@manhattan.aaseny.org

10. Closing: Responsibility Statement. Meeting ended at 749pm