

May Area Assembly Minutes
Hosted by District 16 of the
Hudson Valley Cluster
Saturday, May 14, 2022
From 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM EST

The May 2022 Area 48 Assembly was the first hybrid NENY Area event. On-site the event took place at the Reservoir Methodist Church at 3056 NY-28 in Shokan, NY 12481. Virtually the event was accessed via Zoom platform through meeting ID: 892 5188 8405 and passcode: Voice2vote.

The May Area Assembly Agenda started at 9:30 AM with a Meet and Greet Session. There was a sign in session and a breakfast for the in-person participants.

The Area 48 Chairperson opened the Assembly with the Serenity Prayer at 10:00 AM with 33 virtual participants already. Then for the sake of the virtual participants followed up with the zoom script for the event And, introduced the host and cohosts for the virtual participants. The opening of the event was finished with a rundown of the Agenda for the May 2022 Assembly.

The Area 48 Officers Reports:

The NENY Area Secretary's Report: The NENY Area April 9, 2022 Fellowship Day meeting minutes were emailed to 1,116 subscribers on Thursday, April 28, 2022. At the May Area virtual Assembly there was a motion to waive the reading of the for April 9, 2022 Fellowship Day minutes. That motion had passed. Then there was a motion to accept these minutes as read. That motion had too passed. Finally, there was a motion to accept the April Fellowship Day minutes as amended. That motion had too passed.

These April 9, 2022 NENY Area Fellowship Day meeting minutes had been posted to the Area 48 Website on Sunday, May 1, 2022. You can go to <https://aahmbny.org/area-secretary/> to view these minutes. They can also be viewed in the May 2022 edition of Area 48 Newsletter by going to <https://aahmbny.org/hmb-newsletters/>.

Because I had tested positive for COVID prior to the event, I felt it was safer for me to attend and take the meeting minutes for the May Area Assembly virtually. Therefore, I was unable to get any in-person counts for this Assembly. However, from my virtual view it looked as though the main meeting room of their reception hall had almost all of their seats occupied. I am now feeling better!

The NENY Area Chairperson/Alternate Delegate Report:

Area Chair Report for May 2022 Assembly

Welcome all to Area 48 first ever hybrid event. I am happy to say that it is a NENY event, thanks to all who are bringing our new name forward. Area chairs please be aware of the NYSIW July 29&30, 2022. We have been asked to participate in this event.

NENY Area Chair/Alternate Delegate report continued...

Amazing news our CPC chair David S has been selected as the next Non-Trustee Director for our Grapevine/La Vina. Great for AA but Area 48 is losing a vital service member. If anyone is looking to do some service in Area 48 our CPC chair is now available.

A Big thanks to District 16 and the Hudson Valley cluster for hosting this year's May Assembly. As always thanks Tech team for being here for support.

Yours in Service
Area 48 chair/alt delegate
Guy K

The Alternate NENY Area Chairperson Report:

Non-proposal for Assembly

As you know, our Service Manual provides scholarship monies earmarked for “weekend events.” Each year, the Area will fund one scholarship per cluster, for a total of five (5) scholarships, for chosen AA members to attend a weekend event such as NERAASA or the NYSIW. As we have not had any in-person events since March 2020, those monies referenced in the Area 48 Service Manual have not been distributed.

Unfortunately, the process was not initiated this past year in a timely fashion, so the NERAASA opportunity was missed. The DCMs were notified that the process should begin for NYSIW occurring in July. Then, we learned that the event would again be virtual. When this was announced at our monthly DCM/Functions committee meeting, several DCMs asked if the monies could be used for the NENY Convention in November.

While the language in the service manual gives two examples of week-end events: NERAASA and NYSIW, it does not preclude any other week-end event such as: NENY Convention. It does not seem unreasonable to extend the example to include our convention.

The AdHoc committee, of which I was a member, established in 2019, was charged with determining ways to deplete our surplus. A part of our recommendation was to provide scholarships in order to encourage potential trusted servants to attend Inter-area events that they may otherwise not be able to attend and to provide exposure to the service opportunities available. Some people cannot afford to take advantage of opportunities due to financial constraints. That should never be the case. AA and service at any level should be accessible to all.

Alternate NENY Area Chair report continued...

I ask you to consider allocating the \$2500 available this year to those eligible trusted servants who wish to attend the NENY Convention. We have the money. In fact, we should have three years' worth of dedicated scholarship monies. Let's use it to deplete our surplus in a creative, inclusive and productive manner, as well as fund as many people as possible to attend the first in-person Area 48 Convention since 2019. Of course, the process outlined in the Service Manual (11.3) will be honored.

Dolores K

NENY Area District 20 Cluster Assignment:

D20 Cathy P DCM presented the proposal to have their virtual district 20 to join the Western Cluster of Area 48. A vote was taken with 90% of the assembly participants. There 23 yes votes, zero no votes, and 3 votes to abstain. The motion passed. The Virtual District 20 will be joining Districts 9 and 12 to become part of the Western Cluster of Area 48.

Area 48 Panel 72 Delegate's Conference Report:

The NENY Area Delegate's Conference Report back from the 72nd Annual General Service Conference in Brooklyn, NY during the week of April 23 through April 30, 2022. Where the theme was A.A. Comes of Age 2.0 – Unified in Love and Service.

Tammie E. had had opened her presentation with a statement: "I would like to thank each and every one of you for providing me the opportunity to carry your voice and your vote to the recent 72nd Annual General Service Conference in Brooklyn, NY. It was truly a blessing to be of service to you and to the Fellowship in this manner."

The delegate's report that had covered the following questions and items in a 53-slide power point presentation:

- What is the General Service Conference?
- How does it all work? Why do we need a conference?
- Who attends the Conference?
- What happens at the Conference?
- What comprises a typical Conference week?
- What are the Conference Committees?

The Area 48 Delegate's report continued...

How does a request from the Fellowship become an Advisory Action?

The day-by-day presentation at the GSC through out the week of April 23 through April 30, 2022.

General Service Conference Committee Recommendations and Considerations:

Agenda - 4 Recommendations and 2 Considerations.

CPC - No Recommendations and 4 Considerations.

Corrections -No Recommendations and 4 Considerations.

Finance - No Recommendations and 4 Considerations.

Grapevine – No Recommendations and 5 Considerations

Literature – 7 Recommendations and 12 Considerations with 12 Concepts for World Service Video (link will be provided to view on-line).

Policy and Admissions – 4 Recommendations and 6 Considerations.

PI – 4 Recommendations and 15 Considerations.

Report and Charter – 2 Recommendations and 7 Considerations.

Treatment and Accessibilities – 1 Recommendation and 6 Considerations.

Trustees – 6 Recommendations and 5 Considerations.

International Convention & Regional Forum – 0 Recommendations and 2 Considerations.

Floor Actions: 9 Motions, 4 Declined, and 5 debated with 2 passed and 3 failed.

The power point presentation given on May 14 can be accessed by going to <https://delegate.aahmbny.org/72nd-gsc-report-back-for-area-48-neny/> on the Delegate Connection webpage. Or, go to Delegate Connection at <https://aahmbny.org/hmb-delegate/>.

The Delegates Report concluded at 12:04 PM by then there were 37 virtual participants.

NENY Area 48 Chair opened up the Conference Report back to Questions and Answers at 12:05 PM.

Broke for lunch at 12:15 PM. Reconvened the May 14, 2022 Assembly from lunch at 12:45 PM.

NENY Area 48 Treasurer's Report:

A48 Treasurer's Report: Linda A. – April 2022 NENY Treasury Report – There was a motion to waive the reading of the April 2022 Treasurer's Report. There were 21 yes votes, 19 no votes and no abstaining votes. The motion had passed. There was a motion to accept the April 2022 treasurer's report as written. There were 30 yes votes, 1 no vote, and 3 votes to abstain. The motion to accept the April 2022 Treasury Report has passed. For the April 2022 treasury report go to <https://aahmbny.org/finance/>.

NENY Area 48 Treasurer's Report continued...

Linda A. our Area 48 Treasurer had read a letter from Francis G., our Northeast Regional Trustee and AA Grapevine Director, in which he acknowledged our contribution to GSO of \$10,290.06. As a request made at the assembly this letter will be going into the next Area 48 newsletter.

NENY Area Alternate Treasurer/Finance Committee Chairperson Report:

Our Alternate Treasurer/Chair of NENY Finance Committee had presented the 2023 Budget Proposal. The 2023 draft budget will be voted on during the October Area 48 Voting Assembly.

There was a motion to change the 2022 budget to be read correctly. The line "Area Funded Cluster Service Workshops" was incorrectly put into the budget and should be replaced with "Area Funded Scholarships". There were 26 yes votes ,1 no vote and 2 votes to abstain. The motion had passed.

There was a motion to amend the 2022 budget for the change in the seed money from \$1,500.00 to \$2000.00 for the Area 48 Convention. There were 20 yes votes, 1 no vote, and 2 votes to abstain. The motion passed to accept 2022 budget amendments. The mileage rate for 2022 is still set at \$0.35 per mile. For questions, please send an email to alttreasurer@aahmbny.org.

The 2023 Draft Budget was read by our Kate O. NENY Alternate Treasurer with all the General Allocations and Event Allocations. The reading of the said draft budget was concluded at 1:27 PM.

NENY Audit Committee Report:

The May 7, 2022 Audit was done at Tad J's house. The Audit Committee consisted of three past NENY Delegates Keith D, Bill W, and David S. The Area 48 Audit Committee Report read by Keith D., Past Delegate. The Audit covered all Area 48 financial activities three years of 2019, 2020 and 2021 and the committee recommendations for accountability.

What is an Assembly Anyway? Service Panel:

What is an Area Assembly Anyway? Panel hosted by Lindsey D11 DCM started at 1:38 PM.

Cathy P. D17 DCM 1st Panelist – The A.A. Group Pamphlet – 1 group, 1 member, 1 vote presents the concept of membership there comes the right to vote upon issues that might affect the group and may also affect A.A. as a whole – a process that forms the very cornerstone of A.A.'s service structure. With all group-conscience matters, each member has one vote, and this, ideally, is voiced through the home group. The "Home Group" pages 15 and 16 of the A.A. Group pamphlets copyright 1990.

Bill W. Past Delegate 2nd Panelist - How to make a proposal, and why? Proposal will start with the individual group consciences and its GSR for changes that may need to be made for the benefit of the fellowship. Then the GSR(s) takes the idea to their Districts. Then the DCM's may take these ideas to the Area Assemblies. Fill out a form which can be obtained sending a request to panel72delegate@aahmbny.org.

What is an Assembly Anyway? Panel continued...

Taiya - D16 DCM Third Panelist – What is a service sponsor? Page 25 in the Sponsorship Pamphlet. Helping an individual member with matters of doing service within their groups, districts, or areas. Helps expand your network. Helps members doing to look outward rather than inward. Talked about the Concept 3 of World Service.

Kevin H-B – Fourth Panelist -- What is the difference between an area and an intergroup/central office? August and September 2007 Box 459 editions. Capital District Central Office <https://aalbany.org/> serves 7 (located in the Capital Region Of NYS) of our NENY Area's 19 districts (Appendix S of the A.A. Service Manual pages 160-162). The Area A.A. Service Manual serves 19 NENY Districts (NENY Area 48 Service Manual - page 57).

Lindsey D11 DCM hosted the What is an Area Assembly Anyway? Panel. She opened up the panel to questions and answers and comments at 2:20 PM. Closed at 2:30 PM.

Tammie E. Area 48 Panel 72 Delegate held a raffle for the in-person participants for Bling items that she had brought back from the 2022 General Service Conference.

Cathy P. NENY Convention Chair Updates Report – Dana W. made the flyer for the 2022 Area 48 Convention. November 4 through November 6, 2022 in Poughkeepsie. Looking for help at the 2022 NENY Convention. For questions, please send an email to nenyconventionchair@aahmbny.org.

NERAASA 2023 in Albany at the Crowne Plaza Updates per Don S. Opened pre-registration for the NERAASA 2023 is online at <https://www.neraasa.org/register/>. There is a program chair, registrar, and treasurer. It takes place during the weekend of February 23rd – 26th, 2022 at The Desmond Hotel at 660 Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12211.

Our Area 48 Chairperson thanked all the hosts, co-hosts, panelists, and everyone else that participated and took in our 2022 May Area Assembly. The event survey <https://aahmbny.org/hmb-event-survey/> to send your thoughts about the May 14, 2022 Hybrid Area Assembly.

The May Area Assembly was adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill O
NENY Area 48 Secretary
secretary@aahmbny.org