

## Suffolk General Service Alt-DCMC Report

July 2023

Greetings,

I attended the SENY Area 49 committee meeting. There weren't enough DCMs at the meeting to have a quorum to vote. To have a quorum to vote, a minimum of 15 DCMs (District Committee Members), must be present. The minutes and treasurer's report from the last committee meeting last June could not be approved, no official business could be conducted. Suffolk General Service was in attendance and one or more of Suffolk General Service DCMs were there.

Although the committee could not officially vote on any official business, there were some discussions.

The principal areas of discussion were:

**The cost of hybrid assemblies and Tech 12** – Westchester Community College costs SENY \$3000 per assembly. The last assembly in June cost SENY \$6800. SENY's goal is to discontinue using Tech 12 for hybrid assemblies. Tech 12 was vital during Covid because SENY did not have the equipment for online assemblies during Covid-19, so Tech 12 provided the equipment and technical support for Area 49 to pivot from in-person assemblies to virtual assemblies and now hybrid assemblies. The goal is for SENY to become self-sufficient and discontinue Tech 12. SENY purchased equipment and Tech 12 is training SENY Hybrid chair to host hybrid assemblies. Unfortunately, the Hybrid chair doesn't have anyone to help. The hybrid chair would like anyone with a technical background to join the Hybrid committee. The problem with the last assembly is that since SENY doesn't have an office, the place where the newly purchased equipment is stored was locked on the morning of the assembly and the SENY office manager and Hybrid chair didn't have access to the new equipment. An emergency call was made to Tech 12. Tech 12 came with its equipment, set -up and the hybrid assembly went on smoothly without issue. Along with that service was an invoice for \$3800 (about \$2000 more than a usual technical support-only invoice). In the discussion, the Suffolk County DCM reminded the committee that the prudent reserve and excess funds are for such emergencies. There will be further discussion concerning September's assembly and whether to just have a virtual assembly and not meet in person, therefore not having the expense of renting a Westchester Community College conference room and lunch. The college provides the in-person assembly with lunch. There are more AA members attending the assemblies virtually than in-person.

**The lack of in-person participation at the SENY Area 49 assemblies** – significantly more AA members attend the assemblies virtually than AA members who attend the assemblies in person.

**SENY office space** – SENY is still without office space. The absence of a quorum at the SENY committee meetings has resulted in an inability to vote and do business. SENY lost the last office space that was voted on at the May 1, 2023 committee meeting. The office manager has 15 possible locations, including locations in Queens, but no voting can be made on an office space unless there is a quorum. Not being able to vote may have contributed to losing the last office space. SENY attempted to make an offer on the office space after the vote, but the potential landlord withdrew the rental offer with no reasonable explanation.

**SENY Treasurer's report** – the treasurer needs help keeping up with all the entries. AA members with experience offered to assist the SENY treasurer. The body could not vote to approve the treasurer's report because there was not a quorum.

**NERAASA scholarships** – at the last 2023 NERAASA, SENY provided scholarships, on a first come basis, to GSRs who had never attended NERAASA and whose groups or districts do not pay for their GSRs to attend NERAASA. The scholarship only covered hotel accommodation for the GSR. Meals and transportation to NERAASA were not covered in the NERAASA scholarships. The discussion was on whether SENY wanted to continue to offer scholarships for the next NERAASA, but the SENY committee was unable to vote.

I would like to encourage Suffolk General Service DCMs to attend the next SENY Committee meeting on August 7, 2023, from 7 pm -9:30 pm. Please email the SENY chair, [chair@aaseny.org](mailto:chair@aaseny.org), to get the link to join the SENY Committee meeting. If anyone is interested in assisting the hybrid chair you can go to the SENY website, <https://www.aaseny.org/technology-and-communications>, there's a questionnaire to apply for the technology committee.

In conclusion, every Area is having the same issues with in-person participation. I am incredibly pleased to report that Suffolk General Service was present at the SENY Committee meeting. The officers and chairs from Suffolk were at the SENY officer meeting and we did have at least 1 DCM in attendance.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

In Gratitude,

Regina C

SGS - Alternate DCMC