# ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND BY-LAWS OF NASSAU GENERAL SERVICE GROUP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

## Article I

The name of the organization shall be Nassau General Service Group of Alcoholics Anonymous (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "NGSG"), also sometimes referred to as "Nassau General Service Committee or "NGSC" or "NCSC"

#### Article II

The current purpose of the organization, which was originally formed in order to support the district structure set forth in the AA Service Manual, is to serve the needs of the Alcoholics Anonymous® ("AA") groups within its geographical area and to act as a constituent part of the South Eastern New York Area 49 Committee and Assembly of AA ("SENY"). NGSG shall function within the guidelines and spirit of the following documents:

- The AA Service Manual
- The Twelve Concepts for World Service
- The Twelve Steps and The Twelve Traditions of AA
- SENY Service Handbook
- NGSG handout "How We Run Our Meetings"

## Article III

The geographical area served by NGSG shall be Nassau County, State of New York, USA.

## Article IV

The members of NGSG shall be:

- District Committee Member Chairperson ("DCMC")
- First Alternate District Committee Member Chairperson ("First Alternate DCMC")
- Second Alternate District Committee Member Chairperson ("Second Alternate DCMC")
- Treasurer
- Secretary

- Technology and Communications Officer ("Tech Officer" formerly known as "Registrar")
- Chairpersons of the NGSG Standing Committees,
- Each Nassau County District Committee Member ("DCM"), and
- Each Nassau County General Service Representatives ("GSR")

The Officers of NGSG shall be DCMC, First Alternate DCMC, Second Alternate DCMC, Secretary, Treasurer, and Tech Officer.

#### Article V

The term of office of NGSG officers, and Chairpersons of the NGSG Standing Committees shall be two years. The duties of the NGSG officers shall be as specified in the AA Service Manual.

### Article VI

The Standing Committees shall be:

- Accessibilities (formerly known as "Special Needs")
- Archives
- Bridging the Gap
- Cooperation with the Professional Community
- Correctional Facilities
- Grapevine/La Viña
- Intergroup Liaison
- Literature
- Public Information
- Service Sponsorship
- Treatment Facilities
- Website Committee

The ad hoc Committees shall be:

- Unity Breakfast
- Big Meeting
- Financial Review

## Article VII

The NGSG shall be divided into geographical districts consisting of varying numbers of AA groups (approximately 15 groups per district). Each district, or cluster of districts, as the case may be, is entitled to be represented at the NGSG by a DCM elected by the GSRs within each district or cluster of districts. The DCM shall serve as a link between the NGSG and the GSRs. When the number of groups within a district exceeds 15, the DCM in the district may choose to redistrict (see the AA Service Manual for recommended procedural suggestions) with the consent of the DCMC and neighboring districts. If a DCM is not active in the Committee and fails to attend three or more NGSG meetings in succession, the GSRs in the district may elect another DCM to replace the inactive DCM.

## Article VIII

The GSRs are to be elected by their AA groups and serve for a term of two years. The GSR's duties are to serve as a link between the group and AA as a whole. The GSR represents the group conscience, reporting the group's wishes to the DCM and to the DCMC, who pass them on to SENY.

In all matters brought before the NGSG, the voting members shall be limited to:

- The First Alt. DCMC, the Second Alt. DCMC, Treasurer, Secretary, and Tech Officer shall each have one vote
- The Chairpersons of the Standing Committees shall each have one vote
- The DCMs, and GSRs shall each have one vote
- The Alt. DCM shall have one vote IF their respective DCM is not present
- The Alt. GSR shall each have one vote IF their respective GSR is not present
- The DCMC shall have one vote ONLY to break a tie
- One vote per group
- No proxy vote.

## Article IX

The NGSG shall meet at least five (5) times per year. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the DCMC. Every even numbered year, at the next-to-last scheduled meeting, the NGSG shall elect its DCMC and officers for a term to commence January 1 following the election.

The order of business shall be at the DCMC's discretion and will generally be as follows:

- Call to order/Preamble/ "I am responsible... " Declaration (Optional)
- Reading and approving the minutes of the previous meetings
- Reading and approving the Treasurer's Report
- Reports of the remaining Officers
- Open discussion/GSR Home Group Issues
- Reports of the DCM's
- Reports of the Standing Committee
- Reports of the ad hoc Committees
- Reports from invited guests (at the discretion of the DCMC)
- Old (unfinished) business
- New business
- Adjournment/Serenity Prayer (Optional)

## Article X

Every AA group in Nassau County is entitled to choose a GSR to be sent the NGSG meeting for the purpose of representing their group and electing new NGSG officers. Unless otherwise amended by the by-laws, the process of electing NGSG officers and the related officer's qualifications shall be as outlined in Chapter IV of the AA Service Manual.

## Article XI

A quorum for a NGSG meeting shall consist of the following:

- The meeting Chairperson can only be the current elected DCMC, First Alt. DCMC, Second Alt. DCMC, Treasurer, or Secretary,
- At least one other elected officer shall be present, and a Recording Secretary appointed if necessary,
- At least 10 registered GSRs shall be present,
- A quorum may conduct all NGSG business and approve all financial expenditures provided, however, that no financial expenditures shall be approved without reference to a current Treasurer Report.

### Article XII

- The financing of NGSG activities shall be primarily from voluntary contributions of the groups and organizations within AA; and, secondarily from net surplus derived from projects and activities authorized by the NGSG.
- Personal and in-memoriam donations by individual AA members may be accepted to the extent of the maximum annual amount suggested by AA's General Service Conference.
- Outside contributions from any non-AA source are prohibited.
- The NGSG shall not accumulate funds beyond those needed for current necessities, a stated AA purpose, and a prudent reserve (generally four month's expenses).
- Excess funds may be distributed to SENY, the General Service Office of AA, or such other AA service entity as the NGSG shall designate.
- The NGSG shall not act as a trustee of any trusts or funds; nor shall the NGSG participate in such trusts or funds.
- No debt, or continuing obligation, shall be incurred without NGSG consent.
- If the NGSG shall cease to function, all moneys, records, and other property held in its name shall become the property of SENY or the General Service Office of AA.
  - NGSG shall maintain a bank account requiring two signatures. DCMC, Treasurer, First Alt. DCMC, and Second Alt. DCMC shall have signing authority.
  - DCMC is authorized to sign legal documents on behalf of NGSG. Treasurer, First Alt. DCMC, and Second Alt. DCMC may co-sign legal documents.

# Article XIII

The GSRs of primarily Spanish speaking groups in Nassau County and the DCM elected by them, constitute the non-geographic Hispanic District Committee (214) of NGSG.

# ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND BY-LAWS OF THE NASSAU GENERAL SERVICE GROUP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

### Article XIV

- The NGSG does not generally participate in non-AA events, however, through its Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community Standing Committee, NGSG offers assistance to individuals who are referred to AA; is available to help professionals in correctional, educational and treatment facilities interested in learning about AA; may attend health fair events; and brings awareness to the general public of AA's function and purpose;
- The NGSG shall not place any of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others;
- Will not perform any acts of government or be involved with any political activities whatsoever.
- The Articles of Association and By-laws can only be amended by a two-thirds vote of NGSG voting members present.
  - By-laws amended and adopted this day: December 21, 2020

Annabel B DCMC Nassau 2019/2020 Marty K

First Alt. DCMC Nassau 2019/2020

Ann G

Secretary 2019/2020

AA and Alcoholics Anonymous are registered trademarks® of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.)