

Plains States Zonal Forum Business Meeting

January 31st, 2016

Lawrence, KS – Mid America Region

Moment of silence, followed by Serenity Prayer, Traditions, Concepts, Service Motivator

ROLL CALL:

Trusted Servants:

Facilitator - Daniel C

Secretary - Amber C

Treasurer - Mark B

Web-Servant - Bob K – Absent

PR Coordinator - Vacant

Regions

Best Little Region – David S.

Iowa – Barry B. & Kathy N.

Mid-America – Nate F. & Jeffrey L.

Nebraska – Diane B. (Absent) & Brian S.

Oklahoma – Cindi B. & Kyle B.

So Dakota – Steve P.

Visitors: Amanda M, Flo H, Alan I, Brian J, Jeff R, Rich C, Danny S, Keith T, Colby B, Michelle B, Debby S, Dennis V, Beth N, Angela S, Cheryl J, Tim S, Sally R, Shelli K, Jon P, Gary R, Leanne H, Aubrey N, Sonja F, Vicki F

MINUTES: Minutes were read and questions answered. One thing needed updated. In the NA Geek Squad section, “There were concerns that things are being responded to” should read “There were concerns that things are not being responded to” – Secretary will correct this. – Minutes corrected as amended.

REPORTS:

Treasurer

ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF 8/30/15	\$ 3743.01
AUGUST 2015 PSZF EVENT	\$ 1110.50
PHOENIX GRP DONATION	\$ 100.00
START UP FUNDS RETURNED BY IA REG	\$ 43.28
- TOTAL	<u>\$4996.79</u>

EXPENSES

NAWS	\$1743.01
WEBSITE FEES (5@ 14.99)	\$ 74.95
CK #1155 MID-AMERICA START UP FUNDS	\$300.00
TOTAL	<u>-\$2117.96</u>

PR Coordinator

Good morning everyone,

I was tasked with filling out an application to present at the 13th Annual Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse. I was not successful in this endeavor, so let me tell you about it!

When I went to fill out the application, I ran into some problems. The application needed specific information that I was not comfortable filling out, and we needed to have decided who and what was to be presented in order to complete the application. (My interpretation from the last zone was that Mid-America was a possible idea for presenters but we didn't come to a solid decision on who would be presenting and what presentation would be used for sure). I've inserted the requirements for a complete application into my report (see below) and have also attached the application to my electronic report. There was also a question asking us to be specific about the DSM 5 disorder being addressed in the presentation. I was not qualified to fill out this bit. Overall, I didn't feel comfortable enough or have the qualifications to fill out the necessary information for the application.

After quickly coming to these realizations, I reached out to the PSZF chair (on December 19th) and expressed my concerns. He suggested I ask Amanda M. for help, which I did on December 23rd after expressing my concerns to the chair again. Amanda, Daniel, and I concluded that we did not have the information necessary to complete the application. It was discussed that the chair would send an email to the RD's, and this was my last involvement.

Since the application is attached, the PSZF body will know what is needed for next time.

Thanks,

Beth

A complete application includes:

- a. Lead and co-presenter(s) name, address, telephone number, email, professional title, current position and place of employment. Lead presenter will receive all correspondence.
 - b. Title of presentation (to be used in conference materials).
 - c. Description of presentation content (maximum 300 words), including objectives.
- If submitting a request for a series of two or more breakout sessions, include separate and unique description and objectives for each session (for evaluation of submissions and CEU approval).***
- d. Day(s) you would prefer to present (subject to availability).
 - e. AV requirements, as well as any request for alternate room setup (if applicable) (Wi-Fi not available unless requested).
 - f. Brief biographical sketch of each presenter (to be used in conference materials).
 - g. **Current resume or curriculum vitae for each presenter. (This is essential for the committee to seek CEUs for workshops. All selected presentations are submitted for potential CEU approval.)**

Web Servant

Web servant absent – No report sent.

Best Little Region (TX)

Hey, y'all,

Best Little continues to grow with increasing attendance in at least 3 of our 4 areas. H&I meetings are carried into approximately 20 facilities throughout the region, with H&I presence in treatment centers, jails, and TDCJ facilities. Much of our growth is a direct result of these efforts.

We had a very successful regional convention this past October, with attendance of about 400 addicts, with over 75 newcomers, many transported from facilities in our region due to our H&I efforts. We were able to donate substantial funds to the region, the hosting area, and NAWS from the profits (BLRCNA makes money!).

Previously reported problems with distribution of illegal literature are continuing but seem to have abated somewhat, particularly following NAWS informing TDCJ that this literature is in violation of copyright law with subsequent removal of this literature from the TDCJ approved list.

We plan to have CAR/CAT workshops in each of our areas as soon as practical, with Panhandle Area hosting a workshop February 21, and others tbd. We would like to express our gratitude to the PSZF for planning and hosting the CAR/CAT workshops this weekend, providing us with valuable information to take back to our region, areas, and groups. Good job!

ILS,

David S., RD Best Little

Iowa Region

Greetings from Iowa,

We have met once since our last meeting in Iowa in August. Kathy and I have done the Welcoming all members workshop again with very good reception at the Turkey Fry in Marshalltown in November.

At our November Region we did a workshop titled "How to run a Region without a treasurer." After this workshop a Treasurer was found, nominated and elected. I believe that they were looking at Kathy and me to give them some magical answer on how to do this. The workshop turned into a question and discussion round table with solutions found.

Discussed with region how they wanted the CAR / CAT presented to them with the discussion to have it given to them in pieces thought our regional conference weekend. We will also go to areas that invite us and have scheduled our Regional Assembly for April 9 in Creston Iowa.

We reviewed our progress on our goals since we change our Planning Cycle to every two years. The goals from outreach need to be tweaked a little bit and the name was changed to Fellowship Development. Our budgets remain yearly and have gone back to the areas for review with a vote in February.

We did a presentation to the Iowa Correctional Conference in October with good feedback received and added 6 professionals to our meeting list by email. That list is now up to 648 persons with a mix of professionals and individual NA members.

Our NAGS team presented a proposal with a request for areas to include Internet connections when securing places for the IRSC to meet. The Web site has a new version on the test site that mobile friendly and will be released soon.

The Regional Board has met monthly since our last region with our Guidelines being reviewed. The planning for our regional convention continues and will be in Marshalltown, Iowa July 1, 2, 3, 2016.

ILS,

Barry & Kathy

Mid-America

Since we last met in August in Des Moines, a lot has happened in our Region. 7 of our 9 ASC's are represented regularly at our RSC, with OZ and Western having sporadic representation. Our PR for Professionals presentation was done at this Friday, January 29th, right here in Lawrence, Kansas, with 14 professionals and many NA members in attendance. Sally R., Jeffrey L. and Amber C. all did exceptional jobs in presenting information about Narcotics

Anonymous. Contact hour (3 hours) certificates were handed out to the registered professional participants. This presentation is available to your Region, PR or PI. Contact Sally R.

April 8-10 MARCNA Convention

<http://www.marscna.net/beta/Activitiesflyers/16/4/MARCNA%2033%20Registration.pdf> in Hutchinson is in the final planning stages. This will be another opportunity to see the PR for Professional presentation on Friday morning. Jeffry and I are presenting a CAR/CAT workshop on Friday afternoon. Saturday workshops and speaker meetings, raffle and auction. Jeffry has begun work on the CAR/CAT tally that will be made available to all groups in our Region by email or paper copy. We might even post it on the Regional website. MWBR. The tally sheet will consist of CAR/CAT motions, issues and ideas that are floating around the internet. If you would care to help construct this tally sheet with us, give me a private message on Facebook (I have recent room for new friends) or message/call me at 785-766-7850 or email at nanate1@yahoo.com. Jeffry and I have firm plans for 3 CAR/CAT workshops so far. Feb 27th in Parsons, KS <http://www.marscna.net/beta/Activitiesflyers/16/2/Feb%2027%20MARCNA%20Fundraiser%20&%20CAR.pdf> and March 12th in Salina, KS and April 8th in Hutchinson, KS. We are looking to add a workshop in either Colby or Dodge City and possibly one in Wichita and Topeka.

The plans for our Regional Camp-out are proceeding and the Longest Running Free Camp-out in all of Narcotics Anonymous will be held at Lake Clinton, July 1st through 4th at Bloomington West Campground. We reserve the entire campground, so it's just us. Soul to Soul, Spiritual Retreat was a success and plans are underway for 2016! September 30th – Oct 2nd at Camp Chippawa (West of Ottawa, KS) The one Regional Event we have not scheduled and is over due (2015) is the Regional Service Assembly. Current events and contact information for the Mid-America Region can be found at www.marscna.net

The Region continues to print the Mid-America Newsletter, now in its 35th year! Past issues can be found at our website: <http://www.marscna.net/newsletter.htm> We continue to carry approximately 24 H&I meetings across the Region, with meetings happening in County and State Correctional facilities and treatment centers. We have 82 free standing NA groups and 267 meetings a week. The Region is looking into incorporation, and has formed an Ad Hoc group to do that. If you have any ESH with Regional incorporation, please share with us. Thank you to all who helped make this January Zonal Forum a success in Lawrence, Kansas! I look forward to seeing you and sharing a meal and/or meeting at WSCNA 2016 and again in August 2016 in Nebraska.

In Service,

Nate Feldt

Mid-America RD

Nebraska Region

Hello Zonal Family,

My apologies for not attending this Zonal Forum, but other duty calls.

The Nebraska Region, sent a donation of \$100 to the Multi-Zonal Service Symposium, and is donating \$120 to PSZF for the "Sponsorship Behind the Walls" project.

In Nebraska, plans are in progress for Close Encounters of the Clean Kind, February 26th-28th, 2016, at the Ramada Plaza, Omaha, NE; and NRCNA 33, to be held September 24th-26th, 2016, at the Ramada Plaza, in Omaha, NE. Use the "Nebraska Regional Activities" link on nebraskana.org to get registration information, and information about other activities.

Annual H&I training meetings are being held throughout the state. PR training is also going on, and SENANA is working on planning an event to coincide with the Zonal Forum to be held in Nebraska, in the Fall of 2016. Our Regional website has not been updated in several months. A member volunteered to work on making updates, while we are waiting for a new IT Chair to be elected.

The RD team has been conducting CAR webinars throughout the month of January. It has worked well, with good participation. We also have 2 Areas who requested face-to-face CAR Workshops, and will do one final workshop at the next NRSC, on April 9th. An online voting ballot for the CAR Motions, using GoogleDocs, has also been developed and is available to our members. So far, that's working well too!

We haven't had much feedback yet, regarding the future of the WSC. Hopefully, we will have more input by then.

The Southeast Nebraska Area of Narcotics Anonymous (SENANA), is working on a plan to host the Fall Zonal Forum, in Lincoln, NE. Due to the Husker's football home game schedule, there is a free weekend on August 26-28, 2016, any later than that will interfere with our Regional Convention. They are trying to secure the Burean Church, located at 6400 S. 70th Street, Lincoln, NE (corner of S. 70th Street & Hwy. 2). I will find a hotel near that location, that has a meeting space for Sunday's business, since the Church will be busy that day. I will get more information out as soon as I have it.

Miss you all, but will see you in April!

Diane K., Nebraska Regional Delegate

OK Region

OK Region

Not a whole lot to report from the OK Region currently. We now have a Regional secretary for whom we are grateful! Hopefully, this will improve more accurate, timely reports to and from the RSC.

We are close to completing and updating all area meeting lists to the BMLT.

Our Regional General Service Assembly is this weekend at the same location in Glencoe, OK. We are hoping for a larger than usual attendance due to the regional motion submitted in the CAR. More will be revealed.

Illicit literature still causing disunity in region. Hope continues for solution to this issue.

Regional Convention is April 1 in Tulsa, OK. We are currently planning on a small PR presentation with the drug/alcohol counselors in the Tulsa Metro locations.

Current news from the local areas:

Western Area – After previous attendance struggles, they are moving in the right direction with more participation and filling of trusted servant vacancies. Lots of Outreach being done. Biggest challenges recently faced is a new meeting formatted with illicit literature. Solution reached to not list any meetings on the area meeting list that used any literature other than fellowship approved literature currently produced by NA World Services. This meeting also is distributing this literature to local H&I facilities. Decision made to send letter to all area H&I facilities concerning literature that is non-compliant with copyright laws. These decisions were passed by the groups of the area. Area event, Norman Winter Convention, had a great turnout, lots of group support and lots of unity. Current website problems due to previous trusted servant owning the website and domain will hopefully be resolved soon. Looking for solutions. Communications ongoing.

Southern 5th – Doing well. Area campout being planned along with collaborative speaker jam that's been an ongoing event for 10 years.

Eastern Area – New phone line doing well. Live addict available. H&I panel leaders needed but otherwise doing well. Project Primary Purpose Fundraiser Soup Bowl in October was a success even though it was planned against another group event and a neighboring group convention. Local New Years Eve event a success. Lots of new trusted servants elected.

Plains Area – Not much being reported other than they have added a new group from OKC. This group left WASC when they weren't added to the meeting list. No other information reported. Area is discussing starting an area convention.

ILS,
Cindi B.
OK Region Delegate

South Dakota Region

Hello Zonal Peeps,

Thank you Mid-America for a great weekend. South Dakota is doing well. We are busy planning our Serenity In the Hills retreat that will be held March 18, 19, 20th in Piedmont, SD at Elk Creek Resort. Come join us if you can.

The South Dakota Convention is going to be held in Sioux Falls, SD. Dates will be Sept 9, 10, 11. Look forward to seeing you there. Fliers will be posted on the SDRNA.com website.

We have been contacted by the Pine Ridge reservation about helping supply white books and IP's for treatment centers that are being open in multiple locations. The region has purchased \$500.00 worth of literature to help get it started. More will be revealed.

Other than that not much news. Recovery is great in South Dakota. Come join us if you get a chance. See you all at the conference.

Baby Blues kind of faded away for now. We will be doing face to face workshops for the CAR/CAR.

ILS
Steve & Danny

MZSS

Greetings,

We have been busy at working toward the next Multi Zonal Service Symposium that will take place September 23, 24, 25, 2016 in Milwaukee Wisconsin at the Crown Plaza Hotel. We have most of our positions filled with one person interested in one of our open positions Arts & Graphics. We are still looking for a Host Coordinator. The Host position serves as the link between the committee and the local NA Committee. They coordinate local volunteers and helps the Local Fellowship become involved with the Symposium.

We have completed our guidelines and have sent them to the Regional Delegates for input. We have started to receive some input from this and this input will be included in our next meeting. If you did not receive our guidelines, please let us know so we can update our delegates and alternate delegate list from our member zones.

We have limited down our logo options and will be making that choice at our next meeting. We will also be making our selections for a pre t-shirt to be sold at the World Store at the WSC. We will have prices set and flyers ready prior to the World Service Conference and out to our member regions.

Our Treasury balance is \$1,459.90. This amount comes from donations from regions that committed to seed money. We have received money from 10 regions to this point. Our mailing address is PO Box 700192 Dallas, TX 75370 if your region has not mailed in their donation you can mail it to that address and make the check payable to MZSSNA.

The Symposium will again have 3 loose tracts set up. The tracts are: Public Relations (which would include PI/PR, H&I, Phonenumber, etc.), Fellowship Development, and Information Technology. This is the same as our last Symposium. We encourage all members to come and participate as the workshops will vary in service experience and type. Each tract

will have basic workshops to advance type workshops. We are looking for workshop ideals and volunteer to facilitate them. A flyer is attached to this report.

Our next meetings are set for: February 3, February 24, and March 16, 7pm CST. These meetings are scheduled on Skype. We are looking into other options for our meetings with one suggestion being freeconferencecall.com. You can look at mzssna.org

Our Trusted Servants:

Facilitator - Barry B. Iowa
Co Facilitator – Daniel C. Mid America
Recorder – Lucy O. Volunteer
Treasurer – Mary B. Lone Star
Co Treasurer - Sharon E. Lone Star
Programing – Amanda M. Nebraska
Facilities, - Pat P. Arkansas
Merchandise – Randie B. Lone Star
Technology – Larry B. OK
Registration – Angie S. OK
Arts and Graphics – open (interested person)
Host – open

Yours in service,

Barry B.
(402) 612-8137

OPEN FORUM:

CAR/CAT Conscience

Talking about planning our future. We always sit together as a zone at the conference. At the end of the week we could get together to see how we would vote as a zone. All the RD's could all send them to one person and that person could tally that information. CAT's should all be in the mail. The service pamphlet is in the mailing as well. Mid-America posted it on their regional Facebook page. How do the RD's feel about zonal representation? Anticipate that this will become a large discussion at the conference. Most regions don't know yet how their region feels. Went around and asked the RD's their opinions. Most RD's believe we need to move this way. There is concern about how the zones would be represented. Don't want to lose regions individual decision. We would send a zonal team, not just one person. We need to start talking about this in our groups and areas too, not just at a regional level. There are lots of ways this could fall into place. This is about saving lives. As a zone we could form a planning group to move this forward. After the zonal tally takes place, we could get a better idea of where we are as a zone. We should also include notes for the small sessions as well, along with the tally. Talk about the zonal representation has been talked about for a long time. Could take a motion in 2018 to the WSC. It could be brought up in new business in 2016 as well. We can also offer an idea to be discussed at the conference in the report. Deadline for this is February 15th. A planning workgroup will be formed for this. Cindi will coordinate the planning workgroup, Kathy, Mark, Amanda, Barry, Brian S, Angie, Colby, Kyle, Sally, Brian J, and Jon are willing to participate. Cindi will also take the tallies from the regions. The workgroup is charged with investigating and planning this topic, also would like to see a 2-hour workshop at zone in Lincoln. The workgroup needs to submit the idea for the CAR report as well as submitting a motion for new business at WSC. Can also include this in the CAR/CAT workshops in our regions as well. The workgroup will send something to all the RD's prior to submitting this.

Illicit Literature

Best Little Region – Panhandle area – education has been trying to happen. Members are coming and handing out in the parking lot after the meetings. They called world – they told them it is okay to ask them to leave the parking lot. A letter has been given to the groups on the FIPT. Considered not putting those groups on the meeting list, but don't want

to keep a newcomer from coming to a group because it hands out illicit literature. Would like to have information on what is working and what is not working. Concerned about what evidence does the area have prior to removing a group from the meeting lists. In Oklahoma, it was stated that a new group was participating in this behavior and it was sent back to the groups to decide if the new group should be on the meeting list or not. This can be talked about amongst ourselves outside of this meeting. We need to consider this an outside issue. Another member mentioned this is tearing apart groups and areas and it is affecting our zone as a whole. Suggest to come up with a solution in the policy for your area/group. Secretary will attach the FIPT letter in the minutes. A member also mentioned that when they see this happening, they get a basic text to that member who received the illicit literature.

OLD SERVICE:

Elections

- PR Facilitator – Jeffry was nominated. The qualifications were read. He declined. Take back to regions.

No elections at WSC. Next elections will be held at the next zonal meeting in Nebraska.

Banking Information

All information has been turned in to the bank for new signers.

Audit

Not done yet. Mary B said she would help us audit. We would rather sit down with someone rather than sending the information to someone. Mark would also like to be present during the audit for questions. Suggestion to do something via skype. A former Iowa region treasurer may be willing to help. It could be done during Close Encounters. The auditor would submit a report. Barry, Daniel and Mark can sit down with the auditor. This will be reported back at WSC's meeting.

Start-up Funds

It was decided on \$300 for start-up funds. This is the biggest zone we've had. We did go over budget this time.

MZSS

Report was read during reports. Programming committee is collecting workshop ideas, flier has email address to send ideas to. If you have topics you've workshopped and would like to see it there or if you have other topics you'd like to see, send it in. Finalizing program in a few months. Spread the word. 2018 will be in the Plain States Zone, this will be in New Service.

Sponsorship Behind the Walls (SBTW)

We currently have 4 regions for this, and 1 against. Best Little Region has lost the information. Amanda had a copy of the proposal to give to the Best Little Region RD. We could discuss this at the conference since we have a limited agenda in April. Best Little is most likely going to be okay with this, but will need to take this to their areas. They will know by March. This is tabled until WSC. If they are in favor, a workgroup will be formed. If the proposal passes, Amanda will coordinate the workgroup, Kathy, Kyle, Jeff R are willing to participate. Daniel wants to be included, but can't be on the workgroup currently. The workgroup can work on guidelines and ask for volunteers and if this does not pass it will die. If there are any other willing members to participate, contact Amanda.

NAGS (NA Geek Squad)

Webmaster is absent. This will die at this point.

Policy Review

Policy is done. Policy didn't get attached with minutes. Secretary will send these out with the minutes.

PR Booth

We wanted to do both presentation and booth, however the deadline is passed for the presentation, so we can only do the booth. Last time there was some members who reached out to in the KS City area. There are places that are working within multi-state for CEU's, we should reach out to them to get more information. We should start planning for next time now. There is concern about planning this without a PR Coordinator. There is also concern about not

being cost effective to have the booth. A question was posed if our absence would pose a problem. If there is a presentation, we should definitely have a booth. We should reach out to someone to see if we would even need to fill out the application. John S is willing to volunteer for the booth. A proposal was made to not do a booth this year, and the facilitator contact the local area and Show Me Region to let them know we will not be there this year, but we want to do a presentation at the next time, we have to have a coordinator by next August. Proposal passed.

Website

Nebraska decided against using our website to host theirs.

Zonal Video – Photos (send to photos@pszfna.org)

Barry volunteered to do the video. We need these photos asap. He would like to have these photos via drop box. Deadline for photos is March 31st. Send music ideas by the end of March also.

Moving Open Forum time

We are limited to our discussion on Sunday. If we moved this to Saturday, it would give other people an opportunity for other members to participate. We can leave this to the facilitator's. Other zones do this first thing prior to workshops. No opposition to trying this at zone in Nebraska. We can try this for an hour at the beginning of the day.

Meeting @ MZSS

Nebraska is the next scheduled zonal meeting after WSC. We do not want to meet on Sunday. If there is another time to meet, that may work better. Several regions mentioned they wouldn't be able to be funded to go to both MZSS and Zone. We won't have time to get all business done if we meet at MZSS. If we meet in August in Nebraska, there is no need to meet a month later at MZSS. General consensus is to not meet at MZSS. We will meet in August in Nebraska.

NEW SERVICE:

Planning for Zonal Weekends

It was suggested to have a checklist of things that need to be planned during the weekend. The communication leading up to the event has been a struggle the last couple of zonal meetings. The hosting delegate team should be communicating this out to the zone. Propose that we add in our guidelines that the hosting delegate submit an agenda 30 days prior to our next meeting. In Iowa it was helpful that at the previous zone it was decided what workshops were being done. Hosting region – the delegate should be the point of contact, but also need to have a local contact if the delegate does not live in that area. We don't need to make a knee jerk reaction to creating a policy because mis-communication has happened a couple of times.

Next Meeting @ WSC in April

Facilitator and Secretary will hopefully be participating via phone or skype. Barry will help facilitate that meeting. Cindi will volunteer to take minutes during that meeting. August start-up funds check will be written today. A \$300.00 check will be written to Diane. Saturday morning will be open forum along with a round table zonal participation discussion. Nebraska will work on getting workshop ideas by WSC in April. IDT's probably won't be available by August. We need 2 more workshop topics. August 26 - 28th seems to work well for all the regions. Next meeting after Nebraska will be held in Oklahoma. This will probably be at the GSA in Oklahoma. This is normally the 2nd weekend in February.

CAR/CAT

Nate gave money to Mark from CAR/CAT that was sold at the event yesterday. Treasurer will write a check to NAWS for this.

MZSS Hosting

Next MZSS will be hosted in our Zone. Bids/ideas should be brought to the zone in August, so Barry can take them with him to the closing meeting of MZSS. Should be a location w/ an airport.

Announcements

- **P3 update** – put out in 2015 almost 400 basic texts over the course of the year. Several regions have done fundraisers. They are willing to start putting information into county jails to regions in our zone. Need to make sure they have a few weeks left when sending in the request. The turnaround time is about 2 weeks.
- OK Region is April 1-3rd, 2016
- Mid-America Regional Convention April 8th – 10th, 2016
- Close Encounters of the Clean Kind – Feb 26-28th, 2016

In loving service Amber C
PSZF Secretary

Attachments: Updated Trusted Servants Contact List
FIPT Letter
Policy