

Plains States Zonal Forum Business Meeting

February 4th & 5th, 2017

OK Region

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

 **ROLL CALL:** All Regions and Trusted Servants present

Trusted Servants:

Facilitator – Nate F.

Secretary - Amber C

Treasurer – Carol P.

Web-Servant – Open Position

PR Coordinator – Sam B.

SBTW Coordinator – Amanda M.

Regions

Best Little Region – LeaAnne H & Sam B

Iowa –Barry B. & Kathy N.

Mid-America – Nate F. & Jeffrey L

Nebraska – Brian S.

OK – Cindi B. & Kyle B.

South Dakota – Steve P.

Visitors

Sally R, Tracy C, Jeff R, Colby B, Angie S, Rich C, Jan K, James R, Lee C, Michelle B, Burley V, Kat V, Mark B

MINUTES:

Minutes were read by secretary. Minutes were approved.

REPORTS:

Treasurer

To remove Mark off the banking acct must be in the minutes.

Mark B will be removed from the banking account and add Nate F.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Opening balance | 8/30/2016 | | 2239.41 |
| Deposit Mid America donation | 11/28/16 | \$2000 | 4239.41 |
| Deposit Iowa region donation | 12/1/16 | \$1082.80 | 5322.21 |
| Check website through | 8/2016 | -218.87 | 5103.34 |
| Balance at beginning of meeting | 2/2017 | | |
| Check NAWS amt over prudent reserve | | -3103.34 | 2000.00 |

Thank you,

CP

PR Coordinator

Hey Guys

I sent out emails regarding the Governor's Conference. The first email, I received no response. The second email considered starting a workgroup formed around the need to create a standard application that would be ready each year that our Zone is interested in attending the conference.

Cindi and Jeffrey responded to my email reinforcing the idea that we have an already completed format to follow when applying for participation in the Governor's Conference.

The date for the application process for this event has been extended to February 10th.

I had a conversation with Jamie Schieber from the Conference and was informed that we could throw a rough draft together and possibly receive a call for more information in an attempt to get accepted. My concern is: since there was no response to my emails, we will have no involvement in doing a PR presentation at this event. The presentation for this conference is to be 60 to 90 minutes long and must be interactive--I believe different than presentations we have already prepared.

It is my opinion that we should create a standard presentation for this Conference along with a standard application so that we may do this presentation in the future.

It is still possible for our Zone to have a booth at this Conference without the presentation application being submitted. Before we plan for the booth, I need to know that we will have participation from some members of this board or of NA to assist me in manning this booth. I hesitate to commit to this booth if members are not available to assist because the cost of it is \$325.00.

If you have members in your Region that are interested in participating on a workgroup so that we may be better organized next year and/or are interested in manning a booth at the Conference if the Zone decides to do so, please have them e-mail me so that I may get started on this/these endeavors. My email is skittles50613@gmail.com.

In loving service

Sam B.

Web Servant

Open Position – No Report – Barry has been updating the website. If anyone has a workshop that is different send it to Barry and he will post it on the website. Suggested to do something like BMLT for the entire zone. BMLT – Basic Meeting List Tool. He explained what this was so that all members understand.

Best Little Region (TX)

All is well in the Best Little. Our RD team is working diligently to bring information about Narcotics Anonymous in our Zone and as a whole to our Region. Along those lines, we will be holding a Service Fun Day on March 18th in Lubbock, Texas. We will begin our day with service workshops and in the evening have two speakers and a fundraiser for the Texas State Convention 2017. Speaking of the Texas State Convention, it will be held in Lubbock, Texas which is in our Region this year. The dates are May 25th - 28th 2017. I am having difficulty getting ahold of a flyer for this event and I realize we are rather far south, but if anyone is interested in more information regarding this event let me know and I will get it to you. The Best Little Region convention will be held in San Angelo, TX, Nov 3 -5, 2017. If anyone wants more info before the next Zonal -- let me know.

We have members in our northern Area (Panhandle) involved in Sponsorship Behind the Walls, and excitement about the many avenues PR in Narcotics anonymous is being sparked! Thanks to all members that have talked with me this weekend about your Regions--all this info really helps!!! We have a \$300 donation for the Zone.

Always an honor and privilege to serve

Lea Anne H

Best Little RD

Iowa Region

Greetings from the Iowa Region.

Iowa has 12 areas and 290 meeting as of today. Our meeting total swings goes from 282 to 305.

We have only met once since our last zone. This meeting was our bi annual planning session, annual budget setting meeting, and election of officers. It was a packed service weekend. Let's start with the money. Our total income from our area donations in 2016 was \$17,094.72. We passed budgets that totaled \$13,350.00 in expenses. This is broken down as:

\$1,500 to our convention committee;
\$2,600 for PR;
\$1000 for Web Services;
\$2,500 Insurance;
\$500 Fellowship Development;
3,050 RD/RD-A;
2,200 Administrative / Meetings.

Our Goals:

PR Conferences: Mike D. (South Central) Coordinator

To attend the Governors Conferences on Mental Health and Substance Abuse

PR - H&I:

1. To conduct 2-4 work shops
2. To develop H&I packets for facilities, both current and to look for new H&I opportunities in other facilities
3. To create a list of volunteers with Zonal Conferences on Sponsorship Behind the Walls
4. Continue maintenance and development of H&I database

PR - Phone Line: Chad W. (SANA) Coordinator

1. Find a Co-Coordinator to train and mentor
2. Reduce calls to the admin queue by 10%
3. Continue to provide orientation workshops to incur active volunteers by 20% and maintain it

PR - Awareness: Jay T. (MANA) Coordinator

2017 Goals are to research updated video PSAs and distribute and to redistribute radio PSA's where needed.

Web Services:

Create new website that is mobile friendly.

Insurance:

1. Appoint a duly designated Area member accountable for submission of claims and questions on insurance.
2. Having a web e-mail that goes directly to coordinator. This has been done.
3. Creating insurance guidelines as an addendum.
4. Maintaining current insurance policy.
5. Being claim free for one year.

Our region passed by conscience vote to support the zone buying a go to meeting account. We did have input from a member of web team to try Zoom. We did this for our Web Services meetings and found this to work well. Since then some of you have tried Zoom with WSC Participants Meeting. We will ask to amend our proposal to be for Zoom instead.

We presented proposals to the Region to give financial support to P3 and to this zone. The proposals were defeated as we could not agree on the amount. At the end of our Service Conference during our donation to NAWS section of our agenda a proposal was presented. This proposal was to pass along the funds over our prudent reserve in the following manner: 25% to P3, 25% to the Zone, and 50% to NAWS – approved unanimously.

We had elections at this Region with these elections:

Boone H. (Clean & Free) Fellowship Development Coordinator
Shane R. – (Heartland Area) PR Facilitator
Christine M.- (Freedom & Serenity Area) Insurance Coordinator
Sari M. (SWINA) – Facilitator
Kevin B. (North Central) – Co Facilitator
Kathy N. (SEIANA) RD

We had nominations with elections in February of:

Bob B. (DANA) Web Servant
Michelle B (SWINA) AD

This is my last meeting as the delegate from Iowa. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

In loving service,
Barry B RD,
Kathy N. AD

Mid-America

Since we last met in August in Nebraska, a lot has happened in our Region. We have added another Area to our Region. Never Alone, Never Again, is comprised of some Topeka and surrounding groups. 9 of our 10 ASC's are represented regularly at our RSC, with Western not represented now in over 18 months, but we have made contact and verified most of the meetings that are reported to happen in that Area. Regional Service Assembly in December was a success with over 60 addicts in attendance and funds raised for P3. We gave away 8gig thumb drives with massive service literature on each. We voted as a Region to continue to mandate this event every year as part of policy. Our PR for Professionals presentation continues to provide information to professionals in the Region. They will next do a workshop on the Friday afternoon of MARCNA in March.

Our toll free PHONELINE 855-732-4673 has expanded it's "live" member feature from 6 hours per day by 3 hours to 9 hours per day, every day. Now when you call between the hours of 11am and 8pm daily, you may request to speak to a member. We will expand this feature another three hour shift in the near future to increase our coverage to 11am – 11pm. This is an exciting development and it does a lot to carry our message.

March 24-26 2017 MARCNA Convention <http://marscna.net/Convention/2017%20MARCNA/PreReg%20Flyer.pdf> in Wichita is in the final planning stages. This will be another opportunity to see the PR for Professional presentation on Friday morning. Saturday workshops and speaker meetings, raffle and auction. 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, Lawrence, Kansas June 30th through July 3rd 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 2017! 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, (Michelle C. is our newest editor) now in its 36th 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 90 free standing NA groups and 300+ meetings a week. My term as Delegate is nearing it's conclusion. It has been a learning experience with highs and lows. I certainly have gained perspective about our Service System that I did not have prior to these last 5 years. I will be put to pasture in May. Fortunately or unfortunately, depending on your perspective, I will continue to participate at all levels of service in NA, with or without formal position.

In Service,

Nate F
785-766-7850

delegate@marscna.net

Mid-America RD

Nebraska Region

Hi!

Nebraska is working on making the changes to CBDM. Policies should be ready to go back to groups at April RSC! H&I, Policy, Outreach, & ARD positions are open. There are 119 meetings weekly on our Regional meeting list. Lincoln is having Sweet Treat raffle & Dance 2-18-17 at 2820 O ST, Lincoln NE. Omaha will be doing their annual Close Encounters at Ramada Plaza Omaha & Convention center So. 72nd ST, Omaha NE 68124. McCook will be holding their 25th annual Chili cook off 3-5-17 at the KC Hall East 9th & C ST McCook NE. I believe we have 37 weekly H&I commitments being filled in the region. There are 7 areas due to two areas joining. NRCNA 35 is being held in North Platte NE OCT 5-7, 2018. Oct 27-29th, 2017 333 S 13th St Lincoln, NE will be our regional convention Cornhusker Hotel.

ILS,

Brian S

OK Region

We had an area service committee leave OK Region. Official letter stated they did not feel they were represented well at Region.

We had our Fall Spiritual Retreat in November.

We are preparing for our Regional Convention March 17, 18, 19 at Reed Center in Midwest City Okla.

We are working on some ideas on stimulating more participation in our Fellowship Development and Regional Service Committee. More will be revealed on that.

We now have alin policy a \$75 budget for groups that aren't connected to an area requesting help with literature.

We still have 3 areas that seem to be functioning well.

We as a Region do 4 events a year that all are functioning well.

Our insurance was paid in November.

As is well in the OK region.

ILS Kyle B OKRSC RDA

South Dakota Region

Greetings from South Dakota, recovery is alive and well in the region. We have a number of events coming up that we are planning. Serenity in the Hills retreat is going to be March 17-19 in Hill City, SD at the Super 8 Hotel. Our main speaker is going to be Ed S from Lincoln. Looking forward to a great weekend in the Black Hills. The camp out for the Sturgis Rally is being planned for Sheridan Lake this year again. This will be the 23rd year for a clean place to camp during the rally. A West Rive Area home group puts this on and is a great time. Come join us if you can. The 20th SDRNA is in the planning. It is going to be held in Sturgis, SD Sept. 15-17 at the Super 8. We are in the process of choosing speakers and workshops. We were wondering if we would like to have our next Zone at the same time as SD is next in the rotation and the timing is right. Please give us feedback on how you feel about this. There is also a number of camp outs that will be happening this summer. Please check our web site for flyers on these events as they become available, SDRNA.com.

Thank you all for a great weekend. We look forward to seeing you in South Dakota in the fall.

ILS

Steve P.

Sponsorship Behind the Walls (SBTW)

Dear Zone,

First off, thank you for entrusting us to start and maintain an endeavor of this magnitude. We think it will be a valuable tool to help reach more addicts seeking our way of life through the 12 Steps of NA, as well as provide a different service

opportunity for more addicts in our zone. The benefits of sponsorship and step writing goes both ways. We've gotten a good start on getting the Sponsorship Behind the Walls Zonal project up and running. There are about 8-10 members currently on the workgroup and we've met 5 times via Skype. Consensus Based Decision Making is how we're handling discussions and decisions. Mostly we've been researching other region/area guidelines that have a SBTW project in existence, as well as reaching out to individual members directly that have experience. Then we've discussed how that translates to our zonal project, and have developed partial guidelines, as well as a few other things. We have a ways to go before we're ready to start contacting institutions and sponsoring addicts. I would anticipate another 3-6 months and we should be ready. In the meantime, I've gotten several emails through the sbtw@pszfna.org email of folks interested in sponsoring, so thanks for getting the word out. Based on discussions today, we should be able to produce another flyer with more detailed sponsor requirements and a few more specifics and we'd appreciate you distributing that again, once we update it.

In the packet I emailed out to the zonal members, it shows the main areas we've focused on:

- We have approved, within our workgroup, guidelines for workgroup positions and as well as processes and requirements for sponsors and sponsees;
- We have begun work on logos for flyers and letterhead, etc;
- We have drafted letters to be able to send out to institutions, sponsors, and sponsees,
- And we've looked into where to locate our mailbox and whether a US Postal Box is best, or an address/mailbox through a UPS Store, and the costs associated in several cities within our zone.

We also compiled a list of prisons/correctional facilities within each region in our zone. We have a fairly good representation of the regions in our workgroup, but at some point we may need to reach out further to you or someone in your region that is familiar with correctional facilities in your region. We would like to do a very limited mailing, possibly to one prison within each region in our zone to start with and see what kind of response we get before adding a bunch of prisons to our list. And so help from an addict in your region to determine the best prison to start with may be needed, if we don't have an addict within our workgroup that has an idea of where to start. At this time we are not planning to reach out to any county jails. We are asking that the sponsee have at least one year remaining in custody, and while there are exceptions, most folks don't spend much longer than a year in the county jail.

We're thinking of locating the mailbox in a city that has a larger, stable NA community, with a pool of members that may be willing to serve this project as Postal Coordinator and Postal Co-Coordinator. So our list has narrowed to Salina, Tulsa, or Omaha/Council Bluffs. We would appreciate any input you have on location, as well as our leaning towards using a UPS store for the address/mailbox, as they have the ability to forward our mail indefinitely if we ended up with no one in that city willing to serve, and the mail could be sent to a Postal Coordinator elsewhere. We also will be reaching out (and have started in some places) to the local areas and making sure they would be willing to have our mailbox located there. The mail is a very important part of this project and we'd want the area to be on board with it being there. They wouldn't be responsible per se for the mailbox, but we would want there to be addicts locally excited and willing to participate and take on that responsibility/position.

Literature is another area we don't have figured out. The individual addicts we reached out to, which represented about 7 or 8 different regional/area SBTW workgroups, said they used a variety of methods to get literature to addicts. Almost all left it up to the sponsor to decide which current NA approved literature they wanted to use for working the steps with their sponsee. A few committees have a literature budget that they use to send books in to individual sponsees, upon the sponsor/sponsee's request. Most said they photocopy a few pages at a time and send in, if the prison allows that. P3 has said it would be ok for us to use them to provide a free Basic Text to prisoner sponsees, so zone will need to decide if we want to create any sort of literature budget to be able to send sponsees a Step Working Guide and/or an It Works, How and Why, etc, or if we want to ask each sponsor or sponsee to shoulder that expense for extra books or photocopying.

We've researched methods other workgroups use to get the incoming sponsee mail to the sponsors, once it has come to the workgroup mailbox. Most either hand it out in person at their committee meetings (which obviously won't work for us) or they put the sponsee's envelope in a new envelope, address it and put a stamp on it, and mail to each sponsor.

One workgroup scans the letters from sponsees and then emails it to each sponsor. At this point we don't have a formal workgroup recommendation on method-we haven't gotten quite that far in our discussions. Most of the research is gathered though. I think overall it would be cheaper and more time efficient to scan and email, the downfall is potentially some other sets of eyes could read the sponsee letters besides just the sponsor. So that's where we're at with that.

Once we decide on a location and type of mailbox, as well as some of the literature decisions, and method of getting sponsee mail to their sponsors, we'll be able to provide a better idea on a budget. It is still premature at this point, but hope to get some feedback on these topics today, that will help us move in a direction agreeable to zone. So, I still have the \$700 you gave me at August zone and we have spent \$0.

On the work group guideline positions, if they seem agreeable to begin with, we'll include those on the flyers and probably hold elections for them in the coming months. In the meantime if you or you know of anyone that would like to help with research, or be part of the workgroup in some way, please have them get in contact with me at sbtw@pszfna.org. Otherwise, keep spreading the word that we'll be looking for sponsors and workgroup members to fill positions soon.

There's many more smaller details still to work out as well, and some of it we'll adjust after we get started and have some practical experience. NAWS is holding quarterly webinars on SBTW, and myself and a couple other workgroup members plan to be on the next one on this Thursday February 9th.

Let us know any thoughts or questions you or your region may have.

With love and gratitude in service,
Amanda M
SBTW workgroup coordinator

Planning Our Future Workgroup

No Report – Cindi was absent – It was mentioned our zone voted similar. She will send us a report.

MZSS

Greetings from MZSSNA 2016. This s*** happened again. There were many challenges, but the event was again a great success and all and all accomplished what it was designed to do. Addicts came together to help other addicts find a way to carry the message and serve the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. Our input from our survey was again very positive and will we again use it for input for our 2018 event. The survey along with most of our workshops and recordings will be available on line on our website. The registration total was 168. The programing workgroup again had a great agenda for our event. Thank you, Amanda, and crew for your hard work. The feedback on the workshops was again very good with some ideals expressed for workshops for the next event. There was a couple of workshops that did not get recorded due to poor quality and the Speaker where missed on Saturday night. They are posted on our web site for your listening pleasure.

Financially the event was a wash. We closed the books with 87 dollars more than what we took in from donations from our member regions. We did not get our coffee cups in time for the event. This was an error on the part of our vendor and this accounted for 1000 dollars in loss funds. Our AV cost where 2, 640 dollars. We had this amount budgeted, however we will be going over this with each of the upcoming bids to get them to look at item when researching the bids.

Social media had a blow up over a note that our workgroup had passed out to the NA members before and during the PR event on Friday am. The note asked NA members to refrain from sharing and allow the workgroup to put on the presentation.

The 2018 workgroup has started to be formed with our own Daniel was elected Facilitator, Mary R as Treasurer, and Lucy staying on for now as secretary. Bids have been presented from Omaha, Wichita, Oklahoma City, and Tulsa. We will be voting on these by the end of the month.

In loving service Barry B.

OPEN FORUM: February 4TH, 2017 @ 1:00pm

There was discussion on what Open Forum was and what happens with the information gathered. Members explained what Open Forum was.

Eastern Area H&I does very well – lots of participation, lot of people come that discuss and get trained. Lots of money goes towards H&I for literature for their facilities. Carrying lots of panels into facilities (22 facilities). Some groups do specific fundraisers to support H&I. They have an orientation for panel members and panel leaders on how to carry a clear message of Narcotics Anonymous. They have a training on the 2nd Saturday of every month. They learn how to follow facility rules. They have packets for panel leaders and members. Mentioned that should always take 2 or more members in to facilities, and never do this alone. Some reasons for this is due to safety, accountability, support. Members shared how doing H&I feels good and seeing people come in and come to their meetings feels good.

Question on how to get into county jail. Suggestion to get w/ area H&I chairs. Suggestion to talk to county commissioner or talk to sheriff's boss. Another suggestion was to go through Chaplin in jail/volunteer coordinator. Sometimes it takes a long time to get a meeting started in jails. A member mentioned that it took 20 years to get into their jail. Eastern Area mentioned they had trials and tribulations before they got strong. One member shared that to put together a workshop to get interested members. Suggestion to get literature in the jail if no meeting can get in. It was also suggested to do a professional workshop to those professionals. Another suggestion was to reach out for a reference or resource from other jails who do H&I. Iowa RD mentioned they go to Iowa correctional conference every year to talk to those professionals.

There was a question on accountability when groups are doing H&I. It was mentioned that accountability lies in the area disseminated to groups in form of report. Everyone is responsible for reading that report. Have panel leader for each commitment they have. Liaison who was another contact point. Mentioned some areas don't have the support, so groups take on this responsibility.

A question from South Dakota was that there are more facilities asking for H&I meetings than they have members to support. In Eastern Area, a lot of people have encouragement and have passion. Some people get motivation because they were members in those H&I meetings and when they got out they had the passion and wanted to give it back.

What can PSZF/Regions do for H&I – mentioned to have one person for a DOC coordinator. Best Little asked if anyone come to Amarillo to help their area do a workshop. It was suggested to go to a workshop of a close workshop. PSZF is working towards Sponsorship Behind the Walls project. This can be incorporated into H&I process. This is still in implementation process. There was lots of concerns and questions about this project and it was explained.

Public Relations Committee for Mid America they are doing Presentation to Professionals they have created workgroup at RSC. Wichita fellowship has done several PR events and doing Save the Date fliers are being handed out at those events. 2018 in Topeka in downtown Topeka – hoping to get legislators presence at the presentation to the 2018 meeting. Wear business casual if you come.

Strategic Planning/Goal Setting

Average of 20-25 members active at the area but they haven't done anything else w/ that manpower. It was asked if anyone use strategic planning right now. Iowa does this, just completed their planning session. They have planned what they will do for the next 2 years and they do budgeting once a year. They are still trying to fine tune some of this. They go over this at region and get feedback from RCM's. They Identify problems, prioritize problems. Allow fellowship to determine success based on surveys. It was asked how long this took to implement. They said about 5-6 years. First

strategic plan was for 1 year, but this didn't work well because they were always planning. Member mentioned it sounds like a steering meeting and asked what are they planning. They are planning any service they will provide for the next 2 years. Such as redefining Fellowship Development committee. The groups then approve their plans. RCM's are involved in Strategic planning. There was a question on how to adjust this if something comes up. This is taken care of as they can when something comes up. This is taken care of at that moment that something happens. This is for all regional functions, not just for PR/FD, etc. They are finding not much participation during the survey process. It was asked if Iowa would share this. Iowa mentioned this will be in their report tomorrow.

OK Region Open Forum:

OK Region would like more participation in Fellowship Development committee. This has been going for about 3 years. Goal is to have chairs of areas come to OK Region meeting. Mostly RCM's show up currently. They tried doing a regional phone line, and this hasn't worked out. Eastern Area did adopt that phone plan, but still no regional phone line. Suggested to have FD by conference call. Zone is looking at options to provide conference/video calls to all Regions. Would like to have some outreach encouragement to encourage areas to get people together. Inter-area/region Unity Day. Something non-formal...just a get together and it would travel.

OK Region in Ardmore – Saturday night having a Valentine's Day dance – member asked to come and support this group.

Information coming in from the groups. 3-10% feedback. It was asked if only a few groups are participating in the votes, does this maybe mean they don't want any more events such as PSZF. It was mentioned that maybe areas don't think they need the guidance from RSC anymore because they have experience in their own areas and that is why they don't get as much participation.

OK Region – struggle with how far to go without direction – not getting a lot of feedback – areas have to be responsible in delegating information so the RSC knows what they are supposed to do. They are looking at Iowa because they are similar in make-up with rural and bigger cities. OK region has 3 areas and Iowa has 13. This could be something that could be looked at doing differently.

A member agreed conference call and Go to Meetings are good...but there is something about face to face meetings...it was suggested to car pool have fun going there and back home. This isn't done anymore.

Best Little Region mentioned they are 10 hours apart from end to end. PSZF has given a reason to continue to go on in recovery. Lots of disunity in their region currently...so coming to PSZF to know people are here that give hope and appreciate being there to help give a reason to move forward. They are working on combining some service events with events already planning.

10% of people doing 100% of the work.

OLD SERVICE:

Elections

- Web Servant: Barry was nominated and accepted. He qualified himself and shared his vision of the website. He would like to implement the BMLT. He was voted in. Thank you Barry! 😊

PR Booth at Governor's Conference

PR Coordinator did some research on this conference. Application deadline was extended until February 10th, 2017. We can have a booth for \$350.00 or have a presentation for \$650.00. This is in Kansas City which is a forum for vendors/treatment professionals/corrections for gambling and addictions. We have participated as a PR booth for several years. We set up a booth and hand out information to those who stop at our booth. Dates for this is June 21st -23rd – Hilton Inn, Kansas City. These professionals are from a 5-state area. (Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Dakota). There is concern for the cost we don't reach a lot of people. It was suggested that we form a workgroup for next year, so that we can spend some time and research for 2018 for the application. The application is very detailed and there are some traditions that are questioned on the application. We seem to get hung up on this every year. The information usually comes out the fall or winter

prior to the event. Sam had emailed everyone for suggestions and did not get a response. A lot of times the time to work is over the holidays. PR Coordinator contacted the organization but concerns were that they ask for personal information, including first and last names, phones numbers, etc. They have to have that information and it is printed on the brochures. It was asked if members at the zone felt like this was something that we should continue to pursue. RD took a straw poll vote and it was decided they do not want to move forward with this. It was asked if Mid America would be willing to pick up this event. It was asked what PR Coordinator should be doing now. She could research additional opportunities for PR events. South Dakota will be doing a PR Presentation to Professionals.

Go to Meeting – Regional Connection

Iowa Region amends proposal to be for Zoom instead of Go To Meeting. The cost for this is \$14.99/mo. They were not sure if this allows to be broken out to separate rooms. This was taken back to regions. Vote was 4-0-2. Proposal passed. Question on cost if we needed to scale up. It was mentioned at this time we don't think that is needed. If it is needed later we could scale it up at that time. A calendar will be created on pszfna.org. At this time members can reach out to Barry to get them on the calendar until a better system is created. Barry and Jeffry will create a training video for this. It was agreed that we will pay for this for a year at a time. A check will be written for this today for \$149.90.

MZSS Wrap-up and Hosting Bids Info

Barry provided a report. Dates they are looking at beginning of November 2018. There are still several open positions. Very amazing event. Lots of people share a lot and learn a lot of information.

Sponsorship Behind the Walls (SBTW)

The workgroup has put together some guidelines. She is asking can we take this as the base guidelines for now and continue working. She asked for input, there was no input at this time. There were no objections to position guidelines that were sent out. PO Box location was discussed. She asked for suggestions. It was shared that the workgroup can make that decision. Was mentioned to just make sure there are members in that area with longevity and willingness to participate. UPS Store was a better option due to the forwarding options. It was asked for suggestions on how to get information from Sponsee to Sponsor. It was asked if there will be electronic communication, and at this time there would not be. There may be a future option at this time. P3 has agreed to help w/ getting the sponsees a basic text. It was asked if there should be a literature budget. It was shared that the sponsor should be responsible for getting the sponsee the literature. It was suggested to ask local H&I committees to help with donations also. There was concern on if copying part of the literature was legal based on the FIPT. Other workgroups that have similar projects are copying literature. It was also shared sometimes if you get a copy of literature to Chaplin in the prison, they would be willing to get information to the sponsee. These guidelines may differ from a minimum to a maximum facility. We will have to keep a database for each facility. A member shared that NAWS had given a counselor at a facility permission to photocopy step working guide to give to someone in the facility. It was shared that we should think about being responsible with managing our funds. We could potentially send a book and then never hear from that sponsee again. It was suggested to donate a book to the library also. For now there will not be a literature budget. More will be revealed on that. A new flyer will come out with more information soon, so that everyone can send out this information to regions. Next workgroup meeting is on February 15th.

Planning Our Future Workgroup (CAR/CAT)

Cindi is not here and it was mentioned they have not met yet. We will need to table this until September Zonal meeting. It was mentioned this was tabled in August also. It was also suggested that someone else on the workgroup should take this and get a meeting scheduled. It was shared that there isn't much they can do at this point. The last votes were given to Cindi yesterday. A member on this workgroup will make sure that a workgroup meeting happens before the next zonal meeting.

NEW SERVICE:

WSC Zonal Rep 2018 Discussion and Plan

It was voted as an experiment to have zonal representative on the floor in 2018 at the WSC. It was mentioned this needs to go back to regions before deciding. It was a member's understanding that this representation was for zones with unseated regions. It was shared our zone already sends 12 people and financially this would not be responsible to send another member. It was asked if each region would be sending their RD team and zone would also be sending a representative. This has been talked about in some regions this has been talked about and members have concern about sending another person. This could make the overcrowding worse. It was asked if someone that is already going could be a zonal representative. It was mentioned we need to decide if we want to participate first before moving forward. The proposal that was passed was read from NAWS news. It was asked to the RD's if the decision can be made without sending it back to the groups. An RD mentioned they need more information from their Region before making that decision. It was suggested to send this back to our regions. Ask regions if they would like to send a zonal representative. Proposal was made: "That the PSZF send a zonal representative to the WSC 2018 as defined by the proposal passed at the WSC 2016". It was mentioned that we should include financial impact in this proposal. It was agreed to include the financial impact. Financial impact would be approximately \$2000.00. The zone would fund this participant. It was mentioned that the zone should financially be able to send a participant. This proposal will go back to Regions.

WSC Proposal WSC 2016

- To allow a delegate from any currently existing zonal forum who requests it to be seated at WSC 2018 as a nonvoting participant for one conference only. The expense of attendance will be the responsibility of the zonal forum and not the WSC.
- To ask the delegates to go back to their regions with the question/workshop below: What is that your region thinks about zonal representation?
Intent: To bridge the gap of lacking information about what zones/WSC/seated/unseated regions are and could work better.

⊗ Next Meeting in South Dakota

It was discussed to have zone September 15th – 17th, 2017 @ SDRCA at the Super 8 Motel. There will be a PR for Professionals during this event. A question was asked if we will still be able to have the zonal auction at the event. An idea was presented to have a quilt to auction off and proceeds go to zone. The auction typically brings in \$1000, and typically this money goes toward SD. It was suggested to skip the NAWS donation next time. It was also mentioned that zone would be okay with not having an auction one time. There was concern with sending their RD/AD to a regional convention. This could be a beautiful outreach opportunity having this at a regional event. It was mentioned that as long as they are willing to do workshops that the zone normally does this would be a good idea. It was mentioned that if we skip the auction this could affect things if we end up sending a zonal representative to the WSC. Vote was taken, proposal passed.

⊗ SD RD's will coordinate workshops with zonal participants.

⊗ BMLT For Zone

Request that each of the RD's go back to their regions and let them know that the zone would like to put the BMLT on their server. All their regional meetings would be listed on. All regions would be hosted on the same server.

⊗ Recap on today's Event

- ⊗ Amanda sending out flier for SBTW
- ⊗ Taking back to groups – Proposal about zonal representation
- ⊗ Kathy is going to arrange a Planning Workgroup meeting
- ⊗ Governors conference is not happening at this time.

In loving service Amber C
PSZF Secretary

Announcements:

- ⊗ Close Encounters of the Clean Kind – February 24-26th Omaha, NE
- ⊗ OKRCNA – March 17th – 19th, 2017 – Midwest City, OK

 MARCNA – March 24th – 26th, 2017 – Wichita KS

Attachments: PSZF Sponsorship Behind the Walls (SBTW) Workgroup Approved Guidelines Draft
Updated Trusted Servants Contact List