

Business Session

Doug gave the treasurer's report. (See treasurer's report)

Going to write checks and are asking that everyone hold on to them for a week until all checks written to the SZF this weekend have a chance to clear the bank.

Facilitator's Report – Dickie D. – Reported about the new format of meeting 3 times per year instead of 4. Reported about using the website as a communication venue. Stated that a member used the website and that there was a lack of response to their questions. There will be a World Wide Workshop in New Orleans in September, and that this event can help in the ongoing process of rebuilding this city. Spoke about the SZF as compared to other Forums around the world. Reported that he loaned the Rep \$500 so that he could attend the WSC and then Dickie could be reimbursed at the next Forum.

Secretary's Report

Webservant – Steve S. – Asked about whether or not do we want to continue doing the monthly chats. Add Bluegrass Appalachian logo and ??? to the website. Agreement Paper has been updated. Statistics over 199,000 hits to the website. Over 530 registered members. Talked about whether or not to keep the chat room. Members discussed a monthly topic discussion thread. Asked that if anyone see something that might work as it relates to the website to please email him. It was reported that if a discussion has not had any activity that it will be deleted. Member stated that discussions should stay and be “memorialized” so that discussions do not have to be rehashed. Facilitator stated that discussion about people looking for meetings or certain documents are deleted. Katrina discussion was deleted because it was over a year ago and has had no activity.

Keith went over the results of the Leadership quiz from the previous day's Fourth Concept presentation.

SZF Representative – Stated that this was the last report of his term. Gave the WSC report which is available online at www.szfna.org. Stated that a translator for World Services has formally agreed to translate our Solutions Pamphlet into Spanish. At the WSC he had sessions with other members from other forums and talked about key issues and the future of the forums. Reported about translation issues within other forums. NAWS mass produced the Solutions Pamphlet as there was an enormous amount of members requesting a copy. Approached members anonymously about what they thought about Forums and he was referred to the SZF who produces the Solutions Pamphlet. Plain States requested more copies of older versions of the SP and for the survey we have used for them to adopt. From the Midwest Forum a request for a Leadership program. The Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum – they indicated that they would be interested in hearing more and a possible visit. Discussion Topics for the next cycle: Who is missing from our meetings? Our Service System and Building Strong Home Groups.

Treasurer's Report – Doug F. – Passed out bank statements. He can't find one statement from May but everything balances out. \$1,320.41 balance with a \$150 deposit matches the bank statement. No donation made to World in a while and doesn't see it happening. At the last forum we spent more than we took in so we may want to look at our expenses. Reported an error that he made at the last forum (small accounting error). 13 shirts are left – lets please try and get these sold. Made it out of the hole – we are in the black as of present. Member asked what kind of suggestions to help cut expenses. Stated that we need to do another inventory. Dickie stated that we did a budget a few years ago and that sending a rep to the WSC was not taken into consideration and not in the budget. Stated that anything over \$1,750 has been spent on to World, and that we may need to up our operating expense cap. Talked about some ideas regarding how to cut costs. Discussion about getting better rates by going through a hotel chain.

Michelle volunteered to look into calling different hotel chains.

Dickie will contact Lonestar Region about being on the ball and trying to get us a meeting room at a reasonable rate if not donated.

Western States Forum – Travis stated they were not on the list and didn't submit a report. Said they were sort of stand offish about Forums. Member stated that they have a different philosophy.

Timeline – Keith has adjusted to coincide with the new format with the rotation. We will be meeting in Alexandria, LA October 28 and 29th, 2006. Mississippi has the Summer 2007. That will be the 15th anniversary of this forum meeting. Show Me in the Fall of 2007 and in January we have Tejas Bluebonnet. In the Summer of 2008 we are in the Volunteer Region and in the Fall of 2008 we will be meeting in Bluegrass Appalachian. Plans are to put it on the website. Talked about maybe moving to every four months, to help with communication.

Selections:

Secretary – No nominations. Present secretary has agreed to do the secretary position for the Fall 2006 SZF.

SZF Rep – One nomination brought forth by Tim and the Arkansas Region – Bill L. Service resume was read. Discussion about whether that person needed to be present. Dickie pointed out that Bill L. is well know by more than ½ this body.

Travis was asked if he had the willingness to continue to serve and he stated that he had a strong desire. Questions were brought up about whether to have a person serve as the rep who doesn't attend meetings or live in our zone.

Decision was made to make the selection for the SZF rep at the Fall 2006 SZF.

Doug – Area selected Unity in Service and are willing to have presenters for this. Everything is taken care of – the airport is only 5 miles away and the hotel is a straight shot.

Tim & Greg P. – Has the willingness to present something on Conventions and Events: Are they working for us or against us?

Mike – Rotation and Continuity of Trusted Servants – Mike B., Lee & Steve S.
(Tag your it!)

Timeline – Mississippi needs to get information about hotel (Holiday Inn – Hattisburg, MS)