

Forum started at 8:30am

Traditions and Concepts read.

Facilitator stated that we made the room block so our meeting space was provided. However, we did agree to purchase more coffee and a donation can has been provided.

Treasurer report – Has copies for all the RD's. Also has copies of bank statements and checks. Have \$144.00. Deposited \$9.00 by mail and Dickie deposited two hundred something from T-shirts. I was asked why our bank Hotel \$377. (Listen to tape)

Start \$489.20 as of Saturday including 2 deposits he didn't know about.

Donations from BGA \$100.00

Lonestar \$300

Kent \$200

Show Me \$800.00

Total \$1,400.00 from Regions

Registration \$225.00

Old Tshirts \$150.00

New shirts \$685.00

Total \$2460.00 plus old balance

Grand Balance \$2949.20

This morning from dance \$93.00

Balance \$3,042.20

Since we only have \$489 in bank, we would like to pay out cash.

Facilitator – Is it OK that we pay in cash? All in favor.

Hotel will charge us tomorrow for the coffee.

9 shirts left over for sale.

Dickie – Facilitator report – Website we've had some unique opportunities to tape. We will be having a chat on the last Sunday of the month. The mugs are here! If most of you recall, we discussed this, that someone from NA was going to fund this and then Katrina happened. Since I was able to work a lot of overtime, I was able to fund it. Unfortunately they were shipped Friday and they are not here. Here is a picture and they are pretty nice. The cost are \$9.98 to me so we are going to sell them for \$25.00 for a pair. I went out and ordered sticky pads at the cost of .35 cents each and pens that have the two different logos and they cost about \$1.00 piece and that is what we will sell them for. What we need to do as a executive committee is make sure we don't overspend and end up with no money like last quarter. The last thing is the rotation schedule. We have two regions that have been operating off and on for two years. Red River and Bluegrass Appalachian, and what we will be doing with the rotation schedule, it won't effect us for another year and half. What we were trying to do is to stay out of the North in the winter and stay out of Texas in August....or Louisiana. Has anyone had a Regional meeting change?

Bob Louisiana - We are meeting first weekend of month. Meeting on even months.

Dickie – We try to avoid regional meetings and regional conventions.

Steve - July we will be going to Lonestar. We also talked about using the terms Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall.

Travis – What was sent out at the last Forum. The rotation schedule Jan – AK, WSC- May, Kentuckiana – July - Louisiana – October, Lonestar in Jan.07.

Steve – What I can do, is the area (on the website) that you go to for flyers, I can put the dates and times but there just won't be any flyers.

Dickie – What we are asking for now, every region that is here today to let us know when your region meets. Please write down, and give to the Secretary

Secretary's report – asked if they would like her to continue to mail the minutes out to contacts that did not send the letter back to her stating that they still wanted to receive the minutes. Decided to send it one last time with a CAR flier and something saying that this is the last time the minutes will be sent unless contact is made with the secretary.

Mike – One of the things I'd like to have is a contact list. It will be really important for me to have because of the upcoming car report.

Dickie – How do you feel about sending out our contact list? No one opposed.

Question about rotation schedule. What we try and do is get a flyer 3 or 6 months in advance. Hotel work is the first thing that needs to be done to prepare us to come.

Dickie – Any other questions about the rotation? We'll take your money anytime. Our prudent reserve is \$1,700.00 and the rest is sent to World. We do not hold on to money.

Mike – Will this be revisited in case our friends from RR and BGA decide to participate?

Travis – I'm not sure what the thought line is on that? I know we want to be a part of, but since they haven't asked to be a part of our Forum. So we don't want to just tell them that we are going to show up.

Dickie – We have open participation, you can come from anywhere. We don't limit our participation to geographics.

Mike – RR – We have several different dynamics along those lines. Our RSC has addressed that issue. Whether or not to join this body. Because of the participatory nature of this body, we receive all the benefits, we get it just by showing up. We have no commercial airport in our region. You would be stuck flying into DFW and driving God knows where. We are not the most centrally located place in our region. Our RSC is meeting monthly and most likely will be meeting quarterly. Maybe 4 months possibly. Some of those things are quite unknown at this time. Being an unseated region, we are going through the process of applying. I don't know if it will even be considered in this conference cycle.

Drew –Bluegrass Appalachia – Actually we have looked at several different forums. We are trying to get seated also. It's a decision one region can't taken lightly.

Dickie – Please let your regions know we welcome you to be a part of. Some regions fund us and some don't. We just need you to know that it is not required.

Mike B – Is there a preferred way we would like to receive funds? Is there a simpler way?

Dickie – I don't think that is an issue, more than how we are spending it.

Randall – I have a similar concern. The Show Me donation. Is that broken down into quarters?

Dickie – That has been our problem. We spend what we have to get by. Questions were asked about our prudent reserve.

Dickie – Doug has told me that we will try to come up with some sort of budget and let the body know. That way we could more accurately access the financial needs.

Webservant Report – I'm passing around the website statistics.

Pat – Would we save money if we got rid of the chat room?

Steve – No. I'd like to know about what everyone thinks.

Michelle – This was the first time I have ever been in a chat room. I was in the one where everyone was in Hawaii. It was good. I think we need to have set topics prior. I think it's an excellent opportunity to keep the communication going.

Travis – I don't like the idea of doing it every Sunday. We would lose interest very quickly. I think once a month is a good idea. I think topics are a good idea.

Chris – I couldn't figure out, is it a real time talk? (Yes)

Michelle – Commented on the different time zones.

Steve – It says right on the website that on the last Sunday of the month CST (Central Standard Time).

Pat – I just kind of curious...I like the topic idea. Who is going to be the topic chooser? Are we going to decide at the Forum for the next few months??

Steve – Group concerns, regional concerns. What do you want to talk about tonight??

Travis – (Pulling up prioritized list) What to do when groups compromise traditions? Filling trusted servant positions with the right people. Third highest – Carrying a clear NA message of recovery. 4th – Apathy or unfulfilled positions of service.

Mike – What about the 2nd one, since we are getting ready to go into the conference cycle.

Travis – We'll call it the "Fourth Concept".

Michelle – Can we have the topics list put on the website?

Steve – Yes, I just need about an hour on the phone with Travis.

Talked about the way merchandise was handled at the World Convention and how it ran out so fast. There were suggestions made such as limiting how much one person could buy of one particular item.

Rep Report – Gave reports to each delegate.

Mike – Will the Spanish version be on the website? (yes) Will be offering it in French?

Dickie – Asked Mike to look into it. We would like to get the information out to everyone who needs it.

Dickie - First thing we want to talk about is our Hosting Organizer paper that we have been trying to get completed. Which we don't have a copy of today, but Steve has got some information for us and maybe Travis will have some input.

Steve – Like I said at the last Forum, I said I'd go ahead and take care of the HOP (Hosting Organizer Paper). I went through it, I made some adjustments, I made another page that is a part of that document which shows a layout of this room. The table, the chairs, how big the room is. I had all that stuff printed out and left it on top of my desk with no way to get it. Along with what Travis and Dickie said earlier, the paper works well, but it's not all the information that we need. A lot of time in what we do to put this thing on, experience helps. It works good if you have activities chair experience or if you've gone to a SZF previously. One of the first things it says is that your contact person should be someone with activities experience, been and RD/RDA or a previous RD/RDA, so that they will understand what we do here. Basically, it's just a layout. It's been modified a little bit. The T-shirts, how much money do we get, how much money is up front, where does that money go? It comes back to the Zone. Rides to and from the airport, meetings for Friday night. It just has a lot of information that is needed.

Travis – This idea was introduced about four to five years ago. We don't need to go into why it's a good idea. But the reasons as why it should be in place. Significant financial impact. We've probably quadrupled our expenses due to not having an effectively managed hosting organizing activity not taking place. In addition, we are impacted significantly on how the local fellowship and how are resources are affected when we don't do the things that are reflected in the HOP. This Forum ran smoothly, and last time we experienced a Forum not running smoothly. It's not that we'd be taking anything away from the local fellowship being the hosting group for the Forum, it's just that we'd be adding a resource to the Forum by using the same T-shirt printer and using a specific hotel group that we working with.

After much discussion it was decided to adopt this HOP and see how it works out.

Talked about the mugs, and talked about doing t-shirts for us. She gave us a bid. We might go with some other people so we can get the best price.

Dickie asked Doug if he was interested in staying in the treasurer position. Doug stated he'd do it for another term (2 years).

Representative and Secretary will be elected next year. The Rep is in July/August and Secretary is Oct/Nov. Nominations at the next Forum for Representative. Nominations may come from individuals, groups, areas or regions.

It was asked if Travis was interested in serving another term. He said he was interested.

The records handed over by the previous archivist are now posted on the website. We also need to add Webservant to the nomination list and take off the Taper and Archivist.

Chris asked if there was an operation or procedures manual. Travis stated that there was information on the front of the Solutions pamphlet.

Pat (Ft. Smith) – Got a good room rate on a newly removed hotel. (LTT) Plenty of rides from hotel. Going to have a brisket and salad dinner for Saturday night. (LTT) The only thing that I don't have ready is how many t-shirts do we want to buy and do we want a mixture of long and short sleeved. (In Hosting Organizer paper)

Updated treasurer's report – Gave balance \$3,042.20. Since then we sold tshirts \$160.00 \$3

Expenses \$32.90 Doug
Holiday Inn \$363.40 rooms
John S. \$377.04 last forum hotel
Dickie \$169.00
Kim S. \$33.00
Steve S. \$49.50
Travis \$253.77
Total \$1278.61

From balance \$1,923.59 ending balance.
Donation \$223.59

Talk about the funding of the rep to the WSC.

Dawn – Just a reminder that we are not settle up with hotel. We need to pay for the coffee.

Steve – talked about donations being down and that this body might be feeling the effects.

We received a donation from a group \$254.75 from a group in Gulfport, MS.

Steve – Needs input re: website. We have links to the different regions. I was wondering if you wanted us to link to other Zones. All in favor.

Zeane stated that he'd like to see more members sticking up for purpose on the website.

Steve stated that he had moved all of the Hurricane Katrina discussion in it's own folder. Dickie stated that he was cleaning up the website and removing dormant discussions from more than 6 months ago.

Travis stated that there would be a English and Spanish Solutions Pamphlet from this point forward. We have a formal commitment from the team of presenters from our Language Barrier presentation to help translate our pamphlet into Spanish.

If you would like to participate in the Mid-West Zonal Forum, please let Travis know to coordinate. Mentioned about the possible purchasing of the Repts ticket to the WSC.

We need to make sure that we are all on the same page, b/c there is a question and answering session.

Asked Travis about the length of time he'd be at the conference. Someone stated that flying out Tuesday night might be best, since nothing starts until Wednesday. Travis stated he'd like to be out there to meet with the other Zones.

Michelle – Mentioned that she was not able to get the newsletter done and is actively pursuing this for the next forum.