

Southern Zonal Forum Winter 2017 Mississippi Region

Meeting opened at 9:15 am

Read the Twelve Traditions & Twelve Concepts

Fellowship Concerns

Bluegrass App/ Scott RD - Meetings are stronger, and growing in numbers. March Madness, March 4-5th at Cumberland Falls St.Park. GSR Assembly will be held; BARCNA will be held in Cumberland Area, Summerset, KY.
\$300.00 donation made to SZF

Volunteer / Ricardo RD– VRC was a great convention. Region is going thru some changes. PR is doing well. Addicts are joining the PR committee as well as H&I to serve. Greater Nashville is made up of 3 Areas now. Setting up a multi-area meeting to find ways to collaborate together, use of the SSP in some way. **Tim AD**- Doing good. Regional Assembly April 1st (IDT's and Public Relations Workshop planned. Goodwill, 1015 Herman St.. More people people are coming in to be of service 😊

Kentuckiana/ Kevin RD- Bowling Green, KY Convention. Reconstructing policy at Region, less subcommittees and more project based. Forming some sort of structure as a Metro for both Regions within Kentucky (Kentuckiana & Bluegrass Appalachian). Kentuckiana is seated and Bluegrass Appalachian is not. This is being done to unify both Regions for the WSC. There has been some opposition from some members. Fear if they both combine for purposes of the WSC ; creating a new name, they will become unseated . They have been reassured that this will not happen. Simply, A Region which is already seated cannot become unseated due to changing their name.

Louisiana/Kory RD- Flooding which occurred in the Fall misplaced some members in the fellowship. Fellowship growing as well. IRCNA Convention May 19-21 in Baton Rouge. Have been reorganizing Board of Directors (501c3), Discovered guidelines were not being followed , now have a functioning Board of Directors. Convention is under Regional Corporation. Local Service Structure – looking at what we need to do, sharing what an RD, AD and the SZF does. What do we do for them? Louisiana dedicates a workshop at every convention for the RD/AD team to discuss the Issue Discussion Topics (IDT's).

Arkansas/Delores RD- Lots of disunity within the Areas. Workshops focusing on educating members. New faces wanting to do Service. Looking at Policy and Procedure Guidelines. Trying to do their best to fill a special member's shoes that has done a lot of Service throughout the Region.

Mississippi/ Chris M. AD – Convention went well. Convention attendance has been dropping, considering holding Regional Convention every other year. Biggest concern right now is the lack of members' willingness to get involved in Service. Same NA members serving. Lack of understanding past the group level.

Lone Star/ Staci RD- Convention, Grapevine Hilton

Sharon/ AD- Regional Assembly, April 26 & 27th . Presenting 4 workshops , What is a Regional Assembly and several Issue Discussion Topics. Dinner Saturday evening. CAR workshop will be held in 2018

\$ 400.00 Donation to SZF

Red River/ B.J. RD – New faces participating in service, enjoyed the Multi-Zonal. H& I is doing well and growing. Concerns about laws changing in Oklahoma. For example: possession going from a felony to a misdemeanor, uncertain of the effects it may have on the local fellowship, ie meetings. \$1000.00 Donation to SZF. Have had issues with meetings not being updated. Na.org, email changes – simplified from what it used to be in order to update.

Show-Me/ Tom RD- All is well. One Area within Region has moved to Greater Illinois due to being in Illinois and makes it easier for others to find outside of N.A. Adhoc committee going over guidelines. Moving Regional meeting place due to hotel rebuilding. Will be in Moberly, Mo., a part of the Primary Purpose Area. Regional Assembly has not been planned as of yet. Areas doing well. Dealing with issues concerning lack of control over domain/Regional website and addict who controls it.

Volunteer Region/Knoxville Area RCM/Jim – Website ,looking for anyone with experience dealing with “meta data” issues. Lots of various domains used over the years. Main area into two. One gentleman owns these domains. The Area is having a conversation now with Google. Had been asked by Google to write a letter to have domains removed. May take 90 days to possibly resolve.

Red River Region/Mike N. - Problem with SZF website. Southeast Oklahoma is not represented and is a part of the Red River Region. Kristin will make contact with Steve.

Mississippi Region / PR Area Chair/Brian- A lot of interest in PR. Committee has looked at the needs and “who’s missing”. Focus is on Universities, Ol Miss Psych Services, Grad School is an example.

Mississippi Region/North Central Area/ Autumn- Sees issues with Mississippi, very Rural State. Many miles to be a part of an Area/Region. Region is looking at policies. RSC no longer rotating, in one spot. Seeing newer members with a lack of understanding. Those with clean time are not involved. Perhaps having smaller Areas to assist more groups?

Mississippi Region/North Central Area/ Richie- 15 groups within Area only 6-10 groups come to Area. Traveling/Apathy. Having smaller Areas possibly will bring bigger hope. Time will also tell concerning Regional Convention. Other Areas doing Conventions, feels like it is taking away from the Regional Convention.

Lone Star Region/ Fort Worth Area RCM/ Loretta- 22 groups, very few members participate. Newcomers not willing due to previous years. One Subcommittee has a chairperson. Predecessors are giving a negative attitude about service. Need more education and mentoring.

Diane PR- 13 groups within a 3 hour radius . Unity, small, funding issues locally. Service in groups/ Area/Region, warm bodies, lack of communication also taking place.

Lone Star Region/ Facilitator/Cindy- sometimes there are misconceptions/misinterpretations if we are not helping new people to learn. RD team-very good. More info needed about the Multi-Zonal Forum. What is it? Attraction; Competition happening within the RSC service body.

Matt- App for meetings is inaccurate. How do we fix this problem?

Louisiana Region/ Ron- Louisiana Regional Convention, May 19-21st.

Show-Me Region/St.Louis Area RCM/ Kristin-

Tejas Bluebonnet/Esperanza Area Randie- Kerville- 4 groups , 1 group is not with the other 4. A Group Service Forum was suggested. Group met a few times, have not created a proposal yet. Convention being held 3 weeks after another. Feb 10-12 League City, Texas.

Volunteer Region/Knoxville Area/ PR chair/ Charmaine- Communication has been their focus, virtual meetings being done, 4 have occurred so far. 5 participants . One Area is ready to come back. Having a H&I Learning Day. Communication/ participation is lacking from one member. Made contact with a disabled community, High Rise building, they want a meeting 😊!

A lot of attitudes. Conventions are not our primary purpose. Made contact with a school director who oversees about 89 schools. They did not know anything about NA. Most I.Ps taken at VRC were "For Young Addicts By Young Addicts & For Parents of". Educate the Educators.

Lone Star Region/Henry- Who is Missing was a previous IDT Workshop. All past Issue Discussion Topics can be found at na.org. Lots of information is available such as, Building Strong Homegroups and Atmosphere of Recovery. Why do I need to know this? It's important..Let's use our resources to find the information.... It is in their guidelines for the Lone Star Convention Committee that people must have another position at a Group or Area level in order to serve. No more "stand-ups" at their convention, meaning when convention asks all those who served on the committee to stand up.

WORKSHOPS PRESENTED (all documents, ppt's attached)

1. Public Relations Basics
2. The Importance, Role and Future of The Zones (see Service System Structural Proposals)
3. Atmosphere of Recovery In Service

At noon, instead of breaking for lunch, our Delegates and Alternates were able to be a part of a Zoom conference call with several other RD's & AD's from all over the world, World Board Members and some NAWS staff. This lasted for about an hour and a half.

New Business

Meeting opened at 9:17am

Read the Twelve Traditions & Twelve Concepts

Past Minutes Accepted

Randie- Treasurer's Report (see attached)

Dickie, was unable to attend. He was not feeling his recording of the SZF was needed or helpful except during CAR sessions. The body approved and we will be asking for Dickie to record for CAR Sessions in the future.

Dickie shared his willingness to be nominated for the HRP (Human Resource Panel). The body is willing to pass on Dickie's resume/nomination to the HRP.

Elections: Willingness for Facilitator – Staci shared a "might be", will have to pray on it for now. Read SZF Operating Guidelines (see attached)

Willingness for Treasurer- Randie shared a willingness to continue for 1 more term.

Upcoming Forum “to dos”

Red River Region- Tshirt design has been decided and shared.
Volunteer Region- Preparing Hotel for Winter 2017,
Tejas Bluebonnet Fall Oct.28-30th – Randie will be assisting in Hotel

SZF Rep. Question was called to reactivate our Southern Zonal Representative, all in agreement.

Discussed who it should be. Body must be willing. Do we send a Rep. from a region or a Rep for all? We as a body need to be mindful as to who we send. Previous experience as Delegate is important. Difficult to learn how the WSC is run for the first time while also being able to be a part of several conversations that need to take place. Henry was asked if he would be willing for this position, he shared his willingness to accept.

Our Representative would be a voice with full participation with no vote at WSC 2018. How much responsibility are we placing (Blend or Balance). Be mindful of our unseated Regions it is not impossible to represent all. We must have an open dialogue, finding what is true and untrue, are we different? Read Operating Guidelines, added cost for funding here and there. Question was asked if this should go back to groups and the answer, no. We already have this in our Operating Guidelines. Last time we sent a Rep. was WSC 2010. Reminder to all, this is a onetime thing for WSC 2018, already passed in CAR 2016. Allow groups to look at our Operating Guidelines and see what we should or should not add (ideas/suggestions).

Topics for Red River Region/SZF Summer 2017

- **Training for PR Presentations (Charmain & Kristin)**
- **Autonomy & The 4th Tradition (Kevin & Scott)**
- **NA Funding/ Fund Flow (Ronald D. & Kory)**

SZF Funds

Prudent Reserve in \$2,000 any amount above is passed on to NAWS. What do we do now we are preparing to send a SZF Rep. to the WSC in 2018? Do we set a higher prudent reserve or keep what we have? End of Winter SZF balance \$2618.37. Thru discussion we decided to hold on to what we have until July SZF. Our prudent now should be \$3,000.00 by July it should be \$3,500.00 and in October it should be \$4,500.00. Come January 2018 we should have a \$5,000.00 Prudent Reserve. **Southern Zonal Forum** is here to serve; we address issues/concerns through Workshops from Regions, Areas and Groups. Everything that comes from Groups is ideal but not always a reality. We continue to do the best we can. It is a struggle for Homegroups to stay engaged, authority at Group level. Sometimes they do not know or care (apathy). Let’s continue to send it all back to the Groups. Our responsibility is to remain accountable and vigilant. Reverse autonomy, how does it “fix it?” Temporary increase in our

Funds to send a Zonal Rep. to WSC 2018. We are looking at approximately \$3,000 to be housed under our Prudent Reserve.

REMINDER:

Renewing Go to Meeting for another year.

SZF Conference Call the last weekend in April.

THANK YOU MISSISSIPPI <3

SZF Meeting closed at 10:25am