

Western States Zonal Forum – 2008

July 18- 20, 2008

Renton, Washington

Our meeting opened on Friday, July 18, 2008 with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The 12 Traditions were read by Michael (California–Inland Empire Region) and the 12 Concepts were read by Vince (Arizona). Introductions and Roll Call were made. A motion was made to approve April's meeting minutes from the meeting held at the WSC. They were approved by consensus.

A comment was made that we needed to update our guidelines to remove Southern Idaho on the web as being a participant of the WSZF. Ken from So. California will update the information.

Regional Reports:

Email report to Dennis @ cobra4na@comcast.net to include in the minutes. Region 51 did not have a written report but surprised Rick W. with a 42nd birthday cake. Sierra Sage read their report, other regions submitted their report.

NAWS Report:

Mary B. from the World Board was in attendance. NAWS News has been sent out after the WSC. PR events are in the process of priority ranking. The WB has been discussing the issue of Regional seating and moratoriums at their board meeting following the WSC. The WB also has projected that the website will be completed by the end of the year. Discussion boards have been expanded on the world website. The Service structure is being revamped and will include the seating of regions. A concern was brought up by Ken (RD, So. Calif.) on how the WB rushed through the prioritization of projects on Sat. morning after we had a limited amount of sleep the night before. He also had a concern that it was handled very informally in the round table discussions rather than formalized on the risers. We had record breaking new motions at WSC 2008. We had a discussion about the late night session on Friday night of the WSC of new business and everyone rushing through just to get done. The WB will try to streamline the discussion sessions prior to the motions. They will also possibly remove the "house building" sessions to make time for actual business sessions. Mary wanted to know if we have sent in service input for the "service pamphlets." Only 1 region (No. Ca) was the only one that submitted their input. They have selected workgroups for "In Times of Illness" (2 year project) meeting prior to the first board meeting; "The Service System" workgroup is a 4 year project. The "Living Clean" is a 4 year project. The Business Plan workgroup is taking on the self support pamphlets and have begun work on that. WCNA Barcelona is hoping to get info by August. But most likely it will be in September when everything is finalized. Registration for WCNA should occur right around October 1, 2008. The

discussion boards will be showing the IDTs in the NA Way. 6th Edition will be distributed on Oct. 1. Mary B. asked us to forward any RBZ potential candidates to the HRP.

Site Selection:

Arizona and San Diego have bids for next year's Western States Zonal Forum (2009). Arizona can hold the forum in Tempe or Mesa. They have great relationships with both hotels chosen. Both hotels would be around \$100. San Diego has 2 locations picked out. San Diego had more information available than Arizona but the room rates were more expensive due to a large convention in town the last weekend in July of 2009. Matt (AD, No. Calif.) made a concern about being prudent and using our Region's money wisely. Vince (RD, Arizona) made a comment that it had been in California a lot lately and they felt they should have the opportunity to host it. We decided to hold the WSZF in July, 2009 in Arizona. Vince will send us information in the near future.

RD Expectations/issues for the weekend:

1. Fund flow
2. Zonal forum meeting date
3. NAWS & RDs Train the Trainer
4. Meeting Lists (Regional Schedule)
5. WSLD in Hawaii
6. Locations of workshops-Perception vacations
7. Area splits/metro-success stories (Regional moratoriums)
8. WSZF website
9. Disaster contingency plans (Midwest floods, hurricane, etc.)
10. Outside Vendors selling at conventions-using a group's names

Steve R. from NAWS was in attendance to assist with our inventory due to his experience with facilitating inventories. His approach is to use the 7 steps of the Area Planning Tool.

Our Friday meeting adjourned at approximately 9:45 p.m.

Saturday, July 19, 2008

The meeting started at 8:30 a.m. with the reading of Just for Today read by Vince (Arizona). An acknowledgement was made for Clif (California) who celebrated 19 years.

Steve-NAWS:

This inventory is a strategic planning process.

The planning cycle consists of: Plan, organize, implement, monitor & evaluate.

The Planning Process consists of: Information gathering, identify issues, brainstorm goals, prioritize goals (the what), develop approaches (the how), prioritize approaches and develop action plans.

Review of the WSZF Guidelines:

Our purpose seems to be outdated. Our purpose needs to:

1. Share on specific topics
2. Provide report to WSC
3. Support for service efforts
4. Provide a means of communication

Inventory Question Issues include:

WSZF Website
No structured communication between meetings
Lack of leadership (administrative body)
Not fully using training opportunities
Benefit to meetings/local fellowship
Not thinking zone centric but thinking region centric
Redefine purpose
No collective memory (archives)
Consider a vision

Admin Issues	Purpose/Vision
Lack of leadership (delegation/responsibility)	Redefine purpose Consider a Vision
No Collective Memory (archives)	Benefit Identification & Articulation (To Meeting/local community) (To the zone)
No structured communication Between meetings	
Website	Not fully using training opportunities

Our New Purpose/Vision:

- Networking opportunities
- Sharing Resources
- Face to Face
- Training opportunities
- NAWS Interaction/WSC Preparation
- Brainstorming sessions split up into 4 groups. Karina from No. California has the notes.

Prioritized subjects:

- No Structured Communication Between Meetings
- No Collective Memory
- Lack of Leadership
- Website

Website purposes:

- PR
- Intra Zone
- Intra Fellowship
- Role/Guidelines
- Defined Leadership Roles (Admin/Ongoing)
 - Facilitate Meeting
 - Distribute tion Activities
 - Agenda/Location
 - Meeting Records
 - General Information
 - NAWS contact
 - Local Fellowship Contact
 - Prepare WSC Report
 - Present WSC Report
 - Find Meeting Location
 - Record Meeting Activities (minutes)

Talent will come from:

- RD's & RDA's
- Local Members
- Past RD's
- Regional Officers

A Plan to Re-Write the WSZF Purpose:

- A re-write of the current purpose using group input
- 30 day 1st draft due
- Need the notes & current purpose, writing skills
- 30 Days on all drafts & Responses
- Final approval at Summer '09 WSZF

- Need notes & current purpose
- Jack, Laura, Doug, Pam-doing the purpose

Project plan for Administrative Tasks:

- Define the assigned task
- 1st Draft in 30 days
- 30 Days on all drafts & responses
- Final approval at Summer '09 WSZF
- No Additional Resources Needed
- Tasks assigned to current/past members with that experience

Sunday, July 20, 2008

Our meeting opened at 8:30 a.m. with the 12 Traditions were read by Robin (Sierra Sage) and 12 Concepts were read by Dan F. (Seattle).

Topics:

Zonal Forum Meeting Dates Discussion and trying to figure out which weekend would be best and move it to January or February to be able to discuss the CAR and conference issues.

NAWS & RD's Train the Trainer discussion about presenting the IDT's and members are very excited. Lunch has been a big draw for MidState Region. When presenting you have to have your own style. Workshops held at the local convention have been very successful. Many regions host 2 assemblies a year during the off conference cycle year. San Diego Imperial region had a picnic workshop and provided food. Had a huge success at the picnic and loved the IDT's. So. Calif. Struggles with attendance with the percentage/ratio of meetings vs. GSR's. The RD goes to a lot of car workshops and doesn't want another meeting to attend. No. California has been very successful with their leadership workshop.

WSLD in Hawaii discussion is very expensive this year and many regions are not sending reps this year. No. Calif is not sending as many reps, only 2 instead of 4. Some regions send their Rd along with their H&I/P&I Chairs and some have a PR chair that attends.

NAWS has been doing better presentations at the WSLD's. Midstate region is thinking about putting a bid to host WSLD for 2009. Who are the 13 western states?

Fund Flow discussion – Some regions were concerned about how they get more money in the basket. Re-education about where the money goes. No. Calif puts out a piece that shows how much each meeting needs to contribute to support regional services. Large reserve accounts should be considered and passed on.

Outside vendor's issues-WSO approved with the WSO vendor approval #. Regional and area letterhead approval for alternative merchandise sales only. Bootleg sales onsite and how it is handled with security. Just because they have an approved license with WSO, it is up to the individual area or regional convention committee to decide if they want them to be able to sell their wares. These vendors pay a \$500 renewal fee to NAWS every year.

Area splits and metro coop experience-Some areas tried to district. It failed miserably but needed to be more coordinated and streamlined. Does anyone have a model that worked?

Regional schedules. Some work, some don't. Depends on how proactive the trusted servants are that update the information.

Disaster Contingency plan discussed. Issues in California with earthquakes or airborne diseases. Financial records and archives are stored. NAWS has a disaster contingency plan set up and a new office can be up and running within 24 hours. The Canadian office would be the back up. NAWS would prefer regions to just make donations in lieu of literature. Our local PR group should be in contact with the Red Cross so that meetings could be held.

Our meeting closed at 12:30 p.m.