

Rocky Mountain Forum Minutes

May 18, 2001

Boulder Hot Springs, MT

Meeting opened @ 10:05 a.m.

Pam H (chair) opened the meeting with moment of silence followed by serenity prayer.

Introduction of attendees:

Mike & Carlos (CO)

Steve RD (MT)

Rick G Chair MT Region

Harper M (ID)

Spike M (MT)

Tom McC (HI) World Board Member

Dave S (MT)

Jon T (NJ) World Board Member

Bill (WY)

Bob B RD (CO)

JoAnn B (CO) Treasurer RMF

Terry R RDA (UT)

Pam H (UT) Chair RMF

Liz P RD (UT) Secretary RMF

Timitaz (ID)

Marc (MT)

Secretary read minutes and they were accepted as read.

Treasurer reported we had a balance of \$200.00 but couldn't open a bank account without an ID number. Brought in an SS4 form for Employer ID # for bank purposes only and asked that we do this to be able to move forward with business.

Bill (WY) concerned about state to state banking as they are separate entities; concerned about names, SS#, etc. JoAnn answered that it could all be handled under an employers business.

Late arrivals:

Mary (ID)

Trent (MT)

Dawn (MT)

Rick (MT) expressed concerns about voting and opinions.

Pam (UT) answered: Everyone is entitled and will be consensus, then talked about how we will use seed money (i.e.: help each other get to Forum, etc.)

Spike (ID) mentioned how Idaho area opened their account.

Pam asked for any more input strictly for acquisition of tax #.

Carlos (CO) asked specifics about bank.

Spike (ID) moved to vote on tax #.

Passed by consensus.

Bill (WY) asked about getting checks deposited ASAP so regions could balance books.

Rick (MT) asked about Zonal Forum (i.e.: what it is?)

Pam (UT) asked about changing the agenda.

Jon T (NJ) suggested changes to agenda from other regions, asked for clarification about topic discussions –offered help from board.

Pam (UT) explained how she came up with agenda.

JoAnn (CO) asked about outreach & maybe shortening of the time restraints.

Carlos (CO) asked about refining process, number reality. CO still isn't clear about purpose and function of Forum.

Rick (MT) confused about participation, needs more info.

Pam (UT) read "Mission Statement"

Jon T (NJ) suggested two topics and then do business, followed by Q & A for Board Members.

Marc (MT) asked about topics-didn't understand.

Jon T (NJ) broke down topics into 9 individual topics: speaker tapes, technical support, e-mail, issue discussion 1 & 2, outreach, fellowship development. Missing 2 from minutes.

Bob (CO) reminded us that we are here to facilitate and outreach.

3 (Three) topics picked to discuss: technology/communication, NA in rural communities, outreach/fellowship development.

Changes to agenda:

11:15 – 12:30 History & purpose of Forum

12:30 – 12:40 smoke break

12:40 – 1:30	Technology/communication
1:30 – 2:50	lunch
3:00 – 4:15	World Board/ Q & A
4:15 – 4:25	smoke break
4:25 – 6:15	Outreach/ Rural NA/pick next meeting place
6:15	dinner

Treasurer collected 7th tradition and \$45.00 was given to Montana Gathering.

First workshop: Steve (MT) gave a little history of WSC from 1998, went to WSF issues discussed were more urban issues, WSC 2000 John from CO & Pam (UT) discussed making a Forum and had informal meeting at lunch, WSC 2000. The first meeting of the RMF was held in WY in August 2000 and now it is here in MT. At the Multi Regional Assembly held in Heber, UT March 2000 the World Board participated and John (CO) talked to us all about being rural communities and the need to get together to help each other.

Much discussion followed.

Decision-Making was put on agenda for next meeting.

Summary of discussion: 1) service delivery; 2) how it's accomplished; 3) time frame, 3 days instead of 1; 4) what are we? – Discussion group.

Second Workshop: Mike (CO) phone link a good resource, website meeting lists (one server for the Zonal Forum Members?)

Steve (MT) said their problems are logistics, weather, etc., need to educate members to accessibility of Internet, posts info immediately on their website.

Rick (MT) interested in sharing info, phone service, internet provider, would be cost effective and hopes to see continuation of communication.

Carlos (CO) noted that internet is connection to any addict in the world, cost effective,

avenues on web such as printing from online NA Webster, effective communication, duplicate to telephone, encouraged ongoing advancement, encouraged NAWS to continue efforts at keeping integrity of info in tact.

Spike (ID) availability of links – suggested ongoing updates.

Jon T (NJ) The mass updates have conflicting info from World Services

Mike (CO) offered to fix that

JoAnn (CO) asked what technology could do within Forum.

Summary: 1) website shared provider (Pam appointed Mike ad-hoc committee); 2) educate; 3) cost effective; 4) 3 day forum with technology workshop.

World Board Q&A: Jon T and Tom McC.

Jon talked about board and we have 19 members. They meet 4 X's a year from around the world. Current projects – 1) World Wide Workshops, 2) Sponsorship Literature

Upcoming dates: Sponsorship input June 1st, WW Workshop on going, June 2001 BC – EDM; World Service Meeting with Unity Day – Aug. 31, 2001; Regional Motion Deadline – Aug. 31, 2001; WSC 2002 – April 28 – May 5, 2002; World Convention July 2002; Fiftieth Anniversary the year after; Naws News, News Flashes, issue topic discussion through next conference cycle.

Board decision on suggestions to facilitate & run discussion @group level, translations ongoing, resume to run for WB in by Sept 1, 2000, Review PI / Phone line – finally evaluating, also Treasurer's Handbook. Also evaluating HRP.

Board's direction on Basic Text / new translations w/stories.

Tom McC says employment @office opportunities; needs writes and staff.

HRP finds World Pool very helpful.

WW Workshops locations BC, England (Sept), Brazil (Nov), New Zealand, Chicago or Detroit (Feb).

Meeting By Mail

Loner Groups order through WSO.

Steve (MT) talked about the Loner Group Publication and passed one around, also about the issue discussion papers with input from the fellowship at large.

The Board's policy is to accept issue papers from regions and RDs only.

Rick (MT) asked how resumes are chosen for projects, etc.

HRP offers names to board, there is a new resume coming out, old ones don't work well. Board sets the criteria they need, primary resources, then the executive committee picks or the whole board picks from what HRP gives them. There was much discussion about this through out the room.

JoAnn (CO) asked about an overview of forum experience.

Jon T (NJ) said they seemed to vary but the struggles seem to be the same: agendas, speakers, guidelines, etc.

OutReach and Rural Communities: Rick (MT) Can we outreach to AA? Why? People lose interest; the language used is different. Need commitment to staying clean, whatever it takes – support.

There is information available from World services about outreach.

Education on anonymity?

Accountability, commitment to service.

Summary: 1) Get over rigidity (language), 2) we hide inside NA, 3) dedication, 4) hook up outlying meeting with Loner Meeting in print.

Business

7th tradition \$45.00, donated to Montana Gathering

Next meeting – Colorado – Dec. 14th through 16th

CAR will have Literature report, PR statement, and maybe new TWIGS

Next Agenda

- 1) Decision Making
- 2) How to do things, service & delivery
- 3) teaching technology workshop
- 4) Sharing session

Meeting ended at 6:25 PM