

Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum
CAR Workshop
December 5, 2009
Cheyenne, WY

Open 9:00 a.m.

Tommy O. from URMR introduce self and Ron B. from World
Read JFT

Ron announced this is the 1st CAR presentation of the year

Present: Introductions/hopes and expectations

Ron B. World Board

Upper Rocky Mountain Region, RD, Tommy O.

Upper Rocky Mountain Region, AD, Delynda H.

Colorado Region, RD, Chuck C.

Colorado Region, AD, Brenda E.

Montana Region, RD, Berta H.

Montana Region, AD, Dawn P.

Southern Idaho Region, RD, Harper N.

Southern Idaho Region, AD, Jodi G.

Utah Region, RD, Brad K.

Forum Web Servant, Don T.

Others, Guests:

Steve H. (Evanston, WY)

Shawn S. (GSR, Living Proof Group, Evanston, WY)

Linda L. (Regional PR Chair, CO Region)

Shawn (RCM, Off the Wall Area, CO)

Ray B. (URMR Chair)

Jim (Cheyenne, WY)

Mark (GSR, Cheyenne, WY)

Steve H. (Cheyenne, WY)

Billy (Cheyenne, WY)

Ryan (RCM, Mile High Area, CO)

Gayle (Cheyenne, WY)

Update from World:

Conference title "Our Vision our Future"

Buy CAR for \$8 or download from the net.

2 main projects...Living Clean and Service System Project.

See **Table of Contents** for rundown of what's in the car.

Vision Statement for Service System? World has a vision statement but our service system does not.
Service system is different than a service structure.

Look at why some are not showing up for the system, what pissed them off so they do not come back.

Membership survey, get them filled out!!

Doing a fair bit of Fellowship development, due to financial crisis has had to cut down. Big discussion at conference as to how to deal with it. Hoping new Self support pamphlets will help with this.

World Convention in Spain, some say best convention they have been to.

-pick pocketing a serious problem, very organized and work in teams, very good at it, utilize diversions (people fainting), heard a couple of stories about people losing everything.

-Came out about \$100,000 short. Factored in that we would not make a profit off Barcelona. Considered an investment in our growth.

-Next WCNA in San Diego in 2011, then Philadelphia.

CAR:

Service System pg. 8

It's talking about why we've got the service system, is working at the moment, history, TWIGS, big thing that happened at WS in 90's, did away with standing committees. We are great at reinventing the wheel. Defaults back to where it was. One of the things proposed, models (come up with some), need to look at service structure at local levels, this is where the work needs to get done.

We are amazing, we take some of the most damaged people in the world and 6 months later they are working on committees. Service system group is looking at a lot of different ways to make this work, also put out service group as to what the world system may look like. There is not going to be one structural model that will work for everybody. People can look at choices and see what will work for them.

What is this to fix, or create? We don't have a vision statement for NA service....proposed, may be used by regions or areas....pg. 13

1st Motion: pg 13 Talked about revision of NAWS vision statement.

Linda: Sees that vision becomes one: a vision of service

Dawn: Says that we stand together and that it is all inclusive.

Chuck: Likes how they put in his or her own language and "culture"

Ron (world): Likes that it pops up all over the world. Our recovery concepts seem to be universal. Not foreseeing any problems at the conference, thinks this will be a very beneficial thing.

Pg 14 Fish model

Tommy O. question...world board has a set of values and wonders if any of that was talked about when it comes to the vision statement. Ron, answered No. Needed to have a vision for the service system but did not consider the set of values, of course others are free to include those if they choose, but no, this never came up.

WSC Seating:

Moratorium on seating regions (for the next 4 years) who have formed as a result of splitting off from another region.

Point where new regions come and want to be a part of the region (seated one region from the US in the past year), most come outside of US. What do you do when you can't figure something out, we decided to not seat those that split off, but do seat those that come independently. New Zealand, Brazil, Southern Brazil,

all good examples as they were split but very large and independent. Cannot come up with a blanket solution.

A lot of discussion of Denmark, Lithuania, and Malta

Considering seating the first 2.

Zone with 20 regions may rotate to where 15 come and then rotate the other 5 in, just one thought.

Why not just let the region get bigger? Is the US overly represented? Consensus based decision making has allowed for more seating. Getting expensive, would have to move out of the Marriot, when we moved to funding the RD's thought would see more donations to the World. World has not seen that. Looking at the number of groups, the rest of the world has taken over the number of groups but not the number of members. Since there has only been one US region seated over the last 10 years can't say that US is over running the conference.

Big Steve: Since the conference is getting so huge, heard they were going to split it into 5 different entities. Deal with the Zonal. This is one model.

What are our immediate needs within the next ten years? At the same time, are they going to be able to come here due to Visa's?

These are what the service system workgroup is working on.

Iran has joined the Asian Pacific Forum making it easier.

Also looking at how other 12 step programs are doing it.

Do not have resources to do on line due to 120 participants

Talk about a 3 year cycle. Talked about it but it has never gone beyond the idea as feel the crunch of getting stuff done. Getting it all to happen in 2 years is pretty long, also talked about having convention every 3 years.

This is all the service system is looking at. Started looking at early 2009, will have some recommendations at the conference.

Hopefully will be having a good discussion at the conference.

If we look at each seating region case by case instead of a moratorium, wouldn't this be more beneficial.

Takes up time and money, and people get so passionate about it.

Instead of moratorium maybe revise the criteria. Pretty stiff right now. Ron does not disagree, what is the criteria? Look at the region and ask what do they bring to the conference and what do they take away?

Malta is very small.

Ron not for reducing the size of the conference, likes the size and thinks we could accommodate a couple more.

10:25 Break

MOS Serenity Prayer

Literature:

Pg. 17 NAWS Resources-Money

Seems we are scared to talk about money. Reaction, "Someone wants my money".

4th paragraph down read...

At the moment, 90% of our money comes from the sale of literature. Mostly the BT. By selling our own literature that is self support. The way we get money and the way we hold on to it and the big problem at

the moment that regions are experiencing are convention revenues. Charging top dollar for conventions, but are not making the money to get that big revenue.

2 things happening....global financial crisis, but also the money being bottlenecked. May donate directly to areas, regions and world. Groups tend to donate to area but that is all. New pamphlet focuses on donations.

Taking a cut because US dollar does not compare to Euros. Now are selling in Euros and making more money that way off literature sales.

Question: Was there a big jump in income due to 6th addition BT? Given a lot of 5th editions away due to 6th edition, so basically a wash.

Impact of literature on line? What we are seeing is JFT is not selling like it used to however, study guide is selling more.

One thing really obvious to us is that with the price of things the way it is today, thought convention in Barcelona would be down, but addicts use the world convention as a big vacation....San Antonio did not provide this feel.

Rotation, One year Eastern side of US then Western side of US then outside of the US. Then on the Eastern side, then Western side, then outside of US.

Discussion of merchandise at World in Barcelona. Too much time to get to it, too expensive. Ron reports some merchandise did not show up, and still hasn't.

Discussion on entertainment....are conventions just about popular people, dances, and entertainment.

Losing focus of carrying the message through NA members sharing. Seem to be talking about main event entertainment instead of a member sharing an awesome message of recovery.

When printing this literature out did anyone give any consideration to having a fund raiser and send proceeds to the World. There is a blurb in Guide to World Services that an area hold a fund raiser each July and send the proceeds to World. Printed to begin in July of 1984.

Pg. 22

Literature....

Current pamphlets to replace, IP #24 "Hey! What's the basket for?" And IP #25 Self Support: Principles and Practice

Read on Pg. 23 What's in the approval Drafts

Pg. 66 Graphic Model

Comments on color fold out: Likes that it says meetings who have more, give more so meetings who have less do not have to go without.

New breakdown of 50-25-25, used to be 60-30-10 (group donations to service structure)

Pg. 61 IP #24 Money Matters.

Hit highlights.

Donations portal on NA world site. Mostly set up for credit cards, now set up for debit cards as well.

Discussion on different ways we contribute. Some will not put a dollar in the basket, have their starbucks at the meeting, but will go to the convention and spend a lot of money. People still only putting a dollar in even though inflation. We don't get a lot of donations through 7th tradition money, but through the sale of literature.

Pioneers contributed in ways of 12th step calls where now we have all these treatment centers, fellowship is run by the addicts where everything else is run by the government. This is our fellowship, we run it, we own it, we need to pay for it. If addicts were thinking along the lines of “this is what is saving my ass, I will put more money in the basket”, then we would not be having this conversation.

A lot of this is education...could come from PI, making fliers of where the money goes, reference what H&I and PI does, also because so many are coming in with court cards, to bad we cannot charge a dollar for the signature. Educate through the courts. Along the lines of education, also awareness of how contributions would help.

Use articles from members saying how they contribute to NA so it is not World blatantly looking for money.

IP does not mention incorporating into the meeting format a suggestion to have a meeting topic of 7th tradition.

World will be putting out an IDT of Self Support for conference.

PG. 63 box at top of page.

Ask yourself these questions. Some questions that others are mentioning.

In times of Illness Draft pg. 71

New IP is about 20 pages, where the old one was lots less.

Addresses several categories regarding Illness

Workgroup consisted of people who have dealt with serious health issues as well as some health professionals.

Don T. had a surgery about a year ago and was able to catch up with the World on what was missing from In Times of Illness. Says this is a much better draft, full of meat where the old one was full of fluff.

Revision has some concrete suggestions. In the past seem to avoid making any concrete pieces of advice.

Now we are a little more upfront in throwing out suggestions.

Overall feel, will be a good resource.

One thing that did change pg 72, bottom box, dentist will offer pain medication.

Cool with that.

Question: In regards to 90% of our money being in literature sales, what is the outlook? Wondering how sustainable the model of literature sales is? Standing committee looking at this. Not happy with 90% of financing coming from literature sales, looking at other stuff. Literature sales always been major money for the World. Finding ways to print like in India where it is cheaper to print. Only scenario to deal with this is increase sale price unless groups increase donations.

IDT's

Communications

Our Freedom Our Responsibility

Leadership

Not a huge amount of feedback coming back on these.

For the next cycle have not actually proposed new topics, expected to come out the next conference.

More than likely a topic on Self Support due to new pamphlets.

Ron asks if any regions or areas have work shopped the topics?

CO Region—yes

URMR—yes

MT—yes, what has come up is that yes we have problems but what are we doing to change things? What is being done? What is the value to continuing to workshop these? Follow-up. Formed a communication subcommittee. (Outreach, H&I, PI, Website, etc.)

Discussion on communication and breakdown in process. Specific communication channel and that's the way it should flow, but it doesn't always.

Will discuss the NA Way at the conference. Doesn't get to all the places it is supposed to. Very expensive, especially the postage. Is this an effective means of communication? What do we do about the paper copies? Keep them? NA is available online, are paper copies a good way to be using our resources? A lot of non-existent groups receiving the NA Way. Subscription price? These ideas are all on the table for the conference.

World dealing with 4 old data bases, concentrating on getting meeting lists to match the regional lists. Also working on making the site more easy to update meetings in their regions and areas.

Lunch 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

MOS, Serenity Prayer.

Regional Motions pg. 36

Moved from a mad driven motion session where we were there till 10 o'clock at night going over motion after motion after motion. We have moved into Consensus based decision making to counter this.

Motion 5: Direct NAWS to produce and add to inventory a purple decades clean and granite decade clean key tag in English only.

Groups are free to make these on their own. What happens is that people come to the office and want products, several different products and it is impossible to produce several items.

For: 3 Against: 9 Abstain: 0

Motion 6: To add purple key tags for multiple decades of clean time to the NAWS inventory.

Read intent and "World Board" response for both.

Nutshell---World not opposed to the key tags but would rather not deal with this issue through the CAR. Would like to know if the fellowship wants this.

Discussion on what avenue to take when our groups, areas, and regions want action. World suggesting not to deal with issue of key tags through the CAR, but how else do we do it.

World did not take a stance on this motion. Will be discussed at the conference.

Suggested by a member (Dawn) to have a "future to do list" posted on the website to allow transparency and also to make available to the fellowship what is being listed and talked about.

For: 2 Against: 8 Abstain: 2

Motion 7: To add a Spanish (Castilian) Line Numbered Large Print Basic Text, in the current edition, to NAWS inventory.

World Board: Recommendation, not to adopt.

Not saying it is a bad idea, just not right now as the translation is still in process.

For: 0 Against: 14 Abstain: 0

Motion 8: The WB is directed to develop a project plan for presentation to WSC 2012 for a Traditions working guide.

World Board: Recommendation not to adopt.

Not a priority at this time. Has not surveyed to fellowship, and when they did found priority was literature about relationships, spirituality, and something focusing on recovery in day-to-day life. What came out of this was the Living Clean Project.

For: 5 Against: 8 Abstain: 2

Motion 9: To direct the WB to develop a project plan, for presentation to WSC 2012, to revise JFT: Daily Meditation for Recovering Addicts by replacing the thirteen quotes (and meditation passages if necessary) that were taken from the 5th Edition BT and youth and Recovery with current fellowship approved NA literature.

WB: not to adopt

For: 0 Against: 14 Abstain: 0

Motion 10: The WB will post on the NAWS Website the motions that pertain to the CAT at the same time the CAT is sent out to conference participants.

WB: not to adopt

Discussion related to the fact wording of the motions change, and having the motions out would not allow the ideas to come through, would be based on language instead of ideas.

For: 0 Against: 15 Abstain: 3

Possibly post just the summary sheet.

Break 3:21 p.m.

Back to order: 3:40 p.m.

Motion 11: The WB will post on na.org all recovery literature workgroup meeting records in English within 30 days of any workgroup meeting. The WB will also link these postings to any project resources: such as the projects discussion board, or similar resource. This post will include the project's timeline and a schedule of workgroup meetings. The WB will also post their meeting schedule & have the discretion to post an overview of the literature development process or any other additional information.

WB: not to adopt

Lead to confusion and misinformation.

Ron: Motion is just crazy

For: 0 Against: 14 Abstain: 2

Motion 12: To add language to the end of the Approval Process for Recovery Material section of GWSNA, page 36, that says "No more than two informational pamphlets or one booklet or one book-length piece will be out for Fellowship review and input at the same time.

WB: not to adopt

WB is open to changing the approval process. Would like to put it out to the fellowship saying what kind of an approval process do you want?

This motion saying we can only put out a certain amount of material for review because the fellowship can only absorb so much information at a time. World is conscious of this, and does limit what it does. WB does not feel they are putting out too much at a time.

For: 0 Against: 11 Abstain: 1

Motion 13: To add language to the end of the approval process for recovery material section of GWSNA, page 36, that says Review and input periods will be at least 6 months for informational pamphlets and booklets and at least one year for book-length pieces of literature."

WB: not to adopt

For: 0 Against: 12 Abstain: 5

Comments on motion 12

Motion 14: To require a 180-day review and input period for Fellowship Approved, Conference Approved, or World Board Approved material.

WB: not to adopt

For: 0 Against: 15 Abstain: 2

IDT's

Member wanting to talk about IDT's, particularly Our Freedom, Our Responsibility....

How can I as a member take more responsibility?

How do we as a group be responsible?

How do I show my gratitude?

Events Handbook...we don't have a Conventions Handbook. With the best of intentions we meant to replace it but that has not happened. Have decided it is important to have an Events Handbook i.e. finances, venues, etc. This is yet another project we need to prioritize. It is not part of our Strategic Plan at this time, not considered to be high priority, but it is important.

What is process of strategic planning? Does that come from previous conferences?

Every two years go through total re-prioritization. Each Board member gets to pick 5. Not a set timeline for the plan, ongoing, but it is looked at every two years. Plan comes out in the CAT, talked about at the conference, and is decided upon for the next two years.

Closing comments and Thank You's by members as well as Ron.

Closed meeting at 5:10 p.m.