

MIDWEST ZONAL FORUM

January 5-6, 2013

Chicago, Illinois

I. OPENING

- A. Moment of silence. 10:45 am. Serenity Prayer
- B. Reading of the Servant Worker's Prayer- Stacey
- C. Introductions
- D. Roll Call. (Present Greater Illinois, Chicagoland, Indiana, Metro Detroit, Michigan, Buckeye, and Ohio)

| Position | Names | Attendance |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Co-Facilitator A | John | Absent |
| Co-Facilitator B | | Open |
| Treasurer | Blynn | Present |
| Secretary | Sherry E | Open |
| Web Contact | Bob | Absent |
| Chicagoland | Tom (RD) | Present |
| Greater Illinois | Stacey (RDA) | Present |
| Indiana | Mark (RD); Micheal (RDA) | Present |
| Metro Detroit | Greg (RD); | Present |
| Michigan | Patti (RDA); | Present |
| Minnesota | | Absent |
| Ohio | Dave (RD) ;Charles (RDA) | Present |
| Upper Midwest | | Absent |
| Buckeye | Tom (RD); Kevin (RDA) | Present |
| | | |
| Participant | Derek | Present |
| Participant | Pat (Southern Zonal Forum) | Present |
| Participant | Bruce | Present |
| Participant | Kevin | Present |
| Participant | Christinana | Present |
| Participant | Amanda (RD Iowa; Plains State Zone) | Present |

- E. 7th Tradition – \$65.00
- F. Reading one of the Concepts from booklet. Read Concept 4.
- G. Special Business/Review-Adjust Agenda: NAWS is unable to attend but we will be doing a conference call with Nick from NAWS
- H. Elections:
 - a. Co-Facilitator A: John
 - b. Co-Facilitator B: Derreck
 - c. Secretary: Sherry E
 - d. Treasurer: Dave L.

Break for NAWS Service Project work shop and Lunch: 12:47pm
Reconvene at 4:40pm

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| Co-Facilitator A | John | Absent |
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| Minnesota | | Absent |
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| Upper Midwest | | Absent |
| Buckeye | Tom (RD); Kevin RDA | Present |
| Wisconsin | | Absent |

II. MZF – TRUSTEED SERVANT REPORTS

- A. **Co-Facilitator A** – John- Absent

- B. **Co-Facilitator B** – Hello All,

It is with deep regret I find I must resign my position as co-facilitator of the Midwest Zonal Forum. My wife and I are relocating to Charlotte, NC. I had planned to attend the Zonal Forum in Chicago but things have happened so fast that I will not be able to follow through with that plan. Our home sold in 5 days and the closing on the sale is scheduled for the week after the January Zonal Forum. As my wife has to be in NC by December 10th, all the packing and moving falls on my shoulders and I am just overwhelmed with it all.

My time as a zonal forum trusted servant has been a great learning experience and forced me to re-evaluate my positions on CBDM. Learning about it and seeing it in action in its purist form has been educational. I want to thank the Zonal Forum RDs for electing me as a trusted servant for this service body. I will soon be a member of the Carolina Region and SE Zonal Forum and I will take what I have learned here and see how it applies in my new home region and zone. I am sure I will see you all somewhere down the road in service to Narcotics Anonymous.

In loving Service,
John Ford

- C. **Secretary** – Open-- I do not have much to report. I am not the official secretary; I have been filling in since February 2012, until I met the clean time requirements. And finally we do as of October 10th. If you have any suggestions as to what I should or should not put in the minutes, please let me know. I do want to apologize for the misprint in the Michigan report the minutes have been amended and can be redistributed. I am sorry I am still trying to get to know everyone and where everyone is from. Also, If you have reports and can email them that would be great. My email is sherry.erb06@yahoo.com

- D. **Treasurer** – I have a limited # of hard copies of the fund flow and check register I am turning in with this report. I have gotten back in to the on-line banking system (and sent the info to the mzfadmin members). The November and December statements have posted to the e-statement site and are available for any mzfadmin member to view, electronic copies will continue to be available for review by anyone attending the MZF meeting. I received hard copies of the missing bank statements for the audit.

There are currently 4 checks for donations to NAWS (\$120.37) and one for the CAR/CAT copies sold in Ohio which have not been cashed. These amounts need to be added back in to the balance and a new payment issued. I would like to suggest we use the electronic bill payment available through the on-line banking only for our payments to NAWS. We would want to make a change to our financial guidelines since this would be an exception to the "2 signature rule". Also, the payment to CU Local Biz.com for our domain name needs to be voided and reissued as it has never been cashed.

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The current signers are John Halverson, John Ford, Blynn Morris, Diane Halverson, and Joe Yoder. We still need to get Diane Halverson and Joe Yoder to sign the membership change form to be removed. I have the forms to remove myself and John Ford as signers which can be mailed with the forms to add the signers who are elected at this meeting. Since we do not have more than one current signer available at this meeting my suggestion would be we make the payment to NAWS on -line and have 2 of the new trusted servants sign any other checks which would be held until the forms adding them have been processed by the bank.

As always all financial records are present and available for anyone's review. I have everything ready to turn over to the new treasurer elected at this MZF. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve the MZF as treasurer and plan to continue to be an active participant. I am requesting reimbursement for \$50 toward one room night per the MZF policy.

In loving service, Blynn M.

Q. Are there fees to cancel the outstanding checks, so we know what happened to them?

A. Since the checks are out dated there are no fees and the persons receiving the checks claim they never received them.

Q. What is the time frame to deposit checks?

A. There is no time frame in our guidelines. One of the issues we have had in the past was making sure when a transition of treasurer occurs, that all regions are aware of the change and the checks getting the checks to the right person.

E. Web Contact –Absent report sent with Blynn–The upgrade to our website to make it compatible with current content management software occurred as scheduled on 9/8/12. As generally occurs with system upgrades, we experienced a number of glitches to which we are continuing to work out.

On 11/19/12, we were contacted by the Michigan Region website coordinator who alerted us to the fact that our site's discussion boards had received 133 teen pornography hits over a one month period. I had not been monitoring the discussion boards closely since there had been virtually no activity in multiple months. Apparently the spam protection was not up to par on the new site. I contacted Jason F, our Web servant, immediately and within 4 hours, he had resolved the problem. Specifically, Jason deleted the offensive messages and installed two spam solutions that should put a stop to it. First, anyone with less than 5 posts sees a Recaptcha form to prevent spam bots. Second, he installed the Stop Forum Spam API key that helps keep spammers at bay. The spammers were using a tool called Xrumer. They should not be able to beat the captcha on the site now. There have been no further spam attacks since the fixes were installed. I am now checking the content on the discussion boards no less than twice weekly. (Actually I am checking them daily most of the time...this was particularly troubling.) This brings up a side point. I have begun periodically checking the links on our sites for similar issues.

There have been a number of less disturbing, but nonetheless important issues with the upgrade. The following is a synopsis along with the solutions and proposed solutions.

1. ***All of the events on the calendar application did not transfer over to the new site.*** I have re-entered everything manually, including regional meeting dates, through the end of 2013. There is more than likely new information out there that I need to add.
2. ***All files for download that were added to the site since last June did not transfer over when the new site was launched and the upload tool was not functioning properly.*** Jason fixed the upload tool and the event flyers and the Consensus-Based Decision Making workshop materials from the Wisconsin Region are available for download.

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3. ***There was a glitch that prevented downloading the CRC Flyer which was discovered this week.*** I uploaded a new flyer as soon as the problem was discovered and went ahead and sent it out to the MZF mailing list as well. Joe Y. deleted the problem file and did some tweaking on the back end to resolve the issue.
4. ***The links to pdf files such as “Download the next meeting flyer” still do not work.*** Jason is still working with me to get this resolved. I hesitate to delete the links until it is resolved because that would delete some complicated code and might create more problems in the long run. As suggested at the last MZF I did consult some other “web monkeys” about the issue and they were stumped as well.

Calendar:

To date, I have only been adding regional and zonal events. Trying to keep up with area and group events would be quite cumbersome. When Flyers are available, I add them to the Downloads page at the same time I enter the event on the calendar. I will start checking the regional sites for new event information when I do my content checks.

Logo Status:

As directed by the Forum I have Requested that our Web servant add the Upper Midwest Region to our logo. He needed the original artwork to move forward with the request. Joe Y. had the artwork and located it this week. Jason now has it and says he should have the logo re-done by the end of the month.

MZF admin mailing list:

The admin mailing list enables members to communicate with MZF trusted servants without sending messages to the entire MZF Mail group. This allows communication about upcoming meetings etc. without clogging up the inboxes of everyone on the main list. It was used extensively since we last met in August and as a result only two people have asked to be removed from the MZF Mail group forever.

Interactive MZF Service Resume:

Due to the issues with the site upgrade, this has been on hold. I have initiated a discussion thread under “MZF Service” on the discussion boards to begin gathering input on how this could work.

ILS, Bob M.

III. REGIONAL REPORTS

- A. **Buckeye:** The Buckeye Region met in Dec. and voted to formally join the MZF. We are at this time enjoying a rebirth of activity for the first time in many years all trusted servant position at the Regional level were filled at the last meeting. Seven of the Eight Areas served-attended the last meeting, this is a large improvement over the last few years. We are looking forward to participating in the MZF as we move into the future.
- B. **Chicagoland** – Region is doing well; we need a few trusted servants.
For any activities go chicagona.org for list of events.
The SSP Workshop held at CRCXXV had a final cost of \$490.00.
No concerns or issues.
. ILS ,Tom S. Chicagoland Regional Delegate
- C. **Greater Illinois-** Our Region continues to meet quarterly on a rotation basis between our five areas. We are definitely witnessing some hard times regarding meeting attendance and in willingness of trusted servants. But, that seems to be an ongoing struggle for groups all over.

Several of the meetings in the Living the Dream and Central Illinois Areas have changed locations in the last couple of months. Updated schedules can be found on our Regional website at www.centralillinoisna.org and on the world web site.

Our next Regional convention (GIRCNA 17) will be hosted by the Heart of Illinois Area in Galesburg , IL at the Best

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Western Prairie Inn in November 2013. We will be sure to inform the Convention committee that MZF would like to use meeting space during the weekend as well as offering to present a workshop.

We currently do not have any reported Areas implementing of the SSP's .

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Sally J., RD

- D. **Indiana**- I attended the last Midwest Zonal Forum on August 17, 18 & 19, 2012 at the Clock Tower Resort & Conference Center 7801 E. State Street Rockford, IL 61108. There has been a lot happening in our state since that time. We currently have 11 areas in our region and 9 areas actively participate in our regional meeting. An agenda for our regional events can be viewed at the Indiana.na.org or the Midwest Zonal forum website.

NA World Unity Day was September 1, 2012 and the theme was Unity is a practice of Love. In the Central Indiana area we joined together to reflect on our worldwide fellowship and the addict who still suffers. We had a moment of silence and prayer for the addict's who still suffers at 1:00 pm eastern standard time.

Indiana State Narcotics Anonymous Convention, ISNAC XX, is March 8th-10th, 2013 at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel located at 123 North Saint Joseph Street, South Bend, IN 46601. Call 800-222-TREE or 574-234-2000 for hotel reservations and mention "ISNAC" for convention discount pricing. IRCC, Inc., P.O. Box 501481, Indianapolis, IN, 46250-1481 E-Mail: isnac@naindiana.org.

NEIACNA III - Friday, June 14, 2013 at 01:00 PM E-Mail: infopc@neiacna.com Location: Grand Wayne Center 1020 South Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne, IN46863. NEIACNA discounted hotel rate is \$89 per night. The hotel registration (260) 420-1100 or (800) 445-8667. To ensure discount please mention NEIACNA III when making the reservation. Preregistration is \$15 through March 17, 2013. Starting March 18, 2013 registration is \$25.

ILS,

Michael J. RD

- E. **Metro Detroit**- Greg S. Verbal Report

- F. **Michigan** – Addict named Brian reporting for the Michigan region,

Not a lot has changed in the four months since we last met. Our regional convention went well and did turn some profit. The next regional convention will be held once again at beautiful Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, Michigan 4 through 7 July 2013. Bellaire, Michigan is located in the lower northern peninsula, northeast of Traverse City, Michigan. This part of the state is absolutely beautiful and if you have the opportunity, come and visit our convention, you will not regret it.

The regional body has discussed funding both RD's to the World Service Conference and seems to be leaning in that direction. More will be revealed.

The regional body has selected a date for the multi-regional CAR/CAT/MZF weekend, 24-26 January 2014. This is not set in stone and is open to input from MZF body. The good thing about this weekend is that it does not fall on Super Bowl weekend. This will also give us a little extra time to workshop the CAR/CAT in our home regions. The bad thing for the Michigan region, is that we will also meet the same weekend. This decision was made in the principle of financial prudence. If there are no objections from this body, I shall start the planning of securing a location for the event and also with NAWS.

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We are happy to say that two areas returned to the regional body in participation that have been absent for a very long time. We are also happy to say we have a new area, the Thumb area, this makes 14 areas in the Michigan region.

We have a new 1-800-230-4085 regional phone line. I tried to get the financial numbers on the average cost per area but was unable to. It seems that each area has cut their cost in about half?

In service, Brian H

G. Minnesota- Absent

H. Ohio – Hello Midwest Zonal Family,

Since our last “formal” Zonal Forum meeting, the Ohio Regional Service Committee has met only once – on October 13th & 14th, in Lima, OH, with nine of our fourteen areas represented. A motion that was sent back to areas & groups to consider the possibility of holding our quarterly RSC meetings in a centralized location for a trial period of one year was defeated. Presently, six of twenty regional trusted servant positions remain open (Vice Treasurer, Vice Webmaster, H&I Chair, Public Relations Chair, and two OCNA Advisory Committee positions). We hope to fill more of these open positions at our next RSC meeting which will be held next weekend, January 12th & 13th in Miamisburg, OH.

We have compiled a list of some upcoming NA events in the Ohio Region. Information on these & other upcoming events may also be found on our Region’s website – <http://www.naoio.org>. There are plans to conduct a workshop on development of the new Traditions Working Guide at our upcoming 12 Traditions Retreat in May.

We have brought with us a donation to the Midwest Zonal Forum in the amount of \$150.00.

Thanks again to our higher power and Narcotics Anonymous for another day clean, and for allowing us the opportunity to serve our Ohio Region and the Midwest Zonal Forum.

In Loving Service,

David L., ORSCNA RD & Charles F., ORSCNA RDA

Following is a list of some upcoming events in the Ohio Region:

- Jan. 4-6, 2013 Central Ohio Area Convention (COACNA XXIV)
- Jan. 12-13, 2013 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting (DASCNA hosting)
- Feb. 1-3, 2013 Toledo Area Convention (TACNA XVI)
- April 13-14, 2013 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting (MEASCNA hosting)
- May 10-12, 2013 Ohio Region’s 6th Annual 12 Traditions Retreat
Tar Hollow State Park, near Chillicothe, OH
- May 24-26, 2013 Ohio Convention (OCNA 31) – hosted by Buckeye Region
- July 6-8, 2013 Dayton Area Convention (DASCNAC X)
- July 13-14, 2013 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting (HAMASCNA hosting)
- Oct. 5-6, 2013 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting (**FFASCNA hosting**)
- Oct. 11-13, 2013 Ohio Region’s 26th Annual 12 Step Spiritual Retreat
Tar Hollow State Park, near Chillicothe, OH
- Jan. 11-12, 2014 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting (**GCASCNA hosting**)
- April 12-13, 2014 ORSCNA Quarterly Meeting (**Area 13 hosting**)
- May 9-11, 2014 Ohio Region’s 7th Annual 12 Traditions Retreat

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Tar Hollow State Park, near Chillicothe, OH

- May 23-25, 2014
- Ohio Convention (OCNA 32) – hosted by Dayton Area

Dave, RD.

I. Upper Midwest – Absent

J. Wisconsin – Absent

K. Other visiting regions –

IV. Subcommittee/Adhoc Reports

None

V. Prioritize list of topics for discussion

Since there are not too many topics we will simply go through them as written.

The meeting adjourned was at 5:53pm

Meeting brought to order at 9:13am 01/06/2013

| Position | Names | Attendance |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Co-Facilitator A | John | Absent |
| Co-Facilitator B | Derrick | Present |
| Treasurer | Blynn | Present |
| Secretary | Sherry E | Open |
| Web Contact | Bob | Absent |
| Chicagoland | Joe (RDA) | Present |
| Greater Illinois | Stacey (RDA) | Present |
| Indiana | | Absent |
| Metro Detroit | Greg (RD); | Present |
| Michigan | Patti (RDA); Brian (RD) | Present |
| Minnesota | | Absent |
| Ohio | Dave (RD) | Present |
| Upper Midwest | | Absent |
| Buckeye | | Absent |
| Wisconsin | | Absent |

VI. Basic Services

A. Approval of minutes.- no objections

B. Elections –

C. Financial decisions – None

D. Financial Announcement – Treasurer and secretary both requested 100.00 for a 2 nights stay totaling 200.00. 50.00 per night per guidelines.

E. Next meetings. Metro Detroit TBA.

VII. Topics/ Discussion:

A. DISCUSSION OF THE AUDIT AND PAYING NAWS ELECTRONICLY: Derrick, Blynn, Dave and Sherry were present for the audit. Bank statements and Treasurer's Books do reconcile. The only correction is in the last report, which was

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given yesterday, third line from the bottom states "NAWS CHECK" is should be corrected to 7th TRADITION. There was some uncomfortable feelings about paying NAWS online, the issue was table for further discussion

B. BANK STATEMENTS AND TREASURERS REPORT: the bank statement will now be included in the treasurer's report and the minutes.

C. MULTI-ZONAL WORKSHOPS

Some Plains States Zonal Forum members (from the Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and South Dakota Regions) and some Southern Zonal Forum members (from Show-ME Region) met with 2 members from the Western Service Learning Days (WSLD) Steering Committee to get information on how their event is structured, issues, benefits, etc.

These are some of the details gathered from that meeting on 10/13/12 in Denver, CO. This is not necessarily the way the mid-USA event would be structured, but gives an idea of one way to do it, to give people an idea of what would be involved, answer questions, etc.

Who:

Would like the event to encompass Midwest Zonal Forum (MZF), Plains States Zonal Forum (PSZF), Southern Zonal Forum (SZF) (possibly hosted by these zones or regions/areas within these zones), but open for everyone to participate.

We asked WSLD Steering Committee members to explain how they operate and got started:

- Guidelines and History are on the WSLD website <http://www.wsld.org/>
 - 2 year bid process-any area or region can host (in the west US, Canada, Mexico)
 - Current year□'s event contributes \$500 to the next conference and \$500 to the 2nd year conference
 - This is not adequate to take care of needs initially-areas/ regions need to supplement seed money
 - Sometimes fundraising is done by the area or region hosting
 - \$8,000 needed for a smaller WSLD, but much of that can be raised in pre-registrations
 - Initial cost of getting seed money was a concern raised by zonal members. Solutions offered of every Region in each zone that is interested in moving this potential project forward could possibly invest \$200.00 or whatever they could.
- Investment is in the future of training/education of trusted servants and members
- WSLD has a steering committee, but leaves autonomy to hosting area/region and helps with:
 - topics, speakers, direction of event, hotel negotiations, final decisions are with the area/region hosting
 - Steering committee meets with host committee through conference calls-do not travel to meet
 - Current host committee assists with WSLD website costs

We asked WSLD steering committee what are some of the positive things and difficulties in doing WSLD:

• Difficulties:

- banquets
- hard to find recorders-not profitable
- hasn't worked to have zonal meetings at this event-too much going on
- archiving
- banners-shipping expensive to send from hosting region/area to new hosting region/area

• Positives:

- Community presentations (to/from professionals)
- strengthened relations in professional communities with NADOC, drug courts, treatments, etc.
- presentations from professionals gives NA addicts a chance to see things from professionals' perspectives and how we can cooperate better to reach suffering addicts
- Effectiveness of services (benefits for NA members/groups/areas/regions/zones)
- learn about service from others outside our own area/region/zone
- New perspectives, ways to look at things, ideas

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- Increase in service participation and quality
- Knowledge sharing, knowledge transfer event
- This service learning experience is equitable to the experience of going to an out of town recovery meeting: we get different perspectives; ideas; helps us from getting stuck in a rut; find something new
- NAWS Participation
- Timing is right as NAWS has asked how the Zones could work with them. Also the whole concept and philosophy of collaboration between bodies that normally don't serve together. Working "outside the box".
- Could utilize Skype (or similar)
- allows others to have access to event
- have speakers from other countries share through conference video calling

Notes compiled by:

Amanda M., RD Iowa, Plains States Zonal Forum PR Coordinator

Cindi B., RD Oklahoma, Plains States Zonal Forum Facilitator

Break 10:55am

Reconvene: 11:20am

C. CO-FACILITATOR COMMUNICATION WITH FACILITIES: Derreck said he would make sure that the communication between the facilitators and the facilities that we are on the schedule or that everyone is aware, especially if we are at a convention.

D. NEXT MEETINGS: Metro Detroit will be hosting, please look for emails regarding that upcoming meeting. Unfortunately, there is no date or time set yet. Following metro Detroit will be Greater Illinois Region and will be held at GIRCNA in November.

E. POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR THE NEXT MZF MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS

- a. For Greater Illinois: it was suggested a Workshop to be done of Self-support and the value of contribution.
- b. Metro Detroit: Needs ideas as to what they should present for a workshop, since it will not be in conjunction with a convention or large event.
- c.

Starting balance 293.46.

Income this weekend was 365.00

Expenses sending out: 403.90 Detail will be in the next meetings report by Dave 403.90

Balance 254.56 not reconciled to the bank statement.

VIII. Closing business (Announcements, Next Meeting, Hugs, Prayer...)

Book your hotel early for the MZF meeting in Detroit