

Tejas Bluebonnet Regional Service Conference

February 11th 2012

Session 1

Open with Serenity Prayer

Recitation of the Service Prayer

12 Concepts

Attendance

Servants	Status	Committee Members	Status
Facilitator	Present	Brazos Valley	Absent
Co-Facilitator	Vacant	Central Texas	Present
Regional Delegate	Present	Coastal Bend	Present
Regional Delegate Alternate	Present	Esperanza	Absent
Policy	Present	Hill Country	Present
Convention 2012	Present	Houston	Present
Convention 2013	Present	Northside	Present
Treasurer	Present	Southeast Texas	Present
Co-Treasurer	Vacant	Southwest Cactus Country	Absent
Public Information	Present	Tri County	Present
H&I	Present		
CAC	Present		
AAI	Absent		
Lit Review	Present		

Facilitator announces Subcommittee breakout and moves into

Elections

Ask for nominations or volunteers for Co-Facilitator. None

Ask for nominations or volunteers for Co-Treasurer. None

Announce: Take back to areas that we need Co-Facilitator and Co-Treasurer.

Recorder is not at meeting.

Announce: Need a Recorder also.

Allen purchased a digital recorder to electronically record the meetings. Donated to region. A volunteer to take notes.

Area Reports

Central Texas

- All positions filled except RCM2
- Good website
- Lots of successful functions. Come to the March 17th function.

Coastal Bend (Report appended)

- Growing strong. Growing daily
- 26 groups and 56 meetings/week
- Helpful, user-friendly website
- Most subcommittee positions are held. All sub-comms meet one hour before the area meeting
- H&I very strong helping the new members find Narcotics Anonymous. They got t-shirts too.
- Lots of activities coming up including Recovery by the Sea the last weekend of July.

Esperanza (absent)

Hill Country

- Alive and well
- Small area with 10 or 11 groups. Checking into the status of the 11th in Kerrville
- 27 meetings/week
- Had a successful speaker, dinner, dance in January
- Donation to region event though there is not much money at the groups
- 3 positions yet to be filled at area

Houston

- 45 active groups hosting 145 meetings/week
- CAR workshop next Saturday
- New Outreach subcommittee – The New AA (Addicts on Asphalt). Hitting at least 2 meetings per week.

Northside

- 8 groups with 53 meetings/week
- Hump Day group in Navasota recently joined the area
- H&I is very active with 6 weekly meetings

- Lots of recent and upcoming events

Q: With all the activities conducted do you have an Activities sub-com or are they hosted by groups?

A: We have an Activities Chair but groups also have activities cooperating with Activities.

Q: How much do you think your area has grown over the last year?

A: Not really sure, but area service participation has increase by about 20%.

Southeast Texas

- 9 groups with 64 meetings
- Still not filling all positions but other servants are pitching in to make sure everything gets done
- Has heard many positive comments about TBRCNA 12
- Upcoming activities which include a bowling tournament

Southwest Cactus County (absent)

Tri County (Report appended)

- Apologize for not attending last RSC
- The groups in the area have an overwhelming consensus in favor of the Texas State Convention. Feels that the groups should determine the support status of TSC and not the RSC.
- 16 groups, 110 meetings
- Going to work with Houston area to make sure all of the meeting schedules are correct.
- Struggling to keep H&I and PR service positions filled but addicts are stepping up to complete the tasks. Are looking at policy changes to address service when working subcommittees are not in place.
- Planning a learning day to help address the lack of service commitments. Let the member know that service is not a daunting task if you have help.

Admin Reports

Facilitator

- I was to draft a letter to the Texas State Convention removing our liaison and refusing donations from them, but held off until after this RSC because I felt that the previous decision may change with discussion today.
- Hope everyone had a blast at TBRCNA.
- Trying a new agenda today so we will see how and if it works.

- Need a Recorder

C(omment): On the agenda Recorder and Web Person is missing.

A: I realize that now as I created it at 2 in the morning.

C: Roger states, though not an elected servant for Esperanza, the area did vote to support the Texas State Convention. Since both RCMs had resigned, their voice was not heard.

A: That is the reason that the letter did not get sent out ... Esperanza as well as Tri County and possibly Central Texas is bringing proposals to this meeting regarding this topic. We are not done yet.

Treasurer (Report appended)

- Taking out the prudent reserve, the working capital is \$787
 - 1 reserve for the committee if the shit hits the fan
 - 1 reserve to the Regional Delegate Alternate to attend WSC.
- Have a check from the Texas Unity Convention but I am holding it because of the discussion about the Texas State Convention. \$70.90
- Have not changed the signature cards yet in hopes of getting some more people elected today. Used the term huge rigmarole.
- Loosing voice so Allen asks that everyone review her written report
- Main point is the lack of funds to reimburse servants. Do we dip into prudent reserve or distribute by percentage? The facility must be paid but how do we dole out the other payments? Much discussion about this.
- Sales tax and tax returns are done
- Be sure to read the profit and loss reports
- TBRCNA 11 made some money. \$65 after selling mugs at tbrdna 12.
- George audited the tbrna books. It went well. (Report appended)
- Profit and loss report shows slow depletion of funds (Reports {3} appended)
- Better system in place for tracking all expenses by entity. Great for creating user-friendly reports.
- Attached Expenses and Income for last quarter. (Reports {3} appended)

Q: How much money did we spend in the last year for travel to the Southern Zonal Forum?

A: \$1690

Q: Clarification on table view for donations by ASC and groups. What is the percentage of change? Is that up and down? (Report appended)

A: Yeah

Q: How many servants get travel funds

A: 10 when all positions are filled. Each person is reimbursed up to \$200 per RSC.

Regional Delegate

- Read report (Report appended)
- Need areas' response to the survey questions to be included in the regional report to WSC. Basically how many groups, meetings, H&I panels, etc.
- Get meeting updates to me for updates to the NAWS database. Important.
- Check out NAWS News publication. Anybody can receive this. This is World Board minutes and it contains all kinds of valuable information. <http://www.na.org/?ID=reports-nawsnews-nawsmain> (November 2011 & January 2012 Issues appended)
- It is not true that we cannot participate in the Service System Proposals. We have workshops, submit input and there are active bulletin boards available. Get with me to find them. The forums can be found at <http://disc.na.org/>.

Q: When is the deadline to request a CAR workshop?

A: Next Sunday. Tally sheets need to be submitted back to the RD team by April 15th.

C: NAWS News is a synopsis of the World Board minutes. You can get actual minutes of the meetings. You can get the by requesting them from Fellowship Services after the following meeting.

Q: Discussion about the outdated meeting listings on NAWS website. Is it possible to purge that database and start over?

A: Could you imagine what that would be? All areas have the ability to update their listings on the site. Get with Allen to kind out how. I have the power to change the meetings within the region but do not feel comfortable doing it. Trusted area web contacts can sign up to get access to their listings.

Q: When are you flying out?

A: The Friday before the conference.

Q: Does region fund you to go to WSC?

A: No. Funding comes from the WSC for the RD but the region pays for the RDA's travel. Traditionally the Region would reimburse WSC for the funds because we were not a region in need.

Much discussion about what we have done in the past in paying back WSC for RD travel.

Break

Admin Reports continued

Regional Delegate Alternate

- Read report (Report appended)
- Explained the format and use of the tally sheets. The plan is to review the submissions

the weekend before leaving for the conference so it is very important to get them turned in as early as possible. There is an area to fill out that gives specifics about the members and what they feel or the process that took place to come up with their decision.

Q: What is the deadline for tally submissions?

A: April 20th We will be compiling on the 21st

Q: How many people attend the Southern Zonal Forum?

A: 15-20, 8-9 regions

Q: Where is the next SZF?

A: Arkansas

Q: Is SZF a prudent expense?

A: Depends on the topics covered. We can discuss this in May.

Policy

- Have spent time going through the policy looking for contradictions and have found a few. Have not found any that would prevent us from doing business. Progress is up to the financial policy.
- Plan is to create a draft document with all proposed changes highlighted to make it easy for the body to review and approve if worriment.
- Doing this by self but will accept help from any volunteers.

Q from Policy: Is there any reason for the Rio Grande Valley Area or Archives to be mentioned in the policy?

A from Facilitator: No. The references should have been removed prior.

Interlude

- RDA had made the assumption that all the participants at RSC would be at the Sunday workshop. Realizing that this may not be the case, he described the tally sheets and their purpose.
- Short clarification discussion followed.
- Presentation on what will be covered in the workshop so that folks that are printing the CAR from PDF do not need to print it all.

Q: What is this United States Service Conference?

A: There has been a lot of electronic talk about the possibility of a US only service conference. The reason we have a questionnaire is to be proactive in case this subject arrives at the WSC.

C: I do not believe that it will and putting it out there is saying that the TBR is thinking about the issue. Should be better discussed after the conference.

A: I agree but would like a conscience of the groups in case it does come up.

More discussion about removing references to USSC but some would like it to remain a topic.

Q: Will CAT motions be discussed?

A: Time permitting. Focus is on the CAR primarily.

Reports continued

Convention Advisory Committee

- Looking at location for 2014. Likely around and south of Corpus Christi.
- Developing a structured time line for tasks so that each committee is not re-inventing the wheel.

Q from CAC: Do the RCMs think the zonal process is working?

A: Smaller areas having conventions

A: Travel cost concerns

Much discussion

C: We need to start using electronics to meet rather than paying for travel expenses.

Q to CSC: Should there be a list of past vendors to choose from.

A: Yes. Working on that now.

Discussion went into whether conventions should make money.

Q: You mentioned "structure", could you elaborate? Is that for the convention or the committee?

A: Putting together time lines and data from past conventions to aid the current one.

Discussion got heated and started chasing it's tail

Next CAC meeting to be announced

Open Discussion

Texas State Convention Presentation

- CAC is based on the State Convention concept
- TBR has a liaison to the TSC that should have been keeping the region informed. A bit of history of TSC and its relationship with TBR
- Funds raised get pushed back into the service structure
- Little Myron history and a plea to reconsider last RSC's resolution about TSC.

Q: Does the advisory board run the convention?

A: No. It is just an advisory board.

Q: When you started this what prevented you from going to World and telling them what you wanted to do ... maybe we wouldn't be in this mess now.

A: World is not the ultimate authority and this is a local issue. We do not have to report to

World. They are aware that we exist because they receive a check every year.

C: Houston area and groups had a problem with the NA logo being used.

A: The intent is for the convention not to be tied to any service body so that it can travel around, but it needs local service bodies to support it. Groups throughout hold events in support of the convention. Referenced the policy about logo use.

Q: Where are your by-laws?

A: Articles of Incorporation include that the owners are the members of NA in Texas. The by-laws are our policy.

Q: What happens if the convention loses money? Is the supporting service body responsible.

A: No. The advisory board has \$8k in reserve to cover debts.

C: TSC is conducted with the spirit of unity but I am afraid that it removes resources from adjacent area and regional events.

A: I disagree and I can prove it. Talked about giving money back.

C: No area ever said "Come start this convention". 3 groups saw a need. They are tied to NA and wish that areas would get more involved.

C: Though you preach unity the convention causes disunity. It has become them and us. Convention is not accountable to any service body.

A: Lawyers argue their point even if it is wrong. You have to decide for yourself. I believe what we are doing is right and following traditions. This has been successful for 10 years.

C: CAC was not formed solely by the example of TSC advisory board. Several models were employed.

Lunch

Session 2

Open Discussion continued

Texas State Convention Presentation continued

C: Be open to new ideas. TSC comes together yearly to carry the message.

C: Ninth tradition review. Against discussion. Not created out of a need. Cost of sending a liaison.

Liaison discussion

C: What about Texas Unity Convention. Let's get a proposal out there

C: Esperanza area voted to host the TSC

Proposal: From Central Texas to rescind the proposal from last RSC regarding the Texas State Convention which was "Not send a liaison, remove their link from website, not accept any more donations and return the check from the last convention."

Discussion about this proposal being placed in front of a Tri County proposal to take this issue back to the groups. The Tri County proposal will “table” the results of the November proposal and take the decision back to the groups. Tri County agreed to allow the CTA proposal to go first.

Block: 4th Tradition. Says we made the right decision with the information at hand. Let's take it back to our groups.

Response: Not upheld. Facilitator does not think it is valid.

Discussion kind of drifts off into wanting to take to the groups.

Consensus: None reached as >20% stand asides

Proposal: From Tri County to “table” the November RSC decision and take the discussion with additional information received today and from November back to the groups to get a better conscience of what the members want.

Wait! Wait! Wait! You cannot table a proposal that is not on the floor. The groups can discuss this topic and, if they decide, bring a new proposal in May.

Agreed. Proposal fizzles.

Subcommittee Reports

Public Information

- Want to change the proposal to change attendance for the Western Service Learning day at the next one rather than this one because the is a WSC year. Use some of the PI money for this. This would sent the co-facilitators for each H&I and PI subcommittees.
- Last quarter to three areas for GSR and PI from the ground up training.
- First online meeting on January 30th. 6 members attended. Used join.me which is a free application. All the remaining meetings will be online on the last Sunday of the month at 6pm.
- The quarterly RSC will be used to solicit needs from the areas for learning days, workshops, etc.
- The Western States Learning Day has archived recordings online and if we find them useful they ask that we send them \$20. Want to send them the money. We will burn the files to disc.

Q: Where is the next Western States Learning Day.

A: Don't know yet.

Hospitals & Institutions

- Benny is the new chair for Central Texas. 13 facilities, all positions are filled. Successful holiday celebration. Planning workshops throughout the year.
- Coastal Bend all positions are filled. Selling H&I t-shirts. Guide to Local Service workshop in March and the regional H&I facilitator will present the H&I portion. Serve 4

facilities

- Esperanza has all positions filled. 13 facilities. Lots of new members. Service appreciation day on July 21st.
- Hill Country does 5 presentations. Had a member from another fellowship show up at a presentation and carried a different message. Measures have been taken to keep this from happening again.
- Stewart is the new chair for Northside. Lack of participation and some meetings that are not H&I. Plans to reestablish contact with TDCJ and Hascona and have a learning day.
- Houston in 6 facilities including Harris County Jail.
- TBRCNA 12 H&I report. TDCJ training was conducted to 35 members. The H&I workshop included a speaker from the same unit as the trainers. The guard that accompanied the speaker had a spiritual transformation.

Literature Review

- Living Clean approval draft is available online at na.org or get it with the CAR. 5000 copies have been distributed.
- Upcoming plans for a book on the Traditions is going to be discussed at WSC.
- Plans to change the Into guide to an information pamphlet.
- No longer are PDF versions of book length pieces available online. Too much abuse. In the future excerpts will be available.
- Revisions to the Social Media pamphlet are complete and available online.

TBRCNA 12

- A successful convention and the word did get to the addicts that still suffer.
- Lots of positive feedback.
- Filled 240 of the 200 room block.
- Facilitator was treated bad by Tri County members. Some conflict within the committee.
- Tentative numbers

\$12,371.93	Gross cash sales
\$4,082.07	Credit card sales
\$16,454.00	Subtotal
-\$213.36	Hotel credit
\$16,667.36	Subtotal
\$10,000.00	Seed

\$6,667.36	Net
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- 463 Registrants

TBRCNA 13

- Preregistration at 12 – 102 for \$1,606.
- 31 newcomer donations

Proposal: From Northside to have the web guy secure the TBRCNA site using a dedicated IP address and an SSL security certificate. Go with option 2. Individual account and certificate.

Proposal withdrawn to allow the convention committee to determine.

Interlude:

Pay the web guy for the next year. One basic text donated to the greatest need.

CAC next meeting is March 6th at 9pm.

Melvin personally makes amends to John for his actions during the committee meetings. Rebuttal to John's report saying that he did not make the statements reported. Need to have wrap up meeting to submit reports to CAC.

Financial

Do we send checks back to TSC and Texas Unity? Proposals to wait until May RSC as there is anticipated discussion on both issues.

Balance on the books is -\$66.31. Do we go into prudent reserve to pay our bills? Yes. Catch up on donations after the convention makes their donation.

Will start the signature card process.

Announcements

Next RSC will be in Houston in May

Do we want an assembly for CAR and CAT submissions? Two. One on the east side of the region and another in the west. Announcements will be made with details.

Close