

MRLE

Manchester, NH 2017 December 16-17

MRLE opened up with a brief overview of the CAR with WB member, Paul, facilitating. This report will consist mostly of the thorough review of the 25 regional motions (there were NO motions brought from the WB this cycle)

- 1-6 relate to literature and production
- 7-10 relate to the FIPT
- 10-25 relate to the roles of zones

WB response to the request from the South Florida Region

Before I get into the CAR motions i wanted to elaborate a bit on the South Florida Regions request to the WB. It was explained that NAWS asked some questions for clarification on specific requests from the South Florida region and so far there has not been a response.

There will be time dedicated to this request at the WSC because NAWS/WB feels that this is an NA issue. There are obviously people taking sides on this issue and since this is a fellowship issue this delegate team also feels quite strongly that this matter needs to be addressed at the WSC. I am quite certain this will also be brought up at MARLCNA

- **Motion One-** *To direct the WB to create a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020 to convert the service pamphlet Social Media and our Guiding Principles into a recovery IP that includes fellowship input and review (Ohio & Michigan Region)*
 - We currently have a version of this in a service pamphlet, this is not currently an IP which are not typically or recommended to be read or displayed in meetings. If groups followed the GTLS or The Group booklet then they would certainly not read this service pamphlet or display it in a meeting.
 - It would appear to this delegate team that this would be a valuable IP the resources and time taken to convert this into an IP would be considerable.

In this day and age it might be in our best interest to consider having an IP available for this information

- **Motion Two-** *Remove from the NAWS catalog IP 27 For The Parents And Guardians Of Young People In NA (Venezuela)*
 - This is a valuable tool from a PR standpoint, while we see all addicts as addicts regardless of age, sometimes parents inquire about their addict children. Other members mentioned that this was a valuable piece of information for PR presentations.
 - The WB response is not in favor of this motion, they have found that it would be better for us to describe NA rather than an outside organization taking on this responsibility

- **Motion Three-** *To direct the WB to create a project plan for a Step Study booklet containing questions derived only from sentences in the Basic Text chapter "How it works" for consideration at WSC 2020 (Baja Son)*
 - The motion is simply asking for an abbreviated (low cost version) of a step working guide into jails & institutions.
 - The idea stems from a book composed by a member in the early 90's called "Back to the basics" it is not fellowship approved
 - Due to the fact that a single member produced this it goes against how we produce literature (project plan, literature workgroups, input and review)
 - This would take a long time to be completed and would be completed incorrectly since this piece of literature already exists
 - Some of the support from this stemmed from the step working guide being a bit too long.
 - If this were Robert's Rules this motion would be out of order

- **Motion Four-** *To direct NAWS to produce and add to inventory an MP3 digital download of the Basic Text Fifth Edition in Spanish, previously in inventory on cassette. By conference policy, NAWS is not authorized to publish a fifth edition once a sixth edition is available. This motion would provide for a one time waiver of the policy for NAWS until the Spanish 6th edition is available (Eastern New York)*
 - The sixth edition in any form is the only version that can be produced. An audio version is currently "in the works"

- This would be a huge change of policy and would allow other languages to be accessed.
 - A cassette version has not been sold since 2008, some cassettes are sent with Spanish orders just to deplete stock
 - This may come as a big surprise but addicts don't like to wait.
- **Motion Five-** *To approve an NA service prayer, utilizing the language that is already in the intro of the Basic Text, substituting the word write with the word serve, including it in the set of posters of the meetings for NA groups, as shown here:*

“God, grant us knowledge that we may ~~write~~ serve according to your Divine precepts. Instill in us a sense of Your purpose. Make us servants of your will and grant us a bond of selflessness that this may truly be your work, not ours, in order that no addict, anywhere, need die from the horrors of addiction.”

- *Venezuela Region*
 - *This was a prayer that was said by the first literature committee that produced the first Basic Text. Very simply, would we like this added to our posters and a reading card?*
 - *This will not change the prayer in the front of the Basic text, it will simply amend the statement so we may have these more readily available. The new wording will be adopted for the purpose of creating posters etc using this particular wording*
 - *Some people thought it would be best to leave it alone, adding another “prayer” could throw some people off and turn off new members*
 - *Being that this has a historical connotation perhaps it is best leaving it that way.*
 - *Do we really need more posters and readings?*
- **Motion Six-** *To direct NAWS to produce and add to inventory key tags that reflect the growth of years clean in the Fellowship Worldwide; specifically Granite for one Decade, Purple for Decades Clean and Pink for 25 Years Clean. (Eastern New York)*
 - There are currently 50 keytags in 50 languages
 - Warehousing and inventory could be a problem
 - Some of these are already in production (illegal?)

- Some parts of the world simply do not have decades clean. Paul the WB member lives in Malaysia and the most clean time there is seven years.
 - This also brought up a good point that production issues should be decided through the CAR. Those issues can be sent to the WB
- **Motion Seven-** *To direct the World Board to create a Service Pamphlet (SP) that clearly and simply outlines the rights of groups to reprint Narcotics Anonymous recovery literature covered under the FIPT and its bulletins (Northern New York)*
 - *As it stands there is a FIPT bulletin. Bulletin #1*
 - www.na.org/FIPT
 - *SP are much more available than searching for a bulletin*
 - *Turning bulletin #1 into an SP would be pretty easy*
 - *Speaker of the motion spoke to this: this SP would make the information more accessible*
- **Motion Eight-** *To replace the first paragraph under “What kinds of literature should we use” In the group booklet that follows: (Northern NY)*
 - There would be an expense of depleting the current stock of “The Group” booklet if this motion is approved
 - There would also appear to be some confusion to explain that groups can use literature not currently approved or produced
 - Very simply put, groups should use currently approved literature
- **Motion Nine-** *To direct the WB to create a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020 to create or revise one piece of recovery literature to directly replace DRT or MAT as it relates to NA (Northern NY)*
 - As it stands, two items currently address this matter:
 - Www.NA.org/pr. Last link on the page
 - And bulletin #29 www.NA.org/?id=bulletins-bulletins-main last link on this page
 - NA has no opinion on outside issues
 - There is a recovery literature survey gives us an option to select this for approval. I feel this is a good way (the survey) to gauge interest from members but would take time of course based on our literature approval process

- It is my opinion that this matter can be addressed more thoroughly through an aggressive PR approach. Educating professionals as NA as a proven method for recovery can help.
 - Sponsorship can also help here
 - Bulletin #29 is antiquated
- **Motion Ten-** *Remove bulletin #29 (World service board of trustees bulletin #29) Regarding methadone and other DRT from publication and use (Upper Midwest Region)*
 - The bulletin was written in 1996 it may not be as welcoming as it could be
 - There is a survey available in this CAR regarding a DRT IP
- **Motion Eleven-** *Remove “Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication Assisted Treatment” from publication and use (Upper Midwest Region)*
 - This is a recently published PR pamphlet targeted to professionals
 - This was approved by the fellowship and has been well received
 - To add, based on PR presentations done by the NNR there has been a ton of support and clarity from professionals
 - S P O N S O R S H I P
- **Motion Twelve-** *Assign a week each year as an NA PR week, beginning in 2019. NAWS would establish the dates and would have information available for the whole fellowship a minimum of 90 days prior and also have the possible contents of the program or the suggested agendas for such week (Venezuela Region)*
 - What’s not to like?
- **Motion Thirteen-** *To authorize the WB to define more special days, like unity day, in the yearly calendar (Iran Region)*
 - *What’s not like?*
 - *There was some concern about not giving the WB the ability to create “NA Hallmark holidays”*
- **Motion Fourteen-** *IDT will be selected based on the following process: by 8/1 following the WSC NAWS will create a section on NA.org for submissions.*

The poll should be translated. Starting 2/1 the year before the WSC voting will start. Top six will be voted on in the WSC. Top three are the IDT's for that cycle

- *We have a good method to do it now using a simple survey contained in the CAR which has produced good literature and quite a good amount of IDT's*
- *This motion would also reduce the conscience of the members, input would be limited.*
- *Translating this into 55 languages would not be easy*
- *The motion has a bit of a "first world feel" to it*

- **Motion Fifteen-** *To hold a 3 day meeting of 2 representatives from each of the existing zonal forums. The meeting will be planned by NAWS who will also cover the expenses of the meeting itself. The XF or their regions will cover the cost of travel and meals for the representatives with financial assistance from NAWS if necessary. This meeting will occur in the 2018-2020 cycle (Portugal Region)*

- *As expected, the attending regions are concerned about losing their voice at the WSC. This motion was proposed by the Portugal region which was a founding region of the EDM (the shining star of zones) followed closely behind by the APF. If we are to understand the direction we are going to move in this makes sense to start figuring it out*

- **Motion Sixteen-** *That the WB develop a project plan, including budget and timeline, for presentation at the WSC 2020 on the role of Zones, their relationship to the wider fellowship, including integrating Zonal Delegate participation into the decision making process at the WSC (Australia and Aotearoa NZ Region)*

- *Sort of putting the cart before the horse. If motion 15 is supported this will fall into place with that motion. The issues discussed by zones at the three day conference will certainly address what zones will ultimately be.*
- *This doesn't make sense unless we require all zones to function the same and at this point the clearly do not*
- *Another way to address downsizing the WSC. NAWS I'm sure has forecasted significant growth*
- *I think it is EXTREMELY important that I point out that we may never move to zonal seating at the WSC. These motions are premature and a bit preemptive. We may never stop seating at the WSC on a regional level but some regions are thinking for the future. The will of the fellowship will prevail.*

- **Motion Seventeen-** *To approve a change in the description of WSC participants from RD's to Zonal delegates. This change will occur over 3 conference cycles from 2018 to 2024 with the choice of representation left to the seated regions during this transition period. These three conference cycles will be used to develop details for the future. Any policies or ideas developed will be presented back to the fellowship in the CAR. Zonal delegates attending the WSC will carry a vote for all of their seated regions that are not represented by a regional delegate. No new seating requests will be considered during the transition (Portugal)*
 - This motion appears to be a bit confusing would the zones carry the vote of the entire zone or just one vote from the zone?
 - This would allow a non seated region to have a voice at the WSC whether or not they carry one vote or the votes of the entire zone.
 - Portugal belongs to the EDM. A highly evolved zone; suffice to say none of the other zones are remotely close to how the EDM operates. Not even in the same galaxy.

During the discussion of the motion it was straw polled that we will consolidate the following motions (18-21):

- **Motion Eighteen-** *That any Zonal Forum with two or more zonally seated regions or communities that are not seated at the WSC, may choose to send one Zonal Delegate to the WSC to represent those regions or communities (Australia & Aotearoa NZ Region)*
 - This will allow non seated regions to have their voice be heard
 - If we are to ultimately move to zonal seating it would make sense to have a zonal perspective
- **Motion Nineteen-** *If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered. That ZD are voting members when in attendance at the WSC. These ZD would have one vote (Australia & Aotearoa NZ Region)*
 - *Housekeeping*
- **Motion Twenty-** *If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered. ZD's are eligible to receive the same funding from NAWs as RD's when attending the WSC. This includes travel, lodging and meals*
 - This is an extension of the preceding and following motions (18-21)

- This would simply be a housekeeping motion
- **Motion Twenty one-** *If motion is not adopted then the following will not be offered. AZD's may attend the WSC with the same rights and limitations as is currently offered to the RDA*
 - Same explanation as 20
- **Motion Twenty two-** *To discontinue the WSC Conference Participants Discussion Board hosted and maintained by NAWS (Washington North Idaho Region)*
 - Facebook groups have sort of taken the place if the board
 - As far as a collective forum; this is all we have
 - This will be decided at the WSC
- **Motion Twenty three-** *Direct The WB to develop plans to a three year conference cycle. This plan would include quarterly web meetings, longer review time for the CAR and would be developed in a way to provide an opportunity to include other ideas from conference participants (Argentina Region)*
 - Two years is long enough. What about planning for the WC?
 - Connecting every three years would be ineffective
- **Motion Twenty four-** *In new business the WB will have one vote represented by the WB chair. Each WB member votes only in elections and may make motions in all sessions (Israel Region)*
 - The WB does not like this, they feel this interferes with the 7th concept.
 - To the WB's point, they do speak for undeveloped regions.
 - Something similar to this was proposed and was not approved in 2014
- **Motion Twenty five-** *To authorize the WB to investigate and pursue ways for conference participants who are unable to attend the WSC due to visa and other issues beyond their control, to engage in sessions of the WSC (Iran Region)*
 - Due to our current political relationship with certain countries, the delegates from Iran are not allowed to travel to the US and US citizens are not allowed in Iran. Currently 40% of all NA meetings are held in Iran. For them not to have some sort of representation on the world level in theory eliminates 40% of our groups conscience.

NEZF Web Meeting December 17, 9am

- All regions present except for NNJ
- Minutes were approved
- Ad-Hoc for PR Collab
 - 8 regional PR chairs from the NEZF
 - There was an agenda with a brief update from each region.
 - Wilvena will be submitting the Ad-Hoc report with the minutes
 - The next PR meeting will be Tuesday 12/19 @ 9:00 PM with zoom
- Meeting at MARLCNA
 - Seven out of twelve regions will be present
 - Due to the fact that there isn't an agenda at MARLCNA and the zonal chair, vice chair and secretary may not be attending we will not be meeting
- Hosting for October 2018
 - NNE is and will be willing to host, Manchester, NH. (October 26-28 2018)
- Elections for Webservant
 - Jeremy F (NE region) has volunteered, was nominated and was voted in
- Next web meeting is 2/25/18
- Meeting closed at 10:12

As we move full bore into this conference cycle the RD team is ready to finish up the last of information gathering at MARLCNA with the workshopping of the CAR & CAT. I would like to ask the RCM's to make arrangements to arrange CAR/CAT workshops. With seven areas and the conference at the end of April, time is short to workshop with the areas and groups. Buffalo and NI-O areas both meet on the same day. If we can arrange a workshop on the same second day that would be a huge help. Thank you in advance for letting me be of service to my region.

In Loving Service,

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