

Since the last meeting of this body, the RD and the RD Alternate attended the NEZF, the weekend of July 22 -24, 2011, hosted by the New England Region in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. The following is an outline and report on key issues and or items before the Fellowship of NA and a summary of NEZF notes.

- I. *Service System Proposal Report Update (August 2011)* – at the last meeting of the WorldBoard the role of zones in the new service system and how literature distribution and fund flow might work was discussed. The Update *Zones for Third Draft Service System Proposals* is posted on the service system webpage: www.na.org/servicesystem.
 - ~ Discussed was the need to develop a wider more encompassing set of uniform standards both in terms of zonal composition and role.
 - ~ The discussion included questions related to decision-making such as: Are zones decision-making bodies? Should their decisions be made by consensus? Is there an administrative body at the zonal level? It was clearly noted that answers varied from zone to zone and that at this time they are self-determining bodies. The board concluded that it made sense to reexamine zones and consider changes. For example, instead of having zones self – determine their boundaries and composition it might make sense that this be done at the World Service Conference. Why? Because the conference can take a more holistic view of the world and how NA communities around the world might best be served. This line of thought gives cause to consider input from those that might best be able to state how they would best be served, not to the possibility of lost autonomy.
 - ~ Also considered were the various roles and tasks performed by the zones. The board applied the concept of being a purpose-driven system to their discussion of zones and stated:
 - 1) “...we ought to be able to agree upon a purpose or set of purposes for the zones and perhaps some uniform practices.”
 - 2) “As part of systematizing our services we should think about formalizing the roles that zones may have given their unique position.”
 - ~ The possible roles identified by the board included: a. fellowship development, b. leadership development, c. planning (as related to environmental scanning and the information conduit), d. part of fund flow system, e. exchange for best practices, f. point of connection (unity links between larger and smaller communities), and g. communication link.

~ Included in the Update is **Appendix 4: Literature Distribution and Fund Flow in a New Service System**. Here the board has offered some questions or points for consideration such as:

- 1) Challenges related to the proposed system: GSU and LSU both don't seem to be ideal for literature distribution or collection of financial contributions. Such duties could "undermine the informal character of the meeting" at the GSU. Since the LSU meets only on a quarterly basis and most groups purchase literature and make donations on a monthly basis this could be problematic.
- 2) Present practices regarding literature distribution may be monthly for most and seem to be the norm, "but it's far from the rule." Whatever the practices the focus must remain on allowing flexibility in how literature is obtained and contributions flow to the service bodies.
- 3) The result of the preceding discussion was further brainstorming specific to **Possible Ways for Groups to Get Literature and Contribute Funds in a New System**. Possibilities included attending the LSU quarterly planning sessions, stopping by LSU board meetings, utilizing the GSUs to consolidate orders, having the LSU distribute literature and collect financial contributions at the GSU, and order electronically from local service office of NAWS.

- II. ***Social Media and our Guiding Principles*** – this service pamphlet draft was emailed July 22, 2011 to delegates and will be out for input until October 31, 2011. Included with this report is a hard copy draft of the service pamphlet draft for the committee's review.
- III. ***History of the Board-Approval Track 9(including service pamphlets)***. As a result of many questions from the fellowship an essay explaining the history of the approval tracks of NA literature and service materials has been provided. A hard copy of the essay is included for the committee's review.
- IV. ***Issue Discussion Topic Packet***. This material is posted on line at <http://www.na.org>. The topics include: A Vision for NA Service, In Times of Illness, and Self-Support.
- V. ***Continued review of emails regarding the United States Fellowship Assembly II***. This assembly is slated for October 28 -30, 2011 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Estimated cost to send both Rd and Rd Alternate would be \$1500.00.
- VI. ***NEZF Notes***. Day One is always reserved for Orientation and Introductions. During the introductions the trusted servants shared perspectives regarding current events in NA. Here is a brief sampling: great time in NA, this is a time for concern, we are in a period of transition, should we be afraid, excited to be part of, the Fellowship is changing, rich in heart, are we going to be involved in the process... cell phones, skype, fighting in meetings, ESH is significant, our issues seem to be related to sponsorship, people want to know about the GSU and LSU, when discussion goes beyond the GSU and LSU levels we lose participants' interest, people are resistant to change, and any change in NA has always been for the addict yet to come. This time was intimate and the sharing clearly was characterized by deeply rooted emotions and commitment to the Fellowship and service.

Day Two was set aside for the Zone Wide Workshops. The morning session was dedicated to Fellowship Development and the afternoon session was dedicated to Anonymity and Social Media.

A) Fellowship Development (Used slide show of NA Worldwide/Beatles- All You Need is Love)

1. Defined: growth, opportunity, inventory, outreach, unity , welcoming, 5 Tradition, mentoring, service
2. Questioned the possible deconstruction of standing subcommittees and their replacement by Fellowship Development Committees
3. Project Driven – responding to the needs/issues (see PR Handbook Chapter 12 Fellowship Development) Emphasis here was placed on planning and prioritizing (see Chp 12)
4. Obstacles – culture, boundaries, economics, social barriers... Emphasis here was placed on conducting environmental scans – Can you address the issue or project with adequate resources (people, time, and money?)
5. Role Played scenario in small groups – Who is Missing in Our Meetings – How Can We Improve Our Areas?
 - First – identify issues/problems
 - Second – identify possible options/solutions
 - Third – prioritize preceding
 - Fourth – Put the Plan Into Action (see PR Handbook Chp 10 Putting Your Plan Into Action)
 - For those interested checkout na.org – navigate to Public Relations Handbook tab.
 - Reference what a healthy service system looks like. This topic can be found in the service system project materials

B) Anonymity /Social Media (Used slide show History of NA)

1. Reviewed process and guidelines
2. Conducted overview of pp on the social web. Many references at this point to violation of Traditions 5, 6, and 11.
3. Emphasized need to define difference between anonymity as in the 12th Tradition - selfless service and confidentiality
4. Examined various social networks such as Facebook
5. Role Played Scenario
6. Based on the discussion, we've gained a lot of awareness and with that increased responsibility. Protecting each other's anonymity is critically important.

All this is available on the NEZF website – Anonymity.com North East Zone Wide Workshop

C) Open Forum

1. Discussion of push rather than pull technology
2. Need to address the Service Structure Proposals and the USFA/USFC (these are two different entities and the USFC has split – it is now 4 entities)
 - a. “Where’s there is smoke there is fire.” It is agreed that the USFC is using scare tactics
 - b. Much of what is being said is subject to faulty logic – reasons for US Service Conference are fallacious
 - c. “All we need is the white sheets vibe in NA.”
 - d. “Excuse the language – this seems to be a subversive movement.”
 - e. “Do not forget the status quo remains – probably only 10% of the Fellowship really cares the rest doesn’t give a sh***.”
 - f. “Got to ask: What really is the purpose of the USFC/Service Proposals?”
 - g. “Checkout the emails from the WSO!”

Day Three was set aside for Zonal Business. 11 out of 14 regions were present. The entire agenda was planned around Old and New Business, Nominations, and next Zonal meeting.

A) Old Business

1. Website

B) Zone Wide Workshop Report

1. Cost equally divided between 12 Regions (totaling \$21.14)
- WNY was paid from food stipend
2. Cost of materials: \$112.87 (original budget \$290)

C) New Business

1. Motion to NJRSC from Cape Atlantic ASC
 - Zone does not dictate what Regions will do.
 - Seems to create another level of service and would require specific funding
 - Compared to the USFA and USFC materials – its proposal actually includes content from each
 - We shouldn’t confuse our roles. We shouldn’t be discussing it here today and it should be going back to our Regions for discussion.
 - Recommendation was to table until after WSC and remove wording specific to standing committee. Vote was 6/5 no clear conscience – tabled – take back to Regions for discussion.

D) Nominations/Elections

1. Chair: Don accepted nomination and is unopposed –unanimously elected
2. Vice Chair: Bill accepted nomination and is unopposed – unanimously elected

3. Secretary: Judy ineligible due to term limitations – will continue until regular election – position remains open

E) Next Zone

1. Held during MRLE
2. Dec. 2 – 4, 2011 Manchester, NH
3. Rms \$79.99 + tax and fees (reservations must be made before Nov. 2nd)
4. Nearest airport Boston/Manchester
5. Topic: CAR

Once again, your regional delegates ask that the word be spread by the RCMs that each ASC request their Area to schedule service structure workshops for the purpose of gaining input and conscience regarding the proposed changes to NA's service structure. As previously stated in the July 2011 report to this body changes to NA's service structure have been proposed and are being revised in preparation for the upcoming World Conference. Also, if we elect to attend and participate in this fall's upcoming United States Fellowship Assembly, attention needs to be directed toward the discussions being had at this time throughout our Fellowship so that we might generate discussions within the Region's Areas for the purpose of reaching group conscience.

Again, if we as a Region want to effectively participate "in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole" (4th Tradition), then we need to be mindful of the 7th, 8th, 9th and 11th Concepts of NA; as well as, the 1st Tradition.

- Tradition 1 "Our common welfare should come first. Personal recovery depends on NA unity."
- Concept 7 "All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its decision-making processes."
- Concept 8 "Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications."
- Concept 9 "All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes."
- Concept 11 "NA funds are to be used to further the primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly."

Request for workshops can be scheduled by calling Jim L.

Receipts for NEZF and request for reimbursement are attached to this report.

More will be revealed ~ yours in service,
Jim L.

PEACE BE THE JOURNEY

**WNYRSCNA
RD Report**

**Submitted By: Jim L.
Date: 9/10/2011**

Receipts and Request for Reimbursement

Item	Original	Actual
* Zone Wide Workshop Expense	(\$21.14)	\$21.14
I. Mileage Dispersement	\$436.50	\$444.50
II. Hotel	\$214.00	\$239.04
III. Tolls	\$40.00	\$32.80
IV. Food Dispersement	\$180.00	\$180.00
	Total: \$870.50	\$917.48

Request for reimbursement include variance from the hotel, mileage, and Zone Wide Workshop totaling \$46.98.

The original dispersement included \$180.00 food dispersement for the RD Alternate. His report will include his receipts which will be turned over separately to the treasurer.

Note the next NEZF request for dispersement will be needed before November's meeting of Region and the approximate request will total \$1,000.00 for hotel, transportation, and food. There may be an additional expense of MRLE registration for both RD and Rd Alternate

**Yours in Service,
Jim L.**