



Autonomy Zonal Forum

Mission and Purpose:

The Autonomy Zone brings all elements of Narcotics Anonymous (NA) from its participating regions together to further the common welfare of NA by providing events which:

- Create an opportunity for Regions to come together to exchange experience, strength, and hope and collectively express itself on matters affecting Narcotics Anonymous as a whole
- Train, mentor and/or inform participants about the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous

The AZF is ultimately responsible to the groups it serves inspired by the joy of selfless service, and the knowledge that our efforts make a difference.

Meeting Agenda	September 16, 2019 7 PM – 9 PM Zoom Call Link https://zoom.us/j/2292658822
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Attendees:

Facilitator	Craig R	P
Secretary	Kim A	P
Central Atlantic RD	Dee P	P
Central Atlantic RD Alt	Randy D	P
Central Atlantic RDA 2	Sherry V	P
Chesapeake and Potomac RD	Darla S	P
Chesapeake and Potomac RD Alt	Greg J	P
Eastern PA RD	Merle S	P
Eastern PA RD Alt	Vacant	
Free State RD	Trish C	P
Free State RD Alt	Christian B	A
Greater Philadelphia RD	Billy W	P
Greater Philadelphia RD Alt	Clarence L	P
Mountaineer Region RD	Ryan S	A
Mountaineer Region RD Alt	Vacant	

➤ Introductions, Overview of agenda

Jeff P – Facilitator southeast Zonal Forum, Ted D. Duwar, Leah and Tony F – Greater Philly, Housekeeping – Facilitator gave overview of how we conduct our meetings ... deference given to RD teams to speak. He will call on people according to our guidelines.

Agenda Items

- **Agenda/Minutes Format** - Craig asked for approval on this agenda format and specific to zoom calls. Sherry wanted to make sure we are still doing Regional reports. With some discussion body agreed on the new template. Sherry requested the agenda always be sent out in Word (not PDF)
 - Approval process. Within two weeks of the minutes being sent out, no responses will be counted as approvals.



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Decisions from this discussion:

- **Body Agreed** the approval process going forward will be: secretary sends out minutes for approval within 2 weeks of the meeting. The delegates have 7 days to approve or oppose before the secretary proceeds. A lack of response will be counted as an approval.
- **Website Posting/Update** (flyers, updates, announcements) - The question was posed about putting the zoom link on the website instead of sending it only after someone subscribes. When asked for a final decision (only RD's vote - as is our procedure)
 - Clarence proposed the link to the Zoom meeting not be on the website but only be available to the subscribers. No objections.
 - Reached Agreement AZF will post submitted event flyers from within our Zone and other World and Zonal Events

Craig sought clarification on whether or not we are calling our Zoom meetings Zonal meetings or not and the body agreed the Zoom calls are also Zonal Meetings.

Decisions from this discussion:

- **Body Agreed** the Zoom link will be sent to subscribers
- **Body Agreed** AZF will post submitted event flyers from within our zone and other world and zonal events.
- **Expenses – Budgeting** – prior decision \$750/yr for facilitator and Secretary, which is \$250/yr for each region if there are 6 of us. All regions have already approved this amount.

After much discussion it was decided this agenda item will carry over to our next meeting (see below).
- **Treasurer Commitment**
 - EPARNA suggested separating secretary and treasurer commitments for the future -- For now the agreement from the body was that it is too soon
 - CARNA feels the facilitator should handle the treasurer commitment - not the secretary
 - GPR: How can we just make sure the two new commitments get reimbursed and not keep adding issues that are not directly on our plate during this call. Billy proposed that we develop a process to cover the 2 new commitments prior to our next face to face meeting.
 - Randy: we already have a decision about how to reimburse facilitator and secretary – Budget needs to be developed, but not during this call.
 - Sherry wants a task group to develop a plan so we can outline our future needs and develop a budget for the future.
 - Darla: we do need to decide how to reimburse the secretary and facilitator in advance of them having to spend their own funds. Expenses are easy to predict.
 - Randy wants to see the amounts previously agreed upon to be documented. Discussion ensued regarding the breakdown of expenses.
 - Jeff P: The SEZF rationale for having Sec/Treas as one position consisted of two items: 1) Having one position saves money, 2) It's a good first step to



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possibly transition into two positions in the future. This incremental approach let those member regions in our zone, which were hesitant to see the zone become (or resemble) another level of service, take baby steps which might lead us forward to something different than what we were (a service body with no direction as to why we existed). Secretary voiced opinion regarding not inundating our regions with additional expenses and following the lead of the SEZF.

- Facilitator suggested the two items be combined under finances and come back in November with more info and a plan to present to our regions.
 - All members already have approval from their regions to allow for the agreed upon expenses of these two positions. The Question we need to consider for now is: Is the money to be budgeted or reimbursed? But ultimately both short-term goals and long-term goals need to be considered.

Decisions from this discussion: (carry this item over on our Nov. agenda)

- **Guidelines Update** (1:10 into the audio) (Craig, Kim, Merle)- Craig put the existing guidelines up on the screen and then the suggested copy of the new updated Guidelines.
 - Sherry brought a correction from the July 2018 minutes to our existing guidelines : (#7 in Craig's suggested updated copy of the guidelines) Decisions may be made on zoom calls providing each region has at least one representative on the call. *[May 2, 2018] - This needs to be updated from the July 2018 minutes to correctly read: Quorum on Zoom Calls equals 2/3 of the existing voting regions [July 2018]*
 - Sherry likes having the dates in the minutes (but use numerical format) (ex: *Quorum on Zoom Calls equals 2/3 of the existing voting regions [7/2018]*)
 - Sherry refreshed our memories regarding the procedure we had previously agreed upon for updating our guidelines. *[July 2018 minutes]: "Could keep new in red for year then update entire guidelines to only reflect current"*
 - Addendums can be added to the guidelines through simple majority –
 - We moved on to look at the modified guidelines as suggested by Craig, Merle, Kim.... Feedback is the format is clear and an improvement. Body agrees having all of it in one place is good. Sherry wants the body to decide on the amounts in Section 6 and insert that amount so we have a document that contains these amounts right now.
 - Approval on the package... and the existing info. Existing guidelines say that the Secretary will maintain an updated copy of the guidelines.. (#8) add that in.
 - Discussion on the suggestion to leave the duties separated the way the facilitator suggested in the document we were reviewing... no objections
 - Section 5 – updated e) to read Our goal is to have two events per year. – agreed
 - Section 5g) change to reflect decision from 2018 minutes: *Quorum on Zoom calls equals 2/3rds of the existing voting regions [July 2018]*
 - Put dates back in
 - Add the addendum for the current year's changes.
 - Items in red will disappear for now until the body is ready to discuss.
 - section 3: change interested others to observer participants – Kim agrees to



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- update that info on website or anywhere else it is used.
- change bullet points to letters and numbers? No, for now – number the lines until approved and turn version numbering on
- current guidelines say “Goal is to have *One Event Per Year*”. Change this to “two”.

Decisions from this discussion:

- **Body Agreed** We will combine the documents into one package and leave the dates of our updates/changes in the guidelines. Body approves in general the suggested draft with the changes agreed upon through discussion. Secretary will update the draft with the changes shown in the discussion and resubmit for approval.

World Services Webinar this weekend: Randy and Trish were selected. Trish is getting married. Christian had volunteered but, when contacted, informed the body he has to work. With consensus it was determined Merle will be taking Trish’s place.

8:55pm Facilitator asked if anyone had anything urgent to bring up

- Open Forum
 - Jeff P: SEZF Facilitator: requesting whether or not AZF would like to participate in a Zoom meeting of the zones for the purpose of collaboration. AZF Members will get feedback from their regions.
 - Billy asked if other observer participants would like to say anything. (the four others are part of their regional delegate team (Leah, Ted, Tony and Dwan) They were welcomed and they gave input and insight on the meeting and being able to be a part of.
 - Sherry wanted some basic instructions on how to get into and use the Zoom meeting put up on the website. Web meeting orientation being emailed to Kim from Darla. Kim will post on website
 - Merle and Randy will email everyone an update regarding this weekend’s meeting
- Future Agenda Items - Zoom call: <https://zoom.us/j/2292658822>- November 18th 7pm
 - Budget
 - Guidelines update
 - January meeting face to face
 - Update from Merle and Randy regarding this weekend’s meeting

Upcoming AZF Schedule



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- January 25-26, 2020 - Central Atlantic
- July 25, 2020 - Mountaineer
- January 30, 2021 -Chesapeake and Potomac
- July 31, 2021 - Eastern Pennsylvania
- January 29, 2022 - Free State
- July 30-31, 2022 - Greater Philadelphia