



Autonomy Zonal Forum

Minutes 11/28/2022

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	November 28, 2022 @ 7:00 PM – Virtual https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87212116010?pwd=VGFnV2lzTVI2eC8xL0YrWnZ6RGF5UT09
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Attendees: Note: All contact information is to be removed prior to publishing on the website

Facilitator	Rob U	P	FlyersScore@gmail.com	
Secretary	Vacant			
Treasurer	Vacant			
Central Atlantic RD	Randy D	P	Recovery274@gmail.com	
Central Atlantic RD Alt	Sherry V	P	svorbach@live.com	
Central Atlantic RDA 2	David H		brainmed@mac.com	
Chesapeake and Potomac RD	Patricia J		patriciageorgiapeach@gmail.com	
Chesapeake and Potomac RD Alt	Robert F	P	Robert.farah@gmail.com	
Freestate RD	John W	P	Jmwallace1995@gmail.com	
Freestate RD Alt	Vacant			
Greater Philadelphia RD	Clarence A	P	Llewtra1949@gmail.com	
Greater Philadelphia RD Alt	Ted D		Teddawson.td@gmail.com	

Others in attendance: Melvin S (AZF Facilitator nominee)

Meeting opened at 7:00 PM with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer

AGENDA

- **Election Cycle & Open Positions** – Facilitator
 - The primary focus of this meeting was to interview Melvin - Facilitator nominee
 - Rob asked Melvin questions approved by AZF 11-19-2018

NEW BUSINESS

- **Election Voting**
 - After completing the interview RD’s discussed how and when to vote. The AZF Guidelines do not say when to vote. The previous vote was taken some time before the Jan 2021 AZF meeting where the election results were announced. Robert commented that there should be another line in the Guidelines on when we vote. Rob noted we have a place on the agenda for nominations and elections. Clarence noted that the Guidelines were originally set-up to have the incoming Facilitator at the next AZF meeting. Rob had been attending consecutive AZF meetings before being elected Facilitator. Sherry noted AZF met virtually in early January 2021 to vote. Rob was announced as Facilitator Elect and attended Jan 2021 AZF meeting as an observer. Clarence noted that we only have one nominee – guidelines were setup for multiple nominees. Rob noted that we did not set this meeting to have a vote. Robert and Randy were leaning towards following the



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precedent and vote in early January. Rob noted that if we waited too long that might hamper Melvin's plans to attend. We agreed that we needed to have a vote before the Jan 2023 ZF meeting. Robert requested Rob to send out the interview notes and schedule a virtual meeting in January. Rob suggested having a straw poll tonight followed by a review in January and if there's no objection then the straw poll is final.

- Clarence made a proposal to conduct a vote at this meeting. Two (2) RD's were ready to vote tonight and (2) RD's were not ready to vote tonight – **NO CONSENSUS**
 - Discussed whether nominee needs to be present at Jan 2023 AZF meeting, which would entail giving him enough notice to make plans. RD's agreed that the nominee should attend the next AZF meeting either in-person or virtually.
 - Discussed voting via email but RD's questioned how to account for "no reply" – would this be an "Abstention" or "Present Not Voting"? Suggestion made to 1) Facilitator will email the interview notes to RD's a day or two after this meeting, 2) RD's will be given enough time to review the notes and come to a decision, then 3) RD's are responsible to send a reply with a vote - either YES to elect or NO to oppose prior to January 2, 2023. Facilitator will keep RD's abreast of the vote tally. When/if we achieve 3 of 4 RD's voting YES to elect then the determination on how to handle a "no reply" would be a mute issue. – **CONSENSUS**
- **AZF Web Site Issues**
 - Prior to this meeting the AZF web site was not running properly. Rob contacted the web admin. The issue was resolved, and the web site is back up again.
 - **Planning the next AZF Weekend**
 - Clarence requested details on the next AZF Weekend hosted by Central Atlantic Region so he can adequately plan. Randy will get that information to Clarence soon after this meeting. Budget at most \$139/night. Furthest venue anticipated is in Winchester, VA or Martinsburg, WV. Waiting on a 2023 regional budget approval 3rd week in December.
 - **Zonal Report to 2023 WSC**
 - Rob received a request from NAWS to submit a Zone report for WSC 2023. Rob will forward the email to RD's. Rob will also create a draft report for RD's to review prior to submission deadline Feb 15, 2023.

Meeting closed at 8:15 pm with a moment of silence followed by the 3rd Step Prayer

Next AZF Weekend: Hosted by the Central Atlantic Region January 28-29, 2023