

RCM REPORT (from RSC: 7/19/2019-7/21/2019):

Old business (tabled from May RSC):

-Proposal was submitted to reimburse the Bermuda fellowship \$850 to help offset their cost of sending a Drug Court Judge and D.O.C. Commissioner to the Florida Service Symposium. THIS PROPOSAL WAS NOT ADOPTED and was sent back to groups after being blocked due to a concern of violating the 6th tradition. May be (very likely) re-submitted at the next RSC. I'd like to get a group conscience from GSR's or ask them to take this back to groups. Pros and cons below.

-Pros: It was very beneficial for these individuals to see what we do; some of them had never heard of NA and did not recommend people to attend. They have since attended events that NA has had in that area and are very impressed with what we can offer addicts seeking recovery.

-Cons: It was blocked by Palm Coast area who stated it could violate spiritual principles and traditions. Other areas expressed similar concerns. The Coquina coast area voiced they believe it goes against tradition 6 because we are funding outside organizations to participate in NA events. It also was not clear what exactly the \$850 was for. Also was expressed one individual came out of pocket to do this; that it wasn't necessarily even promoted or approved to do so by the Fellowship there. After much discussion I requested this be tabled and sent back to groups; I did so because new information and perspectives had been brought to light that were not discussed previously, and these could affect my area's conscience and I felt as though I should bring this information back to carry that conscience to region. It was then voted on for support to do so, which was the consensus on what to do.

******This is something that I had brought up verbally when giving my report at area before, and was also included in my written report. I got no feedback from ANYONE regarding this; therefore my vote of confidence was what I had when I went to region. I bring this up because I believe they should be reimbursed due to the positive effect it had on the fellowship in that area. However, my job as RCM is to present all information to my area and get my areas conscience to carry to region. Many groups in this area do not want to support area or region due to what may be considered "frivolous spending". The reason this is a widely viewed perspective is because WE HAVE NO GROUP INPUT FROM THIS AREA, despite how often it is requested. If anyone would like to discuss this further, or take this information to their homegroups, please see me after area and I would be happy to assist. Some things we can do as an area is to bring a new proposal to region regarding this if the conscience is to support it, or we can bring up traditions/concepts/principles this violates in an attempt to keep the proposal from being adopted. At region we don't just vote yes or no; we use consensus based decision making. I would be happy to explain how that works to anyone who cares to understand.******

New Business (proposals from July RSC):

-Proposal was submitted by the secretary team to email RSC minutes instead of printing them to save money for the region. This was tabled to next RSC because we didn't have time to discuss it after talking about the old business. More info will be in RSC minutes or you can see me after for the specific proposal.

-Proposal submitted by PR Resource Coordinator and Alt Tech resource coordinator to be sent to Western Service Learning Days in Seattle in November. This was not adopted because our regional delegates already attend this, and these members could potentially room with them which would obviously save money. It was also expressed that some of this information may be streamed, so that attendance would not matter. To see specific proposal see me or RSC minutes.

-Proposal was brought about by the Treasurer Team to change our Regions prudent reserve from \$8,000 to \$11,000 dollars. This proposal was adopted. This will affect the amount our region sends to NAWs because we will be putting back more money. We gave a \$10,000 donation to World after this region.

General Discussion Notes and Reports from Areas/Admin:

-PR Resource Coordinators: They discussed some of the presentations they have given and showed us what they had setup for those presentations.

Iran: One thing I found very intriguing was some information they brought up about PR efforts in Iran. It was brought up that women are scared to attend meetings and functions due to fear their anonymity will be broken. They also do not change the word "God" in their literature even given the difference in religious beliefs and laws. They carry NA meetings in to over 1250 different facilities; including over 235 mental health facilities. All correctional institutions in the country have NA presentations, H&I or their own meetings. One member even learned English by coordinating with a member of the World Service Board over the phone. Things like this make carrying our message to other parts of the World easier and more successful. There is an article online about the fellowship in Iran that sounds quite interesting.

DRT and MAT: This was brought up because many professionals and individuals who have attended PR presentations or talked to professionals who have attended PR presentations have talked about how people on these programs have been singled out and not accepted as members of NA, had their clean time questioned, among other things. Things discussed in this discussion were that NA has no opinion on outside issues; that we are not doctors and it is not up to us to determine someone's personal recovery. It was also brought up how mental health medications were viewed the same way at one point. I personally have experience with this and the "abstinence from all drugs" point of view, and taking that quote to the extreme and refusing medications resulted in me waking up in the morning with years clean and contemplating suicide on a frequent basis, among other things. It was noted that DRT and MAT are not going anywhere, and that as long as members have the desire to stop using we should accept them as members. That being said, Medically Assisted Recovery Anonymous is a fellowship of its own; in part from being outcasted in other fellowships.

-FRCNA: Many members had approached me about FRCNA, and how they operate and the policy of it being a paid event only. I was unsure in many ways about this, and it was brought up at region. Most people were confused as to FRCNA being considered an "outside enterprise"

because they are technically a separate entity, and how the 6th tradition would apply (due to them using the NA name).

Tax/Insurance reasons: A member of the FRC Board explained to us that FRCNA uses a separate bank account and does business as a corporation for business and tax reasons. They are a not for profit organization classified as a 501c7 and are working to become a 501c3. The primary reason the paid only policy was put into effect is for insurance reasons. If an unregistered person is at the convention and they get injured and say they are there for FRCNA, the hotel may be liable and sue FRCNA. We would lose any insurance claims or protection because we would be breaking the terms of the agreement (the insurance will only cover a certain number of people for an event, and the insurance is required by the hotel. If people are unregistered it would be argued they could be outside of the number of people protected). A single instance of this could bankrupt FRCNA (who usually have less than 50k in their bank account at any given time).

Regarding 6th tradition: The FRC Board is a service board who were created by NA, who ARE directly responsible to those they serve. This is because FRCNA is accountable to RSC, who is accountable to areas, who are accountable to groups. We delegate to them the responsibilities and authority to provide the services we requested that they do. When they make decisions, these decisions are communicated to Region and are submitted in reports that are available to anyone (and that I usually submit with my report or attach the link to the minutes). If we have issues with these decisions, we DO KNOW ABOUT THEM far enough in advance to challenge their decisions or request that they do things differently (which I have witnessed happen). Regarding the paid registrations; it had been clearly stated on the website, registration forms, by me in my report, by GSRs, by other addicts, and by me alone at meetings. This had been the case for almost an entire YEAR before the convention.

Facts: No newcomers were turned away. Newcomers were considered those with 30 days or less (this is being raised to 90 days for next year). They did offer day registrations at this years FRCNA if they were requested, and will be offering them next year (which includes Saturday AND Sunday). The badges that were given had different colored lanyards for NEWCOMERS ONLY (even ones who paid registration). This was done so members could give them extra attention; as well as help the FRCNA board members give out Comedy Show tickets and Banquet tickets to our new members. There was barely anyone who showed up that was referred to the Marathon meetings. Most people who came who “could not afford to pay” were people who just didn’t want to (there were members who said they couldn’t afford it who ended up paying with large bills and requesting change). Even some other members who were short called friends and family or other members who were there who helped them pay their registration. ATTENDANCE WAS VIRTUALLY THE SAME.

Donations: FRCNA donated \$10,000 to region after the convention.

-BMLT: Region would like input from areas about joining the South East Zonal BMLT. We are the only area in our region who is not participating. Basically the Florida region does not list meetings that use literature that is not NAWS approved literature on their website, because they don’t define them as NA meetings. The reason we haven’t joined in this venture is because the

SEZF BMLT does not filter these meetings out and Region does not want to participate for that reason. The BMLT is basically a system that links our meetings with other regions' meetings (when you use the map feature it would show meetings further out than the area you search for and may include meetings in a list that are close by a town but may technically be a different region). See me for more info.

ALTERNATE TREASURER AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE POSITIONS ARE OPEN

******I also have contact information for all the resource coordinators and RCMs from other areas. If anyone has any questions or would like input from regional PR, H&I, Corrections, FRCNA, RSO, or the RD/AD team (alternate and regional delegate who are our regions reps to NAWS), get in touch with me and I would be happy to get you in touch. ******

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