

Convention Committee Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2012

Opened 2:08 PM: Serenity Prayer

Twelve Traditions: Mary C.

Twelve Concepts: Charlotte D.

Chair Report – Rick M.: Rick introduced the executive committee; Chris M. – Vice Chair; Terri H. – Treasurer; Kathy W. – Secretary. The chair also discussed the purpose and goal of this convention committee which is the single purpose of unity and that we as members should have fun.

The executive committee read and discussed the requirements/qualifications for each sub-committee as per the WSO Convention Committee Guidelines. A copy of these guidelines will be made available at the next committee meeting.

The chair discussed financial issues. Rick quoted information in the guidelines that stated that this is an event that costs money and pays for itself. It is not meant to be a fundraising event for the corresponding region or area hosting the event. Lori W. questioned this with regards to region and how it has operated in the past. Kathy W. discussed that the seed money is 6000.00 and any profit above the seed money went to WSO (10% of the profit) and to the Alaska Region to be put into the following year's budget. There was a lot of discussion about making the convention pay for itself as well as being affordable for members. It was brought up that if we do the footwork the money takes care of itself.

Questions were brought up about clean time requirements and how could we nominate or volunteer if we didn't have the requirements. The guidelines states that a minimum of 2 years is required for each sub-committee and that this particular committee was requiring that a minimum of 5 years of recovery for sub-committees that would be handling money, i.e. Merchandising, Entertainment and Fundraising as well as Registration.

The question was brought up if the committee would waive clean time. The answer is no, there are plenty of members with the recommended amount of clean time that this wouldn't be an issue and that members that didn't meet the clean time requirements should still get involved with the subcommittee that they were interested in.

Nominations:

Catelyn suggested that each committee chairperson be committed and passionate about the service position they are interested in.

This convention committee will be accepting nominations/volunteers for each sub-committee chair for two weeks, January 15, 2012 and January 22, 2012. Voting will take place as soon as all qualifications have been brought to the committee on January 22, 2012.

Hotels and Hospitality:

Tony L.: 19 years clean; GSR at the group level multiple times; RD for Alaska Region; Literature Chair for Anchorage Area; H&I 17 years; Convention Committee in every capacity except Hotels & Hospitality and Arts & Graphics; willing to make the commitment, knowledge of the 12 steps and 12 traditions, have a sponsor and work steps. Home Group is Walk Your Talk.

Fundraising and Entertainment:

Melissa C.: 23 months clean; Have a sponsor and sponsees and am working on my 2nd set of steps. I have helped out with several entertainment events including the 2011 prom, Halloween event, 2011 NA birthday. I have had several other service positions at the group level, area level and through H&I. I have an continue to study the traditions and most importantly I am willing and dedicated to do whatever it takes to fulfill this positions. I know how to talk to people calmly, respectfully and peacefully. I work good under pressure, have good leadership qualities.

Chris: undecided

Convention Information:

Isaac H.: I have a sponsor, I'm the GSR for Back to the Basics. I'm working steps and have 2 years clean. November 9, 2009 is my clean date. I'm really good at networking and have friends in recovery in most large cities in Alaska.

Registration:

Charlotte D.: 13 years clean; GSR; Area Treasurer, Area Secretary, Regional Treasurer, Convention Vice-Chair, Programming Chair; working knowledge of steps and traditions; accounting background & computer literate.

Arts & Graphics:

Dave L.: 15 years clean; Area level – Group GSR, Group Treasurer, Area Chair; Regional level – H&I, Convention Chair, Convention Vice-Chair, Convention Entertainment, Convention Arts & Graphics, member of Merchandise and Arts & Graphics.

Programming:

Lori H.: 9 ½ years clean; worked several sets of steps, one set of traditions and one set of concepts. I have a sponsor that has a sponsor and I am a sponsor. Group level – coffee maker, secretary, literature, opener, GSR, Prom committee; Area level – Entertainment committee, H&I Panel; Regional – ARCNA Chair 2010

D.J.: 22 months clean; I have a sponsor who has a sponsor, actively working a set of steps, familiar with the steps, traditions and concepts Group level – GSR, Opener/closer; literature chair, coffee maker; Area level – Alternate secretary and the Activities secretary. Have computer skills.

Merchandise:

Mary C.: 12 years clean, I have a sponsor, I have knowledge of and am working the 12 steps of Narcotics Anonymous. I've been Vice-Chair of Area. Previous convention experience on the registration committee and merchandise committee. I have been the merchandise sub-committee chair. I have held service positions at the group level.

Tami M.: 9 years clean, 3 terms of Area activities chair, currently Area Secretary, Regional PI committee, GSR, coffee maker and ashtray cleaner. Prom committee chair. I have a sponsor and am a sponsor, work steps, working knowledge of traditions. Helped in convention entertainment for one year.

Chair asked for any concerns, questions or comments. A concern was brought up about a member's ability to be accountable for money. Terri assured everybody present that there will be systems in place to handle the money issues. There was discussion about this. The chair re-iterated that members should have no fear of reprisal of bringing a concern or issue to the committee.

It was asked if any of the nominated/volunteers had issues working on the committee if they were not voted as the chair. Everybody said they would work with the other.

The question was asked about the meeting schedule for the committee. This committee will meet weekly for the next three weeks then monthly until 2 months before the convention and then it will go back to weekly. This committee will meet 1/22/2012 to finish nominations and voting; 1/29/2012 for sub-committee chairs to bring their meeting schedules and project budget information. The meetings will be at 2:00 pm at Peggy's Restaurant.

Howie brought up that to the future sub-committee chairs that they should not be afraid to ask for help if they get overwhelmed. It was re-iterated that any member could participate in multiple sub-committees.

The chair Pro-Temp Catelyn to get the first fundraiser started on 2/12/2012 at St. Patrick's Church.

Meeting closed at 3:30 pm.