

PLAIN STATES ZONAL
FORUM

GUIDELINES
AND
POLICY

Revised March 2009

1. SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE FROM:

- a. A loving higher power
- b. 12 Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous
- c. 12 Concepts of Narcotics Anonymous
- d. PSZF guidelines and policy
- e. A Guide to World Services in Narcotics Anonymous
- f. A Guide to Local Service in Narcotics Anonymous
- g. Appropriate subcommittee handbooks or guidelines that are conference approved and current

2. MEETINGS:

- a. There shall be a minimum of two meetings per year
 - i. Workshops and projects on Saturday
 - ii. General business and reports on Sunday – if possible
- b. Host region's delegate or alternate will facilitate – this will include acquisition of meeting space, entertainment, food and supplies deemed necessary for the event to be self supporting and meet the needs of that particular function
- c. If a need arises, additional meetings may occur
- d. All meetings are non-smoking

3. MEMBERSHIP:

- a. Any member of N.A. may attend and participate in discussions
- b. Any member may introduce business by way of the facilitator
- c. Any member may participate in the decision making process (This is at the discretion of the member regional delegates)

4. OFFICERS:

- a. Facilitator - conduct general business meeting
 - b. Secretary - will record and distribute minutes by way of the communications officer
 - c. Communications Officer - will receive and distribute all correspondence to the participant list and be responsible for sending out material to those outside of our zone (i.e. WSO, other zones and regions)
 - d. Treasurer – maintain finances
- Note: Secretary/Communication Officer/Treasurer/Facilitator shall be elected every two years. The secretary and communications officer may be the same individual

5. ELECTIONS:

- a. Vacant positions shall be taken back to Groups, Areas, and Regions when possible
- b. All candidates should have the following:
 - i. A working knowledge of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Narcotics Anonymous
 - ii. Willingness to serve
 - iii. Willingness to give time and resources necessary to fulfill duties required
 - iv. Previous Zonal participation (may be waived)
- c. In addition the following requirements are needed:
 - i. Facilitator – (5 years clean time)
 - ii. Zonal Secretary (3 years clean time)
 - iii. Communications Officer (3 years clean time)
 - iv. Treasurer (5 years clean time)
 - v. Subcommittee Chairs (3 years clean time)
- d. Duty related skills may be appropriate i.e. Secretary, Treasurer
- e. Removal of officers: See Section 7 “Business Conduct”

6. SUBCOMMITTEES:

- a. The Zone may form subcommittees to help accomplish tasks assigned by the Zone
- b. Subcommittees shall perform duties in accordance with Zonal policies and the spiritual guidelines outlined in Section 1
- c. Standing subcommittees shall include (if necessary) Public Information, Hospitals and Institutions, Literature, Archives, etc.
- d. Adhoc committees may also be formed at the discretion of the Zonal members
- e. Specific duties for the committees and their specific requirements: (See Section 10 “Subcommittee Guidelines”)

7. BUSINESS CONDUCT:

- a. To aid Groups, Areas, and Regions in their primary purpose to carry the message of Narcotics Anonymous
- b. That all points of view be heard
- c. That spiritual, financial and duty related accountability be reported each Zonal business meeting.
- d. To accomplish an expeditious forum, an agenda must be followed
- e. Identification of topics, discussion and solutions or decisions must be handled in a timely fashion

- f. All business is done in a consensus based decision making process
- g. Elections and financial issues will be in old business
- h. There will be a quorum of 4 of the 6 member Regions in order to conduct business
- i. Failure to attend 2 consecutive meetings by any elected officer will necessitate their replacement
- j. To encourage responsible behavior at each event

8. FUNDS:

- a. The Zonal Treasurer is accountable for the receiving of monies and expenditures of the Zone
- b. That the Zone is self supporting
- c. That a checking account is maintained and all funds be processed through this account
- d. All funds over \$1,000 be sent to the World Service Office
- e. A check will be written to WSO within one week of a Zonal meeting
- f. Only donations from Narcotics Anonymous members, groups, areas, and regions will be accepted.

9. ZONAL MEETING, FUNCTION, FUNDS GUIDELINES

- a. Start up funds for the weekend event is \$200
- b. Only Zonal money is to be used at these events
- c. If the RD or RDA needs more than \$200 they must request it from the Treasurer – Treasurer must obtain approval from 2 members of the Zonal Board to forward the requested money if the funds are available and approval must be documented (This is in keeping the Zonal events self-supporting and not having to pay back regions for Zonal events)
- d. Zonal meetings will be 2-3 day events
 - i. Friday night recovery meeting
 - ii. Saturday – workshops, issues that your region is dealing with
 - iii. Saturday night – dance, speaker, auction, raffle, etc. (hosting RD and RDA to plan)
 - iv. Sunday morning – Zonal business meeting
- e. Treasurer to bring \$100 in cash to Saturday night event for change for the door, raffle, etc.
- f. If Zone supplies money for meals, coffee, etc. this money comes back to the Zone (If a region, group, etc. supplied the money for these items, the money will go back to them)

10. SUBCOMMITTEE GUIDELINES

******NOTE:** This area of the Zonal Guides will developed as needed.