

Region 6 Business Meeting – April 20, 2013

In my committee meeting PI/PO (Public Information – Professional Outreach) we spent most of our time reviewing requests from various intergroups who had Blitzed Region 6 requesting help with the cost of public awareness. I learned that there is a form available to the intergroups to apply for such aid. These requests for aid (PI Blitz Proposals) must be received by Region 6, 60 days prior to the Fall Business Meeting or in the present case August 7<sup>th</sup>. I could not, however, find this 60 day limit written anywhere. The forms are not easy to find. From the Region 6 website click on “Spring Assembly Documents,” scroll down, and you’ll find the PI Blitz Proposal and the PI Blitz Report under “Other Documents.” Look for more information about this in the upcoming issue of “The Messenger.”

I was particularly impressed with the knowledge and skill levels of the committee members. John O, our Chairman, and Evan L., Secretary and Laura R, mentor, kept the meeting moving and informative and enabled us to accomplish a great deal in the time allotted. By the conclusion of the meeting we had done everything expected of us and Evan had emailed the minutes of the meeting to everyone needing them.

I learned that many of the 42 intergroups in Region 6 are suffering with declining attendance and available capital. Some feel that competition with commercial weight-loss programs, other twelve-step overeating groups, and an increase in bariatric surgeries account for our decline. Others feel that our welcome to newcomers and our ability to make them feel comfortable is insufficient. After attending the Region 6 Spring Meeting, I think our inability to demonstrate physical recovery at the service level may be at least part of the cause. Tradition 11 says that “our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion” – I noted that the number of our “trusted servants” demonstrating physical recovery was not a high percentage. This fact sort of makes the expression, “if you want what we have, you’ll do what we do,” a moot issue. I plan to redouble my efforts to continue to lead by example and carry the message of abstinence, which I still believe to be our primary purpose.

The afternoon session was filled with introductions of Officers, Service Volunteers and New Delegates, followed by Officer and Committee Reports. After a short break we voted on 7 motions which took about 2 hours under the guidance of our Chairperson Diana G. This was followed by a 45 minute workshop on Sponsorship presented by Region 6 Trustee Karin RH. We were provided with Sponsorship Kits and told by Karin that the first 12 intergroups that held Sponsorship Workshops would receive up to \$200 from Region 6 to help pay for them. We also had a PowerPoint presentation on sponsorship.

We had a PowerPoint tribute and moment of silence for Mary Rose D, our former Trustee, who recently passed.

The more specific, minutes of the meeting, will be available on-line.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill P, Region 6 Representative