

Portland Area of Narcotics Anonymous Board of Directors Meeting

December 22, 2007

Paul, PASC Chair, opened the meeting at 12:05 p.m. with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

In attendance were:

Paul, Chair	Wayne, PASC Vice Chair
Michele, Secretary	Jim B, Interim PI Chair
Ron, Treasurer	Eric M., Alternate RCM
Eric P, Activities Chair	Bill
Steve G., Webhost	Doug
Lynda, Hotline Chair	Debra

The Board of Director's met in special session to prepare the 2008 PASC Budget, discuss the Area Planning Tool, taking an Area Inventory and preparing the Bylaws for ratification.

Budget

Ron, PASC Treasurer, distributed the proposed 2008 Budget, alongside the 2007 budget, versus actual expenditures.

Ron explained that the down side of the budget is that it does not balance expenses with anticipated 7th Tradition donations. The budgeted expenses are about \$3,800 over projected income.

"We get a little extra in the budget here and there, but we can't count on that," Ron said.

Paul, PASC Chair, said that this is just a budget to go by. If you look at the 2007 budget, the actual expenditures are much lower than the budgeted amounts.

Eric P, Activities Chair, said that the Area needs to account for the increase in cost of living, for supplies.

Paul, PASC Chair, said the Area is going in the right direction.

Ron, PASC Treasurer, said he is not in favor of this budget going out. Ron said the expenses should be closer to projected incomes. This budget puts it on the subcommittees to reign in their spending from the budgeted amounts. In reality, they don't have that much money to spend.

Paul, PASC Chair, said that all of the expenses in the budget are approved expenses in the PASC Bylaws.

Doug said that he agrees that this “projected stuff” should be more in line with reality. For instance, Doug asked why the Hotline budget increased by \$600.

Ron explained that in response to a recent motion, the Hotline budget has two components. One part is the AnswerNet, which groups agreed should be outside the \$125 monthly expenditures allowed the Subcommittee in the bylaws.

“We have to pay the phone service, no matter what,” Ron said.

Last year during the budgeting process, the Hotline Subcommittee chair said the subcommittee would agree to spend less than the bylaws allow, based on the Area’s financial crisis. This year, the subcommittees came to the budgeting meetings and said they want the whole amount they are allowed in the bylaws.

Doug asked Lynda if Hotline spends \$125 per month.

Lynda said that she brings in receipts for anything she spends.

Paul, PASC Chair, said the PASC Proposed 2008 Budget would go back to the groups for ratification.

Area Planning Tool

Paul, PASC Chair, initiated conversation by saying that the GSRs should take the Area Planning Tool back to their groups to discuss what the groups think about the area. That the BOD should just ask for the inventory part to come back next month at the January PASC. He suggested appointment people to an ad-hoc committee to conduct the Area inventory systematically and orderly.

Jim B., Interim PI Chair, said the new NA Public Relations Handbook has a PowerPoint Presentation to assist Areas in working through the Area Planning Tool.

Paul said he just needs someone to spearhead the process. H acknowledged that Jim has more knowledge about this than himself. He suggested that the inventory part go out to active members at home groups; perhaps as part of the business meeting. So every participant gets to fill one out. Working through an Area Inventory is important, Paul said.

Wayne, PASC Vice Chair, said “we’ve already addressed this Area Inventory.” At the recent workshop, Michael M. offered his services. It starts by doing the GSR Social thing.

Jim B., Interim PI Chair, said a session agenda for completing the Area Planning Tool is more than two hours.

Wayne suggested that the PASC use the Planning Tool, the system for coming up with solutions, during the GSR Social.

Jim B., Interim PI Chair, said the BOD should be aware that discussion on the Conference Agenda Report will be underway soon, including revision of the Basic Text. We need to be ready to vote on that in April. There's a lot of stuff to cover in that report, Jim said. It's the biggest I've seen.

Wayne, Vice Chair, asked how it works with the money the PASC has set aside for the CAR report.

Ron, PASC Treasurer, said the money is for printing copies of the report to send out with GSRs. With the size of this year's report, we might have to set aside some extra money, he said.

The process will start January 19 and 20, when GSRs will meet at the Best Western in Salem to discuss the CAR report. In February, the PASC will distribute CAR reports during the Service Committee Meeting. In March, the PASC will conduct a workshop to discuss and vote on the CAR report. In April, GSRs will take their votes to the GSR Assembly and the Area will vote at Region.

Wayne, Vice Chair, stressed that during the PASC workshop, it is important that each addict in attendance will have one vote. "I think we want every single person's input," he said, "especially in things as important as the general text."

Paul, PASC Chair, said that since we have a plan for the CAR report, with a vote in March, the Area needs to start now with the Area Planning Tool. Step one will be the GSR Social.

Other business

Jim, Interim PI Chair, said that there is movement to create a public relations committee, consisting of Hotline, PI, and Outreach. The three subcommittees could meet at the same place and time, each have its own business, then come together to discuss common issues.

Wayne, PASC Vice-Chair, said this has been discussed with Hotline; and several times with PI. In addition, Wayne suggested that the GSR Orientation could be moved to the public relations committee, so new GSRs can see that more is going on in the Portland Area; they could get a bigger picture of service.

Ron, PASC Treasurer, suggested that the PASC draft a letter in support of the other areas.

The BOD meeting closed at 1:05 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.