

Texas State Convention of Narcotics Anonymous 6

Convention Committee

The Final Report

Good Afternoon All,

This is our final report to be offered unless there are any questions that we need to follow up upon. Each committee person submitted a final report. The treasurer will report on all financial matters.

Feedback:

The feedback from members of the fellowship was very positive. Many members stated that this was the best convention they have attended. Many members stated the Texas State Convention is the most loving, caring, and relaxed convention they attend. I am still getting positive phone calls and responses from members in the fellowship. Our chairs are receiving the same responses. We are not in competition with each other. So these responses are person's personal experience and preferences.

The inclusiveness of the recovery community was remarkable. Treatment facilities were very grateful for being invited to the event. We gave away a case of Basic Texts. We had a member donate one case that we will be pass on to the next convention.

I can share that we almost tripled our room nights. I want to say we were at 220 to 250. Our block was 100. Pre-registration had us at 136 registrations. We had to creative in creating more packets. I know we exceeded expectations at the convention. All seats were full at the Saturday Night speaker and there were 1000 to 1100 seats available.

The auction pushed us over financially for the convention which raised a little over \$5,000.

We had ten fundraisers this year. Dallas Area had two groups participate Central and Work the Steps and Live. Fort Worth Area had two groups participate Expect a Miracle and Back to Basics. Texarkana Area had an event. Tejas, El Paso, and Heart of Texas participated. We received great support from Best Little Region....Thank you all. This was truly a state wide event.

Some of the committee members made recommendations for future conventions. Our Registration Chair recommends the Advisory Board come in a few months prior rather than a few days prior. The experience, strength, and hope would have been tremendous and the process possibly could have been smoother and not so hectic. This was the consensus of many of the committee chairs. In the realm of continuity, the

advisory board is the most consistent variable in the equation, there the suggestion is valid.

From the notestaker, she recommends maintaining calendar during the year for the area and committee to stay on task. This was advantageous for committee. Additionally, keep good archives of meeting minutes. We missed a few months due to hectic schedules; this brings the notestaker to another recommendation. She recommends to not over extending yourself. Notestaker is like the business manager of the committee. She had a huge responsibility.

Another recommendation, from the co-facilitator, we recommend that vendors are considered carefully including checking references. Offers come from across the United States, and they are aggressive. Many send contracts with the offers and have deadlines. We suggest three recent references are requested. Another, demonstrate more creativity with entertainment. We followed suit of previous conventions and did not consider other avenues.

From the chair, the convention seems to building in momentum and more preparation and guidance is needed. Create a time line for the convention that begins as soon as the bid is accepted by the advisory board. Offer recommendations for hotel selection. I felt as though the hotel was picking convention rather than the convention picking the hotel. Thank God, Waco and Fort Worth Chairs solicited their help and walked with me through the process. Additionally, the advisory board chair was available many times during the transactions. We have six years of experience to pass on the El Paso and Austin. We only keep what we have by giving it away. Another suggestion, the next year's chair attends the last three months of committee meetings of the upcoming convention committee. If at all possible, reimbursement by the advisory board up to 50% of expenses. This is an invaluable investment and learning experience for the chair. For the chair, to shadow during the convention and have one on one time is sometimes not possible. I felt I neglected El Paso's Chair. Another suggestion, update the duties and responsibilities of the convention committee.

I hope this is helpful. Thank you very much...I have a tremendous archive of reports that is very disorganized. I have merchandise to pass on to the next chair. Inventory will be provided to the secretary.

Ruby Bouie

Outgoing Chair TSCNA 6