

Round Table Topic: Treasurers

Date: 2 March 2019

Moderator: Sharron S **Secretary:** Not identified

Identified Topics:

1. **Change in tax and banking laws, D.B.A. issues.** Claudia - Everything has been going as it has for years. EIN, 501c3 checking and savings at Wells Fargo. Suddenly formal letters they've had to become stricter Nevada State Assembly of AA, couldn't accept checks made out to "Area 42." Had to meet at Clark County, was pretty easy. Cost \$20, got to become officially DBA "Area 42." Rich - We get email from the bank, District wanted to use Area's Tax ID. Asked what do Districts do? Josh - A lot of Groups and Districts have been having trouble who have had EINs for a long time, haven't kept up with EIN annual requirements postcard, costs &800 to reinstate, rotation is a challenge, \$5,000 threshold. Pay \$13 bank fee. Eddy - Club account don't cost too much money. Sharron - Highly recommend separating personal from Group/District funds. Banks have frozen funds because moving more than \$5,000. Frank - Consistency - tax ID - needs to be consistent with tax ID and bank accounts, Small banks might not have same scrutiny. 501c3 is separate process, not required for opening bank account. We pay accountant to do taxes, need to keep up with funding. Ruben - Need to get tax ID, have to be owner of account for two years, then can transfer. Paul - By the time switch happened needed letter to change signatures needed in minutes to approve the change was in compliance with the District. Laura - The problem might be caused by anonymity - not wanting people to put Alcoholics Anonymous on bank account. Claudia - Follow guidelines on what to do with the state.

2. **How do you project budgets?** Eddy - Treasurers elected and appointed officers. Officers have discretionary funds but two appointed positions - webmaster and archives that get sent to national workshops. Some other positions asked Finance Committee for funds, and finance said it's b to figure it out. We formed an ad hoc committee for Public Information and Corrections. Courtney - Has 11 appointees who decide who and how. Sue - Budget meetings. If people want to ask for money they come to the meeting and ask. We have PRAASA line items. People make expense requests at 2nd Assembly by Finance Committee. We may approve requests if we can afford it. They take turns - If CPC went last year, let another committee go this year. Rich - I was past Finance Committee chair in Area 09. In Area 09, there are liaisons in the Finance Committee to other committees. Standing committees get a \$400 annual budget. We encourage them to request funds when needed. We have a Prudent Reserve. We encourage participation when more funds are available. If we're doing things money comes. Financial decisions come from the Assembly. Joshua - Budgeting process mirrors what Rich said. Budget is \$59K, projected \$55K, Group decided this was good. We have line items for conferences. People request funds and go to Groups to solicit funds when needed. New Groups are asking what they're getting back. Trip report - paragraph where do you go, what did you spend, and learn? We fall short of follow-up. Fellowship has not let us down in contributions. Claudia - Committees request budgets that include conferences. Budgets get approved as a whole. Communicating back from conferences is a good thing. Michelle - Funds attendance at PRAASA to send GSRs and others. Election Assemblies are great opportunities to give reports. Sharron - Blog about events and websites, accountability is very important. If there is a level of accountability and money gets tight, people behave differently. Joshua - Written or blog is good. Consistently, year after year budget same amount to workshops. Budget request form - did a

workshop for committees on how to fill out forms and request budget. District and Group treasurers attend workshops to talk about EINs and other issues. Courtney – Asked how many fully funded? About half. Laura – There was insufficient funding for everyone to attend this event. Standing Committee chair got only a portion of the amount needed to attend. PRAASA is tricky because it moves around. Eddy – If we set dollar amounts does it set expectations that you will have to pay out of pocket, does that cut people out? We couldn't afford PRAASA five years ago. Michelle – Institutional memory - in a lot of levels we don't pass along institutional memory (Groups, Districts, Area). In Area 08 with Joel, we learned how to support institutional memory. We didn't want mileage money; were taught that we needed to set a precedent for the next person. In Area 42 a lot of institutional memory has been lost. Monty – Area chair is not fully funded to be here. We chose to split between chair and alternate (by Tradition). Has always gotten a position paid except Utah. Makes decision part of meeting. Frank – Do people send excess funds to GSO? 8 of 72 said yes. Eddy – In past years we have contributed \$10K to GSO. Sharron – We are self-supporting through active contributions. Courtney – Accounts payable as alternate treasurer come from 7th Tradition. We give presentations at Districts, workshops. We have seen an increase in contributions even since doing these presentations, which has worked well these past few years. Eddy – Added multiple ways to contribute on the website. Eddy – We use Square and Stripe. Sharron – Depends on website tech.