

Thought Force Topic: Hotel Oversight and Feedback

Background Information: Trying to shorten the meetings is something that has shown up again and again in Area inventories. To do that we need to use the time efficiently. Eating together can give us the opportunity to keep working if we need to. This can shorten the time we have to spend in the meeting room. We are experimenting with this at AWSC in 2015 (Feb & Aug).

Historical Information: We reimburse all members of AWSC \$10 for breakfast, \$15 for lunch and \$20 for dinner. The hotel meals are slightly more expensive, but we can also save on room nights (currently \$95 per night, probably going up in the next contract negotiation). In addition, there is an intangible savings of our time that does not show up in the dollar amounts.

Financial Information: Current reimbursement guidelines: Breakfast \$10, Lunch \$15, Dinner \$20. Room \$95. Gas and tolls.

Meals at the Sheraton run roughly: Lunch \$21 and Dinner \$40

Creating meals at the AWSC meetings will give us an extra 4 hours to work which allows us to shorten the work day on Saturday, and gives people the flexibility to come for one day if that is necessary.

Charge of the Thought Force: Brainstorm ideas about this kind of change. Of course you will take up the money differential, but try to focus on the other aspects ... shortening the meeting, building fellowship but recognizing the demands on people's time, etc.

Five KBDM Questions

1. What do we know about our membership's needs, wants and preferences that is relevant to this topic?
 - Employed v. unemployed/retired
 - 24 hour should be Saturday and Sunday not Friday
 - Keep costs down, be prudent
 - Prefer the eating in experiment
 - Keep it simple
 - Include a simple breakfast
2. What do we know about our resources (finances, member participation, etc) that is relevant to this topic?
 - Area 9 is very stable financially
 - Not wasting time or money
 - More participation is good
 - Maybe slow the process down
3. What do we know about the current realities (membership, culture, etc) and our fellowship's environment (technology, geography, demographic, etc) that is relevant to this topic?
 - we are expected to rely and use technology for reservations and coordinator reports
 - Prepare before the meeting
 - Reservations system is faulty
 - Slow response time if unable to use technology
4. What are the ethical implications of our choices – what are the pros and cons? Will our decision be consistent with our spiritual principles?

January 21, 2015

Thought Force held February 7, 2015

- AWSC is like a job – serving Area, Districts and Groups
- We need to do our jobs
- We need to be prudent with money and time
- The more cost-effective we are, the more in the spirit of the program we stay

5. What do we wish we knew, but don't? (use the back of the sheet if necessary)

- Take a survey of the members
- Get the feelings of the members
- Perhaps use website for survey

January 21, 2015

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