

NSRF Centers' Council Meeting
January 17, 2009
Houston, Texas

Planning team: Susan Adams, Kevin Fahey, Steven Strull, Heidi Vosekas, and Diana Watson. Additional AC members Daniel Baron, Angela Breidenstein, Wendy Brannen, and France Hensley joined the planning team in Houston.

Present: Susan Adams, Daniel Baron, Fred Bay, Annmarie Boudreau, Angela Breidenstein, Magdi Castañeda, Deb Christenson, Jay Davis, Kevin Fahey, Christopher Haskins, Frances Hensley, Sue Horan, Donna Isaacs, Chris Jones, Gene Kadish, Ileana Liberatore, P. Tim Martindell, Mary Matthews, Brooke Merryfield, Jonett Miniell, William Pollock, Donna Reid, Eve Rifkin, Marlene Roy, Steven Strull, Heidi Vosekas, Diana Watson, Connie Zimmerman Parrish

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Story of NSRF
3. Developing a shared Understanding – Chicago Recommendations
4. Next Steps from the Accountability Council
 - a. Memorandum of Agreement
 - b. Organizational chart
 - c. Task force – membership council
 - d. Governing board
 - e. Continued work of subcommittees on an accountability system for NSRF

Welcome and Introductions

Quick go-around to introduce ourselves and a quick agenda review. This Centers' Council meeting occurred just after the Winter Meeting in Houston. It was a continuation of a series of conversations begun at the AC meeting in Chicago last June, the ad-hoc Centers' meeting that was convened in Chicago in December and moved us toward our upcoming meeting in May.

Story of NSRF

Steven and others told the story of NSRF from their perspectives. We spoke of transitions from a program to a movement to a volunteer organization to a membership organization; while maintaining certain aspects of all. We also recognized we went through a significant transition when we moved from Annenberg to Harmony. We acknowledged that when we transitioned from Annenberg to HEC it took us some time to form the Accountability Council and understand ourselves in a new context. As we have now moved to a membership organization, we have collectively come to understand that we must now transition again so that our governance and accountability structures match our new realities so that we can continue to work toward realizing our mission.

Developing a shared Understanding – Chicago Recommendations and next steps from the Accountability Council

- Diana gave an overview of our meeting in Chicago and provided context for the recommendations that the AC acted upon.

- Frances gave an overview of the work of the Accountability Council including actions on NSRF governance, development of a representative membership council, and the construction of a draft memorandum of agreement outlining potential for our organizational structure and fiscal oversight. Additionally, Frances reported on the progress of the AC sub-committee on the development of an accountability system for NSRF.

For additional information on the actions of the AC including the minutes from the AC meeting please refer to the following:

January 2009 - Introduction to Accountability Council Notes:

http://www.nsrffharmony.org/accountabilitycouncil/ac_notes_intro_Jan_09.pdf

January 2009 – Accountability Council Notes:

http://www.nsrffharmony.org/accountabilitycouncil/ac_notes_Jan_09.pdf

Dec. 6 Centers' Meeting recommendations to AC:

http://www.nsrffharmony.org/meeting_notes/ac_recs_12_08.pdf

Membership Council Task Force

During the Centers Council meeting, the AC introduced the concept of a "Membership Council" that would be formed to replace the Centers Council. Susan Adams, Jay Davis and Ross Peterson-Veatch were announced as co-chairs of a Task Force to explore this concept, with Wendy Brannen as the liaison to the Accountability Council.

Jay and Susan gave more context about next steps in the formation of a Task Force, and Daniel Baron led the whole group in a Charette that explored the following three questions:

1. What role would a Membership Council serve for NSRF and its mission?
2. What considerations should be addressed in the formation of a Task Force?
3. What considerations should be addressed in the formation of an eventual Membership Council itself?

The data generated by the Charette will be used by the forming task force.

Heidi gave some closing comments and we adjourned the meeting.