

Subud Zone 7 Council Meeting September 23, 2012 by conference call

Greetings

This meeting was called to order on September 23rd at 5:08p pacific-time.

Quiet Period – The council meeting began with a quiet period

Roll call of participants, introductions and announcements

Participants:

	National Chair	Committee Councilor	Kejiwaan - Female	Kejiwaan - Male
Canada	Renata Dunn	Alejandra Martinez	Istafiah De Souza	Mahmud Nestman
Cuba	Aziz Borges Riego	Victor Hernamdez	Munirah Sardinas	Sjariffudin Basterrechea
Mexico	Mariamah Flores	Arif Rivero Rojas	Karimah Towle	Luthfi Becker
Suriname	Patrick Karijodirono	Karmila Martotaroeno	Lucie Kertodikromo	Arvin Misran
U.S.A.	Shoshanah Margolin	Lucian Parshall	Laurie Lathrop	Hoan Toan Phan

Zone 7: Dave Hitchcock-Zone Rep; Lucian Parshall-Secretary; Hardwin Blanchard-Treasurer

Area III IH: Grace Hodgson

Those Council members shown in red were absent from the meeting.

Being new to the Zone 7 Council, Shoshanah and Alejandra introduced themselves.

1. Approval of agenda

Dave walked us through the agenda (previously distributed) and it was approved with one addition from Luthfi.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting on June 30/July 1

Minutes were approved with Arif's corrections.

3. Brief verbal reports from each country (since July 2012)

Canada: Renata added to the written report that was sent to us earlier that there are two new members in Cuba that are now receiving SCAN (Subud Canada newsletter).

Cuba: No report

Mexico: Mariamah submitted full written report. Karimah added that they are attempting to increase contact with Vera Cruz, a rather isolated group because of distance. National Council and Kejiwaan meetings held there recently. The group essentially comprises one family and they have no Subud house. Hardwin suggested that they look into renting from other large groups with halls (in US) such as the Eagles, Lions etc. Karimah said they had done that.

Suriname: Patrick and Arvin had nothing to add to the written report that was sent to us earlier.

USA: Shoshanah reported that a new USA National Committee was recently selected. The committee is continuing the transition and staffing of the new national office in Washington. Also looking for staff to organize gatherings and bookkeeping. Regions are continuing with their congresses. About to launch their pledge drive. Also the annual census - connected to creating a new website and membership database. Written Helpers report was submitted by KCs.

International Helpers: Grace said that there wasn't anything to report since Vancouver.

Zone Rep Update: Dave reported that WSA is in the midst of budget discussion for 2013, developing a fundraising campaign, as well as other issues. Dave will send an email to fill us in and seek input.

Dave thanked those who had sent out written reports before the meeting. These will be to be attached to the minutes.

4. 2014 World Congress Update

Arif was not on call, so no report. Karimah believes that Maya will be visiting Mexico in October to help with Congress preparations. Dave to ask Arif for a written report.

5. Matters arising/actions from Vancouver Zone Council Meeting

(a) Find videos. Hardwin and Dave thought that this referred to Bapak and Ibu Rahayu talks with Spanish translation/subtitles for Cuba. There could be technological difficulties with members being able to play them. We need more information about the situation in Cuba. This should be linked with item 5 (c).

(b) Locate Bapak's Guidelines for Daily Life and send to Council members: These were attached to the minutes from our Vancouver meeting.

(c) Provide Subud material/publications in Spanish to Cuba:

- Hardwin reported that there is a good deal of material in Spanish online at the Subud Library. But the majority of our brothers and sisters in Cuba do not have Internet access and those that do have limited access and cannot receive email attachments.
- Renata had reported earlier that two Cuban members were receiving SCAN by mail.
- Hardwin indicated that one possibility is for Zone 7 to ask Samuel Morillas to make copies of various talks and mail them from inside Cuba to representatives in each group to share (would need to ignore schism between groups.).
- Hardwin said that Samuel is working on a Spanish translation of *The Light of Christ*, by Luqman Mc Kinley (selections from Bapak's talks that refer to Jesus). Samuel had offered to print 100 copies for Subud members in Cuba.
- Concern expressed that using Samuel for these initiatives may be disruptive with Aziz, the National Chair. It was suggested that any such Zone 7 initiative be in conjunction with the Subud Cuba National Committee.
- Communication with Aziz has been very difficult recently and Dave hasn't heard anything from him since last March, particularly regarding the disbursement of Zonal funds set aside to help Subud Cuba. He hopes to be able to follow up on this, with the assistance of Spanish-speaking Council members.
- Alejandra is in contact with Marini (SD Cuba, living in Havana). She may be able to find out what the status of the Cuban committee is at this time. Luthfi indicated that Marini is one of the more active persons in Cuba.
- If we make copies outside Cuba and mail them, we need contact information for each group, or mail to National Committee for it to distribute?
- Hardwin reported that Mariamah has been trying to contact Lucas (son of Azis - Subud Cuba National Chair).
- Grace will step up her communication with her contacts in Cuba.
- Is it possible for a Spanish-speaking member of the Council to phone Aziz?
- Grace indicated that the best way is to have someone go to Cuba with the printed material. It is understood that Mariamah is planning on going to Cuba with her husband Manuel later this year. Dave and Hardwin will work with her on the details of the trip, what we need to find out, and what material she could take with her. Alejandra also agreed to be involved.

(d) 2013 Zone Council (in person) meeting:

- Luthfi suggested that it might be good for the meeting to be held in Mexico - visit the Congress site. Dave pointed out that we did this last year.
- Dave asked for us to think about the pros and cons of a face-to-face meeting in 2013. Would like each country to have this discussion and report back.

- Patrick asked if we could do some testing on its benefits, maybe KCs could come up with questions that we could all test on. Laurie will send out dates for KCs to conference, but Council members should email their input to Dave first.

(e) Inclusion of Wing representatives on Zone Council:

Dave asked each country to have a discussion about involving wings and share our discussion via email. How will they link in zone or should they join in our conference calls (may be too many participants)?

6. How can we communicate more effectively with Subud Cuba?

Discussed as part of 5(c)

7. Any Other Business

- Luthfi asked for a few minutes, but will send his comments onto other KCs.
- Arvin complimented the quality of the special Americas Gathering feature, produced jointly by SCAN and SUSA.
- Shoshanah asked that future Council meeting include an agenda item for reporting what the WSA/WSC has been doing.

8. Date of next conference call.

Dave suggested next conference call for Sunday, December 9, 2012 at 5:00p pacific-time. Agreed.

Meeting ended with a quiet time at 6:30p.

To do list:

Dave	To report by email on WSA 2013 Budget discussions, proposed fundraising initiative and other international issues.
Dave	Will ask Arif to provide a written World Congress update for the Council.
Hardwin & Mariamah	To continue investigating ways of providing Subud publications in Spanish to Cuba.
Dave	To follow up with Subud Cuba re disbursement of Zonal funds set aside for them.
Alejandra	To attempt to improve Zonal communication with Subud Cuba through Marini.
Grace	To step up her communication with her contacts in Cuba.
Dave, Hardwin & Alejandra	To work with Mariamah on her trip to Cuba. What do we need to find out to help improve future communications and what material could she take with her?
All	Each country to discuss need (practical pros & cons) for 2013 face to face Council Meeting and report to Dave.
KCs	After countries have reported back to Dave on practical pros & cons, suggest some suitable testing questions on holding a face-to-face Council Meeting in 2013.
All	Each country to discuss how to increase communication with wings in Zone 7 countries (via email or include on our conference calls are options) Report back to Dave by email.
Dave	To include agenda item for WSA/WSC news in future Council conference calls.
All	Please note down date of next Zone Council conference call on Sunday December 9.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucian Parshall

Attachments

Canada Report

Report to Zone 7 from the Subud Canada committee:

Events since the Americas Gathering:

- In cooperation with SUSA, we have published a special Americas Gathering edition of SCAN and distributed it to every person who registered for the gathering. Lester Sutherland told me today he regularly sends copies of SCAN to two members in Cuba. I don't have their names at the moment, but by the time of our conference call I may have them
- We are working on upgrading the Subud Canada website
- Alejandra is giving Spanish lessons to the Ottawa group in preparation for Pueblo, and is also working on improving communication with the members in Cuba.
- We are gradually building the new committee and working on the handover from the previous committee.
- Three regional gatherings are planned for the Fall – September 28 in Edmonton, where we have a group of new members, two of whom were opened at the Gathering; October 6 in Ottawa, which will be attended by the national helpers; and Oct 26 on Saltspring Island, organized by Dave and Helena and attended by the regional helpers.
- In all, 5 new Canadian Subud members were opened at the Gathering.

Respectfully submitted,

Renata Dunn & Alejandra Martinez

Mexico Report

Dear council,

I will be at the conference call too. Looking forward to share with you all.

In the mean time, as Dave requested here some updates of recent activities:

1. National council met last month in Veracruz, it is possible that a new group emerge in Subud Mexico (located in a beautiful tourist area of our country, 10 subud members are looking forward to rent a Subud house and start activities as a local group, national helpers and national committee will follow up)
2. We are preparing for a kedjwaan gathering next month (october 26th, 27th and 28th), it will be held in a beautiful place (benedictine monastery), registration will start at the end of this month
3. We also had a national gathering in Puebla after getting back from Vancouver, we shared news and experiences from the Gathering of the Americas, and showed short videos.
4. Communication with Cuba, thorough Aziz's son is moving forward very slowly but moving towards making possible to send Subud literature to our brothers and sisters in Cuba.
5. Waiting for more details of COT meeting in January 2013 so we could arrange some spaces to share with Subud Mexico membership too. I look forward to start communication with IH visit on January.

Finally we have been experiencing mainly in Puebla group that some brothers and sisters are getting back to the group after several years and some of them with their families.

Love and respect,

Mariamah Flores

Suriname Report

The activities of the National Committee beginning after the Gathering of the Americas.

1. Presentation of The Gathering of The Americas for the members.
2. We did a lottery for the sweater that we bought at the gathering
3. We had the HBW (Helpers, Committee and Wings) regular meeting.
4. Installation commission 45 years Subud
5. The activity that has been realized regarding 45 years Subud are:
 - A social activity by helping Ibu Cherry, and elderly member, cleaning the garden around her home.
 - working on the translation of the book "history of Subud in Suriname" written by the son of the late

Bpak Bang Bang

- Another social activity will be on Sunday 23th of September 2012 where we also will help cleaning the garden of “Wi Oso” means “Our Home” a place for children with disabilities.

The activities of the Helpers

1. Together with the committee we did our presentation that part of it is publish in the Newsletter of The Gathering of the Americas.
2. During the Ramadan we did the night wake. In those nights the helpers read Talks of Ibu Rahayu and subjects about the Latihan.
3. The latest Talks of Ibu Rahayu were shown live on screen. Including the Talk that she gave at The Gathering of the Americas.
4. For the members, the helpers News bulletin will be out next week with the Talk of Ibu Rahayu at The Gathering of the Americas translated in Dutch.
5. At Accaribo we had an opening, Hardy Jason. His wish was to be open on his seventeenth birthday.

USA Report

Zone 7 Report from US Helpers

After the Gathering of the Americas in Vancouver the US Congress met in Seattle, WA. At that time we selected a new Chair who is Shoshanah Margolin. Lucian continues as Committee Councilor. Although it was a busy meeting, we were able to include a lot of kejiwaan activities and helper support as well as testing for Wing positions.

A month after our congress the National Office moved from one Washington to the other, from Seattle to Beltsville, Maryland, which is very near Washington DC. Shoshanah and Lucian will talk more about changing the location of the office. The Helpers and Committee have decided to order 15 copies of Bapak's *Advice and Guidance for Helpers* so we can give one to new candidate helpers to read during their candidacy and keep as a reference.

After the traveling earlier in the summer, the helpers have returned to regular conference calls with the National Committee and among ourselves as well as with Wings and regions. There have been two regional congresses in August and September attended by National Helpers.

The first was in the Pacific Islands region, which has 34 members and 17 plus 6 guests attended the meeting. This year the meeting was in Hilo on the Big Island rather than in Honolulu on Oahu. A full committee was chosen, and Hardwin is now Chair of the region for the second time. Since the group was small, there was time for socializing, walking on the beach, and visiting some of the tourist sites on the island.

The other regional congress was a Family Camp in the Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) (Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah) in Crestone near the middle of the state. Crestone is a small town on a high plateau 8,000 feet high and tucked up near where the San Juan Mountains and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains meet. There were about 50 people including children there. It was very informal with lots of socializing among adults and lots of playing for the children. Many people camped near stables run by a Subud member while others stayed in guest rooms in the stables or with friends. Nearby was a stream for building dams and space for art projects. One afternoon the children had a pet show with kittens, ponies, goats, a donkey, and a baby yak, all of whom lived in the stables and nearby pastures. And Saturday night a Subud member and his band played in town where many Subud members and town people danced the night away. In addition to all the fun, 3 people were opened and a Chair and Vice-Chair were chosen.

In the next few weeks National Helpers will attend several events: the Pacific Northwest Congress (Washington state, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon). Other meetings scheduled soon are Menucha in the west and Three Rivers in the east, both kejiwaan retreats. Also there will be a National Board of Directors (National Committee, National Helpers, Regional and Wing Chairs) in California in November.

Hoan Toan and Laurie