

The November meeting of the Area 67 Literature Committee was called to order with the Serenity Prayer at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 19, 2024. Present were Alt Committee Chair Jim M., Carol F, secretary; Caitlin, GSR SIS TX, Shea, SIS TX, alt GSR;, Steffanie, Spring Group GSR and District 31 Literature Rep., and Kris of SISTX.

October minutes were approved as presented.

Jim suggested that we keep Area Literature Chair Dan K. in our prayers as he continues to face health issues. Jim said he has received a copy of the Plain Language Big Book and has been reading it. He said he has talked with several people who are reading it and the overall reviews are OK. He said people are thinking about how to use it to help newcomers, and “that’s what it’s all about.” Jim said he was working to obtain copies of the new Literature Committee workbook and the 2025 literature catalog, which seemed to be available at one time and then disappeared.

Stephanie commented that the new book breaks down concepts from the original text in more understandable language. She mentioned Delegate Rick’s email concerning changes that are coming in the second printing of the book which remove references to addiction to alcohol as directed by this year’s conference. The 70,000 copies in the first printing sold out quickly and did not contain some of the changes requested by the conference.

Under Old Business, the group again discussed forming a parallel study group meeting for reading the new book side by side with the current edition Big Book. Jim wondered if a newcomer walked in with a Plain Language Big Book, would they be able to follow along while the more familiar one is being read? The answer seems to be possibly not. The new book is a paraphrase, but does not seem to correspond to the 4th edition on a line by line basis.

Jim said that while he does believe he could take a person through the steps using the new book, some of the “language of the heart” seems to be missing. He mentioned that he has been aware of some interest in a parallel study meeting, but he would like to assess the interest on a larger scale and encouraged committee members to poll interest at their districts and groups.

Forming the meeting will be discussed again next month.

Under New Business, Jim said the committee has been asked to speak at the District 33 Unity Conference in College Station Feb. 28-March 1 about the overall service structure of Alcoholics Anonymous as we presented at the October 19 workshop.

The group discussed the committee’s role at the SETA convention regarding selling literature, a task we undertook for the intergroup office last year. Jim said he would ask the intergroup staff if we are needed for that function.

Jim also suggested that at SETA we talk to new chairs of other area committees to see if we are able to assist them in their roles with literature information and support. “Some committees don’t

know how much help is available through conference approved literature,” Jim said. He also said he wants to let districts know that the committee is available for information and presentations.

The next meeting will be held Dec. 17.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 with the responsibility statement