

Area 67 Literature Committee Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2025
7:30 pm

The January meeting of the Area 67 Literature Committee was called to order with the Serenity Prayer at 7:30 pm.

Jim welcomes everyone to the 1st Literature meeting of 2025. He states the purpose of the Area 67 Literature Committee.

Jim asks everyone present at the meeting to introduce themselves with name, homegroup, and position:

Jim M., Committee Chair, Plantation Group, District 82
Carol F., Alt. Committee Chair, Katy 164 group Treasurer
Shea L., Literature Chair secretary, SIS TX Chip Person
Kris C., SIS TX Intergroup Delegate
Dallas D., Sis TX Literature Chair
Caitlin B., District 40 Literature Chair, Sis TX Webmaster
Stephanie, Spring group, District 31 Literature Chair
John, Brockman Road Group, District 82 CFC Chair
Byron, Liaison to Intergroup Houston

The minutes from the December 2024 meeting were approved as presented.

Chair report- Jim tells the committee that we have been busy. At the Seta convention, we have record book sales. We sold 3 cases of the 2024-2026 Service Manual, 1 case of the Plain Language Big Book, and other miscellaneous books. Our display of pamphlets was also hit hard. What's new in literature? The service manual, 2025 Literature Catalog is available online, the literature committee workbooks are available online and available for purchase, and the AA GSO podcast came out last week.

Alt. Chair report - Carol says she doesn't really have anything to report.

Unfinished Business

District 33 Unity Day. Jim says he cannot attend. Caitlin tells the committee that she reached out to Alise. We will be presenting two things. The main presentation will be "How to Keep the Upside-Down Triangle Upright". Then we will hold a mini presentation on "Let Literature Carry the Message". Jim suggests that we use the Conference Connect presentation. Caitlin thinks that we should retitle it and update it to match the Unity conference's theme. There is a lot of discussion about selling literature at the Unity Conference. The committee comes to the conclusion that we will follow the lead of the Unity Conference and just present, display our literature board, pamphlets, and literature.

Jim asks everyone to share with the committee any recent experiences with sharing any AA approved literature at a meeting, with a sponsee, with another AA member, or in any other setting. Carol shared that she attended a meeting and they were using Drop the Rock, New Pair of Glasses. Another member shares that her home group has had two instances with the PLBB. It was announced at the GC meeting the month before that we would not be using it in our meetings for 6 months by the group chair, where no vote was taken. It caused a very volatile

discussion and was tabled til the next agenda. Then, She had put a flyer up from the GSO announcing the second edition was available and had another member tell her to remove it because our group had voted not to use it for 6 months until we have an informed opinion on it. Dallas shared as the new Literature chair for her homegroup that she had sent out 7 Big books to newcomers. Carol shares that she had a sponsee that decided she wasn't doing AA anymore, so she gave her a copy of the PLBB, hoping it may bring her back to AA. Jim shares that he has a sponsee that he is working with that they are doing a side-by-side study of the English and Spanish versions of the Big Book.

Have an online PLBB study? Jim discusses the possibility of having a Plain Language Big Book study meeting. He asks the committee their thoughts. The committee shares their thoughts on it. The general consensus is that it would be good to do something like that, but we will wait until we see the changes that were made in the second edition before making the decision to have one or not. We will discuss it again in a few months.

Jim says he would like our committee to see if we can compile a good list of all district group literature representatives, and then we can use it for a contact list. If everybody can help collect information so we can help continue to grow this committee. Kris offers to talk to the intergroup to see if they may have a list.

This discussion brought up the voting rights in the committee. Jim will look into it to determine who can vote. It is a reminder that Any AA member can attend the committee meetings.

Save the Date – State Convention – Aug 15-17, 2025 in Houston. Jim tells the committee that we will have a display table there. We will need to work fast on it. He describes some of the display ideas he found in the Literature Workbook. They included displays of books, an attractive display of service pieces, foreign pamphlets, newsletters, etc. Place extra copies of the literature order forms out for groups and individuals to pick up. A Computer with the big book open and instructions on how to do a word search to find passages, view videos, or view hard to find pamphlets. Another idea is to make a banner of Xerox copies of the book covers of the foreign editions of the Big Book and hang it above the literature display of books. Jim suggests the committee might purchase a couple cheap tablets to set up on the table to do these things.

Is selling literature at the assemblies, conventions, and conferences our responsibility? Jim states that selling literature is not in the guidelines or the jobs description for our area committee, but in the Literature workbook guidelines it is.. Discussion in the committee includes comments about intergroup selling, not doing at one day assemblies, only selling at Area events, letting districts handle their events, concern over ways to pay, and the responsibility of the cash. Jim tells the committee that he wants to have some discussion about it, but thinks the Unity Conference is what's on his mind right now. I noticed in the workbook the suggestion was that they brought books and the intention was not to sell them. They are there for display, but if someone was really desperate like "Dan's rule " , if they needed a book he would sell or give it to them. Getting literature in people's hands is what's important. Jim asks the committee is this type of responsibility something that we are able to take on, but I think the real question is do we wanna do it? We will sit on this a little bit and decide.

Next Meeting: Tuesday February 18, 2025

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm with the responsibility statement