

Submitted to:
Northern Illinois Area 20, Alcoholics Anonymous
Summer Assembly
June 27th, 2009

Report of the Finance Committee

Finance Committee has been provided a liaison from the report and Charter Committee, Tom Germuska to witness and record proposed changes to policy, etc that may be required by Finance Committee actions. We will work together to ensure any changes to policy and record are consistent.

Committee was asked by Area Chairman to talk and make recommendation about a motion by the Literature Committee. In consideration of the motion as it was presented, i.e., "Moved that NIA enable the Fellowship in Northern Illinois to cost-effectively carry the message by reselling the Big Book (B-1) at discounted prices available by purchasing in large quantity," the following concerns arose -

1. Is there a storage unit?
2. What about distribution? Do we only distribute it at committee meetings and Assemblies? Who is going to transport the books back and forth? And what about groups that don't send GSRs to Assemblies? Does the burden of distribution fall on the DCM or District literature chair? It would potentially turn into a lot of work for someone.
3. There are many sources of BB, including a FREE DOWNLOAD at <http://www.aa.org/bbonline/> Took about a minute to download.
4. I don't think NIA needs to get into a re-sell position. I don't believe this is our mission, or our time well spent.
5. The G.S.O. needs funding and they are raising the price of the Big Book to get it. This idea would save our area money at the expense of the G.S.O.'s funding requirements.
6. We have a certain amount of money we normally spend on big books why not get more with the money we spend.

Some responses provided -

- This motion is limited to the purchase/re-sale of Big Books only (catalog item B-1)
- NIA currently rents a storage locker that has room available
- Distribution would occur at Area Committee meetings and Assemblies to Groups/Districts that had placed orders prior to those events. Anyone desiring a different delivery date could place an order directly through A.A.W.S. or purchase the book from a nearby Intergroup office. The Area Literature Committee would coordinate orders and deliveries.
- I can't see making a 12th Step call with a URL
- The motion would have no impact on NIA finances. Although there would be an up-front payment for the books that amount would be offset by receipts as the books are sold.
- The motion simply takes advantage of discounts A.A.W.S. offers to any entity purchasing large quantities of Big Books. The primary difference is that the savings NIA obtains through purchasing in quantity are passed on directly to the Groups/Districts buying the Big Books