

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

In October 2018 a motion was passed to publish an updated version of our Western WA Area 72 history book. The Our Stories Disclose III (OSD III) Committee has been conducting pre-sales since October 2018. We had anticipated meeting our pre-sales target to fully fund the book by December 2020 and move to product in 2021. Currently we are at 51% of pre-sales target. We would like to discuss how the Area would like to approach the current shortfall of pre-sales and funding to produce the OSD III book.

Background:

The motion to publish the book reads, "That Western Washington Area 72 publish the Third Edition of Our Stories Disclose, A History of the Western Washington Area of Alcoholics Anonymous 1939-2002, to be updated through 2018."

While this doesn't specifically clarify that that it will be done through pre-sales that was the goal and intention of the OSD III Committee that was communicated to the body.

We had targeted 1,500 pre-sale orders to fund the publication of 3,000 box sets, with a total cost of approximately \$18,000 (at time of quote), to make it fully self-supporting. To date, we have only reached 771 pre-sales, and we have nine months left in the year before the target date of submitting to the publisher in early 2021.

While pre-sales have been gaining momentum recently we suspect that Coronavirus will impact future sales due to restrictions on public gatherings where we get the majority of our presales. We have also considered that the Area may not be receiving funds from groups that are not meeting during this time, and that contributions to the Area may decrease.

We feel there are a variety of options which include:

1. Delay publication of Our Stories Disclose III until we reach the projected 1,500 pre-sales. This means that the book would not be available for distribution at the 2021 Assembly, as planned.
2. Order fewer box sets based on pre-sales money collected. During the 2018 Pre-Assemblies we showed a graph with different ideas including estimated costs at 1,500 and 1,200 books, along with an example of 1,000 books with Area contributions covering the difference.
3. Prepare a motion for the October 2020 Assembly asking the Area to fund the shortfall between pre-sales and the cost of publication.
4. Other ideas from the body?

We ask the Area for guidance.

Thank you,

Carol Hockey

Chair, Our Stories Disclose Committee