

ABA Literature & Outreach Committee

Board meeting report

Date: 14 April 2024	Report by: Lou
Chair: Lou	Committee members: Lou, Kathryn, Kim W, Hayley, Amy

Questions for the board:

- Book Printing in South Africa – Can the book be printed in their country to be more affordable locally

BOOK PRINTING IN SOUTH AFRICA

- We have been in contact with Martin in South Africa who proposes to **self-fund** the local printing of the **ABA Book**, so that it can be affordable locally, and help carry the message in this part of the world where the ABA community is growing.
- The Literature Committee has reviewed Martin's proposal and supports his project.
- Due to the poor currency and exchange rates, the book via Lulu is currently unaffordable in South Africa. Printing the book locally will bring it to the same price range as the local AA and NA books

Price of ABA Soft Copy	CAD	ZAR South African Rand
Lulu including postage	\$47.16 5 months delivery	634
Local printing South Africa (100 copies printed)	\$14.85	200

- Martin has 1.5-year sobriety in ABA and has started face to face meetings locally. 5 local treatment facilities have heard about the program and are interested in having a copy of the ABA book. Local face to face/**hybrid** meetings are popular with over **28** people attending, **and 12 online. Very(?) Other 12 Step** literature currently available.
- Other fellowships – including AA, NA – print the book locally
- Martin has contacted a local printing company that came highly recommended and proposes a high quality and binding printing (better than the current quality of the Lulu books). Martin has organized a quote. Here is a link to the company's website. <https://www.bookprinters.co.za/>
- This would be a self-funded project: **South Africa will fund the project**
- Royalties will have to be paid down the track. We propose to wave these for the first 100 books.

Risk Assessment Table

Issue	Plan
The quality of the book is not good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Martin has met with the local printer who proposes high quality printing/binding ▪ Will be better than the current Lulu version ▪ No financial impact for ABA as a whole (local project)
Martin loses sobriety and cannot see the project through	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Propose to have someone else locally assist him ▪ Share information with local / ABA literature team ▪ Support from Literature team
Royalties are not paid	Be clear with Martin about the plan and transparency to pay royalties

The Literature team sees this as a “pilot” project. Other countries may choose to print the book locally in their own language down the track.

WE are hoping to streamline the process through his experience and help grow the fellowship by having our literature available locally, affordable and in the local language.

MEDITATION BOOK PROJECT

➤ **What has been achieved**

- The “writing” of the book is done: all 52 entries, introduction and forward have been completed and reviewed. A great milestone!!

➤ **What remains to be done**

- Incorporate all documents into a word document: the backbone of the “Book”
- Work on a cover – drafts being prepared
- Work with an editor to format the book and get it ready for printing
- Printer: continue with Lulu or go with another company?

PODCAST

➤ **What has been achieved**

- Over 25 recordings of shares and workshops available.
- Advertised in the newsletter
- Anyone celebrating a birthday is welcome to send their recording to Kath. “Newcomers shares” by a sober member are also great material.
- We have also prepared a “Zoom recording” document with instructions for the host to record people (with their permission).

➤ **What remains to be done**

- Advertise on the website
- Looking into using voice recordings from the website (birthday shares etc) and add it to the podcast. Note that before the website was “updated” a lot of these recordings were free!!

AUDIO BOOK

- ABA members have started recording PART 1 of the ABA book. Lizzie is coordinating the project.
- Once the recording of Part 1 is finalized we propose to have the files available on the website or online (podcast or audio book format).