
OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

JULY 1ST, 2023

****NO SMOKING OR VAPING ON CHURCH PROPERTY****

⇒ **Chairperson:** called the meeting to order, requesting all cell phones be turned off or silenced.

⇒ **Chairperson:** read "CA Preamble".

Cocaine Anonymous is a Fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others recover from their addiction. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using cocaine and all other mind-altering substances. There are no dues or fees for membership; we are fully self-supporting through our own contributions. We are not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution. We do not wish to engage in any controversy and we neither endorse nor oppose any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay free from cocaine and all other mind-altering substances, and to help others achieve the same freedom.

⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to read: "**The Twelve Traditions**".

⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to report on Tradition 7.

- Nolan O. reports on Tradition 7 which states: "Every C.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to give a report on the 7th Concept.

- Tess M. reports on Concept #7: [The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the World Service Board are legal instruments](#); that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Cocaine Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document; that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and **the power of the C.A. purse** for its final effectiveness.

⇒ **Chairperson** asked for an addict to give a report on the 8th Tradition for next month.

- Art W. volunteers.

⇒ **Chairperson** asked for an addict to give a report on the 8th Concept for next month.

- Trevor volunteers.

⇒ **Chairperson: Committees Statement of Purpose:** as per Nick request, we will ask Committee Chair's to read their statement of purpose at the time of their report.

Remaining GSO Meeting 2023 Dates:

Aug 12th, Sep 9th, Oct 7th, Nov 4th, and Dec 2nd

Location:

Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church
2845 Mesa Verde Dr. E Costa Mesa CA, 92627 Suite 8

ARE THERE JULY SOBRIETY BIRTHDAYS?

⇒ **Chairperson:** entertains a motion to affirm the new GSRs or confirm a new meeting, if any, as Directors of OCCA and arrange for them to receive a new GSRs packet.

New Meetings Petitioning to Join Area:

New GSRs: Mackenzie for "Not in Vein."

- **Nolan O. makes a motion to affirm Makenzie for GSR of "Not in Vein." Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

- Dan S. asks if Stacey from "Dramatic Addicts" is present. Stacey says she is filling in for the GSR, she mentions she has been there before. She says that Matt S. is the GSR for that meeting. Dan S. asks if he was ratified by the Board. Stacey says yes.

⇒ **Chairperson:** reads **GSR Duties** for new GSRs.

GSR Duties: The G.S.R. (General Service Representative) is a very important position. One year of sobriety is required to hold this position and it is a one-year commitment. The G.S.R. is required to attend the monthly business meeting, the G.S.O. (General Service Organization) to get chips, literature, schedules, flyers, and any other pertinent info, to bring back to the meeting.

⇒ **Secretary:** prepares to call roll and reminds members that "During Roll Call, when you hear your name, announce "Present", your current Position (if carrying more than one, state positions following this precedent: Officer, Delegate/Alternate, Committee Chairperson, GSR.) and if you are carrying a Proxy vote. If you are a proxy, please announce your principal for the record."

⇒ **Secretary:** calls the roll and announces quorum.

- **Present:** Frank P., Nick B., Melanie R.G., Donovan B., Chris J., Frankie A., Dan S., Nolan O., Jason S., Joshua B., Carlo P., Mathew M., Tess M., Ron D., Doc E., Angel G., Matt A., Laura R., Kiley K., Evan L., and Jose A.
- **Absent:** Steve C., Dreia M., Art W., Jannik S.
- 22 Present of possible 26 which constitutes quorum.

⇒ **Secretary:** Passes the Master Contact list for any changes or updates to the Roll, Schedule, and Website.

- Melanie R.G. is on Zoom, so she asked Chris J. to pass around the roll sheet and the master schedule for corrections.

⇒ **Chairperson:** entertains a motion to accept the minutes for the last GSO meeting.

- **Nolan O. makes a motion to accept the minutes of the last GSO meeting. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

⇒ **Parliamentarian** is absent on vacation.

BOARD OFFICER'S REPORTS

⇒ **Chairperson's Report**

- Frank P.-

714.514.4150

- Report:
 - Update on Meeting of the Month (Change for Change).
 - Nolan O. announces the Change for Change events left for the month of July and adds that there are still shirts for sale.
 - Update on Ad hoc committee for sponsorship. Laura R.
 - Laura R. reports that they will have the next Sponsorship Workshop on July 27 at 6 pm at the "Messengers" meeting at Doheny Beach with Earl H. from Oceanside leading again so that Laura

R. can continue to learn from him. Laura R. asks GSR's to please announce it at their meeting. Laura R. mentions that you don't have to have finished your steps and that they talk about how to choose your sponsor. She encourages people to come and learn at all levels of knowledge of sponsorship. The workshop is free of charge.

⇒ **Vice-Chairperson's Report** -Nick B.- 949.382.9288

- Report: No report. He is in the process of learning about the treasurer's duties.

⇒ **Secretary's Report** -Melanie R.G. - 714.675.2731

- Report: Melanie R.G. thanks the people who have answered the survey and she request that the six people who have not answered the survey please do so as she has followed up with two emails and adds that the survey has given us a more accurate account of our printing needs.
- Melanie R.G. announces that the meeting schedule now includes a QR code that takes you to the website with Jason S.'s help. In addition, Melanie R.G. has created a meeting schedule specifically for H&I that does not have any member's phone numbers or email. Melanie R.G. reports that this was the product of a conversation at the Executive Board where long-time members recommended to have the personal contact information removed as it has been discussed through the years and is meant to protect the people listed on the schedule. Melanie R.G. sent some samples of the H&I schedule to Tess M., chair of H&I for approval.

⇒ **Treasurer's Report** -Donovan B.- 949.910.0901

- Report: Donovan B. reports that he will not be attending the month of September meeting and that the vice-treasurer Chris J. will also be absent therefore member at large vice-chair Nick B. is training to be able to substitute for Donovan B.

Previous Balance	\$ 3,329.08
Donations	\$ 1,949.96
<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 2,138.03</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 3,142.01

We still have a savings of \$6,000.

- Donovan B. reports that we do not have nonprofit status because OCCA failed to pay taxes for two years in a row. The CPAs that are helping us are very slow to respond. Donovan B.'s sponsor recommended to find another CPA so he will be getting in touch with Scott S. this month.

- **ACTION ITEM: Donovan B. top get in touch with Scott C. to seek a new CPA.**

- **Treasurer:** will ask for 7th tradition donations.

⇒ **Vice-Treasurer's Report** -Chris J.- 714.713.8280

- Report: No report.

⇒ **Structure and Bylaws Officer's Report** -Steve C.- 714.330.0416

- Report: Matt A. S&B Vice-Chair reports that they have been making steady progress working on referrals and the service manuals and are finishing the Executive Board parts and next they will be tackling the standing committees.
- **Matt A. makes a motion to add to the bylaws that all delegates and alternate delegates need to either reside in the area they represent or attend all meetings in that area.**

- Discussion: There is a robust discussion and Nick B. speaks up to adding a friendly amendment about the wording "attend all meetings", since that is physically impossible. He states he is in favor of the motion but suggests changing the wording.
- Donovan B. reminds us we said at the Executive Board that if someone lives outside of OC it's still possible to be a Delegate or Alternate Delegate if they regularly attend meetings in the area.
- Dan S. suggests more concise wording since as it stands it can give the impression that if you live in the area you need not attend the meetings.
- Frankie A. states that the bylaws require that any member of the GSO needs to attend one out of three meetings per quarter, so the requirement is already there.
- Matt makes a friendly amendment that they should reside in area they represent or attend two out of three quarterly meetings.
- Dan S. opines that it doesn't matter where the person lives if he attends meetings in the area and Nick B. makes the point that this stipulation only affects our area so that if the delegate or alternate delegate lives in another area, their area has the discretion as to how to handle that.
- Chris J. Makes the point that if we elect someone outside the area to be a delegate or alternate delegate, we must have a good reason and if he/she doesn't attend the required 2/3 meeting per quarter we would not accept them in that position. Therefore, he thinks it's unnecessary to have this in the bylaws.
- Laura R. repeats the amended motion as "...Delegates and alternate delegates need to attend 2/3 of the meetings per quarter."
- A vote is called.
- Chris J. opposes and he says he already spoke to his opposition. Nick B. offers that perhaps we are better off pushing it out a month and taking this back to the committee for discussion. Matt A. asks to take this issue back to S&B committee for further wordsmithing.
- The motion is therefore retracted.

- **ACTION ITEM: Matt A. and S&B committee will work on presenting us a new option at the next GSO.**

⇒ **Archivist's Report** -Frankie A.- 714.487.3080

- Report: No report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

⇒ **Group Relations Committee** - Dan S.- 714.403.8326

- Report: Dan S. reports that he is starting to make the rounds to the other meetings and will go to "Dramatic Addicts" in the next couple of weeks. He went by the "Lady Caines", and he sees enthusiasm at meetings even if membership is not as large. He mentions the noon meetings are struggling so he will give it another month and post on WhatsApp to cancel there. The "Frist Friday Night" is changing its time from 7-8:15 pm instead of starting at 7:30 to improve attendance.

⇒ **Hotline Committee** - Jason S. - 818.263.3500

- Report: Jason S. reports that there is something wrong with the hotline as we went from 11 calls to 31 calls but of a very short duration and asks if someone took calls. Frank P. says that he received a bunch of calls from Google to test our numbers. Jason S. will test the hotline after the meeting and call in a ticket if needed. Jason S. tells us that if you want to be on the Hotline to let him know.

- **ACTION ITEM: Jason S. will investigate the current problem with the Hotline.**

⇒ **Hospitals and Institutions Committee** - Tess M. - 949.370.5827

- Report: Tess M. reports that H&I is doing very well, and she is very grateful for all the support. Tess M. says that they have added a couple of panels to the roster. She asks the group about some of the literature racks that used to be used for H&I. Ron D. mentions there were extras here at some point and believes that Chris W. took them. It is clarified that they are the plexiglass, three tiered, small racks.

- **ACTION ITEM: Tess M. will call the facilities to find out if they have racks so she can get a better guide on how many more are needed.**

- Tess M. is grateful for the H&I meeting schedules and mentions that they must be made without staples per requirement of the treatment facilities.

- **Tess M. makes a motion to have Melanie R.G. create 50 H&I schedules for next month and at 92 cents apiece and she requests \$50 that Melanie R.G. be reimbursed. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

- **ACTION ITEM: Melanie R.G. to make 50 copies of the H&I meeting schedule.**

- Nolan O. announces an H&I Unity Event God Shot Draw at Doheny State Beach from 12-4 on Sunday the 6th of August with two speakers. Each speaker will pull two cards and share from on their topic.

- **Nolan O. makes a motion to approve the H&I Unity Event Card Shot draw flyer. Seconded. Motion Passes.**

- Frank P. thanks and congratulates Nolan O. for the fantastic job he has been doing with Change for Change and other activities.
- Nick B. mentions that he found the exact literature racks Tess M. is looking for and they are \$15 each.

⇒ **Public Information Committee** - Joshua B.- 480.416.1129

- Report: No report.

⇒ **Webservant Subcommittee Report:** -Joshua B.- 480.416.1129

- Report: No report.

⇒ **Social Media Subcommittee Report:** -Kiley K.- 714.925.1520

- Report: Kiley K. reports that she created a new Instagram page, and she has posted it but mentions it's linked to her phone number, and she was unable to link it to the Facebook account and asks that if we are ok with that she can start posting. She has joined the wait list to be verified and adds that it is rather new that you can pay to get the blue check mark verification at a cost of \$11.99. That mark can increase our reach as it indicates that we are the official account of OCCA. Kiley K. adds that she will not know how much it will cost to boost the account until we create a new account and start posting. The new account was necessary because of the ongoing problem of using the word "cocaine" which gets the account censored.
- In response from a question by Nolan O., Kiley K. explains that since it is under her name all she needs to do to pass it on to someone else is give them the two-step password authentication. Jason S. informs us that it can be done with the Hotline number as it is able to receive texts as well as calls.
- Nick B. says he agrees with the hotline being best for this purpose and asks for clarification of what the fee of \$11.99 gives us and if it is a necessary fee to have a business account. Kiley K. clarifies that it is only applicable for Instagram to the best of her knowledge and that the \$11.99 is simply to have recognition that this is the official page of OCCA.
- Dan S. mentions that when he was at the World Service Convention, he mentioned to the trustees and others that we had been struggling with this issue of using the word cocaine and they were surprised as they were not having any problems with it at all, including Canada. Dan S. asks Kiley K. to reach out to our trustee Aurora and send her the information on the issue so we can send it up so that we can leverage the power of the fellowship.
- Donovan B. opines that he thinks paying the \$12 dollars a month it is a tradition violation of attraction not promotion. He has a business account and personal account, and he does not have a cost to it.
- Nick B. mentions he is reaching out to the Arizona Phoenix area that is on fire with their social media presence including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter without violating the tradition of attraction rather than promotion. He is trying to find out who the key person to talk to and suggests that Kiley K. talk to them.

- Kiley K. responds by reiterating that the \$12 dollars a month is just to get the blue check mark that verifies us and that we are in a wait list for it as it takes some time. You can have a free account, or a business account and we do not have to pay the \$12 for that. You are paying for the blue check mark. A sponsored add is what it is called when you boost your post, that sponsored add is what we would be paying for and that is separate and reminds us that the new account she created is because we cannot boost our previous account because it has been banned and we and we wanted more people to see it. She adds that she doesn't have any stats on the last account for the same reason. Kiley K. says she would be happy to talk to people in other areas like Canada but says that the rules and regulations in different countries and even different regions like Arizona vary widely. She will now avoid using the word cocaine in all her posts in the new Instagram and hopes this will solve the problem.
- Donovan B. says to Kiley K. that he appreciates all the work she is doing and asks her to please get approval from this body before incurring any expenses. Kiley K. affirms that she has not spent any money, all she did was sign up for the verification and at that point she would bring it to this body for approval.
- Jason S. speaks in favor of the blue check mark because people can trust the site and we look official.
- Kiley K. explains how she plans to avoid using the word cocaine as she has seen others do so.
- Doc E. opines that even if Arizona is different, we should explore what others are doing and Donovan B. asks if the Arizona account is verified. Kiley K. says she has not seen another account that is verified. Frank P. suggests that Kiley K. reach out to other areas and she agrees and that we table this for next month.

- **ACTION ITEM: Kiley K. will reach out to other areas to gather information about their strategy on social media.**

- Mackenzie speaks in favor of the blue check mark and says it is an important currency of legitimacy for the younger generation.
- Donovan B. expresses concern about where the spending would stop and that we would be paying amounts here and there for social media and bleed money.
- Jason S. is of the opinion that we should take this one step at a time and see what the results are and then we can assess its success by seeing perhaps an increase in newcomer attendance and if we are helping a lot of people then we can justify the expense. He adds that he is a fan of doing the research and yes, we can see what Arizona is doing but he believes that the blue check mark is important. He suggests just starting with Instagram and then we can assess how it's doing and reminds us that some time ago we looked at having a little budget social media every month. If the verification comes up tomorrow, we can always cancel as it is not an annual agreement. Kiley K. says that if we get approval, we can sit in the approval pool until we are ready to move forward. She has already reached out to Arizona, and she will begin posting without paying for anything and requests people send her postings, flyers, etc.
- Kiley K. clarifies for the chair that if the verification comes up that we can put it on hold till the next meeting.
- Frank P. expresses his gratitude for all that Kiley K. is doing and is encouraged by the spirited discussion.

⇒ **CPC Subcommittee Report:** -Frankie A.- 714.487.3080

Report: Frankie A. reports that PI had a booth at the Coalition Festival last week with pens, cards and literature out and it had good traffic. We did have to purchase a canopy which we will be able to use it for future unity events and will be kept in our storage.

- **Frankie A. makes a motion to get reimbursed for \$51.71 for the canopy. Seconded. Motion passes.**

⇒ **Unity Committee**

- Dreia M.-

909.446.2647

- Report: Nolan O. reports on behalf of Dreia M. that the God Shot card draw will be a quarterly event and the next one is to be held on the first or second weekend of November, he will line up some speakers to get the flyers out early. He adds that he has some new committee members that are very helpful. In addition, he is hoping to have a corn hole and potentially having a comedy show.

⇒ **Activities Subcommittee** - Nolan O.- 407.687.8656

⇒ **Literature Committee** - Matthew M. - 714.585.1829

- Report: Mathew M. reports that we sold \$253.00 in literature and he still has \$128.92 of the \$420 that he received last month. He must stock up on "Hope, Faith and Courage" and "A Quiet Peace" as they were doing inventory when he went. We still have 8 "Companion Guides", 8 "Twelve and Twelve", 2 "Big Books".

- **Mathew M. makes a motion to request \$260 for book purchases. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

Number of Sales: \$ 253.00
Request for Funds: \$ 260.00

⇒ **Workshop Committee** -Nick B.- 949.382.9288

- Report: Nick B. reports that there was one person in attendance in June and has one scheduled for July. Ryan S. will be helping from 8-2. Sign up for July would be on the 15th and the \$25 fee covers all expenses.

**Capo Beach Church: 25976 Domingo Ave, Dana Point, CA 92624
Call Nick B. 949.382.9288**

⇒ **Chip Committee** -Carlo P.- 714.587.1258

- Report:
Amount of Sales: \$ 395.00
Request for Funds: \$ 420.00

- **Carlo P. makes a motion to request \$420.00 for chips. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Dan S.- 714.403.8326

- No report.

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Nolan O.- 407.687.8656

- Nolan O. reports that he booked his flights, his room reservation and registration for the convention and asks what he can get reimbursed for today. Donovan B. informs he can get reimbursed for the expenses he has already incurred. He spent \$125 for the registration and \$373.96 for the flight.

- **Chris J. makes a motion to reimburse Nolan O. for \$498.96. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

- Donovan B. confirms to clarify a question from Frankie A. that it was discussed last year and decided they will be reimbursed as soon as they incur the expense.

- Nolan O. reports that the Change for Change event donated over \$1,000 today.

⇒ **ALTERNATE** -Frankie A.- 714.487.3080

- Frankie A. reports that SR-14 just came into our mailing list and your local delegates will explain the motions that will come up at conference to get input from the fellowship.
- There is some discussion that World Service is looking for a new chip vendor.

BUSINESS

⇒ Old Business

1. Tax Status--covered
2. Robert's Rules Workshop –Steve C. Nick B. mentions that Steve C. is willing to run workshops.

⇒ New Business

- **Chris makes a motion to donate \$250 to world service. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- Frankie A. responds to a question Chris J. asks regarding members at large. Member at large got rolled into S&B in the last year, for the Executive Board the Vice-Chair is the member at large and for committees such as PI, and others it is S&B that plays the role of member at large. Frank P. mentions the example that Steve C. stepped into H&I to help them out as member at large for those committee.
- There is some discussion on why the member at large position is not on the agenda anymore. Nick B. clarifies that the position of member at large that does only that was eliminated in favor of the structure where the Vicechair is member at large for the Executive Board and S&B is member at large for the committees.
- Frankie A. explains that the motion was put forward last year as S&B was coming into the fray. Donovan B. says he is ok with that if it is Nick B. will be his substitute.
- Dan S. brings up the Unity of the Valley convention and reports that he and Nolan O. have tickets for sale for the New Year's bash which is a fundraiser in Monrovia. It will be a dinner with black tie, a dance with a DJ and a banquet. Dan S. announces a bingo is August 19 as a fundraiser for the convention.

⇒ **Chairperson** entertained a motion to Adjourn.

- **Doc E. makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded. Motion Passes.**

- **Meeting is adjourned at 11:38 am.**