

---

# OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

---

NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 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**".

- Mathew reads the 12 Traditions.

⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to report on Tradition #11.

- Steve C. to report on Tradition 11 which states: "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, television and films.

⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to give a report on the 11<sup>th</sup> Concept.

- Melanie R.G. reports on Concept 11 which states: "While the Trustees hold final responsibility for C.A.'s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees and service boards, staffs and consultants. Therefore, the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the system of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our staffs and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers will always be matters for serious care and concern."

⇒ **Chairperson** asked for an addict to give a report on the 12<sup>th</sup> Tradition for next month.

- Tess M. volunteers.

⇒ **Chairperson** asks for an addict to give a report on the 12<sup>th</sup> Concept for next month.

- Dreia M. volunteers.

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

**Remaining GSO Meeting 2023 Dates:** Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

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

## ARE THERE ANY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS?

---

STEVE C. ON NOVEMBER 11 WITH 4 YEARS & MACKENZIE C. ON NOVEMBER 24 FOR 1 YEAR.

- ⇒ **Chairperson:** entertained 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:** Nate M. new GSR for "When Fiends Come out to recover, Candlelight Meeting" at the Fountain Valley Alano Club and Jenn C. for "Back to Basics" at the Fountain Valley Alano Club.

- Nolan O. announces that there is a newly meeting, they are turning an AA meeting into a CA meeting under the name "All of the A's of Cocaine Anonymous". He adds that there is a GSR for that meeting but not here at the meeting so Nolan O. will stand in, they have held one meeting under the CA name. It is a bonfire meeting on Tuesdays in Dana Point.
- Steve C. reminds him that they need four meetings to establish a new meeting and encourages them to come to the next meeting to get their meeting and their GSR voted in. He also asks if they need a starter kit, Nolan O. is not yet sure.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to affirm the new GSR's of "When Fiends Come out and Recover" and "Back to Basics." Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

- ⇒ **Chairperson:** read **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:** prepared 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:** called the roll and announced quorum.

- **Present:** Frank P., Nick B., Melanie R.G., Donovan B., Chris J., Steve C., Frankie A., Dan S., Nolan O., Jason M., Jenn C., Nate M., Dreia M., Carlo P., Mathew M., Jose A., Tess M., Ron D., Doc E., Angel G., Matt A., Evan L., Russell, Matt S., Kyandra M., and MacKenzie C.
- **Absent:** Jannik S., Laura R., & John C.
- Quorum is 14.

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

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

- **Steve C. makes a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

- ⇒ **Parliamentarian:** reminds members to "State your name and highest position for the record after being recognized by the Chair, and before engaging in debate or making a motion. To keep things orderly, when wishing to engage in debate/make motions, you will be placed on a list after being acknowledged by the chair, it will then be your turn to debate or make motions when you are called upon relative to your spot on the list. When in debate,

please state if you are in favor, not in favor, or asking a question. For any questions of procedure, call for a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry (waiting till someone is done speaking) to ask the Parliamentarian directly."

- Steve C. reminds members that you cannot use a proxy to vote in the elections.

## BOARD OFFICER'S REPORTS

---

### ⇒ **Chairperson's Report**

- Frank P.-

714.514.4150

- Report: Frank P. reports that we had our board meeting last week and discussed what is happening and what is coming ahead, and he and Steve C. got together to talk about how to handle nominations so that we do not get bogged down. Frank P. reminds members that they need to be present at nomination and for the election.
- Frank P. reports that our financial position is good., When looking at the treasury report Frank P. notices the donations coming in from the meetings and the number one contributor is "Paychecks", two is "Spiritual Lines", three is "Keep it Simple", number four is "Paychecks Online" and five is "First Friday Night." "Keep it Simple" is a small meeting and yet contributions are needed and asks us to keep bringing them in and not hold them in the treasury.
- Frank P. explains how nominations will happen. At the opening the secretary will read the qualifications.

#### • **Archives Chair Nomination:**

- Melanie R.G. reads the qualifications: This position is one of the seven positions that make up the Executive Board, the people legally responsible for CA.

#### **Qualifications:**

- Shall have at least one (1) year of continuous sobriety.
  - Shall have at least six (6) months previous service at the GSO level or as a meeting officer.
  - Should possess organizational skills and historical knowledge of the Area and Fellowship as a whole.
- Jose A. brings it to our attention that the S&B on page 16 states that every member of the Executive Board of which the Archives Chair is one, has a term that lasts two years. There was some confusion as Melanie R.G. and others understood him to refer to the length of sobriety. The issue is clarified by looking at the S&B closer and noting one is a qualification and the second refers to the length of service. Steve C. summarizes by saying length of sobriety to qualify is one year, length of service is two years.
  - Frank P. opens the nominations:
  - **Jose A. nominates Alonzo M. Alonzo M. accepts the nomination. Seconded. Motion passes.**
  - We have a nomination from last month which was Melanie R.G.'s nomination of MacKenzie C. MacKenzie has dropped off the Zoom.

- **Nick B. nominates Tess M. Seconded.**

- In response to Tess M. asking for clarification of the responsibilities Frankie A. explains the position of the Archives Chair as including sending Cameron the archives once a year for the Museum Website and the minutes from the GSO and Board Meetings for the year in addition to attending the CA world Archives committee and any archive related events and lastly, to attend the Executive Board meeting once a month.
- Tess M. accepts the nomination.
  - **Nick B. makes a motion to close the nominations for Archive Chair. Seconded.**
- Both Tess M. and Alonzo M. attest that they meet the qualifications.

- **PI Committee Chair nominations:**
- Frank P. states that Jose A. who was elected last month is finishing out the term for the previous person's vacancy and thus automatically qualifies to be nominated.
- Jose A. states that he would like to continue, has the qualifications, and accepts.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to close. Seconded.**

- **Hotline Committee Chair nominations:**
- Melanie R.G. reads from Section 6 General Guidelines for all committees; "All Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of a committee should have at least one (1) year of continuous sobriety, excepting as provided under their respective sections, some Committees recommend a longer length of sobriety due to the amount of commitment involved. (This requirement can be waived by 2/3 majority vote of the GSO or their Committee respectively, and under special circumstances.)" Melanie R.G. also reads parts of what the Hotline Committee Chair is responsible for.

- **Steve C. nominates Jason S. Seconded.**

- Steve C. adds that the S&B committee is working on a referral from a board member, as he has mentioned before, on combining hotline with website and possibly social media under an IT committee with underlying subcommittees. "We would like to create it as an ad hoc committee for now and while we are electing a Hotline Chairperson, we would also be electing a website person but will remain Hotline until it gets changed in the S&B."
- It is clarified that we currently do not have a social media person and that PI does their work and the prospective IT committee is there to support that.
- Jason S. accepts the nomination but does state that he can't be responsible for social media but thinks we can get creative and have someone as a vicechairs to handle that part. Steve C. states that that is already the intent.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to close nominations for Hotline Committee Chair. Seconded.**

- **H&I Committee Chair Nominations:**
- Melanie reads the qualifications and parts of the responsibilities: One year term and one-year continuous sobriety requirement.
- Melanie R.G. adds as an observation that all committee chairs are supposed to present a written monthly report at the GSO to the secretary to help facilitate the transcribing of the minutes and states that currently only Donovan B. treasurer does so.

- **Melanie R.G. nominates Tess M. Seconded.**

- Tess M. accepts the nomination.
- Tess M. raises the possibility of not being able to attend the election in December as she might be somewhere with no signal.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to suspend the rules and obtain the election of the H&I chair immediately. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- Tess M. is excused from the room. The discussion is centered on the great job she has done so far, and it is clarified that she can hold this position and that of archives simultaneously.

- **Motion passes. Tess M. is elected as H&I Chair for another term.**

- Someone brings up that Tess M. will not be there next month for the election of the archives position and thus asks how that will work. Tess M. pulls out her nomination and states that Alonzo M. seems like a great choice.
- There is a brief discussion regarding Mackenzie C.'s nomination from last month to the position of Archive Chair but since she is not present because she seems to have fallen off the call the nomination has not been accepted. It was tabled and we cannot pick it up until she returns.
- Someone asks if we can suspend the rules and vote Alonzo M. in today in case, he cannot make it for the December meeting. Frank P. asks Alonzo M. if he will be present in December. Alonzo M. is uncertain if he will be present.

- **Nick B. makes a motion to suspend the rules and vote for the Archives Chair position now. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- Alonzo M. states his qualifications by saying he has been sober 34 years in which he has done a lot of service for CA both at World, the conventions, marathons and held other positions of service at different levels. He also can fulfil the time required for the commitment.
- Alonzo M. leaves the Zoom call during voting.
- Melanie R.G. uses her fifth concept in opposition for the only reason that this is one of the seven positions on the Executive Board of which she is currently the only woman and women are vastly underrepresented in CA and at the GSO with only six in attendance here today. She adds that a woman's perspective on the Executive Board is important and acknowledges that Alonzo M. is super qualified, that she has heard him speak and knows of his remarkable work in addiction treatment. She adds she feels that lack of representation in CA and she is conscious that we do not have an alternative candidate but would want us to think about it.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to reconsider. Nolan O. Seconded.**

- Chris J. mentions that people knew the elections were coming up at least for a month and if there was someone who was interested, they would be here, and he appreciates what Melanie R.G. is saying and reminds us that we have not voted anyone in. Steve C. says we are electing. Jenn C. is of the opinion that there are woman coming up that need to grow into the role and it could be something that happens in the future. Donovan B. says he might have a fellow member, a woman, take over his position in a month, she can be here next month, and we could go from there. Kyandra M. brings up the issue that Mackenzie C. dropped off and thus was not being considered while we are suspending the rules now for someone who lost connection. Steve C. in his role as S&B and parliamentarian talks about the need to build consensus and utilize the group conscience and recaps things that he is hearing. In the interest of democratic fairness, we should give MacKenzie a chance to accept the nomination and not be pushing something through. Here we have an alternative and in the case of Tess M. we did not have another candidate. Steve C. explains that we have this quandary as the rules were suspended, we want to move on to the election which we had but now we are reconsidering. He asks: "do we want to go forward with the election for or do we table this for next month and put it to the fellowship?" More so, if there is another qualified candidate, we can suspend the rules, but we need a super majority, basically substantial unanimity as it is in our traditions. We might not have that right now.

- **Chris J. makes a nomination to table this. Seconded.**

- Jose A. brings up the issue of having already voted.
- Steve C. wants to explain the Robert's Rules in place. If someone in the majority makes a motion to reconsider a vote, they can call for that motion, anyone in the majority, not in the minority is on the table. We are obligated to talk about it.

- Steve C. explains that it was tabled, we are reconsidering to give MacKenzie C. the same chance since she lost contact through no fault of her own. Nolan O. reports that he got a text from MacKenzie when she lost contact saying she is interested in the Archives Chair position.
- Doc E. comments that with the precedent we are setting the rule moving forward would be that if someone loses connection and they want to participate we will be suspend the rules. Steve C.: "The exception doesn't prove the rule." Doc E. believes the board changes the rules a lot, and that "you either have rules or you don't that there are principles, you either practice them or don't. We take so much time to make the S&B and then we don't follow them."
- Matt expresses that we voted on something; it determined the outcome, yet someone lost connection.
- Kyandra M. reminds the group that we are not out of order, we are following the rules as it they are laid out for us so we can have this discussion, the rules are being followed.
- Jose A. states that the guidelines are not being followed by Nick as he had two votes earlier yet today it was stated you can't carry a proxy for elections.

- **Steve C. calls a point of order.**

- Alonzo M. withdraws his nomination.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to recess for five minutes. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- Frank P. tasks Jose A. to please listen.
- Dreia M. makes a point of inquiry: "Who was the second to the reconsideration?" Nolan O. says it was him.
- Steve C. apologies to all "please understand that I just want us to go through this procedure." Jose A. also apologizes for getting heated.
- The motion is reiterated as reconsidered. Steve C. says it is currently mute because Alonzo withdrew his nomination.

- **Dreia M. makes a motion that we postpone the nomination of a new archive chair until January when everyone is present. Seconded.**

- Mathew M. asks if we not vote Alonzo M. in already. Steve C. clarifies that this is not a vote against anybody, it is just a vote to open it up because people have concerns and that we respect our minority vote and our minority vote is women and people who do not have certain access and we want to be as fair as possible. The other option is that we could also vote to not reconsider this at all, that the group conscience can decide.
- MacKenzie C. is back online. Frank P. asks Alonzo M. if he wants to be archive chair, Alonzo M. states he doesn't want the drama, that he has been around a long time and he is trying to come back to the group, he doesn't want to go through all of this, voted in, he much rather do his service work at World, but all his meetings are in OC. It is clarified for Alonzo M. that he can be on Zoom for the next meeting.
- Alonzo M. confirms he is back in as Archives Chair.
- We have a motion to table. Nick B. makes a point of parliamentary inquiry regarding the motion by Dreia M. to reconsider does the Alonzo M. election go away? Steve C. says that we elected Alonzo M. but we had an opposition vote, but reiterates we did vote Alonzo M. in. There is a discussion around whether we elected Alonzo in or not as some people did not realize that had happened and now, they understand the conflict better. Steve C. "nobody took it away from Alonzo M.", he is the elected Archives Chair. Doc E. explains that based on what Melanie R.G., which was a minority voice said the question is do we want to use the group conscience to reconsider.

- **Nick B. calls a point of order Dreia M.'s motion is out of order since we already voted. Frank P. rules Dreia M.'s motion out of order.**
- Kyandra M. asks the question: "Was there discussion before a vote for any opposition and did the Chairperson state the outcome of the election?" Steve C. responds the chairman said the vote passed. The discussion comes before the vote and there was discussion. Mathew M. loves that Melanie R.G. brought that up and he believes we are getting more women, and they are being of service, and it is changing, this election or vote is not going to alter that fact.
  - **Nick B. calls to vote the question to reconsider. Seconded. Motion does not pass.**
- Alonzo M. is voted in as the new Archives Chair.
- **Literature Committee Chair:**
  - **Dreia M. nominates Mathew M. for another term. Seconded.**
    - **Steve C. motion to close nominations. Seconded.**
- **Chip Committee Chair:**
  - **Carlo males a motion to nominate himself. Seconded.**
  - **Steve C. makes a motion to close nominations. Seconded.**
- **4th Step Workshop Chair:**
  - **Nolan O. nominates Nick B. Seconded.**
  - **Steve C. makes a motion to close nominations. Seconded.**
- **GRC Committee Chair:**
  - **Melanie nominates Dan S. Seconded.**
  - **Steve C. nominates Nolan O. Seconded.**
- Nolan O. does not accept.
  - **Frankie A. nominates MacKenzie C. Seconded.**
- MacKenzie C. asks what it entails. Steve c. explains duties. Dan S. says that he is the liaison between the GSO and the sets of traditions and explains the position as being helpful to the group. He has only not been to one meeting being that "Paychecks" and adds that in the position you get to meet the fellowship in Orange County but you do not get a badge.
- Mackenzie C. accepts.
  - **Steve C. makes a motion to close nominations. Seconded.**
- It is confirmed that McKenzie C. will have the one-year requirement this month.
- Frank P. expresses his appreciation to the people present and comments that although the discussion got difficult, we were able to resolve our issues. He adds that when we moved out of the Fountain Valley Alano Club Steve C. told him he owed Alonzo M. and apology and so Frank P. did apologize, and Alonzo M. apologized to him. "We have good relationships in this fellowship because we know that when we commit mistakes, which we all do, we know how to apologize and move forward". Frank P. also apologized to Jose A. and Mathew M. He adds that from

his position of neutrality he has championed women on the Board and agrees with Mathew M. that the fellowship is moving in that direction and that he wished he had known sooner that the treasurer's position might be taken over by a woman, but Donovan B. had only heard of this last night.

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

- Report:

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

- Report:

- **Melanie R.G. makes a motion to skip over the rest of the agenda with exception of any requests for funds in the interest of time since we are at 11:53. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- Nolan O. announces a God shot draw event for H&I happening this Sunday with food, solution and two wonderful speakers.
- Jose A. requests information to be able to access the social media accounts. He is told to contact Jason S. or Josh B. or Kailey K. but know the last two have been out of contact.

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

- Report:

Previous Balance	<u>\$ 2,076.07</u>
Donations	<u>\$ 1,256.88</u>
Disbursements	<u>\$ 982.97</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 2,349.98</u>

- **Chris J. makes a motion to donate \$500 to the World Service Organization. Seconded.**
- **Donovan B. makes a friendly amendment to reduce it to \$250. Chris J. accepts the friendly amendment. Motion passes.**
- **Treasurer:** will ask for 7<sup>th</sup> tradition donations.
  - OCCA Venmo ID: @Donovan-Block (714-713-8280)

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

- Report:

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

- Report:

⇒ **Archivist's Report** -VACANT-

- Report:

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

---

⇒ Address statement of purpose as you give your report.

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

- Report:

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



- Report:  
 Number of Calls: \_\_\_\_\_ Duration: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Caller Hung Up: \_\_\_\_\_ No Answer: \_\_\_\_\_ Voicemails: \_\_\_\_\_

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

- Report:
  - **Tess M. makes a motion to request \$81 for H& meeting guides without contact information and without staples. Seconded.**
  - **Chris J. makes a friendly amendment to round it up to \$100 due to taxes. Seconded. Motion passes.**

⇒ **Public Information Committee** - Jose A.- 714.615.1167

- Report:
  - ⇒ **Webservant Subcommittee Report:** -Vacant/Frankie A. sub-  
- Report:
  - ⇒ **Social Media Subcommittee Report:** -Vacant-  
- Report:
  - ⇒ **CPC Subcommittee Report:** -Frankie A.- 714.487.3080  
- Report:

Request for Funds: \$

⇒ **Unity Committee** - Dreia M.- 909.446.2647

- Report:  
Request for funds:
  - ⇒ **Activities Subcommittee** - Nolan O.- 407.687.8656  
Report:

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

- Report:  
 Number of Sales: \$ 223  
 Request for Funds: \$ 204
  - **Mathew M. makes a motion to request \$ 204 for “Big Books” and “12 and 12’s” from OC central office. Seconded. Motion passes.**

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

- Report: Nick B. informs that the workshop for November will take place two weeks from this day and \$25 covers food, drinks and materials.

**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: \$ 277  
 Request for Funds: \$ 300
  - **Carlo P. makes a motion to request \$300 for chips. Seconded. Motion passes.**

---

## WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES

---

⇒ <b>DELEGATE</b>	-Dan S.-	714.403.8326
⇒ <b>DELEGATE</b>	-Nolan O.-	407.687.8656
⇒ <b>DELEGATE</b>	-Steve C.-	714.330.0416
⇒ <b>ALTERNATE</b>	-Nick B.-	949.382.9288
⇒ <b>ALTERNATE</b>	-Kyandra M.-	928.503.2328

---

## BUSINESS

---

⇒ **Old Business**

1. Robert's Rules Workshop –Steve C.

⇒ **New Business**

---

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

- Upon adjournment, **Chairperson** calls for a moment of silent meditation and requests an individual to lead the GSO in a prayer of their choice.

- **Nick B. makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded. Motion passes.**

⇒ Meeting adjourned at 11:56 AM