
OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

MAY 4TH, 2024

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

- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called the meeting to order, requesting all cell phones be turned off or silenced.
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** read the "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 #5.
 - Liz M. reports on tradition 5 which states: Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the addict who still suffers.
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to give a report on the 5th Concept.
 - Nick B. reports on the 5th concept which states: "Throughout our World Service structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.
- ⇒ **Chairperson** asked for an addict to give a report on the 6th Tradition for next month.
 - Matt volunteers.
- ⇒ **Chairperson** asked for an addict to give a report on the 6th Concept for next month.
 - Chris J. volunteers.

Remaining GSO Meeting 2024 Dates: June 1st., July 13th., August 3rd., September 7th., October 5th., November 2nd., and December 7th.

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

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Frank P. on May 5th, 1989, for 35 years, Rick G., May 10, 2017, for 7 years, and Kathy W. on May 25th, 2023, 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: None.
New GSRs: None.

⇒ **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:** prepared to call roll and remind 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., Betsy L., Donovan B., Steve C., Alonzo M., Dan S., Nolan O., Jason S., Carlo P., Mathew M., Liz M., Ron D., Doc E., Matt A., Evan L., Jenn C., Neelam A., Celia T., Matt S., Antony D., Kathy W., and Gina G.
- **Absent:** Dreia M., Jose A., Angel G. and Russell E.
- **Quorum:** 16 of 24 present

⇒ **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.

- **Nick B. makes a motion to accept the minutes from the GSO meeting in April. Seconded. Motion passes.**

⇒ **Parliamentarian:** reminds members to "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. reads an excerpt of Robert's Rules of Order regarding the parliamentary law supporting "a careful balance of the rights of persons or subgroups within an organizations or an assembly's total membership. That is these rules are based on a regard for the rights of the majority of the minority, especially a strong minority greater than 1/3 of individual members of absentees." In sum, Steve C. says, it means that we protect the rights of all members.

BOARD OFFICER'S REPORTS

⇒ **Chairperson's Report**

- Frank P.-

714.514.4150

- Report:

1. Executive Board Standing Rule of Board members joining a committee

- Steve C. explains that the Executive Board met this last month and discussed the committees have direct liaisons to the board so we can provide you with the support and resources the committee might need. He adds that this is not oversight, just advising. The Executive Committee voted to have a standing rule for our board members that each member of the board will be assigned or volunteer for a standing committee.
- Frank P. reports that at the last Executive Board Committee we went through a ratification process. The purpose of this is to make sure that all members of the Executive Board are performing to satisfaction. Everyone was ratified unanimously.
 2. GSR's to join a committee
- Frank P. reads that the S&B states on page 9 Section 5-Duties (of GSR's): The GSR should serve on one standing committee of the GSO to better represent their groups in the structure of OCCA. This allows the GSR a better say in how committees serve the groups they are responsible for."
- Frank P. reiterates that all GSR's are required to join a committee, and this will allow for GSR's to have a wider say in how the committees operate to support their groups and should have regularly scheduled meetings.
- Steve C. lists and describes briefly each committee: Chips, H&I, Literature, GRC, Unity, IT, PI, 4th Step Workshop, and S&B.
 3. Committees to hold regular monthly meetings if applicable:
 - Already requested by Frank P. above.

⇒ **Vice-Chairperson's Report** -Nick B.- 949.382.9288
• Report: No report.

⇒ **Secretary's Report** -Melanie R.G. - 714.675.2731
• Report: Melanie R.G. requests that if you have any events coming to please send flyers or information her way so she can list it in the meeting schedule.

⇒ **Treasurer's Report** -Betsy L.- 949.220.2504
• Report: Betsy L. reports that we are tracking all expenses year to date and notes it in the budget that has been handed out to all.

Previous Balance	\$ 1,233.01
Donations	\$ 2,754.73
<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 2,015.25</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 1,972.49

Savings: \$6,004.21

- **Treasurer:** will ask for 7th tradition donations. OCCA Venmo: @betsy-Lyons-1 949.220.3504

⇒ **Vice-Treasurer's Report** -Donovan B.- 949.910.0901
• Report: Donovan B. reports that he will be meeting with a new accountant Wednesday to solve the problem with our legal nonprofit status. The last accountant dropped the ball, so we are starting over.

⇒ **Structure and Bylaws Officer's Report** -Steve C.- 714.330.0416
• Report: Steve C, reports that we have two referrals on the table. One came from one of our members who wants to change some things in Unity to reflect more inclusive language. He reminds us that if you read the structure of bylaws and you come across some things that you think could be improved, write it down and give it to him as a

referral. He will bring it to the S&B committee, discuss it and do his best to incorporate everyone's ideas of what they want to see for the fellowship.

- Steve C. informs that they are looking for people to join the S&B committee as he will be stepping down at the end of the year. They meet monthly and discuss in a collegial way.
- Steve C. states that we want to be in line with our structure and bylaws and reiterates what the chair has already requested that GSR's sit on a standing committee in addition to their work at the GSO. The hope is that the committees grow and are able to accomplish their mission.
- Lastly Steve C. presents the OCCA service manual and wants us to take a look at it and see where they're going with it. Ask yourself the question "is this helpful for the new person coming in and learning about OCCA in an accessible way? Melanie R.G. asks if we can have a copy to read as requested.
- **ACTION ITEM: S&B Vicechair Matt A. will make sure it has a "DRAFT" watermark before it is out for reading by the GSO.**

⇒ **Archivist's Report**

-Alonzo M.-

714.715.0405

- Report: Alonzo M. reports that he was unable to attend the Executive Committee Meeting because of his brother's passing but will definitely get to the next one. He has been working on another CA convention.
- Frank P. states that it was really great to come into the H&I committee meeting and see how much participation there is. He talks about the importance of service and how at 76 he is still being of service, that there is impressive work being done at the committee level, appreciates the delegates and alternates showing up to events. Service keeps us sober.
- Frank P. let's Alonzo M. know that there are more materials coming from Ray Grosse's collection that his son is donating to CA.
- Melanie R.G. mentions to those in the room that are not GSR's or Committee Chairs or officers of the Board that they can still become committee members. Steve C. adds that they can also participate with their thoughts and opinions at this meeting, the only thing they cannot do is vote.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

⇒ **Group Relations Committee**

- Dan S.-

714.403.8326

- Report: Dan S. reports that they have closed down the "First Friday Night" meeting for lack of participation. Dan S. also says that all groups are following guidelines and that if you see something that seems troubling or a meeting that might be struggling to please reach out to him for support.
- It is decided that for now the meeting will be listed on the website as being "on hold" and in three months' time we can decide if to remove it.

⇒ **IT Committee**

- Jason S. -

818.263.3500

- Hotline Sub-committee: Jason S. reports that calls were up a little this month and if you wish to join the Hotline pleaser let him know.
 - Total Calls: 24
 - Avg Duration: 1 minute and 43 seconds
 - Longest Call: 11 minutes and 27 seconds
 - Voicemail: 0

- **ACTION ITEM: Steve C. to pass on to Jason S. the correct link to upload our meeting information for the CA app that will allow people to find a meeting anywhere they are.**

- Webservant Subcommittee: Updated.

⇒ **Hospitals and Institutions Committee** - Liz M. - 714.266.4081

- Report: Liz M. reports that the committee meeting had great attendance this morning and that they have 5 new panels that need leaders. Liz M. requests that the meeting H&I reps or GSR's if they don't have a rep, take the roster back to their meetings to announce the need for panel leaders and speakers.
- Liz M. announces that in addition to the already existing H&I WhatsApp they are creating another WhatsApp account just for people wishing to speak on panels. GSR's or H&I reps are encouraged to get people to add people that want to speak to that list.
- Liz M. reminds us that on Sunday we will be having the H&I Unity God Shot Card Draw at Doheny State Beach from 12-4 with speakers, free food, and games. Neelam A. adds that two treatment centers "Ocean Hills Recovery" and "Capistrano Beach Recovery" will be attending.
- Liz M. says that they are requesting that the groups add a column to the phone list for people to sign up for Lifeline. Lifeline is a contact list by which people can offer rides to meetings for people in and after treatment and also to offer themselves as sponsors. Nolan O. explains that it works for CA worldwide and they can take the list to hospitals and treatment Centers. Please have the phone list commitment person to incorporate that in their report.

- **ACTION ITEM: per Chris J.'s request Nolan O. will make available the position statement for Lifeline.**

- **Liz M. makes a motion to request \$200 for books and \$150 for pamphlets to be used by H&I. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

- Doc E. says that he noticed that the H&I listing on the website is outdated and also requests that for those who for reasons related to work or otherwise cannot use WhatsApp, could there be another way to get the lists from H&I.
- **ACTION ITEM: Liz M. will provide that list for Doc E. through her phone.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Nolan O. will make a hard copy of the list of available panel speakers for those who need it.**
- There is a discussion about regarding the H&I document currently on the website and agreement that we do not want to publicize personal contact information per previous discussions. Jason S. takes down the document and Steve C. suggests that that document once edited to remove the contact information and only using last initials can be uploaded in the future.

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

- Report: Absent.

⇒ **Social Media Subcommittee Report:** -Angel G.- 714.369.4813

Report: Angel G. reports that we have increased our followers, 38 accounts that are engaging with us, a couple of reels that have been seen 200-300 times, so social media is doing well. Also, there is an event on the 23rd of this month for the community resource festival.

- Steve C. says that if they need resources to boost our presence to let him know so that we can support that effort.
- Angel G. says that if you have any upcoming events, guest speakers or other things you want to announce to send the information his way as some people are not going to the website and relying on our social media accounts.

⇒ **CPC Subcommittee Report:**

-Mathew M.-

Report: Mathew M. reports that he has just received some literature racks for probation officers and they are reaching out to that kind of facility. Kaiser has requested panels outside of Orange. Other outreach efforts are underway.

⇒ **Unity Committee**

- Dreia M.-

909.446.2647

- Report: Absent.

⇒ **Activities and Fundraising Subcommittee**

- Nolan O.-

407.687.8656

Report: Nolan O. reports that they are aiming to do the "god Shot Card Draw" H&I Unity event quarterly and alternate with a hike one month and a bringing back the beach clean-up for another and so on. There are plans for a Halloween event. They will certainly need some help for all those events. Change for Change is going well with a speaker from HA for the one this evening.

- Nick B. clarifies that the committee has the discretion to do what events it seems fit to do and does not have to be determined by what is listed in the S&B's, that was just there for a guide. He suggests putting all the details for an event and asking for funds with enough time.
- **Nick B. makes a motion to call for a vote of no confidence for Dreia M., Unity Chair due to concerns about not fulfilling the responsibilities of the position.**
- Steve C. explains: Any member of the body may recommend a vote of no confidence should this behavior continue or not be addressed a removal vote may then proceed if the GSO votes to remove a committee chairperson, the board chairperson or Vice Chairperson must declare the position vacant." In summary, this is not a removal vote, it is a warning that the person needs to step up or step down.
- Discussion: The role of the Unity chair is clarified, and it is stressed that the Unity chair has the obligation to cultivate and have a working committee, including a vice-chair that can sub, if necessary, have regularly scheduled meetings, oversee and support all the work of the Activities and Fundraising Sub-committee. In addition, the Unity Chair is to spearhead unity amongst the fellowship and all the different groups. There is input about some events not taking place, communication being poor, and last-minute planning. There is acknowledgment that Dreia M. might've felt discouraged by lack of participation in the committee and that her work schedule has made it more difficult for her to attend the GSO and to other matters. There is credit given to Dreia M. for helping make the Chili Cook-Off happen, albeit with problems. There is discussion that we do not need as many events and credit is given to Nolan O. for how much he has done but he needs support. It is suggested strongly to have a set meeting time and date for the committee meeting.
- Steve C. advises on procedure and makes clear that we can decide to initiate the procedure or consider if it causes harm. Some members speak in favor of the motion, to start procedure. Dan S. offers to talk to Dreia M. about this.
- The motion is restated:
 - **Nick B. makes a motion to call for a vote of no confidence for Dreia M., Unity Chair.**
 - **Steve C. makes a friendly amendment stating that as part of the motion to call a vote of no confidence for Dreia M. Unity Chair, that Dan S. will have the conversation with her about the issue. Nick B. accepts the friendly amendment. Motion Passes.**

⇒ **Literature Committee**

- Matthew M. -

714.585.1829

- Report:
Number of Sales: \$ 271.50

- **Mathew M. moves to request \$ 150.00 for pamphlets to CAWSO and \$300 for CA Central Office for books. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

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

- Report: Nick B. reports that he had four attendees in April and the next one is to be conducted on the 18 of May with the 15th being the cutoff date. Doc E. will be helping him out soon. Donovan B. and Evan L. say they are willing to help Nick B.

- **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: \$ 275.00

- **Carlo P. moves to request \$300 for chips. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Dan S.- 714.403.8326

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

- Nolan O. is set for conference. He reports on his commitment for PI at WSO and the four monthly calls required. He is learning and showing up.

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Steve C.- 714.330.0416

- Steve C. reports that he has registered for conference and booked the hotel and requests some funds to pay for the airline ticket.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to request \$1,185.39 to cover conference registration, hotel and airline ticket. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- Steve C. reports that as S&B Vicechair, they are mostly preparing the SR-14. The most salient issue right now is the vote on Tradition 11 and S&B negotiated with the chair of the conference a compromise that we can suspend the rules of the conference to be able to ratify the vote because this is based off of a procedure that already was triggered by a vote of the delegates.

- There are three meetings that have not handed in their Tradition 11 vote and one, the Candlelight meeting will vote tonight, and Frank P. will accept it at midnight.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to extend the deadline to accept the tradition 11 vote by seven days to Saturday May 11th. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- Matt S. from "Dramatic Addicts" did not receive the copy of the Ballot Template from Melanie R.G. (At the end of the meeting Matt S. and Melanie R.G. double check the communication issue. Melanie R.G. sent the ballot to the correct email address but for some reason, Matt S.'s email did not show it.)

- Steve C. says that all are invited to the meeting of the SR-14's, and as members of OCCA, all should have a say that can be taken up at conference.

- ⇒ **ALTERNATE** -Liz M.- 714.266.4081
- Liz M. has a room at the conference. It is decided that Melanie R.G. and Liz M. are going to split the \$500 allotted to the alternates to go to conference.
 - Steve C. says he would like to do a fundraiser to help the alternates cover some of the expenses towards conference.
- ⇒ **ALTERNATE** -Melanie R.G.- 714.675.2731
- Melanie R.G. says she has registered, booked a room, ordered some of the materials and is to schedule a Robert's Rules Workshop with Steve C.

BUSINESS

- ⇒ **Old Business**
1. Tradition 11 vote update-already covered
 2. Robert's Rules Workshop -Steve C.
 - a. Invites anyone who wants to attend this training that will be mostly for the alternates.
 3. Tax Status
 - a. Frank P. just restates that he and Donovan B. are working with an accountant they know to try to resolve this issue.
- **Chris J. makes a motion to donate \$50 to CAWSO. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**
- ⇒ **New Business:**
1. Approve OCCA budget for 2024
 - **Steve C. makes a motion to approve OCCA's 2024 budget as put together by our treasurer. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**
 - Betsy L. reminds the standing committees that they need to advertise their meetings on the WhatsApp so people can attend. They are listed as being S&B, Unity, PI and H&I already has a standing meeting. Melanie R.G. says she talked with Jason S. and if anyone wants to join the IT committee to let him know as that is one that needs to advertise its meeting as well.
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- ⇒ **Chairperson** entertains a motion to Adjourn.
- **There is a motion to adjourn by a member. Seconded. Motion passes.**
 - Upon adjournment, **Chairperson** called for a moment of silent meditation and requests an individual to lead the GSO in a prayer of their choice.
 - Liz M. takes us out with the Serenity Prayer.
 - The time the meeting was adjourned is inexact due to a lost document.