
OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

JULY 13TH, 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**".
 - Bryce W. reads the Traditions.

- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to report on Tradition #7.
 - Melanie R.G. 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.
 - Carlo P. reports on the 7th concept which states: "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.
 - Matt A. volunteers.

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

Remaining GSO Meeting 2024 Dates: 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

ARE THERE ANY JULY BIRTHDAYS?

Nolan O. on July 19 for 7 years.

- ⇒ **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,

- At this time Angel G. and Mathew M. explain that a "Wednesday Miracle Meeting" at Kaiser in Orange has been happening since April and they were under the impression that it had been made official as an H&I meeting. Steve C. informs that for a meeting to become accredited they have to have 2 or more people and someone willing to take on the commitment of the GSR and secretary. It is agreed that Mathew M. will take on that commitment for 60 days until they have other people fill those commitments. Mathew M. explains that with it now being officially listed they will be able to reach out to more people. This meeting takes place at Kaiser in Orange at 12 pm.

New Meetings Petitioning to Join Area: Wednesday Miracle Meeting of Cocaine Anonymous.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to affirm the new meeting called "Wednesday Miracle Meeting of Cocaine Anonymous." Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

New GSRs: Mathew M. will serve as GSR for the time being.

- **Mathew M. makes a motion to be affirmed as the GSR of the "Wednesday Miracle Meeting of Cocaine Anonymous." Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

- Mathew M. informs that there is a new women's meeting Sundays at noon at the Fountain Valley Alano Club. Jenn C. who represents it is at work at this time. It is called "Sunlight of the Spirit". Steve C. informs that they have to meet at least five times before getting accredited. Frank P. informs Jenn C. to bring the meeting to be accredited at the next GSO meeting.
- Mathew M. requests help with a starter kit and Frank P. says he believes he has one at home. It is also discussed that the cutoff for buying literature is Monday and Frank P. will authorize them receiving what they need.

⇒ **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 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., Nolan O., Neelam A., Carlo P., Mathew M., Jose A., Liz M., Ron D., Chris J., Doc E., Angel G., Matt A., Evan L., Jenn C., Bryce W., Matt S., Celia T., and Kathy W.
- **Absent:** Alonzo M., Dan S., Jason S. (Melanie R.G. proxy), Jacob W., Anthony D., and Gina G.
- **Quorum:** 20 constitutes quorum.

⇒ **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.

- **Matt A. made a motion to accept the minutes of the last GSO. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

⇒ **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."

• **First item of business: tabled item from last GSO meeting: Unity Chair.**

- Steve C. explains the procedure for a removal vote, emphasizing the importance of personal experience and fairness. Since at the previous GSO there was a vote of no confidence for the Unity Chair, Dreia M., now we move on to a discussion around a vote of removal.
- Discussion: Members of the GSO express their experience of what has and has not happened since Dreia M. heard of the vote of no confidence and announced that she wished to remain in her position a month and a half ago. There are statements about the continued difficulty in communication with several people reaching out to Dreia M. and not receiving return communication. There has been no attendance by the Unity Chair at the subcommittee meetings.
- Dreia M. shares the personal struggles and sacrifices, including fraud and financial difficulties, in the last year affecting her ability to fulfill her role. Dreia M. is asked if perhaps she had not received the phone calls and texts and she says that she had a problem with her phone and did not for some time receive her messages. She expresses that she wants to continue as the Unity Chair and part of the GSO.
- At this time Dreia M. is excused from the room for further discussion. Discussion centers on members working unsupported and it has created confusion as to roles and responsibilities. There is meaningful concern and care for Dreia B.'s recent struggles and a deep appreciation for her as a part of this fellowship. Neelam A. has stepped up in the void as well as Nolan O. and it is because of them that the activities have been happening. A couple people wish to see if they can help her continue. It is widely agreed that many efforts to help her keep this position have been attempted and that it is not beneficial to her wellbeing and the health of the GSO to keep her in her position. The conclusion is that there has been no progress towards fulfilling the expectations of the commitment. There is the suggestion that if Dreia M. wants to continue to be involved in Unity that she can do so from another position such as being part of the Activities and Fundraising subcommittee, she can take time to regroup and then come back and participate in another role. While we consider the individual in our decisions, we must also prioritize the business of CA and that business needs to be happening.
- Nolan O. has also expressed that he will want to roll out and is suffering from some burn out and Chris J. says he is willing to help with Activities that he has handled in the past.
- Frank P. closes the discussion commenting that he is moved by the amount of love and care he saw in this process towards a fellow CA member.

• **Frank P. calls for the vote for removal of Dreia M. as the Chair of Unity.
Seconded. Motion carries.**

BOARD OFFICER'S REPORTS

⇒ **Chairperson's Report**

- Frank P.-

714.514.4150

- Report: Frank P. reports that he has been working with Donovan B. on recuperating our tax-exempt status that Donovan B. has committed to staying on to complete. Frank P. says that as of now we have our nonprofit status, but it is a process.
- Frank P. adds that as chair he tries to remain impartial but is so grateful that all are participating, and that the work done here is in love.

⇒ **Vice-Chairperson's Report**

-Nick B.-

949.382.9288

- Report: Nick B. says he is on Zoom because he has Covid. He has nothing to report at this time.

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

- Report: Melanie R.G. reminds the group that if they have flyers for events to send them to Jason S. so he can post them on the website. Jason S. is not on WhatsApp and Melanie R.G. tries to send him the flyers she sees on the WhatsApp GSO chat. On her part Melanie R.G. is adding all the events she sees posted to the printed master schedule.
- There is a clarification that social media is under PI and is separate from the website. The flyers being approved on the WhatsApp are for social media.
- Frank P. welcomes Dreia M. back into the room and lets her know that this is a community that supports and loves her and that he hopes she will continue to participate in a way that works for her.

⇒ **Treasurer's Report** -Betsy L.- 949.220.2504

- Report:

Previous Balance	\$ 793.07
Donations	\$ 1,924.00
<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 666.73</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 2,051.34

- Betsy L. reports that she did receive a large Venmo from Nolan O. from the Change for Change events and it will be reflected in this month's total. With what is to be added we will be close to \$3,600 with only one delegate, Dan S., that needs to get reimbursed. They also need to collect their per diem.
- Frank P. takes the time to thank Nolan O. for all he has done to raise money through the Change for Change and other activities.

- **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 although Frank P. has already mentioned the work on the seeking to reinstate our nonprofit status, we are still waiting to talk to the accountant to determine which way we will accomplish this.
- Donovan B. reminds us that we won't be able to get literature for a while because the office is moving to Arizona so we will have to stock up.

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

- Report: Steve C. reports that the committee has done lot of work in the last couple of months. "We are probably three hours away from finishing our service manual." He apologizes for the delay. They approved some things in committee through referrals that they then brought to the executive board and were approved. They are the following:
 1. To add to the S&B, the subcommittee section under PI for social media sub chair, which they would need to do in conjunction with Jose A. and with Angel G.
 2. A change to the Unity committee description on page 54 ending in "these elements may include race, sexuality, ethnic or language barriers to strike and then insert new language "these elements include race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age, disability and or native language. Steve C. explains that this is to make it more inclusive and update the language.
- **Steve C. makes a motion to change the Unity committee description as stated above. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**
- 3. The next was a suggestion to add the date of April 12 to the calendar.
 - **Steve C. makes a motion that we add to the calendar in the S&B the date of April 12th, OCCA anniversary. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**
- 4. Of this next one Steve C. explains that "we had to do the same thing at the World Service level, and we have to bring it before the entire body to change it, because it is our official procedures for Robert's Rules, and it does affect your voting rights, so we will need to get two thirds vote super majority to pass." Steve C.

says we need to strike language on page 61 under recognition one, the motion to reconsider. And the reason is that you are allowed five things now under our manual that allow you to interrupt a speaker during the meeting. Motion to reconsider should not be one of them.

- **Steve C. makes a motion to strike the language on page 61 under recognition one: the motion to reconsider. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

⇒ **Archivist's Report** -Alonzo M.- 714.715.0405
• Report: Alonzo M. is absent.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

⇒ **Group Relations Committee** - Dan S.- 714.403.8326
• Report: Dan S. is absent.

⇒ **IT Committee** - Jason S. - 818.263.3500
• Hotline Sub-committee: Melanie R.G. reports as a proxy for Jason S. who sent in his report earlier.

Total Calls:	19
Avg Duration:	1 minute and 37 seconds
Longest Call:	8 minutes and 28 seconds
Voicemail:	0 (except one solicitation call)

- Angel G. brings up the fact that they are getting so many calls from Google services, and they don't hear the response. Frank P. says the same is happening to him. We will bring that up to Jason S.
- Webservant Subcommittee:

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

- Report: Liz M. reports that H&I has 16 active facilities and 56 active panels, and they keep adding new panels, while some get put on hold. They need speakers and leaders, and she asks GSR's to please announce this at their meetings.
- Liz M. announces the upcoming "God shot card draw" at Doheny State Beach on August 4 from 12-4, with guest speakers, opportunity raffle, cookout and games.
- Liz M. adds that the committee has a new secretary who is Nick J.

- **Liz M. makes a motion to request \$435 for 1000 pamphlets. Seconded.**

(Liz M. explains that they are asking for this amount in order to stock up since the central office is moving and we will not have access to literature for a few months.)

Passes unanimously.

- There is a discussion of how many pamphlets we use each month, and it is approximated to 500. It has been decided that Mathew M. will be creating little bundles that are ready to be allotted in order to keep better track.

- **Liz M. makes a motion to request \$200 for little Big Books. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

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

- Report: Jose A. reports that on June 20, the PI team attended the youth resource fair. It was a great opportunity to communicate with young kids, parents and community members about CA and help them better understand how we can help. They donated a movie night basket. Jose A. adds that he is really grateful to all those who stepped up to help. There is appreciation in the room for the work of PI.
- Jose A. shows a video that they have created. Angel G. explains that they did it in such a way that they are not infringing copyright for images or sound.

- Angel G. makes a case for requesting some money to help boost the video because it leads to our website, and we can exponentially increase our visibility. For a dollar a day we can boost an event, a meeting or any other message.

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

- Report: Angel G. reports that this month, we've had a total of 1010 additional accounts reached from our original 200 followers. He gives us more statistical information and observes that we do not have a lot of South Orange County activity and encourages them to use the QR code and bring it to their meetings.
- Angel G. adds that there's a lot of people overseas looking at what we're doing. And that's why we want to promote this video that is specific to OCCA. He noticed that reels actually work out better than just a random flyer. Angel G. is experimenting with what works best and mentions that Instagram has a great tool for tracking results and explains how boosting works.

- **Angel G. makes a motion to have the video approved. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

- **Angel G. makes a motion to request \$30 to boost the video. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

⇒ **CPC Subcommittee Report:** - Matthew M. - 714.585.1829

Report: Mathew M. reports that they are working with drug court and take literature and is also working with a probation officer. Jose A. adds that they are working with Orange County public defenders who are interested in our meetings.

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

- Report: Steve C. opens up for discussion on how to move forward with electing a new Unity Committee Chair.

- **Chris J. makes a motion to not decide now but to take it back to our meetings and announce the open position. Seconded. Opposition carries and motion fails.**

- **Nolan O. makes a motion to elect Neelam A. as the Unity Chair. Seconded.**

- Nolan O. speaks to his motion by stating that Neelam A. has really stepped up, she has gotten board member involved, and has been holding monthly meetings.

- The qualifications are read as written in the S&B. Neelam A. says she has over a year of sobriety and is willing to assume the position. Neelam A. steps out of the room. Neelam A. meets all the qualifications except the sobriety time required of 2 years. Steve C. advises that we need to have a discussion regarding the possibility of waiving this requirement. Chris J. says he had forgotten that she wanted to step into this role, that her dedication has been important, she is very active, and he would support her in that position.

- **Chris J. makes a motion to waive the sobriety time requirement for Neelam A. to become the Chair of the Unity Committee. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

- Now we prepare to vote on electing her as chair. Melanie R.G. observes that at this time we would be electing Neelam A. to finish Dreia M.'s term and she would have to stand for reelection for next year.

- **Chris J. makes a motion to elect Neelam A. as Chair of the Unity Committee. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

- Neelam A., now as Unity Chair, reports that we have decided to bring both the H&I activities with the GSO activities together in one meeting as they have most of the same people and it makes sense.

- **Neelam A. makes a motion to request \$200 for the God Shot Card Draw in order to buy food. Seconded.**

- Neelam A. speaks to her motion by saying that we will have ways to raise some money there with t-shirt sales, opportunity drawing and some items to auction off.
- Nick B. raises the point that we have discussed that to be complaint with California law, if we hold opportunity drawing 90% of the winnings need to go back to the organization. Neelam A. believes that we could have an auction with donated items. A surfboard and TV are examples of what they have recently raffled off. Nolan O. asks that if people have things that could be part of a raffle or auction, please consider donating them to the event. He adds that the items fetched \$ 430 and that the opportunity drawing brings in between \$100-\$200.
- There is a discussion around the possibility of charging \$5 for the event. Nolan O. states that not all activities are fundraisers, that some like this one, is an attempt to build fellowship and unity. Neelam A. adds that they are getting many people from treatment centers and that they are not allowed to carry their wallets or phones and so it is nice to have food for them to welcome them to CA.

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

Report: Nolan O. reports that they have brought in a total of \$1,250 in t-shirt sales, \$ 1,267.50 in opportunity drawings, cash donations were \$229, and the change bucket was \$361 to total \$3,107.50 which is about average what we do every year.

- Nolan O. says that he has been doing activities since 2018 and is feeling some burn out and is wanting to transition being in more of a support role and not at the head of things. He is stepping down and has someone in mind to take his place.
- Nick B. notes that we have yet to vote on the approval for the funds request for the God Shot card Draw.

- **Steve C. restates the motion of a request for \$200 for buying food for the event. Previously seconded. Passes with substantial unanimity.**

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

- Report:
Number of Sales: \$ 532
- There is a discussion about how much to order in light of the office moving to Arizona and us needing to stock up for a few months during which time sales of literature from the office will not be happening.
Request for Funds:

- **Mathew M. makes a motion to request \$ 600 total broken down as \$400 for CAWSO and \$205 for OCCA. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

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

- Report: Nick B. reports that he had two people at the last workshop. This month it will be held on the 27th due to a scheduling conflict for Nick B. and cutoff is the 24th. \$25 covers breakfast, lunch, coffee and all the materials and you can get your 4th step done in one day.

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

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

- Report: Carlo P. states that his request will be taking into consideration that the office is moving and that we need to stock up.
Amount of Sales: \$ 206.10
Request for Funds: \$ 310.00

- **Carlo P. makes a motion requesting \$310 for chips. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Dan S.- 714.403.8326

- Absent.

- ⇒ **DELEGATE** -Nolan O.- 407.687.8656
- Nolan O. reports that he wants to thank angel G. for showing up to the North American PI call and adds that we will be getting together for the SR-14 discussion amongst the delegates and alternates and anyone who wants to join.
- ⇒ **DELEGATE** -Steve C.- 714.330.0416
- Steve C. reports that there are a lot of SR-14's that will be discussed and decided on at the conference, many of them that can change the World Service Manual and requests that OCCA delegates and alternates set a date for that meeting through the chat.
- ⇒ **ALTERNATE** -Liz M.- 714.266.4081
- Liz M. says she has nothing to report at this time.
- ⇒ **ALTERNATE** -Melanie R.G.- 714.675.2731
- Melanie R.G. says she has nothing to report at this time.

BUSINESS

⇒ **Old Business**

1. Tax Status-already addressed earlier in the meeting.
2. Robert's Rules Workshop -Steve C.
 - If you are interested Steve C. will hold a workshop anytime for whoever needs it.

⇒ **New Business:**

- **Chris J. makes a motion to donate \$250 to World Service. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**

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

- **Chris J. makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded. Passes unanimously.**
- Upon adjournment, **Chairperson** calls for a moment of silent meditation and requests an individual to lead the GSO in a prayer of their choice.
- **Meeting adjourned at 12:33 PM**