

OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

JULY 12TH, 2025

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

Meeting Started @ 10:05am.

- ⇒ Melanie R.G acts as chairperson for this meeting.
- ⇒ **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 Nick to read: "**The Twelve Traditions**".
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to report on Tradition #7
 - Betsy L. did the report on tradition 7 which states "Every C.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."
- ⇒ **Chairperson** asked for an addict to give a report on the 8th tradition for next month.
 - Adam volunteered to do a report on the 8th tradition next month.

Remaining GSO Meeting 2025 Dates: August 2nd, September 6th, October 4th, November 1st, and December 6th

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

ARE THERE ANY JULY BIRTHDAYS?

- ⇒ NOLAN O. 7/19/2017 CELEBRATED 8 YEARS
- ⇒ ANGELINA T. 7/11/23 CELEBRATED 2 YEARS
- ⇒ MARCUS CELEBRATED 1 YEAR.
- ⇒ **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: None

New GSRs: None

- ⇒ **Secretary:** prepares to call role 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 please announce your principal for the record."
- ⇒ **Secretary:** calls the roll and announces quorum.
 - **Present:** Chris J., Melanie R.G., Neelam A., Betsy L., Donovan B., Steve C., Nolan O., Liz M., Gina G., Jason S., Jenn C., Mathew M., Nick B., Angelina T., Evan L., Marco M., Matt S., Spencer B., Adam S., Frank P., Jessica M., Brayden S., Alex G., Sierra J.,
 - **Absent:** Alonzo M., Carlo P., Jose A., Angel G., Matt A., Emmanuel, Nicole M.
 - **Quorum:** 17
- ⇒ **Secretary:** Passes 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.

- ⇒ **Parliamentarian:** reminded 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."

⇒	<u>Chairperson's Report</u>	- Chris J.-	714.713.8280
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report: No report at this time.		
⇒	<u>Vice-Chairperson's Report</u>	-Melanie R.G..-	714.675.2731
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report: No report at this time.		
⇒	<u>Secretary's Report</u>	-Neelam A.-	559.306.4551
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report: Neelam A. reported that she passed around the master schedule and asked for member to fix any errors they see. She also reported that she is not moving but is still looking for members to help and is willing to train for the future.		
⇒	<u>Treasurer's Report</u>	-Betsy L.-	949.220.2504
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report: Betsy L. reported that it is appreciated the Venmo's that are coming in but requests you write which meeting the donations are coming from.• Melanie R.G shared that it is important to share what the money collected for donations is used for.• Frank P. asked if all delegate expenses have been covered.• Betsy L. responds that we need to take care of Melanie R.G. and Nolan O. which will take care of all delegate expenses.• Frank P. asked if we heard back for our California nonprofit status. Betsy L. shared she hasn't heard back from our accountant. Frank commented that we don't have the final stamp and that we are in line for that final approval.		

- **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. reported on the expenses for our delegates and mentioned that we have money in savings for paying out delegates.
- ⇒ **Structure and Bylaws Officer's Report** -Steve C.- 714.330.0416
- Report: Steve reported that the S&B Committee held its quarterly meeting last month. The committee is conducting a thorough review of the S&B manual, starting with housekeeping (grammar, formatting, and error corrections) and continuing with a content review to address burdensome or unclear processes. The goal is to ensure the document is practical, clear, legally sound, and aligned with the 12 Traditions, so future leaders can run OCCA effectively.
 - Referrals for suggested changes are welcome from any member. Members can contact Steve via phone, email, or text with their name, membership affiliation, and the suggested change or concern. All referrals will be reviewed within two weeks.
 - The committee is also considering a proposal for a new Newsletter Committee to produce an electronic, low-cost quarterly or bi-annual publication highlighting fellowship activities, meetings, and accomplishments. This proposal is still under discussion and will be presented to the GSO once guidelines are finalized. Steve emphasized that the GSRs, not the S&B Chair, make final decisions on such matters.
 - Lastly, Steve noted a succession need for the S&B Chair position and invited anyone interested in learning the role to speak with him so he can begin training a replacement, as he has served for about four years and would like to retire from the position.
- ⇒ **Archivist's Report** -Alonzo M.- 714.715.0405
- Report: Absent.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

- ⇒ **Group Relations Committee** - Gina G.- 675.456.8178
- Report: Gina G. reported that her and Dan will be going to meetings to make sure everyone is compliant, and they are available to be of support to all meetings. Dan will go to north orange county meetings while Gina will go to south orange county meetings.
- ⇒ **IT Committee** - Jason S. - 818.263.3500
- Hotline Sub-committee:

Total Calls:	12
Avg Duration:	2 minutes and 39 seconds
Longest Call:	11 minutes and 18 seconds
Voicemail:	0
 - Webservant Subcommittee: Jason S reported that if anyone is willing to help with IT to please reach out to him.
 - Jason S. shared he needs somebody familiar with WordPress to be able to help make website maintenance and updates, that's where he'd like to start to just keep maintaining the website and keeping it up to date
- ⇒ **Hospitals and Institutions Committee** - Liz M. - 714.266.4081
- Report: Liz announced that the H&I Committee will be hosting a hike on August 17 at 10:00 a.m. at *Top of the World*. David G. will be the speaker. A flyer will be distributed once available.
 - She reported that there are several open H&I panels this month and encouraged members to volunteer as leaders and speakers. GSRs are asked to announce these opportunities at their meetings and/or inform their H&I representatives.
 - Liz also reminded the fellowship about supporting H&I through the 7th Tradition, noting that some meetings collect donations specifically for H&I in addition to their regular 7th Tradition collection.

- ⇒ **Public Information Committee** - Jose A.- 714.615.1167
- Report: Absent.
- ⇒ **Social Media Subcommittee Report:** -Angel G.- 714.369.4813
- Report: Jenn C. reported that for the month of June we had 3600 profile visits, 50 new followers, and our ad has reached 18,500 views.
- Evan shared Paycheck is trying to grow their participation and was hoping to get help from social media.
 - Jenn C. stated that if any meetings need help to reach out to her and they will post something on our social media pages.
- ⇒ **CPC Subcommittee Report:** - Jenn C. - 714.605.0322
- Report: Jenn C. reported that they are still reaching out Sheriff's departments to see if they can get in there.
- ⇒ **Unity Committee** - Jenn C. - 714.605.0322
- Report: Jenn reported that there is a Change for Change on 7/13/25 but there is no speaker. The group decided to find a speaker in the room, Nick B. agreed to the speaker.
 - 7/20/25 will be the Change for Change for Sunlight of the Spirt.
 - Jenn announced that the Unity Committee has decided to discontinue the *Change for Change* fundraiser, as it is intended for delegate fundraising purposes. She will be completing her term through the next scheduled events, ending on July 21, and encouraged members to consider stepping into the Unity Chair role. Jenn shared that serving as Unity Chair has been a fun and rewarding experience, but she is stepping down due to other pressing priorities.'
 - Discussion: The GSO passed the budget earlier this year which means a commitment to fund all expenses in the budget. While the fundraising events have focused on the delegates because it is a specific and clear request, the fundraisers help cover other parts of the budget that are less appealing to solicit donations for such as the storage unit, the copies, etc. The importance of the participation of the delegates was reaffirmed while clarifying that fundraising continues to be essential to all activities of the GSO.
- ⇒ **Activities and Fundraising Subcommittee**
- Report:
- ⇒ **Literature Committee** - Matthew M. - 714.585.1829
- Report: Mathew M. reported he will be stepping down from this position today.
 - Neelam A. nominated Marcus for Literature Chair.
 - Melanie R.G goes over the qualifications.
- Frank P. makes a motion to waive the time requirements. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Neelam A. makes a motion to make Marcus Literature Chair. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Number of Sales: \$208
- Request for Funds: None
- ⇒ **Workshop Committee** -Nick B.- 949.382.9288
- Report: Nick reported that the June 4th Step Workshop had three attendees and went well, with Evan assisting. The next workshop will be held on July 19 in Dana Point, with a \$25 fee to cover materials, a binder, and breakfast/lunch. The sign-up deadline is Wednesday, July 16. Interested members should contact Nick directly.
- **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: \$150.50
- Request for Funds: \$0

WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES/ALTERNATES

⇒ DELEGATE

-Nolan O.-

407.687.8656

- Nolan, who is finishing his term this year, reported attending monthly Public Information (PI) meetings and connection calls for both the North America and World committees. While there are no major new developments in PI now, the committee is reviewing a few flyers and preparing for their annual PI Summit, which brings together professionals such as judges and law enforcement to raise awareness about CA as an alternative to incarceration and as a resource for aftercare. Nolan reviewed the SR-14s but found no pressing issues to address. Delegates plan to meet soon to discuss them further.

⇒ DELEGATE

-Steve C.-

714.330.0416

- Steve shared that the upcoming conference will be busy with Structure & Bylaws, as it often involves unexpected controversies, even over small issues. He will be serving as vice chair for S&B and may step up as chair. Delegates and alternates will meet soon to review SR-14s and the budget. He noted the organization is financially tight but continues to get work done.
- This year will bring major change, with about two-thirds of the trustee board being replaced. Steve served on the Trustee Election Committee last year and described it as spiritually challenging, as it requires evaluating candidates based on character and merit. He expressed empathy for those serving this year, as they will face an even heavier workload.
- Steve encouraged members interested in becoming a delegate to attend the SR-14 review session ("SR-14 party") to understand the work involved. He stressed that delegates should be willing, capable, and committed, not just interested in the travel aspect of the role.

Steve C. makes a motion for \$1500 to cover Melanie's expenses for the conference. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ DELEGATE

-Melanie R.G.-

714.675.2731

- Melanie confirmed she is registered for the upcoming conference and will arrive a day early, at her own expense, to attend the orientation. She serves on the Literature, Chips, and Format Committee, which is currently preparing SR-14 proposals for the conference. The committee is addressing feedback from around the world, including discussions on making literature more gender-neutral, developing a pamphlet on medication compliance, and continuing to collect stories for Hope, Faith, and Courage Volume III.
- Melanie is also leading the Glossary of Terms Subcommittee, with members from OCCA taking the lead on producing this resource for the fellowship worldwide, which will aid in translations. She expressed gratitude to those who joined her in this work.

⇒ ALTERNATE

-Liz M.-

714.266.4081

- Liz reported that she has registered for the conference and got her plane ticket and figured out her hotel.

⇒ ALTERNATE

-Gina G.-

657.456.8178

- Gina reported that she has registered for the conference.
- Nolan O. mentioned that he tried to book a room, but they said the rooms were unavailable. It was suggested that he try calling the hotel directly.

Nolan O. makes a motion for \$1106.37. to reimburse him for conference expenses. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ **Old Business**

⇒ **New Business:**

- Evan L. mentioned that he is looking for more participation for the Paycheck meeting and that he has a flyer that can be uploaded to the website.
- Neelam A. mentioned the social media is doing well so maybe we can put a flyer on social media.
- Jenn C. mentioned that if there is flyer or if a meeting needs help making a flyer that social media is willing to help.
- Sierra mentioned that Live Free would also benefit from having a flyer on our social media.

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

Neelam A. makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded. Motion passed 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 Ended at 11:41am.