# OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

## JULY 11TH, 2026

⇒ **Chairperson:** called the meeting to order at 10:02 am, 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 a member to read: **"The Twelve Traditions".**

- Gina G. read The Twelve Traditions.

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

- Adam A. does a report on tradition 7 which states "Every C.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

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

- Melanie R.G. volunteers

**Remaining GSO Meeting 2026 Dates:** August 1st, September 12th, October 3rd, November 7th, December 5th

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

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⇒ Chris J. discussed Jessica M.'s question about the September 5th meeting being the weekend of Labor Day. It was also discussed that delegates would be at World Conference the Labor Day weekend as well. Changing the meeting date to September 12th would allow for delegates to attend meeting as well as not interfering with Labor Day celebrations.

〉 **Rick J. made a motion to change the September 5th meeting to September 12th. Frank P. seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

## ARE THERE ANY JULY BIRTHDAYS?

Kim O. 7/4

Katie S. 7/7

⇒ **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:** Serena M. "Ups and Downs"

〉 **Melanie R.G. made a motion to accept the new GSR, Serena M. for "Ups and Downs" Damien D. seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

⇒ **Secretary:** prepared 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., Amy G., Betsy L., Jessica M., Frank P., Gina G., Rick G., Marcus K., Carlo P. (proxy, Frank P.), Russ S., Kim O.(late), Dave W., Matthew M., Matt S., Adam A., Katie S., Keith D., Michelle D., Damien D., Matt A., Vincent M.,
- Absent Nick B., Nathan E., Russ E., Jason S., Angelina T., Jason S., Matt S., Isis M., Jenn C., Travis M., Chris W. (No vote)., Cierra J., Jason S.
- **Quorum:** 21 present, quorum is 18.

⇒ **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.

〉 **Gina G. made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Melanie R.G. Motion passed unanimously.**

⇒ **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."

## BOARD OFFICER'S REPORTS

⇒ **Chairperson's Report** - Chris J.- 714.713.8280

- Report:  OCCA is alive and well. New faces are being seen at meetings. Encourages group to not worry if there is any decrease in attendance at meetings, the summer months are historically low. Chris J. also urges members to come to board members with any concerns or criticisms along with any accolades. Reminds the group that OCCA is a family and should be able to speak openly.

⇒ **Vice-Chairperson's Report** -Melanie R.G.- 714.675.2731

- Report: Melanie R.G. informs members that GSRs are not only the representative of their meeting and GSO but also (per the S&B) required to sit on a committee. Melanie praises Adam and Jessica for holding Unity together. Unity and PI are two committees that need a lot of people along with H&I. IT is also in need of help.

⇒ **Secretary Report:** -Amy G.- 909.261.7368

- Report: Amy G. asks members to closely look over the meeting schedule and roll sheet for any changes or errors. With commitments switching there are a lot of changes. Amy asks that if any errors are found after meeting to contact her via email, text or DM on WhatsApp.

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

- Report: Betsy reports that we are in good shape financially. The last Change That Counts meeting brought in $600.00 dollars. Betsy also explains that delegates are allocated $1,500.00 for conference.

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| Previous Balance | $ 3,763.68 | |
| Donations | $ 1,108.50 | |
| Disbursements | $ 1,190.86 | |
| **Ending Balance** | | **$ 3,672.58** |
| **Savings:** | **$4,500.00** | |

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

〉 **Melanie R.G. made a motion to be reimbursed $704.80 to herself for conference expenses reimbursement. Seconded by Melanie R.G. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Betsy explains to the members that each delegate is allocated $1,500.00 reimbursements to cover costs for conference.

〉 **Gina G. makes a motion for $1,500.00 for reimbursements for conference. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Kim O. brings up that she donated an EZ-Up frame that Nolan bought a tarp for, however, the tarp is too big and might need to be returned. Russ S. explains that the tarp is for two EZ-Up structures and something can be improvised. Chris J. asks that this topic be referred to later and discussed in person or via Zoom.

⇒ **Vice-Treasurer's Report** -Jessica M.- 714.381.0037

- Report:  Jessica M. reports that she went to the mailbox and it was mostly "junk mail." Jessica M. also voiced concerns about GSRs not fulfilling duties and asking Betsy L. to spend her own resources to fill in and not allowing Betsy to focus on her own duties. Chris J. elaborates that this is a situation with

Amber G. meeting attendance and not acquiring literature and chips for her meeting. Betsy L. discusses that
Amber G. has been having car issues, however, these requests come in the day of the meeting putting the responsibility of filing out order sheets for literature and chips while needing to attend to her treasurer commitment. Chris J. explains that Betsy can't be doing that. It is Amber G.'s responsibility to send a proxy in her place. Amber G. raises hand and apologizes for her absence and thanks Betsy L. for her assistance and is sorry for any strain to Betsy L. this may have caused. Chris J. explains to Amber G. that in the future if she is unable to attend the meetings, she needs to send someone in her place.

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⇒ **Structure and Bylaws Officer's Report** -Frank P.- 714.514.4150

- Report: Frank P. reports that S&B had their quarterly meeting on June 13th and drafted the conflict of interest statements. All board members have signed. This is important in order to keep our tax-exempt status as it was lost during COVID and was just reinstated 6 months ago. The housekeeping meeting will resume July 14th at 8:00am for one hour. The next quarterly meeting will resume Sept 12th at Frank P.'s office in Huntington Beach at 9:30am. Matt A. adds that S&B is in a maintenance mode and encourages individuals to attend.

⇒ **Archivist's Report** -Gina G.- 675.456.8178

- Report: Gina reports that she created a WhatsApp and loaded two videos; one of "Sarge" and one of Pablo. She has created a YouTube page to upload, however is in need of help with the platform.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

⇒ **Group Relations Committee** - Kim O.-

- Report: Kim O. reported that she is creating a checklist layout for all the meetings to insure all are attended. Kim O. also asked if there was any more information about the roles/committees available for the GSRs to take back to the meeting. Melanie R.G. informed her of the pamphlet "How it Works" is a breakdown of the committees and their roles.

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

- Website:

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| Total Calls: | 9 |
| Avg Duration: | 47 seconds |
| Longest Call: | 2 minutes and 1 second |
| Voicemail: | 0 |

- Chris J. reports on hotline calls. Chris J. introduces Kyle W. to the group. Kyle W. is interested in the IT committee. Kyle W. has 15 months of sobriety and is from The Starting Point meeting on Thursday night. He has experience in IT security work in his professional life.

  〉 **Russ S. makes a motion for Kyle W. to take over the IT chair position. Gina G. seconded. Motion Passes unanimously.**

- Chris J. thanks Kyle W. for stepping up and will get him all contact information needed. Melanie R.G. commends Jason S. for the work he has done all these years.

⇒ **Hospitals and Institutions Committee** - Rick G. - 949.307.1764

- Report: Rick G. reports they have 19 active facilities, 5 active panels and 7 open leader positions. They recently lost 1 panel due to facility restructuring. They are looking for a vice chair and had hoped that Russ S. would be able to accept the nomination, but Russ S. unfortunately cannot take the commitment at this time. Rick G. made it known that he would not be able to attend the August 1st meeting but will be sending a proxy. The H&I roster is available on the WhatsApp and those interested in being added. He also encourages members to work together as a family to help fill panel spots as needed. Ric G. thanked Adam and Kim O. for their help. Rick G. is requesting funds for pamphlets and little big books.

  〉 **Motion made by Rick G. for $196.00 for pamphlets. Melanie R.G. seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

  〉 **Motion made by Rick G. for $204.00 for little Big Books. Damien D. seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

⇒ **Public Information Committee** - Russ S. - 912.314.3275

⇒ During discussion of the OCCA Fair PI booth, Jessica M. asked whether there were any sobriety-time requirements for volunteers. Matt A. responded that nothing had been formally decided yet, but suggested that, since volunteers would be representing CA as a whole, it might be appropriate to require at least six months of continuous sobriety.

⇒ **Serena Marie made a motion to set the sobriety requirement for working (i.e., running) the fair booth at ninety (90) days clean/sober, similar to the requirement for speaking on a panel. by Marcus K. Seconded.**

⇒ Discussion: The intent of Serena's motion was to have a clear, consistent guideline that could be communicated to potential volunteers about who is eligible to work the booth. During discussion, some members cautioned against setting the requirement too low, expressing concerns that people with only 90 days might not reliably show up, and noting that at a previous fair, volunteers with very little time had created problems that resulted in CA not being invited back for some time. Others emphasized the need to "put our best foot forward" with members who are familiar with CA and can clearly carry the message. At the same time, members including Russ E. and Amber G. spoke in favor of including newcomers in some capacity, stressing the importance of not "robbing someone of the experience" of service. They suggested that there are different roles at the booth: members with more time to lead, speak, and represent CA, and newer members who can help with set-up, take-down, and other support tasks under the direction of those with more time. It was also mentioned that the fair itself requires at least two people at the booth at all times, and that shifts would likely be structured so that someone with time oversees each shift.

⇒ Following this discussion, the motion by Serena Marie, seconded by Marcus K., to require 90 days clean/sober to work the fair booth was put to a vote.

⇒ **Motion fails.**

⇒ After the failure of the 90-day motion, the body moved toward a different solution.

⇒ Melanie R.G. made a friendly amendment to the motion that it be a requirement that at least two people at the PI booth have a minimum of six (6) months continuous sobriety/clean time at all times while the booth is operating. Kim O. seconded. Motion passes.

⇒ (This motion functionally incorporated what had been discussed as a "friendly amendment" during the earlier debate, clarifying that there must always be at least two six-month members present and responsible for representing CA, while still allowing newcomers and those with less time to assist so long as those two individuals are present. The maker of the earlier motion (Serena) and Matt A. both indicated agreement with this direction during the discussion.)

⇒ The final decision for the OCCA Fair PI booth is that the booth must always be staffed by a minimum of two volunteers with at least six months of continuous sobriety/clean time. Additional volunteers with less than six months may participate in set-up, take-down, and assisting at the booth, provided that at least two members with six months or more are present and responsible for carrying the message and representing CA.

- Russ S. reports that the Restore Exhibit Picnic is August 29th from 10-2 and Chelsea from Twin Town is willing to share a booth.

⇒ ***Social Media Subcommittee Report:*** **-**Chris W.- 714.980.1186

- Report: Absent

⇒ ***CPC Subcommittee Report:*** - Vacant -

⇒ **Unity Committee** - Vacant -

- Adam A., secretary for Unity reporting that Unity needs a chair and needs people. Many of the events are already in place, however, they need people to show up to help set up and run the events. The Unity meetings are sporadic right now, but they are quick and on Zoom. Adam A. asks that people spread the word at their meetings about serving on the Unity committee.
- Change That Counts did well at the last meeting on Zoom. He thanks Frank P. for his hard work. Next Change That Counts meeting is July 15th at “The Zoo.” Earl H. will be the speaker. Adam A. asks the GSRs to continue to promote Chang That Counts at their meeting.
- Pancake breakfast is August 2nd at 9:30. Steve C. will be host and speaker for this meeting. See Adam A. for digital flyer.
- Angels game is August 15th at Angels stadium. Tailgate party will start in the parking lot at 5:00pm. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish. This is a great opportunity to raise funds. Initial 15 tickets have already been sold and more can be purchased. With the 15 tickets sold, initial money has already been made back. Chris J. thanks Adam A. and Jessica M. for stepping up for Unity.

〉 **Motion made by Adam A for $190.00 for additional baseball tickets. Seconded by Damien D. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Serena M. asked about requirements for Unity chair. Chris J. and Melanie R.G. responded that Unity chair needed to have one year of sobriety and had served in the GSO for at least six months.

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

  - Report: Absent

⇒ **Literature Committee** - Marcus K.- 479.305.9708

  - Report: Marcus K. reported that he had $50.00 dollars in cash available for giving change but only needs a few dollars and he gave the rest back except for 6 or 8 dollars.

〉 **Motion made by Marcus K. for $125.63 for books and pamphlets. Melanie R.G. seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

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

- Report: Betsy L. reporting on behalf of Nick B. There were 5 attendees for June. Next workshop will be the 4th Saturday of the month and is on July 22nd with the cutoff is August 19th. Workshop is $25.00 and includes binder, workshop facilitation, breakfast and lunch. Cutoff for registration is May 13th.
- Discussion about a flyer being made about workshop to distribute.

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

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

- Report: Frank P. filling in for Carlo P.
  - Amount of Sales: $223.15
  - Request for Funds: $300.00

〉 **Frank P. made a motion to request $300 to restock on chips. Matt A. seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

## WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES/ALTERNATES

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Melanie R.G.- 714.675.2731

- Melanie R.G. gives an overview of the structure of the World Service. She explains that committees are similar to those we have in area just a larger scale that also work year-round. Every year each committee gives a report on what they have been doing throughout the year. These committee bring to the floor motions and these motions are called Standing Rule 14 (SR-14) and the delegates will debate and vote. Gina G. Kim O. and herself will be meeting to go over all the SR-14 to bring to the members at the August 1st meeting to get feedback from the group in order to bring our voice back to conference.

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Gina G.- 657.456.8178

- Report: No report

⇒ **ALTERNATE** -Kim O.- 949.310.6824

- Report: No report

## BUSINESS

⇒ **Old Business**

- Open Positions:
  - Unity chair
  - Literature chair

⇒ **New Business:**

- Monday night 6:30 meeting presented by Don motions to have meeting instated to OCCA. Chris J. informs him that a meeting must have a GSR, treasurer and secretary and meet at least 3 times before they can come before the GSO. Motion retracted.

- **Melanie R.G. makes a motion to donate $300.00 to World. Marcus K. seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

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

  - **Frank P. made a motion to close. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Meeting ended at 11:47