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Al-Anon

ORANGE COUNTY/GREATER LONG BEACH AL-ANON INFORMATION OFFICE: www.ocalanon.org
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AL-ANON WORLD SERVICE: www.scws-al-anon.org
AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS HEADQUARTERS: www.al-anon.org
LOS ANGELES COUNTY AL-ANON CENTRAL OFFICE: www.alanonla.org

Minutes of the Orange County/Greater Long Beach Service Board Meeting January 21, 2026

The Intergroup meeting of **January 21**, 2026, was called to order at **645** p.m. by the Chair, Matt S. The Serenity Prayer was recited.

Readings:

Twelve Traditions – Jojo

Twelve Concepts of Service – Dick

Spiritual Reading – Irene ODAT 1/21

ROLL CALL:

Officers: Chair – Matt S, Chair-Elect – open, Ex-Officio – none., Secretary, Lisa N. , Treasurer, Hans.

Committees: Alateen – OPEN, Co-Secretary – open; Fundraising & Telephone Coverage – Vacant.; Institutions – Dick.; Nominations/Historian – Nikki; Orange Blossom – Irene.; Public Information – Meredith, Toni C., and JoJo D.; Spanish-Speaking Liaison – open; World Service – Bill

Office Report: -Mike (present in person)
-Tuesdays - busiest day; slowest = Saturdays after 2 PM with virtually no traffic
-helpful to update Square account to include support; software is out of date; owner on account is still Irene (left office 4 years ago) - change to whomever board decides (Irene just has to call and put it into someone else’s name)
-Suggest to extend office hours Mondays 9:30-1:30. There is alot of catch up work to be done on Tuesdays.
-Signed a new lease for copier. Mike created a flyer to sell it on Offer Up, or Facebook Marketplace. Should go for $3200 used. Mike called 6 Al-anon offices to offer it, including Spanish office, however no one is interested in it. When we find a place for it,

it needs to be scrubbed of all data first. Mike tried to call Minolta who charges $250 to scrub it because it is out of warranty. Working with our rep to see if they will waive the fee. Gave Irene the flyer to put it in the Orange Blossom.
-Trinity Church last paid March of 2025. They haven't asked us for rent. Mike asked and they said it was $100 a month and we are $300 in arrears. Mike sent them a check.
-Shipping costs have increased as of January 2025. We are hitting the cusp of being in a deficit with what we charge for shipping. Will research shipping costs for non profits through USPS. We may need to increase shipping costs to our members.
-Due to the death of the penny Mike has started asking people if they want to donate their change and most people are happy to do that.
-Matt asked for a report from Square with the dates and times of the most sales so that we can adjust the office hours if needed.

REPORTS:
Service Board Chair: Matt S.

1. Bylaw revision discussion. (With Irene & Hans comments) Continue with final review of Bylaws. Hans: Committee to review bylaws was done in the past and need to continue to be reviewed. They need to be reviewed and voted on more to make them clearer. Irene: An atty looked at the but Irene opinioned that it was too early and we need a glossary of terms and for them to be clearer. Goals: Grammar, Modernization, Substance/Clarification.
2. Board discussed ways to generate more contributions and what is a good prudent reserve amount? Ideas involved
- doing more public outreach to be more visible to attract people to the fellowship
- writing an appeal letter (Dick offered to write)
- increasing office hours
- using the Orange Blossom to disseminate information to members (Hans will write next one)
- possibly board members visiting meetings in person with appeal
- have office staff create an Instagram account to make Alanon posts

3. Adding an "Office Corner" in Orange Blossom.... comments from office staff. Blurb to talk about what is happening in the office. Or a board corner. Keep it going, started by Marque. Alternate which office staff comes to the board meeting and which goes to the intergroup meeting and also have them give a report at intergroup.

4. Safety in meetings

Concerns were brought to the board that newcomers are being approached outside of meeting locations and are being invited to attend delisted meetings. Meetings are encouraged to make announcements to newcomers that they should attend only meetings listed in the directory.

Dick made a motion to make the reports from SCWS and OC intergroup (in 2010 and 2013) available on the OC Alanon Intergroup website in which investigations were done regarding these de-listed groups. Motion seconded Meredith. 7 Yes; 1 No, 1 Abstain. Motion passed. (Lisa left immediately following this vote - note for future vote counts)

5. February Intergroup meeting- the board discussed the pros and cons of returning to in-person. It was noted that some benefits include: community, engagement, attentiveness, increase in contributions, and in-person help for new ISRs. Some potential cons include losing convenience allowed by Zoom and potentially losing ISRs. The board discussed a hybrid trial with the proposed schedule: February ISR hybrid with only the board being present in-person; April & June- invite all ISRs to attend in person; July - fully in-person. This allows ample time for any ISRs who are unable to attend in-person to find a replacement representative for their position. Motion to approve this schedule made by Matt. 2nd by Nikki. 8 Yes. 0 No. 0 Abstention.

6. Office procedures. Per Office manual -the board discussed concerns regarding office employee actions that are contrary to by-laws, such as an employee signing checks. Checks require the Chairperson and either the treasurer or the secretary to sign. The office staff will be notified immediately that they are not permitted to sign checks. Bank account “view access” has been requested by office staff and the board does not see an issue with allowing this. Jojo expressed concerns about how the bank was switched in the past with no board vote regarding the change. The board wants this fact documented and to be noted that any future financial decisions like this must come to the board for a vote.

It was also discussed that the office employees should alternate attendance at the board meetings and ISR meetings. Mike came tonight and is being asked to attend the February ISR meeting. Then, Sam will be asked to come to the March board meeting and attend the April ISR meeting.

<u>Chair-Elect:</u> Open

<u>Treasurer: (Hans)</u>
Al-Anon Information Service of Orange County
Treasurer’s Report to the Board, January 21, 2026

Submitted by Hans Eckardt

Financials
November 2025: $5,382 net loss. Sales, contributions and earned interest were $6,016, while cost of sales and operating expenses were $11,398.
December 2025: $4,004 net surplus. Sales, contributions and earned interest were $13,553, while cost of sales and operating expenses were $9,549.
Six Months Fiscal YTD: $5,382 net loss. Sales, contributions, and earned interest were

$55,212, while cost of sales and operating expenses were $60,594.
Cash Flow: The cash flow trend continues to be negative – i.e., “money out” is greater than “money in” most months. The checking account balance was $10,740 as of December 31.

Reviewing the bank statements, there continue to be no apparent large, unexplained, or unnecessary expenses.
There has been an improvement in the checking account balance during January so far.

The balance was $16,981.40 on January 19.

Balance Sheet: Other parts of the balance sheet remain strong with $104,406 in reserves, and $35,920 in literature inventory on December 31, 2025.

Recent Activity
Mike F. and I met with the Konica Minolta Rep to try to resolve a continuing discrepancy in our account. They e-mailed on 1/6 with a proposed refund. Mike and I need to confirm the math before responding. In the meantime, we have stopped all payments to Konica Minolta. They offered to reimburse us $1641 and we will go on auto pay.

Note
December bank deposits were $3251.19 lower than the number reported on the Square “Category Report.” This is due to big deposits at the end of the year which did not post until January. This was a timing issue, not an actual discrepancy. Consulting with the accountant, this is likely due to timing. One possibility is that deposits credited on Friday, January 2 may actually be attributable to December.

<u>Secretary: </u>Lisa
Quorum: All Service Board Representatives were present to satisfy the quorum.

The November 19, 2025 Service Board meeting notes were reviewed.

Action: A motion was made to approve the minutes by Hans. And seconded by Toni.
Decision: Motion was unanimously approved.

We will allow 5 minutes to allow people to read the minutes at the meeting rather than have the secretary read them.

Old (unfinished) Business:
1.Open Chair elect position

2. Alateen MOU update: obtained a preliminary SCWS certificate given to AUHSD

board for approval; MOU signed; Eric Nunez, Ajit, and Chris will be certified as AMIAS to work at the meeting at the high school; meeting will get WSO # and meeting will be up and running.

Action Item:

Ex-Officio: Open - DJ resigned

Brief Al-Anon Related Announcements:
None

Alateen Activities Coordinator: Vacant

Co-Secretary: Vacant

Foreign Language Liaison: Vacant

Fundraising and Telephone Coverage: Vacant

Institutions: Dick
Has a friend who would like to volunteer to be Spanish liaison. This position is not a voting member, so not an actual board member, they can be in both programs since they are not a voting board member.

Nominations/Historian: Nikki - No report

Orange Blossom/News Editor: Irene

1. Intergroup Registration Procedures - new form shown; allows OC Alanon to regain control of keeping track of our ISR list; more timely as it's timestamped when a new ISR signs up; Motion to approve launch of form on website - Tony; 2nd by Hans; 8 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Public Information: Meredith., Toni C., and JoJo D. - No report

World Service Liaison: – Bill resigned

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OLD BUSINESS:
Action Items:

- Note here
- Note here

NEW BUSINESS:
None noted.

Birthdays:
January: Matt, 13 years

Next scheduled Intergroup Meeting is February 18, 2026. Next Service Board meeting is March 18, 2026.

Motion to Close:
Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dick and seconded by Meredith.
Motion passed.

Serenity Prayer
Meeting closed at 9:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa N., Secretary