



## Monterey and San Benito Counties Area Service Committee

Meeting Minutes      July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

1. Meeting Start: 6:30PM
2. Chair, Diego, opens the meeting with serenity prayer. Brian reads 12 traditions. Lawrence reads 12 concepts.
3. Diego reads the opening statement.
4. Kevin reads the purpose of the area service committee.
5. Kevin reads what a GSR is and their duties
6. Introduction to new GSRs and Visitors
  - a. Billie- New GSR King City Thursday Night Keeping It Simple
  - b. Eric - New GSR Hooked On Recovery Sunday Meeting.
  - c. Corey- New GSR Tuesday Womens Meeting Life On Lifes Terms.
  - d. Amy-Visitor From MBCNA
  - e. Kristen- Visitor as a Member
  - f. Mike - Visitor
  - g. Nick - Visitor
  - h. Alyssa - Visitor
  - i. Martha - Visitor
7. Milestones
  - a. Tametha- 19 Years!
  - b. Anne - 31 Years!
  - c. Lewis - 33 Years!

- d. Kristen - 90 days!
- e. Kathy - 39 Years!
- f. Timithious - 2 years!

#### 8. Approval of Minutes

- a. Patrick - "I motion that we approve the minutes."
- b. Mike- "I love how detailed the minutes are. They're long, but they're detailed. But the one thing is, there's a lot of spelling and things. Is there a way that we can work on trying to clean that up?"
- c. Kristina - "Not to put that responsibility on anybody else because usually my husband helps me with that. He was at work all day today; he'll be helping me next month."
- d. Diego - "Anyone second? "
- e. Patrick - "Nick, No Mark M"
- f. Mike - "Wait, are you going to call a vote on that? On what? Approving the minutes. Oh no. He called a motion and a second."
- g. Diego - "A motion and second. All in favor? All opposed? All right."

#### 1.Motion Passes

#### 9. Additions to Agenda

- a. No additions

#### 10.Roll Call - General Service Representatives (GSRs) Check In: See Attendance/Roll Call in google drive

#### 11. Area Service Committee Reports

- a. Chair: Diego: shares report (see google drive)
- b. Vice Chair: Kevin: shares report (see google drive)
- c. Recording secretary: Kristina - shares report (see google drive)
- d. Treasurer: Anne shares report (see google drive)
  - a. Mike - "And do we know who has the check? Who's holding the \$16.61 check? "
    - 1. Anne - "Yes, we do. We'll be taking care of that tonight."
    - 2. Mike - "Okay thank you, And my opinion on that check from a Company is we don't receive outside contributions"
    - 3. Christian - "What if it's somebody that's writing it on their business account?"
    - 4. Kristina - "Or what if they're paying for literature or something because it has a sent amount?"

- e. Literature: Raichel shares report (see google drive)
- f. RCM 1: Theodore M shares report (see google drive)
- g. RCM 2: Rosie Shares report (see google drive)

1. Cole - "Joey said at a meeting that that's actually supposed to be, 'You don't have to have a bike to attend the Pig Roast.' That's all it meant."

2. Kristen - "I have a question. Can I ask a question? Also, I know I've been going to outside out of town meetings to widen my base and freedom, yada, yada yada. So I was wondering like also, on the website there's no update as far as what the activities that are on there. So like if I wanted to share with the other area to welcome people into our area to not just help us, but bring also a message here from other areas. And also, it does help generate income too. You know what I mean? So to be able to help the next suffering addict, I was wondering if that can anyway that all be updated or what clean time requirement is. I have a little bit of knowledge as far as how to keep a web page up. So I'm not sure if anybody has any information on that, or somebody can look into that. That would be great."

- a. Kristina - "John Paul was just voted in as the new webmaster. So that is a point of contention. Public information on that as soon as possible. Adding on flyers. Another thing is, when everybody drops flyers into the drive, they're dropping them into the month that they're presenting them at Area, and there is a folder right before that that says flyers. So we can drop all the flyers in there and that way I can send them to PI and they can help get those uploaded onto the website. For now I'll just make sure to manually move them over. But in the future I'll try to drop them into the flyers folder, please."
- b. Amy - "I actually came to find out and get an email because I've been emailing flyers to this body for a while with no response. So I actually came for a good email to get flyers approved. I still need the email."
- c. Unknown member - "I'm gonna draw. I have the information so I'm gonna drop our NBCNA flyer in to that. That's what she just said, right? She just said it's not an email, it's a drive. It's a drive and the only person who has access to it is the person who is the"
- d. Amy - "So when you go on the website, there's a link to click on for flyer approval and it's supposed to go to area Chair is what it says in the email, but it doesn't have to get answered by anybody."
- e. Patrick - "You said that your reports are on drive. Is it the local drive or the regional drive?"
- f. Kristen - "Access to that drive can be given to more than just one person though, too. Can't it be opened up and given access to?"

3. Mike - "Are you gonna send something to them to make sure that they include San Benito county in."

- a. Rosie - "Theodore had a copy of the map. I don't know if you want to show them that map copy you had or what. The regional map. You have a picture. You have yours. So we brought up that we think the San Jose area is infringing on her Monterey area. So we're trying to fight for our right to claim

our space here and on the map. So for a minute I thought, oh it's not a big deal. No, it is a big deal. So I put it up. We put it out there. Anyway, what other questions are there?"

- b. Theodore - "You want to picture or copy?"
- c. Tim - "In there you say 21 active groups and areas and 11 FST members. What's an FST member?"
- d. Theodore - "Fellowship service team."
- e. Oscar - "When's the Spanish convention again?"
- f. Rosie - "March 13th, 14th and 15th of '25 or '26."
- g. Diego - "Is it my understanding that you're stepping down?"
- h. Theodore - "Let's make that clear"
- i. Diego - "RCM1 is now open. He has officially stepped down. Okay, so let's move on. And can we put that in Open Forum as well?"

## 12. Subcommittee Reports

### a. H&I: Peter shares report (See Google Drive)

1. Theodore - "Regional rep that you mentioned, Right. You need one of those? Yes. Okay. I was doing that for a while. I had a problem with it because you go to this sharing board, which is a great learning experience. You hear from all the different areas that I did. I would bring my report back. I would try to read it. He wouldn't let me read. He wouldn't let me read it. He wouldn't read it. I asked him three or four times to read it. He wouldn't read it."

2. Nick - That's the only thing I can say to H&I regional representative is it's an open position. Ken is no longer chair of H&I. It's Nick S. So, I mean, those are the facts of the situation. It's an open position. If anybody's interested, Theodore, you can show up to the next meeting. You won't have to deal with Cam. He's not there. That's good. Thank you."

### b. PI/PR: Joanne shares report (see google drive)

1. Kathy - "If you want your meeting on the schedule where you need to make changes, the appropriate place to do it is to get this form. I am the point of accountability. The Facebook page doesn't count because it's not official NA Literature. Right. Put it on there if you want. Put your activity on Facebook if you want, but if you move it on the schedule, please fill out the form. I don't know if there's a meeting on the schedule right now for Friday at noon. I don't know if I got it taken off in time for you to print. It's still on. Okay. That meeting has been taken off the schedule. I received a form from somebody the last time I was here. There's no such address as the address that that person gave me. And the telephone number I was given went to somebody who was not a member of this fellowship. So please make sure what you turn in to me has no errors. It's coming off the schedule or if I can't read it. So please print legibly. Oh, and one other thing. Somebody said that there's a change to Hollister Home Group. I need to see you after the meeting to get this form."

- a. Rick - "So I have a few meeting guides. It sounds like none of them are right, but if you want. If you want one, I got some. Might be good to check your

meetings to make sure your info is correct. And we can maybe get that squared away tonight. Thank you”

c. Activities: Lawrence shares report (see google drive)

1. Mike - “Mike. Did you guys reach out to the region and ask them about the insurance for the bonfire? Because they will find somebody that will help you.”

- a. . Kristina - “ I am the treasurer of the Activities committee, and I have been communicating with Deanie and she has given me a rough quote of between 350 and \$550 for one meeting. One, one hour meeting for a bonfire. We plan on talking at the next activities committee about what we could potentially bring, you know, to promote sales or something for that. Maybe an optional donation. We're just looking at ideas on how. Because there are people in this area that want to go to a bonfire meeting, and there are other areas that are putting them on. But they're bringing activities that are going to bring in some type of sales to counteract that cost.
- b. Peter - “This is for activities. So I still have, this is pre Covid. I still have a \$200-250 credit for Monterey county when I was a chair of activities.”

d. Talent Show: Postponed until October 2025.

e. MBCNA Chair: Tish - shares report (see google drive)

1. Mike - “Can you help me understand this report? Because I'm not understanding it. If I'm reading this right... Hold on, let me ask my questions before you come and try to answer this... So if you budgeted \$5520, and this is what you actually brought in. If that's the actuals. Correct. How is the over under \$5520?”

- a. Tish - “Because we had to pay back the money because there wasn't a cruise because of the storm.”
- b. Mike - “Okay, so seventh tradition. You budgeted 2500. Your actuals were 2601.75. You're over under is a negative \$2500.”
- c. Tish - “The seventh tradition automatically goes to Region.”
- d. Mike - “In my mind, that doesn't make sense because, shouldn't that actual actually be the \$2600. What happened to the other. Whatever the difference is between \$2601 and \$7500.”
- e. Tish - “So, Mike, I am not a treasurer. So I would suggest that you show up to the next committee meeting and ask these questions, because as far as I know, we don't ever keep the seventh tradition. The seventh tradition is on automatic check that goes to Region.”
- f. Mike - “Okay, then let's do line item 9. Your budgeted 5,000. Right. Your actuals were 11,906.94, but your over under was \$5,000. “
- g. Unknown member - “It appears that the formula did not get dragged down, and that's why it looks like calculating. It's obviously not pulling in the actuals. It's just telling you maybe it's. Maybe the formula is between the other two columns. “
- h. Mike - “Okay, so then my question would be, how do we know if this isn't formulated right? How do we know that we lost \$775? Right.”

- i. Unknown member - "All I know is that this came from people from a different committee from, like four years ago. And I don't know how many of those people are still on the committee today. And I know that that's an easy fix once you get into the spreadsheet, but obviously on paper, I mean, I can forward you the spreadsheet and I can forward you the report that we got at the end."
- j. Tish - "I've never sat as a major treasurer, other than in a, like as the woman's brunch where I had Leslie's help. You know what I'm saying? Like I've never sat as a treasure on a big body because of the fact that treasury is not my thing."
- k. Mike - "I, as a member, should not have to show up at that meeting... hold on, can I finish please... I should not have to show up at that meeting to get true financials. I don't have to go to the region and ask them what are your true financials. They bring that to us. And that this body's been asking for that since this cycle. We haven't seen anything from last cycle. We didn't have a representative last cycle. And you know, we just don't know. And your guidelines say that you guys are accountable to this body, and there's been no accountability. I don't know if that's going on in Santa Cruz. I don't go to their meeting. I don't know if the MBCNA has been accountable to Santa Cruz, or is Santa Cruz getting the same, this same report."
- l. Unknown Member - "I know that Santa Cruz is currently asking for final financials from the last cycle, but they have not been closed. So they are just as anxious to hear about it as you guys are here at this body. I personally am just returning home from Sierra Foothills area, so I don't know what happened in the last couple cycles of this convention, but I do know that they're waiting on one more number from the credit card like Tish said, to finalize this past cycle. Apparently there's lots of storms, lots of cancellations, lots of refunds. I know that's not helping. These financials should be posted because MBCNA is a 5019 whatever... It's not the C3, it's a 9. But somewhere these financials have to be posted on the Internet. It's by government regulations that they are posted. So no, you don't technically have to go to our meeting, but you might have to do a little bit of research. We're trying to get you the information. It took us a lot to just to find this spreadsheet. We had to dig through 400 unanswered emails to find this stuff. So it's not a real easy ask. Like oh, let me just go in this folder and get it out and email it to everybody. And now that we're looking at it, obviously it's not even added up properly."
- m. Amy - "I have tickets for sale for the Poker Run if anybody is interested in purchasing tickets for the poker run; and so does Martha. And if you are wondering, you can go on a poker run without a bike. You can take your car and stop at the stops. It's also Halloween themed day at the park. So if you don't want to go on the poker run, you can just hang out at the park. Food, games, meetings, etc."
- n. Rich - "What is a poker run?"
- o. Amy - "It's a motorcycle event to win games and prizes. It's to go along with the fundraiser."
- p. Mike - "So a poker run is you ride from one place to the other, they give you a card, you write your card down, an ace of spades. You go to the next place, they give you another card. Oh, it's a king of spades. And then whoever has the highest hand, sometimes they do high hands, low hand hands, all of that."
- q. Rosie - "Two questions. Why are we having a fundraiser for MBCNA? One. And then two, it makes no sense why. I mean, whether you're a treasurer or not, if you're the chair, there should be accountability to these financials. I mean, the bank accounts, you should be able to. If we have the same bank account, why

can we not pull, at least a minimum, the bank accounts from that time? This would not fly anywhere. This is happening in other areas where people are not okay. I'M not okay with this. I don't even know if we ever got our \$5,000 seed money back. We've been told we did. I've never seen it; never seen a receipt for it. Never seen our treasure, have a receipt for it. So, this is very concerning as a member. And I mean, we get held to a higher standard with just the women's brunch. So I don't understand how, when there's all this other money coming in, that nobody seems to care or how we're equally knowing that. Well, you know, great convention it is. We should continue having it. But we need to be accountable. And this is ridiculous that we can't get a bank account and a matching. I understand about this year, but the past five years, three years. I'm not okay with it. We have taken this to our RC, the RSC; let them know and that they took it to the beach dod (??), which is considered rogue. This convention is rogue, because we're not getting financials; we're not getting those things. So what's the next step? There was a meeting that asked us to take it to the rcd. So if there is somebody else that wants to pursue that and they ask this, our area to do that and take it, we're going to have to take it. I don't want to have to do that, especially for our area. So why can't we get this? So I think we should put a time limit on this to get these financials or else we should be taking a second step."

- r. Tish - "Well, that's the notes that I'm gonna take back. And like I said, I just showed Mike what we were given in 2023 when we closed out the books. And like I said, it was changed from a 4,000 prudent reserve to a 15,000 prudent reserve. And what I printed and gave to you guys is what us, as a committee, was given from the treasurer. So when the treasurer is not even sitting as a treasurer anymore, he's sitting on the board, which is scarier. So, I'm going to take it back on the 14th, and I'm going to let them know that we need to change the formulas, whatever.
  - s. Anne- "But did I hear something about \$5,000 seed money being given to MBCNA?"
  - t. Rosie - "Yeah. When we were back in. So we're actually, we're across the street."
  - u. Amy - "It is my understanding that the seed money has been returned to both areas. I do believe our current treasurer had record of that, but I can't speak to when that took place. And I also am under the impression that she picked up the treasurer position at the end of a cycle due to that previous treasure debt disappearing, which happens a lot in this program. So I don't think it's really anybody's fault per se, that there's bad financials. I think that we're trying to do the best that we can to be accountable to both areas."
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- f. Women's Brunch: Rosie shares report for Melissa (see google drive)
  - g. Outreach: Missing
  - h. NCCNA Registration: Rosie shares report (see google drive)

13. Old Business- none



## 14. New Business

1. Kristina Ruiz - "Okay, so in this area, I do a lot of work with helping them make flyers for activities. And now I'm making merchandise for the pig roast. I need to get in contact with whoever the person is that created this logo right here on this paper. I need the original file for it in order for me to put it onto shirts and sweatshirts without it being grainy. I have been able to find a version of it that's on the guidelines. That's a previous version, but we need to find the original one. And that original file needs to go in our drive so that we can access it in the future."

- a. Tish - "Kato's Graphics in Santa Cruz has it. They're the ones who created it. Okay. But I think that we should discuss that logo. I think that it needs to add San Benito County. It should not just say Monterey County. And I've already recreated it to say San Benito county, just so you know."
- b. ii. Kristina - "Are we using that logo somewhere else?"
- c. iii. Mike - "Yeah, I think we need to seek some direction because what's in our bylaws? How are our bylaws written? If our bylaws are Monterey area of Narcotics Anonymous. Our logo has to say Monterey area of Narcotics. Or we have to redo all that paperwork. Right. And have our bylaws changed to say Monterey, San Benito County. But I do agree. I think we need a new logo. Start over fresh. Something new."
- d. 4. Kristina - "Do we need to create a committee to do that or how does that work?"
- e. 5. Mike - "Do you know how to do that graphic stuff?"
- f. 6. Kristina - "I can."
- g. 7. Mike - "My suggestion would be to make something and bring it to his body and let them look at it."
- h. 8. Patrick - "I submitted a reimbursement motion"
- i. 9. Tametha - "Can we change the bylaws to change and update the logo?"
- j. 10. Mike - "Yes. I don't know. We can, but it's going to be going back through the attorney paying those fees again doing all of that stuff."
- k. 11. Anne - "Anyways, I was going to say that I could check with the lawyer and see how complicated that would be."
- l. 12. Diego - "So let's table that, and then we'll bring that up in old business next one."
- m. 13. Rosie - "Regarding the logo. I don't like that logo. But there's three registered trademarks on that logo. The original NA logo and then the second logo. But now we need to complicate and put a third logo that isn't registered trademark. So I don't know why that's even on there. Yeah. And we have a perfectly good NA logo that we can use. And I feel like we should be able to use that logo that has worked worldwide rather than recreate this wheel."
- n. 14. Tish - "And if you just reach out to Debbie at Cato's and ask her for the vector file."
- o. Yeah, yeah, she will have it."

## 15. Motions

- 1. Kevin - "Name is Kevin. I'm an addict."



2. Peter - "I'm sitting here for Nick S. So I was given a check. Well, Nick wanted to make a motion for reimbursement. I was given a check for Learning days of 600. The food was actually 900. So I paid the difference. And we have to add an additional cost for plates and stuff. Receipts have been submitted to Anne."

- a. i. Anne - "They were emailed tonight and I haven't had a chance to pull them to write the motion out. But yeah, I can't do anything without receipts. And even so, we did a favor by issuing this check without a motion. So they need to bring their receipts to Area to get reimbursed."
- b. ii. Mike - "So whose budget is that coming out of, H&I's?"
- c. iii. Anne - "I don't know. I thought it was going to be out of H&I and Outreach, but I thought that they were going to bring all the papers today so I could assign who was getting charged what. So I don't know."
- d. 4. Joanne - "The budget was supposed to be paid from three places. Outreach, PI, H&I."
- e. 5. Diego - "So it sounds like what Anne is saying, is all we need is the actual paper receipts for their cost."
- f. 6. Anne - "Because if they're going to spread out, I need something from them indicating that they're going to split the cost."
- g. 7. Peter - "So just for clarification, never submit receipts. So for future reference, never submit receipts electronically."
- h. 8. Anne - "I don't have an answer for you, I was just trying to give them the opportunity."
- i. 9. Tim - "So Peter, if you. Did you email those receipts?"
- j. 10. Peter - "I am not the chair. Okay. Those receipts were turned into the chair who is not here tonight because he's sick. I'm filling in for him. He emailed them to the treasurer."
- k. 11. Tim - "To make sure there's a paper trail with an email. If he can print out that email that has those receipts on them and bring them in physically, because apparently there's issues going on with our email system right now through PI because we haven't had an update on our website since 2019."
- l. 12. Peter - "So, so just for clarification, email directly to them."
- m. Point of order
- n. 13. Mike - "So my understanding is what I heard and then tell me you got this email sometime today. Today, four o' clock. To print them to do all of that. So she has a receipt. Got them right before. Can't do it. I'm sure that next month they're going to be able to get to it. To have those checks pulled. If it was that important, he should have got them to her before the day of the Area meeting."
- o. 14. Joanne - "So on that same note, I have a receipt for insurance for that same event, but my understanding is, I didn't do the motion form because I thought no, Nick, the chair would have to present that. Is that correct or can I turn in that receipt for insurance myself?"
- p. 15. Anne - "If you pay for the insurance, then you can fill out a motion for it."
- q. 16. Peter - "What do you want Nick to do? You want Nick to print out the receipt. Not Anne?"
- r. 17. Diego - "So from my understanding, he has to come here with the receipts and provide this motion form."
- s. 18. Mike - "Oh, yes, you guys have line items in your motions are in your budgets. Does your budgets have line items? So what I would suggest, so this doesn't happen again. I would make sure that the chair of H&I gets with the chair of PI and outreach, and figure out which line items that money needs to come

from so that those line items can be put on that motion.”

1. Reimbursement for stamps for Behind the Walls sponsorship for Patrick. When: already purchased five books of stamps for postage for Behind the Walls. The amount \$69.35. Moot point.
  - a. Mike - “Well, hold on. It's got to be seconded first. It's got to be done the proper way. So you guys know the motion's brought to the table. It has to be seconded. Then it moves forward.”
  - b. Patrick - “It could be seconded on when you submit it. Right.?”
  - c. Mike - “Yes, if you put that on there, that's okay. You can do that? Yes. Okay, now it's seconded.”
2. There's no name. It just says, I move that, reimbursement for travel from Hollister to Fairfield, June 14 and July 12, RSC monthly meeting.  $150 \times 2 = 300$ . Motion passed.
  - a. Mike - “Do you accept a friendly amendment to adding your name to the motion? “
  - b. Rosie - “Yes please. Rosie. It's \$150. But shouldn't it just be for mileage?”
  - c. Mike - “I drive that same distance every month to the board. I put in my mileage, they pay a certain percentage of mileage, there and back, and the bridge fee, and my check is \$107. And we're paying \$150. That's what's in our guidelines. Maybe this body might want to take a look at that, and be better stewards of our money, you know. Yes, that would be a guideline change. We're not asking to do it tonight”
3. Service treasurer. Reimburse Rick B. for copies of meeting schedules. A check for \$43.87 tonight and line item. I'll second it. Patrick C.
4. Joanne. For copies of Postering Day. Check for \$66.93. I'll second it. Patrick
5. PRPI, H&I subcommittee. Reimburse for insurance for building. Learning Day Reimbursement. Check for the amount of \$40. Tamatha, Second.

## 16. Open Forum

1. Mark - “One of our members had asked me to bring it up. So, today I'm here as a GSR and my alternate is here too. So if we had a voting procedure, he wanted to know if both of us could vote, and have it count as two votes instead of one?”
  - a. Tim - “In our group booklet, it says the alternate GSR may attend all area service committee meetings as a non-voting participant.”
2. Mike - “My concern is we don't know where that check came from. We stamped that check. We deposit that. I heard a whole bunch of things going on. And they could be paying for literature. They could be as much cyber hacking and they're doing that out there right now. We stamp that check with our account number on it. They send that check back to them. We don't know where it's going. Our traditions say that we do not accept donations from outside enterprises. So my thing would be that we send the check back.”

- a. Diego - "That sounds like that's what we should do with our guidelines as well, our traditions. So then let's just send that back."
- b. Patrick - "Where'd the check come from, and where are we sending it back to?"
- c. Anne - "Canada"
- d. Peter - "So if the vote is to pass it, do we go against our tradition?"
- e. Mike - "Well, for me, I would put my faith in the higher power that serves this body, that people are going to vote according to our traditions."
- f. Diego - "So, all those opposed, raise your hand. Opposed to sending it back. So all those in favor to oppose to sending it back. All those in favor of sending it back? [hands raise] God, I think you got your answer. You got your answer. So it's pretty unanimous. So the decision is made."

17. Meeting End: 8:33 PM

Submitted by Kristina Ruiz