Monterey and San Benito Counties Area Service Committee

Meeting Minutes   October 13, 2025

1. Meeting Start: 6:30PM

2. Chair, Diego, opens the meeting with the Serenity Prayer
   Eric reads the 12 Traditions.
   Eric reads the 12 Concepts.

3. Chair, Diego, apologizes to the group for not having the binder or the printed chairperson's opening statement due to just returning to the country 24 hours ago.

4. Introduction to new GSRs and Visitors

   a. Alissa – new GSR for King City "Keepin' It Clean"

   b. Cassie – new GSR for Thursday "Takes a Village"

   c. Timothy – new GSR for Saturday Night Live

   d. John Paul – visitor

   e. Mike – visitor

   f. Nick – visitor

5. Milestones

   a. Matthew – 2 years (October 7)

   b. Phil – 20 years (September 30)

   c. Mark – 6 years (September 9)

   d. Mika – 9 months (October 6)

6. Approval of Minutes

A. Kristina notes correction – there *was* a Vice Chair report last month; minutes incorrectly stated there was none.

B. Mike notes correction – on page 5 of 8, second line from bottom, where it read "unidentified member (Rosie)," the name should be corrected to "Mike."

C. Kristina: notes that if a voice cannot be confirmed in future recordings, it will be listed as "unidentified member."

D. Motion to approve minutes with amendments: Mike
 Second: Nick
 Vote: None opposed

7. Additions to Agenda

    a. Mike: Requests to add discussion about the process of sending the Vice Chair to MBCNA and review of related guidelines.

    b. Tim: Requests to add discussion in Open Forum regarding the upcoming Spanish-speaking convention in Visalia and concerns about participation and inclusivity.

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

9. Area Service Committee Reports

    a. Chair: Diego: shares verbal report and notes binder was unavailable this month.

    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. Kristina:"Where are the budgets supposed to be uploaded to?"

        b. Anne: "I don't know. Maybe they can share with me or bring a copy. I'm not sure."

        c. Kristina: "'Cause it needs to be submitted by today, right?"

        d. Anne: "It should be, yeah. Maybe we can do that in open forum or something."

        e. Mike: "Your two checks are the NCRSO and Kristina, is that correct?"

        f. Anne: "Correct"

        g. Mike : "And that balance of $7,311.15 includes taking out that $4,000 and those two checks, correct?"

        h. Anne:"That is correct."

        i. Mike: "Have either one of you heard about the donation? The check hasn't cleared. I was just curious if I should call up there to find out what happened."

        j.   Anne: "There's a changing of the guard there — all right, just let me know. I'll follow up when I go to the next one."

   e.   Literature: Raichel shares report (see google drive)

   f.   RCM 1: Rosie shares report (see google drive)

        a.   Mike: "Maybe this is something we could talk about in open forum — the area inventory we did at one time, I want to say, was probably eight years ago. We had someone from the region come down and show us how to do an area inventory. I don't know if this body would be interested in that. Should we ask our RCM to put in a travel request to have the region come down?"

        b.   Rosie: "Yes, you can bring it up in open perform."

   g.   RCM 2: Position Open

10. Subcommittee Reports

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

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

        a.   Tim: "Can you keep the date?"
        b.   Carrie: "Yes, the flyer will be available for every meeting. October 19th, 10:30 a.m., at the Methodist Church in Salinas, 404 Lincoln Avenue. Hopefully, it won't just be me and Tim!"
        c.   Carrie: "I also had a question last month about guidelines for approving flyers. The guidelines say PI approves them but don't give specifics about content, like pets. We can update this in the next guidelines. This is under number six, PR/PI Question Guidelines from 2025. Any questions, you can ask after my report. I also have my budget for this year, which includes learning days with H&I. Tim here also needs male volunteers for the phone line—please reach out if you can help."
        d.   Patrick: "One-year clean time requirement?"
        e.   Carrie: "Yes.Thank you. For meeting changes, please submit updates via PR email or our website. This ensures accurate scheduling. Notify us if a location, time, or meeting status changes. We update the schedule monthly. Flyers are approved by the chair and then sent to JP, the webmaster. Common issues are missing 'no pets' guidelines or the Monterey logo. This includes all committee positions: secretary, presentation coordinator, assistant meeting guide coordinator, assistant web coordinator, assistant helpline coordinator. Anyone interested in joining is welcome—we meet on Zoom the last Sunday of the month. Our goal is to find the still-suffering . Here's the meeting ID and password if you want to join or just observe. We can always use help."
        f.   John Paul: "Thank you very much."

g. Patrick: "Regarding closed meetings earlier, do they need to fill out a form for the schedule?"

h. Carrie: "They can email us directly through the Monterey NA website. Kathy handles updates, but using the email ensures clear communication. I give my cell number too, but the website email is preferred."

i. Patrick: "Can I get the email? I need to update that."

j. John Paul: "Yeah."

k. Carrie: "Amy."

l. Joanne: "For all flyers, should I email them to you first for approval before adding them to the flyer folder?"

m. Carrie: "Yes, the chair approves them, unless you are the chair yourself."

n. Joanne: "I am not the chair. I am Arts and Graphics for MBCNA and create the flyers. I included the logo and had it approved by Santa Cruz. This is my first time hearing about additional guidelines like no dogs."

o. Carrie: "They wouldn't allow dogs anyway. Yes, flyers should come to me, and for MBCNA, it's safe to send them to me just in case."

p. John Paul: "Okay."

q. Joanne: "Approved at Santa Cruz."

r. Carrie: "If this is uploaded to our website or distributed in Monterey County, yes, it should go to me."

s. John Paul: "Okay."

t. Carrie: "Yes."

u. Patrick: "Even though it's approved since it's combined Monterey and Santa Cruz, I believe Monterey is the area this year."

v. Carrie: "Thank you. I'll confirm if needed."

w. Joanne: "For sure."

x. Carrie: "Any other questions?"

y. John Paul: "I don't have a question, but I have an update."

z. Tim: "Please."

aa. John Paul: "Update on the website: Emails are active now on the new host, and the website is secure. Any previous security warnings are resolved. I'm also working on an online meeting change form, similar to San Jose's. That's all I have—happy to be part of this journey. Please include this in the minutes."

c. Activities: Lawrence shares report (on the google drive)

a. Kristina: "Addressing the insurance situation. I will be talking with Rosie and Mike this week to figure it out. It's been back and forth with the regional insurance people. We're not trying to keep anyone at home, just trying to take accountability for the situation."

b. Amy: "I got a comment on the insurance. Surf Camp in Santa Cruz gets a different insurance than region and they are covered to be near water. They don't do a bonfire. It might be worth reaching out to their vendor, because navigating it with the region has been difficult."

c. Matthew: "I'll bring that back to you about the spaghetti piece and reach out to some of the guys. I don't think they'll make it to your next meeting, but I'll bring it back to you for sure."

d. Lawrence: "Appreciate that. Are we good? Thanks for letting me be of service."

e. Patrick: "Question?"

f. Joanne: "People to see what you're doing."
g. Amy: "Surf Camp uses a different insurance company and they're permitted to take people into the water. That's a step in the right direction."
h. Lawrence: "Awesome."
i. Kristina: "Thank you so much."
j. Amy: "I'll get the contacts."
k. Patrick: "Patrick here. When is your next meeting?"
l. Lawrence: "It's this week, October 16, 2025, Thursday."
m. Amy: "Thursday, 6:30, Lincoln."
n. Patrick: "At Thursday?"
o. John Paul: "Yes, 6:30 p.m., October 2025."
p. Lawrence: "Any other questions, Rosie?"
q. Amy: "One thing, if you're planning that campout, I highly suggest coordinating with the region for insurance. That's the biggest hurdle. You might also ask our RCM, as other areas with campouts reach out to other insurance carriers. Insurance is a big deal in case something happens."
r. Lawrence: "Oh, absolutely."
s. Matthew: "Perfect. Mark, can you repeat the stuff about the spaghetti event?"
t. Lawrence: "So the hosting committee was no longer going to do the event. It was asked if we wanted to take it over. The short answer is yes, we do, but we need someone to come into our community meeting and give us experience and details. We also need to know about seed money—are we taking on the whole expense? We don't know yet, but we want to take on the event."
u. Matthew: "Thank you."
v. Lawrence: "No problem. As a committee, we talked about the budget. The Activities Committee has never gone past the default amount, nor asked Area for additional funds. We decided to stick with the default, around $4,000."
w. Patrick: "We don't need any money."
x. Anne: "I know it's kind of silly that activities has their own checking account to submit a budget. However, if you need seed money from Area, they're going to want to know about it. I'll have to check how that actually works. Activities started with $4,000, so that's kind of the budget. Your current balance is about $1,600 after the last deposit. So, your expenses and income are tracked that way."

d. MBCNA Chair: Amy - shares report (see google drive)

a. Mark: "Nothing pertaining to what you just said, but we received the financials for MBCNA for the last two cycles. Tony sent them to me, but we're having a hard time reading them. Could someone from MBCNA come over to explain them to us?"
b. Amy: "And that's the one in the drive right now."
c. Mark: "There are three in there. We're not sure if they're the same, but we're having trouble reading them."
d. Amy: "Okay, and they want someone to come to this meeting?"
e. Mark: "Yes, to help us understand the numbers."
f. Amy: "Talk to me after the meeting. I have a copy here."
g. Mike: "I can clarify. When our home group looked at the financials, the 'over' column had parentheses, which made it look like a negative $500, not a positive. So it was confusing."

h. Amy: "Do you know the line item?"

i. Mike: "No, just taking numbers in general."

j. Joanne: "So the budget column is middle, the next cycle's budget is the third column, which is why the totals don't add up across the row. You have to read down the column. At the bottom is total budgeted income, total budgeted expenses, actual income, and actual expenses. There's a cleaner version on the drive."

k. Mike: "This report isn't the one we got."

l. Amy: "That's the one I was given to bring tonight."

m. Mike: "Rosie had a question."

n. Rosie: "Yeah, are the numbers final, the ones submitted online?"

o. Amy: "Yes, those are closed."

p. Rosie: "Because the line items show zeros, no supporting numbers."

q. Amy: "We only gave the actual budget, not the supporting documents. I'm not the treasurer, so I don't have access to those."

r. Rosie: "They'd be archived though, right?"

s. Amy: "Not fully. I checked past cycles; the Monterey archives only go back to 2022. We provided the last two cycles and the current cycle in the drive."

t. Rosie: "Okay, I'll submit what you've given me to the RS."

u. Amy: "It's the same thing we gave to Santa Cruz."

v. Mike: "Does this report come from the MBCNA Treasury or the Board of Directors?"

w. Amy: "It comes from the MBCNA Treasurer, currently Trisha."

x. Mike: "When I look at the actuals, some events, like the dance, show zero. Was that free?"

y. Amy: "Yes, the dance is free."

z. Mike: "And the drag show?"

aa. Amy: "I didn't attend."

bb. Mike: "It got canceled last night?"

cc. Amy: "Yes, both the cruise and the drag show were canceled."

dd. Mark: "Okay."

ee. Amy: "I have a copy of the banking statements."

ff. Mike: "Thank you."

gg. Diego: "Any other questions before we move on?"

e. Women's Brunch: Melissa (see google drive)

a. Rosie: "Did you upload the bank statement and the reconciliation?"

b. Melissa: "Excuse me?"

c. Rosie: "Did you upload the bank statement and the bank reconciliation?"

d. Melissa: "Oh, you don't need to speak slower… yeah, I'm sorry."

e. Rosie: "Yeah, I gave that to… oh yeah, I have it for you."

f. Melissa: "I didn't upload them, though."

g. Rosie: "No. Could I get a copy of those?"

h. Melissa: "Sure, that'd be great. She's gonna get that right now, but no, I didn't. I'll make sure that for the next meeting they are uploaded."

i. Mark: "Is that… does that happen every month that I'm supposed to?"

j. Melissa: "With that, I will make sure that they're up there."

k. Rosie: "Thank you."

    l.   Melissa: "And that's it. Does anybody have any other questions? Perfect. All right."

    m. Mark: "Outreach."

    n. Rosie: "Okay. If you have a budget, I can upload it in here. As soon as I get out, I'll upload it. Thank you, Barbara. Thank you very much."

    f. Outreach: Aaron - no report in the drive just talking points

    g. NCCNA Registration: Rosie shares the books are not closed yet and the final report will come soon.

11. Old Business

No old business

12. New Business

    a. Diego : "So I guess we need to figure out where we need to put the sub budgets."

    b. Mike: "Yes."

    c. Diego: "Who makes that decision?"

    d. Aaron : "I have no idea."

    e. Kristina : "Where do we put the proposed budgets, the subcommittee budgets? Like, should I create a folder maybe in the drive that says…"

    f. Anne: "Yeah, we should have had them in already? The ones that aren't in, I think by today, right? Supposed to be in today, but if this group wants to extend it a month, you can. I think they did that last year. And if they're not in by November, they just roll over—they just default. But you can put…"

    g. Diego: "You can."

    h. Kristina: "It would be great if we could put them in the folder so that the treasurer could have access to print them out, because we have to get all those together in gold with ASC to make our own budget."

    i. Aaron: "Every year by October, we're supposed to have a scripted kind of outlined budget of what your budget year looks like for upcoming events. You gauge that off of the previous year's budgets. So for outreach, I would have the learning days budget split with H&I and PI. So all it is is just a makeshift budget of what you think you're going to need. If you don't, you default to last year's budget. Your guideline budget is in the guidelines. Based on what you may have coming up, we ask everyone to stay within their budget, but it's not unheard of to ask for a little extra from the area depending on your events."

    j. Kristina : "So I just added a folder to our drive on our website that says Budgets 2025–2026. Drop it in there. I just gave you access and emailed it to you."

    k. Diego : "Can we make a motion to extend it one more month? If it's due today, we won't get it done."

    l. Mike: "Everybody provided theirs?"

    m. Anne: "never mind. Next month then. What should have happened was since they were due, we could have put it into new business and budgets."

    n. Mike: "Can someone check the guidelines on when the ASC body is supposed to have their budgets back? October, November?"

o. Anne: "If they got it to you by the end of next week, the body can proceed. Defaults everything else. We can't do business without an approved budget."

p. Diego : "All right."

13. Open Forum

    a. Mike: "I attended the MBCNA meeting last month. According to guidelines, they find somebody from our area and send them here, then we vote them in. In my opinion, it should be the other way around—this body should nominate someone, and MBCNA can accept or reject them. Our vice chair should go to represent the area."

    b. Aaron : "Historically, MBCNA has voted in their vice chair and that person reports back here. If it's not broke, don't fix it."

    c. Nick: "Our guidelines say subcommittees elect their own officers except the chairperson, whose recommendation is considered by the ASC. Nothing says the vice chair has to represent our area."

    d. Amy : "Point of order: We alternate hosting areas. Currently Santa Cruz hosts, so we need a Monterey vice chair. Pre-approval by the area is important so the area feels represented and the vice chair is prepared."

    e. Mike: "I like the idea of pre-approval. They qualify first, then MBCNA can seat them or not."

    f. Nick: "We have resumes for community members. The guidelines are sufficient: they go to the committee, they get vetted, then approved here."

    g. Mike: "We should propose that Santa Cruz, Monterey, and MBCNA guidelines align for consistency."

    h. Amy : "Currently, there is no Monterey vice chair for the next cycle—open position. Getting a vice chair is instrumental for area representation. They will run the show next cycle, which is why a service resume is important."

    i. Tim: "I'm concerned about the Spanish convention—large gatherings may pose a risk with ICE involvement."

    j. Rosie: "I can reach out to the RCM to get an emergency plan."

    k. Mike: "We could request an area inventory via RCM. It would help the area evaluate what we do well, what we can improve, and get people involved. Could rotate over a few months and take about 25–30 minutes each session."

    l. Patrick Attic: "Could this be done through H&I, like learning days?"

    m. Nick: "Yes."

    n. Diego : "It's a good event for the next area inventory and to involve new members."

14. Motions

    a. Diego Addict: "Is there any motion to extend subcommittee budgets one more month?"

    b. Mike: "No motions submitted yet."

    c. Barbara: "I want to turn in my reimbursement next month."

    d. Diego Addict: "Okay, noted for the record."

Meeting End: 8:16PM

Submitted by Ruiz