



Monterey and San Benito Counties Area Service Committee

Meeting Minutes January 12, 2026

1. Meeting Start: 6:30PM
2. Diego opens the meeting with the Serenity Prayer
A volunteer reads the 12 Traditions.
Rachel reads the 12 Concepts.
3. Introduction to new GSRs and Visitors
 - a. Tim – New GSR, We Do Recover
 - b. Jim – New Alt GSR, Super Sunday
 - c. Kristel – New DSR, Sunday Night Sister to Sister
4. Milestones
 - a. Tim – 19 years (January 3rd)
 - b. Patrick – 17 years (January 1st)
 - c. Kristel – 9 years (December 19th)
 - d. Cory – 4 years (December 27th)
 - e. Raichel – 4 years (December 27th)
 - f. Rachel - 3 years
 - g. Cole – 2 years
 - h. Cassie – 10 months
5. Approval of Minutes
 - A. No minutes were available for approval due to no transcription.

6. Additions to Agenda

- a. None

7. Area Service Committee Reports

- a. Chair: Diego: Diego shares report (see google drive)
- b. Vice Chair: Keven shares report (see google drive)
- c. Recording secretary: Kristina - shares report.

Reminds subcommittees to submit their reports to the Google Drive and notes that H&I has not submitted a report for the past three months. Kristina states she will follow up with H&I via email.

- d. Treasurer: Anne shares report (see google drive)
 - a. 1. Tim: "Is there something in the report that shows the tax payment?"
 - 2. Anne: "No."
 - 3. Tim: "How much did we pay in tax?"
 - 4. Anne: "\$54."

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

- a. 1. Kristina: "Do you need me to send the new form to everyone?"

2. Rachel: "Yes. If I email it to you and you forward it to all GSRs, that would make it more accessible. Rachel notes that new order forms are labeled "1-1-2026" at the top of each page."

- f. RCM 1: Rosie present.

- g. RCM 2: Angelina shares report (see google drive)

8. Subcommittee Reports

- a. H&I: Not present

- I. Rick: "So last month Nick handed out a flyer that said our next meeting was going to be January 22nd. That date is wrong. That that should be January 29th. Just for point information everyone wants."

- b. PI/PR: Not Present

c. Activities: Lawrence not present, Lawrence gave report (on the google drive)

a. 1. Rosie: "What is the current Activities Committee bank balance?"

2. Kristina: "\$2,766.42."

3. Rosie: "Is there a financial report or reconciliation uploaded to the Google Drive?"

4. Kristina: "Every time a check is written, I reconcile it with Anne. Is that what you mean?"

5. Rosie: "We used to submit an itemized report showing expenses and balances monthly, especially for Activities."

6. Kristina: "I've never done that because there were no guidelines given to me when I took over the position two and a half years ago."

"We're working on getting the reconciliation uploaded to the Google Drive so it can be accessed moving forward."

d. MBCNA: Tony shares report (see google drive)

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

1. attendee: "Does your committee know that you'll be losing a vote here at Area if Rosie attends as your representative?"

2. Melissa: "Well then we can probably work out to send someone else."

3. Attendee: "If Rosie comes as your representative, she already has a vote as the RCM. So your Women's Brunch would be losing a vote. I just want to make sure you guys are aware of that."

4. Melissa: "Yes we understand. Thank you. Anything else?"

f. Outreach: Aaron - no report

9. Old Business

A. Pig Roast: Mike gives a report

1. Mike: "If we can get the letter, that would be great."

2. Diego: "You could do a letter on your letterhead just stating that the Pig Roast has permission to sell merchandise at the alternative store at NCCNA 47. I'll give you my

email address because I don't have access to the Drive."

3. Mike: "Okay, we'll do this after the meeting."

"Can we ask the Pig Roast to put the flyer on the regional calendar as well?"

4. Diego: "The Pig Roast is asking the RCM to make sure the flyer gets put on the calendar."

B. Group Budget Votes

1. Attendee: "How exactly do we bring the budget back to the groups?"
2. Diego: "There was a motion made last month that was tabled. Everyone should have brought the budget back to their groups. Now it's time to call the vote on that motion."
3. Attendee: "Do we bring it back at the group level or at the business meeting?"
4. Diego: "Business meeting. Correct. If you have a business meeting, bring it there. If not, it's up to you. It's not mandated or set in stone."

"All in favor of the budget?"

"All opposed?"

"Any abstentions?"

Diego announces the results: 16 in favor, 4 opposed, 4 abstentions. Motion passes.

C. Area Inventory Discussion

1. Rosie introduces the topic of conducting an Area Inventory.

"I passed out a questionnaire for everyone to take back to their groups. This is what Area Inventory is. We also have someone willing to facilitate it; we would just need to pay for gas."

2. Attendee: "So this would happen during an Area meeting after groups bring back their answers?"

3. Rosie: "Yes. I'm trying to get ahead by giving you the questionnaire so we are prepared and can know the pulse of each group."

"It's always good to have an outside perspective. The inventory helps us see how well the area supports the groups and carries the primary purpose."

4. Angelina: "There's an area planning tool on the Drive, a step-by-step guide for gathering

information from the groups, coming up with questions, and bringing them back to Area.”

5. Attendee: “Next month, we should stick to highlights from each group. If there are major issues, we address them; otherwise, we don’t need full reports. Breaking into small groups makes it easier for members to share things they wouldn’t normally say at the group level.”

6. Rosie: “Can I ask for a straw poll of anyone opposed to doing an Area Inventory?”

No one opposes.

7. Attendee: “If it costs more than \$150 for gas, is that okay?”

8. Rosie: “Yes. He’s not getting paid for his time. He may ask for dinner as well.”

9. Tony: “Will the questions be done here or back at the groups?”

10. Rosie: “The questions will be taken back to the groups to get a pulse of their members and then brought back to ASC.”

11. Patrick: “So we’re planning to do this in February, next month?”

12. Rosie: “Yes. Bring the completed questionnaires next month. Additional copies are available here to take back to your groups.”

“I know I used Activities as an example, but all future events and meetings are on the website calendar, planned through the end of 2026. This helps avoid scheduling conflicts.”

10. Open Forum:

A. 1. Phil: “My name is Phil and I’m an addict. I’m having an issue with the meeting. It feels like it has gone toward a dictatorship around the opening statements and readings.”

“They call it interruptive, but I feel like confining people keeps them from expressing their feelings. It’s their meeting, their recovery, and how they want to share.”

“During the readings, people shared like that, and then it was said, ‘Let me remind you that you’re not supposed to do that.’ That upset me because it’s not a dictatorship.”

“If you turn in your court card without your name, it won’t be signed, and if you forget it, it’s thrown away. If we’re not looking out for each other, then the purpose of NA feels blurred.”

“I was told that if I don’t like it, I can go somewhere else. They voted and discussed it, but nothing changed.”

“I don’t think it’s disruptive for people to be part of the meeting, and I don’t think people should be dictated on how to do their recovery. We’re supposed to be a unity.”

2. Aaron: Which meeting was it?”

3. Phil: “Saturday Night Live.”

4. Aaron: “Each meeting has the right to conduct itself. That’s why we have business meetings. Everyone has the right to attend and speak their opinion, and the group decides collectively.”

“If the group asks me not to chant because they find it disruptive, I should abide by that. I’m not the only member that matters.”

“I don’t attend Saturday Night Live for that reason because I find chanting disruptive. I go to meetings for recovery and fellowship.”

“I don’t believe in dictatorship. That word can scare people away. We vote as a group, and our vote is supposed to be spiritual.”

5. Mike: “My name is Mike and I’m an addict. It’s a touchy subject because I come from the old-school way.”

“Someone told me the first time they ever got to say ‘keep coming back,’ they felt like part of something. That changed my perspective.”

“Whatever the meeting decides is what the meeting decides. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.”

6. Cassie: “My name is Cassie and I’m an addict. I only have 10 months clean.”

“It made me feel like part of something and helped me remember the readings. It felt harmless and welcoming.”

7. Tony: “My name is Tony and I’m an addict. Each group decides what works for them as long as it doesn’t affect NA as a whole.”

“As long as the message is carried, we shouldn’t lose sight of why we’re here.”

8. Crystal: “My name is Crystal and I’m an addict. I’m a trusted servant at that meeting and was at the business meeting.”

“We are not responsible for holding court cards. That is stated clearly on the cards themselves.”

“That business meeting had over 20 people, and they voted. We cannot take votes with 75 to 90 people in the room.”

“We are taught to maintain an atmosphere of recovery for everyone—newcomers, old-timers, and everyone in between.”

9. Tim: “My name is Tim and I’m an addict. When I first got clean, chanting helped me follow along.”

“If the group voted against chanting, it’s the secretary’s responsibility to uphold the format. That’s not a dictatorship—that’s how NA works.”

“Meetings are where we learn from each other. Give yourself and your fellow addict a break, be forgiving, and surrender to what the group has decided.”

B. Car Workshop

1. Rosie: “Peninsula Area is having a CAR workshop on February 28th in Redwood City. We were asked, as part of the Zone, if our Area could provide the coffee station. Another Area is bringing pastries, and another is bringing sandwiches.”

“I didn’t want to submit a reimbursement request yet. If the group decides to do this, I’ll bring the receipts afterward.”

2. Tim: “We would need a motion for that. I want to see if the group is interested before moving forward.”
3. Attendee: “Is February 28th the closest CAR workshop for our Area?”
4. Rosie: “Yes, that’s the closest one.”

“It’s a good opportunity for GSRs and secretaries to meet people who can come share at meetings. This information goes to our Regional Delegate and eventually to the World Service Conference, so our Area has a voice.” “If any CAR is worth attending, this is the one.”

5. Attendee: “Where do we get the coffee pots?”
6. Rosie: “They have the coffee pots. I’ll bring the coffee, creamers, and supplies.”

“There’s a flyer with a QR code. If you scan it, you can access the CAR survey, which is due April 1st.”

A show of hands is taken regarding opposition; none is recorded.

11. Motions

- A. Kevin reviews submitted reimbursements and motions.

“Area of reimbursement \$9.56 for copies made for literature forms.”

Kevin asks for confirmation to proceed.

“Can we pass that, please? I’m trying to get these noted.”

Rick Baker is acknowledged for reimbursement related to meeting guides.

“Rick Baker gets reimbursement for meeting guides — Treasurer write check — \$58.51.”

“Rick Baker gets reimbursement for PI — Treasurer write check — \$80.46.

B. A motion regarding RCM reimbursement guidelines is introduced.

“I motion that ASC change RCM reimbursement to Region to \$0.40 per mile plus \$7 for the toll bridge instead of \$150, depending on the miles.”

Kevin clarifies that the motion is a guideline change and must be taken back to the groups.

“That’s a guideline change, so that motion needs to go back to the groups. The groups need to take it back, and we’ll vote on it next month.”

Kevin restates the motion for clarity.

“Reimbursement to Region to \$0.40 per mile plus \$7 for the toll bridge instead of \$150.”

GSRs confirm understanding and agree to take the motion back to their groups.

C. Kevin reviews a motion related to the Area Inventory facilitator.

“We get an outside member to facilitate our Area Inventory and give money for gas.”

“Do we vote on that?”

Response: “No, we already did.”

Anne: “How am I supposed to write this check? Who do I write it to? Not to exceed \$150?”

“We’re going to table it. We’ll resend that motion and revisit it next month.”

“Next month will be the motion to pay whatever it was for gas to fill up his tank.”

D. Kevin acknowledges a reimbursement request for RSC travel expenses.

“Reimbursed for gas plus toll fee for the RSC December and January meetings. Expense monthly — \$214.”

Meeting End: 8:12PM

Submitted by Kristina Ruiz