



Monterey and San Benito Counties Area Service Committee

Meeting Minutes November 10, 2025

1. Meeting Start: 6:30PM
2. Diego opens the meeting with the Serenity Prayer
Mark reads the 12 Traditions.
Patrick reads the 12 Concepts.
3. Introduction to new GSRs and Visitors
 - a. Barbara - Visitor
 - b. Brian- New GSR Salinas Nooner
 - c. Ken- Visitor
 - d. Rick- Alt GSR
4. Milestones
 - a. Cassie-8 months
 - b. Lillie-5 years
5. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Rosie-asks for an amendment where the minutes listed "RCM 2," it should correctly read "RCM 1."
 - B. Patrick- Motions to approve the minutes
 - C. Motion passes with the amendment
6. Additions to Agenda
 - a. Mike: "I don't see the budget listed on the agenda. Should that be under Old Business?"
Diego: "Yes, that should be placed under Old Business."
 - I. Mike: "Should we move Open Forum to before New Business so we can talk about the budget openly?"

II. Diego: “Yes. Moving forward, Open Forum will come before New Business so we can address the budget first.”

- b. Rosie: “I’d like to add flyer process to Open Forum.”
- c. Timithous: “I want to add something to Open Forum—the A-binder I was given from the COVID days with money and receipts from the Nooner Seaside meeting.”

7. Area Service Committee Reports

- a. Chair: Diego: Diego shares report (see google drive)
- b. Vice Chair: Not Present
- c. Recording secretary: Kristina - shares report (see google drive)
- d. Treasurer: Anne shares report (see google drive)
- e. Literature: Raichel shares report (see google drive)

- a. Mike: “Do you bring everything every month?”
 - I. Raichel: “Yes—just in case.”

II. Mike: “Is it worth leaving rarely purchased items at home? Do you keep track of things you haven’t sold in six months?”

III. Raichel: “I keep previous paperwork at home, but I bring all literature because the one time I leave something behind is always the time someone needs it. As long as it fits in my car, I bring it.”

- b. Nick: “I brought an NA Survival Kit to H&I, but we were told it wasn’t ‘fellowship-approved’ literature. What does that mean?”
 - I. Mike: “Anything NA-approved is fellowship-approved, because the fellowship votes on all literature.”
 - II. Nick: That’s what we thought, and that’s what most people in the room said — until someone pointed out there are *two different stamps* in the book. One literally says ‘Fellowship Approved.’

I didn’t know any of this, and I’m not an expert, so please don’t ask me for any answers.

What I learned is this:

- Some pieces of literature — like the Basic Text — were written and then went through the fellowship before they were approved.
- Other pieces get written by NAWS or NCRSO, and a *committee* approves them, but they haven’t been approved by the entire fellowship.

That’s the education we got at our meeting — that’s as far as I know.”

III. Raichel- “So basically everything in that book has already been approved by the fellowship, because all it is... is the Step Working Guide, the Basic Text, and *It Works: How & Why* broken up into sections so you have each step.”

IV. Nick- "I'm not trying to be difficult — I said the same thing. But someone pointed out that this is their abbreviated version. Somebody from NCRSO or whoever pulled out the sections they thought were important and put them into that booklet. It wasn't circulated to the fellowship for approval.
I said what you said — it's not a great tool for H&I.

But my question was:

Could we give it out in facilities at all?

Maybe PR?

Just trying to understand. I didn't want to start a debate — someone brought it up and I was just passing it along."

V. Patrick: "Can somebody call World? They've got a phone number — I'm sure they can answer that."

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

g. RCM 2: Position Open

8. Subcommittee Reports

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

- I. Mike: Asks, "So what in regards to the Monterey Jail — what are the facility guidelines in regards to male/female? What are the jail guidelines for bringing a man and a woman?"
- II. Nick: Explains that H&I reviewed this over three meetings. The jail confirmed they are fine with women entering men's facilities as long as a male accompanies them. Historically, the jail has allowed this.
- III. Mike: Asks, "Fire camps — are those meetings going in as of right now on Friday night?"
- IV. Nick: Confirms yes. Jim is taking the meeting in alone and has five people in the clearance process. Although meetings should go in pairs, a group conscience decided that bringing the message is more important — as long as the volunteer feels safe. Safety takes priority.
- V. Ken: Asks, "What's the clean time requirement?"
- VI. Nick: Says requirements vary by facility. Offers to follow up with Ken after the meeting to determine which facility's requirements he needs.
- VII. Ken: Asks, "How many times last month did the fire camp get visited?"
- VIII. Nick: Says he does not know offhand.
- IX. Mike: Asks, "Why does it say if they're interested in these positions to contact Stan or Scott? Should they not be coming to your meeting and contacting you?"
- X. Nick: Says yes, ideally people would attend the meeting, but it has been difficult to get new members to show up. Any contact—through Scott, Stan, Rick, or anyone—is appreciated because those people pass the information on to him.

- XI. Mike: Adds, "I know a person that's interested in taking on Salinas Valley who tried to reach out to Stan and has gotten no traction. Can I direct this person to come to your meeting?"
- XII. Nick: Says yes — give them his number, have them come to the meeting, whatever works.
- XIII. Diego: Asks, "Am I allowed to go to H&I and participate?"
- XIV. Nick: Responds, "Of course — you outrank me."

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

- a. Brian-I believe Tim put my phone number down for any Spanish speaking individuals that may be looking for a meeting. I have volume calls. However, there are no Spanish speaking meetings in the area. So I'm not sure where to send them to. I might get in trouble for this, but I'd rather the individual get a meeting and not relapse or overdose. So I do send them to Alcoholics Anonymous. In the past I have done that."
- b. Joanne- Ill mention that to tim

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

- a. Patrick asks: "Is that October 2026?"
- b. Lawrence: "Yes. The campout is September 2026."
- c. Mike: "Have you looked at the insurance for the campout?"
- d. Kristina: "Not yet, but I was able to contact the woman from region about fire insurance for future bonfires. They should be able to help us. We also have insurance for all the holiday events. Technically, those events are covered under the regular liability insurance since we don't have more than 100 people, so it's not a special event. For next year, if we do bonfires, we should get a quote for each meeting and add it to the budget. The event should pay for the insurance. In the past, some groups used a waiver instead of insurance. Our area contacted an attorney, who advised that this is not sufficient. If someone were hurt and sued, it could bankrupt our region and service boards. It's very important that we have insurance for all events because incidents have occurred in the past where the insurance was required."
- e. Mike: "And then we have insurance for all the holiday events, right?"
- f. Kristina: "Yes, technically those events are covered under the regular liability insurance because they're under 100 people."
- g. Mike: "Just make sure that for next year's bonfires, you find out the months and get quotes for each meeting to include in your budget. Also, make sure the event pays for the insurance. In the past, some groups used waivers instead of insurance, but that's not legally sufficient. One incident could bankrupt the region or service boards."

- h. Rosie: "Did we get insurance for the bonfire?"
- i. Kristina: So she had sent me all the information and everything. And thank you for that, by the way, for facilitating that. I wasn't in attendance. Barbara, what happened there?
- j. Barbara: "You contacted me to pay for it"
- k. Kristina: "And thank you for facilitating that, by the way. Yeah. I mean, literally, I think Rosie called her, emailed her, and then she was calling me and emailing me right after. I don't know what. What you said, but it was. It was nice. I was like, oh, cool, thanks."
- l. Phil: For the Thanksgiving and Christmas events, will there be a printed itinerary or will it be on the website?
- m. Lawrence: "It's just meetings every hour on the hour"
- n. Phil: "But for people who signed up to speak or chair."
- o. Lawrence: "somebody will call you this week to confirm."
- p. Phil: Oh, yes, I'm sorry. Before we move on, I'd like to back up to the Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thanks. And I asked about itinerary. You know, people signed up to speak and so on and so forth. But I was thinking of something of everybody else that might want to see who's speaking at the meetings, who's going to chair at the meetings. So they might look and consider going to listen to somebody share and stuff like that. And that was kind of the point of the question so everybody can be informed of who's sharing, who's sharing and what exactly. You know, the times are going to be, you know, in case somebody wants to go, you know, they might already heard somebody else share, but they, they might want to go in here, somebody new share or something like that. And that's why I was considering something to be printed out and handed out or put online so these people can look and see what they want and. Make their plans accordingly.
- q. Lawrence: "Perfect. My name is Lawrence. I'm an addict. I will type it up tonight and put it in the flyers folder on our website."
- r. Mike: "Is that something that can go on the facebook page?"
- d. Women's Brunch: Melissa (see google drive)
- e. Outreach: Aaron - no report
- f. NCCNA Registration: Rosie shares report (see google drive)
 - a. mike : "What were the final numbers as far as money wise as what was, what it cost, what was brought in."
 - b. Rosie: "So the total income was \$322,779.14. Total expenses \$2,099. 744. 87 with the gross profit of 23 \$34.27 minus the newcomer fund of 10,385.03. They keep that at 10,000. So net income. Or the donation was 12,580. \$89.24."
 - c. Patrick: "So what was the total number of."

- d. Registrations that were sold between. All.?"
- e. Rosie- "Oh, the total. There's a 3865. It's not money because. Yeah, no, that'd be way more than. And if you look on the line item, it'll show the breakdown of how much line."

9. Old Business

No old business

10. Open Forum:

A. Diego: "One topic was going to be the budget, the second the flyer approval, and the third the COVID binder. So we can start off with the budget."

- I. Mike: "How about we go to the COVID binder to give us some more time?"
- II. Timothious: "A member of the fellowship gave me this binder. She said she found it in her truck. It's got paperwork and receipts dated 2023 and 2022, a little bit of cash, and she just wanted me to take it to Area and see what we all want to do with it."
- III. Diego: "Right. What name is on it?"
- IV. Timothious: From the Seaside Nooner.
- V. Ken: "Oh, wow. Can I put a motion out there? Donate the money to ASC. That's what the person was recommending."
- VI. Diego: "Any opposed to donating the money?"
- VII. Timothious: "Where does it go?"
- VIII. Participant: "I would just give her the money."
- IX. Timothious: "Right. What do I do with all the receipts and stuff?"
- X. Participant: Give it to the chair to shred.

B. Diego: "So let's move on to the flyer approval."

- I. Rosie: "Oh, okay. Yes. Currently, the only thing required is that they look over our spelling and ensure the logos are on there. Is that correct?"
- II. Participant 2: "Physical address and no pets. Amended OH guidelines in 2026 say no pets. Complete address and contact information, such as email for the activity, is all that we have in the report."
- III. Aaron1: "So what guideline change?" "I don't know. In our guidelines, it just says what it says. To add anything new, it would have to be a guideline change approved by the area. So if we stick to the current guidelines, we just check that the logo and spelling are correct. If this is something going across World Services, that's different, but locally, it would need an area-approved guideline change."
- IV. Rosie: "A lot of events are being submitted without proper procedures—no insurance, not reporting funds. We should hold a higher standard and require insurance before an event is put on the website."
- V. Ken: "That would require a motion, correct?"
- VI. Ken: "Yes. It would need a written amendment to the guidelines. You could allow 'save-the-date' notices without insurance, but official approval requires insurance."
- VII.

- VIII. Rosie: "Other areas are starting to require insurance as well. It's a simple prerequisite: turn in insurance, then flyer approval, then posting."
- IX. Melissa: "Insurance is fast. Email them, get it back within 24–48 hours."
- X. Ken: "ASC can require a guideline change that becomes a motion, then it goes back to groups for approval, and then it becomes official."
- XI. Aaron: "Yes, it's black and white. Insurance is required before submitting a flyer or holding an event under ASC and PI guidelines. Social media is separate. We need accountability. It's not this area's website, but the official Monterey County NA Facebook page. We need guidelines for that too."
- XII. Kristina: "Last year, the body voted to put on that Facebook page and appointed a moderator to approve posts before they go live."
- XIII. Patrick: "The page is public now, over 300 members. That's not good for anonymity. It should be private."
- XIV. Rachel: "The Facebook page was mainly for meetings changing locations and updates. Recently, other unrelated posts are appearing."
- XV. Nick: "We're conflating two separate issues: flyer approval guidelines and the Facebook page. They should be treated separately."
- XVI. Joanne: "For clarification, do we go back to the PR subcommittee, make a motion, and then bring it back here for approval?"
- XVII. Aaron: "You don't have to do that immediately. Once you know the requirements, you can draft the motion and bring it to your groups, then back to ASC."
- XVIII. Participant 1: "Okay, so PI is looking for direction on what the area wants for flyers."
- XIX. Mike and Rosie: "Our guidelines, Section 9, line item 6, state that all flyers must be approved by the PI subcommittee within 3–5 business days. The Monterey County NA logo is required; additional graphics may be used. Approval of guideline changes must be referred back to groups and voted on at the next ASC."
- XX. Aaron: "One of PI's duties under area guidelines is obtaining liability insurance for groups. This could extend to special event insurance for flyers."
- XXI. Diego: "Straw poll—any opposition to adding this requirement?"
- XXII. Diego: "Rosie, are you willing to help write the motion at their Zoom meeting?"
- XXIII. Rosie: "Yes, I'll be there and make sure Aaron is too."
- XXIV. Aaron: "I'll also look into the Facebook page issue as area outreach chair. Rosie will assist."
- XXV. Matthew: "Just to confirm, the Facebook issue will be addressed?"
- XXVI. Diego: "Yes, Rosie and Aaron will handle it."

C. Anne Shares The budget

- a. Mike: "So if we sold, would it make sense if we look at the literature that was bought? Right. Where was that at?"
- b. Anne: "60?"
- c. Mike: "Was it 65? Where was that literature purchase? Was 65." "Oh, right."
- d. Raichel: "Right. That we bought."
- e. Mike: "Would it make sense to make that 6,500 as a budget? Because if we're buying literature at 6,500, we should be bringing in 6,500. Well, we sell our literature. We sell our literature at cost." "Does the budget include all of the fees and so like it's total cost from every purchase on every invoice, right?"
- f. Raichel: "Yeah. The total. My understanding is the total cost, what we've spent is 68."
- g. Mike: "We're going to budget. Maybe that number needs to be around 7,000. How much are you gonna buy? That's through October. How much did you buy last? You bought that? Did she get that bill to put in here?"

- h. Anne: "I just got a bill."
 - i. Mike: "So that's gonna be up around \$8,000." "With the cost of 1569."
 - j. Speaker 5: "1569, yeah. So that number now is going to probably... Are you thinking you're going to have..."
 - k. Mike: "To buy for December. At least some books? Yeah." "So maybe that number needs to be like 9,000 or something. But the cost of that should balance out in the literature sales."
 - l. Raichel: "As of lately, I've been trying to order a little bit less. Just what I can try and estimate because I've been doing this for over a year now and kind of got..."
 - m. Raichel: "But like tonight I did run out of the step working guys faster than I thought." "So on occasion, yes, on occasion I do run out of something that you have enough. Because I believe it's in the guidelines that I need to make sure I have enough inventory on hand for what's needed to be purchased. Like it's one of my requirements. So I'm not trying to overspend, but I usually just buy what I've sold out of or what I'm almost out of. That's usually all I purchase."
 - n. Mike: "And that's perfect. And then the other thing is, I think this body should really look at what we are paying to send an RCM to the region. \$100 in the travel, \$150 is what we're paying. When I... that's round trip as holding the service position at the region that I get reimbursed for money driving from Hollister to the region and coming back, it's \$170. In our area, we're the farthest away. So I want to say it's like 20 cents a mile or something like that, plus the bridge. So if somebody gets an RCM or a GSR and wants to make a motion for a guideline change, that would probably be the thing to do because we're gonna say \$516 there out of our budget, just out of that one line item."
- "Then we write the guideline that it's whatever the... it's 44 cents a mile plus the \$7 bridge. And I can get exactly what they... I will look at my form and I will bring that information back to... I can... You might have to wait till next month, and I can bring those exact figures on what the region pays. And that's... you know, if they pay an RCM that their area can't afford to pay them, they can submit to the RSC. And I think I want to say it's like 44 cents a mile."
- o. Rosie: "And just for the record, I requested \$107 tonight."
 - p. Speaker 4: "And I did it because I thought, yeah, I'm going to try it. Maybe this is the way to do it, save that \$107. You can't hear it, cuts out. It's not the same at all."
 - q. Mike: "You know, 'cuz really, we should be making another area donation tonight."
 - r. Anne: "We should. I'm just a little nervous about our storage fee. That's being much more."
 - s. Ken: "GSRs can bring this back to their meetings and put it out there that if you can afford to give an extra dollar, please do so. I mean, I can remember when it... I can remember when it was a buck and we put it out there that we... that if we could afford to put two bucks in the bucket, it was, you know, appreciated. But that's... that's another option. You need to come up with another \$3,000 to meet our budget at the end of the year."
 - t. Mike: "Yeah, \$1,953. A dollar went a long way. Doesn't even get you in the bathroom anymore."
 - u. Ken: "We need to make a motion to accept this budget so that the GSRs can bring it back to their groups so that they can vote on it, so that we can accept it."
 - v. Speaker 2: "Make a motion."
 - w. Anne: "So... So do we want to give this to the GSR Prevention Codon knowing that we're \$60,000 in the hole?"

- x. Mike: "RCM mileage stuff and, you know, we might just have to not give Region and World. We might have to lower the donations. However, I believe they're in the guidelines, so I don't know. Should do one anyway.
- y. Rosie: "Is there outreach help with that?"

11. Motions

- a. Diego: "This is for get reimbursed for attending RSC meeting on November 8, 2025. I attended this meeting, the Zoom meeting, in October. So they're asking for \$107. And it's Rosie."
- b. Diego: "The next one is the treasurer reimbursing Rick Baker \$5,851 for meeting diamonds. That's for the line item PI001."

Meeting End: 8:22PM

Submitted by Kristina Ruiz