



The voice of our community

**Board Meeting**  
**May 12, 2026 – 4:00 PM**  
**MINUTES**

**In-Person at the Montecito Community Hall/Library**  
**And Virtually Via Zoom**

**I. Call to Order at 4:03 PM by Chair Macfadyen. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum**

**Present:** Albertson, Bode, Bollay, Craigie, Denson, Duran, Hedrick, Lundgren, Macfadyen, Prince, Rockenbach, Serrani, White, Wittman

**Absent:** Gherson, Herting, Pennino

**II. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda-** New member, Ben Scott with Santa Barbara Home Watch, introduced himself and his business. They monitor client homes while they are away and take care of what is needed.

**III. President's Report-** The first Sip'n Shop was held and went well. A leadership reception will be held on May 14 at 5 pm, the first one for the MA. Village 4<sup>th</sup> is coming quickly and will have more MA visibility at this event.

**IV. Executive Director Report-**Houghton Hyatt-Reported that a new lease for the Association was sent to the County on May 1 and awaiting a reply. Received 88 membership renewals in April, with 4 new members. Encouraged all board members to attend the leadership reception.

**V. Approval of April 14, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve Craigie/Duran Motion Approved

**VI. Treasurer Report-**Strong financial position, memberships continue to grow and track slightly ahead of budget and are still early in fundraising.

**VII. Community Reports**

**SB County Sherriff-Rich Brittingham** gave updates on public safety incidents in Montecito, including illegal camping, trespassing, and stalking incidents targeting celebrities. Residents were encouraged to remain vigilant as summer activity increases.

**Roy Lee, 1st District Supervisor-Aida Thau, Chief of Staff,** shared updates including status of indoor growers that are out of compliance, progress on the proposed gas-powered leaf blower ordinance and parking enforcement efforts near the Upper Village. If the MA would like to issue a letter in support of the leaf blower ordinance, must be sent by the end of fiscal year. There are 8 ballot boxes for the June 2<sup>nd</sup> election.

**Montecito Union School-**Houghton Hyatt reported on behalf of Superintendent Anthony Ranii-Hosted successful gala, held staff development days, will host annual bonsai sale.

**Cold Spring School**-Amy Alzina gave update to include, held a science fair and worked with Westmont College students. They held their largest fundraiser. They are redesigning the TK playground.

**Montecito Fire Department**-Brian Fallon shared that they completed training for fire season and met with the MA Safety Committee. They are looking at progressive ways to protect the front country and will give recommendations from that soon.

**VIII. Agenda - Working in Wildfire: Beyond Suppression Fire Safe Council – Gustavo Agredano & Charles Harris**

Presentation given on the history of the Fire Safe Council and on defensible space programs, prescribed grazing, roadside fuel reduction, home hardening assistance, desirable and undesirable plant lists, and the evolving Zone Zero regulations. Where there are gaps in fire protection coverage, they are in communication with the Montecito Fire Department to cover any gaps. The New Zone Zero regulations are being finalized by the Forest Service. Also discussed its expanding countywide efforts and Firewise USA certification opportunities that may help residents receive insurance discounts.

**IX. Committee Reports**

**Hands Across Montecito:** Presentation shared by Earthcomb. Caltrans covered trash instead of removing it, much of which is hazardous materials. Unhoused have been pushed back due to road construction. Photos of buried trash were shown. Caltrans is required to hardscape. requesting investigation and proper cleanup procedures.

**Motion to approve letter to Caltrans requesting investigation and proper cleanup procedures. White/Craigie**

**Motion approved unanimously**

**X. Old Business**-None

**XI. New Business**- Board discussion regarding events and outreach for membership growth particularly in the business category, The recent Sip'n Shop event was reviewed; what worked and what could be improved. A push to publicize the MA and its value for membership was explored at length, particularly, partnering with realtors. Hosting more member only events and creating a banner that says, "Thank You Montecito Association" for community awareness that it is the MA that is funding and organizing the community events. Goals explored include creating talking points for "why should I join", business exposure on website, more business offerings, partnership-building relationships with other organizations. Also discussed updating the Montecito Community Plan and publicizing and taking ownership of past successes such as the substation.

**Adjourned 6:00 p.m.**