

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021, 5:30 PM, 1150 S. Bascom, Suite 24

**Attendance by videoconference:** Vic Ojakian, Bev Lozoff, Navah Statman, Rovina Nimbalkar, Juan Perez, Harold Brown, Uday Kapoor, Steve Wade, Karen Deloumi, Frank Alioto, Moryt Milo, Barbara Thompson, Ed & Lisa Baumann, Peter Newman.

Meeting convened at 5:31 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Agenda approved.
- b. Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Action**

- a. **Welcome Moryt Milo to the Board—Bev:** Bev introduced Moryt to the board. Moryt expressed her pleasure at the opportunity to contribute to NAMI.
- b. **California AB 1976 and Santa Clara County—Bev:** Bev spoke about the special meeting of the Health and Hospital Committee of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors to consider implementing Laura's Law in our county. The CEO of Caminar gave a report and spoke about how successful assisted outpatient treatment has been. Sheri Terao and staff from SCC Behavioral Health Services gave a report about the services they offer. About twenty people gave comments in support of implementing Laura's Law and two against. Joe Simitian made a motion for the supervisors to vote on the matter at their meeting in May. **Karen:** felt the turning point in the meeting came with the observation that people don't know they are sick. **Navah:** thought the winning sentence in the debate came from Gini. **Vic:** observed that Joe does his homework. **Harold:** felt that Joe was well prepared and the meeting well managed. **Bev:** noted that he clearly stated that the behavioral health programs are not enough and that the cost to implement this in our county is warranted. The next step is to encourage our membership regarding the meeting on May 25.
- c. **Sarah Prabhu Podcast—Vic:** Vic recommended Sarah's podcast to the board. Vic emailed Cindy Chavez about it and she found it very informative. Rovina said that NAMI National has been watching our podcast and recommending it to other affiliates. Vic mentioned a state legislator from Colorado who commented upon it.
- d. **Panel Discussion on Housing—Uday:**
  - i. The panel discussion on housing will be held at our next General Meeting. We need a clear outcome of actionable items. We have the key people. What do we want to get out of it? **Frank:** spoke about the budget for Project Homekey—that we should be proactive on the clarification of available funds. **Navah:** spoke about a residential program from the Behavioral Health Dept. Everyone assumes that funding is going to come out of MHSA funds. **Vic:** suggested that we can probably ask Ky Le for the amount of MHSA funds that have been spent on housing. **Navah:** suggested we have a list of requirements we can speak about every time it comes up. **Karen:** spoke about her experience with a caseworker. **Vic:** suggested people with substantive questions submit them before the meeting. **Vic:** asked who we are notifying about the panel—not just our usual membership. This is more general than our normal meetings and applicable to a wider audience. **Moryt:** suggested the nonprofit developers—builders looking for innovative ideas to come out of the meeting. There was a discussion of people to invite.
  - ii. Bev spoke about another panel that Senator Cortese has suggested we might want to consider: Prioritizing Student Mental Health. There is already a grant from MHSA focused on student mental health. It is unclear why Senator Cortese has asked us to put this together. While it is an important topic it is not generally something we do. Bev read from the

communication with his office. **Navah:** spoke of her concerns. We should talk to Jim Beall about it. **Frank:** noted that it ties in with SB 224 which passed with bipartisan support. **Vic:** spoke about the bill. We should make sure that Dave Cortese knows that Jim Beall got MHSA funding last year. **Vic:** spoke of a grant given to the SCC Office of Education for work on a similar issue. **Karen:** spoke about the delivery of mental health services to the student population. **Harold:** observed that this discussion should involve the schools. **Vic:** spoke about work going on around suicide prevention.

### 3. Reports and Updates

- a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:** Please refer to the Treasurer's Report and the Balance Sheet, the Profit & Loss and the Budget vs. Actual statements as of end Mar 2021. Normally the report is more interesting. Our cash is down \$60k but remains at over \$803k. There were no big grants this month. Expenses are 97% of budget, very close. Grants are \$108k over budget. Loss to date is \$134k less than expected. Vic asked whether we have done a good job with our financials given the circumstances. Steve believes that we have but the \$130k PPP loan helped. Our grants are doing very well. There is no evidence that in periods of recession nonprofits suffer as much as people think. Harold asked about the PPP loan forgiveness. Rovina spoke about the process. Steve noted that we do not qualify for the next tranche because our revenue was not down. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented was passed.
- b. **VP Updates:**
  - i. **Juan:** We are doing well. We had 25 people attend the last FaF class and the next class is due to start later in the month. We have 20 people in our PaP class. Sadly two members of the community passed away due to COVID-19 and its complications. Vic asked about people from other counties attending our classes. Juan mentioned participants from as far away as Kansas and Colorado particularly in the support group. Moryt spoke about NAMI National opening up affiliate services to people from outside their areas.
  - ii. **Uday:** (1) Uday spoke about the need to get something out of the panel next week. (2) A symposium is being planned by people from developmental disability and mental health to be held in late summer. Uday will attend a meeting about it tomorrow. It is a symposium for the whole Bay Area.
- c. **Presidents' Updates**
  - i. **Board Officers 2021-2022—Vic:** Vic asked about anointing the incoming officers. Typically we install officers at the April meeting. We could ask John Mitchem to formalize the names of the officers at the General Meeting. Navah spoke about changes to the HIPPA laws to be voted on in May that will make it easier to communicate with family members. We should mention this at the General Meeting.
  - ii. **Bev:** (1) Bev spoke about housekeeping for the new term. She asked board members to check that the contact information she has is correct. She also asked the board members to check and possibly update their bio on the website. She will also distribute new conflict of interest forms. (2) Caminar is having a lunchtime event in lieu of their yearly fund raiser.
  - iii. **Vic:** Vic wants to make sure we look at the strategic plan periodically. We will distribute a copy of it.
- d. **Executive Director Report—Rovina:** Please refer to the Executive Director's Report for details. We have applied for eight or nine grants this month. It has been a very busy month. Rovina mentioned the CalHope MHSA grant. We are partnering with NAMI CA. Rovina spoke about a non-clinical crisis counseling program around COVID-19 stressors. This is a temporary grant until Aug with a \$175k budget. It will provide extra hours for our employees. We have a Diversity Campaign and a Warriors event in May. The NAMIWalk website is up. Rovina is working on sponsorship packages. We will launch the Walk in June. The one year anniversary of

Rovina working with us is coming up already. Moryt asked if we could go back to a real Walk if the governor opens up the state on Jun 15. We will see how it goes.

e. **Fundraising Committee Update**

- i. **Funding Plans and Grants Status—Harold:** At the Fundraising Committee meeting we discussed 'sustaining memberships.' We have 6,500 people on our Constant Contact distribution list but only 300 or so members. We are considering distributing estate planning information. We are looking to transfer our membership database to Salesforce. We plan to have an advisory board discussion at our next committee meeting. It will require an investment on our part. Ed spoke as an executive of Oracle NetSuite. They offer options to nonprofits using NetSuite that we may be interested in. Lisa spoke about Salesforce coordination. Rovina spoke about tools and fundraising.
- ii. **NAMIWalk—Harold:** We are already initiating contact with sponsors. El Camino Hospital is questioning the value of sponsorship for a virtual event. Frank spoke about the value proposition of a virtual event. It may be even more valuable than a real event in that it can be stretched out over a longer period of time. Frank offered to help as an 'old TV station guy.'

f. **Community Peer Program and FaithNet—Vic:** Please refer to the Community Peer Program report.

g. **Newsletter—Bev:** May is mental health month. Articles for the May issue should be submitted by Apr 16.

h. **General Meeting—Bev:** Bev is working on speakers for May and Jun. We then have a break until Sep.

4. **Other Actions**

a. **Legislative Committee: Legislation Updates—Frank:**

- i. **Federal:** The federal government is proposing changes to the HIPPA regulations. They intend to make it easier to share health information by changing the HIPPA privacy rule. This should make it easier for family members to interface with healthcare providers. The government will be accepting public comments on this until May. Frank encouraged us all to give our opinion via the NAMI CA website.
- ii. **State:** SB 224 is sponsored by Senator Anthony Portantino and NAMI CA. It requires students to receive mental health education from a qualified instructor once in elementary school, once in middle school and once in high school.
- iii. **Frank:** thanked Uday for his help in setting up a meeting with Senator Cortese tomorrow. Frank intends to discuss what is coming in legislation and what he is supporting so that we can support him. Frank would like to provide him with three updates per year regarding our view of the behavioral health landscape.
- iv. **Moryt:** spoke about putting up information about the changes to HIPPA on the website. **Harold:** suggested we could distribute information using Constant Contact. NAMI CA has sent a letter to the state health officer regarding prioritization of vaccine availability for those with a mental health diagnosis. They have higher mortality rates from COVID-19. **Frank:** asked if we should send a letter of support. **Navah:** stated that Kaiser has prioritized people with a mental health diagnosis. She also spoke about talking to MHAP about an issue regarding SB 855. **Vic:** spoke about current state bills.

b. **New Business:**

- i. Navah spoke about Uplift Family Services (previously Eastfield Ming Quong). She proposed NAMI SCC send a small donation for a project they are engaged in.
- ii. The NAMI SCC Executive Board will meet to discuss a matter.

iii. Moryt has an interview coming up with Judge Manley. The jail diversion program is not working as well as it could. There was a brief discussion of Laura's Law.

**5. Dates to Remember**

a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Newman

*Apr 11, 2021*