

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 3rd May 2022, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

Attendance: Uday Kapoor, Navah Statman, Vic Ojakian, Bev Lozoff, Rovina Nimbalkar, Kathy Forward, Juan Perez, Harold Brown, Frank Alioto, Steve Wade, Moryt Milo, Peter Newman.

Meeting convened at 5:33 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Uday thanked Vic and Bev for their service.
- b. Agenda approved.
- c. Apr 5th, 2022 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Action/New Information**

- a. **Community Advisory Council—Harold:** Harold distributed a summary of our current position by email. So far we have 13 people who have accepted. Rovina gave an excellent orientation presentation on Zoom with about six participants. Suggestions for further Walk sponsorships came up. Rovina will distribute a recording of the presentation to the board. Navah will host the Community Advisory Council Luncheon at her home on Sat. Rovina reviewed the list of those who have accepted the invitation. There was some discussion of the arrangements.
- b. **Bylaws and Board Meeting Time—Bev:** The Bylaws Committee will meet on Mon next week. The bylaws will be amended to state that the board meets ten times per year. The changes will be brought to the General Meeting for a vote. Navah summarized the process. There was discussion of the availability of the bylaws online. Also discussed was announcing to the membership that we have an open board meeting. We will add it to the newsletter.

3. **Reports and Updates**

- a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:** Please refer to the Treasurer's Report. Our current assets are over \$1M. Cash is down about \$60k from last month. We have \$78k in accounts receivable which we expect to collect next month. Steve reviewed our income from recent grants. Steve mentioned an accounting anomaly which will be corrected next month. Without that we would have broken even year-to-date. We are about \$20k below budget. Payroll expenses were above budget. Reasons were discussed including: payroll bonuses, extension of the CalHOPE and FaithNet programs and there being three payrolls in the month of Apr. We are in good shape. Steve summarized the status of the Schiro Trust bequest and answered questions. There are no recent changes. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented was passed.
- b. **VP Updates:**
 - i. **Bev:** Nothing to report.
 - ii. **Juan:** Juan reported a lot of activity owing in part to the Mexican holiday season at this time of year. There have been numerous EtS presentations at schools and also IOOV presentations.
- c. **President's Update—Uday:**
 - i. (1) Uday received a surprise invitation to speak in support of CARE Court to the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee. Uday gave a summary of the meeting and will distribute a recording. Discussion of CARE Court followed. **Navah:** feels it is a welcome initiative but a very costly way to get around the LPS issues. Uday summarized his perspective. It is a limited initiative. There has been much reaction to the term 'court.' Uday suggested 'Compassionate Care' would be a better name than 'CARE Court.' Uday was interviewed about this on Fri by KQED.
(2) At the BoS meeting it was stated that the navigator tool will be released in Jly. Uday gave an update on the status of the bed tracking tool. There should be a final version by Jun.

Discussion of the usefulness of the tool followed. **Harold:** felt that it is dependent upon how well the information is updated. Its usefulness will depend upon the discipline of the providers.

(3) Uday spoke at the supervisors' meeting on the parity law. He gave us a summary of the background.

(4) Uday feels that we need to discuss our key goals. He would like to propose a discussion session to come up with our five top items. The meeting was in agreement. We can then discuss them with the Advisory Council.

- d. **Executive Director Report—Rovina:** Please refer to the Executive Director's Report, the Community Peer Program report and the list of ongoing classes, support groups and presentations for details. We have applied for a number of grants and more are coming up next month. Rovina listed several grants we have received acceptance from. We have a meeting for the NAMIWalk next week with the History Park folks. So far we have raised \$52k towards our goal of \$250k. We have hired a new Walk Coordinator. We are developing a social media strategy. At the last committee meeting we agreed on a short list for keynote speakers and our Walk Honorary Chair. Rovina summarized the weekly social media campaign for May is Mental Health Awareness Month. We are working with NAMI San Francisco on a presentation for mental health at work. **Uday:** spoke about Vic's success in suicide prevention and asked whether we can do something similar with the city councils. **Navah:** remembered us doing that ten years ago and thought we can maybe do it again. **Vic:** put forward some thoughts. We will discuss it at the legislation meeting.
- e. **Fundraising Committee Update—Harold:**
- i. **NAMIWalk:** We have worked through most of the issues with the San Jose Recreation Dept. Most of the Walk route is now nailed down. We will meet with the History Park to talk about details regarding the field. Harold would like to see a Silicon Valley company CEO as our Walk Honorary Chair. He would also like to see NAMI members who work for these corporations put together Walk teams. **Rovina:** said we did not receive much response on this last year. **Bev:** added that there has not previously been much response to articles in newsletter. **Harold:** spoke about feedback from our presentation to the Advisory Committee. Pat Dwyer suggested we contact police officers' associations. We will message them. Moryt observed: 'There's a new sheriff in town.'
- f. **Consultant Report: FaithNet—Kathy:** We have received an extension of the program until end Jun. We are adding Part Four to our faith leader training. Kathy summarized the contents of the four parts. We are working with the Korean group. Kathy listed the three presentations focused on faith leaders we have planned for May is Mental Health Awareness Month. We have recruited another Pastor to join us because of Cindy McCalmont's limited availability. Steve asked about our continuing the FaithNet program beyond Jun. Kathy answered in the affirmative.
- g. **Newsletter—Bev:** Articles for the Jun issue should be submitted by mid May.
- h. **General Meeting—Bev:** At the next meeting we have attorney Ellen Cookman speaking about public benefits. We don't have a speaker for Jun but do have speakers lined up for Sep and Oct.

4. Other Actions

- a. **Legislative Committee: Legislation Updates—Frank:**
- i. There has been much legislation activity in the last six weeks. Frank will circulate a report. In the federal budget for the coming year, Joe Biden said he will deliver on mental health. The numbers in the 2023 budget are significantly larger. Frank listed example expenditures including: enforcement of parity, behavioral health clinics, a NIMH study on the impact of social media on mental health, school-based health professionals, mental health in the VA system and housing for people with disabilities.

- ii. The 988 behavioral health services program may be geographically limited. It looks like they are behind. The big issue for the state is CARE Court for which there is significant opposition. Many people do not like the idea of forced treatment. Discussion of the 988 service followed. Vic summarized the issue: they are required to implement something without any funding. Discussion followed regarding funding and staffing to provide the service.
- iii. Frank has requested a meeting with Joe Simitian. It is a continuation of the same process that worked so well last year. It is more PR than meaty conversations. **Navah:** felt we need to coordinate over such meetings.

b. **New Business:**

- i. Bev graciously volunteered to take the minutes for the Jly meeting in the secretary's absence.

5. **Dates to Remember**

- a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 7th Jun 2022 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Newman

May 8, 2022