

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 7th June 2022, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

Attendance: Uday Kapoor, Bev Lozoff, Rovina Nimbalkar, Harold Brown, Frank Alioto, Steve Wade, Karen Deloumi, Peter Newman.

Meeting convened at 5:35 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Agenda approved with discussion of the bylaws replaced by discussion of the policy on justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.
- b. May 3rd, 2022 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Action/New Information**

- a. **Community Advisory Council—Harold:** Harold summarized the status of those candidates remaining to be contacted. We want to follow up with people that did not make it to the luncheon. Uday would like us to create our list of priorities and action items before we hold the first Community Advisory Council meeting. We would like to solicit their input on our priorities. Each member has a special strength and we would like to ask for assistance on specific topics.
- b. **Bylaws and Board Meeting Time—Bev:** Will be reviewed at next month's board meeting.
- c. **Policy on Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion—Bev:** Organizations are asking us for our policy on justice, equity, diversity and inclusion. In future we will develop a policy manual but we need to address this now. We already do a lot of these things but we need to document it. The proposed policy document drawn from NAMI National and other sources was discussed. Some changes were discussed but it was thought there might be legal repercussions from changes to the wording. We can get it reviewed by an attorney. The Americans with Disabilities Act specifies what accommodations are required. There is no need to reinvent the wheel. Rovina will pass the document by our attorney. We will review the document and vote on it at the next board meeting.
- d. **Legislative Committee: Legislation Updates—Frank and Karen:**
 - i. We will resume our meetings with our political leaders at the federal, state and local levels. Last year was the first time we did this. In future we intend to use our priorities and goals to serve as a useful basis to drive the conversation.
 - ii. This is the first time the California budget has surpassed \$300B. The new allocation for mental health is the governor's request for CARE Court. Frank summarized the CARE Court proposal and other budget proposals with mental health aspects. There was discussion of allocation to the county. The governor is proposing \$500M to house the homeless on state owned property. Frank will distribute his report to the board.
 - iii. There is no new update on the 988 behavioral health services program.
 - iv. Uday asked Frank to look at the numbers Navah has provided, reconcile them with his numbers and come up with a reconciled account for the county.
 - v. There was discussion of CalAIM with a \$1B allocation and a possible further \$400M. Only a small part of CalAIM addresses people with mental health issues.
 - vi. Karen gave an update on our web page aimed at schools. A letter will be distributed to the schools to inform them of the website. **Harold:** only about 40% of county schools have a link to NAMI-SCC on their website and we have covered three out of the eight school districts in the county. **Rovina:** the web page should be available soon.

3. **Reports and Updates**

- a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:** Please refer to the Treasurer's Report. The treasurer summarized his report and noted that we have a balance of about \$1M. He also gave a status update on progress

with the Schiro Trust bequest. There is one property left to be sold representing about half of the estate. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented was passed.

b. **VP Updates:**

- i. **Bev:** (1) Moryt and Bev attended a fundraising event by the Lions Club for mental health services in Los Gatos schools. This is their first in-person event to be held for some time. (2) Vincent Ngo, a coordinator for our FaithNet Vietnamese Team, received a Behavioral Health Board Hero Award.

c. **President's Update—Uday:**

- i. **Uday:** thanked everyone for their feedback on our priorities. He worked through through the items on the consolidated priorities list and they were discussed. Assistance with financial management was discussed as a new service we might offer. **Harold:** suggested EtS belongs in Education and spoke about current issues with schools. **Harold:** proposed we gather for a retreat to talk about priorities and what we should do with the funds coming from the Schiro Trust. **Steve:** didn't see much in our list of priorities not already present in our mission statement. Housing is not in our mission statement but it is a very complicated issue and we are not prepared to deal with it. We should look into what other organizations are doing in housing—they are better prepared. Perhaps we should partner with one of these organizations rather than take it on ourselves.
- ii. The Navigator tool will soon be launched. It would be good if the helpline can use that.
- iii. The audit results are to be announced this week.
- iv. There was discussion of the bed registry tool and whether it meets the requirements.
- v. The MHA Independent Living Empowerment Project held a kick-off meeting with Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP). The meeting was well attended with a lot of people from the county. Providers will need training—maybe we can play a role. There was discussion of independent living issues.
- vi. Housing tracking and the LA County Merlin tool was discussed. It only tracks licensed board and cares. The county tool only tracks contracted facilities which is a much smaller number.

- 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. Rovina summarized the grants we have recently applied for, those coming up and those we have received funds from. Rovina spoke at length to the Whitney Foundation about a \$100k grant for adapting a program of theirs. We could possibly incorporate it into our Community Peer Program. At present we have raised \$53k for the NAMIWalk. Our Keynote Speaker for the Walk is Drew Robinson from the SF Giants. We are struggling to find an Honorary Chair. The NAMI Picnic is Jly 9 at Almaden Lake Park. Rovina spoke about promoting Sarah Prabhu to Programs Manager.

e. **Fundraising Committee Update—Harold:**

- i. **NAMIWalk:** The Walk is coming along. It is good to get our keynote speaker lined up this early. Now we need three things: sponsors, sponsors and sponsors. Please contact Harold with any ideas.
- ii. **Funding Plans and Grants:** Jim Beall has offered to play an active role. This will be the next step with the Advisory Council. Uday suggested the creation of a composite photo of all of the advisory council members.

- f. **Consultant Report: FaithNet—Rovina:** Everything is going well. Funding from the county ends this month but we are continuing the program. Bev asked how many grants we have received specifically in support of FaithNet; Rovina listed them. We will continue to talk to the county about this. They may give us partial funding.

- g. **Newsletter—Bev:** Articles for the combined Jly/Aug issue should be submitted by mid Jun.
 - h. **General Meeting—Bev:** Next week we have the Social Work Law Enforcement (SWLE) Project speaking. There will be no meeting in Jly or Aug. We have speakers for Sep and Oct lined up.
4. **Other Actions**
- a. **New Business:**
 - i. Uday spoke of a request from Navah concerning mental health related deaths in younger people. Navah would like to have a memorial tree, with each leaf being a memorial, on our website. We would need to seek permission from the families. Karen expressed concern with it being on our website. Harold observed that it must be administered.
 - ii. There was discussion of an in-person board meeting. Bev noted that we can't skip the Aug meeting because we have not yet amended the bylaws to require only ten board meetings per year.
 - iii. There was discussion of a four hour board retreat.
5. **Dates to Remember**
- a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 5th Jly 2022 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Newman
Jun 12, 2022