

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 4th October 2022, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

Attendance: Uday Kapoor, Vic Ojakian, Rovina Nimbalkar, Harold Brown, Frank Alioto, Steve Wade, Peter Newman.

Meeting convened at 5:31 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Agenda approved with the addition of a discussion of the Community Merit Award.
- b. Sep 6th, 2022 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Reports and Updates**

- a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:** Please refer to the Treasurer's Report. Harold asked about prepayment numbers for the Walk. These are gross amounts. We have expenses related to the Walk most of which have already been paid. We incurred more expenses for the Walk compared to the last two years because they were virtual walks. NAMI National has waived their 10 percent overhead. It looks like revenue for the Walk is similar to the past three years. In both of the last two years we exceeded our goal. We achieved around \$280k on our last physical Walk. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented was passed.
- b. **VP Updates:**
 - i. No VP updates.
- c. **President's Update—Uday:**
 - i. Uday has been participating in the MHSA Independent Living Empowerment Project (ILEP) work team meetings. It is moving right along. The target is to get more providers signed up. They have been talking about quality standards in the homes. They have experienced difficulty attracting providers which is also true in other counties. The providers don't see any incentives to sign up. Ky Le spoke at the meeting about subsidies that could be provided to them. The sources of revenue for these folks are pretty limited.
 - ii. Uday spoke about Paul Murphy's remarks at the NAMIWalk representing the Board of Supervisors. Vic gave some background on Paul Murphy's career.
 - iii. We have received a commendation from the City of Saratoga recognizing our work in suicide prevention. We should hang the commendation in the office.
- 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 several grants. We received a grant from Macy's for EtS. The big grant application is Cigna for \$100k. We received \$100k from them in 2020. Rovina attended the meeting with Joe Simitian and the signing of CARE Court. Most of Rovina's time this month was spent on matters related to the Walk.
- e. **Fundraising Committee Update—Harold:**
 - i. **NAMIWalk:** The Walk Committee has not yet met to debrief. The Walk location was an overwhelming success. We received some complaints about the availability of parking. A little more power in the PA system would have helped those at the back to hear. Next time we should move the booths further away from the speakers to cut down on noise. We were caught between two event managers at the venue. The new event manager was clearly learning the job. We had a problem with the electrical supply. About 500 people attended. Jim Beall was there but no others from the Community Advisory Council attended. We should improve our communication with the Community Advisory Council. The sponsors

should be happy with the number of people talking to them at the booths. Harold is trying to get the staff to document what we did so that it is easier in the future.

- f. **Consultant Report: FaithNet—Rovina:** FaithNet is going well. We have redefined the whole program. We have consolidated multiple separate ethnicity-based teams into a single coherent team.
- g. **Newsletter—Uday:** Articles for the Nov issue should be submitted by Oct 17.
- h. **General Meeting—Uday:** At the next meeting Bindu Khurana-Brown will be presenting on the wide continuum of services offered by Momentum for Health.

3. Updates

- a. **CARE Court Update—Uday:** Uday and Rovina were invited to attend the signing of the CARE Court bill at Momentum. Mayors and senators attended together with a lot of media. It was a good opportunity for us. Uday gave a summary of the gathering and the people he spoke to. The CARE Court bill has gone through a lot of amendments. **Frank:** Everyone is excited about the passage of CARE court but there is still opposition to the bill. How it is implemented will depend on the courts. Frank summarized the pros and cons from the support and the opposition. Human Rights Watch believes the laws can be used to coerce the homeless into medical treatment they do not need. To some it is not yet a closed issue. Discussion followed regarding these issues. There is opposition from the County Behavioral Health Directors Association over the issue of lack of resources: housing, staffing and funding. **Uday:** spoke about today's Board of Supervisors meeting and the issues he raised at the meeting. Uday is a member of the 'Kitchen Cabinet' of Supervisor Ellenberg.

4. Other Actions

- a. **Legislative Committee: Legislation Updates—Frank:**
 - i. The Legislative Committee will shortly be meeting with Supervisor Ellenberg. That will make a total of four legislators we have met with recently. Our relationship with the supervisors has changed. It is now one of collaboration. We need to discuss the mode for collaboration. How do we do that? We are still thinking it out. Frank spoke about the openness of our Relationship with the Board of Supervisors.
 - ii. We have an opportunity to create op-eds in the San Jose Mercury News and Spotlight. We should discuss whether we want to do this. We could make our point as NAMI. **Uday:** spoke about the recent virtual retreat and about our objectives and goals. We should make it part of that discussion.
 - iii. Bev, Karen and Frank recently attended a mental health day at Los Gatos High School. It has a NAMI club. The kids were great. They might be able to help us with or messaging for younger people. **Harold:** stated that it is a priority from NAMI CA. They are trying to promote NAMI on Campus clubs. They are working with the affiliates to do that. It is a logical extension of the EtS program. **Vic:** observed that we haven't promoted it in this county. **Harold:** mentioned that one of our Community Advisory Council members is a former mayor of Los Gatos and was likely to have been involved.
- b. **New Business:**
 - i. **Community Merit Award:** An email discussion has started regarding a candidate for next year. Judge Manley was suggested but he was an early recipient of the award. **Harold:** pointed to the EtS report. We have a lot of outreach going on with presentations given to about 500 students, parents and staff in three schools. Price Middle school even raised money for us. Harold would like to nominate the school for the award. We are seeking a meeting with the Santa Clara Office of Education to promote our EtS program. Adela is also contacting district offices. **Uday:** nominated Sarita Kohli, President and CEO of Asian Americans for Community Involvement. Vic gave some brief background on her. She spoke at one of our board meetings a few years ago.

5. Dates to Remember

- a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 1st Nov 2022 at 5:30 PM.
- b. There will be no board meeting in December. We meet ten times a year with Aug and Dec being our months off.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Newman

Oct 9, 2022