

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

**Attendance:** Uday Kapoor, Navah Statman, Bev Lozoff, Kathy Forward, Harold Brown, Frank Alioto, Steve Wade, Karen Deloumi, Moryt Milo, Peter Newman.

Meeting convened at 5:35 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Agenda approved.
- b. Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Reports and Updates**

a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:**

- i. **Schiro Trust:** Please refer to the report of the ad hoc committee meeting regarding plans for the funds from the Schiro Trust. Steve gave a review of progress regarding the bequest from the Schiro estate. We expect to receive about \$2.75M. An ad hoc committee met to discuss plans for the Schiro trust funds. The committee reached a consensus on a fund which we will draw down over a period of about 25 years. It is estimated that at the current interest rate this will yield about \$150k per year (\$50k from the principal and \$100k in interest for the first year). It was not in the purview of the committee to identify any specific projects on which to spend the money. Steve suggested we might also support projects at other NAMI affiliates with these funds. Much spirited discussion followed. Harold and Uday suggested we hold a retreat to decide what to spend the money on. Navah reviewed the motivation behind the decision of the ad hoc committee. Kathy observed that to discuss spending money we need to look at the budget and we also need Rovina's input. A motion to accept the decision of the ad hoc committee as recorded in the report was proposed by Karen, seconded by Harold, and passed unanimously.
- ii. **Year-end Treasurer's Report:** Please refer to the Treasurer's Report. Steve reviewed the report, our revenue sources and our expenses. Revenue hasn't gone up that much. At year-end revenue was over budget by 33 percent and expenses were close to budget. Harold observed that the Walk has become a smaller percentage of revenue due to the growth in grants. We will end the year with \$1.2M in cash. A motion to approve the report as presented was passed.
- iii. **2023 Budget:** Please refer to the 2023 Budget vs. 2022 Actual spreadsheet. The biggest change for 2023 is the increase in salaries, and new positions added, for our staff. Karen spoke about increases in expenses due to inflation. Steve assured us that the budgeting process did build in assumptions about inflation. Steve observed that there is no evidence that grants to non-profits go down during recessions. Harold noted that we plan to reduce our cash by \$118k. Steve responded that we have budgeted for a loss for the last three years and have not yet achieved it. A motion to approve the budget as presented was passed.

b. **VP Updates:**

- i. **Bev:** The employee appreciation luncheon went very well. We honored Donna Mechanic for 25 years of service to NAMI-SCC.

c. **President's Update—Uday:**

- i. Uday gave a review of progress with CARE Court. Invitations to the first working group meeting in Jan should already have gone out.
- ii. Uday spoke about Supervisor Ellenberg's 'Kitchen Cabinet' meetings. She had a conference call with Orange County regarding their Be Well initiative. She thinks they are doing a great job and would like to bring the program to SCC. **Kathy:** described the Be Well program.

**Navah:** We have the Wellness and Benefits Program in this county, funded by MHSA, which is similar. Navah described the program.

iii. Moryt and Uday attended the opening of the new campus at Palo Alto University.

d. **Executive Director Report—Kathy:** 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 was unable to attend the meeting so there was no discussion.

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

i. **NAMI Walk:** We met our goal. We had a meeting with people from the History Park and have targeted Oct 7 for the 2023 Walk. We spoke to them about parking. There is an additional parking lot available we will look into. We need to hire an event manager; there is a huge potential to grow this Walk.

ii. **Funding Plans and Grants:** Rovina applied for ten grants last month and is working on five more. There was a discussion of getting the Community Advisory Council more involved. Rovina has been discussing our services with Audrey Shillington, the Dean of the College of Health & Human Sciences at San Jose State.

f. **Consultant Report: FaithNet—Kathy:** The group is a lot smaller now. Kathy works with them on the outside. They plan to start quarterly Mental Health 101 trainings. They do need a spiritual/faith leader to replace Cindy. 'Cindy was the program.'

g. **Newsletter—Bev:** Articles for the Feb issue should be submitted by Jan 20. Some discussion of the Amazon Smile program followed.

h. **General Meeting—Bev:** Next week we have Stephanie Welch giving us an update on CARE Court. Bev reviewed her plans for speakers in upcoming meetings.

### 3. Updates

a. **Community Merit Award:** We have selected Dr Miguel Valencia, Director of Specialty Behavioral Health for Gardner Health Services. Vic has reached out to inform him. There was discussion of how to proceed and present the award.

b. **Board Retreat Follow-up:** An in-person board retreat was proposed. Rovina will distribute an invitation. We could hold it in the office and a Sunday afternoon was suggested.

### 4. Other Actions

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

i. 'All quiet on the Western Front.'

ii. We plan to continue our meetings with county, state and federal legislators. We are currently following up with Ro Khanna's staff on his position on mental health legislation.

iii. Neither NAMI CA nor the Steinberg Institute has anything on the the 2023 legislation program. We don't expect any until later in the year. Navah cautioned us not to spread our efforts too thinly.

iv. **Navah:** spoke of our lack of in-patient beds and proposed we mobilize our members to speak at every county committee meeting around budget time. We need someone to monitor the issues we care about.

v. **Uday:** noted that the Behavioral Health Board meetings have started and suggested we start attending the committee meetings.

vi. **Moryt:** spoke about the 90-day action items from the county supervisors at the end of last year resulting from the emergency declaration. Discussion followed of the 28-bed Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) coming online in Mar.

vii. **Navah:** We have new programs in place but the police, and possibly also the courts, do not know about them. This also needs our attention. Discussion of the county Navigator program and the 988 crisis system followed.

b. **New Business:**

- i. **Nominating Committee:** We need volunteers for the nominating committee for the board officers. Bev described what the nominating committee does. Every Jan a nominating committee is established. It is required by our bylaws. Navah described our usual procedure. Harold, Frank and Steve volunteered.
- ii. There is a change to be made in the employee handbook regarding paid time off. Navah suggested we also need a policy manual.
- iii. There was some discussion of the difficulties of having students from Palo Alto University come and work with us.

5. **Dates to Remember**

- a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Newman

*Jan 8, 2023*