

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 7th March 2023, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

Attendance: Uday Kapoor, Navah Statman, Vic Ojakian, Bev Lozoff, Rovina Nimbalkar, Harold Brown, Steve Wade, Karen Deloumi, Moryt Milo, Frank Alioto.

Guests: Lorraine Zeller, Jillian Yang

Meeting convened at 5:35 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Introductions were made to and by guests: Lorraine Zeller (invited to give a presentation) and Jillian Yang (potential new member-at-large invited by Steve).
- b. Agenda approved.
- c. Feb 7th, 2023 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Presentation by Lorraine Zeller**

- a. Lorraine Zeller of the Community Living Coalition is asking for our (NAMI-Santa Clara County) support of Santa Clara County's Independent Living Association (ILA) called the Independent Living Empowerment Project, as well as endorsement of plans to improve living conditions and treatment of people residing in independent living group homes. She provided the history of ILA and highlighted successes and failures in other counties, e.g., Alameda, so the same mistakes are not made here. In addition, there are funding considerations. Currently, there is funding for two years for the Independent Living Empowerment Project. They need to secure continued support.

3. **Reports and Updates**

a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:**

- i. Please refer to the Treasurer's Report. Everything is going well. We began the year with \$1,172,000 in the bank and ended February with \$54,000 less, or \$1,118,000. Revenue for the month was \$59,000, almost all of which is from grants approved. Expenses are very close to budget. The new employees we budgeted for are not yet hired so we will stay below budget until they come onboard. Re Schiro Trust: We will receive \$2.75M from the Schiro trust most likely in mid- April. When this cash is collected, we plan to invest in CDs. A motion to approve the report as presented was passed.

b. **VP Updates:**

- i. **Bev:** At last month's meeting there was much back and forth discussion of the procedure for bringing on new members-at-large. The process is not spelled out in the Bylaws but it doesn't have to be stated there. It should be part of our Policies and Procedures manual. Our new Bylaw changes have not yet been approved by NAMI CA, so for now new members-at-large can be vetted by the nominating committee and appointed by Uday rather than voted on by the Board (as stated in our existing Bylaws).

c. **President's Update—Uday:**

- i. Rovina and Uday had a very good meeting with the new county executive, James Williams. They introduced him to some of the issues we are facing.
- ii. Uday has been invited to join the NAMI National Affiliate Presidents Council. It is a body to advise the NAMI National board of directors.
- iii. Attended (as did Rovina and a few other Board members) the groundbreaking ceremony for the new psychiatric hospital for children, adolescents and adults at Valley Med. Interviewed by KTVU.
- iv. Met Mike Elliot, the new head of the VMC Foundation.

- v. Attended a press meeting with Matt Mahan, new SJ mayor.
 - vi. A number of Board members along with Rovina and Kathy participated in a Board Retreat on March 5 and Jim Bower facilitated. It went very well.
- d. **Executive Director Report—Rovina:**
- i. Please refer to the Executive Director's Report, the Community Peer Program report, the Outreach Activity Report, and the list of ongoing classes, support groups and presentations for details. It has been a busy month with a lot of grant applications. El Camino Healthcare for CPP and Kaiser Permanente for FaithNet are the big ones due.
 - ii. NAMIWalks: An events manager has been hired and will start next week. All the paperwork for NAMIWalks has been finalized. We continue to have interviews for the community outreach position. Possible Walk speaker through Janice Bremis spoke at the groundbreaking. We have received an award from NAMI National—we rank number eight among all of the NAMIWalks across the country.
- e. **Fundraising Committee Update—Harold:**
- i. It's time to think about sponsorships for NAMIWalks. Interested in talking to our Community Advisory Council about this. Re execution of Walk itself: The biggest challenge is parking and this issue is being worked on. There has also been modification of the route for the Walk.
- f. **Newsletter—Bev:** Articles for the Apr issue should be submitted by mid Mar.
- g. **General Meeting—Bev:** The March speaker is not able to make it; therefore, the general meeting will be canceled (first time this has happened). We tried to find another speaker but given such short notice we weren't able to do so. Board officer elections will have to take place at the April general meeting (instead of March) and induction of officers will take place in May (rather than in April).
4. **Updates**
- a. **Community Advisory Council (CAC) Luncheon:** To take place on Saturday, April 1 at Michael's at Shoreline in Mountain View.
5. **Other Actions**
- a. **Legislative Committee: Legislation Updates—Frank:**
 - i. The state is putting out a bid to identify whether parity rules are being adhered to. A few Board members are beginning to meet with our representatives at the County and State levels again.
 - b. **New Business:**
6. **Dates to Remember**
- a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 4th Apr 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Lozoff (for Peter Newman)

Mar, 2023