

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 2nd May 2023, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

Attendance: Uday Kapoor, Vic Ojakian, Bev Lozoff, Rovina Nimbalkar, Juan Perez, Harold Brown, Frank Alioto, Steve Wade, Karen Deloumi, Moryt Milo, Jillian Yang, Lorraine Zeller, Peter Newman.

Meeting convened at 5:33 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Agenda approved.
- b. Apr 4th, 2023 BoD minutes approved.
- c. The board decided to move the July board meeting, which falls on Jly 4th, to Aug 1st instead.

2. **Reports and Updates**

a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:**

- i. Our cash balance is the same as last month, just above \$1.097M. We are over budget in revenue from individuals by \$22k year-to-date. Payroll is \$100k under budget year-to-date because we only recently hired the events manager and filled the other open position. We have a loss of \$76k year-to-date. We have no news on the Schiro Trust so we are below budget on interest income. A motion to approve the report as presented was passed.

b. **VP Updates:**

- i. **Juan:** We have a long list of participants waiting for the FaF class so we decided to open up another class. We have 40 people attending the support group each week. Juan will give a presentation about NAMI tomorrow at the county.

c. **President's Update—Uday:**

- i. Uday attended a meeting called by Supervisor Ellenberg. It was a listening session. She is getting ready for the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) meeting in Sacramento.
- ii. Uday spoke briefly about the NAMI Affiliate Presidents Council on which he serves.

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 submitted a lot of grant applications and many more are coming up. We applied for grants from the county supervisors for different programs. Rovina reviewed the funding we have received from successful grant applications. The venue for the Walk Kickoff event will be Central Park Pavilion in Santa Clara. We have started to receive sponsorships for the Walk. We should know soon whether Paraag Marathe of the 49ers will be our keynote speaker for the Walk. Rovina met for lunch with members of the Community Advisory Council. We are working with the county on a program for mental health parity. It is a county funded project. Rovina explained the project and a discussion of parity followed. We will be introduced to it at our general meeting next month. Harold asked how we can grow the EtS program in schools. We have not been very successful penetrating schools. Rovina spoke about Anh's plan for outreach next year. We are now seeing some response.

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

- i. **Funding Plans and Grants:** We had a very productive Fundraising Committee meeting. We discussed how to engage members of the Community Advisory Council. Rovina is leading most of this work. We also reviewed charity monitoring organizations. We reviewed our website and how we score on Charity Navigator. Over 400 NAMI affiliates are listed on Charity Navigator. Some get four stars. We have a three star rating. Our liabilities to assets ratio is good. Our program expense ratio is very good. The one area where we get a demerit

is the absence of an independent audit. An independent audit is expected for an organization with an annual revenue of over \$1M. The funds from the Schiro Trust should not affect our rating. Harold suggested we should consider an independent audit. **Steve:** We are required to do so this year because our revenue exceeds \$2M. An audit doesn't do anybody any good—it just costs money. Lack of an independent audit is not hurting us in terms of revenue. It is not worth the cost for a better score on Charity Navigator.

ii. **NAMIWalk:** We are working with the new event manager. We have a date for the Walk kickoff and picnic.

f. **Consultant Report: FaithNet—Rovina:** Please refer to the FaithNet report. The Community Peer Program is picking up on numbers. The team is doing outreach. EtS and F2F are going well. Sarah Prabhu is looking over FaithNet. Lillian Liu, from the Chinese team, has recently taken over. We have many FaithNet events planned for May. We are in good shape.

g. **Newsletter—Bev:** We have articles about 'May is Mental Health Month' and the NAMI National Convention in this month's newsletter. Articles for the Jun issue should be submitted by mid May.

h. **General Meeting—Bev:** Bev summarized the topic for the next meeting and reviewed her plans for speakers in upcoming meetings. We have speakers booked through Oct/Nov. The Sep meeting will feature Dr. Ken Duckworth NAMI's Chief Medical Officer.

3. Other Actions

a. Legislative Committee: Legislation Updates—Frank:

i. Frank gave a summary of his meeting with Senator Dave Cortese. Frank spoke about a substance abuse information program in public schools to be taught by teachers not volunteers. This could be a lead-in to mental health. Frank also mentioned the Santa Clara County financial audit and asked about follow through. Senator Cortese gave us their number so we can request that they include outcomes to see that the money is being used efficiently. We always approach our political representatives in a spirit of collaboration.

ii. Frank reported speaking with Daniel Cao, a policy aide from Otto Lee's office (County Supervisor for District 3) about the budget shortfall. He asked, without a bond issue what will it mean for mental health. The worst is that we will not grow. He does not foresee any cuts in mental health expenditure.

iii. Karen spoke about SB43, redefining the meaning of 'gravely ill.' It is currently in the appropriations committee. Frank spoke about how a similar law is working in New York. There was discussion of the meaning of the bill. **Vic:** observed there are something like twenty organizations in opposition. Karen also spoke about SB363 and AB921. NAMI CA is cosponsoring these bills.

b. New Business:

i. Harold spoke about staffing resource tables at community meetings.

ii. Moryt gave a summary of recent calls to the county's 988 mental health crisis number. There will be further promotion of the 988 service coming out soon.

iii. Jillian inquired about stats for our support groups. We keep account of people that take our education classes but not for the support groups.

iv. Harold spoke about our PR promotion committee trying to get referrals from corporate employee assistance programs. We are in touch with Dawn Brown of NAMI National. They have applied for an innovation grant with Google to work with employee assistance programs and are rolling out a pilot.

4. Dates to Remember

a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 6th Jun 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Newman

May 7, 2023