

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

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

Meeting convened at 5:33 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Agenda approved.
- b. May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Reports and Updates**

a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:**

- i. Please refer to the Treasurer's Report. Our cash hovers at around \$1M. Revenue varies month-by-month; we received \$50k this month. We are on budget. Our expenses are substantially below budget due to the delay in hiring staff. These positions are now filled. Expenses are running at \$110k per month. We are still waiting on lawyers for the proceeds from the Schiro Trust. Discussion followed regarding what could be done about the delay and how to use the funds. It was proposed we schedule a discussion of how to spend the funds in a future meeting. Jillian suggested we look at other California affiliates and what they are doing. Rovina offered to talk to the Orange County and San Diego affiliates at the NAMI CA Conference. A motion to approve the report as presented was passed.

b. **VP Updates:**

- i. Nothing to report.

c. **President's Update—Uday:**

- i. Uday spoke about Good Samaritan Hospital's announcement that it will close its inpatient behavioral health program at Mission Oaks. Uday discussed it at length with James Williams, the County Executive for SCC, and tried unsuccessfully to contact Tomi Ryba, the CEO of Good Samaritan Hospital.
- ii. Uday attended the BoS meeting at which the Rand report was presented. Uday would like the board to watch the recording. He was deeply disappointed in the report and gave his reasons. He also spoke at the BoS meeting saying the report was deeply flawed. Discussion followed.

d. **Executive Director Report—Rovina:** Please refer to: the Executive Director's Report, the Community Peer Program Report, the Outreach Activity Report, the Community and Media Relations Liaison Report and the list of ongoing classes, support groups and presentations.

- i. Rovina reviewed the grant applications submitted and the funding we have received from successful grant applications last month. Progress reports are due soon on six of the ongoing grants.
- ii. The NAMIWalk Silicon Valley Kickoff and picnic is being organized. Cindy Chávez and Governor Newsom have been proposed as possible candidates for the honorary chair. Paraag Marathe, President of the 49ers, will be the keynote speaker.
- iii. NAMI-SCC was honored by the city of San Jose with a proclamation for mental health awareness month presented to Rovina by Mayor Matt Mahan. We have hired Anh Tuan Nguyen as our Community and Media Relation Liaison person. Rovina met with NAMI San Francisco regarding their restarting the NAMI Walk and with the new ED of NAMI San Mateo. Frank suggested we reach out to the Santa Cruz County and Monterey County affiliates.

iv. We are struggling a little with the CPP program. There are issues we are working on resolving. In particular, there is an internal HR issue we are trying to resolve. We have received referrals but they have not resulted in matches. Not everyone who is referred decides to pursue the program or is a good match. We may not meet our numbers for the El Camino grant. Our relationship with El Camino is very strong. They will give us latitude. Rovina summarized progress, priorities and goals.

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

i. **NAMIWalk:** It is time to gather sponsorships. Harold is working with our new events manager to engage providers. PAMF have declined. Harold will follow up. Rovina explained that PAMF do not do sponsorships any more. We will also target online help organizations in addition to traditional providers.

f. **Consultant Report: FaithNet—Rovina:** Please refer to the FaithNet report. They are doing well.

g. **Newsletter—Bev:** Articles for the Jly/Aug issue should be submitted by mid Jun.

h. **General Meeting—Bev:** Bev summarized the topic for the next meeting and reviewed her plans for speakers in upcoming meetings. There are no meetings in Jly and Aug. The Sep meeting will feature Dr. Ken Duckworth NAMI's Chief Medical Officer.

3. **Other Actions**

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

i. Frank spoke about the governor's revised state budget. He is holding the line on mental health funding. The budget is planned for slower growth but not for a recession. He still plans on a bond measure to fund mental health.

ii. We have had some success with local and state representatives. Frank spoke to county legislators regarding Good Samaritan Hospital's announcement that it will close its inpatient behavioral health program at Mission Oaks. The county can't do much about it. The Board of Supervisors is aware of what has happened but it would require state action. Frank will talk about it to Dave Cortese and Gail Pellerin, the new state assemblywoman, later this week. Frank asked the board what message we want to send.

iii. Considerable discussion of the closure of the behavioral health unit followed. **Harold:** spoke about his research regarding HCA Healthcare. **Uday:** has a statement from Michael Fitzgerald. **Vic:** suggested we schedule Michael Fitzgerald to speak to us at the beginning of a board meeting. **Vic:** also suggested we contact Larry Blitz. **Vic:** discussed how one could require HCA to provide a public benefit because they are looking to do a seismic upgrade.

iv. **Harold:** asked if we as a board are willing to submit an opinion piece to the San Jose Mercury News. **Moryt:** suggested we need to support it with data, it can't just be an emotional appeal. **Uday:** suggested a letter to the Mercury News and another to the state. There was discussion of how to approach this. A motion to write one position on the closure of Mission Oaks and to send it to the state and also to a local newspaper was proposed by Uday and seconded by Frank. The motion carried. Harold will submit his draft to Michael Fitzgerald asking for his input and data. Moryt offered to edit the result.

v. **Vic:** spoke about submitting a letter in support of SB363. He explained how to submit a letter of support.

vi. **Karen:** stated that she and Frank are working on a wish list regarding legislation.

b. **New Business:**

i. No new business.

4. **Dates to Remember**

a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Newman

*Jun 18, 2023*