

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

NAMI Whatcom

July 15, 2021

Virtual (Zoom)

Approved by Motion 2021-08-12.1a

Present

Board: Rosemary Webb (President), Brian Estes (VP), Bruce Smith (Treasurer), Tom Scott (Secretary), Gracie Lamb, Russ Sapienza (emeritus).

Staff: Kim Sauter (Executive Director). Amy Armstrong.

Volunteers: None.

Guests: None.

Excused:

Board: None.

Called to Order by Gracie 11:01am.

Consent Agenda: Motion 2021-07-15.1 Accept the consent agenda as presented.

Moved by Bruce, Brian. Passed unanimously.

- **2021-07-15.1a** Approve 2021-05-06 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.
- **2021-07-15.1b** Accept Treasurer's Report for May & June as presented.
- **2021-07-15.1c** Accept ED Health Department Quarterly Report as presented.

Board Candidate - Brian

- Board Candidate Chris Ohana was interviewed by Kim & Brian, May 22.
- **Motion 2021-07-15.2** Appoint Chris Ohana to the NAMI Whatcom Board of Directors to complete a term ending Fiscal 2021 and nominate to stand for Election at the next Annual General Membership Meeting.
Moved Rosemary, Brian. Passed Unanimously.
- **Action Item:** Kim will inform Chris of the Board's decision.

Board of Directors' Application

Gracie questioned the optional portion of the application relating to sexual orientation, etc. The answer was that, indeed, it is optional and the reasoning for including it is for strictly anonymous statistical reporting to various agencies, including some donor agencies.

Consensus was that this is acceptable.

Peer Program Management Report – Amy

- Reported two new "Connections" facilitators. Another volunteer recruited.
- A couple peers are inquiring about joining the Board.
- Looking to start a Peers' Book Club.
- Community members and NAMI peers to have sessions regarding job seeking and addressing other general life issues.
- In Our Own Voice presentation being organized, business participation, sponsors, etc.
- Volunteer organizing, looking to improve the application, training, counseling for best fit, finding motivations.

Board Training (501 Commons) - Kim

8 hours of trainings. Volunteers/stakeholders will be invited to one of the sessions.

Consensus for 1-2 hour first session September 30 during day or evening, Brian may have to attend virtually from vacation. "Money is not in the bank" but we have received confirmation of the award.

Action Item: Kim to confirm September date with 501 and acquire time. Kim to attempt to acquire a matrix of dates/times for succeeding trainings in the series.

Stigma Stomp – Brian

- Committee met.
- Solely outside - no virtual component, no use of enclosed spaces.
- Banner to be displayed across Holly.
- Web site being updated for 2021 Stigma Stomp.
- T-shirts w/o year to be printed.
- Inquiry to Mayor to speak.
- Looking into requirement for flaggers for the crossing of Electric.

Nonprofit Org Board Training Resource – Rosemary

- "Boards in Gear, Chapter 4:..."
- Link for webinar training
- Volunteer training & management/use ideas included.
- Board motivation...

Consensus was that all watch then discuss at a future Board meeting.

New State Policing Law – Gracie

BPD to update Gracie & Kim on new law at 1300 today. **Action Item:** Kim/Gracie to update to follow BEFORE next Board meeting.

“Minority Mental Health Month” Video – Brian

Brian asked that (**Action Item**) Board Members all view the video and provide thoughts. In particular regarding terms used; Do we want to promote this on our Facebook page? The consensus was to do so.

Fundraising - Kim

- NAMI Walk, July 17
- National Convention, July 27th & 28th \$10 or \$15 to register.
- Art fundraiser August 7th 1000-1600 by a private individual. Hillcrest Chapel in Fairhaven.
- 2 new sponsors!

Term Lengths & Adjusting Terms of the Board – Gracie

Questioned what are the Term Lengths of the existing Board Members. The discussion covered current "unbalanced" terms, new Board member's term, input from NAMI Washington when creating the current Board.

By Consent, Tabled to be on Agenda for next month.

On-Boarding – Rosemary

Discussed packets for Prospects and packet for "On-Boarding" (two different types of packet). **Consensus** was to create such materials.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Review Board Member terms and adjust as needed in preparation for next Annual Board Election. The Board agreed by consensus.

Next meeting Board Meeting, August 12 @ Noon, at/via Zoom.

Adjourned 12:04pm

Action Items (outstanding from previous meetings)

- Board members providing regular, preferably monthly financial contributions. – Ongoing.
- Kim to poll Board members for fundraising networking leads. – Ongoing.
- Tom to change registration on new laptop to reflect ownership change.
- All – Recruit Peer and Peer Ally Board Member Candidates.

Action Items (from this meeting)

- Kim will inform Chris Ohana she has been appointed to the Board, next meeting, etc.
- Kim to confirm September 1-2 hour training date with 501 Commons and acquire time slot; Inform Board of results.
- Kim to attempt to acquire from 501 Commons a matrix of dates/times for succeeding trainings in the series.
- All Board to view “Mental Health Month” video, to consider terminology and be prepared to discuss at August 12 Board Meeting.
- Rosemary to provide link for viewing “Boards in Gear, Chapter 4” video
- All Board to view “Boards in Gear, Chapter 4” video and be prepared to discuss at a future meeting.
- Kim/Gracie to report on BPD’s take on new State Policing Law.

Parked/Tabled Items

- Brian to keep Board up to date on activities of Public Policies Committee particularly on the “Behavioral Framework” document.
- Under Policies (Subcommittee) review and determine “Standing” and “Ad hoc” committees as Policies and NOT as part of the Bylaws (which do not currently specify).
- At Annual Board Meeting after Officers Election, formally note the appointed officers such as X Liaisons so that Board and other members may know to whom to refer when needed.

Supporting/Related Resources

- “Mental Health Month” video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKdn5qeC1Xg>.
- Washington Nonprofit Institute’s “Boards in Gear”, Chapter 4:
 - webinar/video – https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/SWON7olpY7OOnL4M2GJe9x5xWCMqCWftKpJb8iEpxMYvVzNEw_JY2lmyPPBA--1ifBAs5Mxp1JJZ3aEh.dWQFAtPX2Q_ENyV
 - <https://www.wanonprofitinstitute.org/category/courses/boards-in-gear/>
 - Discussion Guide (aka. “The Kit”) - https://www.wanonprofitinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/BIG_mergedkits.pdf

Respectfully submitted

Thomas R. Scott, Secretary