

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

NAMI Whatcom

September 9, 2021

Virtual (Zoom)

Approved by Motion 2021-10-14.1a

Present

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

Staff: Kim Sauter (Executive Director).

Volunteers: Cooper Campbell.

Guests: Shan Sparling.

Excused:

Board: Russ Sapienza (emeritus).

Called to Order by Brian 12:01pm.

Guest Shan Sparling Introduced – Bruce

She just came off a great fundraising event. She discussed her efforts and whom she worked with in her fundraising. She asked for feedback on how to improve her efforts.

The Board thanked her for her efforts.

Amending Previous Minutes

The previous meeting's minutes were corrected and amended.

Consent Agenda: Motion 2021-09-09.1 Accept the consent agenda as presented and amended.

Moved by Gracie, Rosemary. Passed unanimously.

- **2021-08-12.1a** Approve 2021-08-12 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes as presented.
- **2021-08-12.1b** Accept Treasurer's Report for September as presented.
- **2021-08-12.1c** Accept Executive Director's Report for September as presented.

Board Member Candidate – Brian

Mieka Rhoades.

Executive session discussion ensued regarding her application, interview et cetera.

Motion 2021-09-09.2 Appoint Meika Rhoades to the Board pending standing for election at the next Annual General Membership Meeting. **Moved, Rosemary, Brian. Passed Unanimously.**

IT Report – Cooper

Cooper reported on changes, improvements and updates over the last year and recent months. The ease of navigation was discussed and recognized.

The Board thanked Cooper and other IT volunteers for their work and improvements to the web site..

Stigma Stomp – Kim

- Gracie, Team Formed.
- Expectation that each Board member form a team.
- Event Finance Committee has been meeting frequently and will continue.
- Discussing banner and sponsors.
- Lots of volunteer positions filled.
- Still recruiting volunteers.
- Need T-Shirt sizes.
- Over \$11,000 in sponsorships.
- Over 50 people registered.

Board members noted a desire for this topic to be on the next Board agenda.

NAMI Washington Policy Retreat and NAMI WA Policy Matrix - Brian

Brian previously sent some documents including the updated agenda. Brian has more documents on the way.

Looking for a better crisis response. Looking to improve situations when in custody. Proposal still to be tweaked.

Policy Matrix document to follow (around 15 pages).

State affiliate support and funding for same discussed.

City reported staffing issues with Mental Health diversion facility at Iron Gate.

Brian stated it was a really good retreat (6 hours).

Brian to report back at a later Board Meeting.

Term Lengths & Adjusting Terms of the Board – Rosemary

By Consent, again **Tabled** to be **on Agenda for either or both the November or December Board Meetings**.

Covid 19 and In Person Meetings

NAMI Washington is allowing in person meetings.

Discussions continued regarding requiring proof of vaccination.

Motion 2020-09-09.3 When in person meetings resume, require compliance with CDC, State and County requirements. Also require proof of vaccination. **Moved Bruce, Brian. Passed 5 to 1.**

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Review Board Member term adjustments as needed in preparation for next Annual Board Election. The Board agreed by consensus.
- Review Covid recommendations and requirements from NAMI Washington.
- If appropriate, entertain nomination of new Board Member.
- Recurring topic for September and beyond: Policing and Behavioral Health Calls.

Next meeting Board Meeting, October 14 @ Noon, at/via Zoom.

Adjourned 1: 05pm

Action Items (outstanding from previous meetings)

- Board members – Provide regular, preferably monthly financial contributions. – Ongoing.
- Kim – Poll Board members for fundraising networking leads. – Ongoing.
- All – Recruit Peer and Peer Ally Board Member Candidates. – Ongoing.
- All Board – Each member form a team for Stigma Stomp.
- Brian – NAMI Whatcom open letter to Whatcom enforcement.
Guideline: Should be broad/general yet very brief.
- Brian – NAMI Whatcom inquiry to NAMI Washington regarding how Op Ed was formulated.
- Board – Adjust terms to “balance” them for elections.

Action Items (from this meeting)

None.

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

- NAMI BOD 2020 Election Ballot. Available upon request from the office. This document was discussed relating to adjusting terms of the Board of Directors individually to balance turn-over of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas R. Scott, Secretary