

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

NAMI Whatcom

December 8, 2022

Virtual (Zoom)

Approved by Motion 2023-01-12.1a

Present

Board: Brian Estes (President), Miika Rhoades (VP), Tom Scott (Secretary), Kim Brown (Treasurer), Rosemary Webb and Chris Ohana.

Staff: Kim Sauter (Executive Director) and Brylie Taylor.

Volunteers: None.

Guests: None.

Absent

Board (Excused): Blaire Sebren.

Called to Order by Brian 12:02 pm.

Kim B. read the Mission Statement and Land Acknowledgement.

Ice Breaker – Miika

Consent Agenda: Motion 2022-12-10.1 Accept the Consent Agenda as amended. **Rosemary, Kim B. Passed Unanimously.**

- **Motion 2022-12-10.1a** Approve November Board Meeting Minutes as presented.
- **Motion 2022-12-10.1b** Accept December Treasurer's Report as presented.

Jill Freeze, BoD Application

Motion 2022-12-08.2 Approve Jill Freeze's application and appoint her to the Board of Directors pending Election at the 2023 Annual General Membership Meeting. **Moved Tom, Brian. Passed Unanimously.**

Changing Board Meeting Time

The discussion was wide ranging. A recurring comment was that moving away from the workday could encourage more diversity. No consensus could be made for a specific time with the topic tabled for discussion and determination at the coming January 2023 Board meeting. During the interim, Kim S. was to check with Blaire regarding availability.

Mental Health Awareness Month

Brylie presented a trailer to the Board for the PBS series "Hiding in Plain Sight". Brylie described how we are working with a number of organizations to promote one or more events and resources for Mental Health Awareness Month. We are in the planning stages of an event. All events/panel discussions/presentations are to be free.

This was all related to a given event being planned for a 30 minute "screener", followed by one or two panel sessions and an audience of between 100-200 participants and related parking.

Further discussion was tabled for the January Board meeting.

Annual General Membership Meeting (Elections and Other)

Consensus was to have Rosemary, Brian and Tom be up for election for what will collectively be considered their "Second Term". Jill would also be up for election to her first term.

Kim S. will send the prior three their previous "bios" to them for their review and acquire a bio from Jill.

Tom will provide motions for Bylaws amendments to be approved/proposed by the Board as amendments to the Bylaws for ultimate approval by the General Membership at the Annual General Membership Meeting.

Clubhouse Housing by PeaceHealth

Should their ED be housed at NAMI Whatcom. Consensus was that the Clubhouse should directly request

Stigma Stomp - Rosemary

Rosemary reported that the event was under budget for expenses and also for income with a net decline in income. While registrations were up bringing in more income (by a considerable increase), sponsorships were down, resulting in a total income less than last year.

Bloom Consulting Grant Project – Kim S. & Chris

No progress since last Board meeting due to scheduling issues.

“Give the Gift of Mental Health for the Holidays” – Brian / Kim S.

Brian related that a number of videos have been made and posted with more to come in the near future.

Kim reported three donations via PayPal.

Advocacy for Behavioral Health – Brian

Lobby Day is coming soon (late January). It will be in person, "...logistical...". Some concern regarding the in-person aspect. May ask for a hybrid context. There will be some support for how to talk to legislators.

Some issues regarding Federal legislation.

Behavioral Health Subcommittee (of the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force {County}) to meet with State Senator Shewmake and State Representatives Rule regarding timely prescription provisioning at the County jail.

Post Board Retreat Notes - Brian

Brian is circulating proposed notes to the Board, asking for review.

Donor Thank You Cards/Letters & Membership Contact(s)

Discussion ranged regarding who on the Board would contact donors to thank them then similarly members to renew their memberships.

Rosemary noted that Gracie had taken on the function of Membership maintenance and suggested, given that Gracie is no longer on the Board, that another Board member take on that role. It was noted by another that the role is more that of administration rather than a Board role.

Tom strongly wished to see each and every member of the Board take on personally thanking donors via personalizing either thank you cards or letters (the latter from a boilerplate) with the ED, or her assigns, monthly distributing thank you opportunities to the Board evenly ("by turns").

NAMI 360, now NAMI 720 was mentioned by Brian and he requested it be on the January Board Agenda.

Hispanic/Latinx Outreach Challenges: Community Engagement – Kim S

This has proven very challenging.

Volunteer Appreciation – Kim S

Brian noted that it is tomorrow!!!

Next Meeting January 12 (Kim B. – Ice Breaker, Chris - Facilitate)

Adjourned 1:37pm (Tom, Kim B)

Supporting/Related Resources

- Attachment: The Seattle Times: First in the Nation 988 Line for Native Peoples Goes Live in Washington:



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- King 5: Defendants, Mental Illness Washington Jails Investigation: <https://www.king5.com/article/news/investigations/defendants-mental-illness-washington-jails-investigation/281-92db1269-038a-4b77-a234-d2a1dd64ff71>
- Whatcom County Jail Survey: https://thevidaagency.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8BydkSoJzY2cRsq

Board Action Items

- **All:** Whatcom County Jail Survey: https://thevidaagency.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8BydkSoJzY2cRsq

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas R. Scott
Secretary