



NAMI
National Alliance on Mental Illness

Tarrant County

NAMI TC Board of Directors – Meeting July 9, 2015

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. at the MHA office in the Alfred Saenz Conference Room.

Present: Sherry Fairchild, Ed Guthrie, Rachel Lubke, Jerri Escobedo, Jennifer Nunley, Ruth Collins, Vivian Siao, Scott Collins, Elle Valderas

Absent: Lynda Bryant, Brandon Alexander

Quorum: Met

Staff: Sue Adams

Guests: Eric Vanderwerken

WELCOME: Sherry Fairchild welcomed the board and provided time for members to provide an interesting story or fact if desired.

MINUTES: June 2015 minutes were sent via email and the vote held via email for approval. Ed Guthrie motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Rachel Lubke seconded. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report was sent via email for review. Ed Guthrie motioned to accept the treasurer's report, Elle Valderas seconded. The report was approved 8-0-0.

The audit will cost \$5,000-\$5,500 to use for grant writing if we use Philip Charon, CPA. NAMI-Dallas uses the same CPA for their audits.

A discussion was held regarding investment of the funds in the checking account. Brandon Alexander had presented the Wells Fargo proposal for investment at the June meeting. Level 4 is working on their proposal and it should be sent soon. Ed Guthrie reviewed a proposal from Ameriprise, but the Wells Fargo proposal had better conditions. Discussion was tabled. Sherry Fairchild called for a meeting of the board at 5:00 pm before the general meeting to continue the discussion.

A discussion was held regarding the overage of the budget for the computers and the potential for under-budgeting Julia's compensation should she reach the fundraising goal. The discussion was tabled until the meeting before the general meeting.

One of the ATT bills has not been paid. There seems to be some confusion regarding the bills and only one has been paid. Sherry Fairchild will work with Sue Adams to get the second bill paid and have Julia Webb's phone turned back on and a replacement phone obtained for the one with the broken screen.

OLD ITEMS: Sign up sheets were passed for volunteering at the general meeting registration table as well as Connection and Family support group facilitators. Jerri Escobedo encouraged attendees to continue to bring food for the general meetings.

A discussion was held regarding the letter to be sent to mental health care providers regarding the support groups. Additional edits were provided and Elle Valderas was to send additional revised paragraphs to Sherry Fairchild.

NEW ITEMS:

After all staff and visitors left the room, a discussion was held regarding Julia's salary. The board voted to increase the base salary during a previous meeting. Ed Guthrie presented information regarding compensation for walk managers from Dallas, Houston, and National. He requested approval of a 3.5% compensation on every dollar raised rather than the current floor of \$80,000 before compensation begins. Rachel Lubke motioned, Scott Collins seconded. Motion passed 8-0-0.

Visitor calls were selected: Ed Guthrie – May, Jennifer Nunley – April, and Vivian Siao – June

Visitors and Staff were dismissed for the following item: Job performance review forms for Sue Adams were sent to all directors. They are to be completed and returned to Ed Guthrie by the general meeting on July 16.

A discussion was held regarding providing scholarships for peers for the NAMI state conference to be held in Dallas. There is \$780 in the budget that could be used for scholarships. Jennifer Nunley has 5 people in mind who would greatly benefit from attending the conference. She provided feedback on the importance of attending the conferences and how attending the national conference in San Antonio motivated her to become more involved in NAMI as a peer support facilitator and board member. The present amount would allow 6 people to attend the entire conference without hotel costs. It would send 5 people if the cost of gas were included. Further discussion ensued on whether to use the money for training peer facilitators for the support group or for the state conference. Peer support group facilitator training will be held in San Antonio this year. The money could be split and send 2 peers to each training. Regarding the conference – most sessions are on Saturday and the board could pay for Saturday only. Sherry Fairchild would work with MHA to use the MHA vans and for MHA/MHMR to pay for the gas. Using the entire \$780 for the conference, that would allow 10 peers to attend with \$280 to use for lunch. Elle Valderas stated that \$1,500 of the advocacy budget could be used as the full amount is only needed every other year when the legislature is in session. The money could be used to send peers to the training in San Antonio. Rachel Lubke moved to send 10 peers to the state conference, Scott Collins seconded. Motion passed 8-0-0.

Jennifer Nunley presented the idea of a board retreat. She has been in talks with 3 potential speakers. Three cost proposals were presented for consideration, based on a tentative date of August 7 and 8, 2015. No money is currently budgeted for a board retreat. The concept of a board retreat was well received, but the timing and budget were discussed. Ed Guthrie motioned that a board retreat be held in February 2016 with the new board, Jerri Escobedo seconded. Jennifer Nunley accepted the position of chair for the retreat committee.

Sherry Fairchild recommended Donna Correa be appointed by the board to replace Lynda Bryant who has been unable to attend meetings. The appointment will be through the end of the term in December. Ed Guthrie motioned Donna Correa be appointed to the board, and Rachel Lubke seconded. Motion passed 8-0-0. There is one additional open seat and Sherry Fairchild has been holding discussions with Dr. Paul Warren to fill it.

Sue Adams needs help to get the website calendar working appropriately.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM TOPICS:	Jul 16 th : Stephanie Walker Aug 20 th : Dr. Stewart Keller Sep 17 th : Walk Promotion Oct 15 th : Glenn Wood Nov 19 th : Thanksgiving and State Conference reports Dec 17 th : Christmas party
BOARD COMMITTEES:	<p>Newsletter: Recognition of the committee for their hard work in improving the format and content of the newsletter.</p> <p>Technology: Rachel Lubke presented a technology report of NAMI-TC's current status, concerns, and recommendations. Discussion ensued regarding the recommendations and the costs. In addition, Rachel would maintain the Adobe license used to prepare the newsletter for as long as she is in charge of graphics, marketing and newsletter. The additional laptop would be loaned to her for as long as the above conditions exist. Discussion regarding waiting or asking the members to approve the additional monies to upgrade the technology ended with a motion by Scott Collins to ask the members for the additional monies for Rachel Lubke's proposal as written. It was seconded by Ed Guthrie, and the motion was passed 8-0-0. Rachel Lubke requested a formal written agreement between NAMI-TC and her regarding the second laptop and the Adobe software license.</p> <p>Benevolence: No requests</p> <p>Membership: Jennifer Nunley reported on the work she has been doing with membership renewals. Emails have been sent to all whose memberships have lapsed. She is currently working with the invitations for the Walk luncheon.</p>
NAMIWALK MANAGER:	<p>Julia Webb was not present, but Jerri Escobedo presented some information on progress of fundraising efforts.</p> <p>Alpha Kappa Alpha has committed to helping NAMI-Tarrant County for 4 years with the walk. The first year will be a partial contribution consisting of people to help in the effort. More extensive help will come in the following three years. AKA is also investigating an online auction effort.</p> <p>The discussion surrounded requesting in-kind donations to encourage walkers raising of money. Rachel is working on a jewelry donation, Sherry is working with Wells Fargo for a donation. The rug for the raffle was picked up from CT Rugs.</p> <p>Elle and Rachel will sign up their team at the general meeting to illustrate how quickly it can be done.</p> <p>Invitations for the Kick-Off meeting (August 4) will be printed July 10.</p>
EDUCATION:	<p>Family-To-Family and Peer-To-Peer classes will begin in September. Training opportunities for Connection Support Group and Peer-to-Peer mentors are coming up as well.</p>
ADVOCACY/ LEGISLATIVE REPORT:	<p>Elle Valderas will provide a full report on the legislative session soon. NAMI did have success with obtaining tuition reimbursement on the state level. Elle has worked with the Texas Jail Project to take up Jason LAST NAME's case, and review his care. The State Nursing Board will review personnel involved in his treatment and a civil law suit is potentially in the offing.</p>

MEMBERSHIP:	Four new/renewals through NTC; three online new/renewals
Opportunities:	Congregation Beth Israel: The congregation has had 3 recent suicides. They have requested a speaker from NAMI, as well as other groups, to address their congregation. Scott Collins volunteered to speak, Ruth Collins will attend, Rachel Lubke could potentially speak as well.
Tabled Items:	Investment of discretionary funds in a mutual fund. Audit of NAMI-TC by Philip Charon, CPA. Revision of Walk Manager's compensation scheme.
ADJOURNMENT:	Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next regular meeting is on August 6, 2015.

Respectively submitted,

Ruth Collins, Secretary