



# Tarrant County

## NAMI TC Board of Directors – Meeting March 10, 2015

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**ATTENDANCE:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the MHA office in the Alfred Saenz Conference Room.

**Present:** Edward Guthrie, Jerri Escobedo, Scott Collins, Vivian Siao and Ruth Collins

**Absent:** Sherry Fairchild, Brandon Alexander, Lynda Bryant, Rachel Lubke, Elle Valderas, Jennifer Nunley

**Quorum:** Met

**Staff:** Sue Adams, Julia Webb

**Guests:** Eric Vanderwerken

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**WELCOME:** Ed welcomed the board, staff and visitors.

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**MINUTES:** January 2015 minutes were reviewed for approval. Scott Collins motioned to accept the minutes with a correction to the start time of the meeting last month (to “6:00”), Vivian Siao seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

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**TREASURER’S REPORT** The treasurer was not present to provide the report. Ed presented amounts contained in various NAMI accounts. Ed has asked Brandon to determine if there may be a better financial instrument to store our funds as last year’s return was 0.8%. Budget requests have been received from Elle, Sue, Jerri and Julia for inclusion in this year’s budget.

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- OLD ITEMS:**
1. A spreadsheet has been developed to record the demographics we will need to apply for grants. It was suggested that we prepare a sheet to hand out at general meetings to collect the information not on the application and explain it is voluntary, but we would need this information to aid in our grant applications. Ruth will prepare sheet.
  2. Letter of Concern for JPS and Huguley – unknown resolution
  3. Business cards were reviewed. It was agreed to move the address to the front, shrink the logo and vision statement to allow additional room on the back side for writing. It was also agreed that the cards should be matte on front and back to allow writing as needed. It was determined that the following members wanted cards: Sherry, Elle, Brandon, Jennifer, Rachel, Jerri, Scott and Ruth. In addition, a quantity of generic cards would be ordered for use by those not requiring cards at this time. The cost of cards was calculated as \$285. Scott motioned to purchase the cards, Vivian seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
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- NEW ITEMS:**
1. Ed requested ideas for raising the profile of NAMI in the area as well as our services. The following were suggested:
    - Write a letter to psychiatrists and hospitals in the area as a reminder of our meetings and support groups
    - Provide posters for hanging in lobbies and offices
    - Provide offices with literature stand available to public
  2. Jerri noted that our current brochure states we will have the veterans program Homefront starting in 2015. Sue will check into how we are to implement the program.

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3. After the planned facilitator training (see Education), it was suggested that we call previous participants in the family support group and invite them to attend.
  4. Outlying support groups – Arlington & MHA – have had only the leadership attending lately.
  5. The liability insurance is due for renewal. There is no increase in premium. Ruth moved to pay the insurance, Jerri seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0. Sue will prepare check, obtain Sherry's signature and mail the premium to the company.
  6. The NAMI Texas state conference will be held in Dallas on October 23-24, 2015. The theme is "Pathways to Wellness". It will be held at the Hilton Dallas Lincoln Center.
  7. The exhibit "Mental Health Connections – Fighting Stigma with Images and Voices" will be at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History starting in April.
  8. Ed will call the visitors from the January general meeting and Vivian will call those from February

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**MONTHLY MEETING** Mar 19<sup>th</sup>: Michael Leffingwell – Recovery Movement in Mental Health  
**PROGRAM TOPICS:** Apr 16<sup>th</sup>: Dr. Paul Warren  
 May 21<sup>st</sup>: Rachel McBride

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**BOARD** Newsletter: Deadline for articles or artwork to be 25<sup>th</sup> of each month  
**COMMITTEES:** Hospitality: Jerri will be gone for the April general meeting and will need people to cover the kitchen for her and Ralph. Ed and Julia volunteered to perform the service.

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**NAMIWALK** The theme for this year's walk is "Everything is Awesome".  
**MANAGER:** Julia attended the Walk training in Las Vegas and doing on-line training. At the training, Julia was asked to provide a presentation on taglines, promotions and marketing of a walk. The national walk committee requested that Julia edit and translate materials into Spanish. The NAMI-TC group will receive recognition for the help.

She has been attending various community meetings to raise the Walk profile. She has arranged for information packet pick up sites around the Fort Worth area.

The target for this year's walk is \$100,000. Julia will contact Takeda and Lundbeck who are national sponsors of NAMI's walks. Delta Sigma Theta sorority has agreed to volunteer for various activities as well as possibly provide a team. Contact has been established with Alpha Kappa Alpha as well for volunteers and a team. Jay Jackson has volunteered to help recruit volunteers.

Julia is going to a teen summit in Arlington to recruit volunteers from teens looking to fulfill community service hours. In addition, she is looking to find a college level intern in marketing / graphics to help produce promotional materials. Rachel Lubke was to review the materials to provide board approval.

A walk information meeting will be held March 26, 2015 (5:45-7:00). Julia would like Sherry to open the meeting and have other board member provide history and other information regarding NAMI and the walk.

The signed franchise agreement and \$5,000 check needs to be sent to the

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National office by March 15, 2015. The board voted to complete the transaction so the Walk can occur – 5-0-0. Ed signed the agreement and Sue will obtain Sherry’s signature on a check and send the information to the National office.

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**EDUCATION:** Arrangements have been made with a NAMI Family Support Group facilitator trainer from Houston to train up to 8 family support group facilitators. Training will happen on a Saturday and Sunday. A stipend will need to be provided.

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**ADVOCACY/  
LEGISLATIVE  
REPORT:** Ed read a thank you letter from Representative Tony Tinderholt. He complimented Elle on her efficient organization in arranging for people to meet with legislators. Our affiliate was far more organized than others in arranging for meetings and avoiding duplication of effort.

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**MEMBERSHIP:** 2 new/renewals through NTC; 3 online new/renewals.

Tarrant County membership is just over 100. General meeting attendance is about 45, half of which are usually members. Julia volunteered to take membership applications to community meetings which she attends.

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**Opportunities:** Annual Psychiatric Nursing and Mental Health Conference is being held in Arlington on April 9-10, 2015. It would cost \$200-400 to have a table. It would also require an investment in brochures and other distribution literature. However, as this is a national conference with professionals around the country attending, not just North Texas residents, there is a lack of return on investment for the local affiliate. It was decided not to attend.

Ed will be going to Mansfield Health for an In Our Own Voice presentation. Sue will check to see if Chris is available to attend also.

Tarrant Count College South Campus is having a Mental Health Awareness event on April 1, 2015. Julia and Ed will attend for the affiliate. Ed and Chris will present IOOV at 1:00.

The Fort Worth Police Department will be holding their Family Day on April 25, 2015 from 10 am – 3 pm. Ed will attend from 10:00-1:00 and Scott and Ruth will attend from 1:00-3:00. Jerri will try to attend at 10. Julia will head over after the Susan G Komen Race.

The Susan G Komen Race is April 25, 2015. Julia will attend.

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**Tabled Items:** Contacting hospitals and doctors  
Homefront program  
Letter of Concern for JPS and Huguley

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**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. Next meeting is on April 2, 2015 at 6:00pm.

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Respectively submitted,

Ruth Collins, Secretary