



Tarrant County

NAMI TC Board of Directors – Meeting May 7, 2015

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. at the MHA office in the Alfred Saenz Conference Room.
Present: Sherry Fairchild, Edward Guthrie, Brandon Alexander, Ruth Collins, Scott Collins, Jerri Escobedo, Jennifer Nunley, Rachel Lubke
Absent: Vivian Siao, Elle Valderas, Lynda Bryant
Quorum: Met
Staff: Sue Adams, Julia Webb
Guests: Eric Vanderwerken

WELCOME: Sherry welcomed the board, staff and visitors.

MINUTES: April 2015 minutes were reviewed for approval. Ed motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Jennifer seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT All budget requests received to date have been entered into the budget. Educational and possibly newsletter and technology requests are still outstanding. A budget will be drawn up and the board is scheduled to have a special meeting before the general meeting on May 21 to vote on the budget or vote by email ballot due to absences.

Discussion was held regarding the amount to spend for the state NAMI conference which will be held in Dallas. It was proposed that NAMI sponsor consumers to attend. Possible spend items include registration, overnight stay, per diem for food. Brandon will research cost of the above items.

The March and April expenses and checkbook ledgers were presented for board review. An increase in the ATT phone bill for March was noted. Brandon will check on the reason for the increase. Rachel will negotiate a better overall rate from ATT.

The savings account is earning 0.06%. Brandon has been obtaining proposals for investing some of the funds in financial instruments with greater returns. He has proposals from financial groups such as Wells Fargo and Bank of America and will be proceeding to retirement firms such as Charles Schwab and Edward Jones. Rachel proposed Level 4 Investments and Sherry proposed Frost Bank.

A proposal will be presented at the June meeting if all proposals are received. In addition, the by-laws need to be reviewed to ensure we abide by the amounts for investment listed therein.

NAMI Dallas provided the name of their auditor. It will require approximately \$5,000-\$6000 for a thorough audit. Rachel proposed Level 4 as a firm that could also provide an auditor.

OLD ITEMS: Vivian Siao's Benefit concert was held May 3, 2015. The total amount raised at the church was \$1600 which will be divided between NAMI and the church's children's choir. Additional donations totaling \$300 were given directly to Vivian or NAMI.

The topic of benevolence was opened and discussed. A proposal of creating a committee of board member(s) and NAMI members was put forward. The committee would draft qualifications, application procedure, and disbursement. Ed and Julia will work on guidelines and an application.

Outreach to mental health professionals: The letter is complete, but a poster is required. Jennifer will contact NAMI Texas to determine if their posters will be suitable for the project needs. If not, Rachel will work on developing one. The APA no longer meets at MHA; therefore, Sherry will attempt to find someone suitable to aid in obtaining a list of professionals.

Homefront: This project requires families with military or veterans. Currently there is no one meeting the criteria. If NAMI-TC is unable to launch the project, it should be removed from our flyers.

NEW ITEMS: Rachel presented a need for more peer support and peer leadership. It would be better for peers to meet every week rather than once a month; however, there are not enough peer support group leaders to run the program every week. Sherry inquired after the individuals trained last year. Of those trained last year, some were for In Our Own Voice and not as peer support leaders. One individual trained as a peer support leader has been unable to facilitate due to work obligations. Ideally, the peers would be well served by two groups in separate locations which each met every week. This would require a trainer and people to train. There are a few people who are interested in becoming facilitators. It was proposed to recruit in the newsletter and website. The discussion was tabled.

Special item: Everyone but board members was dismissed from the room. Sherry and Ed proposed providing raises for Sue and Julia. The raise for Julia would be paid out per the terms of her contract which would be signed and contain any raise. Sue's would become a percentage based on her payment schedule. Ed proposed a 4% raise for Sue and a \$1,000 increase for Julia. Jennifer seconded. Motion was passed 6-1-0.

BOARD COMMITTEES: Newsletter: Rachel will prepare the newsletter on her home computer and send a pdf to Sherry for approval and then to Sue for dissemination. The new format is set up in publisher on the NAMI computer for months that Rachel is unable to prepare the newsletter. It was proposed to add donation requests for equipment such as replacement computers, etc.

MONTHLY MEETING May 21st: Rachel McBride
PROGRAM TOPICS: June 18th: Kristen Conner
July 16th: To be determined

NAMIWALK MANAGER: Julia presented updates on the new contacts she has made for the Walk. She has come near to the end of completing applications phase and will begin face-to-face meetings with groups over the coming weeks. Julia and Jerri are scheduling a meeting with Alpha Kappa Alpha (a national sponsor) to determine their ability to aid in the Walk. All Walk activities are being completed on time in accord with the NAMI Walk Manager Timeline. Board members who become aware of any individuals who wish to volunteer should provide the names to Julia.

EDUCATION: A trainer is coming to train family support group facilitators May 16 and 17. Up to eight people will be trained.

Family-to-Family and Peer-to-Peer classes will graduate May 18. Both groups have been going well. Two people in Family-to-Family expressed interest in becoming facilitators.

ADVOCACY/ LEGISLATIVE REPORT: No update

MEMBERSHIP: Seven new/renewals through NTC; three online new/renewals

Julia has been taking NAMI applications with her and handing them at meetings and fairs. Jerri took the visitor list March and Jennifer took the list for April to make invitation calls.

Opportunities: No update

Tabled Items: Additional support leaders for peer groups

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. Next meeting is on June 4, 2015.

Respectively submitted,

Ruth Collins, Secretary