

# Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

## NAMI Whatcom October 9, 2023

Virtual (Zoom)

Approved by Motion at Board meeting 11/13/23

### Present

**Board:** Mieka Rhoades (VP), Tom Scott (Secretary), Brian Estes (Co-President), Chris Ohana (Treasurer), Kim Brown, Rosemary Webb – (Quorum met).

**Staff:** Kim Sauter (Executive Director).

**Volunteers:** None.

**Guests:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**Called to Order** by Mieka 5:32 pm.

**Mission Statement** - Mieka

**Land Acknowledgement** – Kim B.

**Ice Breaker** – Chris.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion 2023-10-09.1 Accept the Consent Agenda as presented. **Tom, Brian. Passed Unanimously.**

- **Motion 2023-10-09.1a** Approve September 2023 Board Meeting Minutes as presented.
- **Motion 2023-10-09.1b** Treasurer's Report(s) for August, September & October as presented. **Major**

### Issues for Discussion

- Stigma Stomp
  - Generally, a success.
  - Full accounting to come next month.
  - E-mail team notifications seemed low for Kim B.'s team. This was likely due to a form bug regarding check boxes resetting if ANY required field is incomplete. Tom and tech volunteers will investigate this to see if there is a way to avoid this particular issue next year.
- Conference for NAMI Washington - October 14 (hybrid) - Sign-up closes tomorrow!
- Staffing
  - Veronica (bilingual-Spanish) has left the area and we are about to interview a candidate to replace her.
  - Executive Session Ensued on an unrelated matter.
    - **Reported Result:** Brylie to receive a raise at the same time as a reduction of hours. The changes negating each other with no effect to the approved Staffing budget.

### Finance/Fundraising Committee – Rosemary

- Budget to Actual, Income & Expenses
  - There was some discussion regarding unspent funding whether to use all vs. saving some over current and future economic concerns. No definitive stance was decided.
  - The line item regarding Whatcom Health Department Contract (\$18K) approved by County Council, triggered some discussion as a change in interpretation resulted in some expenses, beyond salaries, were declined. This is being looked into by Brian, Rosemary and Kim S. Rosemary is

also looking into questions about carry-over of 2023 portion of 2023-2024 biennium in that contract.

## **Advocacy, Behavioral Health – Kim B. / Brian**

- Kim B. sent an e-mail to Board members containing a link allowing subscribing to a distribution list for State level legislation and other statewide actions. • NAMI (NHPolicy@NAMI.org)
- Downtown Library: ○ Position being created for someone to support Behavioral Health related considerations at the library.
  - Opportunity for Board members to once a month sit in the library with brochures and take questions about NAMI Whatcom is asked.

## **Annual Meeting & Board Elections, Nominations**

- Discussion centered around scheduling the Annual General Membership Meeting and board nominees. The consensus was to hold the **Annual General Membership Meeting Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 7pm.**
- A board prospect was discussed with Mieka to make outreach with support from Kim S.

## **Open Discussion**

- Rosemary - Board Officers 2024 was discussed, working to form up the Board Officers for consideration and election at the Annual Board Meeting.
- Brian - Asked roughly who is signed up for NAMI Washington Conference, noting that registration closes tomorrow.
- December Volunteer Appreciation Party ○ December, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm ○ Pot Luck
  - Gift Card Selection for Volunteers

## **Next Meeting**

- November, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm – **IN PERSON**
- Leader: Brian
- Icebreaker: Chris

## **Adjourned 6:46 pm – Brian, Mieka.**

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas R. Scott  
Secretary