NAMI California Board Meeting Minutes
DATE: Thursday, July 19, 2012
Conference Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dorothy Hendrickson, President; Brenda Scott, 2nd Vice President; Frances Tibbits, Treasurer; Shannon Jaccard, Secretary; Randy Beckx, Ratan Bhavnani, May Farr, Shannon Peterson, and Navah Statman.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Gale, 1st Vice President and Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola, M.D.

STAFF PRESENT: Jessica Cruz, Executive Director; Steven Purcell, Deputy Director and Margot Carmassi, Director of Administration.

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CALL TO ORDER
CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was called to order by President Dorothy Hendrickson at 5:04 p.m.

BOARD CANDIDATE NOMINEE
PAUL CUMMING

President Dorothy Hendrickson introduced Paul Cumming to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Cumming submitted an application to be considered as a NAMI California board member candidate. The Board reviewed Mr. Cumming’s application and personal bio information and conducted an interview with Mr. Cumming during this meeting.

Please see the attached Statement of Willingness from Mr. Cumming.

BOARD CANDIDATE NOMINEE
BRIAN JACOBS

President Dorothy Hendrickson introduced Brian Jacobs to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Jacobs submitted an application to be considered as a NAMI California board member candidate. The Board reviewed Mr. Jacobs’s application and personal bio information and conducted an interview with Mr. Jacobs during this meeting.

Please see the attached Statement of Willingness from Mr. Jacobs.
BOARD CANDIDATE NOMINEE
AMANDA LIPP

President Dorothy Hendrickson introduced Amanda Lipp to the Board of Directors.

Ms. Lipp submitted an application to be considered as a NAMI California board member candidate. The Board reviewed Ms. Lipp’s application and personal bio information and conducted an interview with Mr. Jacobs during this meeting.

Please see the attached Statement of Willingness from Ms. Lipp.

CHANGE OF BOARD
CONFERENCE CALL-IN
NUMBER

At the conclusion of the last candidate interview of the meeting, President, Dorothy Hendrickson asked the board members to call into a new conference call number to continue the meeting. This is customary after addressing new board candidate nominees.

ROLL CALL FOR NEW CALL-IN
NUMBER

President Hendrickson took another roll call of the Board after continuing the conference call on a new telephone number. All attending members of the Board remained on the call.

FINAL DRAFT - POLICY AND
PROCEDURE: NAMI
CALIFORNIA ELECTION
PROCESS

President Dorothy Hendrickson explained to the Board that a decision needed to be made in the NAMI California election process policy. This policy was reviewed in May 2011 and no decision was ever reached or approved by the Board.

There was much discussion to the wording of the NAMI California Election Process policy, and several board members were not comfortable with the language of the policy in its current state.

It was determined that President Dorothy Hendrickson and Treasurer Frances Tibbits would review this document on the telephone and would send a revised document to the board members quickly for their review.

It is important that NAMI California Election Process is approved no later than Monday, July 23, 2012. A decision must be made well in advance of the Annual Conference, and it was proposed that there may possibly be a special Board of Director call to continue the discussion of the election process and policy.
ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Shannon Jaàcard
NAMI CA Board Secretary

Date
Name: Paul Cumming

Occupation: National Outreach Advocate

Member of: NAMI San Diego

NAMI member for: 16 years

Educational Background – Degree/Diploma:

  o  Accounting, Bachelor’s Degree in Science, Bentley University

Statement of Willingness to Serve:

As a long time NAMI member, I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors because it is important that NAMI California stay strong, and grow as a vital mental health organization in the State continuing to lead in the delivery of education programs and legislative advocacy.

I would like to ensure that the local resources and educational materials are readily available throughout California.

As a recovering consumer and family member, I understand the unique needs of consumers and family members and have dedicated my life to helping others find their unique road to recovery.
Name: Brian Jacobs

Occupation: Retired

Member of: Orange County

NAMI member for: 25 years

Educational Background – Degree/Diploma:

○ B.A.
○ M.A.

Statement of Willingness to Serve:

It is shameful that in California: 4 x the number of people with mental illness received treatment in jail or prison than in treatment facilities; people with mental illness have a 25 year reduced life span (and that is factoring out those who commit suicide); 37% to 68% of people with mental illness have a co morbid medical disorder; and an average of more than ten people a day in California commits suicide. For the person with mental illness, the symptoms, hallucinations and delusions are often terrifying and cause tragic suffering – a living hell. With any other medical illness a person is given treatment based on symptoms. In California under the L.P.S law a person with a mental illness has to become gravely disabled or a danger to self or others. That’s wrong and it’s discrimination. People with mental illness should not have to deteriorate to the point they are on the street, end up in jail or prison, victimized or dead. Waiting for danger is too late.
Name: Amanda Lipp

Occupation: Student and Green Chimneys Children Services Intern

Member of: NAMI Sacramento

NAMI member for: 2 years

Educational Background – Degree/Diploma:

- B.A. in Psychology – in progress

Statement of Willingness to Serve:

With every hardship, comes a challenge. That challenge surfaces in different forms; it may be thought of as a curse, rather than a blessing. Sometimes that challenge may seem like the darkest day, or the worst of enemies. However, when that challenge is accepted, it opens doors to opportunities and strength that not previously attainable. There begins a life long journey of facing everything that life has to offer as a gift and a testament of one’s courage and faith in their own potential for wellness.

I’m 20 years old and was diagnosed with Bi-Polar disorder when I was 18; I was ignorant as to how serious a mental condition can be at this age. I was hospitalized for over three months. I was facing my greatest challenge of all. It too me almost a year to accept this challenge and overcome the guilt, shame, stigma and embarrassment that I allowed myself to feel on a daily basis. Now that I’ve accepted this challenge, I have dreams and goals that I hope will forever change the face of mental illness.

I have two main goals that I try to live by every day as a person living in with a mental condition and goals I hope to attain if I am elected to serve on the Board of Directors for NAMI California.

1. Eliminating the stigma of mental illness (that seems to be contagious) and allowing people to feel comfortable vocalizing their issues.
2. Reaching out to youth who are suffering with a condition and are in denial, or hide their issues from their friends and family out of fear of being rejected.

I know that if I am elected, I will work my hardest to achieve these goals as hard as I have worked to achieve my own wellness.