**NAMI Grand Rapids Area board meeting**

**June 14, 2021 via Zoom 5:30-7:00**

**Present**: Marian Barcus, Lynn Cochran, Mark Hager, Patty Holycross, Peggy Marshall, Tammy Weiher (intern)

**Absent**: Craig Pierce, Judy Benham, Art Schoonmaker, Jeff Carlson, Ann Carlson, Jenny Wettersten

1. **Call to order** by Marian at 5:35 pm
2. **Introduction of Tammy Weiher, intern**. Tammy is a MSW student working as an intern at Northhomes. She will be working with our affiliate 4-5 hours/week for the next six months. Her primary focus will be on increasing membership, growing our family support group participation, and on our media efforts. Very excited to have her with us!
3. **Secretary’s report** (emailed ahead). Moved by Lynn with second by Peggy to approve. Voted to approve minutes from 4/12/2021 as presented.
4. **Treasurer’s report** – Mark, emailed ahead. Finances since last board meeting in April as well as 2021-22 budget were approved as presented. Current account balance of $16,601.
5. **Committee reports** – Marian indicated that Peggy will chair Member Services Committee. Lorna Mix will continue to chair Education Committee with same format as the past year with more ad hoc education opportunities offered over noon hour via Zoom and in-person, if appropriate. Zoom presentations will continue to be recorded and offered on our web page. Patty will co-chair Outreach but will need a co-chair. Please offer any ideas to Marian. Education and Outreach will continue to meet together on the second Wednesday at noon. Membership will meet as needed. Encourage chairs to seek more members of our affiliate to join a committee.
   1. **Education/Outreach**
      1. May session on Civil Commitment and the Engagement Services option by Sam Smith of NAMI Minnesota was well-received.
      2. June 23, noon – Jeff Shapiro of Leafline Labs will talk about “Medical Cannabis and Mental Illnesses”. Mass email has been sent as well as targeted invitations to other agencies. Participants need to send zoom request to our email - [gr.mn.nami@gmail.com](mailto:gr.mn.nami@gmail.com)
      3. No education sessions in July or August
      4. September 27-28 – Kevin Hines on Suicide Prevention. Total budget is $18,550. All funding secured except $500 grant from Forward Health Foundation (formerly Deer River Health Foundation). **Patty will follow up** with Sheila Maki, interim director.
   2. **Membership**
      1. We continue to work on retaining and attracting new members. Tammy will be assisting with this.
      2. Recommending Pastor Patrick Lovejoy to serve a two-year term (7/2021-6/2023) as an at-large board member. He is the new pastor at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids. Would be a good addition since we have been trying to have more involvement from the faith community. He and his family moved here in April from the state of Washington. He has spoken to Holly Downing, Marian and Peggy. Very interested in NAMI and mental health. Has a background as a marriage/family counselor. Peggy made a motion, second by Mark to approve him starting at the August board meeting. Board approved. **Peggy will get a bio** from him to forward to all board members. **Marian will see what committee** he is interested in joining.
   3. **NAMI Walks in September**
      1. **Marian will follow up again with Jeff Olds.** Current planning committee: Marian Barcus, Jeff Olds, Judy Benham, Ann Saxhaug, Lynn Cochran, Mark Hager. Committee will try to meet in late June.
6. **Old Business**
   1. **Telemedicine Grant –** now part of Sharing Fund at Grand Rapids Community Foundation. Marian confident that funds will be available as needed.
   2. **Indigenous Outreach –** Marian has not heard back. She may drive to Leech Lake office to follow up in person.
   3. **Frontline workers recognition –** Peggy and Mark did a great job with this. Consensus is that stress is less now and that this should be put on hold unless things change.
   4. **Crisis Intercept Mapping (Veterans’ Suicide Prevention) –** no report from Art
7. **New Business**
   1. **NAMI task list –** this will give guidance to the tasks needed to be done each month. **Patty will add it to the Operating Policies and Procedures** on our web page.
   2. **De-Escalation Training program** purchased by Itasca County Sherriff’s Office. Lucas Thompson, jail administrator, invited us to watch a demonstration. The MILO Range Corrections/In-Custody Training System was shown to Marian, Kelly Campbell (from Grand Itasca) Mark and Patty this morning. Two deputies have been trained to be instructors for area law enforcement, including jail staff once the new facility is completed. It is VERY impressive! **Board members should contact Marian if they are interested in seeing this**.
   3. **The new national mental health crisis lifeline (988)** will be implemented July 16, 2021. We agreed that this can be useful in areas without access to First Call 211 but that local options are better.
   4. **Who/what should NAMI GR promote on our website and email lists?**
      1. Agreed that we can be more inclusive by adding Spanish or Ojibwe translation options to web page. **Patty will check on this** on our web platform. **Marian will contact Cynthia Fashaw** at NAMI Minnesota for ideas.
8. **Other**
   1. **Memorial for Lee Keller, husband of Sue Abderholden** (executive director of NAMI Minnesota) who died suddenly two weeks ago. Marian moved, Lynn seconded and board approved a memorial of $250 to NAMI Minnesota in Lee’s name from NAMI Grand Rapids Area.
   2. **Meeting in person in the future? Mark will check at the Mall** to see if the community meeting room is still available. If not, **Marian will check with KAXE** about their meeting room.

**Meeting adjourned 6:45 pm. Next board meeting: August 9, 2021, 5:30**

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Holycross, acting secretary (Craig owes me BIG TIME!)