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**American Brain Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 18, 2016
Held via Teleconference**

Call to order: Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 9:06 a.m. (Central) by Kevin Goodno, Chair. A quorum was not present for this meeting.

In attendance: Kevin P. Goodno, Chair; Robert C. Griggs, MD, FAAN; Ralph Józefowicz, MD, FAAN; Jane Ransom; Joseph Sirven, MD, FAAN; Ben Utecht

Staff: John Hutchins, JD, General Counsel; Lauren Ross; Suzi Sherman; Marlys Weyandt

Excused: Terrence L. Cascino, MD, FAAN; Timothy Engel, CPA, CFO; John C. Mazziotta, MD, PhD, FAAN; Jeffrey Rosenfeld, MD, FAAN; Catherine Rydell, CAE; Lisa M. Shulman, MD, FAAN; A. Gordon Smith, MD FAAN; Thomas R. Swift, MD, FAAN

1. Board Chair Report: Mr. Goodno welcomed everyone and discussed the agenda for the meeting. Mr. Goodno asked if there were any conflicts of interest and none were indicated. The December meeting minutes will be approved at the March meeting as a quorum was not present during this meeting. Mr. Goodno welcomed the *Neurology Now*[®] editor's designee, Dr. Joseph Sirven to the board.

2. Executive Director Report: Ms. Ransom provided the following updates:

- **Annual Meeting:** Bob Woodruff is the 2016 PLINA recipient and his wife, Lee, will accept the award on his behalf in Vancouver. Bob suffered a TBI while in Iraq reporting for ABC.

Susan Williams, Robin Williams' widow, is the keynote speaker at the Commitment to Cures event. **Board members will receive invitations to the event in the coming weeks and are asked to invite a guest who is not familiar with the ABF.**

- **Fundraising:** The ABF has an approximate \$700K surplus from 2015. A request has been submitted to the AAN to allow the ABF to put the excess funds in a temporarily restricted fund to use for program initiatives generated by the strategic plan. If rejected, the funds will be returned to the AAN.

Board determined that a gift acceptance policy will be created to produce

1 consistency with our donor base and financial viability for the foundation.

2
3 Mr. Shenkman invited Ms. Ransom to attend the Society of Financial
4 Service Professionals meeting on February 26 which is a great audience for
5 the ABF to get in front of as it may introduce us to affluent prospects.

6
7 The foundation is participating in America's Charities work place giving
8 campaigns and is included in 160 corporate, 105 state and 140 federal
9 campaigns.

10
11 ABF staff are working on rebooting the Ambassador Program, expanding
12 its pool of participants to graduates of the AAN's leadership programs,
13 patients, and caregivers.

- 14
15 • **Strategic Planning:** Henrichs & Associates and Carter Companies will
16 present their business model and philanthropic assessment
17 recommendations to the Strategic Planning Committee on March 14 (via
18 teleconference) and March 25 (in-person). The Board will be presented
19 with the consultants' recommendations and an emerging strategic plan on
20 April 17 in Vancouver.

21
22 **3. Financial Report:** Dr. Józefowicz reported that the foundation closed out as
23 expected in 2015. The Joint Investment Committee met last week and
24 determined that research will be conducted to determine whether or not Slocum
25 is still the best investment firm for the foundation.

26
27 **4. Committee Reports:**

- 28 • **Executive Committee:** Committee met in December and conducted its
29 annual review of Jane Ransom, Executive Director. Any questions about the
30 review should be directed to Mr. Goodno.
31 • **Governance Committee:** Committee has created a board term expiration
32 chart to identify when members roll on and off the board. The
33 committee has also profiled the current board members to identify
34 attributes that new members will need to possess in order to create a well-
35 rounded board. The committee is also creating a commitment letter that
36 outlines the expectations and responsibilities of all board members to take
37 effect in 2017.

38
39 At the next board meeting the committee will present a policy that outlines
40 how the bylaws should be interpreted going forward.

- 41 • **Strategic Planning Committee:** No update beyond what was included in
42 the Executive Director report.
43 • **Research Advisory Committee:** Dr. Shafali Jeste will attend the Strategic
44 Planning Committee meeting on March 25. The committee will be meeting in
45 Vancouver on April 16.

46
47 Meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m. CST.

