



**American Brain Foundation  
Governance Committee Meeting  
August 21, 2017**

**10:00 a.m. ET/ 9:00 a.m. CT/ 8:00 a.m. MT/ 7:00 a.m. PT  
Conference Call**

**In attendance:** Kevin Goodno, Chair; Dan Gasby; Catherine Rydell, CAE; John Mazziotta, MD; Bruce Miller, MD; Gordon Smith, MD

**Staff:** Jane Ransom, Shelly Collins Rucks, Natalie Baumgartner

**Excused:** Bruce Miller, MD

Mr. Goodno welcomed everyone and discussed the agenda for the meeting.

**Minutes:** Minutes from June 19, 2017, Governance meeting reviewed.

**MOTION** to approve the ABF Governance Committee minutes from June 19, 2017.

**Approved** (Unanimous).

- 1. Progress on Filling Officer Positions:** Mr. Goodno stated that he had spoken to Susan Schneider Williams about becoming the Vice President, and she seemed interested. She wanted to ask a few questions and would be connecting with Mr. Goodno to discuss further.

All other Board and Committee members are renewing their participation.

- 2. Progress on Filling Board Positions:** Ms. Ransom discussed the candidates that she and other Members had met with. She explained her concerns with each candidate, such as Dr. Alessi may travel too much to participate on the Board. She also stated that Mr. Jim Essey seemed interested, but was concerned about incorporating the Board into his schedule. Mr. Ryan Watts needs to ask the Board at his company for permission, but seemed enthusiastic to join. Mr. David Eagleman might make an excellent ambassador for the Foundation, and he might be interested in joining the Board.

Ms. Rydell updated the Committee on connecting with Michelle Obama's former scheduler. The connection would be willing to reach out, but Ms. Rydell requested more information from the Foundation on Mrs. Obama's role on the Board.

Ms. Ransom will work with Ms. Rydell to put together options for Mrs. Obama's participation on the Board. Ms. Ransom did discuss the possibility of other Board members resenting her membership if she did not show up to all the meetings.

The Board discussed the addition of Mrs. Obama and resolved that having her star power would elevate the awareness of the American Brain Foundation and its Board in a positive way. She should be approached to participate.

Ms. Ransom opened the meeting to discussion about Board candidates that had not been discussed. She stated that Dr. Kenton would easily join. Dr. Worrall is an excellent candidate, but he will be travelling for most of 2018.

The Board discussed the addition of Mr. David Eagleman to the Board. They described him as a powerful voice, but they expressed concern about sustainably engaging him. The Board decided that Ms. Ransom should follow-up with Mr. Eagleman about his interest in engaging as a public member or as an honorary Board member.

The Board also expressed an interest in pushing Mr. Essey and Mr. Watts forward as candidates. Ms. Ransom suggested that Mr. Goodno follow-up with Mr. Essey to address his concerns about the time commitment.

The Board also decided to consider Dr. Shafali Jeste for a Board position. She focuses on autism and is a former CRTS recipient. Dr. Smith agreed to follow-up with Dr. Jeste and gauge her interest.

- 3. Nominations & Communications with Nominees:** The Board agreed that Dr. Kenton, Mr. Essey, and Mr. Watts should be approached for Board positions. They expressed interest in approaching Dr. Jeste and following-up with Mr. Eagleman. They decided to consider Dr. Worrall for a 2019 position.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:29 a.m.**