



**American Brain Foundation  
Governance Committee Meeting  
June 19, 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; Catherine Rydell, CAE; John Mazziotta, MD; Bruce Miller, MD; Gordon Smith, MD

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

**Excused:** Dan Gasby

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

**Minutes:** Minutes from April 24, 2017, Governance meeting reviewed.

**MOTION** to approve the ABF Governance Committee minutes from April 24, 2017.

**Approved** (Unanimous).

- 1. Positions to be Filled & Renewed:** Mr. Goodno explained the timeline used to determine how Board Members need to be added. The Foundation needs two new neurologists and two new non-neurologist Board members starting January 1, 2018.

Mr. Goodno went on to highlight the list of Board members with expiring terms. There are five people eligible for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term with all other outgoing Board members eligible for an extended 3<sup>rd</sup> term because of currently held officer positions. He recognized that there are many neurologists that have concurrent expiring terms on the Board, and that the Foundation needs to be prepared for incoming Board members as well as outgoing.

Mr. Goodno has held meetings with every Board member since the beginning of the year, and everyone eligible for another term is interested in staying. There are a few membership issues being worked out on the Research Advisory Committee under Dr. Griggs' direction.

Mr. Goodno discussed the terms of Board officers, all of whom are selected from the Board. There are term limits for Board members, but the bylaws provide extensions for officers until their officer terms end.

The Governance Committee expressed interest in having more public members in officer positions. The ABF should try to develop a good balance of neurologists and non-neurologists in the officer positions. Mr. Goodno acknowledged the benefit of this idea and mentioned that every public member had their own strengths, but he wasn't sure whether public members would be willing. Committee members agreed that Susan

Williams should be invited to fill an officer position. Goodno stated that he would have a discussion with her.

In general, the Governance Committee is interested in the idea of bringing some non-Board members onto committees, to get more volunteers involved and to cultivate potential future Board members.

- 2. Board Development Survey:** Ms. Ransom brought the results of the Board Development Survey to the Governance Committee, highlighting over 50 possible candidates suggested by members of the Foundation Board & Staff, AAN Board, AAN Executive Staff, and the Research Advisory Committee.

Ms. Ransom asked the Governance Committee members to create a short list of 4 or 5 individuals from the neurologist and non-neurologist lists. She also asked the Committee for help in connecting with the individuals chosen.

Ms. Rydell asked that the prospect list be updated with short biographies of the individuals on the list as well as their geographic location.

The Governance Committee felt that there were a few that could be removed from the list right away, who are not a good fit. They prioritized individuals from the list of neurologists for initial discussions: Dr. Alessi, Dr. Worrall, and Dr. Kenton. Mr. Goodno mentioned that if anyone wanted to confidentially express concern over an individual on the list, they could email himself and Ms. Ransom.

The following were prioritized from the list of non-neurologists: Michelle Obama, Tina and Jim Essey, and Stephen Benjamin. (Ms. Ransom will also speak with Dan Gasby about Samuel L. Jackson.)

Dr. Smith agreed participate in a discussion with Dr. Worrall. Ms. Rydell offered to participate in discussions with Dr. Alessi, Dr. Kenton, and Stephen Benjamin. Ms. Ransom mentioned that she would reach out to the Essey's personally and might know of a connection to Michelle Obama.

Mr. Goodno adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:44 a.m.**