



**American Brain Foundation
Governance Committee Meeting
August 17, 2020
9:00 a.m. CT
Video Conference Call**

In attendance: Kevin Goodno, Chair; Susan Schneider Williams, BFA; Frances Jensen, MD; David Dodick, MD; Dan Gasby

Staff: Jane Ransom, ED; Kim Howard

Excused: Ben Utecht

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. CT by Mr. Kevin Goodno, Chair.

The minutes of July 20, 2020 were approved unanimously.

Board Term Expiration Roster (Jane Ransom) The Board Term Expiration Roster was reviewed, and the 2020 and 2021 terms were highlighted.

Board Members Eligible for Term Renewals (David Dodick, MD) Dr. Dodick has met with the four board members that are up for renewal in 2020. Dan Gasby, Dr. Ron Peterson, and Suzanne Miller have committed to another 2-year term. Sharon Klein has requested a few days to think about her other time commitments before making a decision.

Additional Neurologist Candidates (Jane) The recommendation was made to add the neurologists that are terming off the Research Advisory Committee including Dr. Merit Cudkowicz and Dr. John Morris to the Board of Directors candidates list.

Develop Short List of Neuro and Non-Neuro Candidates (Kevin Goodno) After some discussion about the candidate list, below is the draft short list as well as who on the board has a relationship with the candidates noted in parenthesis:

- JoAnne Berger Sweeney (Dr. Frances Jensen)
- Sanjay Gupta (Dr. Ron Peterson)
- Mayim Bialik (David Eagleman)
- Keith Black (Dr. David Dodick)

*Please note Dr. Black should be listed under neurologists on the list

Ms. Ransom mentioned Susan Sarofim who is currently considering funding ABF's COVID-19 effort. Professional sports/athletes was mentioned as an area to strongly consider including the National Basketball Assn (NBA), Major League Baseball (MLB), National Soccer League, etc. Jane will check in with Sean Sansiveri regarding a possible professional athlete from a sport other than football. Kevin Goodno will reach out to his contact at the Minnesota Lynx, as a woman athlete would be a nice addition. Dan Gasby mentioned Joe Briggs, a minority athlete.

Dr. Keith Black could help us to develop a Glioblastoma project, we could also bring in outside experts to help develop this project. We should include the RAC to develop these themes. This

would be a great way to connect potential board members to our organization before asking them to join the board. Susan Williams mentioned that she and Dr. Frances Jensen could reach out to Dr. Dimitri Krainc and possibly bring him into some of our projects or he could be a candidate for one of the openings on the RAC.

Onboarding Ben Lenail (Jane Ransom) Ben Lenail starts on the board September 1, 2020 replacing Ben Utecht. Jane and David are orientating Ben Lenail soon. It was suggested to give Ben Lenail some additional time at the upcoming board meeting in November allowing him to share more about himself. A few board members should also reach out to Mr. Lenail to welcome him to the board and Jane will make those arrangements.

Research Advisory Committee Discussion (Dr. David Dodick) We need a more cohesive strategy for selecting new members of the RAC. There was some discussion around who should handle that, the Governance Committee or the RAC. There are additional issues that need to be addressed including overall research strategy, succession planning and term limits for the chair and members, composition of the members, process of how things are done and defining/re-defining the mission of the RAC.

It was determined that the best approach would be Dr. Dodick and Dr. Griggs facilitating a select group of Board and RAC members to meet 2-3 times over the next couple of months to develop a plan for the RAC going forward to present to the board in November.

We should make a summary of the research we have funded to show our areas of strength. We need to figure out how we are prioritizing our research and show breakthroughs that have happened because of our work.

Dr. Dodick ended the meeting by reiterating that the ABF's ability to fundraise from Pharma is a huge and important opportunity.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:01 a.m. CT