



**American Brain Foundation
Governance Committee Meeting Notes
January 25, 2021
9:00 a.m. CT
Video Conference Call**

In attendance: Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair; Kevin Goodno; Mary Post, CEO; David Dodick, MD
Absent: Susan Schneider Williams, BFA; Frances Jensen, MD
Staff: Jane Ransom, ED; Kim Howard

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. CT by Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair

The minutes of December 21, 2020 were not approved because there was not a quorum. These will be approved at the next meeting on March 8, 2021.

Ms. Ransom reviewed the goals for 2021 and they included:

1. Recruiting 4 new board members for terms beginning January 1, 2022; 3 non-neurologists and 1 neurologist.
2. Renew board members that are up for their 2nd and 3rd terms.
3. Develop an Officers Slate for 2022 to recommend to the Board.
4. Decide if an Advisory or Alumni Council should be established to help keep past board members and others involved beyond their terms and make a recommendation to the Board if appropriate.

The items above need to be ready to be voted on by the Board at the August 6, October 16 or November 19 meeting. 2 years ago, the Officers were elected in August, so that the incoming officers would know well in advance of their terms.

Dr. Jeste said the key will be to think strategically about what kinds of roles we would like filled on the board, especially the non-neurologists' openings because they have been very influential on our current board.

The Board Composition Matrix that has been used in the past was reviewed and discussed. The group decided we should have the current board complete this survey. This information can be gathered and then used as a road map. The Governance Committee should be focused on what our priorities are, geographical, connections, skills, demographics, etc.

Mary Post offered a recommendation for an additional public candidate, the CFO for the Barack Obama Foundation. He is African American; he is strong in financial planning management and organizational management, and also has great inter-personal skills. Ms. Post was not sure about his connections and ability to raise funds.

Ms. Ransom reviewed the full candidate list that was included in the meeting materials as well as the short list created by this committee last year. This full candidate list came from a survey of the ABF Board, AAN Board, ABF Staff, AAN Executive Staff, ABF RAC and the AAN Science

Committee in 2020. Dr. Jeste said we do not necessarily need a bigger list we probably need to vet this current list.

Dr. Dodick mentioned that Melanie Walton does not have huge star power, but she could do a lot for the Foundation with her monetary support. We need people engaged and doing the work of the Foundation and we also need people like Cindy McCain to draw more attention.

Ms. Ransom mentioned that we can talk to several people at the same time, to gauge their interest in serving, without offering them the position. Then when we can determine people's interest and look at who best fits our needs.

Dr. Dodick suggested we do another survey to get more names and then work on narrowing it down to a short list. Dr. Jeste said we should give good guidance related to what we are looking so that we are gathering the right information; Jane will send her the survey to review.

Ms. Ransom shared the ABF Board Officer Leadership Survey which will be used to help create the slate of Officers.

Meeting Adjourned 9:27 a.m. CT