



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

**In attendance:** Shafali Jeste, MD, Chair; Kevin Goodno; Frances Jensen, MD; Susan Schneider Williams, BFA; Alyx Porter, MD; Mary Post; David Dodick, MD

**Excused:** Frances Jensen, MD

**Staff:** Jane Ransom, ED; Kim Howard

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The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. CT by Dr. Shafali Jeste.

The Governance Committee meeting minutes of June 28, 2021 were approved unanimously.

**Completion of 2022 Slate (David Dodick, MD)**

Dr. Dodick reached out to Dr. John Noseworthy. He and Jane Ransom met with him last week and he is seriously considering joining our board. He is doing his due diligence and reviewing all the documents related to what the Foundation is doing. Dr. Noseworthy would want to make a significant impact and wanted to know how we would best utilize his network and expertise. Dr. Noseworthy will let us know his decision as soon as possible.

One of Dr. Noseworthy's suggestions that Dr. Dodick really liked was to create a small fundraising strategy group with members like Cindy McCain, Alan Tisch and a few others. This group would get together and do some brainstorming around serious fundraising in 2022 and beyond. This group would then advise the board on fundraising strategy.

If Dr. Noseworthy does not accept, this committee would need to find another neurologist candidate for the board. Kevin Goodno reminded everyone that the 50/50 rule (neurologists/non-neurologists) is not a requirement, it is just a guideline so it could be a non-neurologist. There is no need to rush to fill that last spot regardless of who it is, it is more important to find the right person.

Dr. Jeste asked the committee to consider another child neurologist with her rolling off the board. She recommended Dr. Erika Augustine who is a leader in child neurology. She is currently at Kennedy Krieger Institute.

**Relationship-building with other prospects (Jane Ransom)**

Jane Ransom suggested planning relationship-building process with prospects on the list that we would like to see join our board in future years. ABF staff will highlight the most discussed prospects and recommend a strategy for further outreach to those people.

**ABF Advisory Council concept (Jane Ransom)**

Jane Ransom shared a concept of creating an advisory council of alumni that could include former board members, awardees, and others that we want to keep close to the organization.

Here are the discussion highlights:

- You don't want to cut-off ties completely but continue to reach out to past members to keep them engaged and informed.
- Past board members have mentioned it is like "pouf" and they are gone when their term end.
- There could be one virtual update summarizing how the past year went and what the year ahead looks like and then one in-person event, maybe at the annual meeting.
- It needs to be a stronger connection than just a Zoom meeting.
- You want to take advantage of those relationships and knowledge.
- There are really two different groups the board and the awardees and not sure if they should be combined.
- There could be some value in having past C2C awardees (PLINA, etc) gather to help them stay engaged and informed.
- These discussions with past awardees could create a pathway/pipeline of potential new board members. The annual meeting could be a great time for this connection.
- The AAN does a nice job of keeping in touch with the CRTS winners so that might not be necessary.
- Our bylaws allow for non-board members to serve on our committees, this is another way for past members to remain active as well as to bring potential board members into our organization.
- Use the experts for salon presentations or other interactions.
- It is a very good sounding board and helpful in decisions that are being made.
- Be careful of potential costs and expectations.

Jane Ransom will work on a proposal to bring back to this group.

Meeting Adjourned 9:30 a.m. CT