

The Lord's Place Board Governance Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Cornelia Thornburgh, Jack Scarola, Pamela McIver, Dr. Robert Norris, Julie Cummings, Diana Stanley

- Welcome and announcement of new Governance Chair
 - J. Scarola will temporarily fill the Governance committee chair role with Ted Deckert's sudden passing. J. Scarola commented that he will not be able to fill T. Deckert's role in TLP, as his contributions to the quality and character of TLP are incomparable.
- R. Norris will do a moment of remembrance for T. Deckert at the December board meeting.
- D. Stanley updated the committee about the passing of several clients/staff along with a staff member's daughter.
- P. McIver recommended Jamie Neimie to visit with staff during these difficult times.
- C. Thornburgh will coordinate with S. LaRocca regarding the gift cards to be donated by board members for clients. Additionally, she will discuss with the board giving a holiday bonus to all staff members.
- **Discussion of Term Limits and Special Founder's Director category**
 - A Special Founders category was discussed, originally for T. Deckert and J. Scarola. This closed category is for early founders of the agency. They would be voting directors as long as they are active in the life of the board, i.e., attendance, support of board goals.
 - A lifetime member, a senior member, or an emeritus position was also discussed.
 - Discussion of term limits ensued. Best practices increasingly lean to a formal period of service and our accreditation agency has made mention of this growing trend.
 - *Motion made for the creation of the founding board member position by R. Norris moved and seconded by C. Thornburgh, J. Scarola abstained from voting unanimously passed by all other present members and amended post-vote to extend to Ted Deckert posthumously.*

- C. Thornburgh will create an outline of the founding board member position to present to the committee.
 - *Motion made to review the concept of imposing term limits; motioned by J. Cummings seconded by C. Thornburgh. Unanimously carried.*
 - *Motion made to recommend consideration of “carve outs” of existing director to a term limits policy; motioned by J. Cummings seconded P. McIver, C. Thornburgh opposed, motion carried by majority.*
- **Review of skills needed for incoming directors**
 - After the committee discussed what skills were needed, it was agreed that the Governance Committee would like to communicate to the full board that we recognize a need for professional, racial, ethnic, geographic diversity and we have identified, in particular, voids in the area of education, real estate, the medical profession, and corporate executives. D. Stanley added that a philanthropist is also needed.
- **Current Prospects**
 - D. Stanley is working on a new client board member, possibly Scott Echel.
 - C. Thornburgh suggested Kim Jones who is currently on the Risk Assessment Committee. Jonell Robinson on the Risk Assessment Committee is another person that is currently under consideration for board membership but may need more time.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Create a term limit policy, emeritus position, and founding board member position to be reviewed at the next meeting.
 - The current matrix is to be reviewed at the next meeting.
 - Populate a list of new prospects to be reviewed and assigned to committee members to assess qualifications.
- **To do:**
 - S. LaRocca will send the matrix of the current board to the Governance Committee before the next meeting.
 - S. LaRocca will send the current prospect list to the Governance Committee before the next meeting.
 - C. Thornburgh will create an outline of the position to present to the committee describing the founding board member position, emeritus role and term limits policy.