



**Community
Foundation**
of the
Dan River Region

Governance Committee Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2023
1:00 p.m.

Present: Brian Wilson, Angeles Atkinson, Steve Bass, Scott Barnes, Janet Holley and Kathy Milam

Brian Wilson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Minutes from the April 27, 2022 meeting were approved as presented on an Atkinson/Barnes motion.

Kathy Milam introduced the general nominating process and summarized materials provided with the meeting agenda.

a) Board Member Responsibilities document-The committee reviewed this and recommended no changes. This document was recently reviewed and approved by the Board September 26, 2022.

b) Board Skills Matrix-This grid indicates skills, experience and knowledge of current Board Members. It is a valuable tool for discerning strengths and weaknesses, specifically indicating where the Board is under-represented, and where greater consideration is needed as we seek to replace Board members. Kathy stated that National Standards reaccreditation requires a documented discussion about diversity using community composition data from a board diversity matrix. A discussion followed during the course of the meeting.

c) Board and Officer Positions to be filled for FY2023-2024-This document lists the current Board Members, officers, committee leadership positions, committee affiliations, and terms. Three positions need to be filled, as three current Board Members rotate off on June 30, 2023.

Discussion about Diversity-Brian led this conversation as he spoke about potential new Board Members who he has contacted. The following are several of Brian's comments, as well as thoughts and feedback from other committee members.

- Brian said he was open and honest in his conversations about the responsibilities related to serving on The Community Foundation's Board, emphasizing that we are a working Board.

- The three new Board Members will serve on the Distribution Committee. Most Distribution Committee work is done from home.
- In speaking with potential new Board Members, Brian explained The Foundation's conflict of interest policy.
- He found that people who he spoke with do not want to commit due to the time requirement.
- The Foundation's Board Matrix shows we lack participation by black males. One potential new Board Member is a black male and one is a black female. The third person is a white male.
- He tried to stay away from Danville Community College as a source of new members as we are currently well-represented by people who either work there or retired from there.
- Steve Bass noted through example the need for opportunities for black males. The need to reach toward a new pool of people—younger people of color was emphasized.
- We expect that Caesar's Entertainment will bring more people into the community, as will The Institute for Advanced learning and Research.
- We need to create a new list of ten potential Board Members that is realistic, active, and focuses on diversity.
- Janet Holley emphasized that younger people are needed.
- Brian said that experience and knowledge of the community is needed to serve on the Board.
- Scott Barnes observed that the matrix shows we are light in the areas of insurance, medicine, estate planning and real estate.
- All agreed that we need to talk about diversity all year round, and plan for Board recruitment earlier in the year.

One person has confirmed their desire to serve on the Board so far. She is Sheila Williamson-Branch, the City of Danville Treasurer. Sheila was recommended to serve by Sandy Saunders. Also contacted, with confirmation pending, are Dan Angle, and Lawrence Eldridge. Dan has a banking background, but would serve on the Distribution Committee. He is active in Rotary and in Danville. Lawrence Eldridge lives in Pittsylvania County. He has extensive knowledge of city and county fire and rescue operations. He is retired from Goodyear. Brian said he expects a reply from these two men by Friday, April 28, 2023.

On a Holley/Barnes motion, these three people were approved by all to serve as Board members if they accept the invitation.

Diron Clement, a local realtor, was identified as a potential alternate if any of the three decline. Janet Holley will reach out to him. If interested, he will be added to the potential list of Board Members for this year or next year.

2023-2024 Officer and Committee Appointments-The following slate of officers was discussed, and contact will be made to confirm acceptance of responsibility.

President-Scott Barnes
Vice-President-Cathy Pulliam
Past-President-Angeles Atkinson
Secretary-Steve Bass
Treasurer-Vince Kania
At-Large-Ginny Foster

The following committee leadership appointments were suggested:

Finance Chairperson-Kerri Burchett
Finance Vice-Chairperson-Kerri can make a recommendation, if she accepts
Committee recommendations are Bill Riddle or Jennifer Hiltwine

Distribution Chairperson-Rick Dixon
Distribution Vice-Chairperson-Rick can make a recommendation, if he accepts
Committee recommendation is Lee Farmer

Brian requested that all conversations take place by Friday, April 28 to confirm appointees.
Brian will contact Cathy Pulliam and Vince Kania.
Kathy will contact Ginny Foster.
Scott will contact Kerri Burchette.
Angeles will contact Rick Dixon.

The Board Governance Checklist was reviewed by the committee. A date for the annual Board Retreat is needed along with a subject for the Retreat. Scott will think about this.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectively submitted,



Brian Wilson
Governance Committee Chairperson