



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, May 23, 2022
By Teleconference**

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Chair Frank Gifford, Steve Bacon (joined by phone at 4:04), Prabhas KC, Kyle Muncy, Betsy Paterson, Diana Pelletier, and Sean Vasington (joined at 4:07)

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

Guests: Louis Goffinet, Ron Schurin

1. Call to Order

Kyle Muncy called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of April 25, 2022 and May 4, 2022 Minutes

Betsy Paterson made a motion to approve the minutes of April 25, 2022 and May 4, 2022. Diana Pelletier seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Orientation of New Board Members

Frank Gifford introduced Board member nominees Louis Goffinet and Ron Schurin, whose membership will be voted on at the annual meeting on June 1. Mr. Goffinet and Mr. Schurin, and current Committee members, introduced themselves. Cynthia van Zelm then gave the Board Orientation presentation to Mr. Goffinet and Mr. Schurin.

5. Exit Interview with Prabhas KC

Mr. Gifford asked Prabhas KC about his experience serving on the Board and promoting the Partnership to other UConn students. Mr. KC said he has felt very supported on the Board and is glad that two student voices will likely be represented on the Board going forward. He said when he first joined the Board, many students he talked to were unaware of the existence of the Partnership. The Celebrate Mansfield Festival provided an identification point that he could refer to when explaining what the Partnership does. He feels he has been able to help more students understand the Partnership's role, and that his name and face became associated with several of the Partnership's projects.

Committee members commended Mr. KC for the example he has set for future student representatives and wished him luck in his new job and future endeavors. He plans to continue to serve on the Promotion/Public Spaces working group.

6. Update on Annual Meeting

Ms. van Zelm said she will soon send a list of talking points to Committee members who will be speaking at the annual meeting. Around 35-40 people have RSVP'd to the meeting so far, and several will take the tour of the UConn Innovation Partnership Building beforehand.

7. Nomination of Committee Members and Chairs

Ms. Paterson made a motion to send to the Board the Downtown Partnership Committee list as presented at this meeting for the Board's approval. Kyle Muncy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Update on Strategic Plan Working Groups

There were no updates from the strategic plan working groups.

9. Meeting Dates in June and July

Mr. Gifford said the Committee will not meet in June or July. An orientation session for the new student representatives will be held over the summer. Ms. van Zelm said this session will not constitute a meeting if only one Committee member is present. Ms. Pelletier volunteered to participate.

The next Governance Committee meeting is scheduled for August 22.

Sean Vasington mentioned that some members of the Committee recently volunteered to staff the Downtown Partnership booth at UConn orientation. He said participation may not be a good use of time and resources as the event is not well attended, likely because of its location on the top floor of the UConn Bookstore at the end of the orientation session. Mr. Schurin suggested reaching out to new graduate students as well. Ms. van Zelm said the Partnership has staffed a table at the UConn Graduate Student Senate information fair in the past.

10. Adjourn

Ms. Paterson moved to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Pelletier seconded the motion.

The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Joshua Stern