

12_06_12 FINAL Governance Committee minutes

Present voting members: Libbie Jae, Sandra Harrington, Nancy Stearns, Nancy Manning, Evelyn Bless

Absent voting member: Bob Kerns

Also present: Paul Berg, John Miley

Called to order 12:40.

Chair: Nancy S., minutes: Evelyn

Motion to approve November minutes: Libbie. 2nd: Evelyn. Spelling of Dick Woltmann's name corrected. Approved.

Founders recognition. Tabled to next month.

Board candidates: Janelle Hopf may be candidate. We talked about need to ask potential candidates to attend committee meetings before deciding to apply, to see if we are a fit for them and vice versa. We need people with connections in the community; also need people who can get involved.

Strategic plan/Board development: Phyllis Lubin, formerly of Nature Conservancy and currently Development Director of Bay Area Legal Services, will be guest speaker Dec. 19 Board meeting.

Action item: Paul will invite all committee members and staff to Board meeting to hear her.

- John Miley has invited guest speaker from NonProfit Leadership Center of Tampa Bay, 1st of year.
- **Board self-assessment.** Board members gave low marks in some several areas and perceptions varied widely among Board members. George Baxter pointed out that this is cause for concern, indicating different perceptions and possible problems among Board. Since we didn't have paperwork in hand and non-Board committee members hadn't seen this, we tabled until next month. Results need to be analyzed and looked at for ways we can improve.

Action item and agenda for next month: Distribute Board self-assessment to committee members for discussion next month.

How do we hold Board accountable? We have agreed on informal measures and 'guilting,' so far, to remind people of their obligations. Send reminders to people ahead of time about meetings. Send emails afterward if they miss the meeting. All committees—Governance, Devel, Programs, Finance--should do this regularly.

Commitment to Service review. We reviewed and made more changes.

Action item and agenda next month: Nancy M. will incorporate changes, distribute for Jan. meeting so we can get to Board in January.

- 2/3rds of items on Commitment are measurable. Suggestion was made that we give Board members a copy with how they did checked off when they come up for renewed terms or yearly. But who would fill it out?

Board members term expiration: how to handle in January Board meeting? By start date or draw straws? Tabled for next month.

Action item and agenda for next month: Paul will bring list with Board members' start/end dates to next meeting.

Planning for annual meeting: Here and in Board meeting Dec/January.

Adjourned 2:05 p.m. Next meeting January 3, 2013, 1 p.m.