NESEA Board Meeting Conference Call - Minutes
JANUARY 5, 2017

Participating
Michael Bruss
Damainique Bruce (non-voting Board member)
Saheel Chandrani
Martine Dion
Paul Eldrenkamp
Jenna Ide
Phil Kaplan
Jennifer Marrapese
Rob Meyers
Lauren Brust Moss
Fortunat Mueller
Rick Renner
John Skipper
Ben Southworth
Lisa Tallet

Not Participating

The Board Conference Call convened at 9:00 AM.

Michael said he has been honored to serve as Chair of the Board and has enjoyed working with everyone. He thanked Jennifer, saying that she makes us all look good.

Michael stated that the first order of business was to elect a new Chair of the Board. He asked for nominations, and Phil Kaplan was put forward. Phil said that this is something he had been thinking about for about a year, and he was looking forward to "jumping in". Michael supported Phil's nomination, noting the accomplishments of the Development Committee under Phil's leadership

Vote: Motion to elect Phil Kaplan Chair of the Board of Directors. Fortunat made the motion and Rob seconded it. The voting was by roll call:

Michael Bruss - Yea
Saheel Chandrani - Yea
Martine Dion - Yea
Paul Eldrenkamp – Yea
Jenna Ide - Yea
Phil Kaplan – Abstain
Rob Meyers – Yea
Lauren Brust Moss - Yea
Fortunat Mueller - Yea
Rick Renner - Yea
John Skipper - Yea
Ben Southworth – Yea
Lisa Tallet - Yea

Phil, now the Chair of the Board, proposed his slate of officers: Martine Dion, Vice Chair; Paul Eldenkamp, Treasurer; Ben Southworth, Secretary.

Vote: Motion to elect the following to the Executive Committee of the Board: Martine Dion, Vice Chair; Paul Eldenkamp, Treasurer; Ben Southworth, Secretary. Rob made the motion and Rick seconded it. The voting was by roll call:

Michael Bruss - Yea
Saheel Chandrani - Yea
Martine Dion - Yea
Paul Eldenkamp – Yea
Jenna Ide - Yea
Phil Kaplan – Yea
Rob Meyers – Yea
Lauren Brust Moss - Yea
Fortunat Mueller - Yea
Rick Renner - Yea
John Skipper - Yea
Ben Southworth – Yea
Lisa Tallet - Yea

Phil said he is very excited to work with this Executive Committee.

ED Report - Jennifer

Things are all looking very good for BE17. Early registration ends on January 19. A block of rooms is reserved; if you can, stay at the Seaport, because we are responsible for selling that block of rooms.

BE the Future - 37 registered so far, and 20 are waiting. It has become a home run.

Just opened applications for Kate Fund Scholarships, and we will be awarding 5 scholarships.

BE Masters – A new platform, Canvas, looks very promising based on testing so far. May be able to launch this spring. Will require a capital investment of $8,000. Also, Yestermorrow wants to partner with us in online courses, and that may reduce the cost to us.
Annual Appeal - Have had good response; $6,000 ahead of last year at this time. In addition, there is almost double the number of donors this year, meaning that it is less Board-dependent. The new-donor category is a larger percentage this year, which is desirable because it means a broader base.

Phil will follow-up with committee chairs and will continue to do so. Hopes to touch base with all by February.

The Board thanked Michael for his excellent leadership, sage counsel, and dedicated service.

**Vote:** To adjourn the meeting. Rob made the motion, and Rick seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Phone call adjourned at approximately 9:30 AM.

The next Board meeting will be in New Haven at Atelier 10 at 10:00 AM on February 3, 2017.

Attachments: None

Notes prepared by Rick Renner