

**ACA Governance Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 26, 2021**  
**9:00am-10:30am**

Present: Sharon Ryan, Patty Stromen, Suzi Kim Scott, Suzie Colianni, Fr. Dale Korogi, Fr. Erich Rutten, Ben Jaffray, Barry Lieske, Kevin Bennett, Mark Rauenhorst

Welcome - Introduction: Kevin Bennett; Chief of Equity and Impact

Prayer - Fr. Dale Korogi

Consent:

- a) Approval of November 17, 2020 Minutes

**Motion to approve (Suzie C.), seconded (Suzi K.S.), motion carried (all in favor)**

Discussion:

**1. What is the vetting process for potential board members?**

Adequate # of Board Members - 20

Patty's hope is to know that potential board members have a strong commitment and understanding of our mission. She's looking for people who truly want to change lives and will learn and be committed to an educational system for our ACA graduates to succeed.

Faith is a deal breaker and is central in all we do. Patty is open to someone that is not Christian however, this person has to have a deep desire and commitment to be fully supportive and fully engaged in a faith based organization.

The first question Patty always asks is: What brings you to Ascension?

The Committee discussed the recruitment process for potential board member(s):

Committee agreed that the vetting process requires both "vetting" a candidate and "cultivating" the interest of a potential future board member until he or she is ready to accept an invitation to become an ambassador and advocate for Ascension Catholic Academy.

The following is a list of criteria the Committee members compiled

### Criteria for “Cultivating” and “Vetting” Potential Board Member(s):

- Committee Member’s Responsibility (Person making Recommendation):
  - Have a conversation with the candidate(s) centered around Ascension/ACA and its Mission.
  - Familiarize candidate(s) with our organization.
  - Establish a connection with candidate(s).
  - Make an offer to the candidate(s) to first serve on a Committee or task force, or volunteer.
  - Have uncomfortable conversations with candidate(s) in terms of Fundraising.
  - Skills and experience are identified and weighed against Recruitment Matrix
  - Present a full Bio, tell your perspective and share personal experiences.
  - Facilitate an Introduction
  - Schedule a Meet and Greet

### Suggestions:

1. Make sure the process doesn’t overwhelm the staff.
2. Be mindful of the pipeline in leadership, successors and attrition.
  - What makes a good leader?
  - Is this person connected in some way that doesn’t fit the norm?
3. Have a maximum/minimum number of people to be sure the committees are well staffed.
4. Be mindful of the rotation and careful of term limits. Such as, people who are rolling off and as we look into replenishing leadership.
5. Speak simultaneously with succession and planning.
6. Establish a pipeline

## **2. List of potential board members**

*Additions: Christopher Pham (Ascension School alumni)*

### *1. Father Howe*

### Committee’s thoughts:

- Patty would like Father Howe to be a stronger part of the organization, would like to find a way to get him onboard in a number of ways.
- His theological stance is significantly different.
- He has a good heart and wants what’s best for the neighborhood.
- Has good intentions; Fr. Erich is happy to be a part of his cultivation.
- Fr. Dale wants to understand his canonical involvement; roles

\*Committee decided to wait to review the remaining names on the list of potential Board members until they have what we need and it can be presented to the full Board.

\*To be finalized at the March 16, 2021 Committee meeting.

- An announcement should then be made to the ACA Board so we have a unified front.

**3. Election of new board members** - To be discussed at March 16, 2021 Committee Meeting

**4. Establishment of potential board member pipeline** - To be discussed at March 16, 2021 Committee Meeting.

**5. Other topics for future meetings**

Committee wants to leave a good foundation that they can build upon.

**6. Executive session (not needed)**

Consent: Adjourn Meeting

- a) Motion to approve (Suzie C.), seconded (Ben J.), motion carried (all in favor)**

**TO DO before next Meeting (March 16, 2021):**

Committee Members:

Review Matrix and propose additions via email to Sharon Ryan at [rryan5840@aol.com](mailto:rryan5840@aol.com)

Sharon will approve/send updates to Mary Ballariel at [mballariel@acamn.org](mailto:mballariel@acamn.org)

Ben - Send Mary Ballariel information to be shared with the Governance Committee (**Complete - 1/5/2021**)

Mary/Suzi work together to create a board engagement and demographic survey.