



Nominating Committee Meeting Transcript

May 13, 2024

1 The Children's Trust
2 Monday, May 13, 2024
3 3150 S.W. 3rd Avenue - 8th Floor
4 The Children's Trust - Training Room
5 3:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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7
8 Nominating Committee Meeting

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10 Committee Members
11 (Present)

12 Dr. Daniel Bagner, Chairperson
13 Gilda Ferradaz, Vice Chair
14 Kenneth Hoffman
15 Marissa Leichter

16
17 President & CEO
18 James R. Haj

19
20 County Attorney's Office
21 (Present via Zoom)

22 Leigh Kobrinski
23 Assistant County Attorney
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- Shanika Graves
- James Haj
- Imran Ali
- Jacques "Jack" Bentolila
- Juan Leon
- Victoria Gandul

1 CHAIRMAN BAGNER: Well, let me first
2 call this meeting to order.

3 And is there any public comments?

4 MS. LEON: There are no public
5 comments, Mr. Chair.

6 CHAIRMAN BAGNER: Okay. Great.

7 So we'll just jump right onto
8 Business, which is -- as you all know, we
9 nominated Mark Trowbridge to be chair of
10 the Trust, and he accepted and we were
11 looking forward to that.

12 And, unfortunately, I think in the
13 past month or so, right, Mark
14 unfortunately resigned from the Board at
15 this point due to his health. He really
16 wanted to prioritize his health
17 understandably, so we're grateful for his
18 service, and unfortunately we are now
19 vacating chair position.

20 So an e-mail was sent out I believe
21 by Jim to the Board on April 17th,
22 soliciting nominations for the chair
23 position, and three directors nominated
24 Ken to continue, there he is, in this
25 role, and graciously Ken agreed to serve

1 hopefully one more year.

2 SECRETARY LEICHTER: A new mascot.

3 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: You were on your
4 way out as chair and we're pushing you
5 back in.

6 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: Got pulled back
7 in.

8 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: So thoughts,
9 comments, reactions from the Committee?

10 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: I think that if
11 you're willing to continue to serve, I
12 would certainly support that.

13 MR. HOFFMAN: For the time being.

14 SECRETARY LEICHTER: I was concerned.
15 I mean, I was coming up with all different
16 scenarios in my brain about what was going
17 to happen, so thank you, Ken.

18 MR. HOFFMAN: You're welcome.

19 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Thank you.

20 MR. HOFFMAN: I don't think it will
21 fall apart without me, but I appreciate
22 it.

23 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Just so everyone
24 understands in terms of the timeline, when
25 would be the next -- I assume you would

1 want to do this temporarily -- I mean, as
2 long as it takes, but hopefully
3 temporarily given your plan to step down.

4 MR. HOFFMAN: I don't know. I really
5 haven't thought about it too much except
6 to respond to Jim and others about, you
7 know, filling in as chair. I could serve
8 longer I suppose, but, you know, I'm happy
9 to serve out this term.

10 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Which would be
11 another two years, right.

12 MS. KOBRINSKI: Is this -- this is
13 your last two-year term, right? Is that
14 right?

15 MR. HAJ: Well, we're going to ask
16 you for your interpretation. There may be
17 a break in service, 'cause Mark was
18 technically sworn in, so he may be
19 eligible for six more years.

20 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: You heard him
21 say he's willing to serve as long as --

22 MR. HOFFMAN: I'm not sure you need
23 to interpret that. We'll be back some
24 other time.

25 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: But your

1 position on the Board is in perpetuity,
2 right, in terms of agreement with the
3 organization.

4 MR. HOFFMAN: As well as the
5 organization --

6 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Correct, same as
7 my position, right. I know there was a
8 different interpretation of that.

9 MR. HOFFMAN: And I will discuss with
10 the organization, because I think they
11 were expecting me to stay on the Board,
12 but I should be here for another couple of
13 years.

14 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Okay.

15 SECRETARY LEICHTER: So we have to
16 take this -- we have to vote on that one,
17 too, take it up?

18 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: We do. Yes.

19 First, we're grateful that you're
20 willing to continue to serve. I know you
21 were planning to step down. It's good to
22 know that you're willing to serve as long
23 as it takes to find someone either to
24 replace you in this term or in the next
25 term someone is willing to step up.

1 Okay. Well, with that, I would like
2 to have a motion to approve the nomination
3 for Ken Hoffman to serve as Board chair
4 for the term of May 2024 to April 2026.

5 Do I have a motion?

6 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: So moved.

7 SECRETARY LEICHTER: So moved.

8 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: We got two of
9 you.

10 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Second.

11 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Okay. Any
12 discussion beyond what we've just talked
13 about?

14 MR. HOFFMAN: I was hoping for a
15 contested election.

16 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Alright, where
17 we were at -- oh, yes.

18 MR. BENTOLILLA: Before, do you want
19 to review the minutes and approve the
20 minutes for the past --

21 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Oh, thank you,
22 yes. I did see that.

23 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: I approve.

24 MR. HAJ: We gotta take a vote.

25 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Yeah. Why don't

1 we take a vote and then we can do that
2 after. It sounds good.

3 All those in favor?

4 COLLECTIVELY: Aye.

5 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: All those
6 opposed? Motion passes unanimously.

7 Moving onto other business that I
8 forgot to do. Everyone had a chance to
9 review the minutes meeting, which was in
10 the packet.

11 May I have a motion to --

12 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: I'll make the
13 motion to approve the minutes.

14 SECRETARY LEICHTER: I'll second it,
15 Leichter.

16 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: All those in
17 favor?

18 COLLECTIVELY: Aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Any opposed?
20 All right.

21 Well, with that, yes, we will present
22 this now next to the Board, given that we
23 unanimously supported Ken continuing this
24 role, taking on the new term. Well, I'll
25 use that language, so it can be another

1 six years.

2 Alright, any other new business? Oh,
3 actually, there was one other thing that I
4 was gonna -- thank you, Emma, for putting
5 it. Javier Reyes, his term as an at-large
6 member is ending in September already,
7 which is hard to believe.

8 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Six years.

9 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: Are you kidding
10 me?

11 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Yeah, I can't
12 believe that, yeah.

13 So with that, staff is going to start
14 the process for advertising the candidates
15 for review and selection in the future.
16 So as we've done in the past, I think,
17 certainly reach out to those you think
18 might be interested and let them know
19 that's going to be opening, I assume.

20 MR. HAJ: The gubernatorial's are
21 out, those two seats.

22 SECRETARY LEICHTER: My position.

23 MR. HAJ: There's two for Marissa and
24 Dunn seat are out. And then as soon as
25 that closes, we'll open up the at large

1 advertising at large.

2 MR. HOFFMAN: What's the timetable on
3 that? That's people applying to the
4 County commission to be recommended?

5 MR. HAJ: Yes, by June 7th. We
6 didn't want to confuse two. So we're
7 going to close that, then open up the at
8 large.

9 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: So in June, you
10 anticipate that being --

11 MR. HAJ: In June, we hopefully bring
12 it back to the Board for July, because
13 Javier will get us through TRIM, but then
14 October, we don't normally have a Board
15 meeting. We could have an early Board
16 before TRIM, but just bring it, so someone
17 said for October 1st for that seat. So
18 hopefully July board meeting, bring back
19 Javier's recommendation.

20 SECRETARY LEICHTER: And ours is to
21 be determined.

22 MR. HAJ: Yes, at June.

23 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: You're on
24 officially through June?

25 SECRETARY LEICHTER: No, it's just

1 whenever -- the whole process, like it has
2 to go through the County commission, then
3 up, you know.

4 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: You could stay
5 until --

6 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Until someone
7 is -- until someone is --

8 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: But, obviously,
9 once you step -- once your position is
10 replaced, then we need to find a new
11 secretary as well.

12 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Right. I was
13 thinking that.

14 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: So we'll be
15 convening again as the nominating
16 committee, but you'll be there until that
17 point.

18 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Correct.

19 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: So I'm assuming
20 if it's delayed, you'll just stay in that
21 role.

22 MR. HOFFMAN: If that's the case,
23 they stay on until there are successors.

24 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: Uh-hum, yeah,
25 that's how they've done it.

1 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Anything else?

2 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: It's Marissa,
3 is it, and Reverend Dunn's, right? So
4 there's two. They're advertised right
5 now?

6 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Uh-hum. It just
7 went out.

8 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: And they apply
9 first to the Trust and then the Trust --

10 MR. HAJ: They go straight to the
11 Commission BC's office, or the clerk now,
12 the clerk of the courts or the clerk of
13 the board?

14 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Oh, it's the
15 clerk of the board.

16 MR. HAJ: So June 7th. We have some
17 time. And then even by then, by the time
18 we get to the BCC, we should be able to
19 get through TRIM with our current Board
20 configuration.

21 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Any other new
22 business?

23 MR. HAJ: And the BCC, they don't
24 meet in August, right, 'cause I was trying
25 to get it late July or September, probably

1 till September.

2 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Any other new
3 business?

4 SECRETARY LEICHTER: Thanks again,
5 Ken.

6 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: Yes, thank you,
7 Ken.

8 VICE CHAIR FERRADAZ: Thank you, Ken.

9 MR. HAJ: Take care, Everybody.

10 CHAIRPERSON BAGNER: We'll adjourn
11 this meeting and we'll reconvene in
12 15 minutes. Thanks all for coming early.

13 (Thereupon, at 4:00 p.m., the meeting
14 was adjourned).

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)

I, Lorena Ramos, National Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did TRANSCRIBE the meeting of The Children's Trust Nominating Committee, held on the 13th day of May 2014; and that the foregoing transcript, pages 1 through 13, is a true record of the AUDIO TAPED meeting, to the best of my ability.

DATED this 06/11/2024 in the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Lorena Ramos

LORENA RAMOS, COURT REPORTER
Registered Professional Reporter