

MET GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

*Notes for Meeting of*

Tuesday April 19, 2022

**11 AM**

***Meeting held virtually via Google Meet and conference call***

Committee members present: Toby Lloyd - *Chair*, Gary Burnett, Lori Lynch, Greg Bowen, Megan Benjamin

Committee members absent: Ken Montague, Senator Eckardt

*Staff: John Turgeon*

1. Toby Lloyd called the meeting to order. Since Senator Eckardt was not in attendance, Mr. Lloyd asked Mr. Turgeon to provide an update on the proposed bill (Senate Bill 998) that would simplify the MET trustee selection process, which had been submitted by Senator Eckardt in the just ended Maryland legislative session. Mr. Turgeon reported that the bill did not pass. It was submitted later in the session and did not make it out of the Senate's Rules Committee. Mr. Lloyd talked about the importance of the legislation and urged trying to get it passed in next year's legislative session. Mr. Lloyd talked about the in-progress revisions to MET's bylaws, which were on hold until after SB 998 passed. He said that he and Mr. Turgeon will continue working with AAGs Talley Kovacs and Roger Medoff to complete the bylaws revisions and have the Committee and the full board vote on them at later meeting dates.
2. Mr. Lloyd talked about the Committee making its recommendations for the next Chair and Vice-Chair of the MET board. This step is not in the current bylaws but will be in the revised bylaws. Previously, the Chair and Vice Chair were always nominated by the current Board Chair.

Greg Bowen left the meeting at this point, and then Mr. Lloyd recommended consideration of Mr. Bowen to serve as MET's next Vice-Chair. There was a brief discussion among the Committee about Mr. Bowen's extensive and exemplary experience in land planning and conservation and his active role as an MET trustee. *Ms. Lynch motioned approval of the recommendation, Ms. Benjamin seconded, and all voted in favor of recommending Mr. Bowen for Vice Chair.* Mr. Bowen returned to the meeting and was notified of the vote recommending him.

Gary Burnett left the meeting at this point, and then Mr. Lloyd recommended consideration of Mr. Burnett to serve as MET's next Chair. There was a brief discussion among the Committee about Mr. Burnett's extensive and exemplary service with both Maryland Park Service and Montgomery County Parks, and his active role with MET serving as the current vice chair and being a member of several committees. *Ms. Lynch motioned approval of the recommendation, Ms. Benjamin seconded, and all voted in favor of recommending Mr.*

Burnett for Chair. Mr. Burnett returned to the meeting and was notified of the vote recommending him.

The full board will vote on the Committee's recommendations at its May 2, 2022, meeting.

3. Mr. Lloyd noted the following recommendations regarding current MET Trustees as listed in the meeting agenda:
  - Mark Hoffman for second four-year term as MET trustee.
  - Diana Conway for first four-year term as MET trustee.
  - Toby Lloyd for second four-year term as MET trustee.

Mr. Burnett motioned approval of the above recommendations of Mr. Hoffman and Ms. Conway, Ms. Lynch seconded, and all voted in favor.

Mr. Lloyd left the meeting at this point. Ms. Lynch motioned for approval of the recommendation of Mr. Lloyd, Ms. Benjamin seconded, and all voted in favor.

The full MET board will vote on the Committee's recommendations at its May 2, 2022, meeting.

4. Mr. Lloyd discussed the recommendation of adding Keith Colston to the Committee's list of trustee candidates to recommend to the Maryland Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House for nomination to MET's board. Mr. Colston's resume was included with the meeting agenda that was e-mailed to the Committee. Mr. Colston works for the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, where he serves as Director of Ethnic Relations, and as Administrative Director of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs. He recently met with MET's Chair Mary Burke, Vice-Chair Burnett, and Director Turgeon to discuss ways MET could better interact with Maryland's tribal communities via the Commission on Indian Affairs. He expressed strong interest in serving as an MET trustee to help with this. Ms. Lynch motioned to approve adding Mr. Colston to the Committee's recommended trustee candidate list, Mr. Burnett seconded, and all voted in favor. The full MET board will vote on the Committee's recommendation at its May 2, 2022, meeting.
5. In other business, it was noted by Mr. Turgeon of the two existing vacancies as well as one upcoming vacancy on the MET board. Chair Mary Burke will be stepping off the board at the end of this May. Mr. Lloyd said he will reach out to Phil Hager at Maryland DNR about having the Governor make a nomination to fill Ms. Burke's position on the board. Mr. Lloyd will also reach out to Senator Eckardt about contacting the Senate President's to get a nomination to the MET board. Meeting adjourned.

Next Governance Committee meeting is Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 11 am.