

DWELLING PLACE OF GRAND RAPIDS  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE  
November 17, 2020  
*Committee Approved December 15, 2020*

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Annamarie Buller, David Byers, Juan Daniel Castro, Holly Jacoby, Rick Stevens, Lee Nelson Weber

**STAFF PRESENT** Zoe Post, Denny Sturtevant

The meeting convened via conference call at 9:02 AM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting of October 20, 2020 were approved by motion of Annamarie Buller, supported by Lee Nelson Weber and carried without objection.**

**BOARD CANDIDATE UPDATES** The committee gave updates on potential board candidates:

- Gustavo Rotundaro: Recommended by Ms. Weber and interested in serving on the board.
- Victoria Kool: Recommended by Alonda Trammell and Ms. Buller, Ms. Kool has been part of the CLI team and is a long-term resident, but hesitant about serving on a board.
- Jennifer Beaven: Some concern about her ability/availability to serve on the board.
- Mo Townsend: May be too busy for board service and has not responded to communications.
- Kim Sims: Very involved in Muskegon Heights, interested in community development, and works, to a degree, in policy.
- Joyce Starr: Mr. Castro was not able to get in contact.

With the NeighborWorks triennial review currently planned for mid-February, the committee decided to prioritize Mr. Rotundaro, Ms. Lyons, Ms. Kool, and Ms. Sims. Committee members will reach out to these candidates and work with Ms. Post in an effort to schedule an interview in advance of the December board meeting. Mentors for the new board members will be selected at a future date.

**DWELLING PLACE BOARD VICE CHAIRPERSON** The committee discussed both candidates for board Vice Chairperson—David Byers and Renee Williams—and whether or not the nomination should be by appointment by the current Chair or by recommendation by a committee vote. **An initial motion to nominate Renee Williams to Vice Chairperson was made by Annamarie Buller and supported by Lee Nelson Weber. The motion failed with a 3:3 vote. As the committee could not reach consensus, the issue was tabled for further discussion.**

**AFFILIATE BOARD APPOINTMENTS** Dwelling Place has a number of affiliate boards on which Dwelling Place Board members may be appointed or required to serve. The committee discussed the following entities:

### **Sawkaw Inc**

**Motion to recommend that the Dwelling Place Board reappoint Larry Titley, Juan Daniel Castro, and Renee Williams to the Sawkaw Inc. Board was made by Rick Stevens, seconded by Lee Nelson Weber, and carried without objection.**

### **DP CLT Board**

Troy Zapolski has resigned from the board. Mr. Byers has expressed interest in serving as the board's fifth member. **Motion to recommend Mr. Byers to service on the Dwelling Place Community Land Trust Board was made by Lee Nelson Weber, supported by Rick Stevens, and carried without objection.**

### **Genesis NPHC**

Larry Titley and Francine Gaston are willing to continue to serve on the board, but would like to step down when new members can be identified. **Motion to recommend reappointing Larry Titley and Francine Gaston to the Genesis NPHC Board was made by Rick Stevens, supported by Lee Nelson Weber, and carried without objection.**

### **Elmdale NPHC and DP General Partnerships**

Mr. Sturtevant chairs the board and elected officers of Dwelling Place serve as the other board members. **Mr. Sturtevant will review the bylaws with Tim Orlebeke to determine term limits and whether these appointments are made automatically or require an action from the Dwelling Place Board.**

**Participation in these boards will be included when evaluating Dwelling Place board attendance.**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Virtual Board Meeting Inclusion Webinar**

Mr. Stevens, Mr. Byers, and Ms. Post all attended a webinar hosted by NeighborWorks about inclusion at virtual meetings. They reported several recommendations from the meeting:

- Place discussion items early in the agenda and routine items last
- Foster a culture of inquiry and elicit input from a diversity of voices: the familiar, the challenging, and the emerging
- Invite feedback with a post-meeting evaluation

**The committee will consider implementing one of these ideas at the next meeting.** Ms. Post will confer with the Tech Committee about available features for encouraging participation in virtual meetings.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Governance Committee meeting adjourned at 10:32 AM.