



Nominating Committee Meeting Transcript

June 16, 2025

1 The Children's Trust
2 Monday, June 16, 2025
3 3250 S.W. 3rd Avenue (Coral Way)
4 United Way - Conference Room D
5 9:28 a.m. - 9:54 a.m.

6 Nominating Committee Meeting

7
8
9 Committee Members
10 (Present)

11 Dr. Daniel Bagner, Chairperson
12 Kenneth C. Hoffman
13 Gilda Ferradaz
14 Norie del Valle
15 Dr. Malou C. Harrison
16 Marissa Leichter
17 Hon. Orlando Prescott

18 President & CEO

19 James Haj

20 County Attorney's Office

21 Leigh Kobrinski
22 Assistant County Attorney
23
24
25

S T A F F

Imran Ali

Jack Bentolila

Juana Leon

Yuliet Alfonso

1 MS. KOBRINSKI: We don't have
2 Zoom.

3 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Oh, we
4 don't? Well, could we get started while
5 they're...

6 MS. KOBRINSKI: They've grown
7 accustomed to having things on Zoom.

8 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Okay.

9 MS. KOBRINSKI: And I guess it was
10 advertised to be available on Zoom. Then
11 people might not have shown up. So we're
12 asking for a 10 minute break.

13 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Well, we
14 can start, and if there are public
15 comments on Zoom, we can always have
16 them.

17 MS. KOBRINSKI: Uh-huh.

18 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Okay, so
19 in -- I know Norie has to leave early.

20 I'm hoping to get out of here in an
21 hour to make it back to campus for a
22 meeting. So, I know a bunch of people
23 have time commitments. So, let's get
24 started in the interest of time.

25 Are there any -- I don't see anyone

1 from the public, but I assume there's no
2 public comment here.

3 MS. KOBRINSKI: No formal
4 witnesses.

5 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: I'm
6 getting legal advice that we can start
7 without having that on.

8 So, thank you all for joining.

9 We are here today, as some of you
10 who joined recall, I think a week or so
11 ago, to discuss briefly, in preparation
12 for this meeting, that we have another
13 at-large position open. Part of this is
14 due to -- it is due to the change that
15 Ken referred to during the Board meeting
16 by the statute.

17 So the ad health position went
18 away, and there's a new at-large
19 position, which is what we're now tasked
20 to come up with.

21 As you all know, we just had this.
22 We just did this about a month ago. So
23 to kick off the discussion, part of -- I
24 think what we -- part of what we
25 discussed last week was, do we just

1 consider those who applied and we
2 interviewed last time? We had someone
3 who was a real close contender. I think
4 we had two finalists last time.

5 So one thinking is, do we go with
6 the person who was the finalist last
7 time?

8 Staff did put together a list of
9 all of the applications, and did a great
10 job delineating who applied last time,
11 who did we interview last time, and who
12 is new and applied for the first time
13 this round.

14 So just to give you all -- just to
15 orient everyone, there were two -- oh,
16 I'm sorry, three candidates who we
17 interviewed last time, and they
18 reapplied.

19 Those are Dr. Daniel Armstrong,
20 and he was our finalist along with Alex,
21 who we ended up making the decision to
22 nominate for the position.

23 Then we also have, let's see,
24 Miriam Ramos Solar, or Miriam Ramos.
25 She was another person we interviewed.

1 And then also Richard Shutes, is
2 the third person that we interviewed, and
3 they did reapply. So those three people
4 reapplied.

5 And then I can't remember the
6 number. I think there was like 27; is
7 that correct?

8 MS. LEON: Yes.

9 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Okay.
10 Good memory. It's serving me well.

11 Twenty-seven new candidates.

12 I know not everyone had a chance to
13 look over them in detail, but for those
14 of you who did, there are 27 folks we may
15 want to consider bringing in for an
16 interview. I don't think we have to
17 interview the other people, if we already
18 interviewed them, and we want to still
19 consider them, right? Am I interpreting
20 that correctly -- yes. So we don't have
21 to re-interview them if we want to still
22 consider them along with new applicants.

23 So I'll stop there and open it up
24 before -- I like to hear what everyone
25 else says before I tell you my opinion.

1 But I'm curious what other folks
2 think.

3 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Just to
4 clarify.

5 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah.

6 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: We
7 could make a motion to just accept
8 Dr. Armstrong as our nomination to the
9 Board.

10 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Correct.

11 MS. KOBRINSKI: Well, you've
12 already advertised, right? So, but if
13 that's someone that you've previously
14 interviewed, you don't have to go through
15 another interviewing process. But I
16 would still go perform the interviews
17 with people who submitted applications.

18 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: So we
19 can't just say we want, like, if --

20 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah, I
21 was under the impression if we decided
22 not to interview anyone else, we still --
23 but we want to go with our --

24 MS. KOBRINSKI: Based on today,
25 like, I would consider all the

1 applications.

2 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Correct,
3 correct.

4 MS. KOBRINSKI: And if, based on
5 those considerations, you still -- that
6 is still your preferences for the prior
7 candidate, then you can make a motion to
8 that.

9 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: And we
10 don't have to interview anyone else if we
11 don't want.

12 So if we -- right.

13 MS. KOBRINSKI: But you need to
14 consider them.

15 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: So as
16 we're considering all the other
17 applications, exactly.

18 Thank you for that clarification.

19 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: So
20 anyone we have interviewed already -- not
21 even just Dr. Armstrong, but like, oh,
22 Ms. Ramos, you could go with her as well.
23 Anyone that we've interviewed already, we
24 can nominate.

25 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: And who

1 submitted application).

2 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: We can
3 nominate.

4 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yes.

5 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Okay.

6 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: As long as
7 we're considering all the applications in
8 full. So as long as we're considering
9 all the applications in full, we can move
10 today to make a decision of any of the
11 three candidates we already interviewed.

12 Obviously, we can't make a decision
13 about someone new who we didn't interview
14 yet. So if we do want to interview new
15 people -- I'm going under the assumption
16 we're not going to want to interview
17 anyone that applied last time that we
18 decided not to interview.

19 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE:
20 Correct.

21 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: All right.
22 So I'm going to make that assumption.
23 I'm seeing a lot of head nods.

24 So, if we want to consider someone
25 new, we would have to interview them.

1 We'll have to have another meeting
2 between now and -- remind me when --
3 which is the Board meeting where we have
4 to make a decision by?

5 MR. ALI: September before TRIM.

6 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Before
7 TRIM.

8 MR. ALI: Yes.

9 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: At that
10 TRIM, like, the pre -- the Board meeting
11 before TRIM.

12 MR. ALI: Yes.

13 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: So we do
14 have to make a decision before then. So
15 we will have to interview --

16 MR. ALI: That's the next Board
17 meeting.

18 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Correct.
19 Right, right.

20 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: Yeah,
21 that's correct, because we don't have one
22 in August.

23 MR. ALI: There's no meeting.
24 We have cancelled July meeting.

25 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: No,

1 there's a July meeting, but we don't have
2 to make this decision until August.

3 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: No,
4 they cancelled it.

5 MR. ALI: No, no. We're going to
6 cancel July meeting.

7 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Oh you're
8 going to cancel?

9 MR. ALI: It was just because of
10 the budget, seeing that the budget just
11 passed.

12 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Gotcha.

13 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: So then
14 is the next meeting the TRIM meeting?

15 MR. ALI: The next meeting would be
16 TRIM, correct. The first TRIM meeting,
17 yeah.

18 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: And
19 they have to be there for that?

20 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah.

21 But we'll -- we could --

22 COMMITTEE MEMBER FERRADAZ: They
23 have to be here as a voting member or we
24 just have to...

25 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: Just to

1 clarify, if we didn't have that position
2 filled at the TRIM hearing, the TRIM
3 hearing would still go on --

4 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.

5 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: Of
6 course.

7 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: -- and
8 we would still have to do a two-thirds
9 vote of the entire Board.

10 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: The
11 existing members, right. It would be an
12 unfilled position at that point.

13 MS. KOBRINSKI: You have to check
14 if it was a roll back.

15 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: Yeah.
16 It could impact it, because they're
17 requiring an additional person from the
18 existing Board, but we could do it
19 without having an additional Board
20 Member.

21 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: But even
22 if we are to still interview new people,
23 and consider we have time, and then we
24 could still hold a meeting to make a
25 decision before the next Board meeting,

1 and make that nomination at the Board
2 meeting, and have that person there,
3 assuming we make the decision, and the
4 Board approves -- the Board votes in
5 favor of our decision. Then that person
6 could be up at TRIM, right.

7 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: Right.
8 If they're present.

9 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.

10 MS. KOBRINSKI: So the other --
11 wasn't there another at-large seat, or
12 that was Matthew, and now we have
13 another --

14 MR. ALI: Yeah. He'll be extended
15 with the change in the statute.

16 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah, so
17 to give clarification on that too. The
18 statute changed from three two-year terms
19 to three three-year terms, correct?

20 MR. ALI: Yeah.

21 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: So Matt
22 Arsenault was our next at-large to term
23 out, but he has now another year because
24 of that change in the statute. So this
25 is the only one we're considering at this

1 point.

2 Other questions?

3 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: So
4 there was a concern about Daniel
5 Armstrong having to recuse from a lot of
6 the resolutions, because of the
7 (inaudible), and the number of contracts,
8 and also the ELC?

9 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Correct.

10 I think that was the one concern
11 raised by staff, was that if we were to
12 offer it to Dr. Armstrong, he is on a
13 number of contracts from UM, plus he's on
14 the Board of the ELC, and so he would
15 have to recuse from any ELC or UM
16 contracts.

17 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: I
18 think it was like 20-something.

19 MR. ALI: 26.

20 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: 26.

21 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: I think
22 there's something in the packet today
23 that talks about how much money is -- how
24 much -- the comment on contract award
25 amounts with each agency. So if we want

1 to see where someone works, that apply?
2 If you can see, kind of guess like how
3 many comes.

4 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: They have
5 the university split down at the bottom,
6 so you could see there.

7 So there's 23 contracts for UM.

8 MR. BENTOLILA: The left-hand side
9 is funding amounts. So ELC and the
10 University of Miami are the two largest
11 funding agencies, and you can see the
12 contract numbers there. So that's where
13 you get the total of 26. Three from ELC
14 and 23 from UM.

15 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Also, I
16 noticed, just because I review a lot of
17 stuff. On the age, on the demographic
18 page, there's two that say age. I'm
19 assuming one of the ages is not really
20 age, and it's a different demographic.
21 Or maybe -- I don't know. Or maybe it's
22 age from a different year, but there's
23 two different age makeups of the Board.
24 I'd love it if I was still in the 30 to
25 44, but I'm not anymore.

1 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.

2 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: So I
3 don't know who's making up that 22% of
4 the green area, but I'm jealous of them.

5 So I've moved up to the red area.

6 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: So our
7 student brings the average up.

8 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: The
9 student helps that out.

10 Well, they're in the under 18.

11 They're in a purple sliver.

12 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: I don't
13 know who's in the -- yeah, that's like
14 high school. So I don't know who did
15 this, but just to let you know, I don't
16 know which age one is correct.

17 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: But if you
18 want to consider demographics, I think
19 you were pointing that out.

20 We have that as well.

21 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: So
22 how concerned is staff if we have
23 Dr. Armstrong on the Board? It
24 represents the highest amount of funding
25 when you add the two, and it's 26

1 recusals.

2 And I know we struggle.

3 MR. ALI: Yeah. I think that was
4 Jim's point at the last meeting. You
5 have 26 recusals, you know. I mean,
6 today we had a great turnout for quorum,
7 but usually we struggle. And if you have
8 so many recusals, we continue to struggle
9 with passing some of the items.

10 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: And are we
11 sure that all of those University of
12 Miami contracts are -- because I know,
13 like, for example, with FIU, if it's not
14 my center, and, you know, where I'm
15 affiliated with, and it's engineering or
16 something I have nothing to do with, I
17 legally now, it has been determined I
18 don't have to recuse.

19 So are there other UM contracts
20 where I know anything from Mailman
21 Center, obviously, he would have to
22 recuse, but are there other UM contracts
23 where he may not have to recuse?

24 MR. ALI: Well, you'd have to look
25 at each of the contracts separately. I

1 really can't tell you off the top of my
2 head how many of those he would be
3 affected by, so...

4 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: So it's
5 not it's not purely a recusal issue, it's
6 an attendance issue because if everybody
7 attended, we would almost never have this
8 problem.

9 So I guess one thing -- it's not
10 really for purposes of this meeting.
11 It's that I do want to talk to staff,
12 because we have rules for people who
13 don't attend regularly. And we're
14 supposed to, even if it's an organization
15 that's appointed somebody, we're supposed
16 to ask the organization once somebody has
17 missed, I think it's two or three
18 meetings to consider replacing them. And
19 we have, yet again, some rules around
20 that. And I think if we enforce that a
21 little better, we might have better
22 attendance.

23 I don't want to kick anybody off
24 the Board, but by the same token, the
25 reason we adopted the rules is we were

1 having quorum problems. That was the
2 Bylaws Committee. There was there was a
3 serious problem with people showing up
4 and either consecutively, or during the
5 course of the year, we had, you know, a
6 few people who were showing up very few
7 meetings.

8 So I think if we -- we should
9 consider recusals. But I think we should
10 also consider working on getting Board
11 Members attending.

12 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right. It
13 would be a shame to not bring someone
14 onto the Board who we think would be very
15 valuable solely because a lot of people
16 don't come, and we're concerned about
17 recusals.

18 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: Yeah.

19 MS. KOBRINSKI: I just want to
20 remind -- I'm assuming this doesn't apply
21 to UM, but there is the conflict of
22 interest requirement in the bylaws that
23 no more than -- that Trust cannot pay no
24 more than 50% of the agency's budget, and
25 none of the Trust funding can go towards

1 that person's salary.

2 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: But that
3 would be if our funding was for the 50%
4 of the budget of the organization that
5 would require him to recuse.

6 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: And that's
7 not the case either. I don't think he
8 draws any money for his personal salary,
9 right? We've checked that?

10 MR. ALI: No, I didn't check that.
11 But I don't think that he has any part
12 of the salary -- I think the bylaws say
13 50% of the fund -- of the Agency's
14 budget. It's not near 50%.

15 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Oh, yeah,
16 no. It's definitely not near 50% of the
17 Mailman Center. Definitely not. And I'm
18 pretty confident most of the contract --
19 you know, the contracts are for staff at
20 the Mailman Center, and he's the Director
21 to my knowledge. We could verify from
22 staff, but to my knowledge, it's not
23 funded on any of those contracts.

24 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: Well,
25 clearly, a lot of the questions that he

1 has, is it possible that he'll be able
2 to answer some of these questions talking
3 about conflicts and attendance? I know
4 that when we interviewed him, we had a
5 question about his time commitment, and
6 he said he'll make the time. But you can
7 make the time, but then if you're there
8 and you can't vote, it's a wasted seat as
9 well.

10 So is it possible that we could
11 supplement that which we had with these
12 queries to him now, so we can answer
13 those questions?

14 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah,
15 well, he would have to recuse regardless
16 of, you know, regardless of the answers
17 to those questions, right?

18 MR. ALI: Yeah.

19 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: For at
20 least the UM contracts. We could get
21 verification around how many of those
22 contracts are from --

23 MR. ALI: Yeah, we could do that,
24 and probably go to ethics also to verify
25 that, you know, there is a conflict with

1 those situations.

2 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.

3 Because it's Mailman Center, potentially
4 the medical school, he may still have to
5 recuse. But if it's some other entity
6 at Miami, he may not have to.

7 I also wonder if -- has he been on
8 the Early Learning Coalition for a long
9 time? Is that something he would
10 consider stepping off? I know we've had
11 other candidates, I think, who have said
12 I'm willing -- I think they weren't
13 allowed to serve on a particular
14 committee -- agency or board, and they
15 stepped off.

16 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Maybe
17 he'll time out soon. Maybe it's time
18 limits with ELC, and he'll be off in a
19 few years like here.

20 I'm fine with -- I guess this is
21 not a good place, but I'm fine with
22 whatever the rest of the Committee wants
23 to do.

24 I'm fine with voting on
25 Dr. Armstrong. I'm fine with bringing in

1 more candidates, whatever everyone wants
2 to do.

3 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Thank you.

4 I think the question, first, would
5 be, are there new applicants that stood
6 out for folks that we would want to
7 consider?

8 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: I just
9 want to also remind everyone that we were
10 really into Dr. Armstrong at the last
11 time. I mean, it was a very difficult --
12 I don't know if the clerk has the final
13 vote from the last time we voted.

14 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: It was a
15 tie, I believe.

16 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: It was
17 super close.

18 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: It was a
19 tie, and then we did a runoff, basically.

20 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Yeah.

21 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: So he was
22 our finalist.

23 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: So I
24 want to just remind everyone that we did
25 really like Dr. Armstrong. And so I'm

1 torn. I -- whatever everyone else on the
2 committee wants to do.

3 MR. ALI: I would caution that, you
4 know, where the others spend questions on
5 Dr. Armstrong, you know, I think it
6 would be crucial that you now make a
7 final decision on making him the
8 candidate for the recommendation to the
9 Board until we get those cleared.

10 Probably we may need to meet one
11 more time, or we pass a motion that we
12 get those answers, and the Committee --

13 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Can we
14 table all of this until we get the
15 answers?

16 MS. KOBRINSKI: I mean, you could
17 craft a motion where, you know, in the
18 event that he doesn't meet certain, you
19 know, the thresholds in the bylaws that
20 you have a second person.

21 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: Through
22 the Chair, I'm asking that we just go
23 sequentially.

24 Does anybody have any -- does
25 anyone else of these new applicants that

1 we would like to review and consider
2 moving forward.

3 And then if we say no, then of the
4 three that we had before, which ones
5 would we like to consider? So, the first
6 step is, do we have any of the new people
7 that we would like to add and interview?

8 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: Through
10 the Chair.

11 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Thank you.
12 Yes.

13 What I'm trying to say, anyone
14 else -- anyone of the new applicants that
15 stood out for folks?

16 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: Whether
17 something new, demographics, whatever,
18 that we would like to consider.

19 MR. BENTOLILA: Just for clarity,
20 the top left page is ethnicity, with blue
21 being Hispanic, and red being
22 non-Hispanic.

23 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: I'm
24 sorry, Jack. You said it's ethnicity?

25 MR. BENTOLILA: Blue is Hispanic,

1 and red is non-Hispanic for this top
2 corner of this pie chart.

3 COMMITTEE MEMBER HARRISON: The
4 pie -- you can't go on the pie chart.

5 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: This one
6 was mislabeled age. This one should be
7 ethnicity.

8 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: Thank
9 you.

10 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: Through
11 the Chair, hearing nothing from my
12 colleagues, I ask that we close this
13 portion, and then we can move to the
14 next portion.

15 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: Yeah, I
16 was going to say there were some good
17 candidates and a few good letters.
18 Nobody that stood out as, wow, we have
19 to have this person.

20 And I think the consideration last
21 time was we were going for the best
22 possible candidate, but then we focused
23 on accounting.

24 So, you know, I think we had a very
25 small pool that everybody was almost in

1 consensus on.

2 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah,
3 thank you.

4 COMMITTEE MEMBER HARRISON: And I
5 also, through the Chair, remember that
6 we thought we were going to have that
7 other at-large vacancy, and we were going
8 to then consider Dr. Abraham for that
9 one.

10 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER:
11 Dr. Armstrong.

12 COMMITTEE MEMBER HARRISON:
13 Dr. Armstrong. I'm sorry.

14 We know we don't have it now, so
15 here we are.

16 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.
17 Thank you.

18 COMMITTEE MEMBER FERRADAZ: And do
19 we have any specific field that we have
20 a gap in or anything that we're looking
21 at this time like we did before for the
22 finance?

23 MR. ALI: No, nothing specifically.

24 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: I don't
25 think we're missing anything, no. With

1 the admission of the last person, I think
2 the fields are pretty much filled.

3 MR. ALI: Yes.

4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: So I
5 would say to the Chair, understanding
6 that the applicants that we have on the
7 table, and the three that we interviewed
8 before, I don't hear anything from my
9 colleagues that would like to add any of
10 these new people to the next round. Then
11 I ask that we can just go and consider
12 the previous three.

13 And based upon my recollection, I
14 know I'm getting old, but from my
15 recollection, Mr. Armstrong was complete
16 in that we had some questions. Then I
17 will ask that we follow up on those
18 questions.

19 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah,
20 just I pulled up the old -- I believe
21 these are the correct voting, but tell me
22 if I'm wrong.

23 So the, let's see. Shutes had zero
24 votes.

25 This is like the finalists when we,

1 after we -- and then -- let's see. Oh,
2 here, Miriam Ramos had three, and then
3 Daniel Armstrong had six, and then Alex
4 had seven.

5 That was like our, you know, when
6 we came to our final vote.

7 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: And in
8 my recollection, I believe as we
9 discussed everything, Mr. Armstrong was
10 strong on many levels, and he gave a --
11 he would provide a historical -- and then
12 also his contacts and his connections
13 are very strong. But then we need to
14 make sure that he'll be here, and be able
15 to vote. And that's the only query that
16 I had to be able to vote for him.

17 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.
18 Thank you for that.

19 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Yeah, I
20 think he would be able to serve on both
21 committees. He seemed also strong with a
22 finance background and, obviously,
23 programmatic as well. He rattled off the
24 budget that Mailman has, and how he's,
25 you know, been a part of growing that.

1 But he's definitely finance savvy too,
2 if that committee is still in need of
3 folks.

4 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: So if I'm
5 hearing correctly, the potential motion
6 is to consider Dr. Armstrong pending
7 verification that his appointment would
8 not be inconsistent with the bylaws, but
9 that it's not a concern about the
10 recusals; is that correct? I mean, it's
11 obviously a concern, but I don't think
12 that would change much based on -- I
13 mean, it may be one or two contracts here
14 or there, but I think we would still have
15 the recusal concern that staff raised.
16 But that's not what you're proposing,
17 right? You're proposing just, would his
18 appointment be consistent with the
19 bylaws? And that would be pending that,
20 correct?

21 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT:
22 Correct.

23 COMMITTEE MEMBER HARRISON: And
24 a recommitment on attendance I think
25 would be ideal as well.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: So then
2 to the Chair -- to our Attorney, if he
3 answers the question as to the bylaws, to
4 the bylaws, that it would not be a
5 violation of our bylaws, would we need to
6 reconvene, or could we make a motion
7 today that if it's not in violation that
8 we would so move without having to
9 reconvene?

10 MS. KOBRINSKI: Right. I think you
11 can make a motion as to that.

12 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: Great.
13 I so move to have that question
14 posed to him. And if the question is
15 satisfactory to the Board that it would
16 not be in violation of our bylaws, and
17 we can take a vote now, and then that
18 vote would stand subject to his response
19 with that be okay?

20 MS. KOBRINSKI: Yes.

21 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: So I'm
22 hearing a motion.

23 Do you want to make up a motion?

24 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: Yes, she
25 does.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE:

2 Second. Dell Valle.

3 MR. ALI: I mean Leigh, correct me.
4 Jack and I were talking. I don't think
5 if there'll be any violation of the
6 bylaws. Will there be?

7 MS. KOBRINSKI: Well, you have to
8 look at the contracts that are going to
9 him, and see if any portion has paying
10 salary.

11 MR. BENTOLILA: Right, but he would
12 just recuse on that.

13 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: No, no.
14 He can't actually --

15 MS. KOBRINSKI: That's not a
16 refusal. There are different issues.
17 You cannot pay any portion of his salary
18 per the bylaws.

19 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah.
20 Like no -- contracts to FIU Center for
21 Children and Families, I have to recuse,
22 but I cannot be on any of those contracts
23 even the ones I'm recused on. I'm never
24 involved in any CCF contracts with the
25 Trust, because I know I can't.

1 MR. ALI: No. I remember that with
2 Kathy Hart.

3 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Correct.

4 MR. ALI: Because she was being
5 paid.

6 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Correct.

7 MR. ALI: So we had to ask her to
8 step away.

9 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: I
10 suspect we're not funding his salary.

11 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: I don't
12 think he would have applied, right.
13 Yeah. But we just have to verify it,
14 correct.

15 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: Any
16 portion of his salary.

17 MS. KOBRINSKI: Any portion of his
18 salary can't come from any contracts with
19 us.

20 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Correct.

21 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE: I'm
22 going to second.

23 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: And I
24 suspect, knowing the academic, being an
25 academic, if there's a small portion, I

1 suspect he could probably change and put,
2 you know, put funding elsewhere to make
3 sure it's in line with our statute.

4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT: He'll
5 have to do that before he comes on the
6 Board.

7 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.

8 COMMITTEE MEMBER FERRADAZ: But
9 you'd be able to check the contracts now?
10 I mean, don't they provide their budgets
11 and all that?

12 MR. ALI: Yeah, I could get an
13 answer by today. I'll help them check it
14 and get an answer by today.

15 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: So just
16 to -- so I hear a motion and a second.

17 The motion will be to extend the
18 offer to Dr. Armstrong pending
19 verification that none of his salary is
20 being funded by the Trust.

21 COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESCOTT:
22 Correct.

23 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: All those
24 in favor?

25 COMMITTEE MEMBERS COLLECTIVELY:

1 Aye.

2 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Any
3 opposed?

4 (No response).

5 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Motion
6 passes unanimously.

7 Pending that, we'll find out later
8 today. Assuming that's the case, I will
9 call him, and congratulate him. Or we
10 could -- I don't know if Jim's out of
11 town, or maybe --

12 MR. ALI: Jim is out of town.

13 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: -- Jim
14 will call, and then we will have him join
15 us at our first meeting. Well, it will
16 have to pass at the Board.

17 MS. KOBRINSKI: Right.

18 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: But we'll
19 have him come with the assumption that
20 the Board will agree with our motion --
21 our recommendation.

22 COMMITTEE MEMBER HOFFMAN: Tell him
23 he'd better be there in September.

24 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Right.
25 All right.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER DEL VALLE:

2 Effective July 1st.

3 MR. ALI: Right. The law goes into
4 effect July 1st.

5 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: I just
6 want to reiterate what Gilda said on our
7 phone chat. If the folks, we can make
8 sure that they get an e-mail or a letter,
9 the folks who --

10 MR. ALI: That will happen, yes.

11 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: -- the
12 folks who sent in stuff just to let them
13 know that --

14 MR. ALI: Staff know that, that
15 should happen effective from this vote.

16 COMMITTEE MEMBER LEICHTER: -- to
17 thank them.

18 COMMITTEE CHAIR BAGNER: Yeah, keep
19 your records in the event -- like I know
20 for me, there were like two people of the
21 new ones that they seemed good. I didn't
22 think they were as good as Dr. Armstrong,
23 and so that's why I didn't, you know,
24 bring them up today. But if there were
25 ones, you know, keep note of them, and we

1 can encourage them to apply for the next
2 at-large position as well.

3 All right. Well, thank you all. I
4 know some of you have to run. Thank you
5 all for your time, and I'll see you all
6 in September.

7 (Thereupon, at 9:28 a.m., the
8 meeting was adjourned:)

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