Unofficial Report of the Sept. 26, 2018 Meeting

The first meeting of the Governance Task Force took place on Sept. 26, 2018 by conference call.

The following members were in attendance: Jeff Kahl, Chair; Rhett Murray; Nate Kunzman; Karen Foster; Sheena Schoch; John Bull; Ian Paisley; Steve Reck; Mike Terveen; and Greg Hill, staff.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. and began with an introduction of each task force member.

Dr. Kahl reviewed the scope and timeline established by Resolution 16-18-HA. The taskforce discussed its three primary responsibilities: governance structure of the CDA Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and House of Delegates. There was a consensus after discussion that, while other areas could be considered, that the scope of the task force work be focused on the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and House of Delegates.

Dr. Bull expressed a desire to be able to engage members of the House of Delegates more frequently, so they are more aware of the issues. He recommended that an online forum be put into place and that some level of training be conducted, particularly for delegates from smaller discussions.

Dr. Murray asked that a diagram be created that shows how decisions had been made in the organization historically and how they are moving now. Mr. Hill stated that while this taskforce will ultimately make a recommendation on the future governance design, recommended best practices could be incorporated into the diagram.

The task force then discussed attributes of a good volunteer leader. A few of the recommendations were to convey that leaders need to be prepared and understand the issues when they arrive, understand the time that is expected of them in a volunteer capacity, and be good communicators of and for the organization.

Next, there was a conversation around what makes a good trustee. The task force made a few recommendations including requirements for attendance and having a broader global view of the organization.
Dr. Paisley suggested that the task force look at the relationship between the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees, and possibly roll them in together with a board/chair model. Mr. Hill indicated that this was the model of the Oregon Dental Association as well as the American Society of Association Executives and other organizations.

The task force then had a brief conversation on how important geography (components) are in the board composition. There was discussion around regionalization and the ability of filling the slate with the best volunteers.

A Doodle Poll will be sent with possible dates for the next meeting that is anticipated to last six to eight hours. Mr. Hill stated that he would create a Basecamp group for the task force.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.