

# TRUSTEE CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

Friday, March 3, 2006

1:00 p.m.

Basement Hearing Room, State Office Building

### Present:

Kent Eklund, Chair  
Nancy Black  
George Cassell  
Yvonne Condell  
Carl Crimmins  
Brenda Elmer  
Susan Hankner  
Del Jenkins  
Kelley Koemptgen  
Jody Olson  
Ruth Orrick  
Lisa Peilen  
Earl Rasmussen  
Don Sudor  
Ben Vander Kooi  
Chris Wachtler  
Pam Wolf  
Billie Young

### Absent:

Joe Aitken  
Greg Anderson  
Judy Christianson  
Buck Humphrey  
David Sturrock

The Trustee Candidate Advisory (TCAC) was called to order by Kent Eklund, TCAC Chair, at 1:05 p.m. in the Basement Hearing Room of the State Office Building. A quorum was present.

Mr. Eklund welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda. He reminded the Council that the main goal of the meeting was to select candidates to interview for the open seats on the Board of Trustees.

### Minutes

Earl Rasmussen moved to approve the meeting minutes from January 6, 2006. Seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

### Announcements

Mr. Eklund announced that Mrs. Jerry Christenson sent a thank you to the Council for the generous donation made to the MnSCU Part-time Scholarship Fund in Jerry's name.

### Recruitment Results

Mr. Eklund inquired as to how recruiting efforts went for members. Some of the main concerns that were mentioned by potential candidates were the time commitment (in terms of per month and length of tenure on the Board), and the process of going through selection and not being chosen by the Governor/ the Governor not choosing from the pool of candidates recommended by the Council.

Chad Thuet, TCAC Staff, summarized the applicant pool numbers for the last three appointment cycles and pointed to a decline in numbers each cycle since the establishment of the Board; 2000 – 74 applications received, 2002 – 38, 2004 – 42, and 2006 – 35. Sandy Keene, TCAC Staff, reported that there were approximately 25 to 30 applications requested that were not returned for consideration.

### **Board Appointment Report (1994 – 2005), Presented by Kathy Novak of House Research**

Ms. Novak presented a report that showed the names of candidates that have been recommended to the Governor for appointment along with the names of the individuals that were subsequently appointed from 1994 to 2005. This report included appointments made for some resigning members. The report indicated that it has been a mixed bag in terms of the Governors following the Council's recommendations. Gov. Ventura was the only governor that made appointments solely on the recommendations of the Council.

### **Review of Procedures for Selection of Interviewees**

Mr. Eklund and Mr. Thuet reminded members that the numbers assigned to each candidate were to be used in the coming discussions to protect the anonymity of the applicants. Mr. Eklund further reminded members that the Council must recommend two and not more than four candidates per open seat on the Board. He asked members to be open to discussion and debate of non-consensus candidates in an effort to avoid premature closure.

Members were reminded of the selection process. It was agreed that the Council would discuss the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> congressional candidates first, followed by the at-large candidates. It was also agreed that if members agreed by unanimous consensus to interview a given candidate, that candidate would be interviewed. If any Council member expressed a reservation about any of the candidates, those candidates would go into the pool to be discussed and voted upon.

### **Selection of Interviewees**

The Council discussed candidates and reached consensus on some, then voted on those who were not consensus selections. After discussion and voting, the Council selected the following 18 people to be interviewed:

Dr. Lee Antell	Ms. Joan Barrett-Volkmuth	Mr. Robert Brown
Mr. Carl Cummins	Mr. John Day	Mr. Jack Geller
Ms. Mary Hershberger Thun	Mr. Nathan Johnson	Ms. Lois Josefson
Mr. Obie Kipper, Jr.	Mr. David Larkin	Mr. Leigh Lenzmeier
Mr. Timothy McManimon	Ms. Maureen Steinwall	Ms. Louise Sundin
Mr. Charles Thiss	Mr. Fredrick Tyler	Mr. James Van Houten

### **Notification of Interviewees/Reference Checks: Volunteers to Call**

Members each volunteered to call and congratulate an applicant selected for an interview and each member would then also conduct the background check for that applicant. It was explained that the background checks need not be limited to individuals given as references, but may also include individuals the applicant worked with professionally or on other boards. Background check guidelines were provided to the members.

### **Interviews: Procedure Details/Dates**

Mr. Eklund recommended that three days be used to perform the interviews in an effort to limit the number of hours that they would be interviewing in a given day. It was decided that the first hour of the first day the Council would meet in Executive Session for purposes of discussing the background checks. The days that were suggested for interviewing were Monday through Wednesday, April 3 - 5. The length of time for interviews was reviewed and discussed. George Cassell moved to report reference checks, conduct interviews and voting on April 3–5. Seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

Members were reminded to keep the applications of candidates to be interviewed and leave the others behind for shredding. The applicants not selected for an interview were to remain anonymous.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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Kent Eklund, Chair