

APPROVED
03.02.2022



GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

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Wednesday, January 26, 2022

12:00 PM to 12:30 PM

Zoom Livestream

Meeting Minutes

[Link to meeting recording](#)

[Link to meeting material](#)

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT
Dr. Dennis Ashley, Chairman Dr. James Dunne, Vice-Chairman Dr. Regina Medeiros, Secretary /Treasurer Dr. John Bleacher Mr. Courtney Terwilliger Dr. Michelle Wallace	Mr. James E. Adkins Mr. Victor Drawdy Dr. James J. Smith

STAFF MEMBERS & OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Elizabeth V. Atkins Gina Solomon Katie Hamilton Gabriela Saye Cheryle Ward	GTC, Executive Director GTC, GQIP Director GTC, Finance Operations Officer GTC, Executive Assistant Georgia Trauma Foundation

Call to order: (00:01:05 on the recording)

Dr. Ashley called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM, with six of nine members present via Zoom videoconference.

Georgia Trauma Foundation Board Member Candidate Review (00:01:47)

Presented by Dr. Bleacher

Dr. Ashley welcomed everyone and stated we have a specific agenda today. I will go ahead and turn it over to Dr. Bleacher.

Dr. Bleacher explained that one of the Georgia Trauma Foundation (GTF) priorities is expanding the Board with members who have diverse skill-set and geography. The Bylaws state that additions to the GTF Board must be approved by the Commission, which is the main reason for today's meeting. We have two candidates that we would like to forward to you for approval.

The first candidate is Ethan James. He is a Principal in a PR agency that lobbies for health issues and has experience as a lobbyist in the legislature through the Georgia Hospital Association. Ethan is well-versed in the trauma system and is enthusiastic about joining the Board. The one issue raised was that we weren't sure if it was acceptable for a registered lobbyist to join a Non-Profit Board. Cheryle Ward, the Interim Executive Director of the Georgia Trauma Foundation, checked with the Georgia Ethics Commission. They were clear that they did not have any issues about Ethan being a registered lobbyist. We also sign a conflict of interests forms when joining the GTF Board.

The second candidate for approval is Karen Iler in Albany, Georgia. She is a Vice President and CFO for a plywood company, has an MBA, and serves on the Phoebe Putney Hospital Board. She has past board service with Synovus Bank. Karen is interested in medical issues, particularly in trauma, and is a practicing paramedic. She will provide the Board with representation from a financial standpoint, being a CFO and having an MBA, as well as representing south Georgia.

Regina Medeiros stated it would be helpful for transparency to include the Ethics Commission's letter in the minutes from today's discussion. Cheryle Ward stated she requested a letter and will be happy to send it to everyone and attach it in the minutes.

Dr. Bleacher opened the floor for discussion. No concerns were raised. Dr. Dunne asked how big the Board has to be. Dr. Bleacher answered they would like to have about nine members; we would like representation from all ten RTAC regions.

MOTION GTCNC 2022-01-01

Motion to approve both candidates, Ethan James, and Karen Iler, as Georgia Trauma Foundation Board Members

MOTION BY: John Bleacher

SECOND BY: Courtney Terwilliger

VOTING: All present members are in favor of the motion.

ACTION: The motion **PASSED** with no objections nor abstentions.

Absent members, Dr. James Smith, and Jim Adkins, approved the candidates via email for notation. L. Atkins clarified voting has to occur during a meeting and cannot be done electronically.

Dr. Ashley thanked Dr. Bleacher, Cheryle Ward, and the Board for all the great work and bringing the candidates forward.

MOTION GTCNC 2022-01-02

I make the motion to adjourn.

MOTION BY: Regina Medeiros

SECOND BY: Courtney Terwilliger

VOTING: All present members are in favor of the motion.

ACTION: The motion **PASSED** with no objections nor abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Gabriela Saye