

May 6th Meeting

At a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, held on May 6th, 2014 in the Faculty House of Columbia University, the following members participated:

Justin Nathaniel Carter	Shearwood McClelland
Matthew Chou	Jack McGourty (Chair)
Alessandra Giannini	Gail O'Neill
Eric LeSueur	Benjamin Jacob Spener

Regrets:	Administrator:
Raquel Finkelstein	Jackie Aronson
Georgia Levenson Keohane	Ursula Bollini
Sara Minard	Gail Hoffman
Matt Roskot	
Anne Sullivan	

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of April 29th were unanimously approved.

Proxy Voting

The Committee considered only one proxy this week.

Comcast Political Spending Support

In keeping with well-established precedent, the Committee voted to support this shareholder proxy.

Prison Divest

The Assistant Director noted that per the instructions of the Committee she had written to members of Prison Divest thanking them for their compelling presentation and notifying them that the Committee would like to move forward in the fall. A copy of the letter to Prison Divest was posted on the ACSRI's web site.

Summer Proxy Vote

Jack noted that we might have one proxy that, because of the timing of the AGM, we would need to vote in June via email. The Committee members indicated that they would make themselves available if such an unusual situation were to arise.

Discussion

The current draft of the Barnard Columbia Divest response was discussed. Jack reminded the Committee that the ACSRI was responding to the specific proposal from Barnard Columbia Divest and that the Committee was not being asked to make a recommendation on the position Columbia should take on the issue of fossil fuel generally. He also noted that regardless of the vote outcome, the conversation would certainly continue in the fall and beyond. The Committee agreed that they would like to establish a standing subcommittee on fossil fuel that would help to educate the Committee members as well as the larger community on the issues surrounding fossil fuel divestment.

After the discussion, a vote was taken on whether or not to support the response to BCD. Seven members voted in support of the current draft with minor revisions; one member abstained.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Ursula Bollini
Associate Director
Socially Responsible Investing
And Finance Communications