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How I Would Like to Spend the Last Years of My Life...

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April 19, 2011

How I would like to spend the last years of my life, and what I would like to happen to Heartbeat when I can no longer do it?

1. I would like to work on the mission/message/assemblage of key Heartbeat papers/strategies/products for others' use now and for the future. I would like to retain the current nonprofit 501.C.3 as the legal entity for my work and for the financial support needed. I would like for Tim Minnix to continue to oversee the income/expenditures, and to satisfy the legal requirements of the nonprofit organization.
2. I would like to make any presentations that relate directly to the mission of Heartbeat, but no longer be on the speaker's circuit. I prefer sessions that are mostly Q/A as opposed to lectures. Also, small seminars for the purpose of instruction and training can be considered.
3. I would like to have a schedule that provides for time with people I'm close to, and that provides for my choosing to be/work in places conducive to my work and health and diversion.
4. I would like to continue to live in Norwich as long as possible. But, I might punctuate that with extended stays in places (two-four weeks) in key cities where my support is found, and where I could nurture and find nurture.
5. I would like for Michael Hawkins to remain as my closest collaborator and manager of work. Michael, for all of Heartbeat's history has worked the hardest, has influenced Heartbeat's creative and strategic work the most, and knows my work best of anyone. He currently already manages most of work.
6. When I can no longer do the work on Heartbeat, I would like for Heartbeat, Inc. to end, and for its current assets, products, archives, papers, etc. to be transferred to the Heartbeat Institute, with Michael Hawkins named its President to be joined by additional directors of Tim Minnix, Brant Bryan, and others to be named by January 30, 2015. The legalities necessary for the creation of this Institute would be completed no later than December 30, 2012, so that everything necessary for such transfer would be in place. In the interim the Heartbeat Institute would begin putting in place its strategies, etc. so that the transition would be seamless at the time of its completion.
7. I would like for the work of Heartbeat to continue in ways appropriate to the Institute, in the lives of those who have been influenced by the work of Heartbeat, and in the work of those who already work on general Heartbeat models and others who will be trained in more depth in the remaining years.

8. I would like for Mike Cope, who as of this writing, works with me in certain aspects of Heartbeat's work, particularly the What Really Matters project directed more toward young adults, to form out of this association and out his associations and work with others his own organization to carry his work forward without any complications or questions that might arise from his relationship with Heartbeat. He can incorporate any of the ideas, strategies, mission points, etc. he has gleaned from his work with Heartbeat. In addition, he is free to take the 18 videos for small groups that were created during his time with Heartbeat.
9. An outline of the work I want to do in these remaining years accompanies this document.