NeuroMetrix, Inc. Form DEF 14A March 09, 2018

#### **UNITED STATES**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**SCHEDULE 14A** 

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

**Preliminary Proxy Statement** 

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

**Definitive Proxy Statement** 

**Definitive Additional Materials** 

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

NEUROMETRIX, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

- (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
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Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

- (1) Amount Previously Paid:
- (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- (3) Filing Party:
- (4) Date Filed:

NeuroMetrix, Inc. 1000 Winter Street Waltham, Massachusetts 02451 March 9, 2018 Dear Stockholder,

You are cordially invited to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of NeuroMetrix, Inc. to be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., local time, at the offices of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., One Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111. The attached notice of annual meeting and proxy statement describe the business we will conduct at the annual meeting and provide information about us that you should consider when you vote your shares.

At the annual meeting, we will ask stockholders (i) to elect two people to our Board of Directors, (ii) to approve the Corporation's Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, to increase the number of shares of the Corporation's common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 400,000 shares, (iii) to approve the Corporation's Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, to increase the number of shares of the Corporation's common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 150,000 shares, and (iv) to ratify the selection of Moody, Famiglietti & Andronico, LLP as the Corporation's independent auditors for fiscal 2018. Our Board of Directors recommends the approval of each of proposals (i) through (iv). Such other business will be transacted as may properly come before the annual meeting.

We hope you will be able to attend the annual meeting. Whether you plan to attend the annual meeting or not, it is important that you cast your vote either in person or by proxy. You may vote over the Internet as well as by telephone or by mail. Therefore, when you have finished reading the proxy statement, you are urged to vote in accordance with the instructions set forth in this proxy statement. We encourage you to vote by proxy so that your shares will be represented and voted at the meeting, whether or not you can attend.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting.

Sincerely, Shai N. Gozani, M.D., Ph.D. Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

NeuroMetrix, Inc. 1000 Winter Street Waltham, Massachusetts 02451 NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS To the Stockholders:

The annual meeting of stockholders of NeuroMetrix, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Corporation"), will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., local time, at the offices of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., One Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111, for the following purposes:

to elect the persons nominated by the Board of Directors as Class II directors to serve until our 2021 annual meeting 1. of stockholders and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation or removal;

- 2. to approve the Corporation's Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, which increases the number of shares of the Corporation's common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 400,000 shares;
- 3. to approve the Corporation's Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, which increases the number of shares of the Corporation's common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 150,000 shares;
- to ratify the selection of Moody, Famiglietti & Andronico, LLP as the Corporation's independent auditors for fiscal 2018; and
- 5. to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

Stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting shall be determined as of the close of business on March 6, 2018, the record date fixed by our Board of Directors for such purpose. A list of stockholders of record will be available at the meeting and, during the ten days prior to the meeting, at the office of the Secretary at the above address.

All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the annual meeting. Whether you plan to attend the annual meeting or not, we urge you to vote and submit your proxy by the Internet, telephone or mail in order to ensure the presence of a quorum. You may change or revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted at the meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors, Shai N. Gozani, M.D., Ph.D.

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

Waltham, Massachusetts

March 9, 2018

Stockholders are requested to sign the enclosed proxy card and return it in the enclosed stamped envelope by return mail.

—OR—

Stockholders may also complete a proxy via the Internet or by telephone in accordance with the instructions listed on the proxy card.

March 9, 2018 NeuroMetrix, Inc. 1000 Winter Street Waltham, Massachusetts 02451 781-890-9989 PROXY STATEMENT

This proxy statement, the attached notice of annual meeting of stockholders and the enclosed proxy card are being mailed to stockholders on or about March 9, 2018 and are furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of NeuroMetrix, Inc. ("NeuroMetrix", "we", "us", or the "Corporation") for use at our 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., local time, at the offices of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., One Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof. Although not part of this proxy statement, we are also sending, along with this proxy statement, our 2017 annual report, which includes our financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE STOCKHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 1, 2018.

This proxy statement and our 2017 annual report to stockholders are available for viewing, printing and downloading at http://www.viewproxy.com/neurometrix/2018

Additionally, you can find a copy of our 2017 annual report on Form 10-K, which includes our financial statements, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 on the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, at www.sec.gov, or in the "Financials and Filings" section of the "Investor Relations" section of our website at www.neurometrix.com. You may also obtain a printed copy of our annual report on Form 10-K, including our financial statements, free of charge, from us by sending a written request to: Attention: Secretary, NeuroMetrix, Inc, 1000 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451. Exhibits will be provided upon written request and payment of an appropriate processing fee.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING

Only common stockholders of record as of the close of business on March 6, 2018 will be entitled to vote at the meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof. Our convertible preferred stock has no voting rights. As of that date, 7,141,940 shares of our common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "common stock"), were issued and outstanding. Each share outstanding as of the record date will be entitled to one vote, and stockholders may vote in person or by proxy. Execution of a proxy will not in any way affect a stockholder's right to attend the meeting and vote in person, although the presence (without further action) of a stockholder at the annual meeting will not constitute revocation of a previously given proxy. Any stockholder delivering a proxy has the right to revoke it by either: (1) filing a written revocation with our Secretary at NeuroMetrix, Inc., 1000 Winter Street, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451; (2) submitting a new proxy by telephone, Internet, or proxy card after the date of the previously submitted proxy; or (3) appearing in person at the meeting and voting by ballot at the annual meeting. Your most current vote, whether by telephone, Internet or proxy card is the one that will be counted.

Whether you plan to attend the annual meeting or not, we urge you to vote by proxy. If you vote by proxy, the individuals named on the proxy card, or your "proxies," will vote your shares in the manner you indicate. You may specify whether your shares should be voted for the nominee for director or withheld from the nominee for director and whether your shares should be voted for, against, or abstain with respect to each of the other proposals.

Voting by proxy will not affect your right to attend the annual meeting. If your shares are registered directly in your name through our stock transfer agent, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, or you have stock certificates registered in your name, you may vote:

By mail. Complete and mail the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed postage prepaid envelope. Your proxy will be voted in accordance with your instructions. If you sign the proxy card but do not specify how you want your shares voted, they will be voted as recommended by our Board of Directors.

By Internet or by telephone. Follow the instructions attached to the proxy card to vote by Internet or telephone. In person at the meeting. If you attend the meeting, you may deliver your completed proxy card in person or you may vote by completing a ballot, which will be available at the meeting.

Telephone and Internet voting facilities for stockholders of record will be available 24-hours a day and will close at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 30, 2018.

If your shares are held in "street name" (held in the name of a bank, broker, or other nominee), you must provide the bank, broker, or other holder of record with instructions on how to vote your shares and can do so as follows:

By mail. Follow the instructions you receive from your broker or other nominee explaining how to vote your shares.
By Internet or by telephone. Follow the instructions you receive from your broker or other nominee to vote by Internet or telephone.

In person at the meeting. Contact the broker or other nominee who holds your shares to obtain a broker's proxy card and bring it with you to the annual meeting. You will not be able to vote at the annual meeting unless you have a proxy card from your broker.

The representation in person or by proxy of at least a majority of all shares of common stock issued, outstanding, and entitled to vote at the meeting is necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Votes withheld from the nominees for election as director, abstentions, and broker "non-votes" are counted as present or represented for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the meeting. A "non-vote" occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner votes on one proposal, but does not vote on another proposal because, in respect of such other proposal, the nominee does not have discretionary voting power and has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner. An automated system administered by our transfer agent tabulates the votes. The vote on each matter submitted to stockholders is tabulated separately.

Each of the persons named as proxies in the proxy is one of our officers. All properly executed proxies returned in time to be cast at the meeting will be voted. With respect to Proposal 1, the election of two Class II directors, any stockholder submitting a proxy has a right to withhold authority to vote for either of the nominees to the Board of Directors in the manner provided on the proxy. The stockholders will also act upon Proposal 2, to approve the Corporation's Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the "Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Plan") which increases the number of shares of the common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 400,000 shares, Proposal 3, to approve the Corporation's Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan") which increases the number of shares of the common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 150,000 shares, and

Proposal 4, to ratify the selection of Moody, Famiglietti & Andronico, LLP as the Corporation's independent auditors for fiscal 2018.

If your shares are registered in your name, they will not be counted if you do not vote as described above. If your shares are held in street name and you do not provide voting instructions to the bank, broker or other holder of record that holds your shares, the bank, broker or other holder of record will have the authority to vote your unvoted shares only on proposal 4 even if it does not receive instructions from you. We encourage you to provide voting instructions. This ensures your shares will be voted at the meeting in the manner you desire. If your broker cannot vote your shares on a particular matter because it has not received instructions from you and does not have discretionary voting authority on that matter or because your broker chooses not to vote on a matter for which it does have discretionary voting authority, this is referred to as a "broker non-vote".

The following sets forth the vote required to approve each proposal and how votes are counted:

Proposal 1: Election of Directors

The nominees to serve as Class II directors who receive the most votes (also known as a "plurality" of the votes cast) will be elected. You may vote either FOR all of the nominees, WITHHOLD your vote from all of the nominees or WITHHOLD your vote from either of the nominees. Votes that are withheld will not be included in the vote tally for the election of the directors. Brokerage firms do not have authority to vote customers' unvoted shares held by the firms in street name for this proposal. As a result, any shares not voted by a customer will be treated as a broker non-vote. Such broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the election of the nominee.

Proposal 2: Approve Corporation's Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Plan The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast for or against this proposal is required to approve the Corporation's Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Plan which increases the number of shares of the common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 400,000 shares, thereby increasing the total reserved shares under the Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Plan from 728,945 shares to 1,128,945 shares. Abstentions will have no effect on the results of this vote. Brokerage firms do not have authority to vote customers' unvoted shares held by the firms in street name on this proposal. As a result, any shares not voted by a customer will be treated as a broker non-vote. Such broker non-votes will have no effect on the results of this vote.

Proposal 3: Approve Corporation's Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast for or against this proposal is required to approve the Corporation's Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan which increases the number of shares of the common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 150,000 shares, thereby increasing the total reserved shares under the Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan from 19,893 shares to 169,893 shares. Abstentions will have no effect on the results of this vote. Brokerage firms do not have authority to vote customers' unvoted shares held by the firms in street name on this proposal. As a result, any shares not voted by a customer will be treated as a broker non-vote. Such broker non-votes will have no effect on the results of this vote.

Proposal 4: Ratify Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast for or against this proposal is required to ratify the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm. Abstentions will have no effect on the results of this vote. Brokerage firms have authority to vote customers' unvoted shares held by the firms in street name on this proposal. If a broker does not exercise this authority, such broker non-votes will have no effect on the results of this vote. We are not required to obtain the approval of our stockholders to select our independent registered public accounting firm. However, if our stockholders do not ratify the selection of Moody, Famiglietti & Andronico, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2018, our Audit Committee of our Board of Directors will reconsider its selection.

If you hold your shares in street name it is critical that you cast your vote if you want your vote to be counted for the election of the director nominees (Proposal 1 of this proxy statement). Your bank, broker, or other nominee no longer has the ability to vote your uninstructed shares in the election of directors on a discretionary basis. Thus, if

you hold your shares in street name and you do not instruct your bank, broker, or other holder of record how to vote in the election of the director nominees, no votes will be cast on this proposal on your behalf. In addition, your bank, broker or other holder of record will not have discretion to vote uninstructed shares on the Tenth Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Plan (Proposal 2 of this proxy statement) and will not have discretion to vote uninstructed shares on the Fourth Amended and Restated 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Proposal 3 of this proxy statement). Your bank, broker, or other holder of record does, however, continue to have discretion to vote any uninstructed shares on the ratification of the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal 4 of this proxy statement).

The Board of Directors knows of no other matter to be presented at the meeting. If any other matter should be presented at the meeting upon which a vote may be properly taken, shares represented by all proxies received by the Board of Directors will be voted with respect thereto in accordance with the judgment of the persons named as proxies in the proxy.

The preliminary voting results will be announced at the annual meeting, and we will publish preliminary results, or final results if available, in a Current Report on Form 8-K within four business days of the annual meeting. If final results are unavailable at the time we file the Form 8-K, then we will file an amended report on Form 8-K to disclose the final voting results within four business days after the final voting results are known.

Electronic Delivery of Future Stockholder Communications

Most stockholders can elect to view or receive copies of future proxy materials over the Internet instead of receiving paper copies in the mail.

If you are a stockholder of record, you can choose this option and save the Corporation the cost of producing and mailing these documents by going to http://www.amstock.com, accessing your account information and following the instructions provided.

#### BOARD MATTERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

#### **Board of Directors**

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, provides for a classified board of directors consisting of three staggered classes of directors (Class I, Class II and Class III). The members of each class of our Board of Directors serve for staggered three-year terms, with the terms of our Class I, Class II and Class III directors expiring upon the election and qualification of directors at the annual meetings of stockholders to be held in 2020, 2018 and 2019, respectively. As of the date that this proxy statement was mailed to stockholders:

our Class I director is Timothy R. Surgenor;

our Class II directors are Shai N. Gozani, M.D., Ph.D., and David Van Avermaete; and

our Class III directors are David E. Goodman, M.D. and Nancy E. Katz.

Our Board of Directors has determined that Dr. Goodman, Ms. Katz, and Messrs. Surgenor and Van Avermaete are independent directors for purposes of the corporate governance rules contained in the Nasdaq Marketplace Rules, or the Nasdaq rules. In making the independence determination with respect to these directors, our Board of Directors has considered the materiality of any relationship that each of our directors has with us. Our Board of Directors held 17 meetings during 2017. During 2017, all our directors attended more than 75% of the aggregate of (i) the total number of meetings of our Board of Directors and (ii) the total number of meetings held by any committees of our Board of Directors on which such director served.

Our Board of Directors has an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee, and a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

**Board Committees and Meetings** 

#### **Audit Committee**

Our Board of Directors currently has an Audit Committee consisting of Mr. Surgenor, Chairman, Dr. Goodman and Ms. Katz. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to a charter that was approved by our Board of Directors, a current copy of which is available on our website at http://www.neurometrix.com under the heading "Investor Relations" and subheading "Corporate Governance". The role and responsibilities of our Audit Committee are set forth in the Audit Committee's written charter and include, among other functions, assisting the Board of Directors in overseeing the operation of a comprehensive system of internal controls covering the integrity of our financial statements and reports, compliance with laws, regulations and corporate policies, and the qualifications, performance and independence of our registered public accounting firm. Dr. Goodman, Ms. Katz, and Mr. Surgenor, are all "independent" as that term is defined in the rules of the SEC and the applicable Nasdaq rules relating to audit committee members. Our Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Surgenor qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as such term is defined in the rules of the SEC. The Audit Committee held six meetings during 2017. Please also see the report of the Audit Committee set forth elsewhere in this proxy statement.

# Compensation Committee

Our Board of Directors has a Compensation Committee consisting of Dr. Goodman and Mr. Van Avermaete. Dr. Goodman and Mr. Van Avermaete are "independent directors" as that term is defined in the Nasdaq rules. The Compensation Committee operates pursuant to a charter that was approved by our Board of Directors, a current copy of which is available on our website at http://www.neurometrix.com under the heading "Investor Relations" and subheading "Corporate Governance." The role and responsibilities of our Compensation Committee are set forth in the Compensation Committee's written charter and include, among other functions, having direct responsibility for the oversight of all the compensation plans, policies, and programs of the Corporation in which the

directors and executive officers participate, and certain other incentive and equity plans in which all other employees of the Corporation participate. The Compensation Committee held one meeting in 2017.

The Compensation Committee typically meets at least two times each year in connection with the consideration and determination of executive compensation. Depending on the nature of the matter to be discussed, these meetings may occur at regularly scheduled times or may be special meetings. Specific agenda items are typically determined by the members of the Compensation Committee and our Chief Executive Officer. The Compensation Committee has the authority to determine all compensation payable to our executive officers. For annual and other compensation decisions, our Chief Executive Officer typically provides detailed information to the Compensation Committee regarding the performance of our executive officers, to the extent relevant, and makes detailed recommendations to the Compensation Committee regarding the compensation of all executive officers, excluding his own. The Compensation Committee relied on informal inquiries with compensation consultants to assess practices at local area life sciences companies, conducted by the Corporation's Human Resources Consultant, Jennifer Hayes, with respect to salaries and equity awards, bonus opportunities, and bonus determinations. The Compensation Committee has authorized Ms. Hayes to interact with management on behalf of the Compensation Committee, as needed in connection with advising the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee ultimately made all determinations regarding compensation payable to our executive officers throughout the year.

The Compensation Committee also enlisted the counsel of an independent compensation expert in the initial design of the incentive compensation plan for management. This plan employs quantitative metrics established early in the fiscal year in developing a corporate performance rating. The Compensation Committee has established a process for annual assessment of corporate performance which is the foundation for decisions regarding bonus payments to executive officers. Metrics are established following approval by the Board of Directors of the annual operating budget. These are monitored quarterly during the year and assessed after the end of the year. The Compensation Committee evaluates performance against these metrics and applies judgment in arriving at an overall corporate performance rating or "factor". The Compensation Committee implemented a primarily quantitative formula for use in developing the corporate factor for the management bonus pool. In concept, the management bonus pool is activated by achievement of a single threshold or "gating" metric. Following activation, value is then created within the pool by achievement toward specific performance metrics.

The management pool metrics for 2017 encompassed targets for new equity funding, sales revenue, strategic collaboration and product development. The Compensation Committee concluded that the gating metric of new equity funding was met in 2017 and a management bonus pool was created. The Compensation Committee determined that the overall corporate performance factor for 2017 was 75% for purposes of executive officer bonuses. See "Compensation of Executive Officers — Bonus Payments." The Compensation Committee has the authority to directly retain the services of independent consultants and other experts to assist in fulfilling its responsibilities. As described above, the Compensation Committee has engaged the services of Jennifer Hayes during 2017. Ms. Hayes performed services solely on behalf of the Compensation Committee and has no relationship with the Corporation or management except as they may relate to performing such services. The Compensation Committee has assessed the independence of Ms. Hayes pursuant to SEC rules and the Nasdaq rules and concluded that no conflict of interest exists that would prevent Ms. Hayes from independently representing the Compensation Committee.

The Compensation Committee also typically reviews our director compensation on at least an annual basis. Our Chief Executive Officer may make recommendations to the Compensation Committee regarding director compensation.

#### Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our Board of Directors currently has a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consisting of Mr. Surgenor and Mr. Van Avermaete. Mr. Surgenor and Mr. Van Avermaete are "independent directors" as that term is defined in the Nasdaq rules. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee operates pursuant to a charter that was approved by our Board of Directors, a current copy of which is available on our website at http://www.neurometrix.com under the heading "Investor Relations" and subheading "Corporate Governance". The role and responsibilities of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are set forth in the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's written charter and include, among other functions, providing leadership in shaping the corporate governance of the Corporation, leading the Board of Directors in its annual review of the Board's performance, assisting the Board by identifying individuals, consistent with the Board's criteria, who are qualified to become Board members, recommending to the Board the director nominees for the next annual meeting of shareholders or for filling newly created directorships resulting from an increase in the size of the Board or vacancies, and recommending to the Board director nominees for each committee. During 2017, the independent members of the Board of Directors handled the responsibilities of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, which did not meet separately in 2017.

Policy Governing Director Attendance at Annual Meetings

The Board of Directors has adopted a policy that all directors are expected to attend our annual meetings of stockholders in person, unless doing so is impracticable due to unavoidable conflicts. All of our current directors in office at the time of the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders were in attendance.

Policies Governing Director Nominations

Securityholder Recommendations

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's current policy with regard to the consideration of director candidates recommended by securityholders is that it will review and consider any director candidates who have been recommended by one or more of our stockholders entitled to vote in the election of directors in compliance with the procedures established from time to time by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. All securityholder recommendations for director candidates must be submitted to our Secretary at 1000 Winter Street, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451, who will forward all recommendations to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. All securityholder recommendations for director candidates for our 2019 annual meeting of stockholders must be submitted to our Secretary on or before November 9, 2018 and must include the following information: the name and address of record of the stockholder;

a representation that the securityholder is a record holder of our stock entitled to vote in the election of directors, or if the securityholder is not a record holder, evidence of ownership in accordance with Rule 14a-8(b)(2) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended;

the name, age, business and residential address, educational background, current principal occupation or employment, and principal occupation or employment for the preceding five (5) full fiscal years of the proposed director candidate; the names of other public companies in which such person holds or has held directorships during the past five years; a description of the qualifications and background of the proposed director candidate which addresses the minimum qualifications and other criteria for Board membership approved by the Board of Directors from time to time;

a description of all arrangements or understandings between the securityholder and the proposed director candidate; the consent of the proposed director candidate (1) to be named in the proxy statement relating to our annual meeting of stockholders and (2) to serve as a director if elected at such annual meeting; and any other information regarding the proposed director candidate that is required to be included in a proxy statement filed pursuant to the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### Board Membership Criteria

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has established criteria for Board membership. These criteria include the following specific, minimum qualifications that the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes must be met by a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee-recommended nominee for a position on the Board of Directors. The nominee must have high personal and professional integrity, must have demonstrated exceptional ability and judgment, and must be expected, in the judgment of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, to be highly effective, in conjunction with the other nominees to the Board of Directors, in collectively serving the interests of our company and stockholders. In addition to the minimum qualifications for each nominee set forth above, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will recommend that the Board of Directors select persons for nomination to help ensure that:

the Board of Directors will be comprised of a majority of "independent directors" in accordance with the Nasdaq rules; each of our Audit, Compensation, and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees shall be comprised entirely of independent directors;

each member of our Audit Committee is able to read and understand fundamental financial statements, including a company's balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement; and

at least one member of the Audit Committee has past employment experience in finance or accounting, requisite professional certification in accounting, or any other comparable experience or background which results in the individual's financial sophistication, including being or having been a chief executive officer, chief financial officer, or other senior officer with financial oversight responsibilities.

Finally, in addition to any other standards the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may deem appropriate from time to time for the overall structure and composition of the Board of Directors, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, when recommending that the Board of Directors select persons for nomination, may consider diversity among its members and whether the nominee has direct experience in the industry or in the markets in which we operate. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee strives where appropriate to achieve a diverse balance of professional expertise and backgrounds, including expertise in finance, operations, and strategy and backgrounds in health care, medical devices, and other industries.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will recommend to the Board of Directors the nomination of the director candidates who it believes will, together with the existing Board members and other nominees, best serve our interests and the interests of our stockholders.

## Identifying and Evaluating Nominees

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may solicit recommendations for director nominees from any or all of the following sources: non-management directors, the Chief Executive Officer, other executive officers, third-party search firms, or any other source it deems appropriate. The Nominating and Corporate

Governance Committee will review and evaluate the qualifications of any proposed director candidate that it is considering or that has been recommended to it by a securityholder in compliance with the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's procedures for that purpose, and conduct inquiries it deems appropriate into the background of these proposed director candidates. In identifying and evaluating proposed director candidates, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may consider, in addition to the minimum qualifications and other criteria for Board membership approved by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee from time to time, all facts and circumstances that it deems appropriate or advisable, including, among other things, the skills of each proposed director candidate, his or her depth and breadth of business experience or other background characteristics, his or her independence and the needs of the Board of Directors. Based on these considerations, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will recommend to the Board of Directors the nomination of the director candidates who it believes will, together with the existing Board members and other nominees, best serve the interests of our company and stockholders. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will evaluate proposed director candidates who have been recommended by securityholders in compliance with the policies and procedures established by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee in the same manner as all other proposed director candidates being considered by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, with no regard to the source of the initial recommendation of such proposed director candidate.

# **Board Leadership Structure**

The positions of chairman of the Board and chief executive officer of the Corporation have historically been combined, and Dr. Gozani currently holds both positions. We believe this Board leadership structure is appropriate because of the efficiencies achieved in having the role of chief executive officer and chairman combined, and because the detailed knowledge of our day-to-day operations and business that the chief executive officer possesses greatly enhances the decision-making processes of the Board of Directors as a whole. We have a strong governance structure in place, including independent directors, to ensure the powers and duties of the dual role are handled responsibly. Furthermore, consistent with Nasdaq listing requirements, the independent directors regularly have the opportunity to meet in executive sessions without Dr. Gozani in attendance. We do not have a lead independent director.

## Board's Role in Risk Oversight

Management is responsible for managing the risks that we face. The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing management's approach to risk management that is designed to support the achievement of organizational objectives, including strategic objectives, to improve long-term organizational performance and enhance stockholder value. The involvement of the full Board in reviewing our strategic objectives and plans is a key part of the Board's assessment of management's approach and tolerance to risk. A fundamental part of risk management is not only understanding the risks a company faces and what steps management is taking to manage those risks, but also understanding what level of risk is appropriate for us. In setting our business strategy, our Board assesses the various risks being mitigated by management and determines what constitutes an appropriate level of risk for us. Our Board's role in risk oversight has not, to date, had any effect on the Board's leadership structure.

While the Board of Directors has ultimate oversight responsibility for overseeing management's risk management process, the Audit Committee and Compensation Committee assist the Board of Directors in fulfilling that responsibility. The Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in its oversight of risk management in the areas of financial reporting, internal controls, and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and the Compensation Committee assists the Board of Directors in its oversight of the evaluation and management of risks related to our compensation policies and practices.

#### Communications with the Board

If you wish to communicate with any of our directors or the Board of Directors as a group, you may do so by writing to them at Name(s) of Director(s)/Board of Directors of NeuroMetrix, Inc., c/o Secretary, NeuroMetrix, Inc., 1000 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451.

We recommend that all correspondence be sent via certified U.S. Mail, return receipt requested. All correspondence received by the Secretary will be forwarded by the Secretary promptly to the addressee(s).

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our directors, officers and employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller and persons performing similar functions. A current copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on our website at http://www.neurometrix.com under the heading "Investor Relations" and subheading "Corporate Governance," and we intend to disclose on this website any amendment to, or waiver of, any provision of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics applicable to our directors or executive officers that would otherwise be required to be disclosed under SEC rules or, to the extent permitted, by Nasdaq rules. A current copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics may also be obtained, without charge, upon written request directed to us at: NeuroMetrix, Inc., 1000 Winter Street, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451, Attention: Compliance Officer.

#### PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

#### Introduction

Currently, we have two Class II directors with terms expiring at our 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders: Shai N. Gozani, M.D., Ph.D. and David Van Avermaete. Our Board of Directors has nominated and recommends that Shai N. Gozani, M.D., Ph.D. and David Van Avermaete be re-elected as Class II directors, to hold office until our 2021 annual meeting of stockholders and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation or removal. Dr. Gozani and Mr. Van Avermaete have indicated their willingness to serve, if elected; however, should either nominee become unable or unwilling to serve, the proxies will be voted for the election of a substitute nominee recommended by our Board of Directors.

# Vote Required

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast by stockholders entitled to vote. This means that the person receiving the highest number of "FOR" votes will be elected as director. Votes may be cast for or withheld from a nominee. Broker non-votes and votes that are withheld are not included in the number of votes cast and will have no effect on the outcome of the election of the nominees.

#### Recommendation

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" THE NOMINEES, SHAI N. GOZANI, M.D., PH.D. AND DAVID VAN AVERMAETE, AND PROPERLY AUTHORIZED PROXIES SOLICITED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE VOTED "FOR" THE NOMINEES UNLESS INSTRUCTIONS TO WITHHOLD OR TO THE CONTRARY ARE GIVEN.

Information Regarding the Nominee, Other Directors and Executive Officers

The following table and biographical descriptions set forth certain information with respect to the nominees for election as Class II directors at the annual meeting, each continuing director who is not standing for election, and the executive officers who are not directors, based on information furnished to us by each nominee, director, and executive officer, as of March 6, 2018.

Name	Age	Position
Shai N. Gozani, M.D., Ph.D.	53	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, President and Secretary
Thomas T. Higgins	66	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
Francis X. McGillin	57	Senior Vice President, Chief Commercial Officer
David E. Goodman, M.D. (1) (2)	61	Director
Nancy E. Katz (1)	58	Director
Timothy R. Surgenor (1)(3)	58	Director
David Van Avermaete (2)(3)	66	Director

- (1) Member of Audit Committee.
- (2) Member of Compensation Committee.
- (3) Member of Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Directors Nominated for Election at the Annual Meeting

Shai N. Gozani, M.D., Ph.D. founded our Company in 1996 and currently serves as Chairman of our Board of Directors and as our President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary. Since founding our Company in 1996, Dr. Gozani has served in a number of positions at our company including Chairman since 1996, President from 1996 to 1998 and from 2002 to the present, Chief Executive Officer since 1997 and Secretary since July 2008. Dr. Gozani holds a B.A. in computer science, an M.S. in Biomedical Engineering and a Ph.D. in Neurobiology, from the University of California, Berkeley. He also received an M.D. from Harvard Medical School and the Harvard-M.I.T. Division of Health Sciences at M.I.T. Prior to forming our Company, Dr. Gozani completed a neurophysiology research fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Gerald Fischbach at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Gozani has published articles in the areas of basic and clinical neurophysiology, biomedical engineering and computational chemistry. The Board has concluded that Dr. Gozani should serve as a director because Dr. Gozani's extensive knowledge of engineering and neurophysiology, combined with the unique understanding of our technology and business he has gained as our founder and as a key executive, provides invaluable insight to our Board and to the entire organization. David Van Avermaete has served as a member of our Board of Directors since September 2013. Since January 2015, Mr. Van Avermaete has served as President of Inject Safe Technologies, a privately held company that has developed a bandage specifically designed to support injections. From April 2004 to February 2013, Mr. Van Avermaete served as Chief Executive Officer of VeraLight, Inc., a medical device company he founded, that focuses on non-invasive screening for type 2 diabetes. From 2000 to 2004, Mr. Van Avermaete served as Senior Vice President Non-Invasive Technology of InLight Solutions, a Johnson & Johnson company focused on transformational technology in the diabetes field. From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Van Avermaete served as U.S. President of the LifeScan division of Johnson & Johnson and, from 1990 to 1998, in various senior level positions at LifeScan concentrating in sales and marketing. Previously, Mr. Van Avermaete served as Vice President Sales and Marketing at Biotope, Director of Marketing at Roche Diagnostics, and Director of Marketing and Sales at Syntex Medical Diagnostics. Mr. Van Avermaete received a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Science Degree in Microbiology from the University of Arizona and a Bachelor of Science Degree in medical technology and chemistry from Ball State University. The Board has concluded that Mr. Van Avermaete should serve as a director because his executive level experience in the medical device, consumer health, and diabetes field, as well as in entrepreneurial ventures, provides the Board with a valuable perspective in commercializing consumer health products.

Directors Whose Terms Extend Beyond the Annual Meeting

David E. Goodman, M.D., M.S.E. has served as a member of our Board of Directors since June 2004. Since 2013, Dr. Goodman has served as CEO of FeetFirst, a technology-focused healthcare services company he co-founded that is committed to preventing the devastating and expensive microvascular complications of diabetes. From 2014 - 2016, Dr. Goodman served as a director of Xtant Medical (OTC QX: BONE), a comprehensive supplier of orthopedic and spine surgery products. From 2012 – 2015, Dr. Goodman served as CMO of FirstVitals, a healthcare services company focused on wellness and prevention. Since 2011, Dr. Goodman has also served as an independent consultant. During 2010, Dr. Goodman served as President and Chief Executive Officer of SEDline, Inc., a research-focused company with the mission to expand the scope and applications for neuromonitoring. From 2008 to 2009, Dr. Goodman served as Executive Vice President of Business Development for Masimo Corporation, a manufacturer of non-invasive patient monitors. From 2006 to 2008, Dr. Goodman served as an independent consultant providing product design, regulatory and analytical consulting services to medical device and biopharmaceutical companies and also served in this capacity from 2003 to 2004 and from 2001 to 2002. From 2005

to 2006, Dr. Goodman served as President and Chief Executive Officer of BaroSense, Inc., a medical device company focused on developing minimally invasive devices for the long-term treatment of obesity. From 2004 to 2005, Dr. Goodman served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Interventional Therapeutic Solutions, Inc., an implantable drug delivery systems company. From 2002 to 2003, Dr. Goodman served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Pherin Pharmaceuticals, a pharmaceutical discovery and development company. From 1994 to 2001, Dr. Goodman held various positions, including Chief Executive Officer, Chief Medical Officer and director, for LifeMasters Supported SelfCare, Inc., a disease management services company that Dr. Goodman founded. Dr. Goodman also served as a director of Sound Surgical Technologies LLC, a private manufacturer of aesthetic surgical tools from 2011 until its acquisition by Solta Medical (Nasdaq:SLTM) in 2013. Dr. Goodman holds a B.A.S. in applied science and bioengineering and a M.S.E. in bioengineering from the University of Pennsylvania. He also received an M.D. from Harvard Medical School and the Harvard-M.I.T. Division of Health Sciences and Technology. Dr. Goodman holds 22 issued and pending patents and is a practicing physician with licenses in California and Hawaii. The Board has concluded that Dr. Goodman should serve as a director because Dr. Goodman's medical and engineering background and his many years of executive experience in the medical device industry provide important experience and expertise to the Board.

Nancy E. Katz has served as a member of our Board of Directors since December 2010. From May 2011 to August 2014, Ms. Katz served as Vice President, Consumer Marketing at Medtronic, Inc., a medical technology company. From July 2005 to July 2010, Ms. Katz was Senior Vice President, Bayer Diabetes Care — North America. Prior to this position, she was President and Chief Executive Officer of Calypte Biomedical Corporation, a manufacturer of HIV diagnostics, President of Zila Pharmaceutical, Inc., a manufacturer of oral care products, and held senior marketing positions with the Lifescan division of Johnson & Johnson (blood glucose diabetes products), Schering-Plough Healthcare Products, and with American Home Products. Since October 2016, Ms. Katz has served on the Board of Directors of Cyanotech Corporation (Nasdaq: CYAN). She has previously served on the Boards of Directors of Neoprobe Corporation (NYSE American: NEOP), Calypte Biomedical Corporation, LXN Corporation and Pepgen Corporation. She received a B.S. in business from the University of South Florida. The Board has concluded that Ms. Katz should serve as a director because her experience in diabetes care and marketing into the diabetes sector provides valuable insight to the Board and management in our diabetes strategy.

Timothy R. Surgenor has served as a member of our Board of Directors since April 2009. Since April 2009, Mr. Surgenor has been a partner at Red Sky Partners, LLC, a provider of general management consulting services to the biotechnology industry. Since July 2012 Mr. Surgenor has also served as a director of Precision Ventures, a developer of medical and consumer devices. From 2003 to 2009, Mr. Surgenor served as President, Chief Executive Officer and director of Cyberkinetics Neurotechnology Systems (OTC: CYKN.PK), a medical device company. From January 1999 to January 2003, Mr. Surgenor was Executive Vice President at Haemonetics Corporation, which is a medical device company. From 1994 to 1999, Mr. Surgenor was President of Genzyme Tissue Repair, the cell therapy division of Genzyme Corporation. Previously, Mr. Surgenor was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of BioSurface Technology, Inc. and also held various positions in operations at Integrated Genetics. Mr. Surgenor received a B.A. in Biochemistry from Williams College and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. The Board has concluded that Mr. Surgenor should serve as a director because Mr. Surgenor's long career in the medical device and biotechnology business as both an entrepreneur and in senior executive positions in public companies provides the Board with important industry experience as well as valuable finance, accounting and executive management expertise.

**Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors** 

Thomas T. Higgins has served as our Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer since September 2009. Prior to joining NeuroMetrix, from January 2005 to March 2008, Mr. Higgins was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Caliper Life Sciences, Inc., a provider of technology and services for life sciences research. Before Caliper, Mr. Higgins was Executive Vice President, Operations and Chief Financial Officer at V.I. Technologies, Inc. (Vitex), a biotechnology company addressing blood safety. Before Vitex, Mr. Higgins served at Cabot Corporation in various senior finance and operations roles. His last position at Cabot was President of Distrigas of Massachusetts Corporation, a subsidiary involved in the liquefied natural gas business, and prior to that he was responsible for Cabot's Asia Pacific carbon black operations. Before joining Cabot, Mr. Higgins was with PricewaterhouseCoopers where he started his career. Mr. Higgins holds a BBA with honors from Boston University. Francis X. McGillin has served as Senior Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer since August 2014. Prior to joining NeuroMetrix, from September 2001 to January 2014, Mr. McGillin was Vice President and General Manager at Philips, having served in a number of senior marketing and management positions in the company's consumer and healthcare businesses. His last role with Philips, was leading the globalization of Philips Sonicare business. Before Philips, Mr. McGillin, was Executive Director, Marketing at Johnson & Johnson, working across a number of the company's global consumer brands. Mr. McGillin holds a MBA from Fordham University and a BS degree from Northeastern University.

#### **DIRECTORS' COMPENSATION**

As of December 31, 2017, the non-employee members of our Board of Directors were entitled to receive annual cash compensation in the amount of \$15,000 for service as a member of our Board of Directors, which is paid following each annual meeting of our stockholders. In addition, these non-employee directors were entitled to receive \$2,000 for each board or committee meeting that they attend, provided that they are not entitled to additional compensation for attending committee meetings that occur on the same day as a board meeting which they attend. This cash compensation is in addition to any stock options or other equity compensation that we determine to grant to our directors. Dr. Gozani, the only member of our Board of Directors who is also an employee, is not separately compensated for his service on our Board of Directors.

In addition to the compensation described above, we reimburse all non-employee directors for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings of our Board of Directors or any committees thereof. The following table shows compensation information with respect to services rendered to us in all capacities during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 for each non-employee member of the Board of Directors. Director Compensation Table — 2017

Name

Fees Earned or Paid in Cash

(\$)

Opt

Aw

(\$)

Option Total
Awards Compensation
(\$) (1) (\$)

David E. Goodman, M.D. (2) 45,000