Board of Directors Policy





Policy Type: Governance Process Policy #: GP2

Policy Name: Governing Philosophy Page #: 1 of 1

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The Board will emphasize an outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation, strategic leadership more than administrative detail, clear distinction of Board and staff roles, future rather than past or present, and pro-activity rather than reactivity.

In this spirit, the Board will:

- 1. Cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Board will use the expertise of individual members to enhance the ability of the Board as a body to make policy, rather than to substitute the Board's individual judgments for the Board's value.
- 2. Focus primarily on intended long-term impacts on the community (ends) not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.
- 3. Direct, control and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of the broadest organizational values and perspectives (policies).
- 4. Hold itself accountable for its actions to govern with excellence in relation to attendance, policy making principles, respect to clarified roles, speaking with one voice and any tendency to stray from governance adopted in Board policies.
- 5. Be accountable to the general public for competent, conscientious and effective accomplishment of its obligations as a body. It will allow no officer, individual or committee of the Board to usurp this role.
- 6. Monitor and regularly discuss the Board's own process and performance. Ensure the continuity of its governance by retraining and redeveloping.
- 7. Be an initiator of policy, not merely a reactor to staff initiatives. The Board, not the staff, will be responsible for Board performance.