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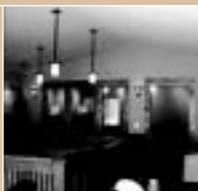
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Why You Should Serve on the Board

Tahoe Donner Association strongly encourages members with appropriate qualifications and interest to serve as members of the board of directors. However, many who might be interested may wonder what is involved. This article attempts to address many of the common questions that are asked about being a member of the board of directors.

A board of directors, elected by the membership to oversee the operation and financial management of the organization, governs Tahoe Donner Association. The annual budget of the association, including revenue, assessments and reserve funds is slightly over \$12 million per year. The operation includes management of association common areas and the resort amenities. Enforcement of the land-use restrictions and architectural standards that create the unique character of Tahoe Donner is also part of the operation.

The bylaws call for a five-member board, with each member serving a three-year term. This year's election, however, is unique as we make the final transition to three-year terms. Two board members will serve three-year terms and one member will serve a one-year term. The elections are staggered to minimize dramatic changes in leadership in any given year.

How much of a time commitment is required for serving on the board?

While we don't want to scare candidates away, serving on the board of directors can require a significant amount of personal time. Board members commit from 15 - 20 hours for the monthly board meetings, including preparation, and up to 20 hours for committee and related activities depending on the individual's interests and commitment.

Regular board meetings are held once a month, normally on the third Saturday. A briefing packet is prepared by staff for each meeting, and a significant amount



The current board of directors participating in last year's ribbon cutting ceremony at Trout Creek Recreation Center. From left to right: Cheryl Genin, Ron Wulff, Greg McDougall, Hal McLaughlin, and Dick Halpin.

of time is required to review and research information in order to be well prepared for the board meetings; including occasional meetings with staff to clarify particular issues. Monthly board meetings usually last most of the day, depending on the agenda items and number of member appeals from enforcement actions taken.

In addition, there are special meetings to review items that cannot wait until monthly meetings. Examples of such meetings include: reviewing progress on construction projects; budget review meetings; and reviewing association goals and objectives. Also, each board member serves as a liaison to one or more of the various committees serving the association.

How much does it pay?

There is no monetary compensation for serving on the board of directors. Board members have free use of the amenities to ensure they are familiar with the functions and services provided by the association.

Is it necessary to be a permanent resident in Tahoe Donner to serve on the board?

No, permanent residency in Tahoe Donner is not required. It is desirable to have strong representation from members who are part-time residents. However, the time commitments make that difficult for many members. Recent boards have all been full-time residents of Tahoe Donner.

What issues come before the board?

Typical agenda items include review and approval of special funding issues, changes in policy, and review of appeals from property owners. Important items remaining for review by the board include: the finalization of construction and opening of The Lodge, actions to be taken on the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan, and disposition of the proceeds from the sale of the 32-Acres.

What are the qualifications for being a member of the board?

The only stated requirement in the bylaws is to be a member in good standing. This means you have paid all dues and assessments and that there is no unresolved issue with the association. Obviously, the membership is looking for, and will vote for, those candidates with qualifications that are felt will best represent their interests. Having experience in management, finance, and resort or recreation operations have proven to be desirable attributes in board member candidates fulfilling the oversight responsibilities of the board.

Why would anyone want to be a board member?

Tahoe Donner is an exceptional place to live. There is a great deal of satisfaction in helping to ensure Tahoe Donner continues to be a quality, well-run association.

What is involved in running for the board?

First, you must submit an application by May 2, 2005. Applications are available in the Member Services Office at Northwoods Clubhouse, or one can be mailed to you upon request. Second, you must submit a Candidate's Statement, which will be reproduced and included in the board election packet sent to property owners in late May. Third, you should participate in both Candidates' Nights, where you have an opportunity to present your ideas about serving on the board and answer questions from property owners. The first Candidates' Night is Saturday, May 28, and the second is Saturday, June 11.

The next step is to persuade your friends to vote for you and return their ballots by June 24, 2005. Good luck! ▲

Jim McCann

Former Tahoe Donner Board Member

Interested in serving on the Tahoe Donner board of directors?

- ▲ Two, three-year and one, one-year year terms of office
- ▲ Three out of five seats available for the upcoming term
- ▲ Board candidacy applications must be received at Northwoods Clubhouse by May 2, 2005

Application packets are available in the Member Services Office at Northwoods Clubhouse

Election will conclude at the Annual Membership Meeting – June 26, 2005

Contact Bonnie Watkins, executive secretary, at (530) 587-9400, ext. 131 for more information regarding board candidacy.



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