


May 6, 2019

TO: Tahoe Donner Board of Directors

FROM: Suzanne Sullivan, Chair, Tahoe Donner Giving Fund 

IN RESPONSE TO: Committee Policy & Committee Charters Amendments, Options for Clarity & Consistency

Glossary:

TD – Tahoe Donner

BoD/Board –Tahoe Donner Board of Directors

Please accept the following as the Giving Fund Committee's response to the above stated document circulated by the Board.

1. Check List items. We are presuming since we are a committee chartered by the Board in 2014, the Board did comply with 2008-12 when drawing up the charter.

2. Committee Policy. The Giving Fund is vastly different from the other TD chartered committees. We do not recommend on matters of TD vision, policy, or finances. Rather, we raise money and then release the funds in the form of Grants to Non-Profits and Scholarships to Graduates within the Tahoe-Truckee Unified School District.

2.1 Membership. In order to do this work in the most effective manner it is necessary the committee be comprised of members who make a long-term commitment to its work as well as building sustainability by adding new members.

2.2 Tenure. The two-year membership and one-year chairpersonship does not work for us. Our work is dependent on building relationships, person-to-person relationships, within the Tahoe Donner community as well as within the wider Truckee community. There must be consistency in who is interacting with businesses and members. Having the same person as the public face of such a committee is essential to accomplishing our tasks. One of the reasons for the growth of the Giving Fund over its first 5 years is its membership stability. We already have a plan in place whereby a veteran mentors a new member, where a new member shadows a veteran. We do not fit within the same need for "fresh perspectives" as other committees might. We therefore as asking to be exempt from a set term limit for members and chairperson.

2.3 Subcommittees. This category does not apply to the Giving Fund. We do have members who work together on a particular task, for example gathering items for the silent

auction; however, these are not formal subcommittees. We ask to be exempt from this entire section.

3. **Committee Charters**

3.1 Membership. In theory, the Giving Fund does have regular and alternate members. Most of our members begin as formal alternates; however, in practice we all work together without regard to the distinctions. [On a note not specific to the Giving fund, why not just have members (do away with regular and alternate) but not change quorums?]

3.2 Qualifications. The Giving Fund wishes to retain its current practice of inviting a new member to attend and participate in a committee meeting before making a commitment to join us. Doing so has proven to be valuable to new members as they get a glimpse into how we accomplish our mission; they are also able to articulate to the committee the background which leads them to the committee as well as the talents they bring.

3.3 Minority Opinion. Again, the Giving Fund is unlike other TD policy-related committees. We come to consensus within the committee and bring forth to the Board only transfer of funds and grants/scholarship requests. There are no minority opinions/reports within the Giving Fund.