



Top 10 Elements of an Effective Board of Directors

1. Remain consistently dedicated to refining and fulfilling the mission.
2. Develop and adhere to a clear and engaging board selection, recruitment and orientation process.
3. Organize responsibilities, set goals and measure performance as a Board.
4. Define and execute the processes and expectations for hiring, evaluating and compensating the CEO.
5. Understand and act with the belief and knowledge that governing and managing are separate, yet complementary functions.
6. Build a leadership pipeline for officer positions and offer mentoring/training and other supports for success.
7. Create a cycle of respect, trust and candor among all members and an environment where generative questions are welcomed.
8. Act as an ambassador for the organization and its 'work' while upholding duty of care, loyalty and confidence.
9. Actively build relationships that serve the overall mission, vision and the constituents.
10. Embrace change while being willing to take risks that can lead to rewards.

References:

"The 8 Principles of Effective Governance: A Handbook for Directors of Nonprofit Organizations." (2005) by John W. Mize. Clark, Mize, Linville, Chartered.

"What Makes Great Boards." Jeffrey A. Sonnenfeld

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