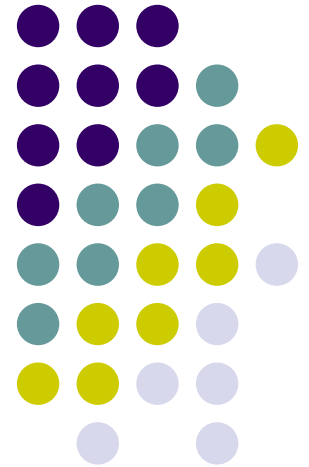


Boards of Directors Can Drive You Crazy!

The Board Never Makes a
Mistake
By Ross Ament CAE, MA



To Board or Not to Board....

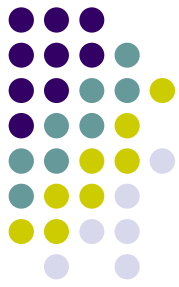


- This is NOT an Option!



Types of Boards

- Micro Managers
- Policy Driven
- Somewhere in between



Board Staff Partnership



- Volunteer Driven Board
- Staff Driven Board
- Small Staff
- Large Staff



Pillars of Volunteer Board Success



- Clear roles or responsibility
- Information
- Board Authority
- Understand climate
- Micromanage vs. Vision or Policy

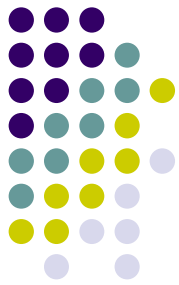
Roles & Responsibilities



- Written policies: job descriptions
- Officers
- Executive Staff
- Other staff
- Committee/Task Force Chairs
- Adhocracy

Information

- Board Training
- Clear, concise, user-best method communication



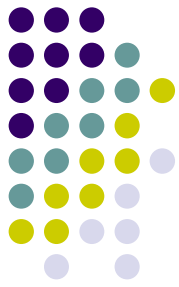


Board Training

- Crucial on an annual basis
- Definitely for new board members, but also include all board members and Exec
- Focus on training rather than orientation
- Focus on process rather than event
- Include Policy Handbook
- Include Board Member Handbook
- Expectations

Board Authority

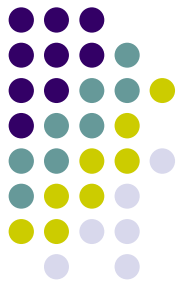
- Duty of Care
- Duty of Loyalty
- Duty of Obedience





Board Authority

- Articles of Incorporation
- Organization's mission
- Bylaws
- Budget
 - Strong Overview, not line by line



Understand Climate

- What is the culture of the organization?
- What is the style of the Chair or President?
- How does the work get done?
- How do board members interact with staff?
- Who sets the priorities?
- Who upgrades a project from “important to urgent”?
- What is the most common medium for exchange?

Micromanage vs. Vision or Policy



- Keeping a board on the policy level
- Strategic business planning
- Consent Agenda
- Discuss policy or goals at each meeting

Keys to Success.....



- President or Chair
- Agendas
- Policies
- Plan, plan, plan
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Don't own it
- Keep a member between you and problem

Keys to Success.....

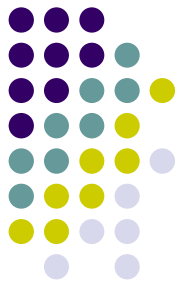


- Informed choices
- Task forces, adhococracy
- Business first, social second
- Communicate
- And.....

Keys to Success....

- A board never makes mistakes!





Thank You!

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