

5 SKILLS EVERY BOARD MEMBER SHOULD HAVE

Choosing to be part of a homeowner's association (HOA) board of directors is a significant decision. To make the most of their position, board members dedicate valuable time, a commitment to making necessary decisions, and using their knowledge and existing skills to benefit community members. As a board member, there are several skills that add value to the culture of a community.

What Makes an Effective Board of Directors?

For a board to be effective, each member should to refine, develop, and master the following skills.

- 1. A passion for assisting the HOA.**
Specialty fields such as insurance, accounting, or risk management are valuable to the association. However, the experience will fall flat if the board member isn't passionate about helping the association. Those that have a passion are typically more proactive and willing to assist in special projects, run committees, and do what it takes to keep the community running efficiently.
- 2. The ability to remain patient.**
"Patience is a virtue," is a famous phrase and for a good reason. Lack of patience as a board member can lead to rash decisions that are unethical, illegal, or against the HOA governing documents. The most valuable board members are committed to learning the process of the board, and that not every decision can be made quickly.
- 3. A commitment to serving.**
Sitting on an HOA board isn't just about showing up for meetings and casting votes. The best board members show up prepared for every meeting. Being prepared includes reading the agenda in advance, completing tasks since the previous meeting, and researching any ongoing issues the board plans to discuss.
- 4. Know how to communicate effectively.**
Effective communication is essential in our relationships. A board member should be able to clearly articulate their stance on a subject without making others feel threatened or bullied. Communication is vital amongst board members as well as with homeowners, vendors, and property managers.
- 5. A desire to learn.**
Board members should have a willingness to learn new methods and strategies that make it easier for them to complete their responsibilities. This includes the expectations of their role as a board member, understanding the governing documents, and how the board reviews and makes decisions.

***Please return via email to ascholtz@principal-mgmt.com or mail to PMG-Associa, 12700 Park Central Dr. #600 Dallas, TX 75251; Attn: Andre Scholtz, by Monday, August 23rd, 2021 @ 5pm.
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