

Cascadia Region Green Building Council (Cascadia) Board Policy: Time, Treasure and Talent

Mission:

Cascadia's mission is to promote the design, construction and operation of buildings in Oregon, Washington and British Columbia that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live, work and learn.

Background: This proposal is generated in the context of a number of current Board goals. We have a significant number of new Board members coming on line this year which provides us with the opportunity to establish new policy from the beginning of terms. In addition, the Board wishes this policy to assist in institutionalizing the organization's collaborative and inclusive characteristics with the goal of advancing Cascadia's mission in a manner that reflects our values. Board members are expected to commit Time and Talent to the organization and to seek Treasure to support the organization.

Time:

Cascadia is a labor of love for most Board members – one that has been characterized by a desire to leave a healthier world as a legacy for our children, participate in a purposeful, thoughtful community and work collaboratively among colleagues that share similar goals.

Minimum time commitments to the Board include four to six Board meetings (half are two day retreats and half are 3-hour conference calls), participation in programmatic or committee initiatives, staying abreast of US and CaGBC, and Board discussions via email and telephone between meetings (typically 5 to 8 hours/month).

Treasure:

100 Friends of Cascadia

Cascadia relies on its annual campaign to raise money and awareness of the organization. The objective of this effort is ultimately about relationship building - to build deeper relevance to existing members, outreach to new members and to hear where and how Cascadia can adapt to be the most effective catalyst for change.

Part of this on-going outreach to members as proposed in this policy, is to include an annual Board discussion to identify fundraising strategies both as a Board and as individuals. Strategies may include personal commitments to initiate new contacts, initiating or attending "asks" and teaming with other Board members and staff to provide entrees. The Board's target is to raise a total of 15% of the annual budget or about \$5,000. per Board member. Setting these targets is intended to assist in annual planning and the ability to monitor progress on goals throughout the year.

Individual Financial Contributions

All Board members are requested to commit a minimum of \$50.00 to the organization as a personal donation (the same amount as an annual individual membership). This means we can state to potential foundation and other supporters that we have 100% personal financial commitment from the Board.

Fiduciary Responsibility

Nonprofit Board members have legal responsibility for the organization. Cascadia Board members also uphold standard fiduciary responsibilities (duty of care and duty of loyalty) of a nonprofit Board. The organization maintains Director and Officer liability insurance to insure Board members.

Talent:

Cascadia values and consciously seeks the range of talents brought to bear by a diverse group of Board members. The organization believes that these talents are critical to the success of the mission and are the root of the vision, strategy and programs that make Cascadia an organization that resonates with its members, communities and region. Board members will be expected to contribute their individual talents through membership in at least one specific committee or task force work as well as at regular Board meetings. The Board works according to the Carver model of policy governance and members are expected to contribute broad strategic and policy advice to the CEO. Current committees and task forces include:

- Executive (Board officers)
- Nominating
- Finance
- Programs and Education
- Policy and Governance
- Development and Membership
- External Relations Taskforce
- Branch Linkage Taskforce