

TOP TAKEAWAYS

Nonprofit Entity Corporate Governance

1. **Consider what is the ideal size of the board.** Nonprofit boards range from a few people to dozens. What size works best for your organization, taking into account both good governance considerations and the need to “reward” those who help your organization survive and grow?
2. **Transparency is extremely important, particularly for larger boards.** Transparency in communication among board members, and between management and the board, can be an essential element in avoiding board members feeling disenfranchised and ultimately disengaged.
3. **Governance structure should be clear in the bylaws of the organization.** Avoid the “secret” authority of, for example, a long-time board chair.
4. **Develop board self-evaluation mechanisms.** Generate and be consistent with a clear evaluation process for key employees and board members.
5. **Committee charters can be an important tool for clarifying roles and responsibilities.**
6. **Importance of board education and orientation.** Clarify the role of board members at the outset to avoid future issues.
7. **Be strategic about board composition.** What expertise is necessary on the board? What expertise is already present? How best to utilize available expertise.
8. **Evaluate alternative governance structures.** An advisory board or ex-officio members may be an opportunity for inclusion of important individuals without allowing them a board vote.

For more information

For more information on Nonprofit Entity Corporate Governance, please feel free to contact the moderator directly:

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