

Museum Board Selection considerations



Is Our Board Diverse?

Having a diverse board of directors goes beyond race, ethnicity and gender; it's looking at many factors. Consider the following when nominating and selecting new board members:

- Do we have representation from key stakeholders and a good mix of citizens, businesses, historians, leaders, educators, artistic talents?
- Consider NOT selecting individuals who already serve on numerous other boards and committees as they may not have enough time to commit to our organization.
- Do consider individuals who have served on, or are currently serving on, one of our committees. Also consider our volunteers who involved and interested in working as well as having strong interest in Tryon. Individuals who have served effectively on other boards are good candidates.

Sharing the Mission and Vision

- Strive for balance in all areas including gender and ethnicity. Consider the overall makeup of the board and avoid having too many representatives from the same background.
- Do we have the "talent" where we need it? Do we have someone who is good at fundraising, marketing, promotion, networking, grant writing, cultivating donors? Know what we are looking for before we ask for applications.
- Make sure we share the mission and vision with prospective board members before they join us. Make sure the candidate understands the mission and is willing to advocate for the Museum.

Is the Board Balanced?

- Balance the Board between people of action and people who may lend credibility and prestige. Consider selecting someone whose name lends credibility and prestige. While they may not always work hands on at events and programs, they may be strong advocates in other public and private realms.

Pay to Play

Serving on the Museum Board should be an honor, both for the organization and for the individual serving. We should decide (and include in the application process) that Board Members are expected to be paying members and to donate, both financially and in terms of sharing their skills and their time. All Board members should be committed to fundraising for the museum, being on the lookout for historic artifact donations and cultivating larger donors.

Another way to "pay to play" is to have prospective board members serve on a committee before moving in to a Board Position.