



Team Volunteer Descriptions

Team Name: Board of Trustees

Description: The Board of Trustees has ultimate and legal responsibility for the business affairs and policies of WES. Its seven members are elected by the congregation to two-year terms (beginning in alternate years, to maintain continuity) at the spring Membership Meeting. The honor of being elected a Trustee carries with it responsibility, a commitment of time, and the satisfaction of playing a key role in the growth and constancy of the Society. All WES members are welcome to attend meetings of the Board.

This team is important to WES because:

It is the body directly responsible to the mission of WES; it has the legal and fiduciary responsibility for WES under the laws governing our articles of incorporation; it determines policies for the sound organizational and financial guidance of WES; and it ensures WES has adequate resources to carry out its mission.

Volunteer Title: Trustee, Board of Trustees

General Responsibilities of Volunteer:

- Attend Board meetings; regular meetings are held at least monthly.
- Fulfill one of the defined roles for Board Trustees (Secretary, Treasurer, etc.)
- Serve on one or more Board sub-committees
- Participate in the Board's primary governance process of the creation, maintenance, and monitoring of written policies
- Carry out board member responsibilities between board meetings
- Maintain a general understanding of the many program areas through which WES pursues its mission
- See the WES Constitution and Bylaws for additional information.

General Time Requirement:

Board meetings typically last 2.5 hours and are held monthly or more often as circumstances require. Routine total time requirement depends somewhat on the role, but is likely to average 10–20 hours per month, and could on occasion be greater than that if circumstances require it.

Knowledge, talents, or aptitudes helpful in this volunteer role:

Good communication and relationship skills; ability to see the big picture; interest in learning; desire to support WES's mission. A balance of subject matter expertise (legal, financial, etc.) is welcome and useful to have on the Board as a whole, but there is no specific subject matter requirement for an individual board member.

Length of Commitment or Term:

Two years, commencing approximately July 1. Board terms are staggered. Trustees may serve a maximum of six years in a row.

Benefits of serving in this volunteer role:

Besides the satisfaction of supporting WES's mission and of supporting the WES membership, trustees learn consent-based decision making, both theoretically and practically, and enjoy a collegial process. Trustees participate in a highly thought-through policy-based governance model and learn first-hand how it works. Trustees have an opportunity to develop and refine their communication skills and their strategic thinking skills in collaboration with supportive colleagues. Trustees gain a greater understanding of the extensive impressive member and staff work which makes WES work so well.

How to join this team:

Trustees are elected at the spring Membership Meeting by the membership. The Lay Leadership Development Committee (LLDC) seeks candidates not less than two months prior to the election at the spring Membership Meeting. Additional nominations may be made up until 21 days prior to the election, via petitions containing the signature of the nominee plus the signatures of an additional ten WES members or 10% of the WES membership, whichever is smaller. Details are in the WES Constitution and Bylaws.

Date Created: January, 2017

The Board of Trustees was established by WES's Certificate of Incorporation, dated August 29, 1949.