Top 10 Board Questions

By knowing the most common questions asked by volunteer leaders, it helps nonprofit organization staff create an effective orientation process and leadership manual.

1. What about **rules of order**; should I read a book – will the formality intimidate our progress?

2. Will I have the **information** needed to be an effective member of the board; will there be an **orientation**?

3. Do we have a road map of work; does a **strategic plan** exist?

4. Is there a culture of **respect for new board members and new ideas**?

5. I’m limited in my **understanding of finances** – will help be available?

6. What about **insurance for the board and organization**? Are there risks to serving on the board? Is legal counsel available?

7. Am I expected to **fund raise or contribute** additional money?

8. Must board members chair, serve on or act as liaison to **committees**?

9. How do I add an item to the **agenda**; is there a process or time-limit? Who do contact about agenda items and new business?

10. How do **staff members** interface with board members; what access do I have to the staff?

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Note: Bob Harris, CAE, conducts strategic planning, leadership development and organizational assessments. His website is [www.nonprofitcenter.com](http://www.nonprofitcenter.com)  [Bob@rchcae.com](mailto:Bob@rchcae.com)
Governance organization. The board governs, the mission statement should frame management.

Four board functions:

- Governance
- Policy & Position Development
- Minutes
- Executive Sessions

Governance

Policy & Position Development

Minutes

Executive Sessions

Not-for-Profit status of the organization. (It does not imply

management. Four board functions:

• Governance
• Policy & Position Development
• Minutes
• Executive Sessions

Management: If not considered an agent or representative of the board, a staff person may attend or observe board meetings. Their role is to provide information or support to the board.

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