



Humane Society of Sarasota County Board of Directors Application

Overview

The Humane Society of Sarasota County (HSSC) Board of Directors governs the overall execution of the organization's mission. Principally, the Board manages organizational finances and sets long-term priorities for shelter programs. Additionally, the Board oversees the Executive Director, who is responsible for day-to-day management of HSSC programs. Overall, the members of the Board contribute the educational, management, legal, and financial skills needed to ensure long-term organizational stability and ensure year-to-year excellence.

The Board of Directors has up to 25 voting members. Terms are for two years for up to four consecutive terms.

Board Member responsibilities include attendance at board meetings. Board members also hold a fiduciary responsibility for management of organizational capital and ensuring appropriate filings with federal, state, and local authorities consistent with the HSSC's status as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. HSSC's attendance policy allows for removal if three consecutive meetings or five meetings per year are missed.

Declaration of Candidacy

Board positions require a time and energy commitment that should not be underestimated. Candidates are urged to consider personal priorities for the next year as well as the ways to contribute to the development of the organization.

Time and Financial Considerations

- Meetings:
 - Monthly board meetings—typically 1 to 1.5 hours—starting at 12:30pm.
 - Committee Work on the Development, Finance, and Governance Committees.
- Donations: As with any Board, members will be solicited for a cash or in-kind donation; 100% participation is sought; the amount is \$2,500.

Please complete application and return to Christopher Fowler at cfowler@nhslaw.com.

Personal Information

Name:

Address:

Telephone: Home: _____ **Work:** _____ **Mobile:** _____

Email address (all Board Meeting materials are sent via email; please provide the email address that you want used primarily):

1. How long have you lived in Sarasota County?

2. Education and Training:

3. Please provide a description of your work/employment or recent professional achievements:

4. Organizations (professional, civic, fraternal) to which you belong and offices held:

11. Can you commit to monthly meetings?

- Yes**—Advance dates and locations are necessary to schedule other dates around them.
- Maybe**—Advance dates and locations are necessary; however, other obligations may take precedence.
- No**—If not, please explain: _____

12. Board of Directors members should be involved with multiple project areas. How involved do you want to be?

- Extremely involved**—High level of participation, contact at regular intervals, available above and beyond regular committee work and Board of Directors meetings.
- Very involved**—Average level of participation, contact at regular intervals, and available for any committee work.
- Somewhat involved**—Low level of participation, available for Board of Directors meetings but my time outside of those meetings is limited.

13. Board members are expected to contribute in Board discussions and are encouraged to promote the organization. They may be invited to present information to other directors, visitors, or others. What is your level of comfort in speaking before groups and meeting these challenges?

- Very comfortable**—I enjoy group participation and would like to experience presentations before groups
- Comfortable**—Group participation is acceptable, prefer not to make presentations
- Uncomfortable**—I like small work groups but not giving presentations

14. What specific strengths, expertise or experience do you bring to the Board? Please indicate any specific skill sets you possess. (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Advocacy for Self or Others | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Expertise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Development and/or Board Experience | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing Experience |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bookkeeping/Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Medical Expertise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Initiating New Ideas | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising Experience |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decision-Making w/Others | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitating Group Discussion | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing Experience |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list) _____ | |

15. Would you consider serving as a Board officer in the future? Yes No

16. Which of the following committees interest you? (Check all that apply)

Development

Finance

Governance

Would you consider chairing a committee in the future? Yes No

17. What is the best time for a member of the Nominating Committee to contact you?

Board members are responsible for the financial stability of the HSSC. All Board members are expected to actively participate in fundraising activities, securing new memberships, and to donate by writing a check or bringing in donations that equal at least \$2,500 annually. Some of the fundraising activities include:

**Donor cultivation
Membership drives
Raffle ticket sales**

**Special events participation
Corporate sponsorship solicitation
Planned giving cultivation**

Signature _____ **Date:** _____

**Thank you for completing this application form.
Please return to Christopher Fowler at [cfowler@nhslaw.com](mailto:cowler@nhslaw.com).**

A member of the Governance Committee will contact you shortly with further information.