

**February 5th Chuck Loring *Loring, Sternberg and Associates*
Breathe, Relax, Don't Panic and other practical advice now that you are a NP board member.**

You accepted the invitation to join the board. But did you really know what was expected as a board member? As that first board meeting rolls around you might start having second thoughts. "What was I thinking?" "Why did I say yes?" But don't panic. It's likely others around the table are new to the board experience as well. We will walk you through what to expect and how to be a valued, impactful board member.

**March 4th Jeri Pat Gabbert *Indiana University Northwest*
Board and Staff: How can we work together effectively?**

While there are many different guidelines, opinions, and best practices, there are not any rulebooks on how a board and a staff should interact. How can we define roles and responsibilities to ensure that our board members as well as our staff members are engaged and productive? Are there policies in place to ensure that board and staff complement one another; not compete with one another? Please join us for this interactive session to gain insight into how to define your organization's board/staff lines and help everyone thrive in their roles.

**April 1 Zac Kester *Charitable Allies, Inc.*
Board and Officer Liability and other Serious Business**

Board members come from all walks of life with varied areas of expertise. Most are asked to join the board because they are passionate about the organization's mission, or because of connections and resources they want to leverage to benefit the organization's mission. However, did you know that the board is ultimately responsible for the legal and financial health of its organization? Did you know that a board member can be personally liable for his/her inaction? "I didn't know" is, actually, not a defense! Come learn what questions all board members should be asking and how to fulfill your obligations without micro-managing.

**May 6th Sara Beggs *Intentional Philanthropy*
The Board meeting that produces results**

All meetings are NOT created equal. We have all been there – the ineffective meeting that produced zero results. Come get the low-down on what all effective meetings should include; how to use meeting time more efficiently and ensure you make progress toward your goals; and ways to minimize disruptive behavior and engage everyone in the decision making.

June 3rd Kara Harrison/Jodi Snell *HEDGES*
Getting back to the basics of raising money

“Donors don’t give to institutions. They invest in ideas and people in whom they believe” G.T. Smith

Do you tuck your head and run when you hear the word “fundraise”. Most people agree that asking for money is their least favorite task. What if you learned that raising money is as easy as relationship building and sharing your passion? Come learn how to translate the friend-making business into the fund-making business.

September 2nd Kathy Pedrotti Hays *Pedrotti Hays, Inc.*
Developing a Strategic Plan

Running an organization without a strategic plan is like driving blindfolded. In order to get where your organization wants to get you will need to have a plan in place. Does your organization have a strategic plan in place? Do you know what is included in the plan? Does your board review the plan on a regular basis? Are decisions made with the strategic plan in mind? Many organizations do not have strategic plans. Or if they do, they are outdated and no longer apply. Come learn what your organization should be doing when it comes to strategic planning.

October 7th Aaron Eckhardt *BRAVO*
What is diversity and why it should matter to your organization

Diversity is defined as the condition of having or being composed of differing elements or qualities; having variety. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. Aaron is BACK! If you haven’t heard Aaron speak in the past you should put this session on your calendar. Aaron brings a fun and refreshing approach to difficult and sensitive issues facing our world and our work.

November 4th Melanie Norton *Norton Philanthropic Advisors*
Go forward and share your story – Building a competent board and inspiring others to serve

A well-run organization is always recruiting enthusiastic individuals willing to serve as board members, committee members and volunteers. What can you do to engage new stakeholders and inspire others in the community to follow in your footsteps? What’s your story? Come and learn from Melanie how to recruit and engage the next generation of leaders for your organization.