

## **The Glenville Local Development Corporation**

### **2016 Evaluation of Board Performance**

The Governance Committee recently sent each GLDC Board member a confidential Board performance evaluation for 2016. The evaluation form/questionnaire was edited this year to reflect changes to previous forms deleting any questions regarding Board oversight of staff since the GLDC has no staff. The current evaluation form is now twelve questions. As with previous evaluation questions, each response required one of the following answers: Agree, Somewhat Agree, Somewhat Disagree, and Disagree. A copy of the evaluation form is attached. All Board members completed the evaluation. The following is an overview.

The Board was unanimous on the following criteria:

- Board members have a shared understanding of the mission and purpose of the GLDC.
- Board members comprehend their role and fiduciary responsibilities.
- Board decisions are arrived at through independence without political influence, pressure or self-interest.
- Board and Committee meetings facilitate open, deliberate and through discussion by all members.
- Individual Board members feel empowered to delay votes, defer agenda items or table actions if they feel more information or discussion is needed.
- Board members demonstrate leadership and vision and work respectfully with each other.

The criteria were Board members either “Agreed” or “Somewhat Agree” included:

The policies, practices, and decisions of the Board are always consistent with the GLDC mission. On this particular point there was only one response of “somewhat agree”. All others were “agree”.

The Board reviews annually adopted policies, by-laws, and practices effective governance and management. Four responses were “somewhat agree” and one response of “agree”. Although not a serious issue, we should consider devoting at least part of a Board meeting or several Board meetings to go over all policies, by-laws etc. for comment and update.

Board members are knowledgeable about the GLDC’s programs, financial statements, reporting requirements and other transactions. Most responses were “agree”. Two were “somewhat agree”. In my opinion, I think our financial reporting/statements have improved 100% since our new Treasurer has joined the Board. Reporting requirements may be the issue with the “somewhat agree” responses. This is just speculation on my part.

The Board meets to review and approve all documents and reports prior to public release and is confident that the information is accurate and complete. Most responses were “agree”. Two were “somewhat agree”. Since just about everything we do is posted to our website or the ABO website, we may want to take a look at establishing a more formal process to address this.

Board members have sufficient opportunity to research, discuss, question and prepare before decisions are made and a vote taken. There was only one response of “somewhat agree”. All others were “agree”.

I do not see an issue here since all Board members felt empowered to delay votes, defer agenda items, or table actions if they feel additional information or discussion is needed.

The Board knows the statutory obligations of the GLDC and if the GLDC is in compliance with New York State law. There were no “somewhat disagree” or “disagree” responses to this criteria. There were three “somewhat agree” and two “agree” responses. I do not see an issue here. We have good legal representation and enough Board members that have a understanding of the always changing obligations of State compliance.

Conclusion:

As an all-volunteer organization, the Board is doing a very good job understanding and managing the mission of the GLDC. This is evident in the fact that there were no “somewhat disagree” or “disagree” responses in the Board evaluation for 2016. In my opinion, there has been much improvement during 2016 and I see continued improvement going forward. Although not critical, some of my suggestions notes above may help improve operations of the GLDC.

Submitted by Scott Osswald, Governance Committee Chair, February 7, 2017.