

## Other information about Board of Director duties and how to fill a seat on the Board

Some have asked us what a Director-at-Large actually is, and how anyone could best determine where they could be the most useful when serving on the Board of Directors of the Freedom Hill Cooperative.

What follows is a very general description of how our Cooperative has traditionally filled seats on the Board, and how the Board of Directors has most recently taken shape and shared duties to be the most effective functioning unit. For *official* descriptions, see the Cooperative's By-Laws.

### What is a Director-at-Large anyway?

Think "assistant." Or "person of many hats." In general, a Director-at-Large makes themselves available to help out any of the other Board members with their prescribed duties. But being a full member of the Board, their voting power is 100% equal to any other Board member, and their input in discussing topics and acting within a system of checks and balances is extremely important

### Are the duties of most Directors simpler than they sound in the official descriptions?

Yes! Because we use Hodges to do our financial management, and they can also mail violation letters, the Board of Directors must take on the role of *overseeing* that everything is getting done. Only the Maintenance Director currently has a function that is extremely active, often times requiring many hours out in the park working directly with contractors or even doing hands-on tasks. In general, serving on the Board in this Cooperative - in any other capacity - will require much communication (typically done by phone or more commonly by email) and sometimes meeting together on an interim basis, besides the monthly BOD meetings. It is probably more advantageous to be willing to communicate rather than to have any particular skill.

### Can Directors be appointed, or are they always elected?

Yes, the currently sitting Board can appoint new members during any regular Board meeting, or even as an action taken outside a meeting. The appointed member would serve out any remaining time left on the term for that position. After that, they could choose to run for the seat at the next Annual Membership Meeting, or not. Trying out a Board seat in this manner is an excellent way to interact with the Board, and get a feel for how things work, and train for *any* position on the Board.

### What if I serve in one seat, but find I am better suited to a different seat?

That could happen! But joining the Board is the important first step. You can learn the roles and duties of each of the seats, and assist in an area where you have a particular interest or skill or willingness. When election time comes, you can run for the one that better suits you. But often, members sitting on the Board mold their positions and modify their duties to assist one another and work together as a cohesive unit. In general, the President oversees and guides the other members to assure that all functions are being performed, and a delegation of duties can be arranged so that each member feels they are working to their best advantage.