

So you're interested in being on the Apogaea Board of Directors?

Here's what you need to know!

Your Galactic President Erik since 2017 - Sept 2021

Being on the board of directors is an important role in making sure our organization continues to stay healthy and represent the interests of the Apogaea community. The board, composed of between 3 and 9 individuals, also has certain formal (and legal) functions including making sure that the executive branch (specifically the officers) are doing a good job, spending money responsibly, staying legal, and promoting the values of the organization. Sometimes board members are also officers, or could serve in other leadership roles (e.g. ignition). There are two types of board appointments, those that have been elected by the membership, and those that are appointed by the board, also known as emeritus board members. All board members have voting rights. Elected board members serve a 3-year term, after which they may re-apply for another 3-year term. Emeritus board members serve at most one year, although they may be reappointed by the board.

What you need to consider before applying

As some of the questions below will reinforce, we ask that board applicants commit to a 3-year term. If a board member misses 3 board meetings in a row without a good reason, they may be asked to resign. We feel that applicants should be familiar with Apogaea, and be a member of the community in good standing.

Being a board member can occasionally require handling sensitive confidential information, and can sometimes require handling uncomfortable situations. In addition to attending board meetings, we ask that board members try to attend the event. During the event, at least one board member will be "on-duty" at all times to address issues as they arise. These could include interacting with the land owner, law enforcement, unruly attendees, or virtually any safety or emergency situation that comes up during the event. You usually won't need to handle these alone, but we try to make sure at least one sober representative of the board is available any hour during the event.

Apogaea is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and must comply with various legal requirements. It is also effectively a small business, whose function is to promote the Burning Man principles, and has certain legal and fiduciary responsibilities.

Apogaea covers all officers and board members with Directors and Officers liability insurance.

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If that works for you, take a few minutes to read the by-laws. That document guides the organization, and all Directors and Officers are expected to understand and follow them.

Some high level questions for you to think about:

1. This job **can** be extremely time-consuming at times. Some years, some board members have put up to 20-40 hours a week into the role. Our hope is that this was the exception, and if everyone pitches in and the org is functioning well that shouldn't need to happen. Are you ready for that?
2. Are there any particular topics or issues you already have some ideas about? Any directional or process changes you already think may be beneficial to the overall health of the org? What do you care most about?
3. How familiar are you with Apogaea's structure or operations? Do you have initial impressions of "how things work," whether observational, intuitive, experience-based, etcetera?
4. How do you handle conflict, contention, and differences of opinion? What is your modus operandi when it comes to personal and professional relationships?

Still interested? How do I apply?

You made it this far! Awesome! If you are ready to pull the trigger, take some time to answer the questions below and email them to candidates@apogaea.com by the application deadline.

The 2021 deadline is midnight, **Sep 17, 2021**.

All approved applicants will be provided to the election supervisor on Sept 20th who will send a survey to the Apogaea membership (a.k.a. Ignition). Voting will continue through October 4th. Elected Board Members start their term at the beginning of the October board meeting.

Questions for applicants:

- Why are you interested in being a part of the Apogaea Board of Directors?
- What is your initial vision for what you would like to accomplish on the board?
- List any previous volunteer experience, including experiences with Burning Man, Apogaea, or other regional events:
- List any accomplishments you have that exhibit strong leadership skills:
- Can you commit to working through the completion of Apogaea?
- Can you commit to attending at least one monthly meeting?

- Have you previously attended an Apogaea board meeting?
- Can you commit to answering board related emails in a timely fashion and fully participating in online discussions?
- Can you commit to working at least four mandated volunteer shifts at the event?
- Can you commit to keeping discussions and decisions of the board confidential?
- List your education (all degrees/professional certifications obtained):
- Do you have any work experience in the past 10 years that provide specific skills, fields of enterprise, or other information which would be relevant to work as a board member?
- Do you have previous experience specifically as the board member or officer of a corporation?
- Are you computer literate? Are you comfortable using Google Docs?
Please attach your current resume if you have one.