



Board Member Responsibilities

Here's what we ask of Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT) board members

Statement of Understanding

As a member of the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT) Board of Directors, I understand that my duties and responsibilities include the following:

1. I share fiscal responsibility for this organization with the other Board members. It is my duty to know what our budget is, to play an active part in planning that budget, and to help with the fundraising necessary to meet that budget.
2. I share legal responsibility for this organization with the other Board members. I am responsible to know and approve all policies and programs, and to oversee the implementation of these policies and programs.
3. I share moral responsibility for this organization with the other board members. I pledge my full commitment and dedication to carry out the mission and purpose of SILT.
4. I agree that I have read and understand the SILT Bylaws including Articles III through V (Board of Directors, Officers, and Committees), and will take responsibility to implement these bylaws as adopted.
5. I will give to SILT what is, for me, a substantial donation, either as an annual gift or as pledge payments to be made through the year. Such a gift is necessary to maintain the fiscal well-being of the organization and to serve as a model to the community of my commitment to SILT.
6. I will actively engage in fundraising for this organization, in whatever ways are best suited to me. These may include individual solicitation, doing special events, writing mail appeals, and the like. There is no set amount of money that I must raise because I am making a good faith agreement to do my best.
7. I will aim to attend all Board meetings every year, and to miss no more than one per year, and will be available for phone consultation. I also agree to be active on at least one committee or task force and attend committee/task force meetings as needed. I understand that commitment to this Board will involve a good deal of time, and will probably not involve less than five hours per month.
8. I agree to represent SILT in public meetings and conferences, and to act as a liaison to SILT partners, contacts and other organizations whenever possible.
9. I understand that my term as a Board member is for three years, that I may be re-elected for up to one additional consecutive terms, and that re-nomination to the Board is not guaranteed.
10. I understand that no quotas for participation in SILT fundraising have been set either in terms of dollars or hours, and that no rigid standards of measurement of Board participation or achievement have been formed. Every Board member is making a statement of faith about every other Board member. We are trusting each other to carry out the above agreements to the best of our ability, each in our own way, with knowledge, approval, and support of all. I know that if I fail to act in good faith, I must resign or someone from the Board may ask me to resign.

In its turn, SILT is responsible to me in the following ways:

1. I will be sent, without request, bimonthly financial reports that allow me to meet the prudent person section of the law.
2. I can call on the staff to discuss program and policy, goals, and objectives.
3. Board members and staff will respond in a straight-forward and thorough fashion to any questions I have which I feel are necessary to carry out my fiscal, legal, or moral responsibilities to this organization.
4. As a Board member, I have the right to inspect all corporate financial and program files and documents, and to request additional information not specified in this document.
5. SILT will maintain current Directors and Officers liability insurance.

Board Member Signature

Date