

# **BoardServe LLC**

**Roundtable Planning Team  
October 5, 2012  
CCJ legal offices  
10 S. Gay Street  
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050**

## **Overarching AGENDA Questions:**

What is BoardServe LLC?

Where should BoardServe “be” in five years?

What is needed to get there?

If BoardServe could do one thing extremely well,

What would that one thing be?

What is needed to insure BoardServe sustainability?

What is the “value-added” of BoardServe to governing boards?

# IN REVIEW:

## Mission Statement

BoardServe.org serves as a global intervention and coaching resource to nurture governing boards of Christian organizations, including universities, seminaries, and local churches.

## Strategic Vision

Transformed and transformative boards that govern diligently.  
(cf. Romans 12:8c)

## Overarching Objectives

Create an environment for governing boards to assess their health and effectiveness.

1. Clarify where they want to be and shape a structural organization to reach their goals.
2. Nurture a functional culture of effective decision-making by governing boards.
3. Cultivate a coaching network of certified trainers equipped to develop strong governing boards in Christian organizations worldwide.

## Strategic Services

### BoardServe.org can provide:

#### 1. To pastors, school and organizational leaders, and board chairs

Intensive and systematic coaching with pastors, board chairs, and organizational leaders regarding leadership style, constituency communication, board/leader relationships, team building, vision casting, and strategic implementation planning for the transformative organization.

Intervention with organizational leaders and board chairs regarding governing boards and organizations in crisis.

#### 2. To governing boards

Consultation, including workshops and retreats, with church, school, and non-profit organizations designed to strengthen the governing boards for

Christian organizations.

Training multi-cultural boards in listening, understanding, and appreciating the dynamic richness and significant contribution brought by full participation of all the board members, thus modeling Kingdom values to the church, organization and broader constituency.

### **3. To churches and organizations**

Periodic webinars offered on key critical issues related to board development.

Interim leadership of churches or Christian organizations in need of congregational/institutional healing, transition, and board development.

### **4. A coaching network**

Cultivate and train certified consultants to serve Christian organizations, listen to leaders and board chairs, and coach in a style and method reflective of the mission, values and overarching objectives of BoardServe.org.

Connect qualified consultants to schools, churches and organizations matching the coach to the person or board requesting assistance.

## **Characteristics and *Best Practices of Effective Boards***

- 1. HEAD IN – FINGERS OUT.** Board members understand the role, purpose, and function of the board.
- 2. MISSION AND VALUES DRIVE US.** Board members know, communicate, and make decisions in light of the organization’s mission, vision, and values.
- 3. THINK QUESTIONS.** Board members ask the right questions.
- 4. WRITE IT DOWN.** Board members understand and embrace a board policy manual that contains the board-approved policies for effective and efficient governance of the organization.
- 5. WATCH YOUR WORDS.** Board members communicate with each other and address conflict situations as Christians.

**6. STRONG BOARDS EMPOWER EFFECTIVE LEADERS.** Board members relate to their leaders and constituency with one voice.

**7. INTEGRITY MATTERS.** Board members intentionally engage in mutual accountability, including systematic board development and evaluation.

**8. TAKE TIME.** Board members take time to process decisions, with no intentional surprises.

**9. YES! TO VISION-INSPIRED CHANGE.** Board members embrace change and resolve to work through transitions together and unite for the good of the Kingdom and the advancement of God's mission.

**10. REVIEW-REVISE-RESTATE-RENEW.** Board members participate in assessing the effectiveness of prior decisions and collectively make appropriate adjustments.

**11. ROLE MODELS OF GENEROSITY.** Board members are outstanding examples of giving regularly and sacrificially to the church, college, or organization they serve.

**12. PASS IT ON.** Board members develop new leaders throughout the region for increased responsibilities and commitment to the organization.

## **Additional Resources**

**1.Book, "Best Practices..."**

**2.DVD, "Building Better Boards"**

**3.Dropbox link, [lfairbanks@boardserve.org/dropbox](mailto:lfairbanks@boardserve.org)**

**4.Website, [www.BoardServe.org](http://www.BoardServe.org)**

**5.Professional page, [www.Facebook.com/BoardServeORG](http://www.Facebook.com/BoardServeORG)**

## **NEXT STEPS**

## **What should be our top three CORE VALUES?**

## **What should be our top three KEY PRIORITIES?**

LeBron, “Arrived home today to read an email from the National Association of Corporate Directors that noted 92% of boards (for profit) are now having performance evaluations conducted. Establishing best practices for non-profits can be no less important and, in fact given the eternal issues that a church board is facing, I would argue it's even more important. We should talk about that when we are together.” Len

See also article, “Capacity Building Workshop“ published by NDI

## **What should be our OVERIDING GOALS?**

## **What should be our top three STRATEGIC INITIATIVES?**

**How do we “position” BoardServe as a credible resource for governing boards as they seek to review their work and nurture a culture of effective decision making?**

### **Administrative issues:**

#### **Marketing, including social media?**

**Budging and Pricing?**  
**Scope and locations?**  
**Consultants' network development?**  
**Staff support?**  
    **Legal structure/governance?**  
    **Associations to join?**  
    **Websites to observe?**

**Timelines:**

**Next four months?**

**General Assembly?**

**Next twelve months?**

**Are there strategic questions not asked above?**

**What is your vision for BOARDSERVE LLC in five years?**

**BoardServe Roundtable and ELF:**  
**Meetings/phone conferences/consultations?**

*Strong Governing Boards Empower Effective Leaders.*

*Strong Leaders Embrace Engaged Boards.*