

Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy Board Member Agreement

I, _____ understand that as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy, I have a legal, moral and fiduciary responsibility to ensure that the organization does the best work possible in pursuit of its goals. I believe in the purpose and the mission of the organization, and I will act responsibly and prudently as its steward.

My duties and responsibilities as a board member include:

1. I will serve a three-year term. I understand that my term may be renewed one time, if I wish and the board agrees, for a maximum of six consecutive years of service.
2. I will represent the organization, and interpret the organization's work and values to the community. I will act as an ambassador in support of CMLC's goals to attract new volunteers, trustees, donors, and land projects to the organization.
3. I will engage in long-term planning for CMLC and I will help shape the vision and work of the organization.
4. I will attend at least 75% of board meetings and key events (i.e. Spring Annual Meeting and Fall Fundraiser). I will inform the staff or President beforehand if I will not be able to attend a meeting or event.
5. I will make a personal financial contribution at a level that is meaningful to me.
6. I understand that Board members are sometimes asked to help with fundraising (including help with donation letters, events, donor visits, and foundation meetings) and I will support CMLC's fundraising as the need arises and my schedule allows.
7. I will act in the best interests of the organization, and excuse myself from discussions and votes where I have a conflict of interest.
8. I will stay informed about what is going on in the organization. I will ask questions and request information. I will participate in and take responsibility for making decisions on issues, policies, finances and other board matters. I will, to the best of my ability, take advantage of educational and professional development opportunities in order to be informed.
9. I will participate in the organization by serving on at least one committee or project.
10. If I don't fulfill these commitments to the organization, I will expect the board president to call me and discuss my responsibilities with me.

In turn, the organization will be responsible to me in several ways:

1. I will be sent, without request, bi-monthly financial reports and an update of organizational activities that allow me to meet the legal requirements of being a board member.
2. I will be provided with an initial orientation and offered subsequent educational and professional development opportunities to help me perform my duties and keep me informed about issues in the land conservation field.
3. Board members and staff will respond in a straightforward fashion to questions I have that I feel are necessary to carry out my fiscal, legal and moral responsibilities to this organization. Board members and staff will work in good faith with me towards achievement of our goals.
4. If the organization does not fulfill its commitments to me, I can call on the board president and executive director to discuss these responsibilities.

Signed:

_____ Date: _____
Member, Board of Trustees

_____ Date: _____
President, Board of Trustees

[Have the Board President sign two copies of this Agreement, and ask new board members to sign them, return one copy to the Board President, and keep the other for reference.]