



Board of Directors Requirements

Our Mission

Standish Humane Society (SHS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of cats and kittens throughout the South Shore of Massachusetts.

Our mission is to reduce feline overpopulation through affordable spay and neuter programs, support and manage community cat colonies through trap-neuter-return (TNR) efforts, and rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome adoptable cats and kittens. Whenever possible, we also assist by transporting cats and kittens from high-intake shelters to areas where adoptive homes are available.

We strive to promote the health and well-being of both owned and community cats through education, advocacy, and accessible veterinary resources while inspiring a community in which all cats—feral and friendly alike—are understood, respected, and cared for.

Board of Directors Membership

If seats open up in the future, Standish Humane Society will be seeking passionate, energetic, and community-minded individuals to join our Board of Directors. We will be particularly interested in candidates with experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Legal services, contracts, liability, and nonprofit compliance
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Financial planning, accounting, and budgeting
- Fundraising and development
- Grant writing
- Event planning
- Estate planning and planned giving
- Corporate sponsorships
- Capital campaigns
- Veterinary medicine
- Animal shelter management
- Transportation coordination and interagency transfers

Board Member Responsibilities

Leadership, Governance, and Oversight

Board members are expected to:

- Review board materials prior to meetings.
- Attend and actively participate in quarterly virtual board meetings.
- Serve on at least one board committee.
- Assist in identifying and recruiting prospective board members.
- Understand and comply with SHS bylaws and policies.
- Act in the best interests of the organization and support its mission, vision, and values.
- Participate in long-range strategic planning.
- Monitor fiscal management and organizational accountability.
- Maintain confidentiality regarding board discussions and sensitive organizational matters.

Fundraising and Community Engagement

Board members are expected to:

- Actively support fundraising initiatives and donor outreach.
- Participate in fundraising events and special appeals.
- Serve as ambassadors for Standish Humane Society within the community.

Board Terms and Attendance

- Board members serve a two-year term.
- Members are expected to fulfill their entire term of service.
- Quarterly board meetings are scheduled at the beginning of each year.
- Quarterly board meeting may be in person or virtual.
- Additional committee meetings may be required depending on committee assignments.

Preferred Qualifications

Ideal candidates will possess:

- Previous nonprofit board or leadership experience.
- A collaborative approach and the ability to work effectively with fellow board members, volunteers, and staff.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- A basic understanding of financial statements and nonprofit governance.
- A commitment to professionalism, discretion, and organizational unity.
- A passion for animal welfare and the mission of Standish Humane Society.

While differing opinions are valued, board members should engage in respectful discussion, support decisions reached by the board, and work together toward shared goals.

Application Process

Interested candidates should complete this on-line application: [Board of Directors Application](https://form.jotform.com/261884007991062). If the link does not open, cut and paste this link in your browser **<https://form.jotform.com/261884007991062>**

Selection Process

- Applications are reviewed by all current Board members.
- A current Board member must nominate an applicant for consideration.
- Nominated applicants will be notified and invited to move forward in the selection process.
- Approved nominees are placed on the election ballot.
- Current Board members vote by anonymous ballot to elect new Directors.

We welcome individuals who are passionate about animal welfare and eager to help shape the future of Standish Humane Society. Together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of cats and kittens in our community.