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**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**1. WHO WE ARE**

For four decades, Ozaukee Washington Land Trust has been inspiring people to engage with nature by ensuring that habitats, working lands, and water resources are conserved, connected, and resilient.

With the support of our members, we have conserved over 7,500 acres of open spaces and natural areas, many of which have become iconic outdoor recreation destinations in our community, like Mequon Nature Preserve, Fellenz Woods, and Lion’s Den Gorge.

We currently have a dynamic Board of Directors leading our professional staff. Both staff and board are filled with thoughtful, connected, and high-performing members.

This call for applications will allow Ozaukee Washington Land Trust to expand and diversify our dynamic group of board leaders to ensure we are in service to the people and natural resources of our community.

**2. WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR**

**We are looking for people who want to be part of creating organizational growth and meeting new challenges while honoring our commitment to sustainably steward our portfolio of conserved lands.**

**An ideal Ozaukee Washington Land Trust Board Member is …**

* A curious personwho doesn’t just ask questions, but searches for answers and helps implement solutions to strategic questions.
* A relationship-builderwho is passionate about conservation and people and deepening our community’s relationship to natural resources and the places that make our corner of Wisconsin special.
* A person with a diverse perspective, who leaves personal agendas at the door, but brings a unique and thoughtful voice to Ozaukee Washington Land Trust.
* A person who is passionate about conservation and willing to invest a combination of their time and financial resources to the mission of protecting and stewarding land and water for all.

A good fit with **the values and culture of Ozaukee Washington Land Trust**, including:

* a commitment to a scientifically-driven approach towards land and water conservation that relies on conservation expertise while balancing the sometimes competing goal of promoting public access to conserved places.
* “Committed to the principles of diversity and inclusion in conserving natural resources and ensuring our conservation efforts benefit all.”Belief in the importance and power of nonpartisan advocacy for conservation at state, local, and federal levels of government.
* Have a passion for and regularly spend meaningful time, living, working, or recreating in the communities served by Ozaukee Washington Land Trust. (You do NOT need to be a resident of Ozaukee or Washington Counties).

**A person with** **one or more of the following backgrounds**:

* Agribusiness & Farming expertise
* Communications, Marketing, or Fundraising expertise
* Conservation expertise (i.e. academic training or field experience in natural sciences or environmental engineering)
* Financial acumen
* Human Resource Management or non-profit governance expertise
* Leadership in for-profit, public/government, or non-profit/mission-driven organizations
* Real estate and development professionals

**3. WHAT WE WILL ASK OF YOU**

**An ideal Ozaukee Washington Land Trust Board Member will…**

* Inform our **strategic direction**, oversee our **financial health**, and ensure that **best practices** in management and leadership are followed.
* Be an annual donor/member at a level that is personally significant for you.
* Collaborate with former and current board members and staff to cultivate relationships with OWLT donors.
* Serve as an ambassador and advocate of Ozaukee Washington Land Trust to the community, building awareness and support with new supporters.
* Be willing to **devote sufficient time** to their duties and responsibilities, which include (among other duties):
* Attendance at five to six virtual and in person board meetings per year.
* Attendance and active service on at least one standing committee, including: Executive, Finance, Development & Communications, Land Protection, or Stewardship Committees. Committees meet quarterly.
* Participation in at least one Ozaukee Washington Land Trust member event annually. We invite Board Members to connect with our supporters in a manner that is personally enjoyable for you: Examples: Invite member to coffee, invite member to an OWLT volunteer day or “Get to Know” hike, host a house party at your home, lead/participate in a guided walk with coffee, etc. The important thing is to think about the type of activity/engagement you like to attend.
* Be prepared to serve to the end of their three-year term.

**4. HOW TO APPLY**

**We would love to hear from you. Please your fill out the accompanying form telling us about your experience and passion for this work. Feel free to share a resume, portfolio, or any supporting materials you wish by emailing** **tstolp@owlt.org****.**

**We’ll be accepting and reviewing applications until June 12, 2023.**

We’ll acknowledge receipt of all submissions and reach back out for more information to those that appear to be the best fit at this time for advancement in the process.

The interview committee will make recommendations to the full Board of Directors. We’ll get back to applicants immediately after that meeting. Then, new members would start at the August or September meeting.

**QUESTIONS**

**Name of Candidate: Date**

1. Why are you interested in joining the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust Board of Directors?

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2. Tell us about your relevant background, specifically, the kind of skills and resources you would bring to OWLT and to the board?

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4. What is your vision about how a board governs a non-profit organization and how do you think your vision would apply to the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust? Do you have ideas for the future of OWLT?

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5. How do you work in groups where there are differences of opinion? Do you have examples of having worked through differences of opinion in groups?

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