Voyageurs National Park Association
Call for Board and Committee Nominations

Voyageurs National Park Association (VNPA) is enthusiastically seeking volunteers to serve on our board of directors, board committees, and task forces.

If you love the pristine land and waters of northern Minnesota and our nation's most treasured public lands: national parks, serving on our board of directors is an excellent way to help us fulfill our mission of protecting and advancing Voyageurs National Park. VNPA seeks and welcomes diversity in all respects in our board of directors, volunteers, membership, partners, and supporters.

Background. Voyageurs National Park Association is dedicated to connecting people to Voyageurs National Park, enhancing the visitor experience, and protecting the park for present and future generations. VNPA is a 501c3 nonprofit headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota. VNPA's board of directors is the governing body of the organization and responsible for:

- Ensuring the organization fulfills its mission and purpose and reports back to the public
- Selecting and evaluating the performance of the Executive Director
- Supporting strategic and organizational planning
- Ensuring strong fiduciary oversight and financial management
- Fundraising and resource development
- Approving and overseeing VNPA’s programs and services
- Enhancing the organization’s public image and relations
- Assessing board performance

For more information about VNPA see www.Voyageurs.org

Role. Board members are entrusted to steer VNPA towards a sustainable future by adopting sound, ethical, and legal governance and financial management policies, as well as by making sure VNPA has adequate resources to advance its mission.

Individual board members are expected to be active, informed, and engaged in VNPA's mission and purpose, and uphold duties of care, loyalty, and obedience to the law. Board members provide leadership related to strategy and development and engage in project-based work for one or more standing committees. Skills in facilitation, decision-making, and planning among others are helpful. For more information about board member responsibilities see The Office of the Minnesota Attorney General's Guide for Charity Board Members.

Committee and task force members share their specialized knowledge, experience, and/or motivation to further VNPA’s strategies. We are seeking persons who support VNPA’s mission, have leadership skills, and can introduce new communities and organizations.
Time Commitment. The Board meets six times a year, 4-5 times in Minneapolis and 1-2 times at Voyageurs National Park, including an annual board retreat. Board members are expected to be active and involved in the organization either through committee participation or other individual efforts to move VNPA’s strategies forward. On average board members volunteer 5-10 hours per month. Committee members volunteer an estimated 3-5 hours per month.

Board & Committee Qualifications Desired. At this time VNPA especially welcomes nominations for people that may bring:

- Diversity in all respects, including gender, culture, age, perspective, and leadership style
- Geographic diversity, particularly representatives from northern Minnesota and gateway communities
- Veteran status
- Fundraising connections and expertise, especially to foundations and corporate partners
- Connections to new potential partners, especially in the outdoor industry, tribal communities, education and research institutions, law firms
- Interest, skills, experience in:
  - Fundraising and campaigns
  - Legal, especially in the areas of nonprofit, tax, and real estate
  - Program development, especially youth and education
  - Real estate and land expertise
  - Cultural preservation
  - Conservation/science, especially freshwater, fisheries, forest management, climate change
  - Community development
  - Financial and business planning
  - Human resources
  - Advocacy and lobbying
  - Communications and marketing, especially expertise in digital platforms and reaching new audiences

Current VNPA Board Committee Opportunities

- Communications & Marketing
- Finance
- Land Preservation
- Campaign & Fundraising
- Events
- Science & Policy

Nominations Process and Timing. Nominations are accepted on an ongoing basis, and encouraged as soon as possible or by October 1, 2020.
If you would like to nominate someone or yourself for a board or committee position, please contact us to discuss further and complete a nomination form.

The Board Affairs Committee reviews nominations and supplemental materials (statement of interest and resume), and considers all aspects of candidates background, interests, qualifications, and skills to create a board capable of leading VNPA and its strategic priorities, and connecting to its constituents.

Board elections are held in November and as needed throughout the year to fill vacant positions.

Terms typically begin on January 1 of each year for a three-year period. If elected mid-year, terms may start and end for an agreed upon period.

For more information please contact:

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