

The HOA Board of Directors: How to Make a Positive Difference

By: John Kalas

Even though HOA boards of directors and property managers are responsible for property, the issues that arise most often are likely to be related to people rather than real estate. That makes the job more difficult, and board members have to navigate with a little finesse to succeed. Follow some basic rules and your board and community will work well.

First Things First: Give Others Due Respect

Care and respect go a long way in our society, and the same applies to the relationships between HOA board members, as well as with the communities they serve. Think of an HOA as a democracy and you'll have a strong foundation. . .

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Basic listings are free, so if you are aware of any business that isn't included in our directory, please let us know. We just need the standard information of name, address, telephone number, and website or email address, if possible. Most important, the business category in which the listing should be classified.

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[Saunders v. Meyers—Washington](#)

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First Things First: Give Others Due Respect

Care and respect go a long way in our society, and the same applies to the relationships between HOA board members, as well as with the communities they serve. Think of an HOA as a democracy and you'll have a strong foundation. Like any democracy, the community you live in is made up of diverse individuals. We need to approach others with an authentic caring attitude and give them the respect they deserve. That even goes for times when we don't agree, and when respect is not reciprocated.

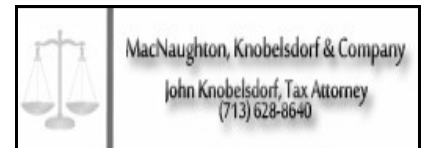
Perception is Everything

Anyone who has been on an HOA board of directors knows this fundamental truth about communication: It's not what you say; it's how you say it. Remember, perception drives behavior!

Successful HOA boards are sensitive to the need to act and communicate with care, because perception drives behavior. Having too many extra meetings or taking an action without a meeting, for example, can communicate to the association that the board isn't operating democratically.

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As an example of making a search, select "Attorney - General Counsel" and "California," you will get 83 hits. Select, in addition, "Los Angeles County" and you narrow your search down to 21 hits. Narrow your search further by selecting city "Los Angeles" and you end up with 9 law firms.



Articles on the Web

Article Title	Article Summary	State
Decades of street overlays cause concern, damage in Hubbard Place	Residents claim that after 40 years of repeated overlays on their streets, it has caused damage that is keeping water from draining properly.	Missouri
Dispute over political signs heads to court	A couple feels their first amendment rights are being violated because their HOA has fined them for placing a campaign sign in their yard. This has led to a lawsuit that is heading to court.	New York
Madison Park residents worried about pedestrian safety	An intersection within a homeowners association, lacks painted crosswalks and signs that alert motorists to crossing pedestrians and cyclists. This has the association leadership and homeowners concerned that safety is an issue.	North Carolina
Condo residents start to return following storm damage	Major storms in Las Vegas cause serious damage to homes leaving some with repairs that could keep them from returning to their homes. Some homeowners are homeless until utilities can be repaired.	Nevada
Tips for first-time homebuyers	A number of tips for first-time homebuyers are offered.	National
It's not everyone's time to buy a home	Buying a home is a huge decision that takes a lot of knowledge and examination of our personal financial situation. Be sure to make a wise decision based on your own personal information.	New York
Homeowner's association digs in over Brandermill garden war	A man who started a garden to teach his daughters and the neighborhood kids how to care for it, could soon cost a family a lot of money because they did not get prior approval from the homeowner's association.	Virginia
Homeowner threatened with fines if he doesn't plant trees	A homeowners association is threatening to fine a homeowner for not planting trees in his yard.	Nevada
Restrictions stop Knox homeowner from using kudzu-eating goats	Zoning is keeping a family from using a chemical free alternative to killing kudzu, goats.	Tennessee
Rolling Meadows might condemn land for flood prevention	The residents of Rolling Meadows must agree on a flood prevention plan to avoid an easement behind their complex from being condemned.	Illinois
Animal Care and Control imposter scams elderly couple out of hundreds of dollars	An imposter, posing as an animal control agent, threatened to take an elderly couple's dog if they did not pay a "fine."	Florida
Plans to heat Columbia's Dorsey Hall pool withdrawn	An association was reviewing the possibility of heating their outdoor pool year round. They have since decided to drop this plan as a result of complaints from nearby residents.	Maryland
Youngtown, HOA sue mine developer	Residents of a town and homeowners association filed a joint lawsuit to keep a sand and gravel business from being developed near their homes. The lawsuit claims the mining operation will pose health and safety concerns.	Arizona
Inverness neighborhood association hires company to remove coyotes	A community that is concerned about the safety of their residents, has hired a company to remove coyotes. These coyotes have killed numerous pets and have been seen stalking small children.	Alabama
Couple in nasty battle with South Natomas homeowners association	A question about how a board is spending the association money and the refusal to repair a lift in the swimming pool, has caused the board to be in a battle with a retired, disabled veteran and his wife.	California