

# Questions to ask yourself before becoming a CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Before you consider applying for the Board of Directors, please ask yourself whether you truly feel strongly about the type of work we do and the members we serve. Consider first what you can bring to the table, and then, whether you are willing to give that to the Threshermen organization. The right time to ask the following questions is before, not after, you become a candidate for the board.

- What skills, contacts, and perspectives do I have that will be useful to the organization?
- Am I fully committed to the purpose of the Threshermen Association?
- Can I contribute the time necessary to be an effective board member?
- Will I place the organization's purposes and interests above my own professional and personal interests when making decisions as a board member?

## KEY EXPECTATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

1. Attend all meetings unless absolutely unavoidable. Your presence, your opinions, knowledge, guidance and connections are all vital – they are the most important reason you are serving on the Board. The Board meets once a month, usually on a Monday evening or a Saturday morning with an occasional special meeting if needed. We also share some information or discuss something through text or email when needed.
2. Be an ambassador for the Association. You represent the Association and all its members.
3. Network with Association members. As part of being an ambassador, reach out to people you know and come into contact with, making sure they are informed.
4. Support the purpose of the Association. Understand the reason why we exist and be enthusiastic about it and keep it in mind when the work of meetings and committees gets tedious.
5. Be the eyes and ears of the Association community. If you observe a need, a problem or hear something about the Association, bring it back to the board for discussion and/or action.
6. Seek out possible new candidates to the board. The Association needs a constant supply of interested, committed people to serve. You know someone out there who should be in here. Keep them informed about the Association and have them fill out an application when the time comes.
7. Don't burn out. This work is important, but it should also be fun. If you come to the point where your involvement with the Association and/or the board is nothing but a dreaded chore, it's time to take a break.