Tips & Tools for...

Building a Diverse Board, Virtually

BoardEffect Webinar

July 9, 2020 – 11:00 AM EDT



Housekeeping



Webinar will last 60 minutes (15 min for Q&A)



Session is being recorded



Phone lines are muted – please ask questions through the Q&A box



Follow-up email after the session will include the recording, resources, and a short survey



Presenters



Stacey Woodland, Chief Executive Officer, YWCA Tri-County Area

- Joined as CEO in 2014 and led YW3CA's expansion by increasing the number of adult education students and enrollment in early education and youth empowerment programs.
- YW is a thought-leader in and advocate for Equity in Education, offering Implicit Bias trainings and partnering in the fight for the elimination of racism and the empowerment of marginalized women, girls and families.
- Stacey is a 2020 Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI) Fellow, and a 2017 graduate of Harvard University's Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management.
- Stacey serves on YWCA USA's CEO Advisory Council and is a former Commissioner on the Montgomery County Commission on Women and Girls.



Dottie Schindlinger, Executive Director, Diligent Institute

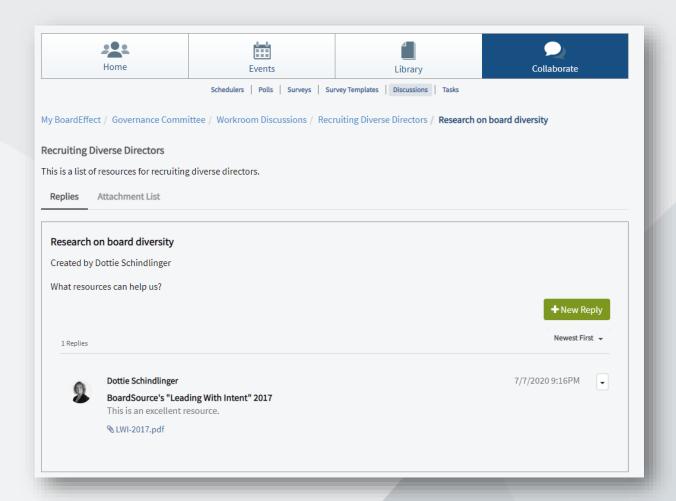
- Heads the corporate governance research arm and think tank of Diligent Corporation at diligentinstitute.com.
- Co-author of Governance in the Digital Age: A Guide for the Modern Corporate Board Director,
 ©2019, Wiley & Sons.
- Co-host of The Corporate Director Podcast.
- Vice Chair of the Board of Alice Paul Institute.
- Founding team member of BoardEffect.



Topics We'll Cover Today

Tips & Tools for Building a Diverse Board, Virtually

- Provide context for why increasing the racial/ethnic diversity of nonprofit boards is critical
- Discuss specific board-building strategies
- Explore tools that can help you build board diversity, virtually





Modern Governance: Lessons Learned in 2020

- Strong leadership is required transparency, clarity, proactive approach, tone from the top
- Organizational culture & diversity matters more than ever they are key to long-term success
- Open, secure lines of communication are needed access to leadership by stakeholders is critical
- Existing playbooks are insufficient and "rapid iteration" is required
- Technology competence is no longer optional for leaders "virtual" governance is here to stay
- Volatility, uncertainty, complexity, ambiguity is the "new normal" agile leadership required



Current Nonprofit Leadership Is Not Racially Diverse

- The vast majority of nonprofit boards and CEOs are white:
 - 90% of nonprofit CEOs and Board Chairs are Caucasian
 - 84% of all nonprofit board members are Caucasian
- Despite the diversity of the communities nonprofits serve, few nonprofit leaders are people of color:

| Race & Ethnicity | Nonprofit CEOs | Board Chairs | Board Members | US Population |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| African-American/Black | 4% | 5% | 8% | 13.4% |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | < 1% | 1% | 1% | 1.3% |
| Asian | 2% | 2% | 3% | 5.9% |
| Hispanic or Latino | 3% | 3% | 5% | 18.5% |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | < 1% | < 1% | < 1% | 0.2% |
| Two or more races | 2% | 1% | 1% | 2.8% |

Nonprofit data is from <u>BoardSource</u>, <u>Leading with Intent: 2017 Index of Nonprofit Board Practices</u> (Washington, D.C.: BoardSource, 2017). US Population data is from census.gov.



The Lack of Racial Diversity in Nonprofit Leadership Persists

• BoardSource's *Leading with Intent* reports, published every 3 years since 2004, shows that the lack of racial/ethnic diversity is not improving:





Change depends on ordinary people who have the courage to say, 'Enough is enough and no more.'"

KUMI NAIDOO

Global Ambassador for Africans Rising for Justice, Peace & Dignity



OPINION POLL: Nonprofit boards will have achieved the right balance of racial & ethnic diversity when they...

- \square Reflect the **local community** where the nonprofit is headquartered.
- ☐ Match the racial & ethnic diversity of the US population.
- Represent the diversity of the communities the nonprofit serves.
- Have equal representation of all races/ethnicities.
- ☐ Represent the diversity of the nonprofit's **funders and donors**.





The YW3CA Story





YW3CA Mission & Vision

YWCA Tri-County Area is on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

YWCA envisions a world that holds equal promise for every person. We stand in solidarity with our community members against racial injustice and work towards a world where equality exists in every facet of our society.

Through our collective work, YWCA Tri-County Area will be known as an organization where all people, but especially women, girls and families of color, receive trauma responsive, culturally competent, education services that will support the enrichment of their lives.





YW3CA Core Values



- YWCA is committed to drive change, to listen, facilitate discussion, support and most importantly, act.
- YWCA board of directors, staff, and volunteers serve our community with integrity, courage, accountability, and compassion.
- YWCA celebrates diversity, practices inclusion, and promotes equality.



Discussion Questions – the YW3CA Story

- What did the board look like in 2014, when you first took the role of CEO?
- What are the demographics of the communities YW3CA serves?
- What is the racial/ethnic composition of the YW board today?
- What were the steps involved in making the board more racially/ethnically diverse?
- What were the biggest challenges and how did you overcome them?



Conduct a Leadership Composition & Gap Analysis

Determine your needs

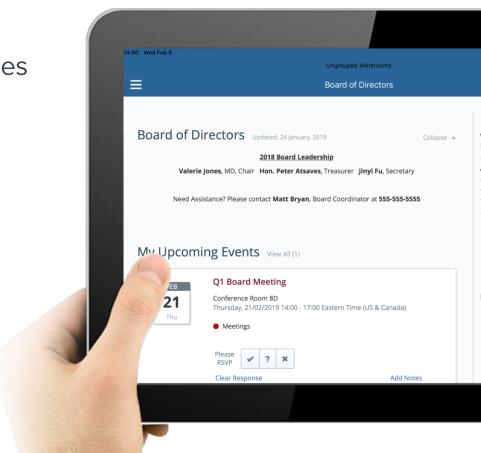
- Strategic plans, goals for the next 3-5 years
- Racial/ethnic make-up of your core stakeholders/communities

Create your board "profile matrix"

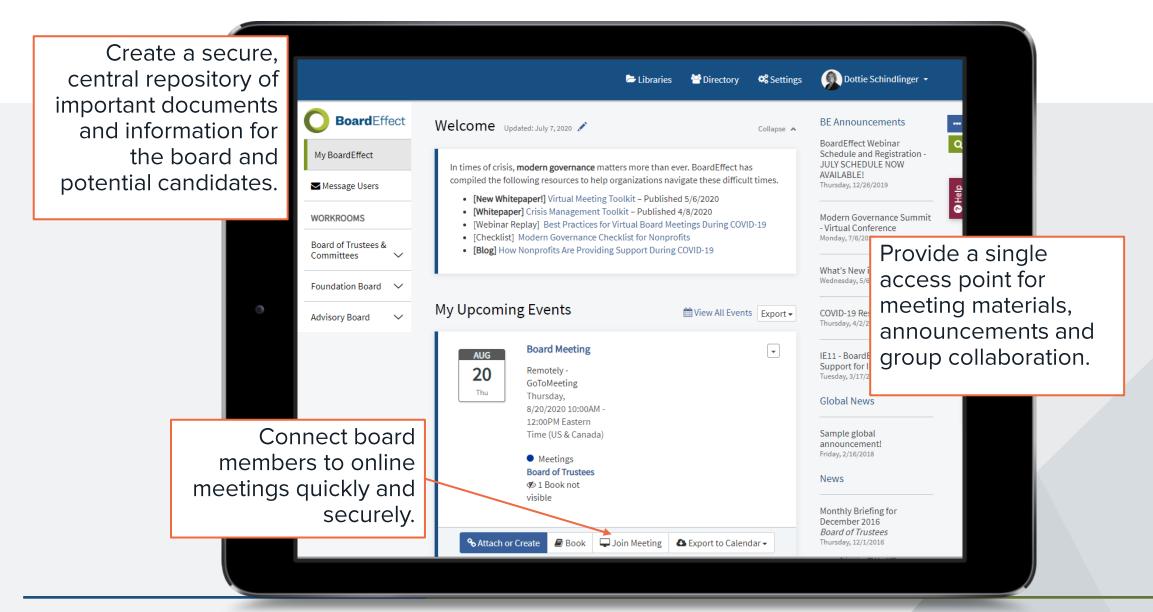
- Demographics voluntary disclosures
- Review skill sets, perspectives
- Identify the gaps

Seek opportunities for board refreshment

- Board & committee leadership roles
- Terms ending/term limits
- Retirements & resignations
- Adding board seats

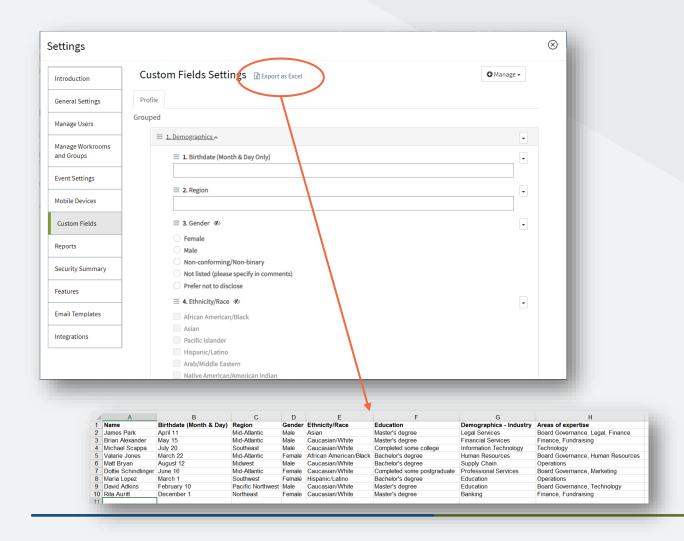


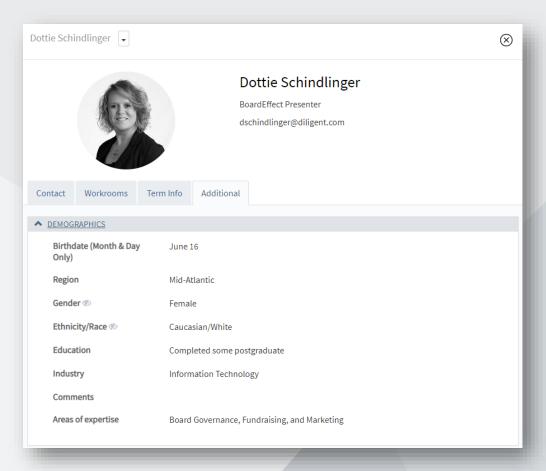






Tools for "Virtual" Board Composition & Gap Analysis

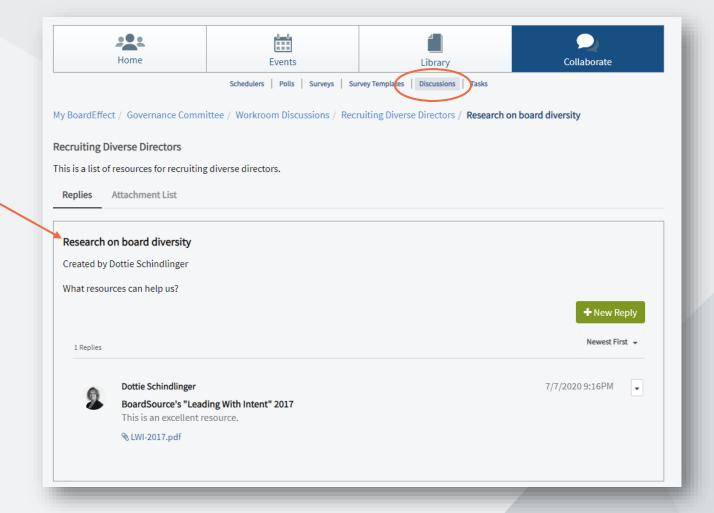






"Virtual" Governance Committee Collaboration (Without Scheduling More Videoconference Meetings!)

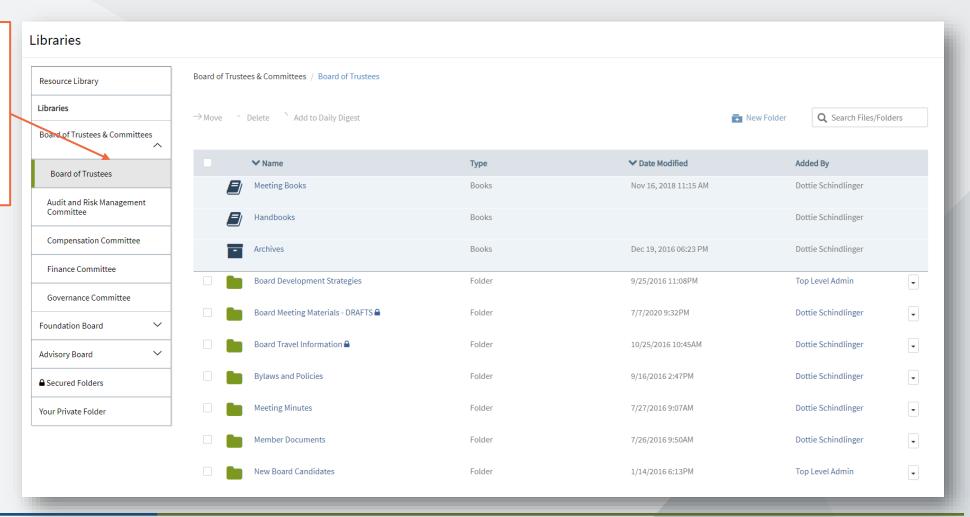
& board collaboration can take place securely online and help reduce the number & frequency of meetings.





One-stop shop for all your board's info – available on any device, anywhere in the world.

Central location for all critical board policies, bylaws, meeting minutes, related research, committee information, etc.





OPINION POLL: On a scale of 1 to 5 - How comfortable are you with discussing race?

- ☐ 1 very uncomfortable
- ☐ 2 somewhat uncomfortable
- □ 3 neither uncomfortable nor comfortable
- □ 4 somewhat comfortable
- \Box 5 very comfortable





Diverse Board Building Checklist

| How does our board building plan align with our mission, vision and core values? (What are our goals for diversity and what will be our measures of "success"?) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| How are we ensuring our board adequately reflects the interests of stakeholders? (What does "stakeholder" mean to our organization?) |
| Who can help expand our network of potential candidates? (How will we build relationships?) |
| How will we measure our progress on diversity and hold ourselves accountable? (How will we address discomfort with talking about race?) |
| How should we adapt our current approach to make better use of technology tools? (How will we support novice tech users so it's not a barrier for leaders?) |
| How will we sustain our efforts to diversify our leadership until we meet the goals? (How are we holding ourselves accountable?) |



Building a Diverse Board – Virtually: Some Considerations

- □ Don't let "virtual" be a barrier to success be flexible, and acknowledge the process takes time, patience, and persistence
- Ensure open access and open lines of communication be transparent
- Don't rely only on videoconferences leverage other online collaboration tools as well
- ☐ Take personal responsibility, along with organizational accountability
- ☐ Be courageous and acknowledge missteps candidly when they happen, and keep going



Discussion



Additional Resources

YW3CA:

- Racism, Trauma, & What's Next? Advocacy Summer Series
- AmeriCorps DAWN (Dignified Advancement Workforce Navigation)
- AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America)

BoardEffect:

- Visit our website at boardeffect.com/resources.
- Learn more about BoardEffect Request a Demo.

